



Fleur de Lis

Clara B. Rees Iris Society

March 2024
Vol. 66 Issue 8

Next Meeting
Apr 5, 2024

Willow Glen Library
1157 Minnesota Ave.
San Jose, CA 95125

Doors open 7:00 PM
Meeting 7:30 PM

Dues

Sep 1, 2023-
Aug 31, 2024

Adults - \$15.00

Carol Dahout
CBRIS President
Contact Information
caroldahout@yahoo.com

CBRIS
www.cbris.org

Region 14
aisregion14.org

American Iris Society
www.irises.org

NOTICE

CBRIS Meeting at Willow Glen Library NOT West Valley Library

CBRIS Program

Hi CBRISians, It's April and that means our Friday meeting will be all about entering an iris show. Join us for a course on preparing for and entering a show, and what it takes to take home a blue ribbon. You will learn tips and enjoy a demonstration of exhibiting. Get questions answered like: What goes into an iris show toolbox? What is the best way to travel with an iris without getting it damaged? What is the best time to harvest a flower for an upcoming show?

If you are a pro, come prepared to help the newer members learn to stage their iris.

Please bring a stalk or two for demonstration purposes as well as your toolbox for grooming.

See you there!

—Trang Bui, CBRIS Vice-President

Calendar of Events

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| April 6 | CBRIS Potted Iris Sale – Saratoga's Farmers Market; West Valley College |
| April 7 | CBRIS Open Gardens |
| April 19-20 | AIS Region 14 Spring Meeting – 'Golden Gathering' Auburn California |
| April 26-28 | Louisiana and Spuria Joint Mini-Convention – Dallas, Texas |
| April 27 | Show set-up |
| April 28 | CBRIS Spring Show – Joan Pisani Community Center, 19655 Allendale Ave, Saratoga, California |
| June 26 – 29 | AIS National Convention/Society for Japanese Iris – Portland, Oregon |
| July 21 | CBRIS Annual picnic – Ortega Park, Sunnyvale, California |
| Aug 3 | CBRIS Rhizome Sale – Yamagami Nursery Cupertino, California |
| Aug 10 | Possible Rhizome Sale Sunnyvale |

Dahout Digs April 2024 Showtime!

Our spring show, "A Rainbow of Iris" is quickly approaching!

The date is Sunday, April 28, 2024, from 8:00 am – 6:00 pm at the Joan Pisani Community Center, 19655 Allendale Ave., Saratoga.

Entries will be accepted from 8:00 am – 10:00 am. and judging will follow.

We will be open to the public from Noon – 5:00 pm.
Breakdown is from 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm.

Please review the show schedule in this newsletter.
Look over the Artistic Division and choose a category to try your hand!

For our show to be a success we will need the participation of all members. This can be accomplished by entering blooms or artistic arrangements, clerking for the judges, greeting the public, or completing one of the many tasks needed before the show.

At our April meeting, we will demonstrate how to transport, groom, and show your iris. Please bring a few blooming stalks to practice on, even if they are not perfect in your estimation. We will give you a list of items you should have in your grooming kit so you can stage your iris to its best advantage. We will also go over how to fill out the entry tags. Please bring address labels.

Thank you in advance and let's have a great show!

Carol Dahout,
CBRIS President and Showchair

Basket

Items are needed for the Spring Regional basket. We are using the theme, 'California Gold Rush.'



FIRST CLASS

REFRESHMENTS

ONLY

Trang Bui
Iris and Francis Chien
Richard Clarke

**Reminder:
Please bring your own
cup or mug**



Minutes

CBRIS Meeting, March 1, 2024

President Carol Dahout called the meeting to order.

Carol announced March birthdays.

Treasurer's report: CBRIS' current balance is \$16,199.28.



Program:

Barbara Gordon gave a presentation on flower arranging. She offered these tips:

For the inside of your vase, you can use bunched up wire, chicken wire, frogs, or oasis. You will also need scissors, clippers, and wire. For soft stems, you can make a hole in the oasis with a chopstick.

Barbara makes diagrams of her designs in pencil. She then numbers her designs and uses the same number on her container for that design. She cuts her greenery a couple of days before and her flowers that day. She uses milk cartons and yogurt containers and spray paints them. She also uses baskets.

She grooms the flower and plant material, taking off any leaves that would be under water. She uses iris foliage as well as iris confusa, rose hips, and myrtle, and also natural dried material. She has a bowl of water nearby so she can cut the flowers under the water.

The height and width of the arrangement should be no more than 1-1/2 times those of the container. For a two container arrangement, make sure they relate to each other. Manipulate and bend material, make loops. Bird of Paradise leaves are useful.

Barbara made six arrangements which members could choose instead of a door prize.



Business:

Carol circulated sign-up sheets for the show positions.

Carol reviewed sign-ups for our potted iris sale. The sale is on April 6 at the Saratoga Farmer's Market from 8:30 to 1:00 pm.

Linda Lomperis said our garden tours would be on April 7. Two gardens in the morning and two in the afternoon will be open.

The theme "California Gold Rush" was chosen for our raffle basket for the Spring Regional in Auburn, April 19-20. Members should bring donations to the next meeting. Suggested items are wine, poppy seeds, books by Steinbeck or London, and native California plants.

The AIS National/Society for Japanese Iris is in Portland, OR June 26-29, 2024.

Door Prizes were awarded.

Respectfully written and submitted,
Andrea Clague, CBRIS Society






Treasurer's Report

Beginning balance, March 1, 2024	\$16,199.28
Expenses: Picture tags for two-gallon pot sales	27.73
Ending balance, March 31, 2024	\$16,171.55

What did the big flower say to the little one?
You're really growing, bud

	
Katie Stofer	8
Jean Hawkins	15
Linda Stremel	23

April Iris Culture

Welcome, April! A couple of nice warm sunny days and back to rain. Hot or cold, we never know. We are getting less rain now but some of our gardens are still quite damp. The iris are starting to show their blooms. A wet winter and spring bring leaf spot, snails and weeds. Keep on top of it all before your garden has a problem. Spray with a fungicide if needed. Warmer weather and the sun will help stop the ugliness of leaf spot. Leaf spot can spread; the very least that you should do is pull off those diseased leaves and throw them away in the trash. Do not use them in your compost pile. Hand-pick those snails. Pull those weeds when the ground is not too wet. Check blooming irises to their tags to see if they are properly named. Map your garden. Cut down spent stalks. Visit other gardens. Take photos. Enter one of the virtual shows. Enter the AIS photo contest. See if you have the 'Best of Show' specimen growing for the CBRIS Spring Show on April 28th. Oh, yes, spring is here and our work has begun! However, the beauty of the iris is worth it all.

Check out the beautiful poster that Scott Smith made to advertise our Spring Show. It can be found on the last page of this newsletter for easy printing. Thank you, Scott!

CBRIS has reformatted the website. It is still a work in progress.

Check it out at cbris.org.



2024 CBRIS GARDEN TOURS

Spring has arrived and so has the season of the CBRIS Garden Tours!

This year's tours will be a one-day event taking place on Sunday, April 7th.

Here is the visitation schedule and garden locations:

Sunday, April 7, 2024:

10:00 am – 11:00 am: Jennifer and Avis Morris' garden
5817 Santa Teresa Blvd., San Jose, CA 95123

11:00 am – 12:00 pm: Chad Schroter's garden
15133 Garden Hill Drive, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Noon-2:00 pm: BREAK. Time for visitors to grab lunch before going to the afternoon gardens.

2:00 - 3:00 pm: Steve and Lisa Chen's garden
10568 McClellan Place, Cupertino, CA 95014

3:00 - 4:00 pm: Elaine Fischer's garden
1193 Kelsey Drive, Sunnyvale, CA 94087



Please put this date on your calendar and plan to visit all four gardens.

And thanks so much to our fellow CBRISians who are generously opening up their gardens and offering us all an inspirational, educational and truly enjoyable experience. – Linda Lomperis, CBRIS Garden Chair



Potterings: The Glory and the Nothing of a Name

Charles Churchill, famous in his day as a satirist and poet, died in 1764. Fifty-two years later, the poet Byron wrote, “I stood beside the grave of him who blazed / The comet of a season....” Byron talked with the sexton (the groundskeeper and gravedigger) about Churchill, by then largely forgotten by the public. The poem continues with the sexton’s conversation “...In which there was Obscurity and Fame / The Glory and the Nothing of a Name.”

Bearded irises are clonal beings. With luck, an iris plant can continue to grow and live on this earth much longer than mere humans do. It’s cheering to think that in my garden grow many irises considerably older than I. What can and often does die is their name, lasting no longer than poor Charles Churchill, who died when he was only 32. An iris that takes the gardening world by storm can be lost in a remarkably short time, not in and of itself, but to the human gardening world as a named cultivar. The glorious iris, a named cultivar so celebrated in its own day, can become a noname, a noid, unappreciated except by those who can admire it for its own self.

One day long ago, when we were in college, my dear friend Jen and I took a walk in the woods and saw a lovely wildflower that was unfamiliar to me. I got all wound up in trying to identify it; I couldn’t find it in my wildflower book. “What can it *be*?” I wailed in frustration. “A lovely flower,” Jen replied. Wise Jen! The human need to classify things can easily overrun our appreciation of the thing itself. Having no name does not diminish the beauty of the flower.

Oh, there are plenty of legitimate and important reasons to identify things, we all know that. Knowing the correct identity of an iris is key to the kind of preservation we attempt in HIPS, but let’s not lose sight of the other kind of preservation, in which we are content to consider a lovely iris worth preserving even if we never know its name. In many ways, noids are the ultimate endangered irises, as they are so often underappreciated as “just a noid” – yet to be so anxious to stick a name on a noid that we do it incorrectly, and then distribute that iris with the wrong name, harms the work of iris preservation far more than leaving the iris nameless.

I’m not saying we should make no attempt to identify noids. I am saying that we need to be serious and punctilious in our attempts, to defer to experts, to be rigorous and open-minded in our identification work. If, at the end of all our efforts, we are unable to connect a name with unknown iris, let’s accept that and enjoy and grow and distribute the noid as what it is: a beautiful flower.

Notes: 1) The poem “Churchill’s Grave” was written in 1816 by Robert, Lord Byron. 2) In the early 1990s I used the title “Potterings” for my editorial column in The American Cottage Gardener. I have decided to revive that title in ROOTS. A ROOTS, Volume 33, Issue 2 34 Fall 2020

By Nancy McDonald



You’ve seen this in ROOTS before: my favorite noid, 312 Austin Healey, named after a dog who was named after a car.



Noid 690 Leslie Rule’s 128th St Red TB; many have tried, but no ID yet.



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CBRIS Members



CBRIS Door Prize Iris April 2024



Alakazam AB OGB



Bad Habits



Better Than Ever
AB OGB



Born to Party



Coven SDB



Easy Does It SDB



Evening Stroll



Gabby Gal TB SA



Glamorizing



High Achiever



Lighted Path



Mystical Sunshine



Open Flame



Quarantine Queen



Rosewood Bitters



Sea Power



Singularity



Storm Lord



That's All Folks



War of Words

CBRIS Door Prize Iris Descriptions Apr 2024

Alakazam Rick Tasco 2013 AB OGB; 36"; M; S. Light pink-lavender, veined darker pink-violet; F. light parchment-lavender, veined dark burgundy; B. gold-bronze-burgundy; PBF; HM, AM, Wh. M

Bad Habits Thomas Johnson 2023 TB; 35"; M; S. Royal purple; F. Purple-black; B. burnt orange, yellow tips; Light sweet fragrance.

Better Than Ever Rick Tasco 2022 AB OGB; 22"; M; S. Cream; F. Mid yellow, lg. burgundy-black signal; B. Yellow; Pronounced sweet fragrance;

Born To Party Thomas Johnson 2023 TB; 36"; M; S. Golden yellow; F. Deep maroon, washed maroon over lavender, gold band; B. maroon; Sweet fragrance.

Coven Stout 2022 SDB; 14"; M; S. Rose red; F. Near black, rosewood red, light amber veins; B. Burnt orange; Slight sweet fragrance.

Easy Does It Terry Aitken 2007 SDB; 12" ML; S. White; F. White, dark blue spot, yellow wash on hafts; B. Orange;

Evening Stroll Thomas Johnson 2023 TB; 37"; M; S. Deep blue-purple, deep plum-black band ; F. White, deep purple band of dots, deep plum outer band; B. blue-purple white and yellow; Sweet fragrance.

Gabby Gal Linda Miller 2023 TB SA; 32"; M; S. Coral-pink; F. Deep orchid, veined pink, pink rim; B. Tangerine, light violet ends and horns; Slight musky fragrance.

Glamorizing Burseen/Stout 2021 TB; 36"; ML; S. Mauve-purple, yellow edge; F. same, deeper purple shoulders and veins; B. violet, tips gold; Slight sweet fragrance.

High Achiever Keith Keppel 2022 TB; 40"; ML; S. Pale pink; F. Wisteria violet. B. Coral red, white end; Slight sweet fragrance.

Lighted Path Diana Ford 2023 TB; 34"; M; S. White blushed yellow, yellow veining; F. Dark red violet, lighter pink midline, lighter edges with dark rim; B. Cadmium orange.

Mystical Sunshine Rick Tasco 2021 TB; 38"; ML; S. Yellow; F. Dark burgundy w/ yellow starburst; B. Orange; Slight fragrance.

Open Flame Thomas Johnson 2023 TB; 36"; EM; S. Gold w/ medium red veining; F. Gold base overlaid with deep maroon, gold edge; B. Yellow; Sweet fragrance.

Quarantine Queen Skaggs 2021 TB; 38"; ML; S. Peach; F. Rose-violet, peach blaze; B. Bright orange; Sweet fragrance.

Rosewood Bitters Skaggs 2022 TB; 39"; ML; S. Pale yellow; F. Pale yellow w/ deep rose overlay; B. Dark yellow; Slight spicy fragrance.

Sea Power Keith Keppel 1999 TB; 38"; M; S. Campanula blue; F. Commodore blue; B. Blue white; Pronounced sweet fragrance; HC, HM, AM, WM, NA, Dyke's

Singularity Mike Sutton 2023 TB; 36"; EML; S. White w/ 1/2" gold rim; F. Currant red, white blaze, crimson veining, yellow midline; B. orange.

Storm Lord Rick Tasco 2023 TB; 35"; M; S. White, thin yellow halo; F. Dark purple w/ white starburst; B. orange-yellow.

That's All Folks Bill Maryott 2005 TB; 40"; M; S. Brilliant gold; F. White with gold blending to wide gold band; B. gold; HM, AM, WM, NA, Dyke's.

War of Words Thomas Johnson 2023 TB; 38"; EM; S. Yellow w/ edges veined in red; F. Dark chocolate w/ yellow rays from beard; B. gold; Sweet fragrance.

**Golden Gathering
April 19-20, 2024
AIS Region 14 Spring Meeting**

**Hosted by Sierra Foothills and Sacramento Iris Societies
Guest Speaker Andi Rivarola, AIS President
Holiday Inn, 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn CA
530-887-8787 (Code Block: ISR)**

Registration Form:

Registrant 1 First name: _____ Last name _____

Registrant 2 First name: _____ Last name _____

Address _____ City _____ ST ____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Telephone _____

email to receive confirmation _____

Local Iris Society _____

Registration fee if paid by March 25, 2024—\$115 number of person/s _____ Total \$ _____

if paid after March 25 —\$125 number of person/s _____ Total \$ _____

No Credit cards accepted. Please make check payable to Sierra Foothills Iris Society.

Registration fee includes Lunch in the garden and Saturday evening banquet buffet.

Lunch choices: Ham _____ Turkey _____ Veggie _____ Beef _____

Buffet Dinner features a BBQ Theme, including Chicken, Beef and Pasta Primavera.

Registrations received after April 5, 2024 will be accepted at the discretion of the Registrar.

Total Amount (Please enter this amount on the check) TOTAL \$ _____

Will you be bringing iris for the show? _____ Yes _____ No

Please send this registration with a check to Phyllis Wilburn, Registrar

P.O. Box 9, Rescue, CA 95672

530-334-3521 or email: abirder@aol.com

Hotel information: The Holiday Inn in Auburn will be the location of all events except the garden visits and lunch in the garden. The special room rate for April 19 and 20 is \$189.99 per night for a King or Two Queen beds. Hotel reservations must be made by March 8, 2024 to receive the group rate. The special rate is available also on Thursday, April 18 and Sunday April 21. Breakfast is not included, but a full buffet breakfast is available for \$8.99 for hotel guests only if purchased at the hotel desk the day before. The breakfast is \$11.99 if purchased the same day. Hours for breakfast are 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. Visiting the gardens will be via car-pooling.



NEW HORIZONS - 2024

AIS National/Society for Japanese Iris Convention

Sponsored by the Greater Portland Iris Society

Portland, Oregon – June 26-29, 2024

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS: Holiday Inn Portland – Columbia Riverfront, 909 North Hayden Dr. 97217, Reservations may be made by telephone at 503-283-4466. Mention "AIS National Convention."
Room rates: Standard Room (2 Queens) \$149.99; Premium Room (2 Queens or 1 King) \$159.00 plus tax.
(Room rates are offered 3 days before and after convention dates.)

Name _____ Region _____

Address _____ Phone (____) _____

City, State, Zip _____ Email _____

Youth _____

Name tags will be made as printed above. If this is your first AIS Convention (check) Yes _____ No _____

Each registrant should fill out a separate registration form

Full Registration: Includes Welcome Banquet, Awards Banquet, and Garden Tour

By April 16, 2024

By May 16, 2024

\$350.00

\$400.00

Amount _____

Meal choice:

Welcome Banquet

Awards Banquet

____ Brined Bone-in Pork Chop

____ Hickory Roasted Chicken

(Optional tour not included)

____ Grilled Salmon

____ Crab Stuff Salmon

Youth 18 & under: Postmarked

By April 16, 2024

By May 16, 2024

(Includes same as full registration)

\$200.00

\$250.00

Amount _____

Ala Cart Items: (For anyone not doing full registration.)

Garden Tours Only

\$120.00

\$170.00

Amount _____

Includes convention booklet, convention bag, 2 days bus tours & 2 days lunches, Friday & Saturday.

(Optional Tour not included)

Banquet Only

Welcome Banquet (by April 16th)

\$65.00

(by May 16th)

\$80.00

Amount _____

Awards Banquet (by April 16th)

\$70.00

(by May 16th)

\$85.00

Amount _____

Optional Tour

Japanese Garden, Portland, Oregon on Wednesday, June 26, 2024.

Limit to 28 people per trip and is on a first come first serve basis. Cost \$45.00

Amount _____

_____ Group 1: Depart 9:00 a.m. Return 12:30 p.m. (Please mark desired time slot)

Amount _____

_____ Group 2: Depart 1:30 p.m. Return 5:00 p.m.

Check Enclosed \$ _____ Check # _____ Credit Card Payment _____ GRAND TOTAL _____

Visa or Master Card ONLY _____ .Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card _____ Security Code _____

Signature _____

NOTE: Registration acknowledgment will be made via email (when available) to save postage.

SPECIAL NEEDS: Those requiring special accommodations for persons with disabilities must be received in writing by the Convention Registrar no later than May 16th. If you have special diet requirements, please note on a separate sheet.

Make checks payable to: AIS Convention 2024 and send to: Dale Grams – registrar, P.O. Box 346, Washougal, WA 98671-0346; Phone: 360-835-1016; Email: dalegrams@prodigy.net

Geek Dinner: Cost \$50.00 Friday, June 28, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Separate registration form is located on the convention websites. Cost of Geek Dinner is not included in the convention registration and should not be sent with the convention registration

Clara B. Rees Iris Society

Presents Our Annual
Spring Iris Show

"A Rainbow of Iris"

Sunday, April 28th, 2024
Noon - 5pm

Joan Pisani Community
Center
19655 Allendale Ave.
Saratoga, CA 95070

Free and open to
the public

<https://www.cbris.org>

