



Fleur de Lis

Clara B. Rees Iris Society

Dec 2024
Vol. 67 Issue 4

Next Gathering
Holiday Luncheon
December 7, 2024
1:00 P.M.
Tomato Thyme
1560 Hamilton Ave.
San Jose, CA 95125

Dues

Sep 1, 2024-
Aug 31, 2025

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

Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, Dec 7, 2024

Nancy Mirabella has reserved Tomato Thyme, 1560 Hamilton Ave., San Jose, CA 95125 for the CBRIS holiday luncheon. The time will be at 1:00 P.M.

This includes a White Elephant gift exchange. To participate, bring a wrapped gift in the suggested \$25.00 price range. Most sought-after gifts include iris knick-knacks, plants (including irises, of course), and garden-related items. Bring something that you would like to receive.

Sign-ins are in the same manner as for the monthly door prize drawing. When your number is called, you may select a gift from the table or take one from someone who has already opened a gift. Choosing a gift or taking one continues until all the gifts have been opened. Gifts may be taken only twice and then they are frozen. The person whose number was called first gets one last choice at the end. This exchange takes quite a bit of time and can become a bit rowdy!



Dates to Remember

2025 CBRIS Spring Show	April 6, 2025	Saratoga, California
2025 Spring Regional 14	May 2-4, 2025	Santa Rosa, California
2025 AIS Convention	June 2-7, 2025	Billings, Montana
2026 AIS Convention	May 18-23, 2026	New Jersey and New York
2027 AIS Convention	April 27-May 1, 2027	Oklahoma City,

December Birthdays



Jessica Vanden Beukel
 Nancy Mirabella
 Amy Hawkins
 Lydia Clark
 Marilyn Lang
 Stephanie Changaris

Clara B Rees Financial Statement November 2024

Beginning balance, November 1, 2024	\$ 19,649.18
Expenses: Library rent	40.00
Revenue: Dues	30.00
Christmas lunch	1145.00
Donation	55.00
Ending balance, November 30, 2024	\$ 20,839.18



Youth

CBRIS does not have any youth members at this time. However, some of us have grandchildren or friends that have children. This year there is an image of a Japanese iris for the coloring contest. Entries are being accepted through January 31, 2025. There is a cash prize of \$25.00 in each of the five age categories. The coloring page and entry form can be found on the [AIS Youth Programs webpage](#).

We hope a grandparent or neighbor will sign the child up to join the AIS as our Region 14 covers the registration fee.

AIS Membership

Membership in The American Iris Society has much to offer those of us who have the iris virus. Depending on which type of membership you choose, there is online access to iris registrations and introductions, access to the entire AIS Bulletin Library from its first edition in 1920 to the present edition, a printed quarterly bulletin mailed to your home, access to the AIS Basic Iris Culture booklet and access to the AIS Library of Historic Iris Catalogs. For the different membership plans see <https://www.irises.org/aismembers/>.



CBRIS Meeting Minutes November 1, 2024

Welcome: President Carol Dahout called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, welcomed all attendees and acknowledged the November birthdays of the following members: Christy Tsai, Susan Bunker, Lulu Kwok, Winnie Wang, Frances Chien, Ken Reiter and Sarah Westfall.

No new members or guests in attendance.

Treasurer's Report: Carol reported CBRIS's current treasury balance as \$19,649.18.

Asking if any members had not yet paid their 2024-2025 CBRIS dues, Carol also specifically asked about Helen Bliven, past President of CBRIS and longtime member. Carol requested that Mikey Lango call Helen to verify her well-being.



Program: Christy Tsai, CBRIS member and gourd artist, gave a fascinating presentation entitled "My Journey as a Gourd Artist," which highlighted the various steps and stages of her development as a gourd artist.

Beginning with encouragement from her family in her early life for artistic exploration, Christy then became 'hooked' on gourd art after taking a class (along with her mother) in this area in Taiwan. Most of her talk focused on the techniques used in making gourd art and the kinds of creations artists make out of gourds (e.g., masks, figures, birdhouse, lamps, rain sticks, rattles, ocean drums, and thunder gourds.) Christy exemplified these art forms in the pieces of her own gourd art that she brought to show.

Reminding us, in closing, that gourds are a "natural canvas" that offer artists "endless possibilities," Christy offered these possibilities to CBRIS members by raffling off five, 'blank canvas' gourds.

Congratulations to these raffle winners: Elaine Fischer, Mikey Lango, Frances Chien, Peter Marra and Susan Clark.

Dress Like an Iris Contest: CBRIS members were encouraged (but not required) to attend tonight's meeting dressed like their favorite iris. Members at large then guessed the irises being modeled in the costumes.

Here are CBRISians who rose to this sartorial challenge:

Carol Dahout dressed as "Paul Black" (Tom Johnson, 2003), American Dykes Medal 2010

Jane Jordan and Gwen Betts dressed as "Candy Basket", a MTB (Chad Harris, 2016), Williamson-White Medal 2024

Christine Dickinson dressed as "Hotel California", a BB (Augusto Bianco, 2000)

Lisa Chen dressed as "Sweet Dessert" (Diana Ford, 2022)

Peter Marra dressed as "All Night Long" (Roger Duncan, 2004) Award of Merit, 2009



Mikey Lango dressed as "Blinded by the Light" (Larry Lauer, 2017) Wister Medal 2024

Naomi Nakata dressed as "So Happy" (Thomas Johnson, 2021)

Elaine Fischer dressed as "Grandma's Bloomers" (Darlene Pinegar, 1994)

Carl Boro came as is - dressed as a "NOID" - No identification. (In our gardens everywhere)

Linda Lomperis dressed as "Koto Harp Strings" (Chad Harris, 2016) Payne Medal 2023

Nancy Mirabella dressed as "Medusa", an Aril (C. G. Van Tubergen, 1911)

Winnie Wang dressed as "Twist of Sheree" (Schreiner, 2012) Honorable Mention 2016

Refreshments and the Move to Zero Waste: Carol thanked the following CBRISians for providing tonight's refreshments: Wendee Augustino, Iris Chien, Rosemary Chivers and Mary Collins.

Members are reminded to bring their own cups/mugs and their own utensils to future meetings. CBRIS will continue to provide napkins and plates.

Website Update: Thank you to Lynn Stuart with the help of her friend, Stacey Becker and other CBRISians who have been working hard to update the CBRIS website.

Holiday Party Report: Nancy Mirabella reports that the CBRIS Holiday Party will take place at 1 pm on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Tomato Thyme, 1560 Hamilton Ave, San Jose, CA 95125. Members who wish to attend must pay \$30.00/per person, and \$35.00/per non-member guest, to Treasurer Mary Collins by the deadline of November 15.

Nancy reminded us: Members (and their guests) will pay their own bar fees at this event and if they wish, members may bring their own wine to drink (there is a \$15 corkage fee) with the meal. Also, as in past Holiday Parties, there will be a White Elephant/Gift Exchange event, for which each member should bring a wrapped gift. Nancy's advice in this regard: bring as your gift something that you yourself might like to receive.

Upcoming Events of Interest to CBRISians: The Chrysanthemum Show takes place this weekend (i.e., Nov. 2-3) at the Westgate Mall.

Fall Regional 2025: Carol points out that CBRIS is currently discussing the possibility of hosting the 2025 Fall Regional. Stay tuned.

Door Prize Irises were awarded via the Wheel of Fortune app.

Meeting adjourned around 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Lomperis, CBRIS Secretary





'Paul Black'



'Candy Basket'



'Candy Basket'



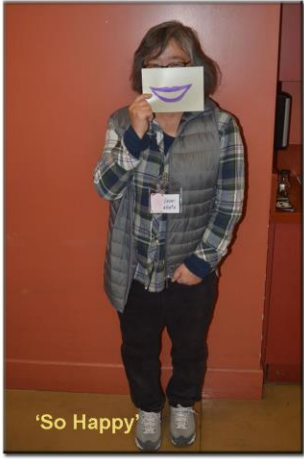
'Sweet Dessert'



'All Night Long'



'Blinded By The Light'



'So Happy'



'Grandma's Bloomers'



'NOID'



'Kato Harp Strings'



'Medusa'



'Twist Of Sheree'

Dress Like An Iris

-photos by Carl Boro

Also Chris Dickinson dressed as 'Hotel California'.
Our apologies for not getting her costume photo.



Dahout Digs Dec 2024

A Gardener's Christmas Poem

(Lifted from the Internet)

**'Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through the yard
The branches were bare
And the ground was frozen hard;**

**The roses were dormant
And mulched all around
To protect them from damage
If frost heaves the ground;**

**The perennials were nestled
All snug in their beds,
While visions of fertilizer
Danced in their heads;**

**The newly planted shrubs
Had been soaked by a hose
To settle their roots
For a long winter's doze;**

**And out on the lawn
The new fallen snow
Protected the roots
Of the grasses below;**

**When, what to my wondering
Eyes should appear,
But a Prius full of gifts
Of gardening gear;
St. Nick was the driver
A jolly old elf,
And he winked as he said,
"I'm a gardener myself.
I've brought new seeds
And light systems, too,
Give them a try
And see how they do.**

(continued next page)



To eliminate weeding,
I brought bags of mulch
To attract the pollinators,
I have flowers for best results.

To add to your joy,
I've plenty of herbs
And ornamental grasses
For your hell strip curb.

For seed planting days,
I've a trowel and dibble.
And a roll of wire mesh,
If the rabbits should nibble.

I have the latest books
Plus some gadgets you'll love;
Plant stakes and frames,
And waterproof gloves.

Here are sharp shears
And a new compost pit
And, for pH detecting,
A soil testing kit.

With these colorful flagstones,
Lay a new garden path.
For the view from your window,
A bird feeder and bath.

And last but not least,
Some well-rotted manure.
A green garden year-round,
These gifts will ensure.

Then, jolly St. Nick
Having emptied his load,
Started his Prius
And took on the road.

And I heard him exclaim
Through the motor's quiet hum,
"Merry Christmas to all,
And to all a green thumb!"

Happy Holidays, Everyone!
Carol Dahout, President





CBRIS November 2024 Meeting

