



MONTEREY BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Iris Society

www.montereybayiris.org

August, 2011

Next meeting	Friday, 19, 2011
Doors open	7:00 P.M.
Meeting	7:30 P.M.
Place	Native Sons Hall 239 High Street, Santa Cruz



Bidding for iris at the picnic..

From The Prez

The first day of our Annual Two-day Iris Sale (August 6th at Deer Park) was a solid success, even though it did not set fund-raising records. Thanks to our experienced team leaders, including Jim & Irene Cummins, Jony Duffield, Joe Ghio, Charley Kearns, Brenda Wood, Sheryl McEwan and many others, the occasion proceeded smoothly in all respects. The buyers showed up in a steady flow throughout the morning, and frequently expressed appreciation and even enthusiasm with the opportunity to add irises to their gardens.

The second of our sale, on August 13th at the Aptos Farmers' Market, also proceeded quite well. Under the leadership of Fred Valentine, a team consisting of Jony Duffield, Art Lindstrom, Brenda Woods, Jim Cummins, Charley Kearnes, Wayne Crabbs, and others sold iris to the market buyers. With Joe's \$10 bags we sold out at noon. Charley's financial report indicates that the two sales days garnered \$3,267. This total was well below last year's revenue, probably due to the national financial mess, but we still generated a good amount to support our activities and I know we made a lot of friends for the genus Iris..

Our regular meeting on August 19th will feature a screening of the award-winning documentary "Dirt: the Movie," with a promise of an audio track loud enough to be heard comfortably. Here is a repeat of previously reported promotional comments about this program:

"Dirt! The Movie is an insightful and timely film that tells the story of the glorious and unappreciated material beneath our feet. [It] takes a humorous and substantial look into the history and current state of the living organic matter that

2011 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held in Native Sons Hall unless otherwise stated.

Regular Meeting

Friday, August 19, 7:30 P.M.
TBA

Refreshments

Lisa & Henry

Regular Meeting

Friday, September 16 7:30 P.M.
Tall Beardless

Refreshments

Pat W. & need a second

Regular Meeting

Friday, October 21 7:30 P.M.
PCIs

Refreshments

Volunteers Needed

Regular Meeting

Friday, November 18 7:30 P.M.
Program TBA

Refreshments

Valentines

Annual Holiday Dinner

Location & Day TBA

Friday December 6:00 p.m

Coming soon! Date, Location and details of the Christmas Dinner.



we come from and will later return to.” You can learn more about it by visiting www.DirtTheMovie.org.

We also will discuss the AIS-14 Fall Regional (October 15th & 16th) and the AIS Tall Bearded Symposium Ballot for 2011 (due September 1st).

Come to the meeting with good friends, good video and more about irises! 🌸🌸 *Tom*

CULTURE TIPS

WE’VE HAD A RELATELY COOL SUMMER. Most of us didn’t have to water our established bearded irises.

August is the month to finish planting and resetting your bearded irises. If your soil has been used before or it is very light, it is well to add organic matter to your beds in the form of compost, manures or even something like mushroom compost. A light application of super phosphate or bone meal is also helpful. You can apply by broadcasting and work them in or put a handful in each hole as you plant.

Before replanting it is best to dip all your irises, newly acquired or even your own, in a bleach solution, one part bleach to 9 parts water. Submerge the plants up to at least one inch above the rhizome. Keep them in the solution for 10-15 minutes, then dunk them in clear water and set them out to completely dry before planting. This last direction is very important or else you are likely to have deformed plants in the spring. This process of soaking in bleach is helpful in killing off any fungus you do not want to introduce to your garden.

Bearded irises tolerate being out of the garden for some time, but keep them in the shade. Cut them back just before planting to keep them from falling over and to force new growth to form. TBs do best if the sun can get to the top of the rhizomes. Keep the weeds away from the plants, if you do not feel like pulling weeds later on, sprinkle some pre emergent on your beds after you are done with your planting. Be sure to use markers to label your plants, and draw a map of the new area showing the new varieties, so you will know which iris is which even if you loose the markers.

Water newly reset irises weekly, or more often in sandy soil or hot weather. Keep this regular watering schedule until 4 full new leaves grow out of the center of the fan (4-6 weeks). Then you can cut back the watering to 10 day intervals until the fall rains take over. 🌸🌸 *Joe*

AIS members be sure to cast your vote by September 1st. Visit the AIS website for information or to vote on line. The address to vote is http://www.irises.org/About_Irises/Awards_Surveys/TB_Symposium.html

Bloomers

Bring your rebloomer to share! First drawing goes to those who have brought blooms. Rebloomer drawing starts in August and goes until February.



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Joe and spotters Henry, Jim and Wayne

Door Prizes

Members need to bring iris to share as door prizes. Bring favorite irises for the drawing.





Picnic Report

MBIS members enjoyed their annual picnic at Harvey West Park on July 16th. We feasted on delights from members' gourmet kitchens and had a lot of fun. Wayne Crabbs sold raffle tickets again. Joe had his "Blue Light Special" again, allowing picnickers to select irises from the lawn for \$5 each. Many late introductions were snapped up at this point. Joe Ghio auctioned while Wayne Craft, Jim Cummins and Henry Rojas served as spotters. Wayne Crabbs and Charley Kearns recorded the bids.

Rhizomes receiving the highest bids were Haunted Heart at \$20, Reckless Abandon and Unconditional Love, each at \$15.

We had 19 bidders, several spending generous amounts. The raffle raised \$160, the "Blue Light Special" raised \$205 and the auction \$478, for a total of \$843. We fell short of the 2010 amount of \$1,192, but had a good time.

Thanks to all that supported this effort.
Charley Kearns

Deer Park Sale

Our rhizome sale was held at Deer Park on August 6. We made \$2,307, quite a bit less than the \$4,150 in 2010. Perhaps the economy is a factor. We held the second sale on August 13th at the Cabrillo Farmer's Market. A full report of our 3 rhizome sales this year will appear in the September newsletter..

Charley Kearns



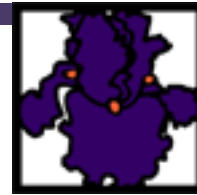
Deer Park Aptos Iris sale



Hidding in so many iris



Time out for lunch during the dig at Joe's Ranch



Iris sale at the Cabrillo Farmers Market



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