

March, 2019

Next meeting Friday 15, 2019
 Eating Starts 7:00 P.M.
 Meeting 7:30 P.M.
 Place Simpkins Swim Center
 979 17th Avenue, Santa Cruz

2019 Calendar

Monthly meetings are held in Simpkins Swim Center unless otherwise stated.

Regular Meeting

Friday, March 15 7:30 P.M.

Program

TBA

Refreshments

Brenda & Larissa, St. Patrick's Feast

Regular Meeting

Friday, April 19 7:30 P.M.

Program

Mini Show

Refreshments

potluck

Annual Iris Show

Louden Nelson May 3 to May 5

Set up

Friday, May 3 7:00 P.M.

Show

Saturday 1-6:00 P.M.

Sunday 11:00 a.m.-6:00 P.M.

Regular Meeting

Friday, May 17 7:30 P.M.

Program

Show wrapup

Refreshments

Pizza potluck

Bring a good appetite to the March Corned Beef Meeting! Eating starts at 7:00.

March Birthdays

Tom Karwin, March 19

Linda Hood, March 24

Ann Pike, March 27



Hat in the Ring Ghio, 2019 TB introduction

From The Prez

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH! A saying commonly associated with a turning point in Roman history and a turning point in my home garden. My iris are growing and my seedlings popping out of the ground just as they should. All the effort and toil from the previous months will be packed into 2 months of beautiful blooms and inner pride of accomplishment. Many of my fellow club members also have very nice collections and I look forward to visiting them and touring their gardens also. It is a very good time to see what iris others grow and maybe swap or trade some of your garden for something nice in theirs.

Although I have nothing blooming at the moment, I have several just waiting to open and it will only get better as the weeks go by. Hopefully the storms and heavy rain are done with and my beds look about two or three weeks behind schedule. We will see if this plays out in our favor since we have our show a trifle later than usual.

See you all soon, See you at the meeting! ❀❀❀ Craig

2019 SPRING SHOW

We will be holding our spring show at the Louden-Nelson Community Center again this year on May 4th and 5th. Set-up will be Friday evening, May 3rd at 7:00 P.M. We need volunteers for set-up, as well as all Saturday and Sunday shifts. Volunteers will be on hand to distribute literature and answer guest's questions. We especially need help with Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning shifts. The sign up list will be at the March meeting. If you can't make that meeting, call Charley Kearns at 408-315-1520 or email kcf@verizon.net. to indicate the shift you can work. Those that would like to clerk, assisting the judging, please let Charley know now by email or phone. We need six regular and three alternates. All members are encouraged to volunteer as much time as possible during our show. Participation goes a long way in making our show a success and introducing the public to our club. It's great fun and each volunteer will win a door prize iris!!

TROPHIES

Show time is coming on fast. If you won any trophies, Clean and polish them and bring them, with their bases, to the March or April meeting, preferably the March meeting. We MUST have them for display at the show.

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION

Every volunteer will receive a recent introduction rhizome for volunteering . Workers will have their name entered in a drawing for each shift worked. Those working multiple shifts will have more entries and have a greater chance of winning their choice of iris, but all will get one. So, sign up!! And, show up!!

HORTICULTURAL SHOW PREPARATION

Those interested in entering bloom-stalks in the horticultural portion of the show are encouraged to start preparing early. Keep an eye out for show worthy blooms coming on in your garden. If the bloom-stalk is reaching for light, stake it up to prevent a crooked stalk. Be sure to attend the April meeting where Joe Ghio will provide valuable tips and demonstrate his advice with actual entries in our "MiniShow" If you have questions, bring them to the March or April meeting and experts will help you.

ARTISTIC DIVISION

Joan Scanlon will be in charge of the Artistic Division this year. Again there will be no official judging. Instead we are asking that you enter an arrangement of your choice: lovely, striking, funny, whatever fits your mood and the materials you have available. The arrangement has to have at least one iris in it. Only natural plant material—nothing artificial. But, props can be used. If you don't have iris available from your garden, not to worry. There are often iris left over that the grower decided not to enter in the Horticultural Division. You can also make part or all of the arrangement at home and bring it in. The purpose is to have fun and present iris arrangement ideas to the public.



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Birthday List

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Arrangements should be completed by 12:00 noon on Saturday so they can be placed on display. Ballots will be on hand for the public to vote on their favorite. The favorite gets a cash prize and takes home the People's Choice revolving trophy.

If you have questions, contact Joan Scanlon at 831-688-5311, email: send2JC@sbcglobal.net.

SINGLE BLOOMS

We will have a single bloom section again this year. Wayne Crabbs says there are no changes to the presentation of Single Blossom from last year. Bring as many as you like, we have 95 bud vases to fill. Record your Iris name on place-card and place with the bud vase. Add your name to clip board with corresponding bud vase number(s).

Spectators to view the presentation and vote for their **FAV!** Winner to be determined by ballot count.



CATALOGS

Such as they are, now are coming in now. They are fewer in number and slimmer as more emphasis and movement to online sales become the sales business model. Dahlia sales are almost 100% online now with the only list or catalog being Swan Island.

From Joe's Bay View Gardens: Postscript

In 1963 we announced our first introductions ('Frosted Starlight' and its children, 'First Courtship' and 'Twilight Sonata') on a mimeograph flyer printed on the Mt. Eden High School mimeograph machine where I began my teaching career in Hayward. From there to today has been a long, exciting, wondrous journey. Now in the ninth decade of my life, the time has come to wind down the journey and concentrate on what all this was about: Hybridizing. The trip began in 1953 when I placed my first iris order with Schreiner's Gardens—\$7.50 for 8 of the most popular irises of the time. And now we announce the closing of the circle. We are excited and pleased to announce that starting in either 2020 or 2021, depending on stock, SCHREINER'S GARDENS will be the introducer of Ghio bearded iris creations. We will be announcing the introducer of the Ghio Pacifica creations on our Facebook page soon. And then Bay View Gardens will become iris archive history.

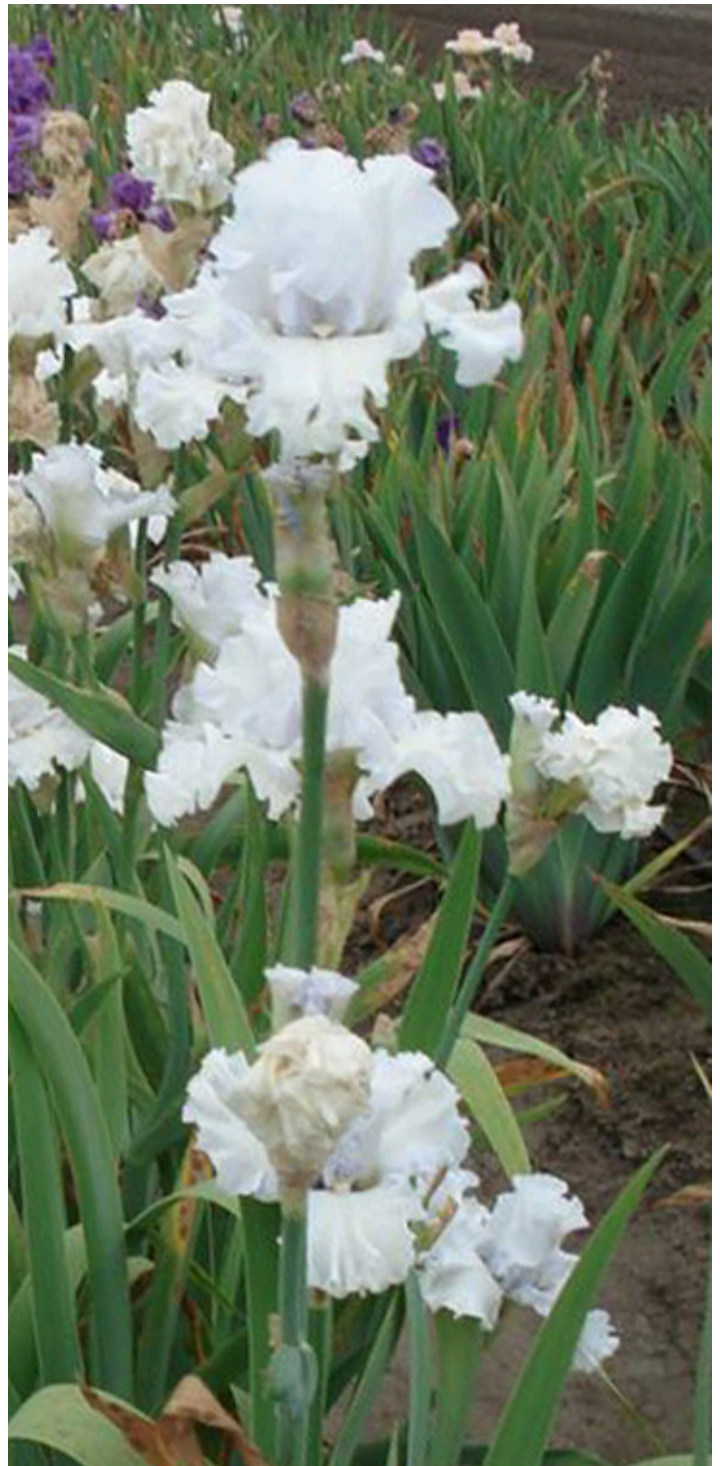


Looking Cute, Ghio, 2019

Refreshments

For March we are looking forward to our annual corned beef blast. Brenda will be cooking and Larissa will be helping. A complete Irish dinner will be served right down to the Irish butter and Irish Soda bread. Brenda goes to a lot of work and it takes all day to prepare this feast so let's all be sure to give both Brenda and Larissa a thank you hug. Members may bring desserts although the monthly birthday cake always seems to be enough.

The April meeting will be a finger food pot luck.



Santa Cruz Surf, Ghio, 2019



DOOR PRIZES IRISES



1. **ABSOLUTE TRUTH**, Blyth, 18, S. lemon; F. white, blended yellow edge
2. **BESIDES MYSELF**, Blyth, 16, S. gold; F. white stitched rosy brown
3. **BREAKING THE ICE**, Ghio, White; watercolored blue edge on F.
4. **CANDY COATING**, Schreiners, Lilac purple self
5. **COIN FLIP**, Ghio, BB, S. gold; F. gold; watercolor red-brown band
6. **COME AND DANCE**, Black, Plicata; S. red violet; F. white red violet edge
7. **DASHING INDIGO**, L. Painter, White, blue band around F.
8. **DESCHUTES**, Schreiners, Blue self
9. **DISCO LIGHTS**, T. Johnson, S. bright lemon; F. washed lavender blue to solid brownish band
10. **FUTURE BRIDE**, Blyth, 16, S. Coral pink; F. white; coral band
11. **I'M SMITTEN**, Blyth, 18, Creamy pink, deeper shoulders
12. **IMPERIAL GUARD**, Keppel, 17, S. quince; F. red purple, deep ruffles
13. **IVORY CASTLE**, Blyth, 15, S. white; F. soft cream, bubbly
14. **MORE PLEASE**, Blyth, 16, S. violet, rose midrib; F. violet rose, lighter band
15. **ON A WIRE**, Sutton, S. white; tan halo; F. deep purple, white starburst
16. **OPERA CALL**, Blyth, 15, White; strong violet-magenta band around F.
17. **RIM OF THE WORLD**, Sutton, 17, S. white with violet rim around F.
18. **SAFE AND SOUND**, T. Johnson, S. yellow with apricot blush; F. white; red-violet plicata edge
19. **SASSY SISTER**, Blyth, 14, S. champagne; F. magenta; champagne band
20. **SIMPLE WISH**, Sutton, S. white; F. soft lavender
21. **SPRING CELEBRATION**, Sutton, 17, S. yellow; F. ruby red; yellow starburst
22. **SULTRY ATTIRE**, Nicodemus, 16, S. rose orchid; F. burgundy brown
23. **VESTED INTEREST**, Schreiners, S. yellow; F. white, yellow band
24. **ZONED OUT**, Sutton, S. cream-pink; F. yellow, white blaze; orange-violet rim



CULTURE TIPS

This year we have been having a “different” rainy season—every season seems to have been having unusual winter patterns in the last few years. This season the first significant rains did not occur until early December. We’ve had short breaks between the onslaught of rain spells. This pattern has been continuing right up to into March as this is being written. What we have been having is shower deluges with a short break until another deluges hits. These deluges are dumps of rain that last a short time like 10 minutes and move on. But the amount of rainfall can be as much as a quarter of an inch at a time. The result of this much rain at one time is the soil can’t absorb it and it runs off—causing erosion—and nutrients you added are washed or leached away as well. The question is what to do about it.

With these shower deluges we were unable to get the fertilizing done at the normal max impact time—early February. In frustration I fertilized the ranch in mid-February and sure enough in a couple of days more deluges came, the fertilizer disappeared. Some probably got into the soil, but most probably was washed away. Later in late February I fertilized the home garden but the same

weather followed in a few days. Here we have clay soil which is very subject to erosion, hence not only were the nutrients washed away but also soil again (for the fifth time) trenches of erosion redeveloped in the beds.

Now we are in early March and growth is well underway and the question is, is it too late to fertilize again. The answer is it will probably not do much good to improve the quality of spring bloom but the increase rhizomes will get some benefit from it. If we get deluges again, as predicted, it will be of minimum benefit. All that can be said is that it will be an interesting year.

These deluges are demolishing fruit bloom. The apricots have had their blossoms destroyed and no bees are around to pollinate in any event. We will see what happens to other fruit trees coming into bloom now like plums and peaches. ❁ Joe

DUES ARE DUE

Single dues are \$10 Two or more at the same address, \$15. Add \$10 if you want the newsletter by mail. Please pay at the meeting or send to our treasurer, Larissa Daniel, 520 San Miguel Rd., Watsonville CA. Phone: 831 724-9162.