

MT. DIABLO IRIS SOCIETY NEWS

OCTOBER 2021

The Mt. Diablo Iris Society exists for the purpose of stimulating and fostering interest in the propagation, culture and hybridizing of the genus Iris. As well the scientific and horticultural education of all those interested in learning about any phase of the genus Iris, and in the protection of these plants in these plants in their native habit.



▶▶ MEETING Thursday, OCTOBER 14th ◀◀

▶▶ LOCATION – Lindsay Wildlife Experience ◀◀
1931 1st Ave, Walnut Creek, CA

Manzanita Room (Ground Level, past outdoor staircase)

7-9 pm

(MASKS REQUIRED)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Full Fall greetings Mount Diablo Iris Society Members,

The change in the air has finally arrived as cooler weather has us reaching for a second layer. I am already seeing color changes in the trees, a month earlier than usual, but after such a long dry spell, (over 200 days) I'm not surprised. With this cooler weather, I hope it draws the rainstorms down from the north to wet our soil and clean the trees. They are desperate for moisture. At our September meeting we distributed the leftover irises from the Benicia street sale amongst our members that could foster them until our April show. Potting soil and pots were provided to those that took rhizomes. Almost 200 were distributed, but we will need more for the show. So please plan on bringing anything you have set aside. Remember, named varieties sell better than NOIDS.

October 2nd was Region 14's Fall Regional by Zoom. Due to rising covid transmissions in early September, a decision was made to cancel the in-person meeting and

do it by Zoom. Finances of the region were discussed, reports on each society's happenings were shared. There was also a very good judges training on Ethics. It covered ethics at a show and in the garden. The trainer was Debbie Strauss all the way from West Texas. The power of Zoom allowed us to get a speaker that we would not normally get to learn from. She was a delight to listen to. The main thing with the societies is that they all sold A LOT of irises to a hungry public. The Santa Rosa Iris Society also had grab bags at their sale. They sold them for \$20.00 for 10 rhizomes and had no problem selling out. So, I think we know where our pricing should be next year. Another topic discussed was how important it is for Society members to also be members of The American Iris Society. Region 14 is the largest region in the country, but we could be even bigger if all clubs' members were also AIS members. You get a lovely magazine 4 times a year, you get to vote in the symposium, and you get to see many of our own MDIS members articles and photos in the magazine. (Jan Blaedel, and Kathy Oldham) Please join today at www.irises.org.

At our next meeting it will be election time for MDIS. Please attend to cast your vote for candidates of our Board of Directors that will serve the next two years. 2022-2023. Our normal October meeting is to have a Beardless Iris auction, but it was decided last Spring not to order any beardless iris for Fall as we didn't know if we were going to be having in-person meetings. Looking forward to next year on that.

We will, however, be having a presentation slide show on Beardless irises. Jane Jordan from Clara B. Rees Iris Society has forwarded her presentation on Beardless iris to me to present to our club. It's a very thorough talk on all the different varieties that she grows in the San Jose area. Even Japanese Iris! There are lots of pictures, so I think you will enjoy it.

My last thoughts for you are on our Spring Regional. It's just 6.5 months away. The planning meetings will begin this month. Please sign up to help when we provide the list next month. I will need volunteers to also help at Dry Creek. Weeding and planting. Since we already have our regular **volunteer** days on Wednesdays starting at 9am, I am **inviting society members to sign up at www.EBPARKS.ORG**. Please go to the Activities tab, then go to Programs, then click in the box that says Volunteer Programs, click in the box that says Search Existing Opportunities, then find Dry Creek. You will need to register as a volunteer and fill out the Covid waiver online and create an account and password. **Our first Wednesday to volunteer for the iris area will be October 27th**. Heavy rain cancels. I will be working the iris area all day so you can come a little later if 9am is too early. Let's get the party started!

Your MTB President,
Jeff Bennett

REGION 14 Board Meeting Summary

At the R14 general board meeting, on October 2, the Spring Regional 2022 was discussed at length by our president, Jeff.

MDIS is hosting this event with the Sydney B. Mitchell chapter at Dry Creek. Because we will not know the situation with Covid, and the possible precautions we may have to take, it's difficult to plan ahead. But we are definitely hosting the event, and we need volunteers to help in different capacities. Jeff discussed several options for food services, but, again, it depends on the Covid situation and the weather conditions at Dry Creek. Will we be able to serve a luncheon or dinner on the premises in a tent? Where will the banquet be held, at the hotel or on the Dry Creek grounds? Please consider signing up for various opportunities to help. The dates of the 2022 Spring Regional are April 30 – May1.

Submitted by Marilyn Kaplan

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Oct 14 | MDIS Meeting at Lindsay Wildlife Experience, Walnut Creek, CA |
| Oct 27 | Dry Creek Volunteer Day |
| Nov 11 | MDIS Meeting at Lindsay Wildlife Experience, Walnut Creek, CA |
| Dec | No Meeting |
| Apr 10-12 | MDIS Spring Show & Sale Alden Lane, Livermore |
| Apr 11-16 | AIS National Convention 2022 Las Cruces, New Mexico |
| Apr 30 – May1 | Region 14 Spring Regional at Dry Creek |

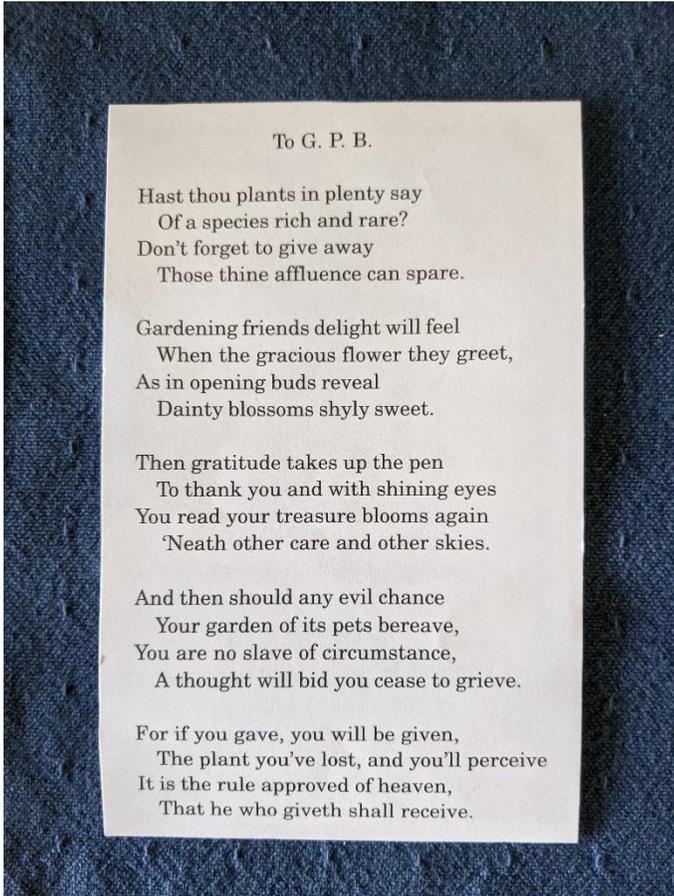
2022 MDIS Iris Show & Sale "IRIS RISING"

Our April 9 & 10th Iris Show and Sale has been announced. Please see the brochure included near the end of this newsletter.

Thank you, Carl, for suggesting the winning theme name!

An Iris Poem

I came across this poem written by the first British Iris Society president and hybridizer, George Yeld, to GP Baker. George Baker was also a hybridizer. The poem appears in Clarence Mahan's book, *Classic Irises and the Men and Women who Created Them*. - Kathy O.



FEWER DOOR PRIZE IRISES

There will an average of 5 door prize irises for the remainder of this season (thru June 2022). This is because many were stolen from those planted at Dry Creek. People are welcome to bring addition door prize items, and you can also donate a rhizome that you will dig in July 2022 for the winner.

September Meeting Minutes

→ Included near end of newsletter.

September Door Prize Winners

Thank you, Shirley and Riley, for bringing 5 huge Rebloomers for additional Door Prizes!

| | |
|--------------------|---------|
| Carbon | Punima |
| Moment in the Sun | Marilyn |
| Momentous Occasion | Alan |
| Silent Fire | Diane |
| Oldie Goldie | Shirley |
| Bam A Lam | Mary |
| Anne Leslie | Ken W. |
| Lavender Breeze | Jeff |
| Romantic Lead | Riley |

October 2021 DOOR PRIZES

MDIS Door Prizes – OCT 2021
(Iris photos and descriptions are courtesy of commercial hybridizers and wiki.irises.org.)



PARTISAN (Smith 2017) **IB**, 24", E-L.
Standards smoky yellow, grey-brown midrib; falls bright yellow center, aureolin yellow-chestnut brown shoulders, brown diagonal rays, uneven brown rims, beards surrounded by short brown lines, heavy spear below beard, random brown dots; beards hot yellow-orange; ruffled; pronounced sweet fragrance.



ENTHRALLED (Schreiner 2020) TB, 31", L.
Standards light yellow; falls washed pink-lavender;
beards orange; slight fragrance.



ACHY BREAKY HEART (Sutton 2006) TB, 36",
L & RE. Standards cream infused pale pink; style
arms creamy pink; falls white overlaid and veined
shades of bluebird blue; beards red orange, white at
end; ruffled; slight sweet fragrance.



PINK CHERUB (Lauer 2019) TB, 31", M-L.
Standards azalea pink; falls white, thin azalea pink
rim and shoulder; beards mandarin red; ruffled;
laced; pronounced sweet fragrance.



ABOVE IT ALL (Sutton 2020) TB, 39", ML.
Standards bright white, ¼" chestnut rim with gold
highlights, chartreuse at base of midrib; falls white
zonal burst blending into violet-blue to dark purple
at edge, yellow central stripe extending down petal
from beard; beards lemon yellow; slight sweet
fragrance.

SEE BELOW for

- ➔ MDIS Spring Show and Sale brochure
- ➔ September Meeting Minutes

THE 60th ANNUAL

2022 MDIS IRIS SHOW & SALE

IRIS RISING

Presented by

MT. DIABLO IRIS SOCIETY

An Affiliate of

The American Iris Society



Purr Form Mints (TB 2006 Tom Burseen, SA)
Best of Show Winner in 2019
Linda Woods

Saturday, April 9, 2022 1 pm to 5 pm
Sunday, April 10, 2022 9 am to 4 pm

ALDEN LANE NURSERY

981 Alden Lane
Livermore, California

Mark your calendars - April 8-10 for show set-up, display, and clean-up.
Sign up on the sign-up sheets or email your desires (or questions) to:
MtDiabloIris@gmail.com

DIVISION V – ARTISTIC – Iris Rising

Section Z Each arrangement must contain iris as the dominant flower. Limit one arrangement per person per class. Containers to be furnished by the exhibitor.
Arrangement to represent our comeback from the pandemic and the theft at Dry Creek. Phoenix rising in mythology is also part of the theme.

Plan to enter an ENGLISH BOX

Section T English Boxes – 5 Blooms may be the same variety or all different varieties but with a theme, Each box must be all the same class of iris.
Boxes will be provided the morning of the show.
Sign up by April 1st at MtDiabloIris@gmail.com

In conjunction with the Iris Show and Sale we are having a Photo Contest, OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, to get to see some of your best shots taken at the show! There are separate divisions for adults and youth, 18 and under.

Categories:

1. Picture of multiple iris blooms
2. Close up of a single iris bloom
3. Picture of an English Box

Notes from the MDIS September 2021 meeting.

Meeting Date: September 9, 2021

Lindsay Wildlife Experience, Walnut Creek

13 Attendees

7:00-9:00pm

President Jeff Bennett updated the membership on the outcome of the **Peddler's Fair** held last month in Benicia reporting the club's best ever income from the event. The booths were in a new, more favorable location and the grab bags sold out again. Next year he proposes:

- Include MDIS membership information in the grab bags with MDIS events list and growing instructions. Revisit this suggestion after the Spring Show and Sale.
- Raise price of grab bags to \$20 for 10 rhizomes.
- Make 100 grab bags for next year's sale.
- Raise price of sale rhizomes.
- Hold July meeting later in the month to dig once for both the annual auction *and* Peddler's Fair.

Fall Regional Show is Oct. 2nd including a reblooming show with live auction and baskets. (Since this MDIS meeting, the in person show is cancelled due to the new Covid variants, but a virtual meeting will be held.) Check the Region 14 website.

Finances. Budget review given by Jeff Bennett.

Spring Show and Sale. Mary Sindicic reported the event is confirmed for April 9 and 10 with set up on April 8. The show and sale will be held at Alden Lane in Livermore. The club balance carried forward from the cancelled 2020 show has been applied to cover the rental of the venue.

Spring Regional meeting will be held at Dry Creek Garden April 30 and May 1, 2022. A sign-up job sheet will be at the next meeting. MDIS and Sydney B are hosting jointly.

MDIS Photo Library is looking for a coordinator. Ken Ainsley set up the archive that MDIS uses for sales and shows. All of the photos are in templates he has developed for MDIS. Thank you Ken! Jeff's 1,200 Facebook iris photos and the Virtual show photos are also available to add to the library. Please contact Jeff if interested.

AIS National Convention 2022 is being held in Las Cruces, New Mexico April 11-16.

Rhizomes left over from the Peddler's Fair, pots and soil were made available for membership to grow for the sale and show at Alden Lane 2022.

Floral Display Themes for the next couple of shows were voted on.

Door Prizes were drawn.

(Submitted by Kathy O.)

MT. DIABLO IRIS SOCIETY IS AN AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AND REGION 14. VISIT THE REGION WEBSITE: WWW.AISREGION14.ORG

Dues are \$12.50 annual or \$30.00 tri-annual, Please send payment to club treasurer.

**American Iris Society dues – single yearly \$25.00, dual yearly \$30.00; single tri-annually \$60.00, dual tri-annually \$75.00; payable to: Tom Gormley, Membership Secretary, 205 Catalonia Ave. P O Box 177 DeLeon Springs. FL 32130 aismemsec@irises.org
Phone and fax: (386)277-2057**

YOUR CURRENT BOARD:

President – Jeff Bennett, e-mail: jeff13bennett@gmail.com

Vice-President – Kathy Oldham, e-mail: kathyoldham@comcast.net

Treasurer – Kent Lincoln, e-mail: klincoln@sbcglobal.net

Secretary – Marilyn Kaplan, e-mail: kaplan87@comcast.net

Newsletter- Editor Linda Woods, e-mail: linda.woods@comcast.net

Directors –Riley Probst, Shirley Trio

Past President – Mary Sindicic

**Kent Lincoln
Mt. Diablo Iris Society, Treasurer
752 Laurel Dr
Walnut Creek, CA 94596**