
Everyone is welcome to attend the Budget Meeting, or just come early and enjoy visiting with fellow irisarians. You are invited to bring items of historic interest, memorabilia, or photos about irises or irisarians -- there will be a display table to share these items with the group.

Please bring your contributions for the luncheon to the large kitchen (stove & refrigerator are available). Lunch will be served at 12:00. Please bring your own plates, silverware and cup. The society will provide napkins, hot drinks, rolls, and a ham. Local Sydney B. Mitchell members will bring warm dishes. More distant members & guests, please bring appetizers, salads, desserts, or other beverages. Your dish should be suitable for at least 10 people.

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society

Saturday January 24th 2009
We host the Region 14 Budget
Meeting & Potluck
Doors open 8:30 a.m. -- free pastries,
juice & coffee!
(\$3.00 parking fee)
9:00 a.m. Budget Meeting
Potluck lunch (bring place setting & a
dish to share)
**Guest speaker -- Ken Walker,
speaking on species iris**
Doors close 4:00 p.m.

Region 14 Budget Meeting & Potluck -- Lynn Williams, Region 14 RVP

I hope you all had a very nice holiday season and are ready for this new year. This is my official call for all to attend the the upcoming January 24th Budget meeting. Please remember that this board meeting is being reserved for the budget and all other matters will be tabled to the Spring Regional Board meeting.

All committee chairs, if you are expecting expenses in 2009, please send your suggestions of your 2009 expenses to both Helen Franklin raffranklin@cs.com and copy to me by no later than Saturday January 17th. *[Ed. -- a reminder, as this is going out Sunday January 18th]*

Presidents, please encourage your membership to attend this important meeting, you and your Society's input is vital to the Region. The Budget Meeting will be held 9:00 am at the Oakland Lake Merritt Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, and will be followed by a potluck lunch and guest speaker. The doors will open at 8:30 am and close at 4:00 pm. When entering the park after 8:30 am, expect to pay \$3.00 entrance fee. Please be sure to bring your place setting as well as your favorite potluck dish to share.

Looking forward to seeing you, Lynn Williams, R14 RVP

JUDGES TRAINING SESSION

February 28th 2009

Hawthorn Suites

321 Bercut Dr

Sacramento CA

Contact Phone 916 441-7009

Kathy Chilton, Region 15

Arils/Arilbreds Training, and Tall Bearded Training

Schedule:

Aril/ Arilbreds Training 2 hours 10:00am to 12:00pm

Catered Luncheon and socializing 12pm to 1:30pm

Tall Bearded Training 2 hours 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Fee \$35.00

Send check by February 1st 2009 payable to Region 14

To: Kathy Braaten JT Chair Region 14

10288 Kenwood Dr.

Grass Valley CA 95949

katbrat@cebridge.net

530 477-2811

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

For room reservations please contact Hawthorn Suites directly tell them you are with Region 14 Iris Judges Training. Room rate is \$59.00 per night single or double. Call: 916-441-7009 Hotel Stay Yes _____ No _____

Let's give Kathy a huge welcome to Region 14

Don't miss this great training event

Everyone is welcome, you do not have to be a judge to attend.

See you there -- Kathy Braaten, Region 14 JT Chair

KATHY CHILTON

Kathy Chilton is a native Arizonan, born in Tucson, AZ, and has lived in the desert all her life. She earned a teaching degree from Arizona State University, where she met her husband, Tom, whose family has been ranching in Arizona for over 100 years. She spent the next 25 years teaching middle school and raising their two children, Rebecca and John – staying busy with sports, 4-H and Jr. Rodeos. When they were both off to college, Tom and Kathy moved to the family ranch, southwest of Tucson.

In the process (still ongoing) of renovating the old ranch headquarters, Kathy finally had time to start gardening. A friend suggested she plant some irises. This seemingly simple and harmless suggestion quickly grew into a classic infection of the “iris virus.” Seeing a small ad for an iris rhizome sale by the Tucson Area Iris Society, Kathy stopped by & was overwhelmed by the variety. She bought a few irises, joined AIS & was given an old AIS Bulletin. There were articles about beautiful gardens at national conventions! That looked like a wonderful excuse to travel to different parts of the country – what fun! After she attended her first convention at Denver, she was hooked! She had a wonderful time, despite the cold and SNOW, and made friends with some of the most wonderful people in the world – irisarians!

The iris virus was now raging, and Kathy entered her first show. That effort gained her one white ribbon and a desire to do better the next year. After several years of effort, she finally achieved a Silver Medal and Best Specimen of Show. She started Judge’s Training & achieved AIS Judge status with

help from many terrific tutors and teachers. She led a Classroom Iris Project with local fourth graders and chaired the 2005 Region 15 Sonoran Desert Trek and Society for Louisiana Irises Convention in Tucson. She has served Region 15 as RVP and is currently the Newsletter Editor. She is also Co-Chair of the 2012 AIS Convention hosted by Region 15 & to be held in Ontario, CA.

Kathy grows many varieties of irises, including Louisianas, Medians, Spurias and Arilbreds. Tall Bearded are her favorite, and make up the bulk of the collection. She loves region treks, conventions and visiting the gardens of hybridizers in the spring, because although she loves all irises, seedlings are her favorite type of irises to see. Traveling and giving programs and judges’ training is a special joy.



Photos of iris, on the internet!

See Historic & modern pictures at Rick Tasco/
Roger Duncan’s photo albums
<http://community.webshots.com/user/rickt103>

Historic iris photos at
www.hips-roots.com/visitors/v-photos/vp-topframe.html

www.irises.org/listsandchat.htm If you have computer/internet access, see neat iris discussion groups listed here.

<http://www.bayareairis.org>

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society’s website

A New Sydney B Tradition!

We have members who for various reasons find it difficult or impossible to come to meetings. One of the issues is transportation. This could become a nice SBM tradition -- inviting, and arranging to bring, members to our meetings. Makes everyone happy!

If you see **old iris stuff which is about to be tossed**, please contact me (Gesine), so we can conserve these bits of history. I assure you, anything donated will be cherished. (510) 864-7962

SBMIS joins the Information Age!

Calling all members with email! Would you like to join the SBMIS email list? Send your email address to richter@eecs.berkeley.edu, and we'll add you to our club email list. You'll receive the club newsletter as an attached PDF file (in full color) rather than via paper mail, saving a few trees and the club some postage costs. You'll also receive very occasional announcements of time-sensitive events that were too late to include in the last newsletter. We'll also pass along your email address to AIS Region 14,

so they can keep you informed of regional activities. We promise not to sell or give away your email address to anyone else – no spam, honest! If you'd like to be on the email list but also continue to get the paper newsletter, let me know – we can do that too.

Calling all phone numbers!

In an effort to stay better connected, we'd like to go back to including phone numbers on the club roster. While we have phone numbers for some longtime members, we don't have ones for members who have joined within the past 6-7 years (or who have moved recently). Please call (510) 864-7962 or email richter@eecs.berkeley.edu with your phone number to help us update our roster!

Volunteer needed to represent Sydney B on the Board of the OEBGC
~ Chuck Dekker had served as our representative for SBMIS on the Board of the Oakland East Bay Garden Center. We need a volunteer, preferably someone residing in Oakland. OEBGC meets once a month for 1 hour (9-10 am) on the 3rd Monday. It's a well-run organization which is gradually remaking and modernizing the formal gardens (fenced area) at Lake Merritt. Anyone interested, please call Jean Richter for details of activities and responsibilities. (510) 864-7962

American Iris Society (AIS) Dues can be mailed

to Tom Gormley,
AIS Membership Secretary
10606 Timber Ridge Street
Dubuque, IA 52001-8268
Telephone and Fax - 563-513-0504
E-mail: aismemsec@earthlink.net
\$25.00 single, \$30.00 dual.
See www.irises.org/

Please pay your 2008 **SBM Membership Dues** ~
please give to Bonnie Petheram, or send checks
made out to Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society to
Bonnie at 1226 High Street, Alameda, CA 94501.
\$10 household.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) dues
can be mailed to HIPS Membership: Judy Eckhoff,
7911 South Yoder Road, Haven, KS 67543
E-mail: judye@msinter.net
\$10.00 single annual, \$12.00 dual annual.
www.hips-roots.com

Directions to the Garden Center:

666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland
From the north or west; take Highway 580 or 24 to
980; take the West 27th Street/Grand Avenue exit,
turn left on 27th Street, go east to Grand Avenue,
watch for Lake Merritt on the right, take a left on to
Grand Ave., then a right at the stoplight into the park.
Proceed on Bellevue to the Garden Center. From the
south or east; take the Lakeside (Lake Merritt) or
Grand Ave. exit in Oakland; follow around the lake on
the north and west side to Grand Ave. and Bellevue,
turn left into the park.

Proceed to the Garden Center, park on either side
of the road. We hope you can come -- everyone is
welcome!

[On weekends only -- Expect to pay \$3.00 at the toll
booth to park. Show your parking stub for a \$2 rebate
on your iris purchases]

AC Transit Bus -- AC Transit bus #12 runs on Grand
near the entrance to the park (*not the 'but'!*)

List of SBM Officers:

President	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	richter@eecs.berkeley.edu
Vice-President	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Secretary	Terry Strathman	(510) 642-3795	strath@berkeley.edu
Treasurer	Bonnie Petheram	(510) 864-7962	bpetheram@highlandtechnology.com
Directors-At-Large	Marjorie Murray	(510) 525-3397	
<i>also Grand Poohbah</i>	Alan Robbins	(925) 939-1979	ADRSAFETYWPC@Earthlink.net (rarely seen)
Newsletter	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Door Prize Chair	Marjorie Murray	(510) 525-3397	
Hospitality	~ t.b.a. ~ WE NEED A VOLUNTEER! ~		
Shows and Exhibits	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	richter@eecs.berkeley.edu
Program Chair	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Library Chairpersons	Alice Dekker	(510) 525-6536	
Membership	t.b.a.		
Publicity & website	Terry Strathman	(510) 642-3795	strath@berkeley.edu
Historian/scrapbooker	Kat Boswell		
Immediate Past Pres.	Ray Vickers-Traft	(510) 839-9647	wndwsillorchids@aol.com
Once and Future President	Chuck Dekker		



SCHEDULE OF SBM MEETINGS and other events for 2009

See Sydney B. Mitchell's own website! at www.bayareairis.org (looking good, Terry!)
www.aisregion14.org/reg14calendar.html

January 24th Saturday 2009 Region 14 Budget Meeting	Doors open 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	We host the Region 14 Budget Meeting & Potluck 9:00 am Budget Meeting Potluck lunch (bring utensils & a dish to share) Guest Speaker Ken Walker , speaking on species iris.
Sydney B. Mitchell meeting Friday, February 27th 2009		Alan Robbins slideshow , including fascinating material from Adele and Lewis Lawyers' iris estates.
Judges' Training February 28, 2009	At Hawthorn Suites, Sacramento	Kathy Chilton presents judges' training on arils/arilbreds and tall bearded



Global warming is here – you know what to do
SBMIS Newsletter -- Gesine Lohr
1226 High Street, Alameda, CA 94501

We miss you, Chuck

