



# Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society

Our 51st Annual Iris Show  
and Potted Iris Sale!

Saturday, April 25, 1:00-5:00 pm  
&

Sunday, April 26, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

*See below for how to enter the show!*

*Entry time is 7:00 am-9:30 am Saturday*

Shows/sales are free and open to the public -- all are eligible to enter iris!  
Lakeside Park Garden Center ~ 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland  
(see page 3 for directions)

Setup: 7:00 - 9:30 pm Friday night  
Show entries: 7:00 - 9:30 Saturday am  
Show open 1:00 - 5:00 Saturday  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm Sun  
Cleanup after 5:00 Sunday

The ENTRY time will be 7:00 am - 9:30 am on Saturday! All are welcome to enter iris - *we'll show you how!* (Free donuts & coffee!!)(and you can also just bring blooms & not enter them, just to look at)

Do ENTER the show! *If you haven't entered a show before, we'll be happy to coach you.*  
Bring your POTTED IRIS! All members with potted iris -- remember to bring them to the show to sell. Potted iris with pictures sell much better than those without - if you can, please send Jean Richter a list of the potted iris you'll be bringing and we'll print out pictures to affix to the pots at the show (either email or phone call is fine)  
Jean Richter <jeanrichter@berkeley.edu>, (510) 864-7962.

Iris shows are a great way to see lots of different varieties of iris. If you grow irises, bring some in to share --and you might take home a blue ribbon! If you would like to enter your irises in the show, bring your flowers in on Saturday morning. **Show your \$5 parking stub for a \$2 rebate on your iris purchases.**

ALSO: **Potted iris for sale at low prices!** You can buy iris plants at the show. Some will bloom this spring; all will give you a head-start on next year's blooms! Bare rhizomes will become available this summer, but these potted beauties will be at least doubled in size by then.

## President's Message

We need your help to put on a successful show. First and foremost - please **bring in iris to display!** Experienced members will be on hand during entry time to give you advice if you're new to entering iris in shows. We like to display a variety of different iris to the public, and it's fun to enter - and you might win a ribbon! If you don't have the names for your iris, you can always enter them in an artistic design (the theme this year is Carnavale!).

Please **bring potted iris** for our sale table also.

We also need help in setting up the show on Friday, and tearing it down on Sunday. If you have an spare hour or two to staff the info/sale table at the show, that would be very helpful as

well - please let me know what your preferred times are.

We will be putting on a potluck luncheon for the judges, and Sydney B people, before the show opens to the public on Saturday. **Please bring an item to share - salads and side dishes are particularly needed.**

Another upcoming event is the Celebration of Old Roses on May 17 in El Cerrito, where we will be selling potted iris. If you can help with this event, please contact Bonnie Petheram. As well as needing people to staff the sale table, she will need help with transporting the pots to the sale.

We will be having a club outing to Bluebird Haven Iris Garden on Saturday, May 9th. See below for details.

Jean Richter

## 2015 Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society Calendar

All meetings are at the Garden Center, **except for the July sidewalk sale and September potluck.**

April 24	show setup
April 25-26	SBMIS show
May 9	Club outing to Bluebird!
May 17	Celebration of Old Roses ~ we will be selling potted iris
May 18-23:	AIS convention Portland
May 22	Bonnie Petheram ~ slideshow on Sydney B. Mitchell!
June 26	Ken Walker - growing beardless iris
July 24	Bearded auction & sale
July 26	sidewalk sale
August 28	Riley Probst
Sept. date TBA	Potluck
Oct 23	Beardless auction & sale

### Club Outing to Bluebird Haven Iris Garden!

On Saturday, May 9th, we will have a club outing to Bluebird Haven Iris Garden in the Sierra foothills. We plan to meet at the garden at noon. Information about the garden and the address can be found at [www.bluebirdhavenirisgarden.com](http://www.bluebirdhavenirisgarden.com)

Getting to the garden takes about 2.5 - 3 hours from the bay area. Jean, Bonnie, and Gesine will have space for several people in their van - email [jeanrichter@berkeley.edu](mailto:jeanrichter@berkeley.edu) or call (510) 864-7962 if you'd like a ride.

We've gone to Bluebird every year since 1999 -- fabulous billions of iris! many old iris, many through the 1970s and mid-1980s.

**American Iris Society (AIS) Dues can be mailed**

**to** Tom Gormley - AIS Membership Secretary  
205 Catalonia Avenue / P.O. Box 177  
DeLeon Springs, FL 32130  
Phone and fax: 386-277-2057  
E-mail: aismemsec@irises.org  
\$25.00 single, \$30.00 dual.  
See www.irises.org/

Check your AIS membership status: Need to know your membership expiration date? expiration date for club members or your Region's members for Affiliation? www.aislookup.org

Please pay your 2015 **SBMIS 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.historiciris.org

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 \$5.00 at the toll booth to park].

**AC Transit Bus** -- AC Transit bus #12 runs on Grand near the entrance to the park -- check transit before planning, as routes do change.

<http://tripplanner.transit.511.org>

By phone -- Dial 511 and say, "AC Transit," to speak with a person about route info

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List of SBM Officers:

President	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	jeanrichter@berkeley.edu
Vice-President	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Secretary	Shirley Trio	(209) 551-6323	shirleytrio@clearwire.net
Treasurer	Bonnie Petheram	(510) 864-7962	bpetheram@gmail.com
Directors-At-Large	Loretta Figueroa	(415) 233-1926	millvalleyfig@yahoo.com
<i>also Grand Poohbah</i>	Alan Robbins	(925) 939-1979	ADRafetywpc@earthlink.net
Newsletter	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Door Prize Chair	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	jeanrichter@berkeley.edu
Hospitality	Shirley Trio	(209) 551-6323	shirleytrio@clearwire.net
Shows and Exhibits	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	jeanrichter@berkeley.edu
Program Chair	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Library Chair	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Publicity	<b>**need a volunteer!</b>		
Historian/scrapbooker	<b>**need a volunteer!</b>		
Immediate Past Pres.	Ray Vickers-Traft	(510) 839-9647	wndwsillorchids@aol.com
Once and Future President	Chuck Dekker		

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Global warming is here—you know what to do

SBMIS Newsletter -- Gesine Lohr

1226 High Street, Alameda, CA 94501

below: **Dragon King** (Tasco 2011) blooming now in our yard



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

You've never entered a show before? come join in the fun - experienced members will be on hand to assist you. Any type of iris can be entered in the show.

**Iris Showing how to's on the internet:**

'Preparing Irises for Exhibition at Iris Shows' by Sheldon Butt can be seen at [www.irises.org/aistoolbox/Preparing%20Irises%20for%20Exhibition.pdf](http://www.irises.org/aistoolbox/Preparing%20Irises%20for%20Exhibition.pdf)

[www.dvis-ais.org/iris-prep.html](http://www.dvis-ais.org/iris-prep.html)

has Delaware Valley Iris Society's info on preparing iris for showing.

The AIS' page for how to display info, is [www.irises.org/Member\\_Services/ais-toolbox-hort-display.html](http://www.irises.org/Member_Services/ais-toolbox-hort-display.html)

*A 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!*