

**Almanac:  
Society for  
Pacific Coast  
Native Iris**

**Fall, 2005  
Volume XXXIV, Number 1**

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### SPCNI WEB SITE

For great articles and photos!

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## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE SPCNI TREASURER

Prices listed are for SPCNI members

### Check List of Named PCI Cultivars

Lists and describes Pacific Coast Iris and named hybrids through 2001. ~70 pages. Hardcopy or CD: \$9.00 for USA, \$9.50 for Canada, and \$16.00 for Europe. For both a CD and a hard copy, the cost would be \$4.50 less for the CD.

### A Guide to the Pacific Coast Irises

*Victor A. Cohen:* The British Iris Society 1967 Booklet, 5.5x8.5, 40 pages, 16 line drawings, 8 color and 6 black-and-white photographs. Brief descriptions of species and sub-species including their distribution. \$8.00 postpaid, \$10.00 out of US.

### A Revision of the Pacific Coast Irises

*Lee W. Lenz:* Photocopy of *Aliso* original. Booklet 5.5x8.5, 72 pages, 9 line drawings, 14 photographs and 12 maps. Definitive work on the taxonomic status of the *Californicae*, with a key to the species and sub-species. Detailed maps and accounts of distribution. \$8.00 postage paid, \$10.00 out of US.

### Hybridization and Speciation in the Pacific Coast Irises

*Lee W. Lenz:* Photocopy of *Aliso* original. Companion booklet to the above, 5.5x8.5, 72 pages, 30 figures, graphs, drawings, and photographs. Definitive work on naturally occurring inter-specific crosses of PCI, including detailed account of distribution. \$8.00 postage paid; \$10.00 out of US. If ordered together, both Lenz booklets may be obtained for \$14.00, postage paid, \$16.00 out of US.

### Diseases of the Pacific Coast Iris

*Lewis & Adele Lawyer:* ALMANAC, Fall 1986. 22 pages, 9 photographs. \$4.50 postage paid, \$6.50 out of US.

### SPCNI SLIDE SETS

Two slide sets are available through SPCNI. Our Slide Chairman, Damon Hill, has produced them and they can be obtained by requesting them from him: 4613 Maddock Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472 or [iris4u@comcast.net](mailto:iris4u@comcast.net)

The charge is \$7.50 for either of the two sets. The first set deals with species: the second set is concerned with hybrids. **The combination set is no longer available.** The slides in each set will be contained in a Kodak carousel. The carousel will be convenient to use and less likely to be damaged in shipment. Payment (payable to SPCNI) should be sent to Terri Hudson, SPCNI Secretary/Treasurer. The person requesting the slides is financially responsible for return of the slides.

### ALMANAC

DEADLINES: March 15 and September 15.

Back issues are available for #3.50 each, postpaid.

Please request from Secretary/Treasurer.

**Chronological index** #2.00 postpaid, Index by subject matter, or by author, #4.00 each. Contact:

Steve Taniguchi [ST1732@aol.com](mailto:ST1732@aol.com)

3306 Forbes Avenue

Santa Clara, CA 95051

## MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris is a section of the American Iris Society. Membership in AIS is not a requirement for membership in the SPCNI, but is suggested and may be of considerable benefit.

Membership	Individual	Family
Annual	\$8.00	10.00
Triennial	20.00	23.00
10 year	60.00	75.00
20 year	110.00	125.00

Please send membership monies to the SPCNI Treasurer. For foreign: annual or triennial please add \$4.00 per membership per year; 10/20 year membership, please add \$20/\$40 per membership.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

### Dues Notices

First dues renewal notices will no longer be sent. Please note the expiration date of your membership on the address label. This date indicates the month and year that your SPCNI dues are due. We will continue to send a final reminder notice if we have not heard from you in 90 days.

## AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Membership in the American Iris Society is not required for SPCNI membership. However, AIS membership is suggested and may be of considerable benefit.

Send Membership renewals or inquires to the Membership Secretary:

Tom Gormley  
 PO Box 38  
 Cedar Hills, MO 63016-0028  
 e-mail: aismemsec@earthlink.net

Annual,	Single:	\$25.00
	Dual:	\$30.00
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Calendar year memberships. May be paid by check, VISA or MasterCard. Overseas memberships include first class postage, and are payable in U.S. currency.

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## SPCNI MEMBERSHIP LIST

SPCNI is offering its membership list of individuals for a slight fee to cover the cost of mailing and printing (approximately \$3.00 for the US, \$4.00 for overseas). This list can be used only for contact purposes and cannot be used or sold as a business mailing list. If anybody wants to be excluded from the list, please contact Terri Hudson.

PLEASE ADVISE SPCNI AND AIS OF A CHANGE OF ADDRESS

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### A Vision and A Roadmap

From the perspective of the Californicae species, we have made considerable progress with our garden hybrids. Colors and flower forms exist which probably never occurred in nature. The rich genetic potential of the irises has been partly utilized. Now I think it is time to look forward to what we can still accomplish.

I see two main directions for progress in the future. One direction is to expand the geographical range of the PCIs. The other is to extend the temporal range.

Progress in extending the geographical range of the Pacificas has been good. We have species and cultivars growing in various locations all over the United States, as well as in Great Britain, New Zealand, Switzerland, and Australia. Specifically, in the U.S., there are current reports of PCIs growing in Ashville, North Carolina; Boise, Idaho; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Phoenix, Arizona; Cleveland, Ohio; Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Columbus, Ohio. Whether all these attempts will be successful remains to be seen. Some people who live in areas that are not traditionally thought to be favorable areas are willing to explore some possibilities.

One of the pioneers in the effort to grow PCIs in non-traditional places was the late Bob Ward of Little Rock, who not only grew them, but also hybridized and introduced several of his hybrids. The story of his success is outlined in the Almanac of the SPCNI. PCIs have been growing in Maine and New York State for some time.

Within the genetic makeup of the Californicae is the potential to handle considerable cold, heat, and generally tough conditions. Continuing hybridization will bring that potential out.

In the more difficult areas, seeds from the northern species, *I. tenax* and *I. innominata*, seem to be one road to success, though *tenax* will not grow for long in the southern range of the Californicae, which is essentially from the San Francisco Bay Area south to Southern California. *Tenax* seems to require colder and more acid conditions.

In the hot areas *I. douglasiana* and its hybrids seem more suited. There is currently one attempt to see if the southern California species, *I. hartwegii australis* also has the potential for cold weather tolerance since it is a high mountain species and gets considerable cold. Some of the surviving older named varieties seem to have a hardiness that is missing from advanced generations of hybrids. They are good candidates for success in difficult areas. Perhaps at this point seeds of the relevant species are most likely to succeed in difficult areas.

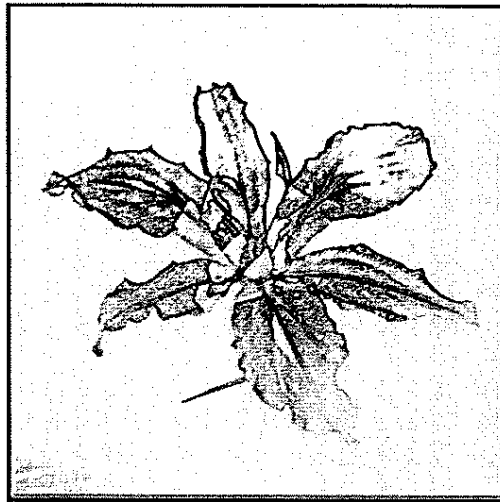
As far as extending the temporal range of the PCIs, work is already in progress. Thirty years ago a few Joe Ghio hybrids were showing bloom in November of each year so the genetic potential is obviously there. Currently at least one hybridizer is working with fall-blooming PCIs, and has had a bouquet of Pacificas on his Thanksgiving table for several years. The quality of the irises is not yet worthy of introduction, but we are going to have fall and winter-blooming PCIs available fairly soon. This is not particularly great news for people in colder areas, but for mild winter gardens, the potential exists for gardeners to have PCI bloom from November to June.

I say June, or maybe even early July, because hybrids already exist which bloom well into May, and in its native range *I. douglasiana* throws occasional bloom into July. Of course this is in the cooler coastal areas,

but hybrids of *I. douglasiana* have been known to bloom into July on occasion in hotter interior climates. The genetic potential is there. It is just a question of making enough crosses to realize that potential.

My conclusion is that within the Californicae, there is the genetic potential to develop hybrids that can handle many areas which have been declared impossible climates. There is the genetic potential to extend the months in which hybrids bloom. What we need now are gardeners who will take up the challenge of growing Pacificas in difficult climates, and hybridizers who will make the crosses necessary to bring the genetic potential to reality.

Richard C. Richards



Iris Pardyi

from photo by Ken Walker

## POSITION

## AVAILABLE

### SPCNI Seed Exchange Chair

**Fun Job, 40 hours a year (5 in September, 35 in January)**

**To start in summer 2006**

**Great for one person, even more fun with two**

**Computer skills helpful**

Apply to current jobholder Debby Cole at [dcthree@juno.com](mailto:dcthree@juno.com) or (206) 232-7745

Or mail to 7417 92<sup>nd</sup> Place SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040-5807

Corresponding with so many SPCNI members (and even some of the Internet-skimming public!) through our mutual interest in growing PCI from seed has been wonderful, and I hope to meet many of you some day in person. I've really enjoyed this position, and hate to give it up. But the time has come for me to move on, and it's a great moment to imbue the office with a new face, new skills and a fresh new approach.

I hope to hear from interested persons over the winter, but no later than March 1; an early applicant would get a "guided tour" of the Exchange in January.

Thanks for a great seven years,

Debby Cole, Seed Exchange Chair

## East Bay Regional Parks Botanic Garden

Ken Walker

The hills above Berkeley, California contain two wonderful botanic gardens. The less well known is the Regional Parks Botanic Garden; Tilden. This ten-acre public garden sits in the midst of the two thousand acre Tilden Park, effectively a park within a park. The Garden's main purpose is to provide a beautiful garden for the public's enjoyment using only plant species native to California. It should be no surprise to lovers of Pacific Coast Native Iris that the Garden makes effective use of these plants. The ancestors of our modern hybrids are extremely beautiful wild flowers.

The Botanic Garden was created in 1940 and designed by James Roof to be a simple, naturalistic garden. It's as if samples of California landscapes were brought together into well-composed collage, with plant labels added. The Garden maintains projects in horticultural experimentation, public education, and the preserving of rare and endangered taxa. Some projects require artificial structures, but they are designed and located to have a minimal impact on the natural feel of the garden.

The ranges of most PCI species are either entirely in California or span the border with Oregon, so a garden devoted to California species is a great place to see and photograph them. I've made several trips to the Botanic Garden in the last two years, adding to my collection of species iris photographs.

The most prominent iris in the Garden is *Iris douglasiana*. The Garden contains clumps of this species from many collection sites along the northern coastal counties of California: San Mateo, San Francisco, Marin, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Del Norte. The collection includes flowers with numerous shades of purple and lavender in a variety of flower forms.

Other species collected in Del Norte County include *Iris bracteata*, a beautiful yellow flower with dark reddish markings, and *Iris innominata* in both the yellow form and the purple form (*Iris thompsonii*). In addition to these species, the Garden has collections of the Smith River Series Iris from locations in Del Norte County where the species come together forming natural hybrids.

Heading back down the coast, we return to Sonoma County from which the Garden has collections of a light cream *Iris purdyi* and very pale lavender *Iris fernaldii*. Another clump of *Iris fernaldii* originates from a few miles inland in Solano County. Then from Marin County comes *Iris macrosiphon* with another collection even farther south from Mt. Madonna in Santa Clara County. A number of cultivated varieties of the species come from the latter location.

The most exquisitely delicate PCI in the Garden is *Iris tenuissima* from Shasta County in the central part of northern California. Its narrow, near white petals have yellow markings and a slightly ruffled edge. Continuing east and back south we reach the Sierras, finding a bright, clear yellow *Iris hartwegii* collected from Amador County and finally the large, impressive *Iris munzii* endemic to Tulare County. *Iris munzii* is native to a very narrow habitat and is considered very challenging to grow, but thrives in the Garden.

In addition to PCIs, the Garden has *Iris longipetala* (*Iris missouriensis longipetala*) from the nearby Wildcat Canyon in Contra Costa County and *Iris missouriensis* from Mono County on the eastern side of the Sierras.

Unfortunately, all is not well in the garden recently. About fifteen years ago iris borers (probably the PCI borer) devastated the iris collection. In a few cases, the Garden lost all the plants from a particular collection site. Over a few years, the infestation declined and disappeared. The surviving patches of iris eventually recovered, but in 2005 the borers returned. When I was there near the end of May, the Garden staff had just discovered them and was planning to clean up the dead leaves and treat the plants with BT, but the infestation was probably detected too late for BT to have an optimal effect. We can only hope that the total damage to the collection this time proves to be less than that from the original infestation. Even if some iris clumps are thinner for a few years, the garden is still well worth visiting.

I want to thank Steve Edwards, the Director of the Garden, for taking time to talk to me about the garden and its collection.

## Growing PCN Society Seeds

Liz Parsons, Member

March 17, 2005 was the culmination of 5 years of work. A seedling of 'Eagle Eyes' bloomed in my garden. I am careful to say seedling because it varies significantly from the photo of 'Eagle Eyes' which was published in the spring 1995 issue of the PCN Almanac. My PCN flower is a pale comparison to the robust maroon/orange flower that is pictured. I assume that is the result of seedling variation. The odyssey of this small PCN seed might be of interest to readers of the Almanac.

In 2001 I ordered 6 packets of seeds from the PCN seed exchange. #1019 'Eagle Eyes' (donated by Carla Lankow) was among them. The seeds languished until January of 2003 when they were decidedly "old", so I followed the instructions for old seeds and placed them in the tank of the toilet for ten days! I did this by cutting out the feet of old nylon stockings. I placed the seeds and a plastic plant stake on which I wrote in #1 pencil the identity of the seeds in each nylon bundle. I put all six "stockings" into a larger part of the stocking and suspended it in the toilet tank. This was an unusual method of stratification. (I usually put PCN seed in soil in a baggie in the refrigerator for 30 days and get very good germination after an additional 30 days in soil exposed to normal temperature fluctuations.) After 10 days, I removed the seeds and planted them in a nursery soil mix. The germination was excellent. I moved them into 4 inch containers in July of 2003 and planted one plant in the shade of a Japanese Maple in October of 2003. They survived the summer of 2004 without supplemental water and in the spring of 2005 they began to bloom. 'Eagle Eyes' was the first to bloom. One flower stalk on a plant with only two fans; not a very vigorous plant. Other seeds from that seed exchange began to bloom with interesting results. 'Warm Sunshine' (seeds from Steve Taniguchi) was the second plant from this seed group to bloom. The plant was very vigorous with 8 leaf fans and 5 bloom stalks. The big surprise was the color of the plant--it was a deep purple with white margins on very wide ruffled falls and standards. I grew two seedlings of 'Warm Sunshine'. The second had large purple flowers infused with yellow, also a vigorous plant with 5 bloom stalks. As I write this in the middle of May 2005 (a cool, wet year), the plants are both still producing flowers. 'Warm Sunshine' is a pure gold self introduced by Joe Ghio in 2000. I wonder if I have mixed up the labels or if seedling variation is the culprit. 'Big Money' (seeds from Debby Cole) is not very vigorous and will not bloom this year. The other three varieties that I tried to grow did not succeed. *I. innominata* from Curry County (#1403), *Iris douglasiana* 'Late Doug' (C0125), and 'Foothill Banner' (#1027) all withered and died in the seedling stage. I have two plants of 'Late Doug' from the 1999 seed exchange, which are vigorous and bloom late, with white purple-veined flowers the size of *I. Douglasiana* and are not outstanding. But they do extend the bloom season through May.

I hope that my experience with PCN Society seeds is of interest to other gardeners like myself who enjoy a challenge and love the rewards of beautiful flowers.

## Welcome New SPCNI Members

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## Tales from Peanut, CA

Janice Zbiciak Brummett

I was out walking with my dog this morning and we saw the hints of the forthcoming annual crop of wild irises. Not sure when they will appear this year, as every season is different and these precious plant creatures are so fragile that they often come and go before anyone ever sees them (except my dog and me, as we always wait for the arrival with private excitement / baited dog breath). Particularly here, in a remote corner of far Northern California, where the growing season is so volatile and unpredictable, these fabulous little irises bloom in short, sweet windows.

Not being a scientist or a botanist, I ran across your web site quite accidentally, as I strive to attach a name or names with the various images of these gorgeous little flowers.

Last year was a particularly abundant season here and we had luscious little stands of the irises everywhere... I saw them in places where they had never surfaced before (in the 15 years that I have lived here). There are so many nooks and crannies here, both in the forests and in the open fields... and so they pop up in tiny little micro climates, with a broad variety of colors and sizes, probably depending upon the conditions (soil ph, amount of sun or shade and water sources and so forth). Last spring, I swear that I saw every possible color combination, with little clusters occurring all over the place, somewhere in the two plus miles between my house and the bridge that we visit every morning on our walks. I took tons of photos, in my attempt to preserve this wonderful, secret phenomenon. I am now wondering where they will emerge this year, as we are having a humid and slow arriving spring, so it is not clear if there will be a bumper crop this time around. The blades of their base are already peeping through the duff, though. They look like assorted blades of grass to the untrained eye, but we know that flowers will soon be springing up among them.

Anyhow, I do have a huge collection of digital photos as well as a keen (albeit layperson's) curiosity about wild irises. I would be happy to forward some of them to you, if you like.

Also, I see a number of publications listed on your web site. Is there a particular book or research resource that might assist me in naming/identifying what grows here?

Can you recommend a book that might allow me to identify and name these flowers?

I have to wonder if any of the varieties that my dog and I have discovered, are among the endangered species, as we also have all sorts of other creatures (lizards and bugs and birds etc) living among us that have been labeled as being "endangered", by experts living in the more developed world. ☺ Makes me curious...

So glad to have tripped over your web site... a nice surprise!

Your suggestions or comments are very welcome.

Steve's reply:

Hello Janice:

Thanks so much for your note about the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris website.

You are so fortunate to live in such a beautiful area. Some biologists believe the Trinity - Cascade region is exactly where the Pacific Coast native iris have undergone most of their evolution during and since the Ice Ages. Your own sightings of iris "in every possible color combination" fits well with a wild population still trying hard to decide which of its many different forms and colors fit best into each local micro-habitat.

I have a copy of the first editions of Alice Goen Jones' book Flowers and Trees of the Trinity Alps, and always try to have it with me whenever I'm in the Weaverville area. Friends tell me that the second edition of the book is updated, larger and even more helpful. Flowers And Trees of The Trinity Alps. A Photographic Guide. Revised And Expanded Edition, by Alice Goen Jones, October 2002. Trinity County Historical Society, P.O. Box 333, Weaverville, CA 96093. Paperback, 304 pages, ISBN 0960705465. I'm still working on getting a copy of this second edition.

I also carry with me in a little leather folder three articles (reproduced by the Society) - A Guide to the Pacific Coast Irises by Victor Cohen, and Lee Lenz's two reports A Revision of the Pacific Coast Irises, and Hybridization and Speciation of the Pacific Coast Irises.

Other books I've Found helpful in identifying wildflowers of the region are Neihaus' A Field Guide to Pacific States Wildflowers (Peterson Field Guide Series), and wildflower guides from the Sierra Nevada's, like Sierra Nevada Wildflowers by Elizabeth Horn and A Field Guide to the Flowers of Lassen Volcanic National Park by Mary Ann and David Showers. We also keep along with us a copy of the Jepson Manual - Higher Plants of California (but its 5 lb weight seems to triple after a few miles, so it usually stays in the car).



I would be fascinated to see copies of the photos you have taken of local wildflowers and iris. A few years ago, Bryan Agron of Fairfax told me of a photo collection of local iris he'd put together while mountain biking around Mount Tamalpais in Marin County. From that collection, we assembled a photo gallery for the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris website illustrating the "Marin iris" - a natural hybrid of three wild native iris species. Like yours, the Marin iris can be seen in an exciting variety of forms and colors, depending on the place where they grow

[ <http://www.pacificcoastiris.org/mariniris.html> ].

I'd be happy to try to identify your iris to species, based on the photographs. Of course, not all photos manage to show the features of a plant that make possible a firm identification. And sometimes, the plants turn out to be hybrids of two or three different parent species - and trying to label it as one of the parents is an exercise in frustration.

I'm glad you found our website pleasing - it's based on the suggestions of its users, so ideas are always welcome.

Yours,

Steve Ayala, Web Manager



I. Munzii

Ken Walker

## Cold Climate PCI Seed

Garry Knipe, Cupertino, CA

Anyone living in a cold winter location who has been toying with the idea of growing some PCI should checkout some of the seeds listed in this issue's seed exchange.

In particular, there are a number of seed lots where *I. tenax* has been hand crossed with an assortment of modern hybrids. [See lot #s: 5201 — 5204.]

The idea here is to combine the cold hardy *I. tenax* plants with the improved flower size, form, color, and patterns of the modern hybrids.

John White, who lives in central Maine, reports his best success with seed having *I. tenax* as one of the parents. So, this hybridizing strategy with *I. tenax* appears to show some merit.

Recently, John sent to me some seed coming from his (*I. tenax* X 'Sea Gal') seedlings. Amazingly, a large batch of these seedlings survived the last two brutal winters. I plan to grow these under more favorable conditions here in California and in a few years hope to donate more seed to the SPCNI incorporating these cold hardy genes.

Hopefully, other folks in cold winter areas will start having success with these *I. tenax* X modern hybrid Pacificas.

When that happens, it would be great if they could please try manually intercrossing these flowers and send some of the seed back to the SPCNI.

With a little luck, a few generations of breeding and selection could give us some cold hardy seed strains having relatively modern flowers.

Now that would be a treat.

## Winter Report from New Zealand

Gareth Winter, Masterton, New Zealand

Gareth Winter, who is an archivist at the city library, a former garden talk show host, and always a husband and parent, sent back pictures of seedlings he has raised in Masterton (southeastern North Island), New Zealand. His comments on their sources follow, along with those of Debby Cole, from whose garden several batches of the parental seeds came.



2001-74

We have had a year and a half here at work - our town has celebrated its sesquicentennial (as has the smaller town just down the valley) and I have been involved in all sorts of things - writing a book, co-writing another book, editing the text and writing a chapter for another book, helping write a stage show, helping with the "stadium spectacular" - it just went on and on.

The PCNI seedlings this year have been brilliant. They flowered from early August right through to early December (New Zealand is 6 mos. removed from the U.S.), and we had some stunning blooms.

2002-004 is a seedling of 'Ignacio'. It is much deeper than the photographs would have led you to believe..... and velvety. {'Ignacio' looks much like 2002-022, and the seed came from my garden. The result didn't seem at all reasonable, until I happened to think that 'Ignacio' was planted quite close to 'Deepening Shadows', a dark velvety purple, and the seed was open-pollinated.....}

2002-022 is very effective in the garden, and is perhaps a little redder here than in the garden. It is a Wildman seedling, as is 2002-030. The latter is pinker than the photograph, and shines. I think it might have been my favorite of last year's first flowers.

2002-037 is a 'Drive You Wild' seedling. It is a good floriferous form.

2002-052 is a conundrum. I totally agree that the flower is nothing special, but on the plant it looks fantastic. Very healthy too. It is a 'Western Queen' seedling. When I show people photographs they mutter and mumble, but in the garden it was very effective. {'Western Queen' is a white, with a few dark veins in the center of the falls. Also, it is planted within six feet of 'Air Show', which this seedling greatly resembles.}

2002-122 is a small grower, and is from the packet of seed labeled 'Air Show' x 'Marine Magic' (?) {I can only think I erred in gathering, labeling or packeting! But it's certainly lovely.}

2001-127 is (from) 'Commitment' x 'Big Smile'. The 'Commitment' seedlings are all interesting.

2001-180 is a 'Gold Dusted' seedling. {Garry Knipe says he's had very interesting seedlings from 'Gold Dusted', and there's a bright yellow Australian PC in its background. That lurid color is uncommon in commerce, but I have two similar seedlings. Maybe that color is innominata-related; there are certainly lots of that species in all their backgrounds.}

I have an interesting big yellow signaled form (2003-131) from among a batch of seedlings from 'Big Money'. {'Big Money', a mid-yellow, is planted right next to 'Los Californio', which has a big yellow sunburst signal. I note that the standards are also yellow!} You'll see it is not as good as Mary's plant. {I had sent him a picture, here labeled DSC00248, sent to me by Mary Barrell, also on the north island of New Zealand, of one of her seedlings. She said it was 'from a batch of your seed' and that this one seemed quite unlike the rest, but gave no other details.}



02009

The last batch of seedlings were planted in my usual bark, and have flourished. They have made wonderful roots and have loved our hot summer. Those in the shade at the rear of the section will all be removed this spring, and the best put into better conditions.

It is interesting working on different views of these plants, and as so few are available in New Zealand, it is tempting to hold onto almost everything!

## Fall Transplanting and Soil Mix

Ryan Grisso, El Sobrante, California

### Transplanting :

Often I hear of people not having the best success rates when transplanting the Pacific Coast Iris in the fall so I thought I would write down a few of the steps that I take to increase my transplant survival percentage. First thing I do when receiving rhizomes from others or dividing my own, is rinse and clean the rhizomes thoroughly, while always keeping the roots wet. If the rhizome doesn't have white roots growing yet, I keep them in a bucket of water (changing the water every day) until they do grow, which usually takes anywhere from two weeks to two months, or longer. After the roots appear and the rhizomes have been cleaned, I prepare a Subdue drench solution, usually at a rate of 5-6 drops per gallon. The rhizomes are soaked in this solution for approximately 15-20 minutes. (Subdue can be very costly and some think that the pathogens can easily adapt and reduce the effectiveness, although I have not seen this problem yet. I have also recently seen Subdue available in a granular form that can be mixed in with the soil and appeared to be a little less expensive. Remember to always follow the directions for use when using any of these mentioned products.)

Once the soak is complete, I plant the rhizome in a one or two gallon pot, depending on the size of the division (Pots are cleaned in a bleach or Phytan solution, usually 1 part per 10 parts water). I water the plants with the Subdue drench solution, plus I add another drench product to the mix called Fosphite, a phosphorous acid based fungicide aimed at boosting the plant's immune system against the pithium and phytophthora diseases. Alliette, another phosphorous acid based fungicide, could also be used as a "sprench" instead of the Fosphite. (There are also some other products out in the market that I have used to help control these pathogens sold as Rootshield/Plantshield (soil drench or granule) or Soilguard.)

Growing these recently transplanted iris in containers allows me to quarantine them from my own garden and enables me to better control problems that may arise during the transplant and initial growth phase. I quarantine them for around 6 months and I try to plant them out into raised beds after the bloom, usually May or June. The plants will usually put on substantial increase if planted from a one-gallon pot into the ground in late spring. When dividing my own clumps nowadays, I usually plant them directly into the raised beds.

This transplanting procedure seems like a lot of work. However, I put in this extra effort because I feel that Pacific Coast Iris are extremely vulnerable during the transplanting period, especially if you add the shipping time into the equation. These are not bearded iris and a little transplant "babying" is necessary to ensure a good percentage of survival. I know some may say that ones that don't grow well are not worth having, but even the proven "good growers" will have problems during transplanting.

### Soil Mix:

After going through many different soils, I am now almost solely using a mix from a local Bay Area soil company, which they call the "Ultra Potting Mix". This mix consists of coconut coir, sand, scoria and some other minimal additives. I then add 10-15 percent quarter minus fir bark (a very small-grained fir bark), EB Stone "Sure Start" fertilizer, a 5-20-10 general slow release fertilizer, super phosphate, and sulfur granules. The fir bark and sulfur granules are added to acidify the soil. Be careful not to add too much sulfur granules as it may drop the PH too low over time (sulfur granules are not an instant acidifying agent). This mix has been working well and producing very prolific clumps. The coconut coir is an environmentally friendly substitute for peat moss and seems to hold water very efficiently and the sand allows excellent drainage, which is the most important factor. This is an excellent container soil mix and I am now using it in all of my raised beds.

If anyone has any questions, or would like to know my sources for the products mentioned, feel free to e-mail me anytime at [ryangrisso@msn.com](mailto:ryangrisso@msn.com).

## Hybridizer's Corner

Garry Knipe, Cupertino, Ca.

I started growing Pacificas from seed about 6 years ago. The first year I made a few crosses, however, most of the seed came from the SPCNI. I ordered many seed packets (donated by Lewis and Adcle Lawyer) coming from blue flowered, branching, high bud count, long blooming, and late blooming plants. I now have many selected seedlings with these attributes and I am in the process of evaluating and improving them.



X28B5DRDR\_11

Some progress has been made for fragrance using *I. macrosiphon* pollen from the wild. The second generation of these should bloom this coming spring. A few seedlings which bloom from December through February were derived from Ghio's very early 'San Andreas' and 'Pescadero'.

I have also become interested in plants having red, pink, or purple coloring on their leaf bases, flower stems, spathe valves, seed pods, and perianth tubes. However, most of these hybridizing objectives take a back seat to my primary goal of getting a great blue or turquoise flower onto a vigorous, easy to grow plant with nice foliage.

Some of the blue and turquoise colors derived from the Lawyers' breeding program are absolutely gorgeous! The blues tend to be very light powder or baby blues. One seedling, SGM22\_1, approaches a sky blue. These light blues usually appear as a wash over white falls with a small yellow signal. On various other seedlings a beautiful turquoise color appears either as a wash, as a stripe down the middle of the falls, as a blaze around the signal, or as the primary signal color.

Over the past few years, I have been crossing these seedlings with various Ghio and Belardi introductions in an effort to intensify the blues and improve the flower form and patterns. Unfortunately, the hybridizer's version of Murphy's Law requires that a large percentage of the most beautiful flowers must be associated with plants having one or more of the following faults: poor increase, weak stems, overly long foliage, susceptibility to diseases, such as rust and crown rot, flowers with poor substance, and colors that vary from week to week. Fortunately, a few plants seem to have beaten the odds and I have begun using these in further breeding.

For the past few years, I have been renting a 230-foot row at Joe Ghio's ranch and have been lining out over 1000 seedlings each year. This increased production of seedlings has given me the opportunity to choose the very best candidates for further breeding. Initial results look good and I am very hopeful that continued efforts will yield many beautiful blue garden-worthy Pacificas.



Occasional red spathes on 'Harland Hand' (Lennette 1989)



DBSX28B5 1



Variegated foliage with basal red color

**CONGRATULATIONS TO JOSEPH GHIO  
THE MITCHELL MEDAL WINNER  
AND TO OUR OTHER AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AWARD WINNERS**

**SYDNEY B. MITCHELL  
MEDAL (CALIFORNICAE)  
SIERRA AZUL (Joseph Ghio)**

*Runners-up:*  
**AIR SHOW (Lois Belardi)  
COZUMEL (Joseph Ghio)**

**AWARD OF MERITS  
PACIFIC MISS (Lois Belardi)  
MENDOCINO BLUE**

(Robert & Janet Canning)  
**RANCHO CORRALITOS (Joseph  
Ghio)**

**HONORABLE MENTIONS**

**STAR OF WONDER (Joseph Ghio)  
DOT THE EYES (Joseph Ghio)  
ENGLISH ROSE (Joseph Ghio)  
PINOLE PRINCESS (Vernon Wood)  
DIFFERENT STROKES (Joseph Ghio)  
EXTRA CREDIT (Joseph Ghio)  
FRILLY FANCY (Elyse Hill)  
OXYMORON (Joseph Ghio)  
SOJOURNER (Elyse Hill)**



**SIERRA AZUL**



**AIR SHOW**



**COZUMEL**

**Mug shots.....**



**2001-10 Gareth Winter**



**2001-122 Gareth Winter**



**02030 Gareth Winter**



**0203-087 Gareth Winter**



**0203-020 Gareth Winter**



**02---Gareth Winter**



**Oxymoron Ghio**



**Blue Eyed White  
I. douglassiana Craig**



**Garry Knipe Seedling**



**Sunol Grade Ghio**



**Ghio Seedling**



**Garry Knipe Seedling**



**Garry Knipe Seedling**

**Your photos could be here.**

**Please send to the editor  
either a photo by mail or  
e-mail at a minimum of 300  
DPI.  
We will crop and prepare it  
for publication.**



**Garry Knipe Seedling**

## 2005-2006 SPCNI Seed Exchange

Debby Cole, Seed Exchange Chair

All seeds on the following list of this year's donations are priced at \$1.50 for the first packet and \$0.50 per additional packet in an order. Orders over 12 packets please add another \$1.00, and orders over 24 packets please add a second additional \$1.00. To help with foreign postage, Canadian orders please add \$0.50, and other foreign orders please add \$1.00. Make checks payable (in US currency) to SPCNI, and send check or US currency with order to:

Debby Cole  
 SPCNI Seed Exchange  
 7417 92<sup>nd</sup> Place SE  
 Mercer Island, WA 98040 USA

**Example:** An order for 27 seed packets from a member in South Africa should include a check or money order (or US currency) payable to SPCNI in the amount of \$17.50:

\$1.50	first packet
\$13.00	26 add'l packets X 0.50 each
\$2.00	more than 24 packets
\$1.00	"other foreign" order

If sending currency, please send the next greatest whole dollar amount (\$18 in the example).

\*If your order is \$15.00 (US) or over, you may choose to pay with MasterCard, Visa or American Express. Please include your credit card number and expiration date.

Please order by lot #, but listing also the "variety" may prevent errors. All orders will be held until January 15. At that time, all seed will be divided, packaged and sent out as ordered so buyers may have sufficient time to plant their seed for this spring's germination. Requests will be filled in the order received. Please specify possible substitutes. We reserve the right to limit the number of packets of an item included in an order if the item is in short supply. Because of the time and cost involved in returning small refunds, no refunds will be made; funds sent for orders that cannot be filled will be considered donations to the SPCNI Treasury. Intentional donations to SPCNI are also very welcome. **Please order well before January 15; we have other commitments immediately afterward and may not be able to process late orders.**

We include a list of seed left from previous years. Germination of old seed should be more difficult, but not impossible; abrading the seed with a file or coarse sandpaper or nicking it with a knife or file-edge, then soaking it for a day or more before planting, should help. **Great success has been reported in germinating old seed suspended in fine mesh bags under water inside one's toilet tank for a week or so, subject to the usual flushing, then planted in flats or pots of gritty mix, covered 0.25-0.50 inches (6-12 mm) deep, and held at an average temperature of 45-50 degrees F. for a month, then warmed.**

Unless otherwise specified, all seeds are open-pollinated except deliberate crosses.

@ at the beginning of a description indicates cold-hardy parent plant.

### Thanks again to all our 2005 seed donors!

A	Richard Richards, La Mesa, CA	D	Debby Cole, Mercer Island, WA
B	Steve Taniguchi, Santa Clara, CA	E	Garry Knipe, Cupertino, CA
C	Jay and Terri Hudson, Fort Bragg, CA	F	Ryan Grisso, El Sobrante, CA

### 2005 SEED DONATIONS:

#### SEED FROM NAMED GARDEN HYBRIDS (open pollinated)

Lot #	Donor	Variety	Description
:5000	:C	:Bar Code'	:Blue-purple standards, purple styles, white falls veined purple
:5001	:D	:Big Money'	:Mid to dark yellow self; Mitchell '90.
:5002	:D	:Big Smile'	:Medium gold.
:5003	:D	:Blacklight'	:Standards smoky lilac, falls ruby red w/ blacklight blue spot.
:5004	:B	:Blue Plate Special'	:Dark blue self, with large darker blue signal.
:5005	:C	:Blue Sage'	:Mid purple-blue self (1947).

5006	F	'Bold Beacon'	Ruffled round golden yellow, with maroon fall spot and veining.
5007	D	'Boom Town'	Cream stds flushed and lined red; yellow styles; yellow falls lined & banded red.
5008	D	'Canyon Snow'	White self w/ yellow signal. Mitchell '78.
5009	D	'Chief Sequoia'	Light lavender-blue with round white signal. Mitchell '99.
5010	C	'Chimes'	Cream with dark gold veining and blaze; ruffled, velvety.
5011	D	'Ciao'	Pure yellow self.
5012	C	'Clarice Richards'	Pale yellow with red-violet fall veining and wash; turquoise center fall veins.
5013	B	'Commitment'	Wine pink self with deeper wine signal.
5014	D	'Deep Blue Sea'	Deep royal blue, small white signal.
5015	D	'Deepening Shadows'	Light lavender-blue with round white signal. Mitchell '99.
5016	C, F	'Deep Magic'	Deep royal purple self, deeper at center falls.
5017	E	'Drive You Wild'	Red-violet self with big gold ray signal.
5018	C	'Enchanting Temptress'	Yellow bitone with heavy mauve veining and rim; purple styles
5019	C, D	'Encircle'	Pale blue plicata markings on white ground.
5020	D	'English Rose'	Smooth rose, with blue fall flash and small neon violet signal
5021	D	'Extra Credit'	Gold, with brown standards and wide brown plicata falls edging.
5022	D	'Face Value'	Smoky orchid, overall deeper veining; deep violet signal.
5023	F	'Foothill Banner'	White, veined and ribbed purple; solid purple stylearms.
5024	C	'Garden Delight'	Light yellow; large medium brown blaze on falls.
5025	D	'Herald'	Pink, wine and orchid blend, with wine signal.
5026	D	'Idylwild'	White ground washed blue, edged white. Mitchell '96.
5027	B, C, D	'Jolon'	Mauve-apricot blend
5028	F	'Just My Type'	Ruffled white with dark blue styles and fall veins and rims.
5029	C, F	'Laureles'	Medium yellow with white signal and white wire rims.
5030	C	'Letter Perfect'	White, with purple styles, signals and fall veining and wash.
5031	B	'Lines That Rhyme'	Gold, with brown lines, dots, veins and rims; violet signals.
5032	D	'Los California'	Purple with gold sunburst signal.
5033	C, F	'Loyal Trust'	Rosy orchid self, with neon violet signal.
5034	F	'Magic Sea'	Ruffled delphinium blue; 3/4" turquoise signal with darker halo.
5035	D	'Mar Monte'	White, with mid-blue overlay and slight gold signal.
5036	D	'Mendocino Blue'	Hyacinth blue with darker veining; darker halo & turquoise midrib wash on falls.
5037	D	'Mission Santa Cruz'	Glowing rosy-red magenta self.
5038	D	'Mocha Melody'	Large cream, with berry midribs and signal.
5039	D	'Monterey Snow'	Ruffled white with small yellow signal.
5040	D	'Night Gown'	Red-black.
5041	B, D	'Ocean Blue'	White grown heavily washed and lined medium blue.
5042	A, E	'Orchid Resprite'	Light purple with darker halo around pale yellow signal.
5043	D	'Oxymoron'	Finely ruffled henna, with violet signal and yellow styles.
5044	D	'Pacific Frost'	Cream with bright blue fall spot.
5045	C	'Pacific Moon'	Cream, with lavender veining.
5046	C	'Pacific Rim'	S. blue; F white, veined gold, with deep blue plicata band. Mitchell '98.
5047	D	'Peacock Gap'	Ruffled tall mauve with turquoise flash on falls
5048	C	'Peeps'	Light yellow, with lavender brushings, lines and dots.
5049	D	'Period Piece'	Deep violet, with turquoise fall spot and deep neon veins.
5050	D	'Pretty Boy'	Ruffled peach self with small maroon signal.
5051	D	'San Andreas'	Dark velvety purple.
5052	C, D	'Sea Gal'	Stds true blue, falls white with true blue wash; tall & ruffled. Mitchell '02.
5053	F	'Seeing Eye'	Bright lavender, with black-purple signal.
5054	C, D	'Silver Circle'	Ivory, with huge purple fall spot and small yellow signal.
5055	C	'Sky Cover'	Ruffled white, with yellowed ribs and violet plicata dotting.
5056	F	'Star of Evening'	White with purple styles and veining, and small gold signal.
5057	D	'Steamer Lane'	White with blue veining and halo around small yellow signal
5058	D	'Sunol Grade'	Brassy orange self, maroon signal.



5059	A, C	'Susie Knapp'	Blue-grey self.
5060	B	'Tidy White'	Pure white with small yellow signal.
5061	D	'Western Queen'	White, with a few dark veins at hafts.
5062	C	'Wild Pitch'	Gold, dotted and lined overall with brown; brown fall rim.
5063	D	'Wild Time'	Maize gold self, maroon signal.

#### SEED FROM UNNAMED GARDEN HYBRIDS

Lot #	Donor	Sdlg#	Description
5100	D	DCCLDI	Clear light yellow, 14" high, 2 buds; <i>I. innominata</i> from Carol Lankow

#### SEED FROM HAND-POLLINATED CROSSES

Lot #	Donor	Description
5200	E	'Orchid Resprite' x 'Canyon Snow'
5201	E	@ 'Canyon Snow' x <i>I. tenax</i>
5202	E	@ <i>I. tenax</i> x 'Canyon Snow'
5203	E	@ <i>I. tenax</i> x 'Ocean Blue', 'Pacific Rim', 'Web', ['Rare Reward' x <i>I. tenax</i> ]
5204	D	@ [ <i>I. tenax</i> x 'Gold Dusted'] and ['Gold Dusted' x <i>I. tenax</i> ]

#### GARDEN-GROWN SEED OF PCI SPECIES

Lot #	Donor	Description
5300	E	<i>I. douglasiana</i>

#### SEED FROM PREVIOUS SEED EXCHANGES

##### OLD SEED OF NAMED GARDEN HYBRIDS

Lot #	Variety	Description
4001	'Age of Chivalry'	Glowing mid-dark blue purple with deep blue signal
4002	'Air Show'	White with blue standard flush and purple fall veining
1004	'Big Money'	Mid to dark yellow self; Mitchell '90
4007	'Blue Sage'	Mid blue-purple self (1947)
unlisted	'Broadleigh Sybil'	Biscuit with purple veins
C0007	'Califia'	Yellow-gold self, lightly ruffled
1009	'Campaigner'	Greenish apricot-buff
3009	'Canyon Snow'	Broad white self with yellow signal; Mitchell '78
3016	'Endless'	Rose bitone
4019	'Extra Credit'	Bright gold with wide brown plicata fall rim
1028	'Gold Dusted'	Purple, speckled with gold
4031	'Los Californio'	Purple with gold sunburst signal
4033	'Mar Monte'	White with mid-blue overlay and slight gold signal
4038	'Native Blush'	Light apricot, with yellow signal blushed rose
1048	'Native Warrior'	Small round light red; Mitchell '75
4041	'Orchid Resprite'	Light purple with darker halo around pale yellow signal
unlisted2	'Osocales'	Golden orange, with maroon signal veining over falls
3037	'Pacific Rim'	S. blue, F. white veined gold with deep blue plicata rim
unlisted3	'Pacific Snowflake'	White self
3039	'Pegasus'	White <i>I. douglasiana</i>
3041	'Poppy'	Tawny yellow with gold signal
4043	'Pretty Boy'	Ruffled peach self with small maroon signal
4047	'Ruby Eyes'	Rose, veined darker, with blackish wine signal
1059	'Ruth Hardy'	Ruffled white with violet-purple veins and styles
4050	'Short Order'	Ochre yellow with brown overlay on falls

3049	'Spring Daze'	Lavender, with white signal and fall veining
4057	'Town Belle'	Ruffled mauve veined rose; cream signal haloed rose
4058	'Umunhum'	Bright sienna with precise violet signal
4059	'Violet Blush'	Violet purple standards, red-violet purple falls
4060	'Western Queen'	White, with a few dark veins at hafts; Mitchell '76
4062	'Wild Party'	Apricot standards, lined magenta; bright magenta falls
3057	assorted	From the Iris Gallery (Hudson)

#### OLD SEED FROM UNNAMED GARDEN HYBRIDS

Lot #	Sdlg #	Description
1101	GH1	sdlg of 'Alice May'; sky blue/deeper sky blue.
1105	JW2	asst. <i>I. douglasiana</i> hybrids, late (Witt)
3100	DCMM2	blue-violet blooms, 6" above wide, flat-spreading 6-8" long leaves; 4 blooms in terminal, plus a branch; probably from 'Mini-Ma' seed
3104	HG03-2	beige stds, dark pink falls, primrose signal, dark veins.
3105	HS02-1	purple, with 'gold dusted' signal
3107	RR88y	vigorous yellow seedling, hardy in hot, wet climates; from <i>I. bracteata</i> .
3109		assorted fragrant sdgls from ('Deep Magid' and 'Pacific Miss') X <i>I. macrosiphon</i>
3110	DW99L	ex SPCNI 98076 (XP325M) dwarf plant, 6 flowers per stalk
3111	DW99V	ex SPCNI 99038 ('Violet Blush') 10-flowered plants
4101	DP1	Ex SPCNI 93089 ( <i>I. tenax</i> , blue-violet to purple)
4102	DP2	Branched; ex SPCNI 98063 (Lawyer XP64E, 'Valley Banner' sib)
4103	DP3	Ex SPCNI 99050 ( <i>I. chrysophylla</i> x <i>I. douglasiana</i> )
4104	DP4	Ex SPCNI 99051 ( <i>I. innominata</i> x <i>I. tenax</i> )
4105	DP5	Ex SPCNI 99055 (Lawyer XP209A, tall medium blue)
4106	DP6	Ex SPCNI 99056 (Lawyer XP210F, blue-violet with blue signal)
4107	DP7	Ex SPCNI 99073 (Lawyer XP360A, short branched blue)
4108	DP8	Ex SPCNI 99084 ('Night Editor' x <i>I. tenax</i> )
4109	EJJ1	Pale lavender styles; light lavender stds veined darker; lavender falls have purple halo around large peach signal

#### OLD SEED OF GARDEN-GROWN PCI SPECIES

Lot #	Species	Description
1310	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Light and dark blues, nursery grown in USDA zone 6
C0081	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Collected on Mendocino Coast, CA.
C0124	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	From U. C. Berkeley Botanical Garden.
C0125	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Late Doug (Lawyer)
4300	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Tall, dark blue from Russian Gulch, Mendocino Co., CA
4302	<i>I. doug</i> x <i>I. tenax</i>	<i>I. douglasiana</i> foliage with yellow flower, from east of Gold Beach, OR
4304	<i>I. tenax</i>	@ Dark purple, collected at Grants Pass, OR
1307	<i>I. tenax</i>	Medium blue-lavender

#### OLD WILD-COLLECTED SEED OF PCI SPECIES

Lot#	Species	Description
C0130	<i>I. bracteata</i>	@ Waldo-Sanger Peak Rd, 2800', Josephine Co, OR, 1993.
2401	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Ragged Pt., San Luis Obispo Co., CA, 2002, at southern end of species' range (lavender).
1409	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Coast of Mendocino Co., CA, 2001 (dark blue).
C0134	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	Sandy, OR, 1996. (light blue)
C0135	<i>I. douglasiana</i>	NFR 33, 6 mi from US 101, Gold Beach, OR, 1966 (white).
C0136	<i>I. hartwegii</i>	Fiddletown, Amador Co., CA.
C0138	<i>I. hartwegii</i>	Hale Rd., Amador Co., CA, 1996.
C0139	<i>I. hartwegii</i>	Shake Ridge Rd., Amador Co., CA, 1996.

C0141	<i>I. innominata</i>	China Flat, Siskiyou NF, south Coos Co., OR, 1997 (gold).
C0142	<i>I. innominata</i>	China Flat, NFS Rd.3353, 1600' elev, Coos Co., OR, 1993 (gold).
1405	<i>I. purdyi</i>	Yorkville, Mendocino Co., CA, 2001; 2200' elev. (white with purple penciling).
C0146	<i>I. tenax</i>	Eden Valley, south Coos Co, OR, 1996 (pale lavender).
C0148	<i>I. tenax</i>	Hwy 26, Boring OR, 1997 (light to medium red-violet).
C0149	<i>I. tenax</i>	Hwy 26, Boring OR, 1999 (dark red-violet).
C0150	<i>I. tenax</i>	11.1 mi up BLM Rd 27-3, Douglas Co, OR, 1997.
C0152	<i>I. thompsonii</i>	@ High Divide Rd, Del Norte Co, CA 1993.
3401	<i>I. tenax</i>	@ 'Tarbell Summit', Silver Star Mountain, sw WA, elev 2000?; pale orchid-lavender
3402	<i>I. tenax</i>	@ NW shoulder of Silver Star Mountain, elev 2500? Pale orchid lavender
3403	<i>I. tenax</i>	@ Road-end, NW shoulder of Silver Star Mtn, elev 3500? Pale orchid lavender

## EDITOR'S CORNER

Who? Where?

You're probably wondering whose return address is on your Almanac. Well, let me introduce myself.

I live in Ohio and grow around 900 varieties of iris, including PCIs. I even have some seedlings, courtesy of Harry Hill's donations to SIGNA. There are some others in Region 6 who also grow PCIs and I even judged some on the show bench last year.

When I attended the SPCNI session in St. Louis, Richard made a plea for an editor. I actually like editing newsletters (no, really). And I'm newly retired, looking for things to keep me busy. It seemed like a good fit. I don't know a lot about PCIs, but I figure this is the place to learn.

I've been really impressed by the willingness and quality of the authors for the Almanac. There were so many great articles for this issue that they wouldn't all fit. I look forward to more jam-packed issues.

Call, write or email me anytime. I'm at your service.

Jody Nolin



## Trek with SPCNI in 2006 !

On Sunday, May 21, 2006, SPCNI plans an expedition to see *Iris gormanii*, the "yellow" *I. tenax* in its type locale, around Hagg Lake in Washington County, Oregon, west of Portland. Plans have been approved to raise by 40 feet the dam which forms Hagg Lake, but funding is not yet secure and the timetable is uncertain. The change in water level doesn't seem likely to submerge these irises, but access will be difficult for several years, so we're going NOW!

The Trek buses, with a maximum of 90 participants, will depart from and return to the Red Lion Hotel on the River, headquarters for the 2006 AIS National Convention the following week. The hotel has blocked some rooms to SPCNI for May 20 and 21 at the same rates, with the same procedure for making reservations, and offers free shuttle service to and from the airport. The registration fee includes an excellent box lunch, but no banquet dinner is planned. There are many good restaurants and other hotels close by in the Jantzen Beach area of Portland.

Trek leaders Jean Witt and Debby Cole report a wide range of bloom color in the area over the past several years, from white, yellow and salmon through orchid to purple. Weather can be wet or dry, from the 50s to the 80s. Come!!!

### Reservations at the Red Lion Hotel On The River

These are the ways to make hotel reservations at the Red Lion Hotel On The River. If you get word that anyone has problems, please let me know.

1. Call the local phone number 503-283-4466 and ask for the Reservation Desk.
2. Call the number 800-733-5466. Reservation is for Red Lion Hotel On The River, Jantzen Beach-Portland, Oregon. Be sure to mention **The American Iris Society - Convention Code 0519IRIS**.
3. Via the web page <<http://redlion.wchc.com/HotelLocator/HotelOverview.aspx?metaID=77>>. Fill in the information required on right side of page. At RATE TYPES, click on **Group Block** and enter **0519IRIS**. (**IRIS must be all UPPERCASE/CAPS.**)

John Ludi, Reigning Iris 2006

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## THE SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRIS

### Trek, Sunday May 21, 2006

Prior to the opening of the AIS Convention, Portland, Oregon

**REGISTRATION FORM - Registration Deadline is April 1**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be requesting a vegetarian box lunch \_\_\_ Yes: \_\_\_ No

\_\_\_ I enclose a check for \$75 to SPCNI for each registrant above, or

\_\_\_ Please charge \$75 per above registrant to \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ Visa, \_\_\_ American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Mail to: Terri Hudson, Treasurer, SPCNI 33450 Little Valley Road Fort Bragg, CA 95437**

**A confirmation will be sent to you with details for the Trek.**