

# Sydney B. Mitchell Medal 2013







The Sydney B. Mitchell Medal is the American Iris Society's highest award devoted to only Pacific Coast Irises, and named in honour of Sydney B. Mitchell. As well as being an academic and educator, Mitchell was a renowned plant breeder, perhaps best remembered for his work on yellow tall bearded irises, and his collaboration with William Mohr. However, he was also very interested in the native irises of the West Coast and grew large numbers of them in his garden.

This year's voting resulted in a tie between two irises in the yellow/brown spectrum, both from breeders who are well-known for their work among bearded irises too. Joe Ghio's 'Lines that Rhyme', upper left, featured on our cover in 2010 and was introduced in 2003.

Duane Meek's 'Hidden Asset', also introduced in 2003, features two Joe Ghio varieties on one side of its breeding, while on the other it is a grandchild of the venerable 'Amiguita', a *I. douglasiana* seedling introduced in 1947.

'Hidden Asset' photograph—

Carol Coleman

### Pacific Iris, Almanac of the Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris

### Volume XXXXI, Number 2 Spring 2013 SPCNI MEMBERSHIP

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises (SPCNI) is a section of the American Iris Society (AIS). Membership in AIS is recommended but not required for membership in SPCNI.

	US	Overseas
Annual, paper	\$15.00	\$18.00
Triennial, paper	\$40.00	\$48.00
Annual, digital	\$7.00	\$7.00
Triennial, digital	\$19.00	\$19.00

Lengthier memberships are no longer available.

Please send membership fees to the SPCNI Treasurer.

Use Paypal to join SPCNI online at http://pacificcoastiris.org/JoinOnline.htm International currencies accepted

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER ABOUT DUES NOTICES

Members who get paper copies, please keep track of the expiration date of your membership, which is printed on your Almanac address label. We include a letter with your last issue, and may follow this with an email notice, if you have email.

Members who get digital copies will get an email message after receiving the last issue. If you have a question about your membership expiration date, contact the Secretary. Also contact the Secretary if your contact information changes in any way, including phone, e-mail and mailing addresses.

#### AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

Membership in AIS is not required for SPCNI membership, but it is encouraged and may be of considerable benefit to gardeners new to growing iris.

Send membership renewals or inquiries to the AIS Membership Secretary, or enroll on line at: http://www.irises.org/member.htm.

Tom Gormley - AIS Membership Secretary, P.Ö. Box 177, DeLeon Springs, FL 32130. Phone and fax: 386-277-2057 E-mail: aismemsec@irises.org

### MEMBERSHIP RATES, AIS

	US	Overseas
Annual, single	\$25.00	\$30.00
Annual, dual	\$30.00	\$35.00
Triennial, single	\$60.00	\$65.00
Triennial, dual	\$75.00	\$80.00
Life, single	\$1000.00	NA
Life, dual	\$1500.00	NA

#### PLEASE ADVISE SPCNI & AIS OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS

### PACIFIC IRIS DEADLINES: March 15 and September 15.

The opinions expressed in articles and letters appearing in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views or beliefs of the SPCNI. Remarks about specific irises, companies, products and services shall not be considered endorsements by the SPCNI.

#### SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRISES

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

President, Bob Sussman

12142 Alison Drive, Santa Rosa Valley, CA 93012
(805) 523-8604 e-mail: matilija@gte.net
First Vice President, Michael Monninger
4861 Brookhill Terrace, Riverside, CA 92509
(909) 361-3177 e-mail: regomdm@yahoo.com
Second Vice President, Position open
Immediate Past President, Debby Cole
7417 92nd Place SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040
(206) 232-7745 e-mail: dcthree@juno.com
Secretary-Treasurer, Kathleen Sayce
PO Box 91, Nahcotta, WA 98637
(360) 665-5292 e-mail: ksayce@willapabay.org

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Editor, Gareth Winter 64 Michael Street, Masterton, New Zealand 5810 (00646) 377-5373 e-mail: wintergareth53@gmail.com Historian/Archivist, Richard Richards 5885 Cowles Mt. Blvd., La Mesa CA 91942 (619) 464-2180 e-mail: mongo2u@cox.net Recorder, Kenneth Walker 1391 Santa Clara Ave., Concord, CA 94518 (925) 825-2350 e-mail: kenww00l@astound.net Seed Distribution, Louise Guerin 2200 E Orange Grove Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91104 (626) 808-1986 e-mail: siber@siber-sonic.com Trek Chairman, Position open Web Manager, Bob Seaman 7051 South 126th St., Seattle, WA 98178 (206) 772-2780 e-mail: kcisbob@leonineiris.com

#### **ALMANAC REPRESENTATIVES**

Washington/British Columbia, Position open
Oregon, Position open
Northern California, Kathy Braaten
10288 Kenwood Drive, Grass Valley, CA95949
(530) 477-2811 e-mail: katbrat@cebridge.net
Southern California, Michael Monninger
(see above contact information)
Central U.S./Central Canada, Position open
Eastern U.S., David Schmieder
566 Old Road to NAC, Concord, MA 01742
(978) 369-3383 e-mail: ornacirises@verizon.net
Australia/New Zealand, Position open
Europe, Position open

Cover photograph:  'Bay Street' - Garry Knipe  INDEX  A new look website  Bob Seaman 3  Presidential Message  Bob Sussman 4  From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter 5  Welcome to new seed exchange chair  Louise Guerin 6
INDEX A new look website  Bob Seaman 3 Presidential Message  Bob Sussman 4 From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter 5 Welcome to new seed exchange chair
A new look website  Bob Seaman 3  Presidential Message  Bob Sussman 4  From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter 5  Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Bob Seaman 3  Presidential Message  Bob Sussman 4  From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter 5  Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Presidential Message  Bob Sussman 4  From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter 5  Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Bob Sussman 4 From the editor's desk Gareth Winter 5 Welcome to new seed exchange chair
From the editor's desk  Gareth Winter  5  Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Gareth Winter 5 Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Welcome to new seed exchange chair
Louise Guerin 6
Mary, Mary, how does your garden grow?
Gareth Winter 8-10
Growing reports
Kathy Braaten 11
Robert Annand II
David Schmeider 12
Susan Lambiris 13
State of the Society's Membership
Kathleen Sayce 14
Members forum
Kathleen Sayce 14
Sending iris seeds to the SPCNI
Seed Exchange
Kathleen Sayce 15
Remineralizing soils and Plant Health
Kathleen Sayce 16-17
New Pacifica Registrations 2011-2012
18-20
New members 21
John Taylor's seedlings 22-24

### PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FROM THE SPCNI TREASURER

Prices listed are for SPCNI members in the US. For out of US, please add \$3.00.

#### PRINT ARTICLES

Check List of named PCI species and cultivars, 2005 Lists species and named cultivars and hybrids to 2005. \$9.00 If ordering both print and CD checklist versions together, \$14.00

#### A Guide to the Pacific Coast Irises

Victor A. Cohen, 1967

Reprint of British Iris Society 1967 booklet, describing species sub-species and distributions. 40 pages, \$8.00

A Revision of the Pacific Coast Irises Lee W. Lenz, 1958 Reprint of Aliso journal article 5.5x8.5, 72 pages. \$8.00 Hybridization and Speciation in the Pacific Coast Irises Lee W. Lenz, 1959. Reprint of Aliso article 72 pages, \$8.00 If ordering both of Dr Lenz's reprints, \$14.00 All three volumes, \$20.00

#### Diseases of the Pacific Coast Iris

Lewis & Adele Lawyer, 1986. Fall 1986 Almanac, 22 pages, \$4 50

#### Almanac Index, 2005,

includes the following indices: author, subject, species, hybrids, \$4.00, or download PDF on the SPCNI website for free

### COMPACT DISCS SPCNI Photo CD, 2009.

Compiled by Ken Walker, this CD includes 423 photos of species and hybrids, neatly labeled. \$9.00.

#### SPCNI Almanac CD, 2009.

All issues of the Almanac through 2007, with Index, also through 2007, and Checklist of species and hybrids, through 2005. PDF formats. \$15.00

Check List of named PCI species and cultivars CD, 2005. Lists species and registered cultivars and hybrids of PCI through 2005; CD, \$9.00.

Welcome to the Beauty of Pacific Coast Iris CD, 2009.

A 15-minute presentation with a concise overview of PCN species, early hybridizers, Mitchell Award and Medal winners, gardens landscaped with PCIs, and culture tips.

Ready to play for individuals or groups, \$9.00

### **USERS GROUP ON YAHOO:**

SPCNI has a users group site at

http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/PacificIris/.

Members are encouraged to join this group, which provides a simple online way to ask questions about finding and growing PCIs among all members. To join this site, you must register with Yahoo, but do not need a Yahoo e-mail account. You may post photos here, check on scheduled activities, and contact other SPCNI members.

### A new look website!

The SPCNI is getting a new look!

Steve Ayala handed the web mastering for the SPCNI website over to me a few months ago, after putting many years of time and effort into it. He had already completed significant amounts of work toward an updated website, so I had a simpler task of applying a new format and then adding additional content provided by members.

Kathleen Sayce has been enthusiastically providing input and extra content. Here's what you can look forward to seeing:

- A password protected Members Only area where SPCNI members will be able to download the current electronic version of Pacific Iris and other materials.
- An updated Marketplace for ordering SPCNI booklet, materials, t-shirts and additional items via PayPal; memberships and membership renewals too!
- A menu created to ease the navigation throughout the site
- Room to grow! The updated site is up to 126 pages and more will be added as time passes!

It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes active participation of members to keep a website growing and maturing. My job is to take information, format it for the web and get it uploaded to the website. Your (all members!) job is to offer content, suggestions or corrections. I may not be able to get updates completed immediately, but be assured, it will happen! There will be link on the website for sending me your input. I'll be looking forward to it!

Bob Seaman



A Bob Seaman seedling

## President's Message

Each year always brings changes to organizations including ours. This year we have two new people in the very important areas of both website management and our Seed Exchange. Bob Seaman is our new web person and the new site is just days from being posted online. I've been able to take a sneak preview and it's a real nice one and easy to figure out too. Beautiful graphics and pictures with more one the way.

We'd like to also welcome Louise Guerin as our new Seed Exchange person. Louise currently works for The Huntington, known for its library, art collection, and yes the also world famous garden too. We're very lucky to have both new people.

We appreciate the service of the people they are replacing. Steve Ayala our former web person is the one the got us on the web in the early days before many knew what www even stood for. We'll miss Emma Elliot too. She's the person that got our Seed Exchange into "modern times" from pencil, paper, and the regular/snail mail. We hope both of these people can stay with us, maybe in different areas as their time permits.

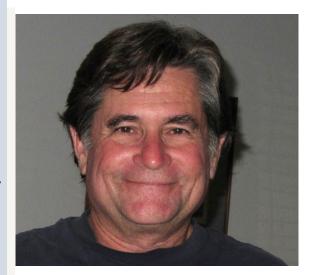
Other interesting things include more usage by iris growers on social media. Our SPCNI Facebook page keeps gaining "likes" /participants as does the Facebook page for "Iris Lovers", both good resources. It's really great to see new Pacific Coast Iris seedlings being grown and displayed from all over the world and at all times of the year.

I'd like to thank all of our volunteers who give of their time without pay, helping to make this a growing (couldn't resist) and improving organization. And, keep going to the web-new stuff on the way.

We wish you all a happy growing season with lots of new and interesting seedlings on the way.

All the best

Bob





### from the editor's desk

I was going to say that this year has been a challenging one for growing PCIs, but after reading the reports from growers in areas in central US, I started to feel a bit guilty. Their growing conditions are so much worse than anything I have to contend with that I feel ashamed for feeling despondent sometimes.

Our climate is similar to many places where Pacific Coast irises grow wild. We have cool winters and moderately warm summers, with reasonably regular rain throughout the year, although summers tend to be on the dry side, and seem to be getting drier. We can have ferocious winds and usually have a snow flurry or two in winter, but snow settling on the ground is an unusual occurrence.

We can have a problem with too much moisture in summer, so I grow my seedlings in pure pine bark for the first few years, as I appraise them. It makes removal a lot easier too, as long as I am an rigorous enough in my first year selection, as by the time the clumps get a few years old they have expanded greatly.

Our biggest problem with growing PCIs is that we suffer from late frosts. They do not kill the plants but they do horrible things to the flower stalks. Any stem that has pushed its head up through the leaves will be damaged by frost, and in a peculiar way I struggled to understand at first. The flower buds seem to be undamaged, and the bottom part of the stem seems fine too, but in between there is an area that freezes, and quickly dies. Oddly, as it dies the stem flattens, leaving it looking as though it has had a bad case of fasciation.

The stems stay upright for a few days, then slowly fall to the ground, each clump looking as though it is surrounded by swan-necked flower stems that have been decimated by a flower-bud selective herbicide.

I have been crossing my seedlings in a small way for a few years now, and I seem to have been able to push the flush back a week or so, making the flowers marginally safer, but the early flowering forms were still hit by a late frost this year.

Then the winds arrived.

New Zealand is basically oriented north-south in a belt of strong westerly winds. Wairarapa sits in the shadow of the Tararua Range, 5,000 foot high mountains that push the westerlies higher into the air, causing them to lose moisture, gain speed and swirl. This spring's worst winds approached 100 m.p.h and blew out one of the windows that overlook my seedling bed, as well as dislodging fence palings and causing my neighbour's trees to smash my guttering.

A warm spell followed, and the flowers popped out in a heartening way, with some interesting seed-lings in the burnt sienna range I have been concentrating on. I managed to do some cross pollinating for a night or two, then the rain and wind returned. The forecast for the next ten days does not look good either.

Still, gardeners and plant breeders are eternal optimists. I'll keep on trying and one year, one glorious year, the frosts will stop a week before flowers are due to open, the winds will be moderate, the weekends will be calm and warm, and the bees and bumblebees will work away on all the other flowers in the garden and leave the irises alone; the next door neighbour's cat will not try to nest in the seedling bed, all my planned crosses will take, there'll be a couple of new colour breaks and one seedling, of impeccable colour, form and vigour, will also have a delightful scent.

Gareth



# Past president's message

Every year I make a mental note of what Pacifica hybrids have stood out in my garden, and this year I vowed to say something. Half my cultivars were transplanted late last fall, and dodged in and out of pots in the process, but that doesn't lessen the quality of those that stood out this year. Plants that make this list have to be in 3-year clumps, though.

Past standouts in the beds have been *Mendocino Blue*, *Mocha Melody*, *Mission Santa Cruz*, *Gold Dusted*, *Ocean Blue*, *Ripple Rock* and *Monterey Snow*, most prominently.

Last year I was most impressed with *Air Waves*, a very broad, ruffled white with a few light blue markings, and especially *Santa Rosalita*— a really different color blend (lemon, with rose signal, hair rims and washing) and a generous bloomer, with stalks that refused to be laid in the mud.

This year I noted also that *Rich Uncle*, a ruffled mustard gold with violet signals on center fall white spots, and *Silent Witness*, a very plush and colorful red/purple blend, were really quite nice.

The year's winner, however, was a hands-down choice: *Line Drawing*. The flower is full and handsome, yet crisply held, with its pattern showing strong influence from its *Valley Banner* heritage. Stalks bloom at intervals rather than all at once, and one bloom on a stalk closes before another opens. Leaves are clean, rust-free and a beautiful deep blue-green, neither floppy nor spear-like, and stalks hold the blooms generally well erect and at the tips of the foliage. If it looks this good and performs as well in Oregon and California, it will deserve the Mitchell Medal.

Debby Cole

All photographs by Debby Cole



Silent Witness



SantaRosalita



Line Drawing

### Welcome to new seed exchange chair



Louise Guerin on a visit to Bob Sussman's Matilija Nursery

I've been growing plants of one variety or another since the age of six (my father taught us to grow our food - or at least what we could - during Maine's limited summers). When I moved to California (Bay area), I was given the lovely option of growing year round and I tried everything I could. In 1998, I moved to Southern CA, and started learning the perils of trying to grow lush, water hogging plants in a desert climate. Since then, I've worked on trying to get my gardens to be better suited to our actual rainfall challenges - only 6 1/2" last year.

I did a several years 'stint heading up the complaints department for <a href="eHarmony.com">eHarmony.com</a>, which, oddly enough, was not always harmonious. When I was looking for a change, I took a job at The Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino. It is a non-profit institution with wonderful gardens.

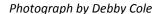
My education background is geared more to writing or print-making, but I have always loved gardens and garden spaces. I have been in charge of the plant sale at The Huntington for three years now. We propagate what we can and buy in what we need to make it a well-rounded sale.

I'm a member of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society and will be the Huntington intermediary for the 2015 Cactus and Succulent Convention opening banquet (yes, we have to book things that far in advance at The Huntington).

I'm looking forward to this seed exchange and meeting lots of members of the SPCNI.

Louise Guerin

Just what we all need—Rich Uncle





### Mary, Mary-how does your garden grow?

In the second of a series about iris growers and breeders, I posed some questions to New Zealand PCNI breeder and gardener Mary Barrell. Here are her responses.

It is Pacific Coast Iris bloom time here in New Zealand. Gareth and I are hoping for some fine weather to allow us to daub pollen far and wide. It is also time to check our first season bloom which is always an exciting time. While we are awaiting fine weather Gareth has posed me these questions.

### Where are you based and have you always gardened there?

I am based in Cambridge, New Zealand. This is a very picturesque small town, very often referred to as a 'tree town' or 'English village'. We are two hours south of Auckland, in the North Island, and an hour's drive from the renowned Rotorua geothermal area, the Waitomo glow worm caves and Lake Taupo. Right on the outskirts of town is a new enterprise called Maungatautari Ecological

Island which is a ring fenced mountain of about 4,000 acres which has been cleared of pests e.g. rats, mice, stoats, weasels and feral pigs and goats. Native birdlife is returning and the native flora regenerating. Exciting stuff.

Our soil is sandy loam, very free draining. Our rainfall is approximately 45 inches per annum with some heavy frosts each year. My garden is very flat so the fact the soil is free draining is a great plus for the PCIs. We can grow oranges and lemons with almost no damage.

### How long have you been growing irises, and how long PCIs?

I have been growing iris since the early 1970s when I saw a display of tall bearded irises and I decided I had to have some of those. From there I imported (in the days when we could import) rhizomes from the USA, Schreiners, Keith Keppel and Joe Ghio.



In the back of Joe Ghio's catalogue was a list of 'Pacificas' and the offer to purchase seed which I did. This was possibly 15 years ago. A few germinated and survived despite my ignorance of the species back then. The few that did survive and flowered seemed wonderful. I purchased some more seed and the collection grew. Since then Debby Cole sent me seed from her collection and I have injected some fresh lines from SPCNI seed. I also did a cross in Debby's garden ('Urban Legend' x 'Now Showing'). The only bloom so far is dark red with a rain washed look. Strange but interesting

### How long have you been breeding PCIs and why?:

I first tried my hand at breeding tall bearded irises after hearing Keith Keppel talk at a New Zealand Iris Society convention. I must say that at this stage, they were a bunch of dogs and ended up on the compost heap along with my enthusiasm. Quite a few years after this Debby and John Cole from Seattle visited New Zealand and came to call. Debby asked why was I not hybridising and I had to say the thought hadn't crossed my mind. They were so lovely how on earth could I improve them? But never say never so I gave it a try.

Luckily, as you probably know, PCIs cross incredibly easily (hard to be ahead of the bees), fresh seed germinates readily, and in my climate they will flower the second year after doing the cross. Instant gratification. Once again a lot of dogs but enough pretty things to hold my interest and give me hope. This hope keeps you going and going.

### What are your thoughts on flower shape? Should we all be breeding for the same look or is there room for differences? Ghio ruffles?

Could we start with Ghio ruffles? Everyone who comes to my garden and sees PCIs for the first time is attracted to the colours and then ruffles. "Gosh those ruffled ones are gorgeous!" I started out on one breeding line which had really rounded but non ruffled petals because it seemed different and although I still like that as well I have come to like ruffles as well. I also like small and dainty especially if the leaves and flowers are in proportion.

So no I don't think we should be breeding for the same look. A question that is often asked in many quarters is how big is too big. I cannot answer that but find that the bigger the better is the answer from the general public. In my mind there must be balance and proportion. I have a first year seedling just open and the flower is huge and the stem isn't supporting it. I will leave it one year and then a decision will have to be made. I have to add it has the most awesome colouring of gold and vibrant wine red otherwise it would be gone already.

### Do you take foliage and vigour into account when breeding?

I didn't for a while but I most certainly take both foliage and vigour into account now. I also take straight, upright stems into account. I have two clumps from last year's flowering that I believe to be the epitome of what I would like all clumps to be. One, very pretty in three shades of lavender, has made enough growth and bloom to look like a clump many years advanced (photo below). Needless to say it will be at the top of my list where vigour is needed. Colour may be the first thing that takes our eye but in the long run the public need a good garden plant to grow.



### Are you working towards any particular colour combinations?

Since I had a very pretty plant bloom with cream styles and cocoa pink standards and falls I have been trying for a pink amoena look without much success although the falls are getting a clearer pink. I would also like a candy pink. I do line breed to get improvements in what I already have. I also do the odd cross just on impulse to see where a particular trait will lead. Some of the lilac with turquoise infusions are just gorgeous (photo below) and a new seedling has come out lemon with some light purple and turquoise markings (photo page 8). On the second day the light purple has faded out and the bloom is light lemon with a noticeable turquoise wash.

#### Are you expanding seasonal timing:?

No, I am not working on that. It would be nice to extend bloom.

### Any other further thoughts on the future of PCIs:

Hopefully we are spreading the word on these great little irises.

Just to add a little advertisement here:
My local Waikato group is hosting the New
Zealand Iris Society convention in the
Waikato next year (7th to 10th November).
If anyone is planning a holiday down this
way next year please let us know. Bring
slides, memory stick or whatever and let us
see the latest from the USA. We can arrange
billets and show you our great little country.



All photographs by Mary Barrell

# Growing reports

### Report from Northern California:

#### Kathy Braaten

I would like to encourage everyone growing PCI's in the Northern California Region to send in some information for our report. We need to know about your bloom season, hybridizing experiences or just share some of your pictures. I can only report what I hear from all of you. My e-mail address is <a href="mailto:katbrat@cebridge.net">katbrat@cebridge.net</a>.

Robert Annand is a life time member of the Sierra Foothills Iris Society (Auburn CA), as well as an active member of the Leo T Clark Society (Chico CA). He lives in Forest Ranch CA with his wife Irene. His home and garden set at 2500' elevation in the Sierra Foothills. Bob has been hybridizing iris for some time. He has many introductions of bearded iris and a few PCI's . Recently, I asked him to share his experiences with his PCI hybridizing.

Bob's remarks on his experiences with PCI's.

I am afraid PCI's are not my speciality. I find PCI's can be difficult to hybridize and know their correct parentage. My first luck was hybridizing PCI 'Golden Scissor-Tail', a nice golden yellow with split standards like scissor tails. We have had good luck with 'Golden Scissor-Tail' showing off, but found it does not perform well at lower altitudes.

My next success was a lovely small clear blue iris crossed from a native iris from Alaska and Carmel Mission. This PCI was not registered.

Probably my greatest success was the PCI, 'Raspberry Eyes', a cross between 'Infinity' and 'Kimsey'. This iris will be registered in 2013.

I am 89 years old now and I am looking for someone to introduce 'Raspberry Eyes'. I find shipping iris year-round is too demanding for me. I will provide the iris and the person introducing the iris will make the money and absorb the shipping costs.

Enclosed are photos of my PCI seedlings that are available, though not yet registered, but could be introduced.

I have been growing PCI iris for 26 years, but my iris career actually began 79 years ago in Santa Cruz, Ca.

**Bob Annand** 





#### Central US/Central Canada:

#### David Schmieder, Concord, MA:

My memories of pleasant springtime weather seem to be getting fainter every year, and my attempts to protect our iris from the vagaries of the weather are definitely becoming less successful.

Time slipped by while waiting for the ground to freeze in winter, so that the plants did not appreciate the lack of snow in the early part of the winter without my planned mulching. The effect was quite noticeable in the two beds, one on each side of the driveway. I did manage a tiny bit of salt marsh hay on the PCI in the one that is also by the house, and it produced quite a bit of bloom, while the PCI on the other side produced absolutely none!

However, after our heavy snow finally arrived in February, weather remained wacko, so that spring never felt like it was here except for a few days here and there. A little good performance here and there that would get clobbered by the many changes in the weather, so that I had no chance to do much with my records or get good pictures. Worse, neither I nor the insects had any luck pollinating, for not a single pod bore a single seed! This same result continued in the other classes of iris until sometime in June when a few MTBs and many Siberian iris had no difficulty in setting seed. My apple trees had the same problem, leaving me thankful for our self-pollinating peach tree.

Now the funny thing is, that after a wicked hot summer with much but not worst case humidity, the PCI plants look like they are growing better than usual as a whole. Maybe not forming pods saved some of their strength? It will be very interesting to see what that might bring for next year. At least I have seeds left that were not planted last winter, and the seed exchanges to fall back on.

Actually the disappointments mentioned above were more than balanced out by the following delightful email:

My name is Richard C. Richards, and I grow Pacific Coast Irises in southern California. I was emailing back and forth with Debby Cole about some seeds I have just harvested, and she thought you might be interested in them. Briefly, the seeds are at least one quarter I. hartwegii australis, and made the cross with 'Gravitas,' a vigorous PCI hybrid, because I thought it might produce seedlings hardy in the colder parts of the U.S. I. hartwegii australis, though the southernmost PCI species, grows at the 5000-7000 foot level in the mountains near here, and so gets plenty of cold and snow in the winter. Hence my hope it is cold hardy. If you are interested, please let me know, and I can supply more information, plus the seeds if you want to try them in your climate.

### Naturally I was keenly interested!

In the Spring issue of the *Almanac* this year I reported on a contact with Garry Knipe on a hardiness project that he had suggested. Although the first stab at that project fell victim to slugs, I still have hopes for the future, even at my age. The animals plus the weather also play havoc with my labels, but I hope that my charting will save me. At any rate I keep trying to improve my techniques, and hope that both Garry and Richard will have enough patience, and that attention to these two projects, plus a little luck, will eventually produce something worthwhile in the future.



Joe Ghios' 'Gravitas' at Matilija Nursery

#### Susan Lambiris, Raleigh, NC:

This has been a very unusual year in central North Carolina; the long, cool, wet spring was followed by a summer that seldom went over "normal" temperature, and we had good rainfall, evenly spaced out, well into August. Since then it's been drier, but still--by local standards-normal or cooler, and all signs point to a fabulous fall. Most amazing to me was that the grass stayed springy all summer long and the soil beneath it never turned into concrete! Unfortunately, it turns out this is not, by the standards of Pacific iris, quite as ideal as for many other plants. Although I had good spring bloom, including flowers on several of the plants I ordered last fall, several of the new plants died after flowering season, including one or two which had been well-enough established to have blooms themselves. I have read about this happening to other people but never seen it in my own garden before--until now any of my Pacific iris plants with green new growth in the March after being transplanted were sure to be around for many years to come. There didn't seem to be much rhyme or reason to which plants survived, either; one which seemed both weak and in a location near other plants that rotted survived, while another which had bloomed and seemed extremely vigorous collapsed in mid-May. Fortunately, even given these late losses, the overall survival rate seems to be around 40 to 50%, which is very encouraging. I'm looking forward to next spring already!

Operation Deer Distraction seems to have gone very well; the deer are so busy reducing my heucheras to mere nubs that they are ignoring the Pacificas entirely. Perhaps I should try the same technique with my daylilies, which the deer seem to regard as a sort of gourmet salad bar, waiting until the scapes are ready to burst into bloom before carefully biting off all the buds (leaving the bare stems behind). They have very discriminating taste, as well, and relish most the varieties I most anticipated seeing in bloom.

### SPCNI Seed Exchange

We will be following last year's successful trial of placing the SPCNI seed exchange online only this year. This removes the challenge to seed exchange volunteers of creating a list in early September before receiving all seed donations and will result in a more complete and detailed list of available seeds. The 2013-14 online seed list will go live on October 31, 2013. The ordering period will begin on October 31 and end on December 31, 2013. Orders will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Seed packets will be mailed in early 2014. To access the list on the SPCNI website, go to

www.pacificcoastiris.org and follow the links to the 2013-14 seed list. Those without Internet access can drop me a note, or write to secretary Kathleen Sayce, and one of us will mail a copy list to you.

For those of you who garden outside the US, I will arrange a US import permit for seed so we will be able share seed from around the globe within the US.





## The State of the Society's Membership

Kathleen Sayce

As of summer 2013, the Society had 228 members, up from a low of fewer than 180 members in 2009/10. Gardening societies come and go with the generations, and the first decade of this century saw a great turnover in memberships in many organizations. We hope that SPCNI has turned the corner and is once again heading for a growing membership, eager to learn about, grow and hybridize Pacifica iris.

Ever wonder where our members are located? A look at the members' database answers that question: North America, Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

SPCNI members live in the following countries: United States 175, New Zealand 14, Canada 11, Australia 10, England 10, France 2, Germany 2, Japan 2, and Scotland 2. One member each lives in Denmark, Ireland, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland

Historically, the Society had members in Mexico. Absent from our membership at this writing in 2013 are members from Chile and South Africa, both with temperate regions of dry summers and wet winters. As PCI gardens are in cool Mediterranean-type climates along the West Coast of North America, and halfway to rock gardens in general, it is interesting to speculate where PCIs could be successfully grown, beyond the West Coast of North America.

A review of Mediterranean climates around the world offers the following conclusions: Pacifica iris can be grown around the Mediterranean in cooler locales, and in warmer areas with shade and summer water, as Richard Richards has demonstrated for several decades in Southern California. Missing, therefore, are gardeners from Italy, Portugal, several countries around the Adriatic and Aegean Seas, and higher elevation gardeners farther east around the Mediterranean Sea, Mexico and southern South America.

Good cultivation areas, excluding the occasional cold winter, include the British Isles, Spain and France, where several members demonstrate that this is so, along with determined gardeners in Denmark, Germany, Poland, Sweden and Switzerland, confirming that PCI and rock gardening both develop capable gardening souls who can wring suitable climates out of just about any spot on the planet. Likewise, Russia and Japan have determined gardeners, even though these areas are well away from cool Mediterranean climates.

Mark Mace wrote an article on Mediterranean climates around the world for Pacific Bulb Society's publication *The Bulb Garden*. Read more about this unique climate, which is so beneficial to Pacifica iris, at <a href="http://www.pacificbulbsociety.org/pbswiki/">http://www.pacificbulbsociety.org/pbswiki/</a> index.php/DrySummerClimates.

### Members' forum

#### Kathleen Sayce

SPCNI now has a Members Forum on its new website thanks to our new web manager,
Bob Seaman. The URL is <a href="http://www.pacificcoastiris.org/spcni">http://www.pacificcoastiris.org/spcni</a> mlf/index.php?
mode-login

Access is straightforward: The first time you go to the forum, you register your user name and password. Then an email message is sent to you to open up your access, usually within a few minutes. You click on that link, and now you can log in and enter the forum. Thereafter, you can enter directly from the login page.

Starting with the Fall 2013 digital issue of Pacific Iris, members will receive a notice that each issue is available for downloading on the Members Forum, and will click on the link to go to the Forum to download a copy. Print issues will be mailed as in the past; there will be no change in the process for print issues.

## Sending Iris Seeds to the SPCNI Seed Exchange

Kathleen Sayce

Several of us have discussed how to improve gene flow for PCI growers around the world. Well, we have a new solution: SPCNI now has its own "Small Lots of Seed" Import Permit.

This summer Louise Guerin took over the SPCNI Seed Exchange Chairmanship. Louise works at Huntington Gardens in southern California, and manages plant sales. Being experienced in shipping plants into and out of the United States, she immediately took up the challenge of getting an import permit for overseas members to use. The first permit was issued a few weeks ago, and the first packet of materials was sent to our beta tester.

Here's the way it works: International members of SPCNI request an import packet from me; I will mail it to you directly. This includes a page of instructions from US Customs, a page of instructions from SPCNI, a sample plastic bag, and labels, one for the outside of your package, and one for the inside

Seeds need to be dry and clean, free of dirt, mold and insects. They should be placed in resealable plastic bags. Our permit is for small lots of seeds, so this means no more than 50 seeds should be placed in one bag (the U.S. Customs definition of a "small lot"). The instructions will direct you to also include a list, naming each lot of seed by species, for all seeds you include in the package. Each packet should also be labeled with the corresponding name from the list. As most will be sending hybrid seeds, we suggest you use *Iris douglasiana* as the species name, and include details after this name, such as *Iris douglasiana* 'Firefly' or BL3. You can send additional details directly to Louise so that she can prepare a more detailed listing for the seed exchange.

Use the label to US Customs on the outside of the package that contains the seed packets. Inside the package, insert the label that customs inspectors will apply to send seeds onward after inspection.

How long will it take for seeds to clear customs? We don't know. As of this writing, Diane Whitehead had sent seeds to SPCNI from Victoria BC Canada in September 2013, and they had not reached us four weeks later. We suggest that you plan on two months, and send seeds when they are ready, rather than waiting for September or October each year.

With this permit in place, overseas hybridizers can send seeds to the US, and we can of course, send seeds back. Let full two-way gene flow commence!







Some southern hemisphere seedlings Photographs—Gareth Winter

### Remineralizing Soils and Plant Health

Kathleen Sayce,

October 12, 2013

In 2010 I began to learn about providing better nutrition to soils so that plants can grow in optimal conditions. Healthy plants not only overcome herbivory, disease, drought and other adverse conditions to flourish, they grow larger, flower more and set more seeds. These plants have higher levels of secondary plant compounds, sugars, and other metabolites. Optimal nutrition for healthy soils to produce healthy plants is not a matter of applying N-P-K fertilizers; instead it's a focus on missing minerals and carbon compounds. Systematically testing soils is the first step; the second step is adding those that are low or missing. Adding organic matter in the form of compost and biochar is another step.

In my garden I use compost and biochar every time I plant a new iris; every two or three years, I put a new layer of compost over each garden area. I've also used wood chips, preferably wood chips aged for a year so that fungi can inoculate them. I've done this for more than 20 years, and until 2010, I thought I was doing pretty well. That year I began reading about minerals, soil carbon, and soil health. This was followed by the latest book from Steve Solomon on vegetable gardening, The Intelligent Gardener. Steve lives in Tasmania now; in a former life he lived in Oregon, where he started Territorial Seeds, a vegetable seed company. He and his family lived on what he could grow in the garden for several years. He composted, irrigated, added manures, and generally followed traditional organic farming guidelines. It took him decades to learn about how to make high quality composts, and even longer to learn about soil minerals and soil health. Now in his 70s, Steve's latest book is a tour de force for gardeners, distilling a lifetime of gardening knowledge for all of us.

I've read and reread his book. Living in a high rainfall area, it makes sense that water soluble nutrients are probably low in my soil. Compost and well-inoculated wood chips might not be putting back everything that my soil needed in the way of minerals. In fact, water soluble nutrients probably wave at plant roots as they wash past during the wet season.

In 2012 I took a bold step forward, and sampled my soil. These samples were sent to a soil testing lab. A bold step for me, that is; thousands of farmers and gardeners do this every year. The report came back, full of numbers, a few were high, most were low. The conclusion was that my soil had three minerals in sufficient or excessive amounts (Iron, Zinc and Magnesium). Everything else was non-existent or very low.



Steve Solomon

I measured the area of all garden beds, and took these results plus the area to a local soil consultant to have a custom blend of minerals formulated for my garden. The soil consultant avoided Calcium compounds that might change the pH of my naturally acidic soil or add even more Magnesium. And we agreed on a formulation that would build up minerals over several years, not trying to bring this garden to an optimal mineral level in one year, but rather to bring it up more gently over three to five years. I went home with three bags, to apply in midwinter, late winter and early spring.

Yes, I had more flowers than ever in my garden in 2013. But it's the number of iris pods that I was paying attention to. Based on pod counts, the outcome was astounding. In prior years I'd seen around 50-70 seed pods in total. I know this because I use organza mesh bags on ripening pods to keep them from tossing seeds all over the garden, and could count the bags as they went over pods. I'd purchased 400 bags the prior year, used 70 bags in 2012, on every pod I could find. And this seemed like a typical year.

In 2013 I used every single mesh bag that I had, some of them several times, shifting from early ripening pods to later ripening pods. A friend found a few bags at a yard sale and gave them to me. I cut pods off many plants, needing at most 15 pods of each variety, and threw away at least 100 pods. So in one twelve month period, my irises went from producing around 70 pods, to producing around 500 pods. The only thing that changed was the garden's nutrition program.

There was also a major weather difference. Many of my well established plants are hybrids that flower in May and early June. We had a late wet spring in 2013. I did not get any seeds from these plants. The later flowering species and species crosses that bloomed in mid June were more successful, as they flowered in drier weather, and bumblebees could actually get to their flowers. For the first time I saw just how floriferous *I. tenax x I. innominata* crosses are in Pacific Northwest gardens. While this cross has not been featured much in many hybrid programs, based on performance in my garden, I recommend this combination to anyone gardening north of southern Oregon.

For 2014, I plan to resample the soil, have minerals formulated based on the new soil test, put these out in three batches as I did last year, and buy more mesh bags. I also plan to add compost on most beds, and continue to plant new plants with a mix of compost and biochar. My hope is that these carbon compounds will help with mineral retention in coming years. Ongoing soil tests will tell me if this is successful.

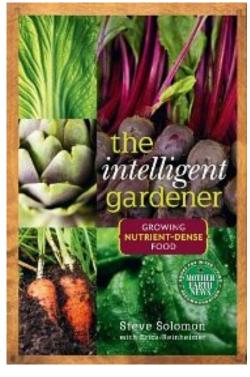
The careful reader will note that I did not write about Nitrogen or N-P-K formulas. I did not add N in 2013, and do not intend to add any in 2014. A properly mineralized soil does not need much N. When healthy, the soil contains microorganisms that fix N. As it turns out, there's another reason to not add N: Nitrogen fertilizers stimulate microbes to metabolize carbon compounds in the soil. My soil is sandy, so I do not want to lose any carbon if I can avoid it.

A generation of N fertilizers has wrecked havoc with historic soil carbon—levels around the world. So I save money by not using standard N-P-K mixes, and instead spend it on custom blends.

Then there are the minerals to consider. If you read about historic levels of minerals in vegetables, compared to modern levels, it's staggering to learn that minerals have dropped by 3-10 times from levels of a century ago. This bears directly on food health for all of us, as well as flowering and seed setting capacity for those plants we eat, and those we grow

for pleasure.

As for wood chips with fungi growing on them, most native plants in the West, especially in forest and woodland conditions, grow with soil fungi. In my garden, I consider it a measure of success to have mushrooms growing among



the ornamental plants. When I dig up iris plants, I see abundant feeder roots interacting with aged wood chips and soil fungi. This fall I saw chanterelle fungi flowering on a garden path next to several iris plants; this path is layered with several years worth of wood chips. Success!

Contact me privately if you want more information. My contact information is in the front of this issue of *Pacific Iris*, where contact information for all board members and officers is located.

Editors note: Photograph of Steve Solomon from his homebage at

www.soilandhealth.org/05steve'sfolder/05aboutmeindex .html

### New Pacifica registrations 2011-2012

ALMOST WILD (J. T. Aitken, R. 2012). Sdlg. 06PC-1. CA, 12" (30 cm), VL. S. and style arms pale lavender, darker at midribs; F. small yellow signal, dark lavender veins surrounded by white zonal spot blending to lavender at petal edges, darker veins throughout zonal spot. Wild Survivor X Bar Code. Salmon Creek 2012.

AMETHYST CLOUD (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). Sdlg. AV9. CA, 10" (25 cm), M. S. white, faint deep purple mid-line vein and yellow base, ruffled edge; style arms light purple; F. heavily veined deep red-purple lines, vivid red-purple wash over white background, wavy edge, small yellow patch with dark purple at outer edge. Foggy Days X unknown.

AVILA BEACH (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). Sdlg. BA1. CA, 12-15" (30-35 cm), M. S. moderate yellow, orange cast; style arms lavender at tips fading to yellow at center; F. moderate yellow-orange, brown-orange veins, signal yellow, dark purple markings, dark veins, brown-orange halo, ruffled edge; large flower. Bat Boy X unknown.

BANANA SPLIT (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). Sdlg. AV8. CA, 6-8" (15-20 cm), L. S. cream-yellow, lavender tinted edges, very ruffled; style arms medium yellow; F. medium yellow, lavender tinted edges and dark blue-purple halo, very broad and ruffled; signal medium yellow with dark yellow slash. Foggy Days X unknown.

CANYON VELVET (Bruce Reed, R. 2011). CA, 10" (25 cm), E. S. light purple (RHS 80C) veined deep purple (79A); style arms light purple-pink (68D); F. vivid purple (80A)veined deep purple, signal deep purple to black, faint broken white streaks at throat. I. douglasiana, seed from Joe Ghio.

CAUGHT IN THE WIND (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. LP-145B2. CA, 16" (40 cm), EM. S. blue-violet, lighter blue edges; style arms dark blue-purple; F. creamy white, petal edges lined blue violet; yellow blaze lined over with blue violet. Line Drawing X This is It. Bay View 2012.

CHUALAR (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-157R. CA, 12" (30 cm), EM. S. wine; style arms cream lavender; F. apricot ground washed wine, deeper at edges and shoulders, yellow line signal. HP-134-I: (FP-249M, Public Eye sib, x FP-263S, Like Clockwork sib) X IP-139H2, Rich Uncle sib. Bay View 2011.

COIN COLLECTOR (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. JP-121-1. CA, 12" (30 cm), ML. Gold self, black-brown signal. Going Bananas sib. Bay View 2012.

COSTANOA (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-154W3. CA, 14" (36 cm), ML. S. pure white; style arms medium blue; F. white, blue lines radiate around yellow overlaid with blue signal. Line Drawing X Finger Pointing. Bay View 2011.

EDGEWORTHY (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). Sdlg. AA709. CA, 14-16" (35-40 cm), M. S. pale buff, deep red-purple veins; style arms pale buff; F. pale buff, deep red-purple veins radiating out towards solid buff border; small yellow signal, buff and deep purple veins. Big Money X unknown.

EXECUTIVE DECISION (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. HP-143Y. CA, 15" (38 cm), ML. S. black-red, thin bronze wire edge; style arms gold tinted red; F. black red, red purple in heart, thin bronze wire edge. FP-260 redstyles, Red Flag Warning pod parent, X New Blood. Bay View 2011.

FOCUS GROUP (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-164L3. CA, 11" (28 cm), M. Clear yellow self including style arms, large white signal. Mandalay Bay X probably -- IP-106E3: (GP-354L: (EP-189P: (CP-96L2: (PA-97P: (Jacks are Wild x PC-178X2: (PE-189M: (PG-177G: (MIX-A, unknown, x PI-214O2, Valet sib) x PG-154, Spanish Don sib) x Point Santa Cruz)) x AP-299N, Pretty Boy sib) x CP-131Q: (AP-292N2, Oxymoron sib, x AP-282G, Dot the Eyes sib)) x EP-241E2: (Star of Wonder x CP-104D2: (PB-349I2: (PD-250M4: (PF-173T, Eye My Eye sib, x PF-159S: (MIX-B2, unknown, x PH-231bo: (PJ-165: (Bubbly x PL-282P2: (Solid Citizen x PN-269JJ: (Lighthouse Point x Mission Santa Cruz))) x National Anthem))) x PE-189M) x AP-293X, Eyes of Blue sib))) x GP-382B2: (EP-261V2: (AP-282K, Dot the Eyes sib, x unknown) x EP-230H3: (CP-131Q x CP-104D2))). Bay View 2011.

FRESH EYES (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. KP-154U3. CA, 13" (33 cm), L. S. white, blue line down center, small blue lines at distal edge; F. white, light-blue lines radiate from signal, thin dark-blue stitched edge, mid blue halo signal. Line Drawing X Finger Painting. Bay View 2012.

FRUIT MARKET (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). CA, 8-10" (20-25 cm), E. S. pale orange-yellow, wavy edge; style arms yellow-orange; F. red-orange, deeper halo and fading toward edge, narrow pale orange-yellow wire edge; signal yellow, red-orange veins. Parentage unknown.

GINGER DREAM (Emma Elliott, R. 2012). Sdlg. AU20. CA, 9-11" (22-28 cm), M. S. medium orange, darker orange veins, yellow at center, broad open standards, wavy edge; style arms green-yellow at center, pale purple at edge, frilly; F. brown-orange, darker brown veins, pale rim and wavy edge; signal small yellow patch with darker veins. Gold Dusted X unknown.

HIGH FIRE DANGER (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-160Y. CA, 12" (30 cm), EM. S. and F. black; style arms deep yellow; faint ruby signal. HP-143-2, War Zone sib, X IP-114F: (GP-368F3: (Now Showing x EP-226T, New Blood sib) x EP-242bo: (Star of Wonder x CP81-I2: (Different Strokes x Magic Carpet Ride))). Bay View 2011.

IDENTITY (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. IP-97G3. CA, 14" (36 cm), E. S. pink orchid; style arms and F. lighter; dimesized neon-violet signal. Clarification sib. Bay View 2011.

KARAPIRO GHOST (Mary Barrell, R. 2011). Sdlg. TRBP1/DR/19. CA,  $14^{\circ}$  (35 cm), EM. S. pale yellow washed smoky grey-lavender, pale lemon edge and stripe down middle, narrow gold center stripe; style arms pale yellow; F. pale yellow washed slightly darker smoky grey-lavender, pale grey edge, lemon area down center with gold stripe in middle, signal pale yellow ground, gold veined, dark lavender spots . (TRBP x Debby's Peach sib) X (TRBP x Ghio seedling).

KARAPIRO PRINCESS (Mary Barrell, R. 2011). CA, 11" (29 cm), ML. S. cream flushed pink lilac, deeper at edge, brown midrib from base to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of way up; style arms lemon flushed lilac; F.  $\frac{1}{3}$  inner circle of maroon striped darker, hafts lemon washed pink-lilac and veined brown, pink lilac band on edge, signal narrow gold stripe to end of maroon circle. 2002/wow/1: (Ghio GS-13 x MTP/LP 10) X 2002/wow/2, wow/1 sib...

KINNOULL (Philip Jones, R. 2012). Sdlg. 1KA1. CA, 15" (38 cm), EM. S. cream white, flushed pale pink at midribs, erect; style arms cream white, toothed, pale pink crests; F. wide crimson throat with faint gold specks blending to pale pink, narrow red veins, white rim; signal red, white and gold speckles. Parentage unknown.

LARGER THAN LIFE (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-162E2. CA, 15" (38 cm), EM. Velvety deep purple self, muted dotted yellow signal. HP-153-O3: (EP-153Z: (Ocean Blue x Star of Evening) x Like Clockwork) X Finger Pointing. Bay View 2011.

LIGHT SHOWERS (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. LP-145D2. CA, 15" (38 cm), EM. S. and style arms white, light violet-blue edge; F. white, stitched blue violet, small yellow-lined signal. Line Drawing X This Is It. Bay View 2012.

MODERATOR (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. IP-139D2. CA, 11" (28 cm), ML. S. buff yellow; style arms buff overlaid orchid; F. buff yellow, thin blue-orchid wire edge, signal gold sunburst surrounded by violet halo. Mission San Antonio X EP-263E4, Bowl of Fluff sib. Bay View 2011.

MORAL CODE (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. IP-145D3. CA, 14" (35 cm), EM. S. white, lavender line down center; F. white, rosy violet-blue radiating from signal to finely lined petal edges, deep rosy violet-blue signal. Inside Joke X unknown. Bay View 2012.

MUWEKMA (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-166R3. CA, 11" (28 cm), ML. S. rusty rose-mauve; style arms rusty mauve; F. rosy mauve-rust over apricot, violet neon signal. HP-163D, Mandalay Bay sib, X IP-139H2, Rich Uncle sib. Bay View 2011.

NIGHT CROSSING (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-162F2. CA, 15" (38 cm), EM. S. light purple, white midribs; F. purple halo around yellow spear signal becoming white lined purple, solid purple band. HP-153-O3: (EP-153Z: (Ocean Blue x Star of Evening) x Like Clockwork) X Finger Pointing. Bay View 2011.

OPEN EYES (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-166S3. CA, 13" (33 cm), ML. S. and style arms root beer; F. plover gold, root beer band, signal purple with turquoise flash in center. HP-163D, Mandalay Bay sib, X IP-139H2, Rich Uncle sib. Bay View 2011.

POINT LOBOS (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. KP-166T2. CA, 12" (30 cm), ML. S. deep root beer; style arms tan; F. root beer shaded to tan in center, defused neon-violet signal. HP-163D, Mandalay Bay sib X IP-139-2, Rich Uncle sib. Bay View 2012.

POWER CENTER (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. CP-144N. CA, 16" (40 cm), EML. S. white, overlaid and lined blue-purple; style arms purple; F. white, blue lines radiate from signal to more solid blue-purple edges, blue-black signal. Line Drawing X JP-122: (Foggy Days x HP-137Q, Band of Showers sib). Bay View 2012.

PREMONITION OF SPRING (Garry Knipe, R. 2012). Sdlg. ABSA-3. CA, 12" (30 cm), VE-M. S. white (RHS 155D), lined violet-blue (85D), with red-purple (72A) at base spreading up midrib and feathering out, flush of yellow (8D) around purple area and feathers; style arms pale yellow (8C) with soft violet (84B & 84C) ruffled style crests; F. central blaze is black (202A) blending outward through red-purple with darker veins spreading from black center to area of light violet-blue; outer edges soften to off-white, slight infusion of yellow in area of veins; flower full formed; gentle ruffling. Altar Boy X San Andreas.

RAY JEFFS (Tomas Tamberg, R. 2011) Sdlg. SSTT919. SPEC-X, 33 (84 cm), M S. light violet-blue; style arms lavender; F. violet blue, large clear yellow signal. SSTT579, tetra-calsibe, X SSTT824: (Begin the Beguine x tetra sino-siberica, seed from Lorena Reid).

RED DELICIOUS (Deborah A. Cole, R. 2012). Sdlg. 99-PC2-1. CA, 10-12" (25-30 cm), E-M. S. pink-ecru, veined dark red; style arms pale straw-yellow, style crests pink-ecru; F. dark red, veined darker, flared, arched; signal yellow, small, finely dark red veins; ruffled pink-white \( \frac{1}{8} \) rim on all petals. Dracularity X Big Smile.

SCARLET WOMAN (Deborah A. Cole, R. 2012). Sdlg. 99-PC2-3. CA, 12-14" (30-35 cm), E-M. S. yellow at base, veined red becoming solid light red in distal ¾; style arms yellow, ruffled pink-red crests; F. red-orange-rust, veined slightly darker; signal bright yellow, moderately veined dark red, round, mid-sized; ruffled; white wire rim on all petal edges. Dracularity X Big Smile.

SIGHT FOR SORE EYES (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. KP-137F3. CA, 12" (30 cm), EM. S. violet purple, gold midrib; style arms purple; S. gold center, line and dotted edges, gold signal. GP-379A2, San Justo sib X GP-366Y2, Firework Display sib. Bay View 2012.

STAMP OF APPROVAL (Joseph Ghio, R. 2012). Sdlg. KP-157-1. CA, 11" (28 cm), ML. S. silvery lilac; style arms lavender purple; F. silvery lilac, deep rose-purple shoulders, deeper red-lilac at edge, slight gold signal. HP-134-I: (FP-249M, Public Eye sib, x FP-2635, Like Clockwork sib) X HP-139H2, Rich Uncle sib. Bay View 2012.

SUSANNAH WEPT (Deborah A. Cole, R. 2012). Sdlg. 99-PC1-1. CA, 12-18" (30-45 cm), VE-E. S. yellow, slight red-brown central veining; style arms yellow; F. yellow, central red-brown veining and wash; central vein on all petals has blue tinge. Big Smile X Dracularity.

WANDERING EYE (Joseph Ghio, R. 2011). Sdlg. KP-160X. CA, 12" (30 cm), EM. S. red black; style arms brassy orange; F. red black, signal faint ruby heart. HP-143-2, War Zone sib, X IP-114F: (GP-368F3: (Now Showing x EP-226T, New Blood sib) x EP-242bo: (Star of Wonder x CP-81I2: (Different Strokes x Magic Carpet Ride))). Bay View 2011.

### **New SPCNI Members**

Note: If an existing member moves to a new address and wishes to have their new contact information posted, please let the Secretary or Editor know. The new contact information will be posted in the next issue of Pacific Iris.

Current members, if your digital address changes, please contact the Secretary immediately so that SPCNI can keep in touch with you.

Amy Dearborn PO Box 1311

Bellingham WA 98227

doeadearborn AT gmail.com

Bill Dijk

94 Wairoa Road RD1

Tauranga 3171 New Zealand

daffodil AT xnet.co.nz

Diane Evans 9 Meynell Court

Auckland

Oratia

New Zealand

Diane05 AT woosh.co.nz

Louise Guerin

2200 E Orange Grove Blvd

Pasadena CA 91104

ebay AT siber-sonic.com

Richard Hartlage

2415 E Cahoun St

Seattle WA 98112 rwhartlage AT comcast.net Sally Isaiou

121 Vine St 2102 Seattle WA 98121

Isaiou AT live.com

Richard Jorgensen 2318 Poppy Lane

Davis, CA 95616

rpjorgen AT gmail.com

JoAnn Kahn

1400 Edgewood Dr Palo Alto, CA 94301

jaksbak AT gmail.com

Lori Lanford

3053 Willoughby Rd

Mason MI 48854

lelanford AT yahoo.com

Ole Larsen

Larsen's Planteimport

Forsythiavej 10 8500 Grenaa Denmark

mail AT lilies.dk

Mark McDonough

30 Mt Lebanon St

Pepperell, MA 01463

antennaria AT charter.net

Graham Menary

Camen Cottage

10 Augustine St

Waimate, S Canterbury 7924

New Zealand

graham.menary AT gmail.com

Ann Mendez PO Box 16377

San Diego CA 92176-6377

[former member, renewed 12-2012]

Donna Roff 239 Aliso St

Ventura, CA 93001

805-643-6216

roff55 AT yahoo.com

Jon Watterson 2319 Poppy Ln Davis, CA 95616

530-756-0514

joncwatterson AT gmail.com

Madeline West

1442 W Wilderness Ln Seabeck, WA 98380-9403

360-830-0783



All seedlings grown and photographed by John Taylor, Australia





 $This \ page\ and\ overleaf -- some\ wonderful\ clump\ shots\ from\ the\ breeding\ programme\ of\ John\ Taylor, Australia$ 



