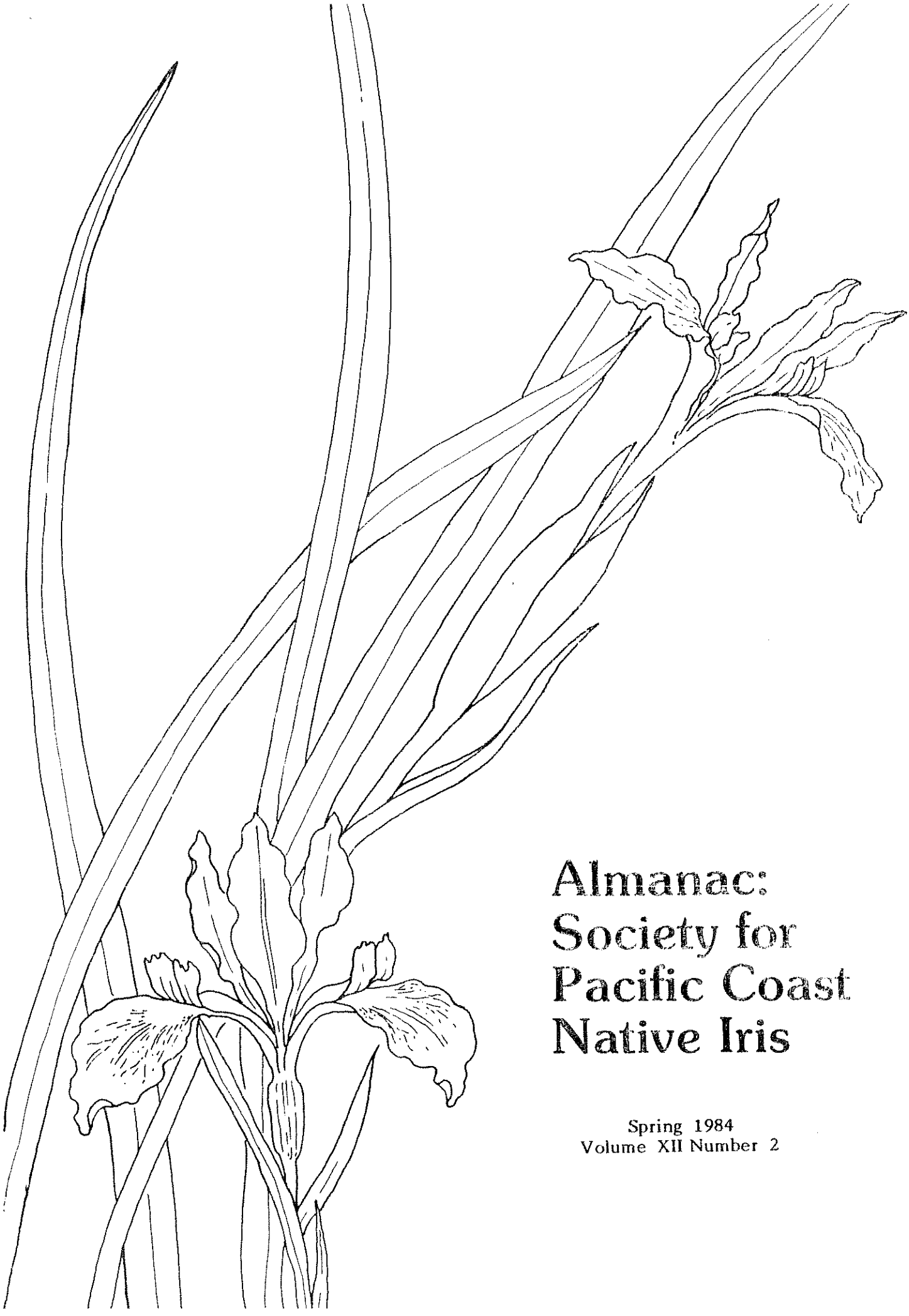

Almanac: Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris

Spring 1984
Volume XII Number 2

Cover: *Diana Gregory*

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The *Almanac* is published in spring and fall; copy deadlines are February 1 and August 1, respectively. For information about availability of back issues, please address the Editor.

MEMBERSHIP, SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris is a section of the American Iris Society; membership in the latter organization is a prerequisite for *membership* in the SPCNI. If you wish only to receive the *Almanac* (two issues per year), the annual subscription is $4.00.

Membership rate:	Individual	Family
Annual	$4.00	$5.00
Triennial	10.00	12.00
Supporting Annual	6.00	
Life	50.00	

Please send membership, subscription monies to the SPCNI Treasurer.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Seed Planting

Almanac, Volume VII, Number 1 (Fall 1980) contains several valuable articles on raising Pacific Coast native irises from seed. Copies are available from the Editor for $2.00 each, postage paid.

Species Distribution, Recognition

A Guide to Pacific Coast Irises: Victor A. Cohen; forward by E.B. Anderson. London: The British Iris Society, 1967.

This 40-page booklet contains both colored and black-and-white photographs of selected species, line drawings and thumbnail descriptions of all species and major subspecies. There is general material on distribution and botanical affinities among the species, plus a map of western states showing distributions of the species in general. Copies are available from the Treasurer for $3.50 each, postage paid.

President's Message

Dear friends,

Much has happened here since attending the Boston convention--much which has seemed to slow the Society to a mere crawl.

Many of our plans didn't materialize but that won't daunt us...we will pick up the pieces and move forward again.

Elsewhere in this issue you will see the list of the nominees for our new officers for the coming year. We wish them well. I will personally do all I can to make the transition easy and to attempt to continue those things we had to abandon temporarily. We want a new, revised check list which will be done in the coming year. We also had a ballot vote for the most popular name to refer to the Californicae. Our last issue gives those results in detail. It appears that even though there were few votes, there were more for the name Pacifica than any other. No one, however, can legislate the name you wish to use, but I, for one, will encourage Pacifica unless I refer to a species.

Joe Grant, a very busy young man, has agreed to be Editor of the coming issues of the *Almanac*. Please, it is difficult to take over such an undertaking without knowing those people who will cooperate and submit something for publication. Do help him; I intend to do all I can. All of you in your observations of different cultivars or species are potential suppliers of information and articles for the *Almanac*.

I would like to thank those few willing stalwarts who always came through when I asked for something which would be of interest to *Almanac* readers. You know who you are and I thank you, gentlemen.

We hope to see many of you at the Seattle Convention.

Jean Erickson

REPORT ON THE SLIDE COLLECTION

Last year Carolly Hauksdottir volunteered to assemble a collection of slides which we could rent out for a nominal fee to interested groups.

To date there are not many in the collection and we are seeking more. Do you have any species or hybrid slides we could borrow and duplicate?

Carolly herself is taking as many as is possible and would appreciate any addition to the collection.

Her address:
P. O. Box 552
Coarsegold, CA 93614

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The nominating committee, chaired by Virginia Del Judge and in accordance with our bylaws, has submitted the following names:

President	**Duane Meek**
First Vice-President	**Robert Hubley**
Second Vice-President	**LaRue Boswell**
Secretary-Treasurer	**Dorothy E. Foster**
Editor	**Joseph B. Grant II**

Our bylaws state that if there are no additional nominations, these officers shall be installed without balloting. If, however, there are other nominations, the signatures of five members in good standing must be obtained as endorsement and the document mailed to Virginia Del Judge. The nominee must then provide a written acceptance of the nomination. Following this, ballots must be sent to all SPCNI members for voting.

See page 13 for further information.

CALIFORNICAE in the Central Valley

John Weiler

The fertile great Central Valley of California lies between the Sierra Nevada mountains and the Coastal range. Summers are hot and dry, winters cool and somewhat damp.

For a good many years there has been a small and growing group of Iris enthusiasts in the San Joaquin Valley with a lively interest in the Pacific Coast Native Irises (PCNI) assigned by botanists to the series Californicae. Almost to a person, there have been claims of many failures for some cultivars of these beautiful irises. But there is also emerging an expanding list of cultivars that are amenable to culture in our Central Valley climate. The following observations of cultural problems or successes and speculations based on cultivar behavior in the author's garden is supplemented by information from others in the area.

One problem frequently encountered is that a cultivar may fail to establish itself in the garden. Failure to establish isused in the sense that a plant purchased in the fall produces no growth during witner and is dead by or before summer heat arrives, or the plant does not persist through the first summer. Most local irisarians have reported some instances of this problem. Sometimes a second or third try will yield an established plant. In my own garden, I persist by obtaining another plant for three successive years of any clone that fails to establish itself before it is regarded as a lost cause.

Amongst the plants that do become established there are two types of garden response. In one instance, the plant grows and generally flowers but never seems very vigorous. It may be quite slow to make a clump and rarely makes a spectacular floral display although flowers may be of good quality, good enough for exhibition competition. Such plants are rated as modest growers. A second group of cultivars grows and increases rapidly, has vigorous, healthy plants, and produces great quantities of flowers annually. These are rated as vigorour growers. Lists of cultivars in each of these categories are given in the accompanying table. Some of the newest cultivars have not been grown long enough to warrant an entry in either list nor have they been tried often enough to be considered a lost cause.

Since most clones succeed well in coastal areas, hobbyists have speculated on reasons why the Valley should produce such a different response to some cultivars than is apparent elsewhere. Heat is often cited as a probabile cause and this may be true in some instances but can hardly be true for those cultivars that fail to establish repeatedly before the coming of hot weather. Sun versus shade has been noted as another environmental variable that could be producing the difference between success and failure in some gardens. In our hot valley, almost all growers agree that some afternoon shade must be provided for these irises. none that come to mind are grown in full sun for the entire day.

Still a third factor which may be the most important in success or failure is water in the garden. Most of the wild progenitors of these irises grow where the soil is well drained, where winters are cool and wet, and summers are warm and dry. Most, in their native habitits, receive no summer water. This has prompted some to suggest that plants in the garden should not be watered during summer, particularly where summers are hot. Attempts to grow irises without some summer water have been unsuccessful here. It is also true that none of the clones will accept great quantities of water like that given

to lawns and perennial borders in the garden. Even cultivars listed as vigorous will be weakened or die from overwatering.

Such specific requirements for water during the summer is known for many other plants from climates like those of the Central Valley. In some cases, intolerance to summer water may be traced to growth of one or more water molds which multiply rapidly in moist soil during warm weather. Particularly devastating is the mold *Phytophthora*. Although research has not been done to determine if this may be the culprit in culture of PCNI of the series Californicae, there is a product on the market that claims to help control such water molds for sensitive plants. Growers have reported that the commercial product Subdue has been beneficial in preventing losses of Californicae irises. There may be other products as effective unknown to the author. Neither is this intended as an endorsement of the product mentioned.

If, indeed, one or more of the water molds are causing the problem, it would appear that those cultivars on the list of vigorous growers may have a degree of resistance to the fungi. If so, these should be ideal for hybridizers to use in a program specifically aimed at incorporating disease resistance. Even if fungi are not responsible for culture problems in these irises, the fact that vigorous cultivars grow well both here and elsewhere, like milder coastal areas where many of them originated suggests that they would still be good sources of genetic material for expanding the list of more widely adaptable clones.

Amongst our local irisarians, the tendency has been to give divisions of vigorous growing clones to the novice. This has resulted in growing numbers of fanciers and exhibitors of this special Iris group at local shows. We need the same kind of activity in many areas. We also need data about which of these iris clones may be growing well in other areas of the country. Are some of these vigorous growers of the San Joaquin Valley also vigorous in coastal California?, In southern California?, Oregon?, Washington? Could it be true also for other areas? Reports exist of established plants in Nevada and Arizona. How about other sun belt states? Let us have your comments and information. If we can find a few cultivars, each of which is adapted to several different climates, we may well have information to begin breeding a race of these exquisite irises for much broader garden usage and over many other areas of the country. Today we are conquering the San Joaquin Valley, tomorrow--who knows?

TABLE 1. Cultivars adapted to culture in the Central Valley

Vigorous Growers	Modest Growers
Amiguita	All Around
Ami Royale	Aptos
Big Wheel	Branchiforte
California Native	Fairy Chimes
Canyon Snow	Mayor *
Encircle	Native Jewel
Gone Native	Native State
Joey	Pacific Moon
Native Music	Rio del Mar
Novia del Mar *	Soquel Cove
Orchid Sprite	Verdugo
Orchid Resprite	Western Hero
Pescadero	
Restless Native	
Roving Eye	
Short Order	
Suzie Knapp	
Western Queen	

* indicates the same clone was rated on the other list by one gardener.

Suicide Prevention

Among the Natives

Bonnie Bowers

I live in Amador County, just out of Volcano, California, in the Sierra Nevada foothills, somewhat on the outer edges of the Pacifica's easier growing habitat along the coast.

We do have I. hartwegii, the tough little inland species native to this area, so I hoped others would be adaptable. Grown from seed, I'm sure this would be the case, but importing full grown plants proved to be quite another story. These natives lost the will to liv e in alarming numbers.

After several years of 80 to 90% loss of purchased divisions of Pacificas, I was close to admitting defeat when I found a method of turning the figures around into at least an 80% survival rate.

Each year I order about a dozen plants from Joe Ghio, usually including the new introductions, so I am happy to finally be able to see some of them bloom.

The "magic" difference is a product called Aqua-Stor. It is a polymer based powder capable of absorbing many times its own weight of water. I make an emulsion about the consistancy of very "slurpy" gelatin and dip the bare root plants in it when planting. Vitamin B-1 and a few drops of Superthrive (available at most garden centers) are also added to the liquid. Aqua-Stor happened to be the only product of this type available by mail when I first read of them so it is the one I've continued using; by now there are similar substances on the market, and I am sure any would do the job of keeping the moisture concentrated at the root zone during the critical period of establishing new growth.

I also use the Aqua-Stor liquid mixture to dip seedlings in when lining them out with even better luch--nearly 100% have survived so far.

At 3000 foot elevation, we can get two to three foot snows in winter, and summers can go above the 100 degree mark. Since we moved here in August of 1980, every year has been different. One spring we had two feet of snow on April first; 1982 was exceedingly wet, while this last winter was dry with temperatures fairly mild, so it is hard to figure out what "average" weather is--or know when the optimum planting time is for Pacificas. I try to schedule incoming orders in late October, hoping the worst heat will be over by then and the rains will soon begin. I feel lucky if mother nature cooperates one year out of three.

Due to a broken ankle last October I was not able to get my potted Pacifica seedlings lined out until March of this year. We have had only three light rains since then, but the little plants look perfectly happy with no supplemental water.

I plant my seeds in one or two gallon black plastic pots with dry Aqua-Stor sprinkled over the seeds, and have noticed the pots need far less watering in the dry summer months. In past years I tried planting seeds in the open ground, but found birds, mice, or ground squirrels wiped them out

before they had a chance to germinate, so I returned to container planting. Usually I try to line out the seedlings in late October or early November, depending on the weather conditions of that particular year. It will be interesting to see how this year's spring planted babies will do.

I have a number of two year old seedlings ready to bloom this spring on plants set out a year ago last fall, many of which have made good increase. By next year I'll have a chance to compare results of spring and fall planting.

I try to find areas of filtered shade for these iris, and have a number of spots on my hillside which I think may work well to grow transplant reject seedlings later on. With the help of Aqua-Stor and early winter transplanting, I want to see if they will naturalize and grow on their own as does I. hartwegii.

There are no easy answers to keeping Pacificas alive outside the perimeters of their prefered flowering areas, and some losses have to be expected; but at least the odds can be improved now with the help of products like Aqua-Stor.

Editor's note: Aqua-Stor is manufactured by Absorbent Industries, 611 E. Jefferson Street, Morton, IL 61550

A TRIBUTE

To Thornton Abell

For most of Thornton's life he spent his weekends in the garden with his beloved Alma. As she worked with her crysanthemums he worked with his irises.

Every spring and fall they opened their beautiful house he designed and the hillside garden they had created together so their friends could enjoy all that beauty with them. As this is being written, the hill is glowing with the blue and lavender and purple of his Californicae Native Iris seedlings and introductions KITTEE, PIQUE, and RUSTIC CANYON. Thornton hybridized with many types of irses besides natives, however.

He won awards with the Japanese FUJI and arilbred SAFRON JEWEL, and introduced a number of tall bearded irises, among them VIOLET SEA, SOFT SKY, VESUVIUS, and RIBBONS AND BOWS. Advocating quality, simplicity and clean lines, he became one of the foremost architects of the forties and fifties and was a Fellow of the American Institue of Architecture, recently serving as President of the Southern California Chapter.

He served the iris world well. He was RVP of Region 15 of the American Iris Society, the first President of the Aril Society International, President of the Japanese Iris Soceity, and President of the Southern California Iris Society.

He was a consumate artist, a devoted husband, and a generous friend. He is greatly missed.

Dodo Denney

This reproduction of Carolly Hauksdottir's sensitive work was taken from the cover of the booklet for the combined Region 14 and 15 Spring Meeting, 1981, In Fresno, California

A Revision of Pacific Coast Irises

Lee W. Lenz

Director, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden
Claremont, California

Reprinted with permission from *Aliso* Vol. 4, No 1

IRIS BRACTEATA S. Watson Proc. Amer. Acad. 20: 375, 1885

Rhizome 6-9 mm. in diameter; leaves usually few, thick, rigid, strongly ribbed, deep glossy green on upper surface, lower surface yellow-green, to 1 cm. wide and 60 cm. long, leaf bases usually pink to strongly red in color; flower stalk 2-flowered usually shorter than leaves, unbranched, to 30 cm. tall with 3-6 cauline leaves, lower ones short, bract-like, overlapping, the upper ones free for about ⅓ of their length, all more or less strongly colored pink to red; spathe valves opposite and subequal, 6-10 mm. wide (aver. 8 mm.), 52-90 mm. long (aver. 73 mm.), lanceolate, acuminate; pedicels 30-62 mm. long (aver. 45 mm.); ovary 12-25 mm. long (aver. 17 mm.), tapering abruptly into the perianth tube and gradually into the pedicel, nearly circular in cross-section; perianth tube short, thick, funnelform, 5-10 mm. long (aver. 9 mm.); sepals oblanceolate to obovate, 43-78 mm. long (aver. 61 mm.), and 17-30 mm. wide (aver. 23 mm.); petals oblanceolate, 48-78 mm. long. (aver. 54 mm.) and 8-20 mm. wide (aver. 13 mm.); flower color yellow, distinctly and attractively veined with deep maroon or brown lines; style branches 22-30 mm. long (aver. 25 mm.); style crests 9-17 mm. long (aver. 12 mm.); stigmas triangular; capsule 2-3 cm. long, tapering abruptly and equally at both ends, nearly circular in cross section; seeds dark brown, irregular in shape and finely wrinkled.

Type. — Waldo, Josephine County, Oregon, June, 1884. T. Howell, Gray Herbarium. (Type seen.)

Distribution. — CALIFORNIA: Del Norte County. OREGON: Josephine County.

Representative specimens. — CALIFORNIA. Del Norte County: Near Elk Valley, Forest Camp, Route 199, *A. N. Steward 6137;* Oregon boundary, A. Eastwood 12026. OREGON. Josephine County: Waldo, *L. R. Abrams* and *G. T. Benson 10364;* 3 mi. west of Gasquet Trail marker, O'Brien-Sourdough Camp road, *A. R. Kruckeberg 1866;* near west fork Illinois River, *L. E. Detling 4715;* 3 mi. south of Takilma, *J. W. Thompson 8660c;* Rough and Ready Creek, 5 mi. south of Cave Junction, *L. Constance* and *R. C. Rollins 2988;* near Waldo, *L. W. Lenz 18304;* Sanger Peak road, *L. W. Lenz* and *E. K. Balls 21677.*

Iris bracteata is a very distinct species quite different from other members of the series and unlikely to be confused with any other species. The leaves are very broad and distinctly two-sided, they are also stiffer and thicker than those of other members of the group, and they are usually few in number. The flowers of *I. bracteata* are among the largest and most attractive in the *Californicae.* So far the only color known in the species is yellow — a rather unusual situation in a group where flower color is so variable. *Iris bracteata* is usually found in rather shady situations and is most abundant in the ponderosa pine forest, although, as Clarkson (1955) points out, it may occur in cut-over land in the shade of bracken ferms. In the area around Cave Junction, Josephine County, a form of this species is known which is identical with the rest of the species except for its size. Some of these plants are only about one-half as large as those a few miles away at Selma. Seeds from this small form, when grown at the Botanic Garden, have produced plants which retain their small size. There is no evidence that these plants are of hybrid origin although they are often found growing near *I. chrysophylla.* Plants intermediate in size between this small form and the very vigorous form from Selma are known and it does not seem wise to attempt to recognize this small form with a formal designation.

Natural Hybrids. —

Iris bracteata × *I. chrysophylla.* CALIFORNIA: Del Norte County. OREGON: Josephine County.

Iris bracteata × *(I. douglasiana* × *innominata).* CALIFORNIA: Del Norte County.

When one considers the overlap in their distributions, it is surprising that more definite hybrids between *I. bracteata* and *I. chrysophylla* have not been found. Clarkson (1955) reports only one individual which he could consider as intermediate. This plant was collected near Bridgeview, Josephine County, where the two species occupy the same general area. In the Dudley Herbarium there is a specimen collected by Abrams and Benson (10315) at "Deer Creek to Kerby," Josephine County, which Foster annotated as a possible hybrid between *I. bracteata* and *I. tenax.* This specimen is obviously of hybrid origin, but I would designate it as a hybrid between *I. bracteata* and *I. chrysophylla* rather than *I. bracteata* and *I. tenax.* Morphologically it is rather intermediate between the former two. *Iris tenax* is not known to occur in Josephine County whereas both *I. chrysophylla* and *I. bracteata* are rather abundant in the Kerby-Deer Creek area.

The hybrid combination *I. bracteata* × *(I. douglasiana* × *I. innominate)* is common in the Smith River Canyon of Del Norte County, California, and it is discussed in detail under *I.* × *thompsonii.*

IRIS TENAX Douglas ex. Lindley. Bot. Reg. 15 t. 1218, 1829

Ioniris tenax (Doug.) Klatt. Bot. Zeitung 30: 502. 1872.
Iris gormanni Piper. Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. 37: 91. 1924. *Type.* — Scoggin's Creek, east slope of Coast Mountains, Washington County, Oregon. M. W. Gorman, 25 June, and 13 August, 1922. U. S. Nat. Mus. Herb. (Type seen.)
Iris tenax var. *gormanii* (Piper) R. C. Foster. Contr. Gray Herb. 119: 18. 1937.

Plants caespitose, rhizome slender; leaves deciduous, slender, light green, to 5 dm. long, 3-5 mm. wide, rather lax and usually longer than the flowering stem; leaf bases often colored red or pinkish; flowering stem slender, unbranched, 1½-3½ dm. tall; spathes 1-2 flowered; spathe valves linear to linear-lanceolate, outer one 3-5 mm. wide (aver. 4.1 mm.), and 53-80 mm. long (aver. 63 mm.), herbaceous; pedicels 11-40 mm. long (aver. 21 mm.) at anthesis, second one longer; ovary 15-25 mm. long (aver. 20 mm.), gradually tapering into pedicel and abruptly into the perianth tube; perianth tube short, 6-10 mm. long (aver. 8 mm.), stout, funnelform; sepals usually obovate to oblanceolate, 55-64 mm. long (aver. 53 mm.) and 12-19 mm. wide (aver. 16 mm.); flower color extremely variable from white, which is rare, through pale lavender, lavender, to blue and purple, also yellow; style branches 22-32 mm. long (aver. 27 mm.); style crests 8-12 mm. long (aver. 10 mm.), subquadrate, reflexed, edges crenate to incised; stigmas triangular; filaments about 10 mm. long; anthers 15-18 mm. long; capsule oblong to 3½ cm. long; seeds D-shaped to irregular, brown and wrinkled.

Distribution. — OREGON. Benton, Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, Washington, and Yamhill counties. WASHINGTON. Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific, Skamania, Thurston, and Wahkiakum counties.

Representative specimens. — OREGON. Clackamas County: 8 mi. west of Cherryville, *C. L. Hitchcock* and *J. S. Martin 4765;* Near Eagle station, *W. Suksdorf 3333;* Banks of Eagle Creek, *J. W. Thompson 4252.* Clatsop County: Saddle Mt., *G. B.* and *R. P. Rossbach 408;* Near Astoria, *Mrs. E. C. Van Dyke.* Columbia County: Near Clatskamie drawbridge, *J. W. Thompson 2460.* Coos County: Middle Fork Coquille River, *L. E. Detling 4081;* Douglas County: 2 mi. south of Elkton, *L. E. Detling 6319;* 1 mi. east of Brockway, *L. W. Lenz 19142;* Lane County: Canyon of Suislaw River near Swiss Home, *A. Eastwood* and *J. T. Howell 1565;* Near the mouth of Big Creek, north of Heceta, *A. Cronquist 6881;* Eugene, *L. E. Detling 2490.* Lincoln County: Felder's Beach, 2½ mi. north of Waldport, *L. E. Detling 5160.* Marion County: North of Salem, *L. R. Abrams.* Multnomah County: North shore of Oswego Lake, 1 mi. north of Oswego, *C. L. Hitchcock 19278.* Tillamook County: Summit of Coast Mountains, toward Tillamook, *Mrs. N. P. Gale 324.* Washington County: Along Scoggin's Creek, *J. W. Thompson 4289.* Yamhill County: Bank of Scoggin's Creek, *M. E. Peck 16194.* Washington. Grays Harbor County: 1 mi. west of Elma, *C. L. Hitchcock 19865.* Lewis County: Open praire near Toledo, *J. W. Thompson 11520.* Skamania County: Damp and wet ground at Cape Horn, *W. Suksdorf 10474.*

Iris tenax is the common iris found in the central part of western Washington and south from there to southern Oregon. It is especially common in unshaded or lightly shaded areas on the oak-covered hills of the Williamette and Umpqua Valleys. According to Clarkson (1955), it does not extend into the coniferous areas unless the trees are cut, roads built, or conditions otherwise changed so that the amount of shading is reduced. According to this same author, the soil and moisture factors within this general area do not seem to be a limiting factor in its distribution. *Iris tenax* is a variable species both in flower size and color. Concerning flower color variation, R. C. Foster (1937) quotes the Starkers as saying "There were pure white forms beautifully marked with gold down the center of the falls; there were cream-colored and apricot forms; there were white blossoms edged with pink; there were pearl gray flowers; there were blossoms of orchid, lavender, blue, and deepest purple strikingly set off by a white blotch in the center of the falls, and there were other color variations almost without end."

A yellow-flowered form found along Scoggin's Creek in Washington County, Oregon, was originally described as *I. gormanii* Piper. R. C. Foster reduced it to a variety of *I. tenax.* As pointed out earlier, color, for the most part, is a very unsatisfactory character for delimiting taxa within this group, and in *I. tenax* there is as great a range of color as is to be found anywhere with the *Californicae.* Since *I. gormanii* differs in no respect from typical *I. tenax* except in color, Clarkson included the yellow-flowered form within that species, a conclusion with which I fully agree. Clarkson also cites a second yellow-flowered population from Monument Peak in Linn County, Oregon.

Iris tenax is an attractive species which was early introduced into cultivation. Douglas in his journal records the fact that the Indians used the tough fibers from the leaves to make snares, nets, and other small items requiring a tough fiber. In California the Indians used leaves of *I. macrosiphon* for the same purpose.

Natural Hybrids. —

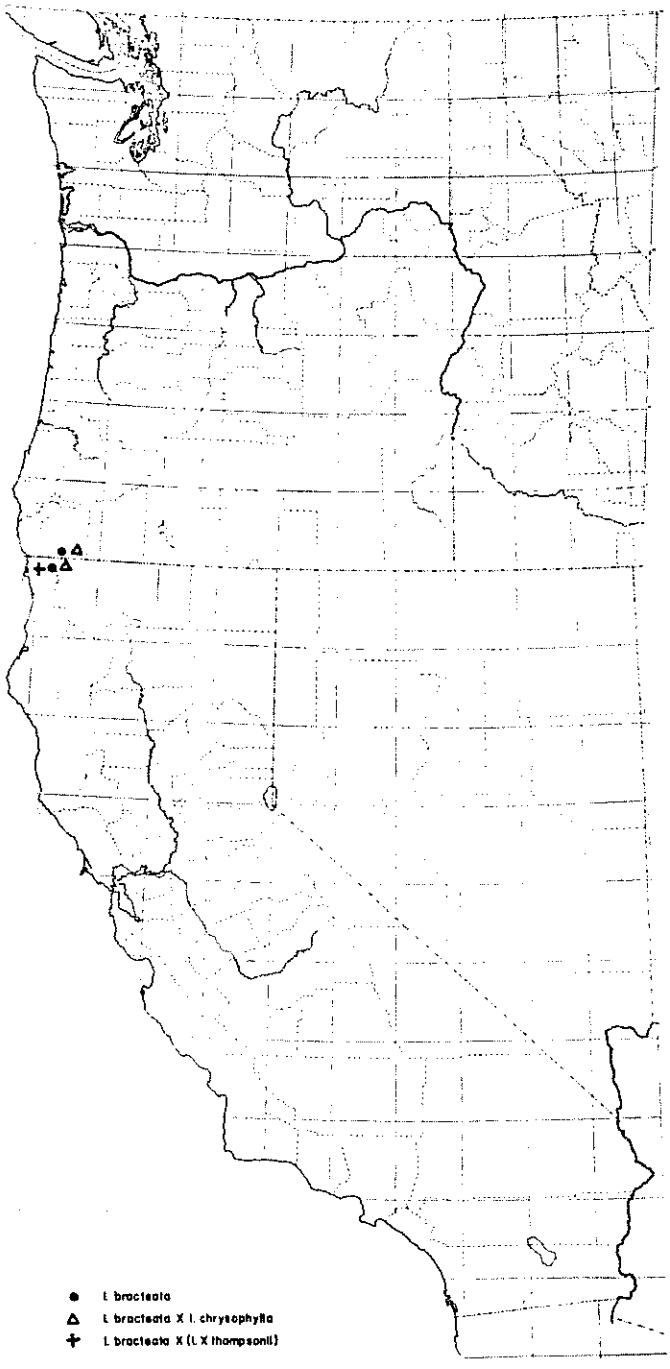
I. chrysophylla × *I. tenax.* OREGON: Coos, Douglas, Lane, Marion, and Polk counties.
I. douglasiana × *I. tenax.* OREGON: Coos and Curry counties.
I. innominata × *I. tenax.* OREGON: Douglas County.

Iris tenax is known to hybridize in nature with at least three other species, *I. chrysophylla, I. douglasiana,* and *I. innominata.* Clarkson, in his very excellent account of the Oregon irises, records finding hybrids between *I. chrysophylla* and *I. tenax* at three different localities: (1) 4½ miles up Mill Creek from the Dallas-Wallace bridge highway, Polk County; (2) 13¼ miles southwest of Roseburg, Douglas County, along Oregon state highway 42, and (3) Steep hills along the first tributary of the North Santiam River west of the Detroit Dam, Marion County. During the present investigation I have found hybrids between these species at two additional localities; (1) just west of Camas Summit, Oregon State Hwy. 42, Douglas County (L. W. Lenz 19148), and (2) 1 mile west of Brockway also in Douglas County (L. W. Lenz 19144). In the University of Washington Herbarium there is a specimen collected

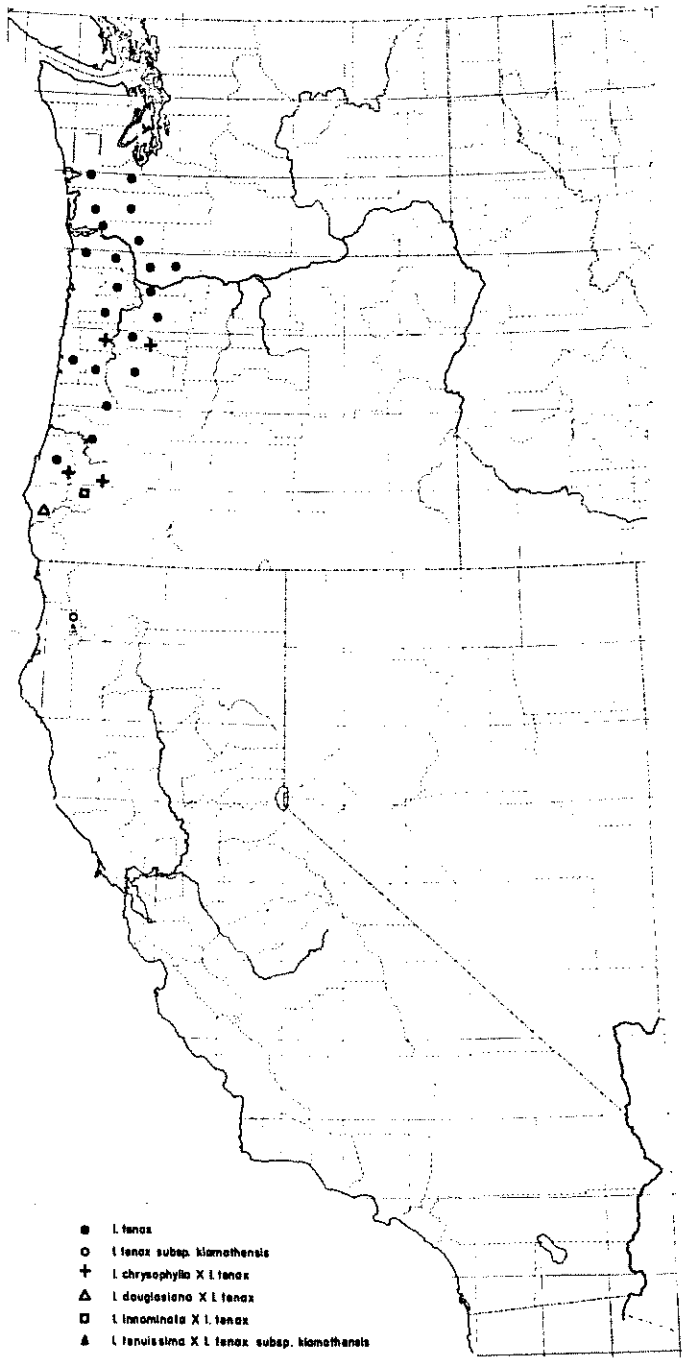
by C. L. Hitchcock (19936) at the west end of Eden Valley on the Powers-Glendale Pass road in Coos County which appears to be another hybrid of the same parentage. In the University of Oregon Herbarium there is a specimen collected by Lupher (7139) "well up the Row River," Lane County, which also appears to be a hybrid between *I. chrysophylla* and *I. tenax*.

Hybrids between *I. douglasiana* and *tenax* have been studied in the field only at a single locality. In 1954 a large hybrid population was found on Langlois Hill near the town of Langlois in northern Curry County, Oregon. A second locality, known only from herbarium records, is located at "cliffs at Bandon Beach," where specimens were collected by L. R. Abrams and G. T. Benson (10606) and J. W. Thompson (12787). These specimens are deposited in University of Washington Herbarium.

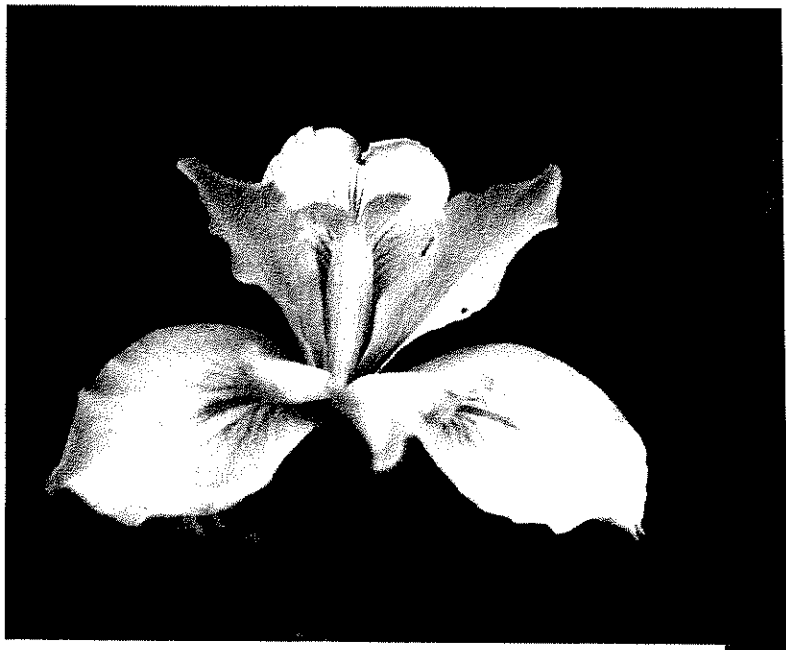
The hybrid combination, *I. innominata* × *I. tenax*, is known to me only from a single sheet deposited in the University of Oregon Herbarium. This collection is made by L. F. Henderson (13026) on "moist sandy banks of West Fork of Cow Creek, Douglas County, near bridge." The sheet has four specimens mounted on it and it is labeled *I. tenax*. Three of the specimens look like that species, the fourth is marked (a) and according to the label, "This grew associated with *I. innominata* and is a probable hybrid."



Distribution of *Iris bracteata* and its natural hybrids.



Distribution of *Iris tenax* and subspecies and natural hybrids.



Success in Tulsa

By Dorothy Hujsak

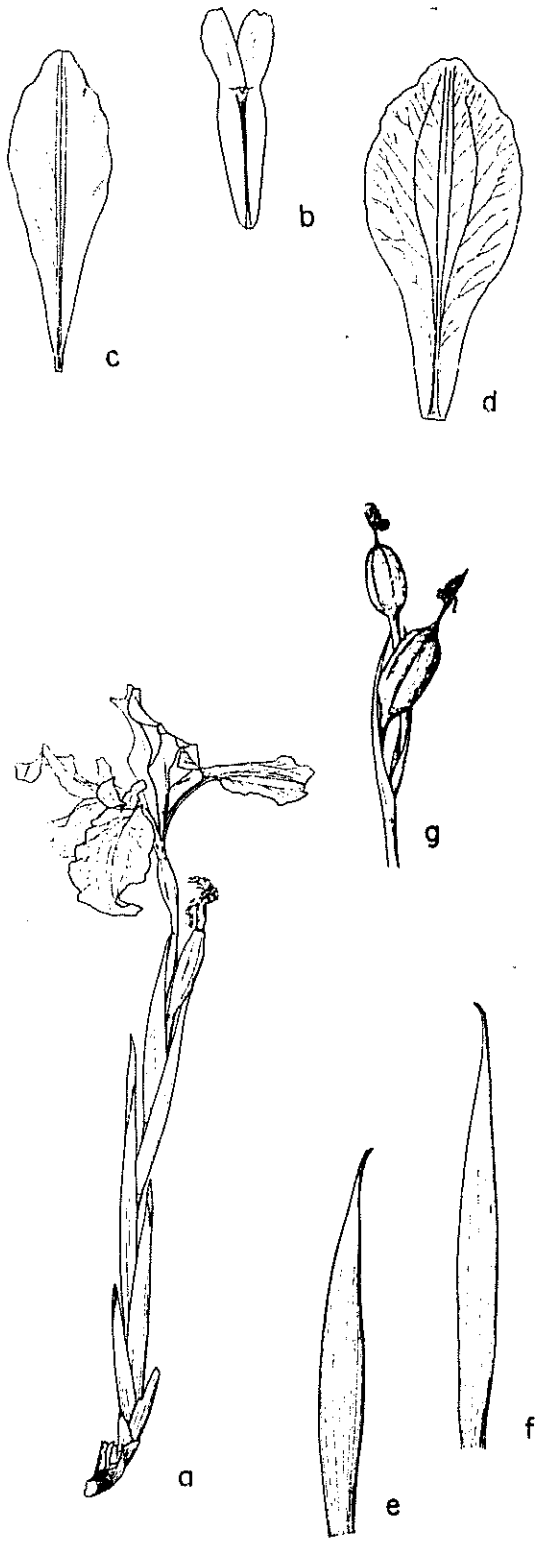
LEFT: Grown from species seed exchange 10K046 (Walker's yellow self).

BELOW: From Pasadena Indian. Color is red-purple, styles are purple.

CENTER LEFT:

From SIGNA exchange 77K074 (Briarcup x Agnes James X ?) The flower has a pink cast.

LOWER LEFT:
From Ghio seed.



Iris bracteata. a, general habit; b, style branch; c, petal, d. sepal; e, f, inner and outer spathe valves; g, seed capsules. a, g, × ⅓; b, c, d, e, f, × ⅔.

We Get Letters . . .

Dear Editor:

PCNs have a reputation as high risk items in the garden. Even here in the heart of their natural habitat I have seen choice plants turn up their toes and wither away. Once established they will grow like weeds. To get a desired cultivar growing, I have frequently resorted to ordering multiples. Reading older *Almanacs* indicates support for my experience.

To make the more desirable PCN cultivars available, I have been pursuing both tissue culture and meristemic cloning techniques. My main goal is to determine if presently available garden chemicals can be used with ordinary kitchen equipment to successfully reproduce PCNs. The *Almanac* is a suitable vehicle for further reports on this research, I invite communication from your readers on this subject and can provide those interested with references if they also want to try this exciting subject.

Stuart Garbutt
P. O. Box 660
Ferndale, CA 95536

NOTES FROM THE SEATTLE MEETING

After the announcement of the slate of prospective officers was announced, a motion was made to accept it as read. A reference was then made regarding the condition in our bylaws which allows a written nomination by five members. An amendment was then made to the original motion to suspend the ruling in the bylaws for this instance. This was seconded and passed.

The officers will take office July 1, 1984.

GOOD NEWS

The Mount Diablo Iris Society show on April 14 and 15, 1984 had the distinction of having a beautiful, well grown specimen of SOQUEL COVE win Queen of Show. It was submitted by Alan Robbins who was understandably elated.

SEEDS AVAILABLE

For Pacific Coast Native Iris seeds, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope and $1.00 per packet to LaRue Boswell, 1821 Gross Lane, Concord, CA 94519. These are from open-pollinations (only seed parent known) and *supply is limited.*

NEW MEMBERS AND SUBSCRIBERS

George Avery
20151 Seagull Way,
Saratoga, CA 95070

Greg Becker
P. O. Box 3723
Erueka, CA 95501

Maureen Foster, Slide Librarian
British Iris Society
56 Darren View
Crickhowell Powys
Wales, NP8 IDS
United Kingdom

Eric Holst
Route 4, box 592
Vashon Island, WN 98070

Bradley Krebs
15 Lagunitas Court
Martinez, CA 94553

Wm. Petrecca
Box 2137
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Colin Rigby
2087 Curtis Drive
Penngrove, CA 94951

Contents

SOCIETY FOR PACIFIC COAST NATIVE IRIS

Treasurer's Report

CASH ON HAND DECEMBER 1, 1983		$901.16
Dues & receipts:		
Dues Collected	$330.50	
Dues Collected by AIS	92.00	
Sale of Cohens	18.00	
Sale of Almanac	2.00	
Sale of seeds (LaRue Boswell)	19.00	462.00
		$1363.16
Disbursements:		
Advertisement -Pacific Horticulture	$20.00	
Advertisement - Fremontia	12.00	
Films - Carolly Hauksdottir	25.00	
Office Supplies	2.76	
Fall Almanac '83	464.97	
" " Postage, etc.	110.64	
Spring Almanac '84	135.00	
		770.37
BALANCE ON HAND MAY 21, 1984		592.79

Dorothy E. Foster
Treasurer