



(above): **State Street** (Ghio '16) Pacifica
photo: Bay View Gardens

Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society

Friday,
October 28th, 2016

7:30 p.m.

Beardless Iris Auction & Sale

Pacific Coast iris, Japanese iris, Siberians,
Louisianas, Spurias, and Species Iris

Doors open 7:00 p.m., sale & auction
7:30 - 9:30 pm



SBMIS Beardless iris auction & sale!

*Friday, October 28th, 2016 is the date of our auction & sale at
Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland*

Doors open 7:00 p.m., sale & auction 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Meetings and auction/sales are free and open to the public

(see page 5 for directions)



BEARDLESS IRIS AUCTION AND SALE!

Pacific Coast iris, Japanese iris, Spurias, Siberians, Louisianas, and Species Iris will be available, from the gardens of commercial growers and veteran members, ready to plant. Of course, you can contribute to the cause by purchasing beardless iris for your garden or as gifts for friends!

*All iris pictured in this newsletter are included in our sale! right: **Sushi** (Jill Copeland 2013) Creamy white with dark red purple signal pattern. Pseudacorus hybrid*



Some iris in our sale!



- left top:* **Columbia Street** (Ghio 2016) Pacifica
right top: **Colorflash** (Hollingworth 2012) Bright blue
violet with dark red streak running from center
of gold blaze. Siberian iris
middle left: **Midnight Clouds** (Bauer/Coble 2010) 6F.
Ruffled blue-violet, dk blue halos, light rays, white styles.
Japanese iris
middle right: **Jerry Murphy** (Schafer/Sacks 2008) Apricot
overlaid with red violet; contrasting styles and standards are
cream with yellow edges. Siberian iris
bottom right: **Old Vine Zin** (Bauer/Coble 2013) 34" L Full
deep violet, wide standards and styles. Siberian
[photos from hybridizers' websites]



President's Message

I hope you can join us for our beardless iris auction and sale this Friday, and help support our club. We will have many different types of iris available, suitable for any type of garden environment. We are fortunate to have been given the unsold iris from the recent AIS Region 14 fall regional, so will have many pots of Louisiana iris as well as some spuria and Japanese iris in addition to the iris we have ordered for the sale from Bay View Gardens and Ensata Gardens.

Special thanks go out to **Marjorie Murray** and **Ray Vickers-Traft**, who even though they don't often make it to meetings were able to donate iris for the sale. Ray donated spuria and Louisiana iris, and Marjorie donated Pacific Coast iris and Iris confusa. Marjorie recently celebrated her 90th birthday - belated happy birthday, Marjorie!

~ Jean

left: **See Ya Later** (Hollingworth 2006) Wine red self with a gold signal. Repeat blooms. Siberian

right: **Ardith Ann** (Copeland 2014) 6F. 36" M White ground, heavy red-violet veins and deep wine red style arms. Japanese iris



DIGGING, WRAPPING, AND REPLANTING BEARDLESS IRIS:

Those bringing in iris are reminded that most beardless iris can be transplanted only during periods of active root growth. If, like many, you have not been watering during the summer months, go out NOW and give them a good soaking! Then, wait til the last possible moment to dig and package.

Some techniques suggested by Alan Robbins for transporting your iris:

Clean them well, label them with their name, color and year of introduction (if possible) high enough on the leaves so that the buyer can read the info after packaging.

Trim the leaves if they are too long for display on the sales table.

The rhizomes and roots should be wrapped in wet paper towels or newspaper, placed in a plastic bag or Saran wrap and secured with masking tape. The tape can be an additional or alternate label.

PLANTING ~

Plant as soon as possible. Remember that PCIs, Siberians, Louisianas and Japanese iris prefer acid soil, while Spurias do best in neutral to alkaline soil. Before planting, soak Japanese, other water iris, Siberians and Louisiana iris in enough water to cover the roots. Japanese & other water iris should be soaked for 24 hours or more, whereas 12 hours (overnight) is sufficient for Louisianas & Siberians.

All should be planted promptly thereafter: Siberians and Japanese with their crowns 3-4 inches below the surface, and Spurias, PCIs and Louisianas with crowns just below the surface. PCIs and Spurias need not be soaked if they are still moist. PCIs, being the most sensitive to transplanting, are often given special treatment:

soaking for a minimum of 10 minutes in a solution of Subdue (6 drops per gallon). We will try to have this reagent available at the auction/sale. Some recommend that PCIs be initially planted in pots before transfer to the garden.

Special request -- those bringing in beardless iris, please bring in early so that volunteers can prepare descriptions of iris that lack them. We also plan to have descriptions of all the iris obtained commercially to facilitate selection.

Once again, we encourage all members to participate in this Fall auction/sale, the proceeds from which help to keep a roof over our heads and our dues reasonable.

Some doubts, and their responses:

Too much shade/not enough sun -- Try Louisianas, PCIs or Evansias (crested iris)

Too cold Try Siberians

Yard too steep Try Spurias for erosion control

Too little space Try PCIs in pots, or Pseudacorus or Japanese iris in water trays

Too wet Try Louisiana, Japanese or I. virginica

Want cut flowers Try Spurias

Soil too acid Try most beardless iris other than Spurias

Too expensive Our prices can't be beat!

www.pacificcoastiris.org
Society for Pacific Coast Native Irises

www.socji.org
Society for Japanese Irises

www.signal.org
Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA)

www.spuriairis.com Spuria Iris Society

www.socsib.org
Society for Siberian Irises

www.louisianas.org
Society for Louisiana Irises

American Iris Society (AIS) Dues can be mailed

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

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

Please pay your 2016 **SBMIS Membership Dues** ~ please give to Bonnie Petheram, or send checks made out to Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society to Bonnie at 1226 High Street, Alameda, CA 94501. \$10 household.

Historic Iris Preservation Society (HIPS) dues can be mailed to HIPS Membership: Judy Eckhoff, 7911 South Yoder Road, Haven, KS 67543
E-mail: judye@msinter.net
For amounts, please see www.historiciris.org

Directions to the Garden Center:

666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland

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

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

[On weekends only -- Expect to pay \$5.00 at the toll booth to park].

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

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

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

List of SBM Officers:

President	Jean Richter	(510) 864-7962	jeanrichter@berkeley.edu
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<i>also Grand Poohbah</i>	Alan Robbins	(925) 939-1979	ADRsafetywpc@earthlink.net
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Library Chair	Gesine Lohr	(510) 864-7962	Gesine.Lohr@gmail.com
Publicity	**need a volunteer!		
Historian/scrapbooker	**need a volunteer!		
Immediate Past Pres.	Ray Vickers-Traft	(510) 277-4200	new# wndwsillorchids@aol.com
Once and Future President	Chuck Dekker		

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

below: This iris is in our sale! **Coast Road** (Ghio '16) Pacifica



If you see **old iris stuff which is about to be tossed**, please contact me (Gesine), so we can conserve these bits of history. I assure you, anything donated will be cherished. (510) 864-7962
www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Sydney-B-Mitchell-Iris-Society/116888028332187?ref=ts



above: Iris confusa Sealy (collected by J. R. Sealy, 1937, China) *photo: J. Richter*

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