

# THE REBLOOMING IRIS RECORDER

Fall/Winter 2013

*Journal of the Reblooming Iris Society*

Volume 82

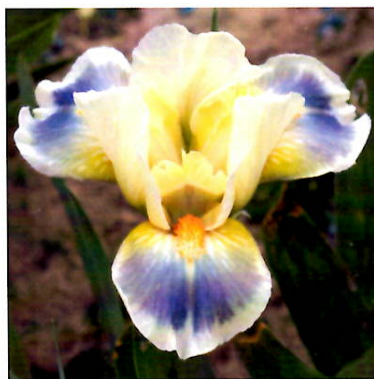


Lest We Forget TB (G. Sutton 2008) HM 2012

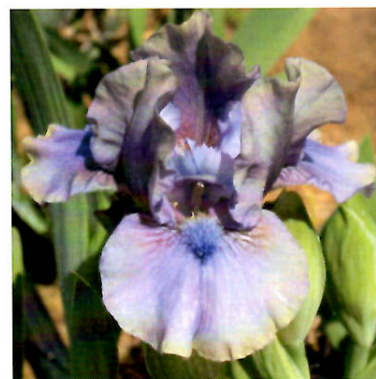




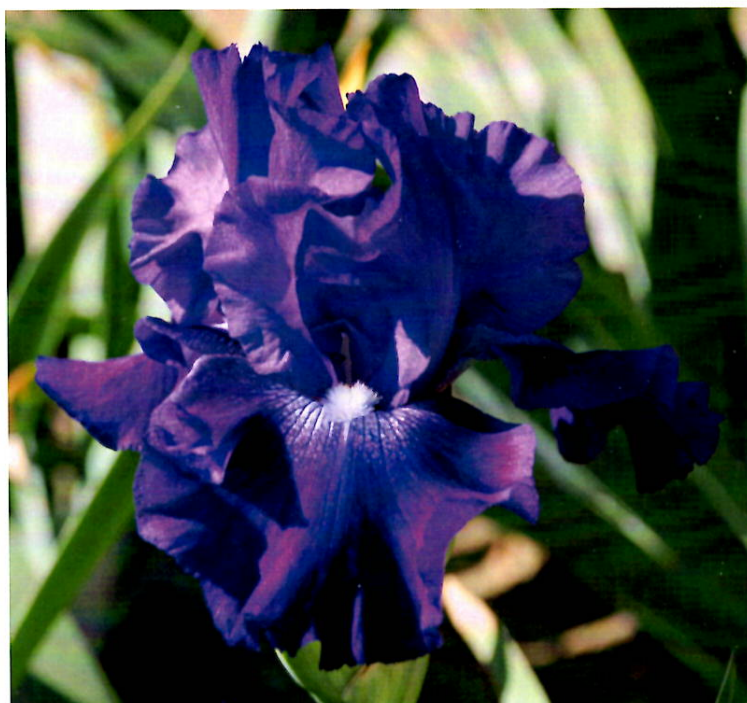
**Carry On TB** (*L. Lauer 2010*) (photo taken 11-30-13)



**Spring Into Summer SDB**  
(*J.T. Aitken 2011*)



**Inner Space SDB**  
(*R. Tasco 2009*)



**Star Gate TB** (*B. Wilkerson 2005*)



**Return of  
Innocence TB**  
(*G. Sutton 2001*)



**Innocent Star TB** (*G. Sutton 1999*)

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Carry On, *P. Buchheim*  
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*C. Buchheim*  
Innocent Star, *C. Buchheim*  
Honey Scoop, *C. Buchheim*

**Honey Scoop TB**  
(*G. Sutton 1997*)





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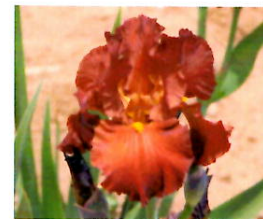
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Front Cover Photo:



**Lest We Forget TB**  
(G. Sutton 2008)

Photo Credit:

Lest We Forget, C. Buchheim

The Reblooming Iris Recorder is Published Biannually in Spring and Fall/Winter

Publication Dates: *Spring Issue: March 31*      *Fall/Winter Issue: December 31*

**Please Note:** Returned copies of the Recorder will be remailed at an additional charge.

**Please make sure your address is up to date. Renew membership by date posted on address label.**

**Photo Credits page 2:**

Love Is All Around,

C. Buchheim

Spring Bliss, P. Buchheim

Summer Rain, C. Buchheim



**Love Is All Around TB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2005)



**Spring Bliss TB**  
(F. Kerr 2009)



**Summer Rain TB**  
(M. Sutton 2005)

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**Dana Brown**

## President's Message *By Dana Brown*

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*Photo Credits page 3:*  
 Dana Brown, *Provided*

Once again our iris are all tucked in to their beds and we have a few months to take a deep breath and get ready for next year. Some of us are drawing up a list for Santa. A new digging fork or maybe a truck-load of compost for those new beds you want to build. I notice that one nursery already has their catalog out. That makes it even easier to dream away the winter.

Over the winter we'll dream big things and little things. We dream of winters just cold enough to kill all the bugs, of plentiful rains to keep our iris growing, of sunny and mild spring days for our iris to bloom and flourish. We dream that the seeds we worked so hard to hybridize will produce a reblooming Dykes medal winner.

There are many possibilities tied up in each and every iris patch out there and my dream is that you all realize those possibilities. Have a wonderful winter and take the time to file your reblooming reports!

On a more personal note, many of you may not know, but we have closed the commercial

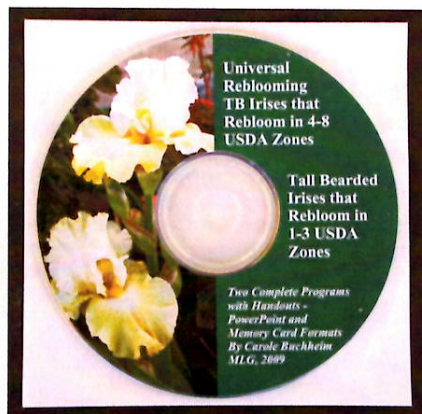
part of our garden. The drought, Vernon's shoulder, and our age dictated that we slow down a little. We are cutting out half of the iris, cutting back to about 1500 varieties and only keeping about five pieces of each variety.

I had no idea how hard it was going to be to trim down. You make the first pass through and get rid of anything that doesn't increase well. Next, we looked at anything that didn't bloom reliably. Next we looked for things that had bad form, or bad foliage. Then we added points to anything that rebloomed. Bit by bit we whittled it down. I must admit it is a lot easier to dig and transplant when so many of the irises are going away!

One of the hardest parts was that as a result of three years of drought and the fact that we dug everything, we had no rebloom. The good news is, that as a private garden, I can keep an iris with no commercial value but that I just like. Some old favorites may even be coming back my way. I hope that at this time of the year you all have many beautiful irises and iris friends to be thankful for.

*—Dana Brown*

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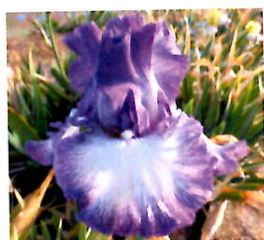
*Carole Buchheim*



**Cold Creek TB**  
*(M. Sutton 2011)*



**Cool Character TB**  
*(B. Wilkerson 2011)*



**Delta Lady TB**  
*(L. Lauer 2009)*



**Just Call Me TB**  
*(B. Wilkerson 2008)*

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 Cool Character, C. Buchheim  
 Delta Lady, P. Buchheim  
 Just Call Me, C. Buchheim

## Editor's Note *By Carole Buchheim*

It is with sadness that we note the passing of George Sutton, one of our rebloom hybridizing stars. You will find a story about him by Riley Probst on page 18. On page 19 is a table of the 2013 AIS award winners. Many thanks to George and his son Michael for their contributions to the increasing awareness and recognition of reblooming irises among irisarians. The awards tell a story.

Congratulations are do as well to Don Spoon, Terry Aitken, Rich Richards, Larry Lauer, Barbara Nicodemus, Paul Black, and Fred Kerr for their awards and runners up among the bearded classes and Robert Hollingworth, Bob Bauer and John Coble for their work with rebloom in the Siberian class.

I want to compliment all of you who are faithful in keeping and submitting rebloom records for publication in the *RIS Recorder*. It is through your observations and diligence that we can improve our knowledge of their quality and performance. This will help us individually in selecting plants that will preform well in our personal gardens as well as help our hybridizers in selection of parents to genetically improve future reblooming irises.

As many of you know from reading the *4th of July Rebloom News* PDF newsletter, I was in an auto accident in the early part of July. After a week in the hospital with six broken ribs and a fractured vertebra, I spent most of the summer in a body brace with only "visitation privileges" in the garden. Now I'm pleased to say I'm just about back to normal. However, my garden has suffered much and it'll take most of next year to get it back in shape.

It is the first week of December and days are growing cool here in southern California with some nights in the 30s. However, you'd think it was spring by looking at some of the blue ribbon show stalks present in my garden (marked with an \*asterisk). One blessing of living in my area is the opportunity for year around iris bloom. Following is my tally of rebloom on the day of December 5, 2013.

### **Mystic Lake Gardens** **Full Bloom**

Born Again (B. Miller 1978).....	TB
Carry On* (L. Lauer 2010).....	TB
Cold Creek* (M. Sutton 2011).....	TB
Color Me Mysterious (B. Wilkerson 2011).....	TB
Cool Character (B. Wilkerson 2012).....	TB
Coronation of David (B. Miller 1999).....	TB
Cricket Song (T. Silvers 2009).....	MTB
Delta Lady* (L. Lauer 2009).....	TB
Echo Location (B. Wilkerson 2007).....	TB
Halloween Treasure (B. Wilkerson 2008).....	TB
Just Call Me* (B. Wilkerson 2008).....	TB
Lest We Forget (G. Sutton 2008).....	TB
Margaret Wilson Thomas* (D. Spoon 2009)...	TB
Serenity Returns (B. Wilkerson 2006).....	TB
Spring Bliss (Fred Kerr 2009).....	TB
Star Gate* (B. Wilkerson 2005).....	TB
Summer Rain* (M. Sutton 2005).....	TB
Victorian House* (M. Grumbine 2005).....	TB

### **Buds Showing Color**

Nobody But Me (M.L. Swann-Young 2011)....	TB
Struck Twice (L. Lauer 2009).....	TB
Sugar Blues (L. Zurbrigg 1985).....	TB

### **Stalks Coming Up**

All Revved Up (B. Wilkerson 2006).....	TB
Ann Marie Adams (M. Grumbine 2008).....	TB
Cool Character (B. Wilkerson 2012).....	TB
Iceland (M. Byers 1991).....	TB

## Donations for the RIS Recorder in Full Color

*Donations and advertising make it possible for the Reblooming Iris Society to print a full color journal. We are grateful for your contributions. If you would like to make a donation:*

*Please contact: Elladan McLeester, RIS Treasurer, [elladan@madisoniris.org](mailto:elladan@madisoniris.org), (608) 271-3607  
 1202 Pontiac Trail, Madison, WI 53711*

*For information on the Memorial Fund, contact Shirley Trio-Probst at: [shirleytrio@clearwire.net](mailto:shirleytrio@clearwire.net).*

*—Carole Buchheim, RIS Editor*



# 2013 RIS Board Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2013 at 3 p.m.

**Attendees:** Kate Brewitt (VP), Dave Miller (Secretary), Jim Landers (Southern Area Director/Nominating Committee), Elladan McLeester (Treasurer), Rose Kinnard (Membership), Carole Buchheim (Editor), Riley Probst (Southwestern Area Director/Parliamentarian), Shirley Trio-Probst (Publicity), Susan Grigg (Eastern Area Director).

**Guests:** Deb Miller, Jim Morris (AIS President), Glen Grigg, Wayne C. Smith, George Boyce, Dave Potembski, John Veillette.

**Welcome/Call to Order:** Kate Brewitt, standing in for President Dana Brown, welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

**Business arising from April 17, 2012 Minutes:** Kate Brewitt Minutes were published in the Fall/Winter 2012 issue of the *The Reblooming Iris Recorder*. Kate asked if there were any corrections or additions. There were none. Rose Kinnard moved to approve as submitted, Riley Probst seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kate asked the Board Members to introduce themselves.

## **Treasurer's Report: Elladan McLeester**

**Results of Audit:** An audit covering the period of 7/23/2008 to 6/21/2012 was conducted by Jim Morris. His resulting recommendations were discussed.

- 1.) The President should be added as second signatory on RIS bank accounts.
- 2.) The RIS combine both the savings and checking accounts.
- 3.) The RIS Membership Secretary should send all checks directly to the Treasurer.
- 4.) The RIS should set a limit for future significant expenditures requiring written authorization from the president.
- 5.) By-laws should be followed as related to the Treasury.

**Budget for 2013/14:** It was suggested that RIS come up with a budget format for the Treasurer. Jim Morris briefly discussed what is required at a minimum level to put together a good budget.

## **Area Directors' Reports:**

**Northwestern: Robin Shadlow:** No report.

**Southwestern: Riley Probst:** Rebloom has been pretty good in SW Region. Several people provided Riley information on rebloom. We need to obtain rebloom information from all of the RIS areas. Upon receipt, track this information and get it to Robin for incorporation into the RIS Checklist. As Facebook Administrator for RIS, members have been increasing on a regular basis. Go to facebook.com—search for The Reblooming Iris Society on any search engine. Riley can resolve any facebook problems that may come up.

**Southern: Jim Landers:** This past year more rebloom activity was reported in this area than ever before. I received 36 notifications of 171 rebloomers. Daughter of Stars was listed most, and there were several multiple listings. People are interested in reblooming irises, and now I need to keep pushing for more rebloom reports. Information was received from only five of the states in my area. So I have a vast treasure of rebloom resources with which to work. I had one Louisiana Iris rebloom reported and am searching for others. Spring bloom season is very enjoyable and I know there will be beautiful bloom, but the waiting and anticipation and expectation of the fall bloom season is more intense because I do not know what will bloom.

**Midwestern: Mary Lou Swann-Young:** No report.

**Eastern: Susan Grigg:** Susan has not received quite as good a response as Riley, but she has noted wonderful rebloom in her garden. Weather has been very good. Susan would like more response from the regions north of her, Regions 1, 2, 3, and 4.

**Publicity: Shirley Trio:** She had four speaking engagements outside her area and had seven speaking engagements inside her area. The San Francisco Flower Show went very well. She attended several programs and took pots of rebloomers and gave them away as door prizes. She also took memberships. Judges Training will be in Riley's Garden in December. Shirley reported a new club has formed which will focus on rebloomers.

**Membership: Rose Kinnard:** Rose reported there are currently 354 RIS memberships. The total number of members is 397 not including honorary members. RIS has 52 Life Members. In 2012 there were 15 new members while there have been 41 new members to date for 2013. Southwest has the highest membership. Overseas memberships have dropped slightly. Rose suggested our Board members contact local clubs to promote both AIS and RIS memberships. Rose reported she has had problems with email addresses- 30 renewal emails came back as undeliverable.

**Editor: Carole Buchheim:** Carole distributed a handout covering advertising, printing expenses, printing the newsletter in a timely manner and the RIS 4<sup>th</sup> of July Rebloom News. Carole reminded Directors to provide their reports to her by the deadlines which are Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. The printer needs two weeks to get the newsletter printed and out. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Rebloom News will go out on schedule. Kate mentioned we need to provide accurate and timely information for the symposium. Carole mentioned getting involvement from the General RIS membership is important. The P&L Statement will be going out with the Fall 2013 issue as per the audit requirement. Moving forward, she would like authorization from the President to print the Treasurers Report in the Newsletter.



**Digital: Alex Stanton:** No report.

**Checklist: Robin Shadlow:** Kate Brewitt reported for Robin who was absent. She reported 17 checklists have been sold and 12 CD checklists have been sold. The issue of reporting checklist sales by the Treasurer was discussed.

**Parliamentarian: Riley Probst:** Riley left the meeting to attend another meeting. Shirley reported that Riley will be working on the By-laws with the Board.

**Website: Kate Brewitt:** Kate reported she has taken on the responsibility as the new Webmaster for RIS. Kate is open to suggestions/ideas/thoughts.

**Nominating Committee: Jim Landers:** Jim Landers presented the Nominating Committee Report. Nominations are: President-Riley Probst, Vice-President-Chuck Chapman, Secretary-Dave Miller and Treasurer-Elladan McLeester. Members will vote at the Members meeting this week. There was discussion when terms would start.

Kate stated she did not believe her term and the terms of the other officers had expired. She quoted from the minutes

for the 2011 RIS Board meeting where the Nominating Committee nominated Dana Brown, President; Kate Brewitt, Vice President; Elladan McLeester, Secretary; Susan Grigg, Eastern Director and Jim Landers, Southern Director. If officers' terms are for 3 years then another year remains on the terms of the President and VP.

Kate advised she would contact Dana to sort out the term issue. She will keep everyone posted. No vote was taken on the nominations.

#### **Old Business:**

**RIS Library: Rose Kinnard:** Rose has a list of what RIS owns. She will review the list and see what needs to be added and what is missing. She will notify those involved.

**Standing Rules: Riley Probst:** No report.

**New Business:** The group discussed the nominations issue. Kate will contact Dana Brown and advise.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.

*Minutes submitted by Dave Miller, RIS Secretary*

## 2013 RIS General Meeting Minutes – April 17, 2013 at 12 Noon

1. **Call to Order:** Vice-President Kate Brewitt called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM. She welcomed all present.
2. **Secretary's Report:** Kate asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the 2012 General Meeting as printed in the Fall/Winter 2012 issue of the *Reblooming Iris Recorder*. John Peseck moved that the minutes be accepted, Susan Boyce seconded, motion carried.
3. **Treasurer's Report:** It was reported RIS currently has \$5,000 in combined savings and checking accounts.
4. **Officer Introductions:** Kate asked the RIS officers to stand as introduced.
  - Treasurer: Elladan McLeester
  - Secretary: Dave Miller
  - Southwestern Area Director: Riley Probst
  - Eastern Area Director: Susan Grigg
  - Southern Area Director: Jim Landers
5. **Membership:** Membership has seen an increase. RIS currently has 400 members.
6. **New Checklist:** The new 2013 RIS checklist is available after this meeting and at the Section table found in the Boutique.
7. **Speaker:** Kate introduced our speaker Vincent Christopherson. Vincent gave an excellent presentation on his hybridizing efforts to the membership.
8. **Nominations:** Carole Buchheim asked Jim Landers to present the slate of officers for nomination. Jim Landers, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the Nominating Committee's slate of officers as it appeared in the Spring 2013 *Reblooming Iris Recorder*: President-Riley Probst, Vice-President-Chuck Chapman, Secretary-Dave Miller and Treasurer-Elladan McLeester and asked for a vote. Slate was approved by hand vote.
9. **Thank you:** Kate thanked the speaker and members for attending the meeting.
10. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 1:05 PM

*Minutes submitted by Dave Miller, RIS Secretary*

### Election of RIS Officers for 2014

*Due to a miscalculation in the terms of service for the sitting elected officers, the vote to elect a new slate of officers was held a year early. The existing officers will finish their terms and a new slate will be nominated for 2014. The list of nominees will be printed in the Reblooming Iris Re-*

*corder's spring edition and the new officers will be elected at the 2014 AIS National Convention during the General Meeting of the Reblooming Iris Society. We regret any confusion or problems this may have caused our Members.*

*– Dana Brown, RIS President*





Susan Grigg

## Eastern Report By Director, Susan Grigg

The following report is from Don and Ginny Spoon of Winterberry Gardens in USDA zone 6b, Cross Junction, VA.

### Winterberry Gardens, Cross Junction, VA September Rebloom

Anne Lowe (*D. Spoon 2011*).....SDB  
Autumn Jester (*C. Chapman 2000*) .....SDB  
Blue Hues (*D. Spoon 2010*) .....SDB  
Eric Simpson (*D. Spoon 2011*) .....SDB  
Peach Jam (*A. Ensminger 1989*)..... TB  
Prince Pele (*D. Spoon 2001*).....SDB  
Ray Jones (*D. Spoon 2011*).....SDB  
Royal Maroon (*D. Spoon 2001*) ..... MDB  
Smell the Roses (*M. Byers 1988*) ..... SDB  
Violet Returns (*E. Hall 1988*)..... TB  
White Duet (*R. G. Smith 1966*)..... TB

### October Rebloom

Apache Carpet (*C. Chapman 2001*) .....SDB  
Autumn Nectar (*J.G. Crump 2011*)..... TB  
Blue Hues (*D. Spoon 2010*) .....SDB  
Corn Dance (*D. Spoon 2008*) ..... TB  
Daughter of Stars (*D. Spoon 2001*)..... TB  
Deborah Dances (*B. Miller 1999*)..... TB  
Eric Simpson (*D. Spoon 2011*) .....SDB  
Flo (*D. Spoon 2011*) .....BB  
I Bless (*L. Zurbrigg 1985*) .....IB  
Northward Ho (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) ..... TB  
Pink Puppy (*D. Spoon 2010*) .....BB  
Purple Joy (*D. Spoon 2009*) .....SDB  
Ray Jones (*D. Spoon 2011*).....SDB  
Rosalie Loving (*D. Spoon 2003*) .....SDB  
Season of Mists (*L. Zurbrigg 2002*) ..... TB  
Senorita Frog (*D. Spoon 2002*).....SDB  
September Buttercup (*G.P. Brown 1962*)... BB  
Sign of Leo (*L. Zurbrigg 1977*) ..... TB  
Sky Willow (*D. Spoon 2005*) .....SDB  
Solstice (*J. Weiler 1992*)..... TB  
Storm Compass (*S. Chancellor 2014*) .. MDB  
Summer Fantasy (*G.P. Brown 1965*)..... TB  
Trimmed Velvet (*D. Spoon 2006*) ..... MDB  
Violet Returns (*E. Hall 1988*)..... TB

Ruth Bennett of West Hartford, Connecticut wrote about the rebloom in Elizabeth Park, a planting maintained by the Connecticut Iris Society:

The rebloomers were strutting their stuff at Elizabeth Park. I was there yesterday and talked to a surprised gardener who loves irises but didn't understand why they were blooming in the fall. **'Daughter of Stars'** TB (*D. Spoon 2001*) had the most stalks and it was quite dramatic. Enjoyed! Very much! Yep, even with experienced gardeners you can get people who have never heard of rebloomers!

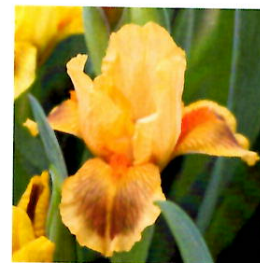
The end of this week we should be getting more seasonable temperatures and frost. November 23rd is our winter cleanup day when we cut down everything and prepare the garden for winter. Thanks again and again for the wonderful irises (from Don and Ginny Spoon at Winterberry Gardens) that so many enjoy at the park! —Ruth Bennett

### Connecticut Iris Society Elizabeth Park, West Hartford, CT

Autumn Tryst (*J. Weiler 1993*) ..... TB  
Bonus Mama (*B. Hager 1990*) ..... TB  
Brother Carl (*L. Zurbrigg 1983*)..... TB  
Christiane Elizabeth (*C. Mahan 2001*) .... TB  
Corn Dance (*D. Spoon 2008*) ..... TB  
Daughter of Stars (*D. Spoon 2001*)..... TB  
Days of Summer (*T. Stanek 2002*) ..... TB  
Feed Back (*B.Hager 1983*)..... TB  
Golden Immortal (*G. Sutton 1997*)..... TB  
Happy New Year (*M. Byers 1990*) ..... TB  
Heavenly Encore (*L. Johnson 2001*)..... TB  
Liquid Amber (*G. Spoon 2003*) ..... TB  
Luminosity (*M. Byers 1991*)..... TB  
Mariposa Autumn (*R. Tasco 1999*)..... TB  
Midnight Pacific (*F. Foster 1988*)..... TB  
Perfume Counter (*L. Zurbrigg 1972*) ..... TB  
Persimmon Pie (*D. Spoon 2000*)..... BB  
Prince Pele (*D. Spoon 2001*).....SDB  
Purple Joy (*D. Spoon 2009*) .....SDB  
Queen Dorothy (*E. Hall 1984*) ..... TB  
Renown (*L. Zurbrigg 1992*) ..... TB  
Rosalie Figge (*J. McKnew 1993*) ..... TB  
Rotunda (*M. Byers 1991*) ..... TB  
Stealth Fighter (*J.G. Crump 2008*) ..... TB  
Summer Fantasy (*G.P. Brown 1965*)..... TB  
Sweethearts Again (*J.P. Hill 2004*).....SDB

Regions 1, 2, 3, 4, 7

Susan Grigg  
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Anne Lowe SDB  
(*D. Spoon 2011*)



Peach Jam TB  
(*A. Ensminger 1989*)



Northward Ho TB  
(*L. Zurbrigg 1991*)



Days Of Summer TB  
(*T. Stanek 2002*)

**Photo Credits page 7:**  
Susan Grigg, Provided  
Anne Lowe, G. Spoon  
Peach Jam, G. Spoon  
Northward Ho, L. Rose  
Days Of Summer, R. Shadlow



**Robin Shadlow**

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rshadlow@yahoo.com  
USDA Zone 8



**Robin Shadlow**

I wanted to start with a rebloom report from one of the colder zones. Information on irises that can rebloom in USDA Zone 4 provides important data on plants that may rebloom over most of the country. There are many on this list not previously reported in Zone 4.

Delane Langton provided us with a rebloom report from the members of the Big Sky Iris Club in Billings, Montana, Zone 4. They had a dry winter with spring rains that arrived just in time, then a dry summer and now it's been a wet fall.

### Big Sky Iris Club - Billings, MT

Again And Again (*S. Innerst* 1999)..... TB  
Bernice's Legacy (*B. Miller* 2000)..... TB  
Boot Scoot Boogie (*Schreiner* 2012)..... TB  
Calypso Beat (*Schreiner* 2002)..... TB  
Dark Crystal (*M. Byers* 1988)..... SDB  
Double Your Fun (*J.T. Aitken* 2000)..... IB  
Golden Encore (*F. Jones* 1973)..... TB  
Immortality (*L. Zurbrigg* 1982)..... TB  
Lavender Lion (*D. Spoon* 2000)..... TB  
Midsummer Night's Dream (*L. Baumunk* 1999).... IB  
Pagan Dance (*B. Blyth* 1989/90)..... TB  
Remember Spring (*B. Hager* 1985)..... TB  
Ray Jones (*D. Spoon* 2011)..... SDB  
UFO (*D. Spoon* 2007)..... TB

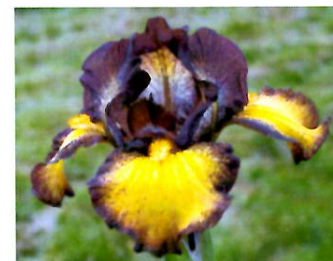
Sometimes it is wise to remember to be careful what you wish for. Here in the Pacific Northwest, though we have cool nights, summers are so dry that rebloom often waits for the fall rains. Did we ever get rain! This is highly unofficial, but in the month of September our five gallon water bucket rain gauge got pretty close to being full. We had fairly decent bloom over the summer, but the rains accelerated the development of stalks.

### Photo Credits page 8:

Robin Shadlow, C. Buchheim  
Again And Again, R. Shadlow  
Bernice's Legacy, C. Buchheim  
Calypso Beat, P. Buchheim  
Tremors, R. Shadlow  
Rivulet, K. Vaughn  
Rust Never Sleeps, K. Vaughn  
Dark Crystal, C. Buchheim  
Double Your Fun, J.T. Aitken  
Immortality, C. Buchheim  
Pagan Dance, C. Buchheim

## Northwestern Report By Director Robin Shadlow

There seems to be a subset of rebloomers which are more repeat rebloomers in the SDB class. 'Tremors' (*T. Johnson* 2006) started the summer off. 'Refined' (*J. Weiler* 1987) was another SDB which displayed this trait. One year in Nebraska there was a rebloom stalk to take to the show along with the TBs. Very dependable here, 'Blueberry Tart' (*C. Chapman* 2002) has bloomed multiple times. The SDB 'Perpetual Indulgence' (*J.T. Aitken* 2005) has been putting up stalks several time over the year.



**Tremors SDB** (*T. Johnson* 2006)



**Rivulet MDB**  
(*K. Keppel* 2012)

Kevin Vaughn of South Salem, Oregon reported rebloom on Keith Keppel's lovely blue MDB 'Rivulet' which was introduced in 2012. Larry Lauer's 2013 IB 'Rust Never Sleeps' also rebloomed in Kevin's garden. And once again, the Siberian, 'Salem Witch' (*D. Spofford* 1962) put up many sequential stalks to keep bloom going for more than six weeks for Kevin.

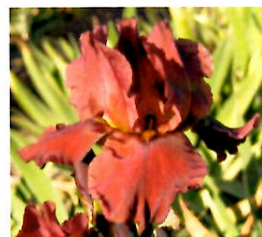
It is a seedling, but I would be remiss if I failed to mention it. Paul Black was kind



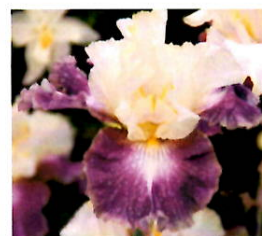
**Rust Never Sleeps IB**  
(*L. Lauer* 2013)



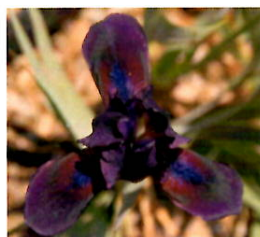
**Again And Again TB**  
(*S. Innerst* 1999)



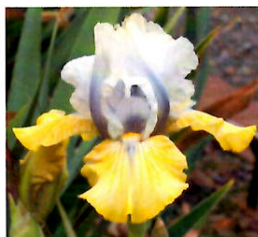
**Bernice's Legacy TB**  
(*B. Miller* 2000)



**Calypso Beat TB**  
(*Schreiner* 2002)



**Dark Crystal SDB**  
(*M. Byers* 1988)



**Double Your Fun IB**  
(*J.T. Aitken* 2000)

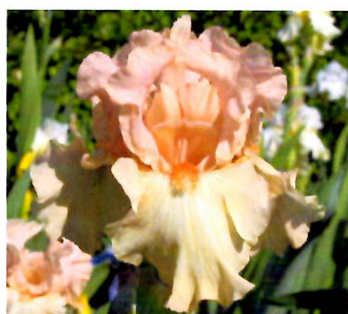


**Immortality TB**  
(*L. Zurbrigg* 1982)



**Pagan Dance TB**  
(*B. Blyth* 1989/90)





**Bundle Of Love** BB  
(P. Black 2007)

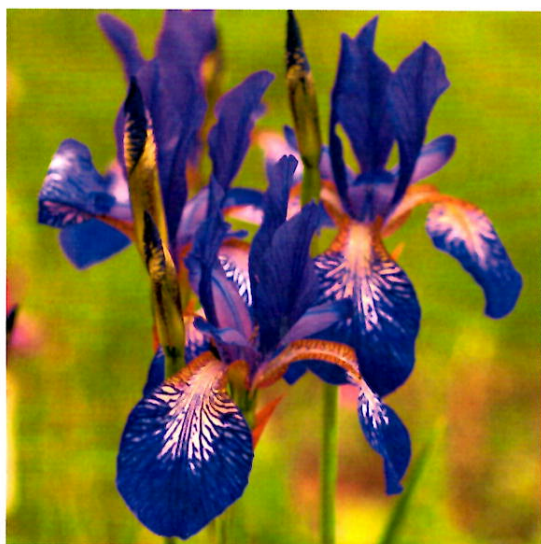


**Candy Clouds** TB  
(B. Blyth 2002/03)



**Bewitchment** TB  
(J. Ghio 2004)

**Photo Credits page 9:**  
 Bundle Of Love, L. Tasquier  
 Candy Clouds, C. Buchheim  
 Bewitchment, C. Buchheim  
 Salem Witch, K. Vaughn  
 Jazz Band, C. Buchheim  
 Monsoon Moon, A. Stanton  
 Rosalie Figge, C. Buchheim



**Salem Witch** SIB (D. Spofford 1962)

enough to share a lovely Border Bearded seedling from **'Bundle of Love'- O381XXR**. The XXR stands for extra extra rebloom! It was in bloom for almost three months thanks to high bud count. Before one stalk would finish another would begin. And this after blooming five times the prior year. In fact, it is blooming again on Halloween. I tell you this to encourage more people to consider using **'Bundle of Love'** BB (P. Black 2007) in crosses. Paul reports that it has never rebloomed for him in Oregon but Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan of Superstition Iris Gardens in Mariposa, CA have reported rebloom for them.

I did learn something which I will share if only in hopes of sparing someone else the experience. This spring nearly the entire field was sprayed for sedge. It was the identical product, but the same active ingredient as in *Sedgehammer*, which I had used several times in Nebraska to combat nasty stands of nutsedge. Timing may be the key,

but spraying just before the stalks appeared had tragic results ranging from death to blooms down in the fans, more with aborted bloom, to a few with greatly delayed bloom.

The herbicide horror did have the odd effect of giving us decent bloom in the month of July. **'Candy Clouds'** TB (B. Blyth 2002/03) bloomed several times in the summer as did Joe Ghio's lovely 2004 TB introduction **'Bewitchment'**. **'Jazz Band'** TB (K. Keppel 2006) also bloomed in July. Its brilliant colors were even more vivid as the warmer the weather gets the brighter the oranges can be. **'Jazz Band'** has produced several seedlings which have rebloomed when crossed with rebloomers. **'Monsoon Moon'** TB (K. Keppel 2008) also put on a show during the warmer days.

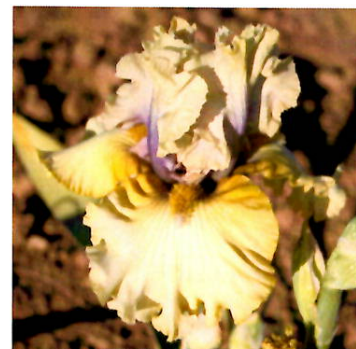


**Jazz Band** TB  
(K. Keppel 2006)

**'Class Clown'** TB (P. Black 2010) has several good quality stalks despite the high temps while it was blooming. The bouquet effect seems so much more prevalent on stalks formed during the heat. **'Rosalie Figge'** TB (J. McKnew 1993) has produced several waves of bloom over the year. Several of the **'Rosalie Figge'** seedlings have also rebloomed.



**Rosalie Figge** TB (J. McKnew 1993)



**Monsoon Moon** TB  
(K. Keppel 2008)

There will be more rebloom yet to report as the first frosts did not really slow things down. Take a minute to drop a line to your director and share your rebloom reports. Its fun to see what other people are getting rebloom on and the info helps the hybridizers!



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**Riley Probst**

## Southwestern Report By Director Riley Probst

Every rebloom season seems to be different from previous ones. This is the same statement I made in a previous article. It is true and

as irisarians, that is the way we want it. If every year we had exactly the same rebloomers reblooming on the same dates, what challenge would it be? What fun would it be? Would we keep rebloom records? No! Why should we if every rebloom season is the same.

Granted then, every rebloom season is different. This year was not as good as some for us. So, I tried to figure out why. Even though we do a lot of watering I think the sparser rebloom can be at least partially blamed on lack of rainfall. Normal versus actual rainfall for us in Modesto, CA is:

July Normal = 0.00      This Year = 0.00

Aug Normal = 0.02      This Year = 0.00

Sep Normal = 0.26      This Year = 0.31

Oct Normal = 0.68      This Year = 0.00

Even the 0.31 inches of rain we received in September fell all in one day rather than spread out through the month. So, from July through October, we had one rainy day and 122 dry days. I think the zero rain in October really hurt rebloom. We did water, but probably not enough or at the right times. For the record, we do average 13.19 inches of rain per year here. But, 9.15 inches fall in four months, December through March. Then, four inches were left for the other eight months.

Talking about every rebloom season being different, there was one thing that was the same this season.

'Forever Yours' TB (*B. Hager 1993*) was our top rebloomer last year (134 days) and so far has been the top rebloomer this year (58 days thru Nov. 10). But, of our top 20 rebloomers last year, only three have repeated in the top 20 this year. They are 'Forever Yours' TB (*B. Hager 1993*), 'Anxious' TB (*B. Hager 1992*) and 'Over And Over' TB (*S. Innerst 2001*.)



**Jennifer Rebecca TB**  
(*L. Zurbrigg 1985*)



**I I Stutter TB**  
(*D. Kanarowski 2012*)



**Wizard's Return SDB**  
(*R. Tasco 1999*)



**Forever Yours TB**  
(*B. Hager 1993*)



**Anxious TB**  
(*B. Hager 1992*)



**Over And Over TB**  
(*S. Innerst 2001*)

Just another reminder, photos of most of the reblooming irises listed in the various reports can be viewed on the Reblooming Iris Society Facebook page. There are over 1000 photos in the photo section. We currently have 357 members on Facebook as compared to 225 members in March of this year. Join the Reblooming Iris Society Facebook group, it is free. Look at the pictures, read the comments and maybe post some of your own. Just click on to [Facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/RebloomingIrisSociety) and search for Reblooming Iris Society. Then click on "like".

### **Phyllis Wilburn - Rescue, CA**

Z Z Zanzibar (*B. Kasperk 2005*) . . . . . SPEC

### **Ruth Ostroff - Rio Linda, CA**

Lady Essex (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) . . . . . TB

### **Linda Woods - Livermore, CA**

Autumn Breeze (*M. Sutton 2010*) . . . . . TB

### **Bryce Williamson - Campbell, CA**

Ivory Ghost (*G. Richardson 2008*) . . . . . TB

Mountain Sunrise (*M. Sutton 2007*) . . . . . TB

Ozark Rebounder (*B. Nicodemus 2003*) . . . TB

### **Carolyn Hoover - Coarsegold, CA**

Angelic Wings (*B. Miller 1991*) . . . . . TB

Low Ho Silver (*M. Byers 1989*) . . . . . IB

Queen Dorothy (*E. Hall 1984*) . . . . . TB

Wizard's Return (*R. Tasco 1999*) . . . . . SDB

### **Betty Bridger - Fowler, CA**

I I Stutter (*D. Kanarowski 2012*) . . . . . TB

### **Renee Fraser - Simi Valley, CA**

Coral Chalice (*O.D. Niswonger 1983*) . . . . TB

Desert Legacy (*M. Valenzuela 2012*) . . . . BB

Jennifer Rebecca (*L. Zurbrigg 1985*) . . . . TB

Plum Pretty Whiskers (*D. Spoon 2003*) . . . TB

Total Recall (*B. Hager 1992*) . . . . . TB

### **Wendy Spencer - Simi Valley, CA**

Cantina (*M. Byers 1990*) . . . . . TB

Kiss Of Kisses (*F. Kerr 1997*) . . . . . TB



Jim & Irene Cummins - Scotts Valley, CA Bloom Record From Jan 2013 to Oct 2013													
Variety	Class	Hybridizer	Intro.	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
Bonus Mama	TB	B. Hager	1990										
Brouhaha	TB	J. Ghio	2012										
Candy Rock	IB	G. Sutton	2000										
Casual Elegance	TB	J.T. Aitken	2004										
Country Dance	IB	E. Jones	1997										
Fast Forward	IB	J.T. Aitken	2002										
Fond Remembrance	IB	J. Weiler	1997										
Gnu Rayz	IB	B. Kasperek	1997										
Golden Immortal	TB	G. Sutton	1997										
Heart Of Africa	BB	B. Kasperek	2000										
Hell's Fire	TB	S. Roberts	1976										
Low Ho Silver	IB	M. Byers	1989										
New Vision	AB	R. Tasco	2012										
Oxmoor Hills	TB	J. Ennenga	2004										
Summer Waltz	TB	G. Sutton	2002										
Two Different Worlds	TB	W. Moores	2001										



**Brouhaha TB**  
(J. Ghio 2012)



**Dashing TB**  
(M. Byers 1991)



**Fast Forward IB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2002)



**Peggy Sue TB**  
(L. Lauer 2006)

Mariposa Autumn (R. Tasco 1999) . . . . . TB  
 Plum Pretty Whiskers (D. Spoon 2003) . . . TB  
 Rose Teall (H. Holk 1995) . . . . . TB  
 Tennison Ridge (J. Begley 1989) . . . . . TB  
 Total Recall (B. Hager 1992) . . . . . TB  
 Violet Turner (L. Lauer 1999) . . . . . TB

#### Geneva Coats – Los Angeles, CA

Hemstitched (B. Hager 1990) . . . . . TB  
 Lady Essex (L. Zurbrigg 1991) . . . . . TB  
 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993) . . . . . TB

#### Aprille Curtis – Los Angeles, CA

Blackbeard's Daughter (J.G. Crump 2009) . . . TB

#### Nancy Burstein – Irvine, CA

Halloween Halo (J. Weiler 1991) . . . . . TB  
 Harvest Of Memories (L. Zurbrigg 1985) TB

#### John Pesek - Fremont, CA

Autumn Circus TB (B. Hager 1990) . . . . . Aug  
 Autumn Tryst TB (J. Weiler 1993) . . . Jul, Oct, Nov  
 Cameo Blush BB (J. Weiler 1998) . . . . . Aug, Oct  
 Dashing TB (M. Byers 1991) . . . . . Jul, Aug, Nov  
 Hemstitched TB (B. Hager 1990) . . . . . Aug  
 Lest We Forget TB (G. Sutton 2008) . . . . . Nov  
 Maui Mango MTB (J.T. Aitken 2005) . . . . . Aug  
 Mesmerizer TB (M. Byers 1991) . . . . . Nov  
 Ozark Rebounder TB (B. Nicodemus 2003) . . . Aug  
 Peggy Sue TB (L. Lauer 2006) . . . . . Nov  
 Recurring Dream TB (B. Hager 1993) . . . . . Aug

#### Jack Weber – Phoenix, AZ

Carry On TB (L. Lauer 2010) . . . . . Nov  
 Lest We Forget TB (G. Sutton 2008) . . . . . Nov

Darlene Waite & Las Vegas Iris Soc. - Las Vegas, NV Bloom Record From Oct 2012 to Jul 2013													
Variety	Class	Hybridizer	Intro.	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Breaking Point	TB	M. Sutton	2007										
Buckwheat	TB	M. Byers	1989										
Concertina	IB	G. Sutton	2000										
Echo Location	TB	B. Wilkerson	2007										
Lavender Reflection	TB	W. Moores	2004										
Low Ho Silver	IB	M. Byers	1989										
Marty Richards	TB	R. Richards	2005										
Miami Beach	TB	K. Keppel	2005										
Midnight Thunder	TB	M. Sutton	2002										
Midsummer Night's Dream	IB	L. Baumunk	1999										
My Friend Jonathan	TB	B. Miller	1994										
My Generation	TB	L. Lauer	2009										
October Sky	TB	L. Lauer	2000										
October Storm	IB	G. Sutton	2002										
September Frost	TB	G. Sutton	1998										

#### Photo Credits page 10:

R. Probst, C. Buchheim  
 Anxious, C. Buchheim  
 Over And Over, C. Buchheim  
 Jennifer Rebecca, C. Buchheim  
 I I Stutter, C. Buchheim  
 Wizard's Return, C. Buchheim  
 Forever Yours, C. Buchheim

#### Photo Credits page 11:

Brouhaha, C. Buchheim  
 Dashing, C. Buchheim  
 Fast Forward, J.T. Aitken  
 Peggy Sue, C. Buchheim





**Priscilla Of Corinth TB**  
(B. Miller 1994)



**Sky King Returns TB**  
(L. Lauer 2003)



**Visual Intrigue TB**  
(R. Tasco 2005)



**Cameo Blush BB**  
(J. Weiler 1998)



**Holiday In Mexico MTB**  
(R. Probst 2012)

## Probst/Trio November 2013 Rebloom Report



**Blueberry Bliss TB**  
(Schreiner 2004)



**Hot Glow IB**  
(R. Tasco 2006)

**Photo Credits page 12:**  
Priscilla Of Corinth, C. Buchheim  
Sky King Returns, C. Buchheim  
Visual Intrigue, C. Buchheim  
Cameo Blush, C. Buchheim  
Holiday In Mexico, R. Probst  
Blueberry Bliss, C. Buchheim  
Hot Glow, C. Buchheim

**Photo Credits page 13:**  
Ozark Rebounder, K. Stanton  
Show Table, R. Probst  
Red Revival, R. Probst

Rebloom from April 29 through November 10, 2013				Number of Days in Rebloom									
Variety	Class	Hybridizer	Intro.	Days	Begin RE	Ma	Jn	Jl	Au	Se	Oc	No	Last RE
Forever Yours	TB	B. Hager	1993	58	Aug 11	-	-	-	9	8	31	10	Nov 10
Sign Of Virgo	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1991	56	Sep 9	-	-	-	-	22	24	10	Nov 10
Sugar Blues	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1985	49	Sep 23	-	-	-	-	8	31	10	Nov 10
Corn Dance	TB	D. Spoon	2008	48	May 8	22	10	-	-	-	6	10	Nov 10
Zee	TB	D. Spoon	2004	47	Sep 3	-	-	-	-	28	18	1	Nov 10
Scatterbrain	TB	T. Johnson	2008	42	May 14	17	25	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 30
Visual Intrigue	TB	R. Tasco	2005	41	May 12	20	21	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 27
Red Revival	TB	F. Preston	1977	34	Oct 8	-	-	-	-	-	24	10	Nov 10
Anxious	TB	B. Hager	1992	33	May 2	15	-	-	-	-	8	10	Nov 10
Harvest Of Memories	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1985	32	May 20	12	20	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 21
Low Ho Silver	IB	M. Byers	1989	32	Aug 5	-	-	-	1	3	18	10	Nov 10
Golden Immortal	TB	G. Sutton	1997	31	Sep 24	-	-	-	-	7	22	2	Nov 6
Gold Reprise	TB	W. Moores	1998	29	Jul 8	-	-	11	2	6	9	1	Nov 10
Cameo Blush	BB	J. Weiler	1998	28	May 21	5	17	6	-	-	-	-	Jul 10
Matrix	TB	E. Hall	1991	27	Aug 24	-	-	-	8	2	14	3	Nov 8
Juicy Fruit	TB	M. Byers	1989	27	Aug 29	-	-	-	3	-	24	-	Oct 30
Red Hot Chili	IB	M. Sutton	2008	25	May 8	24	1	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 1
Over And Over	TB	S. Innerst	2001	23	May 7	11	-	-	-	-	7	5	Nov 10
Silver Dividends	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1989	23	May 14	16	-	-	-	-	7	-	Oct 29
High Ho Silver	TB	M. Byers	1989	22	Jul 13	-	-	10	10	2	-	-	Sep 2
Next In Line	TB	G. Sutton	2001	22	Oct 4	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	Oct 25
Midnight Caller	TB	M. Byers	1990	20	Aug 2	-	-	-	10	6	4	-	Oct 9
What Again	SDB	A. Ensminger	1991	19	Apr 29	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 17
Priscilla Of Corinth	TB	B. Miller	1994	18	Oct 24	-	-	-	-	-	8	10	Nov 10
Island Pearl	TB	J.T. Aitken	2008	16	May 15	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 30
Sky King Returns	TB	L. Lauer	2003	16	May 31	1	15	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 15
Hemstitched	TB	B. Hager	1990	16	Oct 3	-	-	-	-	-	16	-	Oct 18
Bountiful Harvest	TB	B. Hager	1991	16	Oct 23	-	-	-	-	-	9	7	Nov 7
Congo Bongo	BB	B. Kasperek	2001	15	May 13	13	2	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 3
Two Different Worlds	TB	W. Moores	2001	14	May 7	9	5	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 28
Hot Glow	IB	R. Tasco	2006	13	Apr 30	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 19
Double Your Fun	IB	J.T. Aitken	2000	13	May 5	6	7	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 13
Holiday In Mexico	MTB	R. Probst	2012	13	May 20	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 6
Platinum	TB	M. Byers	1994	13	Jul 21	-	-	11	2	-	-	-	Aug 2
Rielle	BB	D. Spoon	1999	13	Oct 6	-	-	-	-	-	13	-	Oct 18
Halloween Halo	TB	J. Weiler	1991	12	May 14	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 25
Sunny Disposition	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1991	12	May 22	10	2	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 2
Mambo Italiano	TB	P. Black	2009	12	Jun 16	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 27
Pearls Of Summer	TB	G. Sutton	2012	12	Oct 30	-	-	-	-	-	2	10	Nov 10
Cornhusker	TB	T. Stanek	2005	11	Jun 28	-	3	8	-	-	-	-	Jul 8
Summer Holidays	TB	L. Zurbrigg	1979	10	May 3	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 12
Blueberry Bliss	TB	Schreiner	2004	10	May 31	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 9



Rebloom from April 29 through November 10, 2013				Number of Days in Rebloom									
Variety	Class	Hybridizer	Intro.	Days	Begin RE	Ma	Jn	Jl	Au	Se	Oc	No	Last RE
Broke Again	TB	W. Tyson	2012	9	May 22	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 30
Sugar Maple	SDB	G. Sutton	2003	9	Oct 17	-	-	-	-	-	5	4	Nov 10
Refined	SDB	J. Weiler	1987	8	May 3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 10
Winterland	TB	M. Byers	1990	8	May 15	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 22
Mariposa Wizard	IB	R. Tasco	2005	8	May 21	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 28
Autumn Rain	TB	M. Sutton	2008	7	Jul 16	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	Jul 22
Marty Richards	TB	R. Richards	2005	7	Jul 18	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	Jul 24
Winter Queen	TB	H. Holk	1995	6	Jun 23	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	Jun 28
Double Shot	TB	G. Sutton	2000	5	Nov 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	Nov 10
Rosalie Figge	TB	J. McKnew	1993	5	Nov 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	Nov 10
Violet Music	TB	C. Mahan	1991	5	Nov 6	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	Nov 10
Ozark Rebounder	TB	B. Nicodemus	2003	4	May 8	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 11
Violet Returns	TB	E. Hall	1988	4	Nov 7	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	Nov 10
Lichen	TB	M. Byers	1989	3	Aug 6	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	Aug 8
Little Blackfoot	SDB	M. Reinhardt	1966	1	May 3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 3
Golden Violet	SDB	J. Weiler	1993	1	May 7	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	May 7
Star Gate	TB	B. Wilkerson	2005	1	Nov 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	Nov 10



**Ozark Rebounder TB**  
(B. Nicodemus 2003)

*Note: Photos of most RE irises listed in this report are on the RIS Facebook page. The irises are sequentially listed based on the number days in rebloom.*

## AIS Region 14 Fall Meeting, October 19, 2013

A reblooming iris show was held on October 19, 2013 in Los Gatos, CA sponsored by the Clara B. Rees Iris Society in conjunction with the Region 14 Fall Meeting. There were nine entries in the show. They were:

Cultivar	Ribbon	Entered By
Low Ho Silver IB (M. Byers '89)...	Blue .....	Riley Probst
Red Revival TB (F. Preston '77)...	Blue .....	Riley Probst
Silver Dividends TB (L. Zurbrigg '89)	Blue .....	Riley Probst
Sugar Maple SDB (G. Sutton '03)...	Blue .....	Riley Probst
Cameo Blush BB (J. Weiler '98)...	Blue .....	John Pesek
Rosalie Figge TB (J. McKnew '93)...	Red.....	Elaine Fischer
High Ho Silver TB (M. Byers '89)...	Pink ....	Elaine Fischer
Autumn Tryst TB (J. Weiler '93)...	White ....	Peggy Ruud
St. Petersburg TB (M. Byers '89)...	White ....	Philippa Alvis

According to the Judges Handbook, a fall reblooming iris show must have at least ten cultivars and at least three exhibitors. In this show there were nine cultivars and five exhibitors. The judges said it was not a valid show and did not select a Best In Show. I personally think this was the judges taking an easy way out. There were five blue ribbon varieties to

choose from and I think they could have selected a Best In Show. In my opinion, Red Revival should have won Best In Show. I have resolved to solve this problem for any future Fall Shows in this area. In the future, I will always take at least eight stalks; then all that is needed is two other exhibitors with at least one stalk each to make a valid iris show.



Show Table



Red Revival TB (Preston '77)

I left stalks of eleven other cultivars at home because I did not think they were of blue ribbon quality. If I had it to do over, at least one of them would have gone to the show. Then there would be a Silver Medal for me and a Bronze Medal for John Pesek. As it is, one will never read about this show but here.

— Riley Probst



**Jim Landers**

710 N. 11th  
Temple, TX 76501-3016  
jimlanders43@hotmail.com

USDA Zone 8



**Another Bridge TB**  
(*B. Wilkerson 2005*)

**Photo Credits page 14:**

Jim Landers, *Provided*  
Another Bridge, *L. Rose*

**Photo Credits page 15:**

Head Games, *P. Buchheim*  
Lunar Whitewash, *C. Buchheim*  
Raspberry Frost, *C. Buchheim*  
Concertina, *C. Buchheim*  
Gate Of Heaven, *Unknown*  
Orange Juice, *C. Buchheim*  
Low Ho Silver, *R. Probst*  
Matrix, *C. Buchheim*  
Sunny Disposition, *C. Buchheim*  
Radiant Bliss, *C. Buchheim*  
Coronation Of David,  
*C. Buchheim*  
Speed Limit, *C. Buchheim*  
Double Platinum, *C. Buchheim*  
Masterwork, *C. Buchheim*  
Harvest Of Memories,  
*C. Buchheim*  
Autumn Circus, *C. Buchheim*



**Jim Landers**

Interest in rebloom-  
ing irises in the Southern  
District is still increas-  
ing. Much of the area  
had drought for most of  
the year, and I had a major plague of grasshop-  
pers in early summer. But with so many things  
not right, the rebloomers put on what I think  
was their best performance ever. I received re-  
ports from several first time reporters this time.

I finally started a new bed dedicated to  
rebloomers only. I planted the rhizomes in  
September and several bloomed in the spring.  
In the fall about fifty percent bloomed with  
several blooming two or three separate times.  
During the drier times of the year if there had  
not been rain in a week I used a soaker hose and  
watered the bed all Sunday night. I also fed the  
plants every sixty days or so. I was impressed  
with the iris activity and will continue giving  
them extra care.

**Mike Lowe - Waco, TX**

Head Games (*L. Lauer 2009*) ..... TB  
Lunar Whitewash (*S. Innerest 2003*) ..... TB  
Raspberry Frost (*G. Sutton 2001*) ..... TB

**Dan & Peggy Cathey - Covington, TX**

Echo Location (*B. Wilkerson 2007*) ..... TB

**Elouise Young - Las Cruces, NM**

Autumn Breeze (*M. Sutton 2012*) ..... TB  
Autumn Thunder (*G. Sutton 2000*) ..... TB  
Bernice's Legacy (*B. Miller/Richards 2000*) TB  
Bountiful Harvest (*B. Hager 1991*) ..... TB  
Christopher Columbus (*B. Hager 1992*)... TB  
Clarence (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) ..... TB  
Daughter of Stars (*D. Spoon 2001*) ..... TB  
Definition (*M. Sutton 2011*) ..... TB  
Double Shot (*G. Sutton 2000*) ..... TB  
Elainealope (*B. Kasperek 1996*) ..... TB  
Fruit Stripe (*M. Sutton 2009*) ..... BB  
Galadriel's Ring (*G. Sutton 2008*) ..... TB  
Golden Immortal (*G. Sutton 1997*) ..... TB  
Haunting (*J.G. Crump 2006*) ..... TB  
Holy Night (*K. Mohr 1983*) ..... TB  
Marty Richards (*R. Richards 2005*) ..... TB  
Midsummer Night's Dream (*L. Baumunk 1999*) IB  
Mountain Sunrise (*M. Sutton 2007*) ..... TB  
Pure as Gold (*W. Maryott 1993*) ..... TB  
Renascent (*B. Hager/Cooley's 2005*) ..... TB

## Southern Report *By Director Jim Landers*

Rosalie Figge (*J. McKnew 1993*) ..... TB  
Speed Limit (*L. Lauer 1992*) ..... TB  
Speeding Again (*L. Lauer 1998*) ..... TB  
Summer Rain (*M. Sutton 2005*) ..... TB  
Summer Holidays (*L. Zurbrigg 1979*) .... TB  
Winning Streak (*M. Sutton 2004*) ..... TB

**Ellen Singleton - Austin, TX**

Daughter of Stars (*D. Spoon 2001*) ..... TB  
Gate of Heaven (*L. Zurbrigg 2004*) ..... TB  
Hemstitched (*B. Hager 1990*) ..... TB  
Over and Over (*S. Innerest 2001*) ..... TB  
Sugar Blues (*L. Zurbrigg 1985*) ..... TB

**Jean Richardson - Waco, TX**

Concertina (*G. Sutton 2000*) ..... IB  
Feed Back (*B. Hager 1983*) ..... TB  
Low Ho Silver (*M. Byers 1989*) ..... IB  
Magic Memories (*T. Clark/Nichols 1973*)... TB  
Starring Encore (*D. Spoon 2008*) ..... TB

**Bill Pittman - Amarillo, TX**

Low Ho Silver (*M. Byers 1989*) ..... IB

**Gordon & Happy Carver - Weatherford, TX**

Ray Jones SDB (*D. Spoon 2011*) ..... SDB

**Jim Landers - Lometa, TX**

Another Bridge (*B. Wilkerson 2005*) ..... TB  
Clarence (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) ..... TB  
Double Platinum (*J. Ghio 2011*) ..... TB  
Lest We Forget (*G. Sutton 2008*) ..... TB  
Masterwork (*L. Zurbrigg 2001*) ..... TB  
Matrix (*E. Hall/Zurbrigg 1991*) ..... TB  
Orange Juice (*M. Sutton 2010*) ..... TB  
Radiant Bliss (*B. Wilkerson 2005*) ..... TB  
Rosalie Figge (*J. McKnew 1993*) ..... TB  
Star Kisses (*Alex Stanton*) ..... TB  
Sunny Disposition (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) .... TB

**Gail Jacob - Temple, TX**

Jurassic Park (*L. Lauer 1995*) ..... TB

**Russell Perry - Huntsville, AL**

Autumn Circus (*B. Hager 1990*) ..... TB  
Clarence (*L. Zurbrigg 1991*) ..... TB  
Coronation Of David (*B. Miller/Niswonger 1999*) TB  
Daughter of Stars (*D. Spoon 2001*) ..... TB  
Harvest Of Memories (*L. Zurbrigg 1985*) TB  
Rosalie Figge (*J. McKnew 1993*) ..... TB  
Sugar Blues (*L. Zurbrigg 1985*) ..... TB





**Head Games TB**  
(L. Lauer 2009)



**Lunar Whitewash TB**  
(S. Innerst 2003)



**Raspberry Frost TB**  
(G. Sutton 2001)



**Concertina IB**  
(G. Sutton 2000)



**Gate Of Heaven TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 2004)



**Orange Juice TB**  
(M. Sutton 2010)



**Low Ho Silver IB**  
(M. Byers 1989)



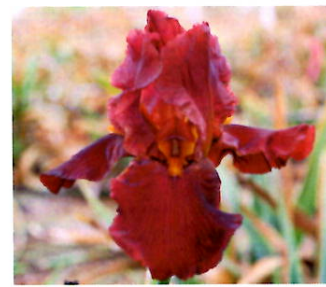
**Matrix TB**  
(E. Hall by L. Zurbrigg 1991)



**Sunny Disposition TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 1991)



**Radiant Bliss TB**  
(B. Wilkerson 2005)



**Coronation Of David TB**  
(B. Miller by D. Niswonger 1999)



**Speed Limit TB**  
(L. Lauer 1992)



**Double Platinum TB**  
(J. Ghio 2011)



**Masterwork TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 2001)



**Harvest Of Memories TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 1985)



**Autumn Circus TB**  
(B. Hager 1990)

## Request for Digital Images

Digital images of reblooming irises are needed to create PowerPoint programs. Please e-mail jpegs or mail CDs to Alex Stanton, RIS Digital Program Chairperson. High resolution, uncropped jpeg photos of individual flowers, floral stalks, and clumps are welcome.

Alex Stanton, 1074 Robertson Drive, Escondido, CA 92505 • [stanton-ad-kw@juno.com](mailto:stanton-ad-kw@juno.com)

Visit the Reblooming Iris Society Website ■ [www.rebloomingiris.com](http://www.rebloomingiris.com)





**Double Shot TB**  
(G. Sutton 2000)



**Haunting TB**  
(J.G. Crump 2006)



**Autumn Ring TB**  
(M. Sutton 2010)



**Clarence TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 1991)

## Mesilla Valley Iris Society, Mesilla Valley, NM

Eloise Young is the reblooming queen in the Mesilla Valley, New Mexico. This year, so far, she has had 28 irises rebloom and the reblooming season is far from over. It not uncommon to have irises on the Thanksgiving table and last year rebloom lasted until the first week of December.

The soil at Eloise's house is sandy loam and poor in organic matter. Eloise had five tons of cotton seed hull waste delivered and spread it out on the top of the soil

rebloomers. The club buys it in bulk and sells it to club members so it is about half the price of buying only a pound at a time. She also uses *Bayer* systemic fertilizer at the first hint of aphids.

Eloise reported earlier bloom on the rebloomers in the bed with cotton seeds hulls than in the bed with the horse manure. For example, **'Double Shot' TB** (G. Sutton, 2000) rebloomed in July, August, September, October and November in the bed with the cotton seed hulls. It only rebloomed in October and November in the bed with the horse manure. Speculation is that the cotton seed hulls may be higher in phosphorus than horse manure. However, the irises had bigger leaves in the bed with



Eloise Young's reblooming iris bed on October 29, 2013.

in one of the iris beds. It composted over four years. Cotton burr turns into beautiful black compost which the irises love. The cotton burr was lightly worked into the soil and was further enhanced by the neighbor's chickens and turkeys looking for grubs. In the summer of 2012 she moved many reblooming irises into this bed and has been delighted with

the results. Another bed had four inches of two-year-old horse manure spread out over the top. Alfalfa pellets were also added to some of the horse manure bed.

Southern New Mexico is the land of sunshine and crystal blue skies. In the southwest desert, the dry heat can dry out soil exposed to the sunshine in a day. The cotton seed hulls

and the horse manure allow the water to pass through to the soil underneath. These act as a mulch to keep the soil underneath moister longer. Eloise uses BR61 (9-58-8) to fertilize the



A closer look at Eloise's October 2013 rebloom.

the horse manure. Speculation is that the horse manure is higher in nitrogen. She has also reported a striking differences in the flower color between the same flowers grown in both beds. The flower color is deep-

er in the bed with horse manure than in the bed with the cotton seed hulls.

Other reblooming club news is that our new club member, Sally Morge, was ecstatic that **'Haunting' TB** (J.G. Crump 2006) which she received and planted in September has a stalk after only six weeks! Howie Dash and Eloise Young have both reported that they have reblooming seedlings. It is supposed to freeze tomorrow night (November 6). That usually happens in early November but rebloomers usually manage to survive and bloom later in the month. I believe Eloise is going to be very busy covering her bloom stalks.

—Scarlett Ayres, *MVIS*, Region 23



Eloise Young with cut stalks of her reblooming irises.





**Boundless TB**  
(M. Sutton 2010)



**Midsummer Night's Dream IB**  
(L. Baumunk 1999)



**Iron Eagle TB**  
(G. Sutton 2000)



**Little Blue Eyes SDB**  
(J. Weiler 1993)

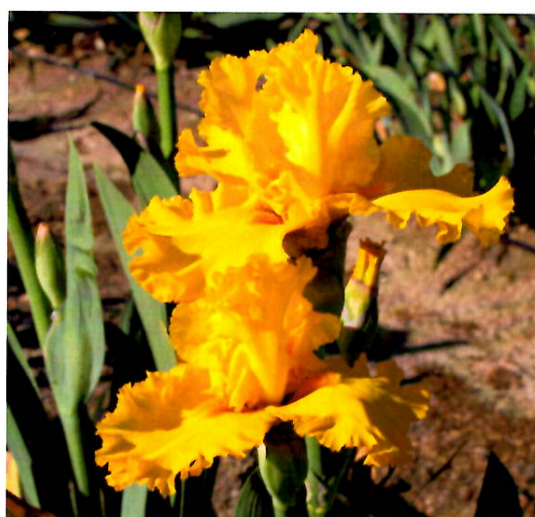
## MVIS 2013 Rebloom Report

Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Variety	Hybridizer	Class
					Autumn Breeze (M. Sutton 2012) . . . . .		TB
					Autumn Ring (M. Sutton 2010) . . . . .		TB
					Autumn Thunder (G. Sutton 2000) . . . . .		TB
					Bernice's Legacy (B. Miller 2000) . . . . .		TB
					Bolder Boulder (T. Magee 2000) . . . . .		TB
					Boundless (M. Sutton 2010) . . . . .		TB
					Bountiful Harvest (B. Hager 1991) . . . . .		TB
					Catchy Name (G. Seligmann 1983) . . . . .		TB
					Clarence (L. Zurgrigg 1991) . . . . .		TB
					Dark Crystal (M. Byers 1988) . . . . .		SDB
					Daughter Of Stars (D. Spoon 2001) . . . . .		TB
					Definition (M. Sutton 2011) . . . . .		TB
					Double Shot (G. Sutton 2000) . . . . .		TB
					Elainealope (B. Kasperek 1996) . . . . .		TB
					Fruit Stripe (M. Sutton 2009) . . . . .		TB
					Galadriel's Ring (G. Sutton 2008) . . . . .		TB
					Gideon Victorious (B. Miller 1985) . . . . .		TB
					Glacier Melt (G. Sutton 2010) . . . . .		TB
					Golden Immortal (G. Sutton 1997) . . . . .		TB
					Haunting (J.G. Crump 2006) . . . . .		TB
					His Royal Highness (M. Byers 1989) . . . . .		TB
					Holy Night (K. Mohr 1983) . . . . .		TB
					Iron Eagle (G. Sutton 2000) . . . . .		TB
					I Repeat (J. Roberts 1998) . . . . .		TB

Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Variety	Hybridizer	Class
					Kontiki (G. Plough 1966) . . . . .		IB
					Little Blue-Eyes (J. Weiler 1993) . . . . .		SDB
					Marty Richards (R. Richards 2005) . . . . .		TB
					Midsummer Night's Dream (L. Baumunk 1999) . . . . .		IB
					Mountain Sunrise (M. Sutton 2007) . . . . .		TB
					October Sky (L. Lauer 2000) . . . . .		TB
					Pure As Gold (W. Maryott 1993) . . . . .		TB
					Purr (B. Blyth 2004/05) . . . . .		SDB
					Reiterate (J. Nelson 1988) . . . . .		TB
					Renascent (B. Hager 2005) . . . . .		TB
					Renewal (G. Sutton 2004) . . . . .		TB
					Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993) . . . . .		TB
					Speed Limit (L. Lauer 1992) . . . . .		TB
					Speeding Again (L. Lauer 1998) . . . . .		TB
					Starring Encore (D. Spoon 2008) . . . . .		TB
					Stealth Fighter (J.G. Crump 2008) . . . . .		TB
					Summer Holidays (L. Zurbrigg 1979) . . . . .		TB
					Summer Rain (M. Sutton 2005) . . . . .		TB
					Summer Waltz (G. Sutton 2002) . . . . .		TB
					Victoria Falls (Schreiner 1977) . . . . .		TB
					Violet Music (C. Mahan 1991) . . . . .		TB
					Winds Of Change (B. Hager 1992) . . . . .		TB
					Winning Streak (M. Sutton 2004) . . . . .		BB
					Witch Of Endor (B. Miller 1978) . . . . .		TB



**Speeding Again TB** (L. Lauer 1998)



**Pure As Gold TB** (W. Maryott 1993)

### Photo Credits page 16:

Double Shot, C. Buchheim  
Haunting, R. Probst  
Autumn Ring, C. Buchheim  
Clarence, C. Buchheim  
E. Young's Garden, E. Young  
A Closer Look, E. Young  
Eloise with cut stalks, H. Dash

### Photo Credits page 17:

Boundless, C. Buchheim  
Midsummer N. D., J.T. Aitken  
Iron Eagle, C. Russell  
Little Blue-Eyes, C. Buchheim  
Speeding Again, K. Stanton  
Pure As Gold, C. Buchheim





## George H. Sutton Jr. 1933-2013 *By Riley Probst*

George H. Sutton Jr. after a long illness. He was 80 years old. His death came just five weeks after his wife Margaret's death on April 23rd, the eve of the 15th

annual Porterville Iris Festival. Margaret was a former Treasurer of the Reblooming Iris Society and RVP of Region 14. George and Margaret were married in 1957 in Redlands, CA. They were married for 56 years.

In 1963, they moved to Ukiah, CA. George attended an iris show in Ukiah in the 1970's and bought his first irises. The following year he won his first blue ribbon at the Ukiah show and never looked back. In 1983 George and Margaret started their first commercial iris business known as Sutton's Green Thumber out of their backyard while still located in Ukiah. In 1988 the Sutton's moved their family and their business to Porterville, CA. It was just coincidence that the Sutton's moved to a town that in 1963 had adopted the iris as its official flower. Of course, at that earlier time another well known iris hybridizer lived in Porterville, Jim Gibson, the plicata master. After the Sutton's moved to Porterville their backyard iris business grew to a large operation of over 100 acres.

George started hybridizing in the 1980's while still living in Ukiah. When he moved to Porterville, he had room to grow thousands of seedlings which he did. Not too long after George's move to Porterville, Monty Byers, the hybridizer who had made such improvements in rebloomers passed away at a young age. George told me and anyone else who would listen that he was going to take over rebloomers

where Monty Byers left off. George did what he said and he spent the next 20 years hybridizing irises and improving rebloomers. He hybridized and created rebloomers in all of the bearded classes: MDB, SDB, IB, MTB, BB, TB and AB. Many of his irises are popular rebloomers in today's gardens.

In 1999, the Sutton's teamed with the Porterville Chamber Of Commerce to start the Porterville Iris Festival, an event that has become the city's signature event. This year's festival drew more than 25,000 people.

George was active in AIS. He was RVP for Region 14, served on the AIS Board of Directors and was Southwest Director of the Reblooming Iris Society for several years. In 2012, Sutton's Iris Gardens was honored by the Porterville Chamber of Commerce as the Chamber's "Small Business of the Year".

George and Margaret's son Mike entered the business in Porterville. Now it will be up to him to carry out some of George's dreams. George wanted to move the business to Idaho, near Boise. This last fall Mike moved

Sutton's Iris Gardens to Idaho after 31 years in two locations. George also wanted to see rebloomers win AIS awards. Mike specializes in hybridizing for rebloom and time will tell. George, we will miss you.



Entrance into Sutton's Iris Gardens display beds in Porterville, CA



George prepping irises with Margaret looking on for the JMGIS Region 14 Show in Visalia, CA 4-10-10



George at a JMGIS meeting in Tulare, CA on 3-30-10

### **Photo Credits page 18:**

George Sutton, M. Sutton

George prepping iris,

R. Probst

George in Tulare, R. Probst

George & Margaret,

C. Buchheim

Garden in Porterville,

C. Buchheim



# Reblooming Irises in the 2013 American Iris Society Awards *By Carole Buchheim*

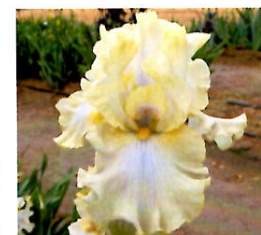
In comparing the 2013 AIS awards this year to 2012, there are more reblooming award winners and less in the Runners Up category. If you go to the AIS website: [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org), on the left, click on "About Irises", then "Awards and Surveys", then "AIS Awards". You will find PDFs of the AIS Awards from 1999 to 2013. In the following table, each cultivar in

the 2013 list was compared to the AIS Registry for rebloom. Those with \*asterisks are not registered as rebloomers but have been observed and recorded as such. Congratulations to you hybridizers for your hard work and determination. Let us support your efforts by purchasing, growing, voting and reporting how they perform in our personal gardens.

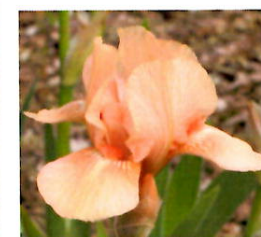
Reblooming Irises in the 2013 AIS Awards and Runners Up		
MEDALS	AWARDS	RUNNERS UP
Dykes Medal		Kathy Chilton* (F. Kerr)
Wister Medal—TB		Ozark Rebounder (B. Nicodemus)
H. & J. Sass Medal—IB		Many Mahalos (J. T. Aitken)
Caparne-Welch Medal—MDB	Trimmed Velvet (D. Spoon)	
Randolph Perry Medal—SPEC-X	Roy's Repeater* (J.T. Aitken)	
CLASS	AWARDS OF MERIT	RUNNERS UP
Tall Bearded	Easy Being Green (R. Richards)	
Intermediate Bearded		Line Drive (M. Sutton) Red Hot Chili (M. Sutton)
Miniature Tall Bearded	Maui Mango (J.T. Aitken)	
Standard Dwarf Bearded	Bright Blue Eyes (M. Sutton)	
CLASS	HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS	RUNNERS UP
Tall Bearded	Above The Rim (M. Sutton) Battle Of The Bands (M. Sutton) Boundless (M. Sutton) Cold Fusion (M. Sutton) Delta Lady (L. Lauer) Edge of the World (M. Sutton) Glacier Melt* (G. Sutton) Magnificent Masterpiece* (B. Nicodemus) Mambo Italiano* (Paul Black) Orangelo (M. Sutton) Rim Of Fire (M. Sutton)	All Smiles (M. Sutton) Dots And Splashes (M. Sutton)
Border Bearded	Fruit Stripe (M. Sutton)	
Standard Dwarf Bearded	Anne Lowe (D. Spoon) Golden Apricot (M. Sutton) Here Come The Clowns (J.T. Aitken) Purple Joy (D. Spoon)	Rainlike (G. Sutton)
Siberian	Encore Performance (R. Hollingworth)	Concord Crush (Bauer/Coble)



**Trimmed Velvet MDB**  
(D. Spoon 2006)



**Easy Being Green TB**  
(R. Richards)



**Maui Mango MTB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2005)



**Bright Blue Eyes SDB**  
(M. Sutton 2009)



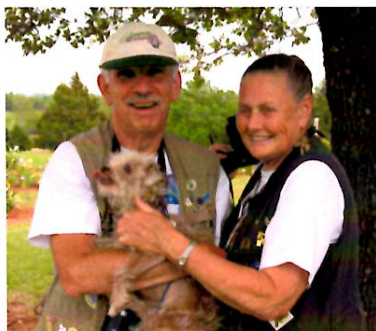
**Glacier Melt TB**  
(G. Sutton 2010)

**Photo Credits page 19:**  
Trimmed Velvet, G. Spoon  
Easy Being Green, C. Buchheim  
Maui Mango, J.T. Aitken  
Bright Blue Eyes, M. Sutton  
Glacier Melt, C. Buchheim

**NOTE:** \*Not registered as a rebloomer but rebloom has been observed and recorded.



Riley Probst and  
Shirley Trio-Probst  
with their  
beloved dog, Lucy.



# 2013 Reblooming Iris Society Symposium Results

By Shirley Trio-Probst, Symposium Chairperson

Thank you to  
all of you who took  
time to vote the

RIS Symposium Ballot this year. Your participation is appreciated. The Ballot comes out in the *Spring Recorder* and then again in the 4th of July *Rebloom News* electronic newsletter.

Print a copy and keep it with your garden notes. In the spring, mark which ones bloom well for you and in the fall, note your best per-

formers. Talk with your fellow irisarians about what's reblooming for them. When voting time comes around, you'll be ready. And if your treasured beauties aren't on the Ballot, there's plenty of room in each category for write-in votes.



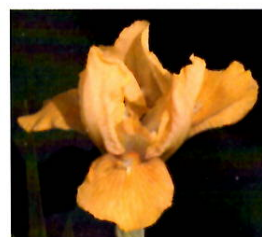
Daughter Of Stars TB  
(D. Spoon 2001)



Forever Violet MDB  
(C. Chapman 2002)



Trimmed Velvet MDB  
(D. Spoon 2006)



Sugar Maple SDB  
(G. Sutton 2003)

**Photo Credits page 20:**  
Riley & Shirley, C. Buchheim  
Daughter Of Stars,  
C. Buchheim  
Forever Violet, C. Chapman  
Trimmed Velvet, G. Spoon  
Sugar Maple, R. Probst  
Cache Of Gold, C. Buchheim  
Hot Glow, C. Buchheim  
Champagne Encore,  
C. Buchheim  
Lady Emma, C. Chapman

## No. 2013 Votes    Cultivar    2012 Rank MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED

### First Place

7 Forever Violet (C. Chapman 2002) . . . . . 1st

### Second Place

4 Trimmed Velvet (D. Spoon 2006) . . . . . 2nd

### Third Place

2 Aaah (G. Sutton 2009) . . . . . 3rd

## STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

### First Place

7 Sugar Maple (G. Sutton 2003) . . . . . 1st

### Second Place

6 Cache Of Gold (G. Sutton 2004) . . . . . 1st

### Third Place (2-Way Tie)

5 All That Magic (R. Tasco 2004) . . . . . 2nd

5 What Again (A. Ensminger 1991) . . . . . 5th

### Fourth Place (6-Way Tie)

4 Ahwahnee Princess (G. Sutton 2004) . . . 2nd

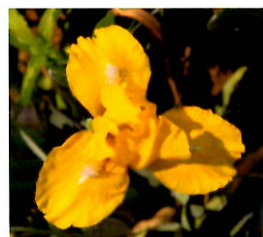
4 Anne Lowe (D. Spoon 2011) . . . . . 0

4 Carmel Celeste (R. Tasco 2008) . . . . . 3rd

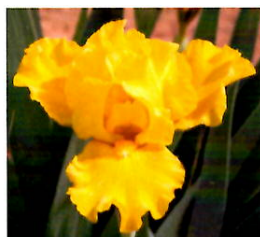
4 Jack Loving (D. Spoon 2006) . . . . . 5th

4 Rosalie Loving (D. Spoon 2003) . . . . . 1st

4 Wizard's Return (R. Tasco 1999) . . . . . 2nd



Cache Of Gold SDB  
(G. Sutton 2004)



Hot Glow IB  
(R. Tasco 2006)



Champagne Encore IB  
(J.T. Aitken 1997)



Lady Emma MTB  
(F. Jones 1986)

## No. 2013 Votes    Cultivar    2012 Rank INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

### First Place

8 Hot Glow (R. Tasco 2006) . . . . . 3rd

### Second Place (3-Way Tie)

7 Champagne Encore (J.T. Aitken 1997) . . . 7th

7 Double Your Fun (J.T. Aitken 2000) . . . 5th

7 Low Ho Silver (M. Byers 1989) . . . . . 6th

### Third Place (5-Way Tie)

5 I'll Be Back (J.T. Aitken 2004) . . . . . 6th

5 Line Drive (M. Sutton 2007) . . . . . 4th

5 Many Mahalos (J.T. Aitken 2003) . . . . . 7th

5 Mariposa Wizard (R. Tasco 2004) . . . . . 1st

5 Midsummer Night's Dream (L. Baumunk 1999) 6th

## MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

### First Place

6 Lady Emma (F. Jones 1986) . . . . . 1st

### Second Place

5 Maui Mango (J.T. Aitken 2005) . . . . . 2nd

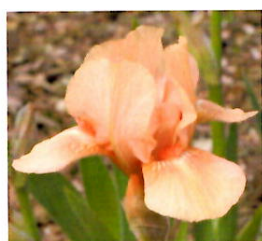
### Third Place

4 Lucy Doodle (D.C. Nearpass 2003) . . . 2nd

### Fourth Place

3 Pretty Jazzy (R. Probst 2004) . . . . . 5th





**Maui Mango MTB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2005)



**Fruit Stripe BB**  
(M. Sutton 2009)



**October Splendor BB**  
(G. Sides 1997)



**Walker Ross AB**  
(Ross/Chapman 1998)



**Shabaza AB**  
(G. Sutton 2001)



**Haleakala SIB**  
(M. Smith 2006)



**Majestic Overtures SIB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2006)



**Z Z Zanzibar SPEC**  
(B. Kasperek 2005)



**Lunar Whitewash TB**  
(S. Innerst 2003)



**Mariposa Autumn TB**  
(R. Tasco 1999)

**No. 2013 Votes    Cultivar    2012 Rank**  
**BORDER BEARDED**

**First Place**

8 Fruit Stripe (M. Sutton 2009) . . . . . 1st

**Second Place**

5 October Splendor (G. Sides 1997) . . . . . 2nd

**Third Place (2-Way Tie)**

4 Patty Ann (T. Stanek 2005) . . . . . 3rd

4 Waiting For October (L. Lauer 2003) . . . 7th

**ARILBRED**

**First Place**

6 Walker Ross (Ross/Chapman 1998) . . . . 1st

**Second Place**

5 Shabaza (G. Sutton 2001) . . . . . 2nd

**Third Place**

4 Chain Reaction (R. Tasco 2007) . . . . . 1st

**SIBERIAN IRIS**

**First Place**

3 Haleakala (M. Smith 2006) . . . . . 1st

**Second Place (4-Way Tie)**

1 Encore Performance (R. Hollingworth 2010). . . . 0

1 Majestic Overtures (J.T. Aitken 2006) . . . 2nd

1 See Ya Later (R. Hollingworth 2006) . . . 1st

1 Tall Dark And Handsome (Schafer/Sacks 2007) 2nd

**SPECIES CROSS**

**First Place**

2 Z Z Zanzibar (B. Kasperek 2005) . . . . . 2nd

**No. 2013 Votes    Cultivar    2012 Rank**  
**TALL BEARDED**

**First Place**

11 Daughter Of Stars (D. Spoon 2001) . . . 1st

**Second Place**

9 Lunar Whitewash (S. Innerst 2003) . . . 5th

**Third Place (2-Way Tie)**

8 Mariposa Autumn (R. Tasco 1999) . . . . 5th

8 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993) . . . . . 4th

**Fourth Place (3-Way Tie)**

7 Corn Dance (D. Spoon 2008) . . . . . 15th

7 Gate Of Heaven (L. Zurbrigg 2004) . . 12th

7 Lest We Forget (G. Sutton 2008) . . . . . 3rd

**Fifth Place (12-Way Tie)**

6 Blatant (M. Byers 1990) . . . . . 6th

6 Buckwheat (M. Byers 1989) . . . . . 7th

6 Cornhusker (T. Stanek 2005) . . . . . 13th

6 Days Of Summer (T. Stanek 2002) . . . 14th

6 Delta Lady (L. Lauer 2009) . . . . . 14th

6 Golden Immortal (G. Sutton 1997) . . . . 7th

6 Immortality (L. Zurbrigg 1982) . . . . . 14th

6 Mariposa Skies (R. Tasco 1996) . . . . . 9th

6 My Generation (L. Lauer 2009) . . . . . 14th

6 Secondhand Rose (G. Spoon 2004) . . 11th

6 Total Recall (B. Hager 1992) . . . . . 2nd

6 Zurich (M. Byers 1990) . . . . . 9th

**Sixth Place (4-Way Tie)**

5 Autumn Rain (M. Sutton 2008) . . . . . 11th

5 Billionaire (M. Byers 1987) . . . . . 14th

5 Marty Richards (R. Richards 2005) . . 10th

5 October Sky (L. Lauer 2000) . . . . . 13th



**Rosalie Figge TB**  
(J. McKnew 1993)



**Gate Of Heaven TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 2004)

**Photo Credits page 21:**  
Maui Mango, J.T. Aitken  
Fruit Stripe, C. Buchheim  
October Splendor, R. Probst  
Walker Ross, R. Tasco  
Shabaza, M. Sutton  
Haleakala, J.T. Aitken  
Majestic Overtures, J.T. Aitken  
Z Z Zanzibar, R. Probst  
Lunar Whitewash, C. Buchheim  
Mariposa Autumn, C. Buchheim  
Rosalie Figge, C. Buchheim  
Gate Of Heaven, G. Spoon





# Fall Frost and Freeze Resistance in Bearded Iris Rebloomers

By Don Spoon

**Don & Ginny Spoon**

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**FREEZE RESISTANCE.** *This paper describes the trait of fall hard freeze resistance in some cold climate rebloomers. This is the ability of the stalks, buds, and flowers to withstand a fall hard freeze with the stalks remaining erect and sturdy, the buds continuing to develop and open, and the flowers retaining their shape and color, including their whiteness.*

All the rebloomers that we grow in our USDA zone 6b garden must have winter hardy foliage, rhizomes and roots, unlike the few winter tender, spring only blooming cultivars that when hit by a late spring freeze can have their new foliage flat on the ground. Also, winter tender (VE, very early) cultivars that develop stalks early in the spring season in colder climates can have them frozen and fallen down.

We grow over 1200 different cultivars that rebloom in some zone, with nearly a third reblooming in our moderately cold climate, USDA zone 6b, with a lowest winter extreme cold temperature of  $-5^{\circ}\text{F}$ . With the climate changes caused by global warming, we have not had a winter night colder than  $0^{\circ}\text{F}$  for over fifteen years; so, we may eventually be called zone 7a. Most of the cultivars that rebloom for us have stalks, buds, and flowers that end their rebloom when the first hard freeze leaves their stalks frozen and fallen down. Many warm climate zone rebloomers that develop stalks later in the fall, in mid or late November, have freeze-damaged stalks before opening a single flower. In the past, the only way to circumvent this problem was to develop cultivars that rebloomed earlier in the fall, or even better, begin their rebloom in late summer. Here we report that in the last fifteen years, we have developed bearded iris rebloomers that are so hard freeze resistant that they can extend our rebloom season for a month or more.

**FROST RESISTANCE.** There is a big difference between the response of rebloomers to frost and hard freeze damage. The stalks and flowers of most fall reblooming bearded irises are quite winter hardy and can survive unscathed with the first mild-to-moderate frosts of the fall, while many annuals like tomato plants are flat on the ground.

Frost is moisture that forms as minute white ice crystals on surfaces cooled to  $32^{\circ}\text{F}$  or colder caused by the overhead radiation from a clear, dark sky that can have infrared radiation as low as  $-20^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Frost is not frozen dew that is solid ice and does not appear white. Many have experienced this dangerously slippery frozen dew on blacktop roads that is called black ice. In frost, the water moisture condenses from the gaseous-to-solid phase on cooled surfaces. In early spring and late fall, frost occurs usually on surfaces in line with the clear overhead sky that receives this cooling infrared radiation. Frost does not



**Daughter of Stars TB** (D. Spoon 2001)  
 Photo taken at  $26^{\circ}\text{F}$ .

occur under trees or overhanging roofs. Surfaces that conduct heat quickly like the metal tops or sloped, glass windshields of vehicles have the thickest buildup of frost. Also, this cold infrared radiation that produces a heavy frost can freeze a thin coat of ice on the surface of shallow water in a concrete birdbath. The cellulose cell walls of the epidermis of the iris stalk and their buds and flowers conduct heat poorly. Epidermal cells and other plant tissue cells have antifreeze proteins that prevent ice crystal formation that could irreversibly injure the chromosomes and cellular microstructure.

Most fall rebloomers can take mild-to-moderate frost lasting a few hours; yet, when the frost buildup is thick and of longer duration, damage to the flowers may occur. After the heavy fall frost has melted in the morning sun, the flower will have a glassy, translucent

*Photo Credits page 22:*  
 D. & G. Spoon, *Provided*  
 Daughter of Stars, *G. Spoon*





**Corn Dance TB** (D. Spoon 2008)  
*Corn Dance stalks and buds after a hard freeze.*

appearance having lost most of its white coloration leaving behind the xanthophyll yellow, carotenoid yellow, red, and combined as orange, and anthocyanin spectrum blue, blue violet, violet, and cardinal red pigments. Also, the chlorophyll green pigments in the bases of the undersurface of the falls may show through the petals. We see no evidence of any white pigment remaining in frost-damaged flowers. In bearded iris flowers, their whiteness is caused by the diffracting ability of the surface cones above each epidermal cell and the microstructure within the cones. As sufficiently large microscopic drops of water in clouds produce the whiteness of the clouds, the many epidermal cones of iris flowers act as prisms that together create reflected white light. In intact flowers, this white light can stand alone as pure white or mix with the reflected light from colored pigments to produce tinted pastels like light yellows, pinks, lavenders, and sky blues.

There is a clear difference between cultivars in their ability to survive mild, moderate, or hard frosts. Many rebloomers have flowers that keep their shape yet lose their whiteness. Usually, after a moderate freeze, their buds open with normal flowers that have intact whiteness. Most reblooming dwarfs have exceptional ability to withstand frost in the spring, as they are the earliest bearded irises to bloom.

In the spring of 2012, we had a moderate frost with air temperatures just below 32° F. All the early blooming dwarfs had frost-covered flowers that felt stiff and frozen to the touch. Amazingly, when the flowers warmed up in the morning sun, there was only minor damage to the older flowers. All the remaining buds opened normally. The frost formation only lasted a few hours and the flowers did not lose their whiteness. Repeated heavy frosts and



**Kind Candace TB** (D. Spoon 2012)  
*Kind Candace stalks and buds after a hard freeze.*

freezes usually end the process of production of new reblooming stalks. In some of these hard freeze resistant cold climate rebloomers, new stalks emerge in "Indian Summer" spells after a round of early frosts and freezes. This hard freeze resistance in these cultivars can allow rebloom even until the end of December.

**REBLOOMERS ARE FAVORED BY CLEAR, COOL NIGHTS.** Dr. Lloyd Zurbigg found that some of his rebloomers that performed admirably in the higher, drier air of Radford, North Carolina had little rebloom performance in Raleigh, North Carolina at about the same latitude, yet with muggier, warmer summer nights that produced less clear skies. Many dwarfs won't even bloom in the spring in frost-free zones, so cold night skies with dew and frost may stimulate their stalk formation.

To rebloom successfully, rebloomers need more water in late summer. Bearded irises have a magnificent adaptation that allows them to efficiently collect summer and fall dew as well as melted frost. The blades of the fans have inner edges that are thin and tapered that lie tightly on the next inner blades. This allows the interlocked blades of the fan to imbibe by capillary action the dew or melted frost that rolls down the blades as water droplets. Of course, this process also works for small raindrops as in drizzle. The water is stored at the base of the blades, in the blades, or in the rhizome and roots. As a seedling increases the number of blades in the fan, this ability to capture water moisture from the air increases. This is why it is best to wait until a seedling has at least six blades in its fan before transplanting it.

The waxy coating on the surface of the iris blades allows bearded irises to equal or excel most other plants in their ability to capture dew. This hydrophobic wax covering limits water

*Photo Credits page 23:*  
 Corn Dance, G. Spoon  
 Kind Candace, G. Spoon



*Photo Credits page 24:*  
 Corn Dance Clump, G. Spoon  
 Corn Dance, G. Spoon



**Corn Dance TB (D. Spoon 2008)**  
*A fall rebloom stand of Corn Dance, zone 6.*

intake directly through the leaf blade surfaces, yet it acts to increase the capture of rounded dewdrops that can roll across the hydrophobic surface down to the overlapping thin leaf edges where the water can be taken into the plant. On the pointed tip of the leaf blade a dewdrop can grow until it is large enough to roll down the blade surface. (If held close to the eye, this terminal dew droplet makes a fish eye lens that gives an inverted view of the world beyond.) With this amazing adaptation, bearded iris foliage can effectively capture water moisture from the air analogous to the moisture-capturing roots of orchids that can grow on the bare rock of a new volcanic island. This moisture-capturing ability allows bearded irises to make the most of dew fall and even thrive in semiarid climates with little rainfall.

Some cultivars can be remarkably drought resistant with limited browning to the blade tips during extended periods in the summer and early fall without rainfall. We find that a thin, half-inch layer of light brown pine mulch aids the iris plants in retaining water and limiting this drying and browning of the blade tips. Black, double shredded hardwood bark and black leaf mold used as toping mulches can cause microbial growth that reduces pH, making acidic conditions that can induce soft rot in the bases of the iris foliage.

**OVERNIGHT FROST VERSES A COLD FRONT FREEZE.** Frost usually occurs in the early hours of the morning when the air is barely moving and the sky is clear. In contrast, a hard freeze is caused by a moving cold front of freezing-cold air that drops the temperature of the stalks, buds, and flowers well below 32° F, sometimes specified as at or below 25° F and for five or more hours. In the Northern Hemisphere, cold fronts have



**Corn Dance TB (D. Spoon 2008)**  
*Corn Dance in fall rebloom.*

lowered air pressure as the air is lifted upward and swirls counterclockwise. As the air rises it expands and cools as raindrops or snowflakes that form around microscopic dust particles. In the powerful updraft of the leading edge of the cold front, water droplets freeze and are repeatedly carried aloft to grow into frozen hail. As the cold front's leading edge passes, the air mass behind is colder, drier, and spinning towards the south on the western side pulling a cold mass of less humid, high-pressure air down over the land.

Inversely, in the Northern Hemisphere, warm fronts that often follow cold fronts have higher air pressure as the air mass flows downward and swirls clockwise. Initially, this brings drier air down to the surface and gives us those sparkling, sunny days with lower humidity. After a warm front has passed, warmer, more humid air is carried northward by the clockwise spin of the southern side of the passing high-pressure warm front. A stationary high-pressure air mass can set in place a flow of southern hot, humid air that can produce an oppressive, extended heat wave combined with elevated humidity like in the "dog days" of late July and early August.

**THE FIRST FREEZE OF 2012.** In the fall of 2012, we had only a mild frost on the first of October that did no damage. Over the night and morning of November 6th, we experienced one of our worst first fall freezes that sent air temperatures down to 25° F as measured on our screened-in porch. The temperature experienced by the iris plants out in the garden was even colder. This hard freeze was caused by a strong cold front. When this freeze occurred, the garden had over 100 different rebloomers with fully developed stalks and flowers. I brought only a few seedling stalks



into the house before this predicted hard freeze. The other stalks I deliberately left in the yard so I could observe their response to this hard freeze. Stalks brought into the house to bloom in vases have smaller flowers and altered colors.

In past fall seasons, I have taken excessive measures to save rebloom stalks from freezing; especially those of my seedlings I have never seen rebloom. Often, a seedling that reblooms in early November in its maiden season will rebloom in late October in its second year and subsequent years and be a reliable rebloomer for us in USDA zone 6b. Well over half of my seedlings end up reblooming too late to even open their top flower before the whole stalk is frozen; however, they still may be useful parents. The afternoon before a forecasted hard freeze, I gather different kinds of covers to protect stalks of different heights. To protect the shorter stalks, I use inverted five and ten gallon black plastic pots, each with a brick on top to prevent overturning by animals or wind. For taller stalks that have opened flowers, I use inverted, tall trash cans using three spikes to keep them from being blown over by the winds that may precede the cold front boundary. For taller stalks with no opened buds, I use four-foot metal rods in triplets covered with two black contractor-sized garbage bags held down with rocks at their bases. For my most important stalks I add as a canopy against the cold night sky, one of my black 62" oversized umbrellas affixed with duct tape to the top of the handle of a three-foot dandelion digger. This makes the combined shaft of the umbrella nearly six feet long. The opened black umbrella is over five feet above ground with its narrow metal digging point pushed into the ground. I have eight of these tall umbrellas that I use to give me complete shade as I weed a long garden row or build a new rock wall while seated on my 15" high cubical cushion. Sometimes, it will be one or two weeks before we have the next hard freeze, and there is enough time to see many saved buds open. These black cover-



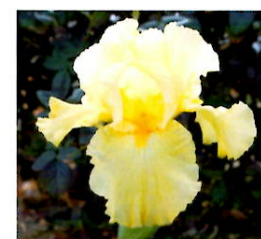
*Don Spoon working in the shade of 62" umbrellas.*

ings work well to protect against a moderate, overnight hard freeze, but are ineffectual if the temperature stays for hours in the lower twenties or if windy conditions prevail.

**HARD FREEZE RESISTANCE IS GENETIC.** 'Corn Dance' TB (*D. Spoon, 2008*), of all the TB rebloomers, had the best overall response to this hard November freeze. Several years ago, fall stalks of 'Corn Dance' survived a fairly mild winter with many freezing days and some snow cover. The buds on those stalks that were produced in the fall and survived the whole winter opened nearly normal flowers in the spring. Its pod parent, 'Lichen' TB (*M. Byers 1989*); (Spirit of Memphis X Earl of Essex), also fared well except its flowers lost some of their whiteness. 'Corn Dance' got its more modern flower form from its pollen parent 'Lilla' TB (*D. Spoon, 2000*). 'Lilla' is 'Precious Harvest' TB (*D. Spoon, 1997*); (Precious Moments x Harvest of Memories) X Sunny Disposition (Harvest of Memories x Immortality). 'Harvest of Memories' TB (*L. Zurbrigg, 1985*), 'Sunny Disposition' TB (*L. Zurbrigg, 1991*), and 'Immortality' TB (*L. Zurbrigg, 1982*) have reliable rebloom reported in USDA zone 4. I used the bright yellow, very early spring-only blooming rebloom carrier 'Precious Moments' TB (*J. Gatty, 1983*) with nice modern flower form to give 'Lilla' its modern form. Except for 'Precious Moments', all of the grandparents of 'Corn Dance'



**Lichen TB**  
(*M. Byers 1989*)



**Lilla TB**  
(*D. Spoon 2000*)



**Precious Harvest TB**  
(*D. Spoon 1997*)

**Photo Credits page 25:**

Don Spoon, *G. Spoon*  
Lichen, *G. Spoon*  
Lilla, *C. Buchheim*  
Precious Harvest, *G. Spoon*  
Harvest of Memories,  
*C. Buchheim*  
Sunny Disposition,  
*C. Buchheim*  
Immortality, *C. Buchheim*  
Precious Moments,  
*"His Iris Garden"*



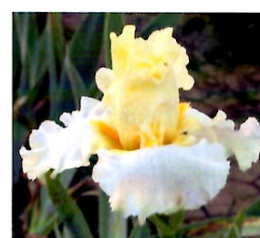
**Harvest of Memories TB**  
(*L. Zurbrigg 1985*)



**Sunny Disposition TB**  
(*L. Zurbrigg 1991*)



**Immortality TB**  
(*L. Zurbrigg 1982*)



**Precious Moments TB**  
(*J. Gatty 1983*)



*Photo Credits page 26:*  
 Spirit of Memphis, C. Buchheim  
 Earl of Essex, C. Buchheim  
 Daughter of Stars, R. Probst  
 Purple Magic, G. Spoon  
 Lest We Forget, G. Spoon  
 Bolder Boulder, J.T. Aitken  
 Sonata In Blue, J.T. Aitken



**Purple Magic TB**  
 (D. Spoon 1997)



**Lest We Forget TB**  
 (G. Sutton 2008)



**Bolder Boulder TB**  
 (T. Magee 2000)



**Spirit of Memphis TB**  
 (L. Zurbrigg 1977)



**Earl of Essex TB**  
 (L. Zurbrigg 1980)



**Daughter of Stars TB**  
 (D. Spoon 2001)

were hybridized by Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg. Lloyd told me that of all his rebloomers, **'Spirit of Memphis'** TB (L. Zurbrigg, 1977) had the best modern-formed flowers. He felt it could have won the best out-of-region hybrid iris at the

Memphis AIS National Convention if it had not finished blooming before the convention began. Monty Byers, a California rebloom hybridizer, produced **'Lichen'** TB (M. Byers, 1989) from two cold-climate zone 4 rebloomers by east coast hybridizer Lloyd Zurbrigg, who was born and began his iris hybridizing in the equivalent of USDA zone 4 in Canada. If you read through one of the extremely interesting and well-written catalogs by Monty, it is clear that he had great admiration for cold-climate rebloomers as excellent parents for vigorous growth and reliable rebloom performance. He was especially fond of **'Earl of Essex'** TB (L. Zurbrigg 1980) and used it in many crosses. The California hybridizer Rick Tasco has produced some really nice cold-climate rebloomers using cold-climate rebloomers as parents.

In this hard November freeze of 2012, most of the rebloomers such as **'Daughter of Stars'** TB (D. Spoon, 2001), **'Lest We Forget'** TB (G. Sutton, 2008), **'Purple Magic'** TB (D. Spoon, 1997), and histories like **'Autumn Orangelite'** TB (G.P. Brown, 1962) and **'Summer Fantasy'** TB (G.P. Brown, 1965) had stalks that were frozen and fell down. I believe that **'Lest We Forget'** is the best reblooming tall bearded red self in commerce. It is a reliable zone 6 rebloomer and a living tribute to its masterful hybridizer, George Sutton. For us, it is flag red or RHS-Royal Horticultural Society color swatch 46A. I have made many crosses on **'Lest We Forget'** trying to add to

it hard-freeze resistant stalks and hopefully, moving even closer to the elusive spectrum red or signal red color (43A). A few bearded iris cultivars now have beards that are spectrum red (43A); however, no hybridizer has yet to obtain this spectrum red color in the rest of the flower. Producing a reliable rebloomer that has spectrum red (43A) petals, style arms, and beards is a prime goal of many hybridizers.

In the spring of 2005, I made about 50 crosses on **'Daughter of Stars'** TB (D. Spoon, 2001) with *glaciatas*, *luminatas*, and rebloomers as test crosses. So far, I have never had a seedling with **'Daughter of Stars'** as its pod parent that lacked its signature vigorous growth and abundant increase. Some of the seedlings out of zone 5 rebloomer **'Daughter of Stars'** (Clarence – Zurbrigg, 1990 – of unknown parentage X Mind Reader, *luminata* – K. Keppel, 1994) had stalks that froze and fell down while some seedlings had hard freeze resistant stalks that did not fall down. Freezing and falling down was a stalk of seedling 2005-142RE from the back-on-the-pollen-parent cross of Daughter of Stars X Mind Reader, a spring-only blooming rebloom carrier. Also, seedling 2005-158RE froze and fell down, out of **'Daughter of Stars'**



**Sonata In Blue TB** (R. Smith 1994)

X zone 4 rebloomer **'Bolder Boulder'** TB (T. Magee, 2000). In contrast, a stalk of seedling 2005-147RE (Sonata in Blue X Daughter of Stars) did not freeze and fall and its top flower remained open; the next day another flower bud on the stalk fully opened.

**'Sonata in Blue'** TB (R. Smith, 1994) is a winter hardy cold-climate rebloomer for us, yet it has rebloom recorded only for zone 6. Dr. Raymond Smith who lived in Bloomington, Indiana





**Mariposa Autumn TB**  
(R. Tasco 1999)



**Again And Again TB**  
(S. Innerst 1999)



**Mango Parfait TB**  
(D. Spoon 200)



**Season of Mists TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 2002)



**Violet Miracle TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 1979)



**Eternal Bliss TB**  
(L. Zurbrigg 2002)



**Zee TB**  
(D. Spoon 2004)



**Momma Rosemary TB** (D. Spoon 2012)  
*After a hard freeze.*

hybridized it. Raymond provided Lloyd with space in his garden to hybridize while Lloyd worked on his Ph.D. degree at the University of Indiana where Raymond was a Professor of Linguistics. Note that possession of freeze resistance in the stalks of these seedlings does not seem to correlate with having parents that have reliable rebloom to zone 4 suggesting that different genes are involved and at different loci.

Probably the most amazing freeze resistance of the **'Daughter of Stars'** offspring was **'Momma Rosemary'** TB (D. Spoon, 2012) from pollen parent **'Mariposa Autumn'** TB (R. Tasco, 1999): (Jesse's Song – B. Williamson, 1983 X Earl of Essex – L. Zurbrigg 1980) that has reliable rebloom to zone 4). A bud on the stalk of **'Momma Rosemary'** opened the day after the hard freeze, and its flower had not lost its whiteness in its white central spray around its white beard on this deep violet luminata-plicata (fanciata). The only change from a normal flower was that its beard hairs lost some turgor.

Other cultivars that had stalks and buds resistant to this hard freeze were **'Again and Again'** TB (S. Innerst, 1999), **'Mango Parfait'** TB (D. Spoon, 2009), and **'Season of Mists'** TB (L. Zurbrigg, 2002). In previous years with similar hard freezes, **'Eternal Bliss'** TB (M. Byers, 1988) and **'Violet Miracle'** TB (L. Zurbrigg, 1979) showed similar hard-freeze resistance. Our **'Zee'** TB (D. Spoon, 2004) is from the cross of **'Autumn Encore'** TB (K. Mohr, 1977) X **'Lilla's Stripes'** TB (D. Spoon, 1997): (Lilla's Gloves X Violet Miracle). **'Lilla's Gloves'** TB (D. Spoon, 1995) is **'Violet Miracle'** TB (L. Zurbrigg, 1979) times the spring-only blooming rebloom carrier plicata

**'Quiet Times'** TB (Schreiner's, 1985). **'Zee'** was almost as hard-freeze resistant as **'Corn Dance'** TB (D. Spoon, 2008) with all its stalks continuing to open normal flowers until a series of hard freezes late in November. We have had **'Zee'** produce a whole salvo of new rebloom stalks after an early fall freeze. **'Zee'** has been a multiple rebloomer for us with two sequential rounds of rebloom in the fall. **'Mango Parfait'** with **'Eternal Bliss'** as its pollen parent inherited its good hard freeze resistance.

Most of the reblooming dwarfs like **'Funny Bunny'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2003), **'Giggler'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2001), **'Pretty Girl'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2001), and **'Winter Embrace'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2005) had stalks that did not fall down; however, the stalks, flowers and buds were limp and finished for the season. Good hard-freeze resistance of stalks, flowers, and buds was seen in **'Eric Simpson'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2011), **'Prince Lollipop'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2002), **'Prince Pele'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2001), **'Purple Joy'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2009), **'Rich Blanquet'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2012), **'Sky Willow'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2005), and MDB **'Trimmed Velvet'** MDB (D. Spoon, 2006). **'Trimmed Velvet'** had the best freeze resistance and often puts up new stalks after hard freezes with rebloom continuing to Christmas day. **'Trimmed Velvet'** is from a selfing of **'Senorita Frog'** SDB (D. Spoon, 2002) that is from a cross of rebloom carrier **'Rat-a-tat'** SDB (R. Bohrer, 1989) X cold hardy rebloomer **'Baby Prince'** SDB (L. Zurbrigg, 1994). There may be amazing reblooming IBs to come from crossing these hard freeze resistant dwarfs (MDBs and SDBs) and TBs, BBs, and MTBs together. Such intermediate bearded "cool mules" may be sterile, yet they may have enhanced hybrid vigor. Intermediate Beard-

**Photo Credits page 27:**  
Mariposa Autumn, C. Buchheim  
Again And Again, G. Spoon  
Mango Parfait, G. Spoon  
Season of Mists, R. Probst  
Violet Miracle, G. Spoon  
Eternal Bliss, C. Buchheim  
Zee, G. Spoon  
Momma Rosemary, G. Spoon





**Pretty Girl SDB**  
(D. Spoon 2001)



**Eric Simpson SDB**  
(D. Spoon 2011)



**Winter Embrace SDB**  
(D. Spoon 2005)



**Purple Joy SDB**  
(D. Spoon 2009)



**Rich Blanquet SDB**  
(D. Spoon 2012)

**Photo Credits page 28:**

Pretty Girl, G. Spoon  
Eric Simpson, G. Spoon  
Winter Embrace, C. Buchheim  
Purple Joy, G. Spoon  
Rich Blanquet, G. Spoon  
Evergreen, G. Spoon

eds have great facility with exceptional garden performance like the incomparable zone 4 rebloomer, the deep violet **'Midsummer Night's Dream'** IB (L. Baumunk, 1999); zone 3 rebloomer **'Best Bet'** TB (Schreiner's 1988) X zone 3 rebloomer **'What Again'** SDB (A. Ensminger, 1991).

**WINTER HARDINESS HYPOTHESES.** Based on the above observations, we can propose a set of hypotheses to be tested with hybridizing experiments. In bearded irises, there seems to be different dominant genes at different loci that produce freeze resistance in the foliage and in the stalks. Nearly all rebloomers have freeze-resistant foliage. This means that the horizontal storage stem, the rhizome, that produces two blades at each node is also freeze resistant. This ability is probably carried by a dominant gene we can call WHS for winter hardy foliage. It may have a dosage effect so those cultivars with four dominant gene dosages will have the most winter hardy foliage. Our cultivar **'Evergreen'** TB (D. Spoon, 2002) has foliage with the unique trait of remaining all winter and continuing to grow even under a snow cover. **'Evergreen'** is a sibling of our **'Uncle Charlie'** TB (D. Spoon, 1999) which does not have foliage with such extraordinary winter hardiness. A seedling from **'Evergreen'** hybridized by Bryan Spoon has similar, winter hardy, freeze-resistant foliage. Of course, this trait could be due to a new dominant mutation. It would be advantageous for a reblooming cultivar to have foliage with this degree of winter hardiness so it could keep its foliage throughout the winter and begin the spring with more green biomass that could produce superior spring growth and bloom.

We can use the letters WHS for winter hardy stalks to represent the dominant gene for the ability of the stalk and its buds and flowers to survive a hard freeze. Then the recessive gene that is a loss of this dominant trait we can denote as whs. The WHS dominant gene may have a dosage effect so that one dominant gene (WHS whs whs whs) may give resistance to a moderate frost, yet four dominant genes (WHS WHS WHS WHS) may produce resistance to a hard frost or freeze. This could be controlled by the homozygous dominant condition pro-

ducing far more antifreeze proteins throughout the stalks, buds, and flowers. The ability to maintain the microstructure that allows hard-freeze resistant flowers and new flowers from buds to retain their whiteness may be a different dominant gene at a different gene locus. We may have to search for cultivars with this whiteness-conserving trait to use as parents. On the other hand, winter hardiness may be a polygenic trait with many genes at different loci involved in producing this extraordinary



**Evergreen TB** (D. Spoon 2002)

freeze-damage resistance in the stalks. It is important to think of hard freeze resistance in terms of particulate genes that have individual effects, rather than just guessing that it is caused by the parent's good "bloodlines", cultural or climatic growth conditions, reduced vigor caused by excessive inbreeding, or "heterosis" that is enhanced hybrid vigor.

I believe such nebulous thinking will not produce a single hypothesis that can be tested using scientific methods that can help to determine if the hypothesis is erroneous. If a hypothesis can not be negated by such experiments, then the hypothesis may become generally accepted as a theory. Once we dissect the traits of winter hardiness into its component dominant and recessive genes, as well as modifying genes with dosage effects, then we can begin to devise genetic tests to try and understand what is involved. Once we have a cultivar we know has four recessives (whs whs whs whs), we can use it in useful test crosses to determine if the genotype of a cultivar has one to four dominant alleles (WHS). Unfortunately, a homozygous recessive may be so winter tender that we cannot successfully test it in cold climate zones.

An alternative hypothesis would be that in cultivars that lack the hard-freeze resistance in their stalks but not their foliage, the loss is caused by a "recessive" form of the homeobox developmental gene that initiates turning on the many genes needed to develop the stalk. This is a stretch of the concept of recessive alleles as it relates to altered or lack of functioning of only one of the many genes that a single homeobox developmental gene activates. This hard-freeze damage resistance for the vertical stem, the stalk with its buds and flowers, is most likely caused by a different homeobox developmental



gene than the one that produces the horizontal stem, the rhizomes with its roots and blades. This homeobox gene that produces the vertical stalk may not include in its cascade of genes it turns on, the dominant gene for hard freeze damage that is turned on by the homeobox gene to develop the horizontal rhizome. Bearded irises may have lost, or never needed, this gene initiation because for spring-only bloomers, hard-freeze resistance in the stalks has no survival value with springtime insect pollinators. Human pollinators, who desire exceptional fall rebloom performance for our enjoyment, prefer that rebloomers have hard-freeze resistant stalks so we can extend our fall rebloom season into early winter. This alternative hypothesis that suggests an explanation for hard-freeze resistance in bearded iris stalks could be difficult to test with hybridizing experiments.

**BOLD “COLD GOAL”.** There are plenty of evergreen plants that have hard-freeze resistance with winter hardy stems, foliage, and roots as well as flowers that bloom in the winter like winter jasmine, *Jasminum nudiflorum*. There are even species of iris that bloom in midwinter when there are repeated hard freezes. So the genes for hard-freeze resistance are readily available in plants in general and irises in particular. It would be great to have many new cold climate bearded iris rebloomers with the ability to fully withstand fall hard freezes. Those who grow rebloomers in climate zones 3, 4, and 5 would welcome such winter hardy cultivars. Of course, we would want them to have flowers with unique beauty on sturdy, well-branched stalks with modern wide, ruffled flower form or moderately wide, lightly ruffled classic form rather than narrow, tailored historic form. However, MDB, SDB, MTB and even IB rebloomers with “historic” flower form might be considered desirable by some hybridizers and growers. I believe to reach this “cold goal” of incorporating into our best rebloomers the trait of hard freeze resistant stalks we should consider using as one or both parents in our crosses the best winter hardy, cold climate (zones 3-7) rebloomers. Continuing to just cross warm climate (zones 8-10) rebloomers and rebloom carriers on one another to produce more warm-climate rebloomers, may never reach this challenging and worthwhile “cold

goal”, even with a lifetime of hybridizing.

Added to this goal should be reliable, yearly rebloom performance rather than sporadic rebloom based on a few occasional, rare reports. Hybridizers should market their rebloomers, designated as “reliable”, if they are good rebloom performers, and as either “warm climate” or “cold climate” rebloomers. Selling them just as “rebloomers” to gardeners in colder climate zones when they are sporadic rebloomers and rebloom only in the warmest climate zones harms the public’s confidence in rebloomers to perform reliably. It is good business practice to state if their cultivars are “sporadic” rebloomers. Also, giving the coldest climate zone where their introductions have been reported to rebloom and the month of rebloom would be greatly appreciated. As a hybridizer who purchases new iris mainly to use in crosses, I wish hybridizers would describe their introductions as infertile, pod fertile, pollen fertile, fertile both ways, or fertility unknown.

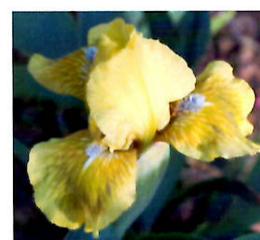
In less than a decade of hybridizing that unfortunately ended prematurely with his passing about twenty years ago, it is amazing how far Monty Byers brought us towards this “cold goal” with his progressive and open-minded use of cold climate rebloom parents. There are many currently active hybridizers including Terry Aitken, Lowell Baumunk, Chuck Chapman, Vincent Christopherson, Griffin Crump, Mark Grumbine, Jim Hedgecock, Larry Lauer, Mike Locketell, Walter Moores, Barbara Nicodemus, David Niswonger, Richard Richards, Joan Roberts, Tim Stanek, Michael Sutton, Rick Tasco, and Betty Wilkerson who have made and will make significant progress towards reaching this bold “cold goal”. Many other active iris hybridizers could be included in this list. Also, we value the great contribution of the many accomplished hybridizers who have provided us with rebloom carriers and warm climate rebloomers with advanced, modern flower form, well-branched, multi-budded stalks, and new colors and color patterns to cross on our best cold climate rebloom parents. We need more reliable cold climate rebloomers with stalks, buds, and flowers that can survive an early fall, hard freeze and “keep on ticking” until winter’s deep freeze arrives.

**Photo Credits page 29:**

Trimmed Velvet, G. Spoon  
 Senorita Frog, G. Spoon  
 Midsummer N. D., G. Spoon  
 Best Bet, G. Spoon  
 What Again, M. Greenfield



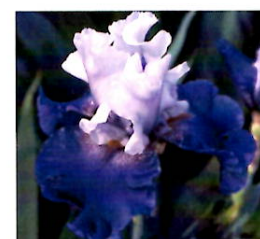
**Trimmed Velvet MDB**  
 (D. Spoon 2006)



**Senorita Frog SDB**  
 (D. Spoon 2002)



**Midsummer Night's Dream**  
 IB (L. Baumunk 1999)



**Best Bet TB**  
 (Schreiners 1988)



**What Again SDB**  
 (A. Ensminger 1991)





*Carole Buchheim*

## Reblooming Irises and English Boxes *By Carole Buchheim*

So what do reblooming irises have to do with English Boxes? You know, those containers that hold five or six single iris flower specimens that you used to see in the spring iris shows. Maybe they are buried in the back of your club's storage container. Well, it's time to get them out and dust them off.

If you check the *AIS Judges Handbook*, chapter 25, pages 215 to 218, you will learn all about them. There's even a diagram with dimensions on how to construct one. If you haven't seen an English Box on the spring iris show table for a while, ask around and see if your club still has them.

Of course your English Box exhibit will need to meet your show schedule requirements. But, what about using ALL REBLOOMERS in your display and noting it on the information card. Among the single stalks in the horticultural section the fact that your floral stalk can rebloom will go unnoticed. It's just one of the many beautiful spring irises. However, in an English Box, if you note that your display contains ALL REBLOOMERS, it will be noticed! I'm sure that your fellow irisarians as well as the general public will be surprised. It's amazing that so many gardeners are unaware of the ability of some irises to bloom multiple times a year.

On the morning of November 5, 2013, my husband, Paul, and I were taking photos of our reblooming irises at Mystic Lake Gardens when the Inland Region Iris Society club president, Carol Morgan, and our guest speaker for the evening meeting, Alverton Elliott and wife Barbara, drove up. The back of Carol's van was full of beautiful irises from their early morning visit to the I.R.I.S. club garden. Now they'd come to glean more for Al's presentation, *How to Show the Beauty of the Iris Bloom*.

Mind you, it's November and Al Elliott's workshop and judges training was on English Boxes! It really got people's attention that evening when several dozen beautiful RE iris stalks were brought in.

Step-by-step Al covered the nuances of exhibiting iris flowers in English Boxes, noting all the ins-and-outs of how to win a blue ribbon or rosette for your efforts.

Next came a hands-on learn-by-experience workshop where several teams were chosen. Each team was given a theme and asked to select blossoms from the irises provided to create their English Box display. Then the exhibits were judged by Inland Region Iris Society member judges under the guidance of Al. Each English Box was critiqued for the benefit of the teams and the audience.

Al provided handouts that focused on the important points of creating, exhibiting and judging English Boxes and the program culminated with a judges training test.

The uniqueness of this whole experience was the fact that the English Box workshop and judges training program was done in the fall using reblooming irises. The iris flower is the crowning glory of each cultivar. Though many summer and fall rebloom stalks exhibit less than showcase perfection, the focus of the English Box display is on the beauty of the blossom and how it is exhibited.

If you live in an area where you have predictable rebloom, why not consider scheduling a late summer or fall English Box workshop and judges training. I can assure you that it will be a memorable experience.



*Barbara & Alverton Elliott*



*Team members Steve McCullough & Lee McCool working on their English Box.*



*Part of an English Box Display.*

**Photo Credits page 30:**  
Carole Buchheim, P. Buchheim  
Barbara & Alverton, B. Train  
Team Members, B. Train  
English Box, B. Train



# RIS 4th of July Rebloom News

By Carole Buchheim

Not enough of our RIS members are taking advantage of the Reblooming Iris Society electronic newsletter, the *4th of July Rebloom News*. It is a RIS summer newsletter designed to enhance communication and fill the gap between the Spring and Fall/Winter issues of the *Recorder*.

This full-color PDF newsletter, the *4th of July Rebloom News*, is not a mini version of the *Reblooming Iris Recorder* with solicited articles and director's reports. Its primary purpose is to: 1) rerun hybridizer and grower spring *Recorder* ads without additional fees, 2) give information on "RIS Store" items for sale like the 2012 Reblooming Iris *Checklist* and CDs of Reblooming Iris PowerPoint programs, 3) include forms for recording monthly rebloom data, 4) provide a printable copy of the Symposium Ballot for voting your favorite rebloomers, and 5) give opportunity for FREE classified ads for RIS members looking for particular "hard-to-find" RE cultivars including histories.

By now, you've finished prepping your iris beds for the winter and taken stock of what REs you've lost or you'd really like to have. So many wonderful irises disappear from commerce all too quickly and many of those oldies-but-goodies seem impossible to find. Here's your chance to post a notice of what you'd like to buy or trade. Email me a short message with your request to be included in the classified ads. Contact me at: [cbuchheim@gmail.com](mailto:cbuchheim@gmail.com) and don't wait until the last minute, plan now. I can keep your request on file until time to publish.

The *4th of July Rebloom News* is a benefit made available at no extra charge and emailed just prior to the iris dig-and-ship season. This service is for Reblooming Iris Society members. Only about half of our members are on the emailing list because we do not have a current email address. In order to be put on the email list for the *4th of July Rebloom News* PDF newsletter, please contact our Membership Chairperson, Rose Kinnard: [RKinnard@minesmo.org](mailto:RKinnard@minesmo.org).

## Advertising in the RIS Recorder

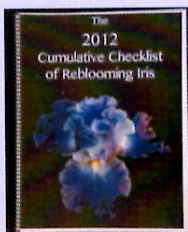
By Carole Buchheim

Now is the time that you iris hybridizers and commercial growers are planning and preparing your sales catalogs for the 2014 season. Why not plan to advertise in the *Reblooming Iris Recorder* spring issue? It is inexpensive and you'll get two ads for the price of one because your spring ad will be run again in the *4th of July Rebloom News* electronic newsletter at no additional charge.

All advertisement fees (see p. 32) go directly to support the cost of printing the magazine in full color which is above and beyond

the RIS budgeted amount for printing only in black and white. The Reblooming Iris Society operates on a very slim budget and these fees are actually a "fund raiser" for color printing. Your ad provides a double benefit—for you, an opportunity to increase sales and for the RIS, support for full-color printing.

Please contact Carole Buchheim regarding your ad: [cbuchheim@gmail.com](mailto:cbuchheim@gmail.com). I look forward to hearing from you. Be it a full-page ad or an eighth page ad, your support of the *Reblooming Iris Recorder* is appreciated.



### 2012 Cumulative Checklist of Reblooming Iris

Order your copy of the 2012 RIS printed *Checklist* for \$20 plus \$2 postage and/or the 2012 CD *Checklist* for \$15 plus \$1.50 postage (CD \$21.50 overseas). Make checks payable to the Reblooming Iris Society and mail to: Rose Kinnard, Membership Secretary, 1649 Madison 504, Fredericktown, MO 63645.





**Victorian House TB**  
(M. Grumbine 2005)



**Matrix TB**  
(E. Hall 1991)



**Violet Returns TB**  
(E. Hall 1988)

*Photo Credits page 32:*  
Victorian House, C. Buchheim  
Matrix, C. Buchheim  
Violet Returns, T. Stanek

## RIS Membership Information and Application

Use This Form to JOIN or RENEW Your MEMBERSHIP  
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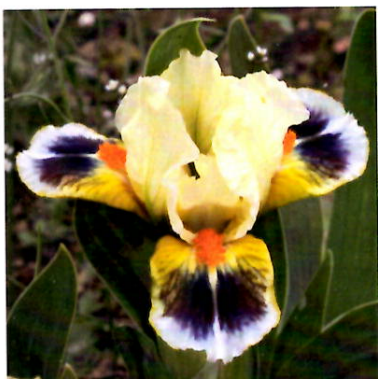
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Note: One full-page ad limit  
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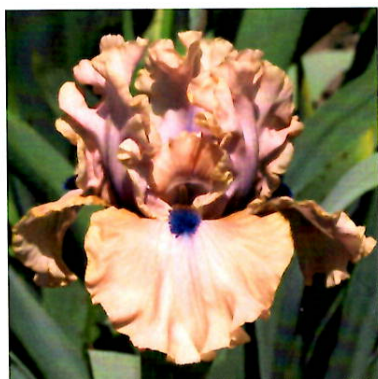
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ship Secretary, 1649 Madison 504, Freder-  
icktown, MO 63645.





**Here Come The Clowns SDB**  
(J.T. Aitken 2011)



**Bahama Blues IB**  
(M. Sutton 2010)



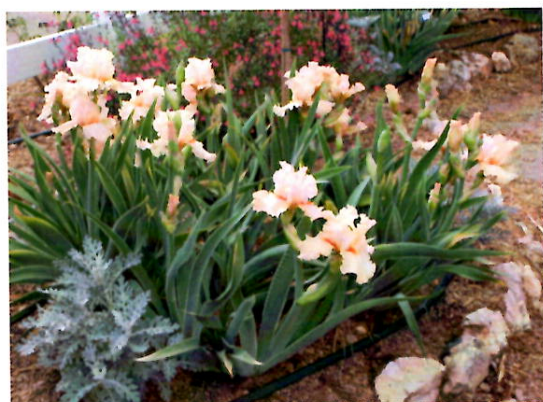
**Again And Again TB** (S. Innerst 1999)



**Snow Melt TB** (M. Sutton 2004)



**Lady In Purple TB**  
(A.&D. Cadd 2011)



**Priscilla Of Corinth TB** (B. Miller 1996)



**Patty Ann BB**  
(T. Stanek 2005)

**Photo Credits:**

Here Come The Clowns,  
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Bahama Blues, M. Sutton  
Again And Again, C. Buchheim  
Snow Melt, C. Buchheim  
Lady In Purple, C. Buchheim  
Priscilla Of Corinth,  
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**Golden Immortal TB (G. Sutton 1997)**

*Reported rebloom in USDA Zones 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9  
(Photo by C. Buchheim)*

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