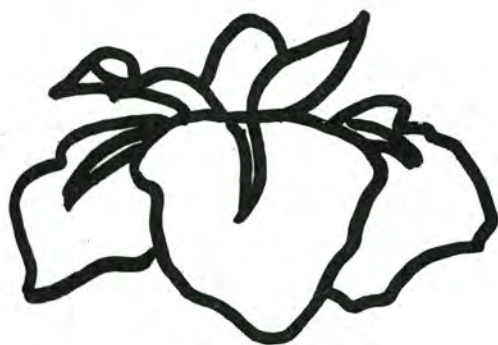
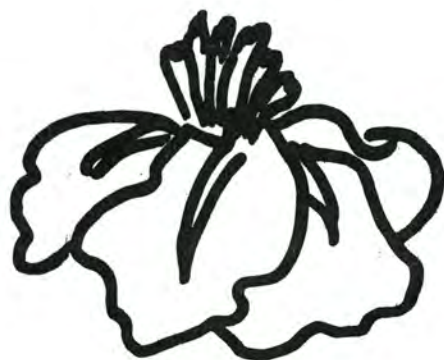
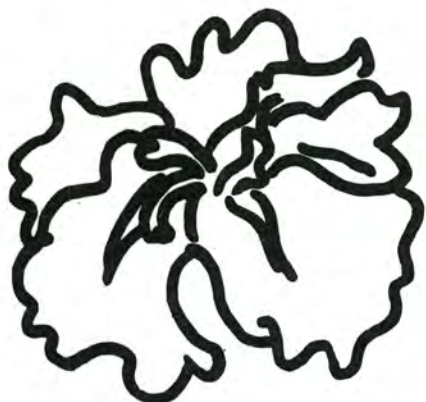


VOLUME 10, NUMBER 1

APRIL 1973



THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

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OF
THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

Volume 10, Number 1

April, 1973

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Vice-President	Mr. Frank B. Foley, Davenport, IA.
Secretary	Mr. Harley E. Briscoe, White Hall, IL.
Treasurer	Mr. Ford L. Grant, Davenport, IA.
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Mr. W. E. Ouweneel, Terre Haute, IN., 1973
Mrs. N. R. Carrington, San Diego, CA., 1973, 1974
Mrs. J. E. McClintock, Carlsbad, NM.,
(See Nominating Committee Report in this issue)

APPOINTMENTS

Mr. W. E. Ouweneel, Editor and Publications, Terre Haute, IN.
Mr. E. H. Wagner, Robin Chairman, Columbus, OH.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hmm! That sounds most peculiar...I don't feel the least like a president! And from this stacked-high desk could come most anything; including the boast (true) that all the spring clean-out on the Japanese Irises is finished in the garden! About time; many clumps are already over 6" and growing so fast you can almost see them. All the Payne varieties acquired last fall have made it through their first winter in great shape!

With the sun's warmth on my back as I clip old foliage, pull weeds, and loosen mulch around the new green shoots, the familiar anticipatory excitement rises, and I slip into a blissful fantasy of the season ahead! (I must remember to observe the blue and maroon blooms to see if they are occupied by little blue or maroon spiders comparable with the white ones, faintly yellow-marked, that wait motionless in perfect camouflage in the center of the white Japanese flower.)

If I would have one suggestion for each of you, it would be this: Enjoy your Japanese Irises; whether this be by growing, showing, photographing, arranging, sharing, breeding, selecting, landscaping with, or whatever else about them which brings you joy! I'll be willing to bet seeing how much of a kick you are getting out of them will win more new Japanese Iris friends than any "hard-sell" you could devise! Human nature tempts one to "get in on the fun" where he will resist a "hard-sell"!

Though I will be unable to be in Philadelphia for the National AIS Convention, I'll be looking forward to hearing all about it from those of you fortunate enough to get there. I hope you will enjoy and profit from the program being planned for the Society of Japanese Irises meeting! If any of you are traveling in the west this summer during the month from mid-June when the Japanese Irises are blooming here, we're only half an hour from I-5. Come see us!

EARLY AMERICAN JAPANESE IRIS VARIETIES

In the previous issue of The Review we asked for reports on early American Japanese Iris varieties.

Art Hazzard, Kalāmazoo, Mich., reports he has the following, all of which are included in his sales list:

"Azure, probably Komochi Guma, Chivers 1911. (have both)
Blue Bird, Hal 1889
Caroline G. Childs, Childs 1924
Catherine Parry, Childs 1926
Fascination, Childs 1926
Geko No Nami, probably Farr 1912
Gold Bound, Hal. 1885
Koroho, 1925
LaFavorite, Childs 1923
Lucia Marshall, Childs 1926
Mahagony, Hal. 1893
Nomiiji No.Taki, Kotaka, 1774
Mrs. J. Alexander Hayden, Childs 1926"

MEET YOUR OFFICERS

Lorena M. Reid

"Who am I? Well, at the moment, I wonder if I am, indeed, in full possession of my faculties having accepted being railroaded (whoops--no--) nominated as president of the SJI. Ideally, of course, such an office should be actively campaigned for by a hotshot idea-man burning and eager for innumerable innovations, improvements, and what have you... (But that's who I'm not! *** Sigh)

OK, will enumerate, I'm: wife of forester; mother of active first grade boy; Laurie of Laurie's Garden (a part-time operation at our 2 acre home which has sort of gotten out of hand); a grower and hybridizer of Iris, though by no means only (or even mainly) Japanese Iris. I seem to be blessed (or cursed) with an insatiable curiosity, and relatively inexhaustible supply of energy (though far from that much patience) with which to satisfy it. Hobby-horses ridden (in addition to Iris) are: photography (including development); reading (nearly anything but who-dun-its); sewing (mostly with knits); and physical activity (other than team sports, which bore the heck out of me).

"No one would ever accuse me of being particularly conventional...I find that the following few lines of the Gestalt Prayer pretty well sum up my philosophical learnings:

'I do my thing, and you do your thing.
I am not in this world to live up to your expectations
And you are not in this world to live up to mine.
You are you, and I am I,
And if by chance, we find each other, it's beautiful.
If not, it can't be helped.'"

Frank B. Foley

"For over twenty five years I have been growing irises, mostly the bearded type. I now have over 250 varieties and have an established nursery called Hilcrest Nursery.

"I sell off surplus irises and buy the newer ones to keep abreast with the best and latest.

"I was introduced to Japanese Irises in 1961. When I first saw them, I couldn't believe my eyes. Since then I have kept getting a few more each year. Ford Grant and I are determined to prove that with minor adjustments Japanese Irises can be grown in these hot, dry and windy states and, so far, we have succeeded which gives me a feeling of satisfaction."

Harley E. Briscoe

"I live on an eighteen acre tract in the small town of White Hall, Ill. I have a large garden, an orchard and pasture cattle on the rest. I have just retired from the USDA Soil Conservation Service where I spent over 30 years. I have been interested in flowers since the early twenties. It began when I bought the TB iris Lent A. Williamson for \$1.00. I grow all types of bearded irises as well as Spurias, Japs, peonies, daylilies, hostas, lilies, mums, lilacs and clematis. For many years I have been a

garden and exhibition judge in irises and an exhibition judge in daylilies."

Ford L. Grant

"I have been growing irises since 1956. In 1959 I planted my first Japanese iris because everybody I knew grew nothing but bearded irises. I started with six plants and, after seeing them bloom, promptly bought ten more. I have a small city garden but manage to grow about seventy-five Japanese, sixteen Siberians, 250 tall bearded, about forty medians and seven species. Needless to say, they are not planted eighteen to twenty-four inches apart, closer to thirteen."

"JAPANESE IRIS WITH FIVE-DAY BLOOMS"

The Spring, 1973, issue of *American Horticulturist* contains an article under the above title by W.L. Ackerman of the U.S. Department of Agriculture telling about development of Japanese irises with extended life of blooms. Your Editor hopes to have more on this subject in the October, 1973, issue of *The Review*. In the meantime if any reader of *The Review* thinks he has genes in his JIs, and data to support his belief, which might be of help to Mr. Ackerman, he is requested to get in touch with the Editor.

NOTE FOR HYBRIDIZERS

During the last year or two several reports have stated that a hybrid has been produced from *Iris dichotoma* and *Belamcanda chinensis*, commonly known as blackberry lily. This sounded exciting to an iris hybridizer.

In a scholarly article on the subject in the Winter, 1972 issue of *American Horticulturist*, Dr. Lee W. Lenz dispels the excitement by showing that the success of the hybridization proves that "*Iris dichotoma*" is not an iris. He removes it from the iris genus and names it *Pardanthopsis dichotoma*.

OCTOBER, 1972, ISSUE OF THE REVIEW

Two copies of the October, 1972 issue of *The Review* were returned to the Editor by the Post Office without address labels. It is believed they must have been two of about ten that were mailed with glued address labels instead of the pressure-sensitive kind. If you did not get your October, 1972 issue of *The Review*, please notify the Editor, Mr. W.E. Ouweneel, R.R. #31, Box 206, Terre Haute, Indiana 47803.

ERRORS ON TITLE PAGE OF ISSUE OF OCTOBER, 1972

Your Editor sincerely regrets having given the printer a wrong title page for the printer to copy for the October, 1972, issue of *THE REVIEW* which resulted in wrong persons being listed as Directors at Large and a member of the Nominating Committee. He herewith apologizes to those whose names were omitted.

HOW WOULD YOU RECORD A GOOD SEEDLING?

The following outline is adapted from one found in the field notebooks of Arlie Payne.

<u>General</u>	<u>Description of parts</u>
Serial number	Falls
Date of numbering	Size
Parentage	Shape
Year of cross	Dominant color
	Solid
	Overlaid
	Washed on
	Tinted
<u>Flower</u>	Marking
Number of petals	Etched
Color	Veined
General effect	Striped
Intensity	Stippled
Dull or bright	Sanded
Stability	Splashed
Formation	Blotched
Type or shape	Halo
Texture	Present or absent
Substance	Color
	Size
	Intensity
<u>Character of flower</u>	Standards
Comparison with known varieties	Size
Plant habit	Shape
Speed of growth	Color
Size	Position
Width of foliage	Styles
Height of foliage	Size
General effect of foliage	Shape
Erect or Drooping	Color
Stem	Stamens
Strength	Normal or
Branching and number of flower	Transformed
Height	Size
Season of bloom	Color
Floriferousness	
General remarks	

SIGNAL PATCH IN JAPANESE IRISES

Dr. Raymond Smith, Bloomington, Ind., the well-known hybridizer of bearded rebloomers asks: Are the beard in bearded irises, the crest in crested irises and the signal patch in Japanese irises related cytologically or in an evolutionary way? Any takers?

1972 REBLOOMER REPORT

Dr. E. Currier McEwen

During each of recent summers I have been pleased to see rebloom in 1% to 2% of our seedling Japanese irises. During the 1972 season, rebloom was striking. We had discarded most of the seedlings in the fall of 1971, leaving 56 good-sized 4 to 7 year old plants and of these 23, or 41% re-bloomed. Unfortunately, I did not think of recording the plants and the amount of bloom and rebloom in time to get this information for all but do have it for six of the plants as follows:

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>First Bloom</u>		<u>Rebloom</u>	
	<u>Date</u>	<u>Scapes</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Scapes</u>
62/R13(2)	7-5-72	12	8-10-72	12
63/6(2)	"	18	"	9
66/3(4)	"	4	"	1
66/3(8)	"	14	"	6
68/25(1)	"	5	"	2
68/26(5)	"	3	"	4

Dates are approximate peaks of bloom.

Most of the plants were from seeds received from Dr. Shuichi Hirao and Mr. W.A. Payne. Unfortunately my knowledge of their pedigrees is very incomplete but for what it may be worth I give below such information as I have for these six cultivars:

62/R13(2) is a very double, flaring, deep blue-purple with yellow signals from mixed seeds given me by Mr. Payne.

63/6(2) is a large lavender-pink, single with wide, pendant falls, from mixed seed sent by Dr. Hirao.

66/3(4) and (8) are siblings from seeds sent by Dr. Hirao from a cross of World's Delight x "White Higo of good form" (Dr. Hirao's words). (4) is a double, flaring, reddish with white veining. (8) is a large, flaring double white with yellow signals.

68/25(1) is a flaring double, dark blue with white streaking from two marbled blue seedlings from seed sent by Dr. Hirao.

68/26(5) is a single white of moderate size and distinguished by its pure color with no apparent yellow signals. Its parents were 66/6, a seedling from a cross of an Edo variety - ("white Higo with red edges, 6 falls") x marbled blue parent of 68/26(1).

Four of these plants had two distinctly separated periods of bloom. The other two, 62/R13(2) and 68/26(1), also had two bloom periods but these were less sharply separated because they both sent up scapes successively so that they could almost be called continuous bloomers.

Why there was so much rebloom in 1972 I cannot imagine. Certainly the gene pool from which these seedlings came must be similar to that of many standard cultivars in commerce. So far as environmental factors are concerned there was relatively little snow during the previous winter by Maine standards and the temperature had often been below 0 degrees F. The spring had been cold and so foggy and wet that peas and corn rotted in the ground and many Siberian irises buds became so mildewed they could not open. Since the Japanese irises were not yet in bud, they were not affected that way and perhaps the unusual amount of moisture was to their liking. I must add, however, that the second half of the summer was unusually dry. One other possible factor was the greater space the plants had. All were in seedling rows and had been rather crowded until I dug up and discarded a great many in the fall of 1971.

I will make careful note during the 1973 season to see if these plants will rebloom again or if the 1972 experience was a one-time phenomenon.

NEMATODES

The following article appeared in the January, 1973, issue of News and Views of The American Horticultural Society and is printed here with the permission of that Society.

"Eel worm (nematodes) are an ever-increasing problem. Some species which for small knots on the roots can be rather easily detected. But there seem to be increasing numbers of species that merely feed on the surface of the root so that you have no idea they're there except as the plant shows poor growth and evident signs of sickness.

'Some agricultural universities will check your soil to see if nematodes are present. It will take an expert to determine this. Nematodes are more or less colorless and about 3/10 millimeter in length-about 1/75 of an inch. Are your eyes that good? It calls for a very strong magnifying glass.

'At the present time I don't know of any chemical control available in small quantities. Five gallon containers cost about \$100 retail which means the average gardener is stuck. Nemagon and Fumazone are two chemicals used commercially. I am now trying to get one concern to market Nemagon in small quantities for home use. Victor H. Ries"

(Editor's note: About three years ago I bought a quart of Nemagon solution at the local Farm Bureau Co-op.)

1972 TETRAPLOIDY REPORT

Dr. E. Currier McEwen

Unfortunately this report must be a lack of progress report on efforts to induce tetraploidy in Japanese irises during 1972. As noted previously (1) I have tried only the seedling method (2) in my work with colchicine up to now. It uses newly-sprouted seeds on moist filter paper. These efforts have been seriously handicapped in the case of Japanese irises, firstly, by failure of the seeds to germinate and, secondly, by death of sprouted seedlings from fungal or bacterial infection even before they were large enough for colchicine treatment. When one adds the fact that colchicine itself kills 50% to 90% of the seedlings treated and that only about 10% of the survivors are affected, it is clear that one needs large number of seeds to give much chance of success. In 1969 only 60 seeds reached the stage of colchicine treatment and only 21 of these survived. When they bloomed in 1972 several were rather nice but none was tetraploid or even chimeral.

The only promising development which I can report is that in 1971 for the first time, germination was much better and also there was much less loss from fungal infection. That year 147 seeds reached the colchicine treatment stage and of these 59 survived. Probably some of these will bloom in 1973; so I keep my fingers crossed and hope for a tetraploid or two. So far I can report only failure but I will keep trying.

REFERENCES

- (1) McEwen, C.: Efforts to Induce Tetraploidy in Japanese Irises, The Review 8:9, April, 1971
- (2) Griesbach, R.A.; Fay, O.W.; and Horsfall, L. : Induction of Polyploidy in Newly-Germinated Hemerocallis Seedlings, The Hemerocallis Journal 17:70, 1963

FINANCIAL STATEMENT JANUARY 1, 1972 TO DECEMBER 31, 1972

CASH IN SAVINGS ACCOUNT JANUARY 1, 1972		\$ 244.73
CASH IN CHECKING ACCOUNT JANUARY 1, 1972		142.15
Deposits		
Dues	\$ 226.00	
Sale of Review	10.00	
Iris Auction, Region #1	<u>120.00</u>	\$ 356.00
	\$ 356.00	\$ <u>498.15</u>
EXPENSES		
Printing Review, April	\$ 111.14	
Postage for April Review and incidental postage	7.86	
Median Iris Society Dues Stuffers.	5.96	
Printing Review, October	88.58	
Postage for Review, October	12.70	
Correspondence Postage	7.71	
Long Distance Calls for Nominating Committee	<u>1.79</u>	
	\$ <u>235.74</u>	\$ 235.74
Cash in checking account, December 31, 1972		\$ <u>262.41</u>
SAVINGS ACCOUNT - January 1, 1972	\$ 244.73	
Interest received.	<u>7.38</u>	
	\$ <u>252.11</u>	
Savings Account, December 31, 1972		\$ 252.11
<hr/>		
TOTAL CASH ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 1972		\$ 514.52

Ford L. Grant, Treasurer

The Society For Japanese Irises

Section of THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

RR 31, Box 206,
Terre Haute, Ind., 47803
March 25, 1973


Mrs. Lorena M. Reid, President
The Society For Japanese Irises

Dear Lorena:

In accordance with the Bylaws, Article IX, of the Society the Nominating Committee nominates Mr. Adolph Vogt, Louisville, Ky., to serve on the Nominating Committee during 1973, 1974 and 1975 succeeding Mrs. Virginia McClintock whose term expired at the end of 1972.

Mr. Vogt has given permission to be nominated.

Yours truly,



W.E. Ouweneel, Chairman,
Nominating Committee

Copies to Mrs. Virginia McClintock
Mrs. Thelma Carrington
Mr. Adolph Vogt