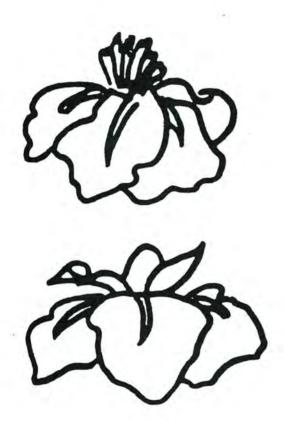


VOLUME 20, NUMBER 2
FALL, 1983



THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

THE REVIEW OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 20 Number 2 FALL, 1983

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Hello JI Members --

I have enjoyed meeting several of you in Boston, Mass., Kalamazoo, Mich., and in Summerville, S.C. at the JI week-end with the bus tour, JI show, test, garden and food!

Please do not forget the JI membership contest from June '83-June '84. The person obtaining the most new members during that time will receive a \$35.00 check sent to the hybridizer of his or her choice for new JIs. Please mark your entry and check "membership contest."

A memorial for Mr. Hazzard has been established in the form of a park bench to be placed in The Swan Lake Iris Garden in Sumter, S.C. Mrs. Hazzard has graciously consented to donate 8 JIs to be placed near the bench and will send them directly to Walter McGee, head of parks and playgrounds in Sumter. He has informed me that they will be well taken care of. Wells and I went to Charleston and purchased the bench and have it here waiting for the plaque to be engraved. The bench is not assembled as yet but will be and taken to Sumter. It is made from cypress slats, heavy cast iron ends, zinc coated bolts and is hand dipped in Charleston green paint which is a very dark green. The bench is 48" long and 29" high. Adolph Vogt called and said he wanted to pay for the bench and had sent the money to our treasurer, Harry Kuesel, to cover the cost of the bench which was \$79.00 plus 4% sales tax. The plaque will be extra. It is a beautiful memorial tribute to a person who contributed a lot to the SJI.

All new SJI members will recieve a copy of the by-laws of the SJI so as to aquaint them with our organization and its purpose.

Mr. Varnum, in Boston, at the AIS Convention, mentioned the possibility of a trip to Japan in 1984 and I have written to him to obtain as much information as possible regarding it, and to send it directly to The Review and to the AIS Bulletin. I have received

requests for information regarding the trip.

Several have said they would like a book similar to the Siberian Iris Book but written about JIs. To do so, we need writers, photos of JI and gardens, people to sell the book, an editor, a publisher and most of all MONEY. If anyone has any thoughts regarding this, please write to me. We can start a Book Fund in the treasury and mark your checks "Book Fund." Other questions: Could we sell 1" ads for only two pages?; How many to print?; How much to charge for the book?; How to mail them out? HELP!!

Again I would like to thank our editor for the time and work he has put into getting out The Review and the encouragement he has given me in my office. I would also like to thank Adolph who continues to help and advise me, Evelyn Minnick who keeps me up to date and to Currier McEwen and Harry Kuesel and all of the rest of the officers. Thank You. Y'all are a super group to work with.

"Ginny" Burton Sept. 17-1983

PS September 27, 1983

The Society for Japanese Irises is indebted to Region 1 Siberian Iris Section Auction and Region 8's Beardless Iris Auction for a total of \$332.50. We surely Thank You.

I hope next year more of these auctions are printed up in THE REVIEW ahead of the auction date so more of us can take part and also contribute. Will each of these Regions appoint someone to send our Editor a notice of your auction date and further information regarding it as soon as possible? All of us should be contributing instead of just a few. These auctions help keep THE REVIEW coming to you and cover our expenses. The alternative is an increase in dues.

Ginny

APOLOGY

John W. Wood writes regarding a letter from Dr. Hirao published in the Spring, 1983, issue of THE REVIEW:
"'My Face Is Red.' I did the extracting from Dr. Shuichi Hirao's letter. However, the letter was written to Mrs. Ruby Buchanan, Winston-Salem, NC. I have called Ruby and apologized. Will you please note this in the next issue of THE REVIEW."

BREEDING JAPANESE IRISES AT THE U.S. INTRODUCTION STATION, GLENN DALE, MD*

by

DR. WILLIAM L. ACKERMAN

We, at the U.S. Plant Introduction Station, Glenn Dale, Maryland, have been involved in the breeding and development of Japanese Irises (I. kaempferi) for some twenty years. However, for many years, this program received but limited support and was carried along primarily because of my own special interest in what to me is a flower of considerable beauty, variability, and potential. During the mid to late 1970's, our program was expanded in both size and depth to a point where I believe considerable progress was made. Now, with the present economic squeeze, and curtailment of many Federal horticultural projects, our Iris breeding program is again facing hard times.

My justification for working with Japanese Irises has been that all of our breeding material has come from plant introductions brought to this country from Japan by the United States Department of Agriculture. Our original breeding foundation material was introduced from a number of Japanese nurseries in the vicinity of Hiroshima, Japan during the late 1950's. Since then, additional plants have been brought in primarily through cooperative exchanges with Mr. Mototeru Kamo, Kamo Nurseries; Dr. Shuichi Hirao, and Dr. Kozi Tomino. None of our breeding plants are from domestic (USA) origin. In this respect, we have differed from most Japanese Iris breeders in this country.

Our breeding objectives over the years may be summarized as falling into the following six categories:

A. Longer-Lasting Flowers

B. Flowers with Multiple Parts

C. "New" Color Combinations

D. Short (dwarf) Forms with Good Flower Quality

E. Greater Branching

F. Extending the Blooming Season

I would like to present a series of slides illustrating what we have accomplished regarding some of these objectives. Our degree of success or failure with each I will leave for you to judge.

Two slides showing test blocks if Irises planted one foot apart in rows four feet apart. Block A-3 shows approximately 4,000 seedlings, Block D-4 shows approximately 2,500.

A. Longer Lasting Flowers

Effort here was to extend the longevity of individual flower life from three to five days. Also, flowers that will stand up well through heavy rains. Ten slides were shown of flowers with long lasting qualities culminating in those of three recently named cultivars: i.e., 'Lasting Pleasure,' 'Enduring Pink Frost,' and 'Capital Dandy.'

*Presentation given at the American Iris Society Convention (Japanese Iris Section). Boston, MA., June 5, 1983.

- B. Flowers with Multiple Parts
 Most of our seedlings with multiple flower parts trace to one
 greeding parent (F-22) which, in itself, does not show this
 characteristic. Eight slides were shown with flowers containing
 from 5 to 8 style arms, 3 to 5 standards, and up to 11 falls.
 Last two slides presented were 'Sky and Mist' with 9 falls
 and 'White Profusion' with 11 falls.
- C. "New" Color Combinations
 Here I have taken some latitude in using the word "new." What
 may be new to us may not necessarily be new to others. Here,
 let me subdivide our objective into more specific goals:
 - 1. Lavender to Pink
 Here we have been trying to get a true pink (not contaminated with lavender). Ten slides culminating in cultivars 'Rosy Dawn,' 'Lavender Lady,' and 'Pink Bunny.'
 - 2. Violets to Blue
 Here, our attempt is towards a true blue (not contaminated
 with violet). Eleven slides shown culminating in 'Blue
 Zebra,' 'Royal Fireworks,' and 'Midnight Sky.'
 - 3. Whites and Near Whites Here, we have been looking for chalky whites with excellent substance. Four slides shown.
 - 4. Mosaics
 We are trying to explore the range of variation among flowers with mottled, marbled, and mosaic mixtures of petal colors.
 Five slides culminating in 'Violet Vase.'
 - 5. Picotees
 Here, our efforts have been directed toward sharp, clear
 color breaks between petal margins and inner petals. Five
 slides shown.
 - Ruffled PetalsTwo slides shown, 'Taffeta and Velvet,' and 'Wine Ruffles.'Rabbit Ears
 - This 'coined' term needs some explanation. The standards on certain of our seedlings tend to curl upon themselves forming a (usually) incomplete tube. They also may be extremely long. This structure gives them the strength to stand up above the flower like the ears of a rabbit (of course, all respectable rabbits have 2, not 3, ears!) This provides the flower with a rather unique aspect that can be very attractive (to some people, including myself). Two slides to illustrate this character.
- D. Short (Dwarf) Forms with Good Flower Quality
 It has been our experience that there appears to be a genetic
 linkage between short stemmed Japanese Irises and poor flower
 quality. Invariably, most dwarf forms have had flowers of
 poor substance. In 1982, we discovered a seedling population
 from one of our crosses, that had both short stems and excellent
 flower substance. Our efforts are now to intercross among these
 seedlings in an effort to obtain a series possessing these
 characteristics in a range of flower colors. Four slides were
 shown illustrating dwarf forms with good flower quality.

- E. Greater Branching
 Our best efforts so far have resulted in individuals with 8
 flowers on one stalk. Dr. McIwen indicated he has individuals
 with 9 flowers per stalk. One slide was shown as an illustration.
 Further breeding for this characteristic would appear worthwhile.
- F. Extending the Season Intercrossing among our late blooming types has helped to extend the season into late July and early August with a scattering of blooms. One individual, illustrated by the last slide, has bloomed in mid-September for two years now. This, we will continue to watch for consistency.

Following the talk, a group of 8 hand painted scarves depicting various Japanese Iris (received from Mr. Mototeru Kamo, of Kamo Nurseries, Shizuoka, Japan) were placed on display.

OBSERVATIONS OF A 'SUICIDAL TRAIT' (OR BIENNIALISM) IN BREEDING JAPANESE IRIS

DR. WILLIAM L. ACKERMAN

One of the challenges of undertaking any breeding program including Japanese Irises (I. kaempfer), is not knowing what may develop among the characteristics of each new generation. The old adage of "always expect the unexpected" certainly applies in the role of the plant breeders. Normally one anticipates great new things prior to the flowering of each new progeny; the results of supposedly well laid plans of systematic combinations of the best traits of existing parental materials. However, sometimes these results can be not only unexpected, but totally devastating. Such a case, we would like to share with you in this brief article.

Among our objectives in breeding for better Japanese Iris, are such characteristics as flowers of heavy substance that last longer and stand up well in heavy rains, and numerous well branched, robust flower spathes. To this end we have selected plants showing these characteristics and selfed them to concentrate the genes controlling these traits. In this case, I believe we have overshot our objectives.

During the 1983 blooming season, a new characteristic appeared among some of our seedling populations which we have dubbed the "suicidal trait." All of these plants bloomed for their first (and last) time. The general characteristics are as follows; the fans are more robust with heavier and usually wider foliage than other seedlings. Every fan produces a flower spathe. Spathes, like the fans that produce them, are coarser, of larger diameter than normal with three or four branches and up to nine flowers per spathe. Flower size and substance is good to excellent.

These plants make a spectacular show of color, but unfortunately, since all fans produce flower spathes, there is no provision for carry over to the next year. The plants seem

to exhaust themselves in flowering and within a month after blooming, the fans begin to die. By the end of the summer, the plants are dead. It would appear that in our efforts toward increased flowering, we have changed a normally

perennial plant into a biennial.

The suicidal trait appears to be a recessive genetic character with possible incomplete expression. It was observed among inbred lines involving the selfing of six closely related parents. In an overall population of 326 seedlings, there were 74 suicidal trait plants and 252 plants with one or more new fans in addition to those flowering. This ratio is somewhat low from a typical 1 to 3 ration (74 to 222) expected of the expression of a single recessive gene loci. However, if one considers those seedlings which produced only a single new fan as the incomplete expression of the suicidal trait, then we

would have a very good fit to a perfect 1 to 3 ratio.

We, ourselves, have not encountered this biennial character before in Japanese Irises. However, plants of our newly named cultivar 'Royal Fireworks' sent to Virginia Burton, Ladson, South Carolina for trial in South Carolina, committed suicide this year. Mrs. Burton reports that last year 'Royal Fireworks' rebloomed on September 7, 1982, but this year it produced thirty-one bloom stalks during the normal blooming season, was a mass of color, and produced no new fans. our own test blocks, 'Royal Fireworks' also produced a mass of color, but fortunately did produce an adequate number of new fans for carry over to next year. This leads us to speculate whether high temperatures may intensify the expression of the suicidal trait. We would welcome hearing from anyone who has had experiences similar to those described here.

IRIS GARDEN TOUR OF JAPAN

JUNE 10-24, 1984

Through the kind cooperative efforts of Dr. S. Hirao, Mr. M. Kamo and the Japanese Iris Society of Japan, arrangements have been made so that 25-40 AIS members and their immediate family can tour Honshu Island of Japan by deluxe motor coach during the peak of the Japanese Iris blooming season in 1984.

Here is a great opportunity to visit Japan, see irises in breathtaking settings with a private tour planned by two of Japan's foremost Irisarians and conducted by professionals. You will visit many cities in Japan and have some free time there.

This tour is not sponsored by either the American Iris Society or the Japanese Iris Society of Japan, but is limited to AIS members for common purpose and congeniality.

For application blanks, pricing details, itinerary and

other information, write:

E. E. Varnum, Coordinator 4703 Constitution Ave. Colorado Springs, CO. 80915

MINUTES, 1984 ANNUAL MEETING THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

JILL COPELAND

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 P.M. on Sunday 5, 1983 by President Virginia Burton.

A moment of silent prayer was observed in memory of Arthur

Hazzard.

It was moved and seconded that we approve the minutes published in The Review.

Adolph Vogt introduced Dr. Ackerman who presented a pro-

gram on developing diversification in JI.

Harry Kuesel introduced Dr. McEwen who presented a pro-

gram on conversion of diploids to tetraploids.

Harry Kuesel gave the treasurer's report. He stated that it is in good shape. Since last report the income was \$321 and expenses were \$292 bringing the total to \$2086.53.

A report was made on the JI at the Denver convention. An acid bed was made with a plastic bath tub. Lots of water was given before bloom and the bed was mulched with hay. Winter drainage was obtained with holes in the bottom of the tub. These were plugged in March and unplugged in Sept. The water was acidified as it was added.

Announcements:

In 1985 Kalamazoo, Mich. will host a JI Convention. This is a chance for judges from all over to see late blooming irises in bloom in one location. To guest your late blooming seedlings or introductions, or for more information contact Robert Bauer, 9823 E. Michigan, Galesburg, Mich. 49053 (616) 665-7500.

Ed Varnum announced a tour to Japan during bloom time June 15-July 1, 1984. The tour is to include plantings and JI nurserys. The probable cost is \$1200-\$1500. For further information contact Ed Varnum, 4703 Constitution Ave., Colorado Springs, CO., 80915.

Anna Mae Miller announced the Kalamazoo show to be held

July 3, 1983 with a judges training in the afternoon.

The Minnesota beardless auction is scheduled for Sept. 1, 1983. The money from the sale of JIs goes to the SJI treasury. They need donations of iris. The auction is to be held in the Ainie Busse gardens, CoKato, Min. A pal to bid for you can be arranged.

Send irises for the Eastern Beardless iris auction to

Dr. McEwen.

A drawing was held for door prizes and the meeting was adjourned at 4:00.

RED X

A red X on your address label means that your SJI membership expires with this issue unless it has been renewed lately.

SUMMERVILLE 5TH ANNUAL JAPANESE IRIS SHOW

MRS. WELLS E. BURTON

The Summerville Iris Society in cooperation with the American Iris Society presented their 5th Japanese Iris Show at the Cuthbert Community Building, Saturday, May 28, 1983. There were 20 design entries with the following award winners: Class 1 Icy Peaks 1st Shirley Paquet, 2nd Kitty Axt, 3rd Phyllis Mulligan and 4th Meta Shadduck. Class 2 Sky and Mist-1st Steven Vincent. Steven also won Best Arrangement in the show and received the silver award. 2nd John Wood, 3rd Betty Black and 4th Shirley Paquet. Class 3 Muffled Drums-1st Bonna Siewenie, 2nd Cassie James, 3rd Phyllis Mulligan and 4th Billie Hamlet. Class 4 Sax and Violins Betty Black 1st, Kitty Axt 2nd, Virginia Burton 3rd and Mary Schunke 4th. Class 5 Ipsus-Ed Paquet 1st, 2nd Virginia Rowland, 3rd Shirley Paquet and 4th C. B. Rowland.

The horticulture division was the smallest we have ever had due to the unseasonal weather and the hail storm the night before. I received the Best in Show with the JI Pink Herald, best seedling award with (V-3) a blue/violet 10", 36" and 3p. Silver was given with each of these awards. Mrs. J. B. Hale presented me with the rotating plaque, in honor of her husband J. B., which is to be given to the best sdlg. in the JI show. It was an honor to be the first to receive it. Virginia Rowland was runner-up in the seedling class with her JI (0583) a red/violet, 6p32". John Wood had three firsts and I had 6.

Friday evening about 30 attended the JI judges training at the test garden which is located at the home of Joe and Elsie Grimsley, 306 Doty Ave. The first hour was devoted to the plant and its vigor and hardiness, proportion, increase, foliage and disease resistant. Then we discussed the stalk and its sturdiness. graceful and erect carriage, branching and quantity of buds. Next the flower form and its appeal, substance, weather resistance, size and proportion. Next was the flower's color and its clarity, garden interest, and lack of objectionable features. Next was its individuality or its distinctiveness and was it an improvement over existing JI and would it be desirable. The JI in the test garden which received a lot of attention was the newly introduced Wine Ruffles of Dr. W. L. Ackerman's of the Scientific Research Dept. of Washington, D.C. It was placed in the test garden two years ago under number. It is a fluted and ruffled royal purple, 6p, very good substance, 37", purple style arms and yellow signals. Growing methods of JI was discussed along with disease control, insect control, hybridizing, mulching, plant division, soil mixture and fertilizing. This two hour session led by Adolph Vogt was by far the best I have ever attended and I've attended a number! After this two hour session we went to the Community Bldg. where Marion Vincent, Jinny, Steven, Pat Brooks, Neal and Mary Schunke had the table set and loaded with food. The cake made by Linda Vincent was beautiful, all decorated with iris.

Saturday morning found us again eating breakfast at the Community Bldg. while others were entering the show. At 9 A.M. or near that our able bus captain Marion Vincent hustled all of

them onto the bus and headed for Sumter and Col. and

Mrs. Hugh F. Knight's garden. I understand they made a short stop to "walk the planks" into the Cypress Swamp area and found it interesting. In the Knight's garden they found JI superbly grown. From there they went to the Sumter garden center where Mrs. Knight was in charge of the noon lunch. Dr. Currier McEwen was the guest speaker and was thoroughly enjoyed. I wish I had had some one take notes for me on his talk so I could be more informative on it. Then on to Swan Lake Iris Gardens and here again lack of its usual abundance of bloom. Then on to the gardens of C.B. and Virginia Rowland's garden and knowing them they had iris plus a number of many other interesting plants to be viewed. Then onto Quincy's for supper and then onto the show bldg, to see the show and the slide program so ably put on by John Coble of Gaylesburg, Mich.. The slides were of Art Hazzard's accomplishments in the JI field. There was a drawing for the JI picture I donated and Steven sold tickets for. Agnes Hale won the picture. I then presented Adolph with a Mr. Nice Guy Trophy Award. Adolph has been with us at each of our five shows and has swept floors, help set up tables, etc, Sunday morning we all headed to the Vincent's for breakfast. I bet they are glad they never have that many each morning. The table was set with "grits pie" a combination of cheese, eggs, grits and ham in a crust and delicious. Orange juice, coffee, biscuits, ham, fruit, etc. It seems iris folks are forever eating. Many toured the gardens and barns. Their yard has come "a long way" since my first visit there. They are a hard working super family. Next we went to Summerville and pooled our cars to get four cars full and head for Magnolia Gardens. The JI there have increased and are "lookin' good." There were various colors, forms, and two and three way branching. The colors mirrored in the inky dark waters was interesting. A super week-end in spite of the lack of bloom thanks to willing hands.

Show guests came from Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Michigan, Maine, Arizona, Alabama, Louisiana and South Carolina.

ARTHUR HAZZARD MEMORIAL AWARD

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society has commissioned a special travelling award to be given annually to the exhibitor of the Best Horticultural Specimen of the Kalamazoo Japanese and Other Late Iris Show. Known as the Arthur Hazzard Memorial Award, it is a sculptured bronze plaque mounted on walnut with 18 small bronze plates to be engraved each year with the name of the specimen and it's exhibitor.

It is a memorial to Arthur H. Hazzard (1885-1983), irisarian, grower-hybridizer and advocate of Japanese Irises. The plaque has designed and cast in bronze by Bauer-Coble Studios of Galesburg, Michigan, and was donated to the club

by the Studios.

MINNESOTA BEARDLESS IRIS AUCTION

AINIE BUSSE

The beardless iris auction was held on the front porch of the University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum on Saturday, September 10th. The day was a cold, damp, blustery one that hinted at the coming Fall season. The sales were brisk early in the day, but as the weather got colder, the sales became fewer. For the first time in the history of the Upper Midwest Beardless Iris Auction, the Siberian irises did not take the lion's share of the receipts.

We had made a goal to have the Japanese irises make the most sales, but the Japs were upstaged by the Louisianas and Spurias. The LA's brought \$154.00; the Japanese earned \$146.50; the Spurias earned 50¢ more at \$147.00; the Siberian section made \$102.50 and the Species (SIGNA) enjoyed receipts of an even \$100.00. All (100%) of these monies will be turned over to

their respective sections.

I was in charge of securing Japanese irises for the sale. Adolph Vogt, Jane Barton Cunningham, Caprice Nursery, Dr. Bob Bledsoe, were the main contributors of the Japanese. Caprice sent three 1983 introductions which were all bought by the Busse Gardens. They also sent a generous number of unnamed Japanese which were sold on the table sales as a promotion of Japanese irises.

We trust the sales are a foretaste of what is possible in coming years. As we grow these beauties in our display garden, the interest of the public is whetted and more people will be prompted to enjoy their loveliness.

HARRISBURG THIRD BEARDLESS IRIS SHOW

Ophelia Straw

The Third Beardless Iris Show of the members of Region III, Area XI, of the AIS was held on the Harrisburg East Mall, Harrisburg, PA., on June 25, 1983. There were thirteen exhibitors with seventy nine entries. Twelve exhibitors had fifty eight entries in fifty classes of Japanese irises. Three exhibitors had fourteen Spuria entries in twelve classes and one exhibitor and seven Louisiana entries in seven classes.

The best specimen of the Show was Galatea, a JI exhibited by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bailey. The best Seedling was Sterling Innerst's 93313, a JI. The Silver Certificate for most Blue Ribbons was awarded to George Bush who had six ribbons. The Bronze Certificate for Second most Blue Ribbons was awarded to

Jack Bailey with four Ribbons.

The Judges were Mr. and Mrs. William Barr of Stevenson, MD.,

and Norman Clouser of Gladstone, VA.

There were no artistic arrangements. A rhizome sale was held to pay for next year's Show.

GRIMSLEY JI TEST GARDEN REPORT

MRS. WELLS E. BURTON

The latest report on the Japanese Iris Test Garden located at the home of Joe and Elsie Grimsley, 306 Doty Ave., Summerville is that of the 6 JI sent to the test garden by Dr. W. L. Ackerman of Washington, D.C. 5 have been registered, named and released to qualified nurserymen, arboreta and botanical gardens. Divisions of these JI will be available to the public in 1984.

One is D4(12-20) now named "Enduring Pink Frost." This new clone is outstanding for the longevity of its individual flowers which last 5 days compared to three for most JI. It is a by-product of a genetic investigation of intra and interspecific hybridization within irises involving the developing of new floral forms and colors, extending the blossoming season, increasing longevity of individual flowers and developing

dwarf and short stem forms.

"Enduring Pink Frost" has flowers 10-12 cm across, midseason, has 3 petals, bicolor, falls white, standards lavender pink, RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) colour chart purple 76A-76C at margins, style arms RHS purple 76A, standards and style arms form a cup-like structure, excellent substance, signals RHS yellow 12A. Plants average height 54cm, average 2 branches per spathe with 3 blooms to each spathe.

The second one is "Sky and Mist" D5(3-50) and has flowers 12-15 cm across, late blooming, 7-9 petals, loose peony form, falls white with RHS violet-blue 89B veins and slight mosaic, petaloids RHS violet 87B edged in white, excellent substance, signals RHS yellow 13B. Plants average 60cm, average 2 branches

per spathe with 3 blooms to each spathe.

Third is "Lavender Krinkle" D5(12-103), 76.5 cm tall, 19-23 cm across, early blooming, 6 petals, falls broad and ruffled, RHS violet 88C with white around the signal and some white veining, very good substance, signals RHS yellow 12A. Plants average 2 branches per spathe with 4 blooms each spathe.

Fourth is "Royal Fireworks" D4(6-147) 102 cm tall, flowers 13-15 cm across, very early blooming, has 6 petals plus petaloids, falls RHS violet 86A velvet textured, margins curled and ruffled, good substance, signals RHS 13A. Plants average

2 branches per spathe with 4 blooms each spathe.

Fifth is "Wine Ruffles" A-3(4-1) 94 cm tall, flowers 15-18 cm across, mid-season, 6 petals, fluted with ruffled margins, falls royal purple, RHS 77A blending to purple 79A, rich heavy substance, style arms RHS purple 77C, margins RHS purple 77A, some anthers are petaloid, signals RHS yellow 13A. Plants average 2 branches per spathe with 3 blooms per spathe.

Ji are members of the Apogon (beardless) series Laevigatae. The above cultivars are from a 3rd, 4th and 5th generation hybrid selection from a breeding program involving germplasm imported through the U.S. Dept.'s plant introduction system. The original breeding stock material was introduced in 1956 as seed of the Kumamoto strain from Seiko-en Nursery, Japan.

JI are grown successfully in most parts of the U.S. and they thrive particularly well in the Eastern Atlantic States as has been proven by the JI test garden, Magnolia Gardens, Drayton Hall, Swan Lake Iris Gardens and many of the local JI hobby growers. Also Azallea Park in Summerville. They bloom after the tall bearded iris and extend the iris season into the summer months of May, June, July and some times rebloom. They prefer an acid soil of about 5.5pH, rich in organic matter, and plentiful moisture during spring and through the flowering season. Propagation is by division and seed germination.

Two of Adolph Vogt's JI seedlings here in the test garden have also been named and were reported in previous reports. They were "Lilac Peaks" and "White Peaks." A total of seven new introductions from our Summerville's JI test garden in its

five years of existance is a very good record.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

How many types of JIs are there? There are four types: the "single" with three petals; the "double" with six petals; the nine petal and the peony type with extra petaloid style arms forming a central tuft of petals.

Where did the name "Higo" come from in describing JIs? Higo is the name of a district in Southern Japan. Here hybri-

dizers emphasize the size of the standards.

What JI won the W. A. Payne Award in 1982? Dr. McEwen's Returning Tide won the Award. It is a diploid:40", EM, 3P, 6" bloom, 3½" round petals, semi-flaring, medium blue, fertile.

Can you tell me something about Dr. Hirao? Dr. Hirao is a retired marine biologist who worked for the Japanese Government. He is one of the leading JI hybridizers. With Motojiro Kuribayashi he published THE JAPANESE IRIS in 1971. It is a magnificient book with 346 colored plates and 52 pages of text. He has one of the largest cacti collections in Japan and is an accomplished photographer.

JI SOURCES

Your Editor would like to publish in the Spring, 1984, issue of THE REVIEW names and addresses of suppliers of Japanese irises who do not advertise in the AIS Bulletin. Readers who wish to have their names listed are requested to send them to W. E. Ouweneel, RR 31, Box 206, Terre Haute, IN., 47803.

TO KALAMAZOO AND BACK

MARION VINCENT AND "GINNY" BURTON

"Ginny" Burton and I left S.C. Wednesday June 29 at 8:15 A.M. for Kalamazoo, Mich. arriving early Friday morning in Galesburg. We made our first stop at the 120 year old brick Victorian home on 80 acres of farm land which is now owned by Bob Bauer and John Coble. We found John right near the driveway picking those last minute weeds. He seemed so delighted to see us even though it was the day before the show with so many details to finish. We know that is difficult when you have a host garden and have early arrivals and one is not just quite ready yet BUT we really did feel welcome. He served us coffee in the garden in iris painted cups and I told him those were two that I didn't have yet. Later we met his parents who were visiting from Mesa, Arizona.

Near the driveway was a large bed of nearly 200 lilies with a walk way through the middle. Some lilies were 5' tall, very lovely and well grown. Also near the drive was a row of peonies and to the other side of this drive were the irises, with many well grown spurias and John told us the ones for

the show were already in cool storage.

To the back yard they have a new JI garden laid out with one complete bed of Arthur Hazzard's JIs except 2 that have not been found available yet. There were walks in between the different plants here which included shrubs, pine trees and even parsley growing near a large rock and looking very much like Bonsai. When completed it is going to be a garden that many visitors should see and even now in the planning and planting stage it is very attractive. Those young gentlemen are working hard towards their big meeting in 1985.

Inside the house the antique furniture was very interesting as was the house interior. Next we went down cellar where the windows, lamps and bases are made. This is their 11th year of Bauer-Coble Studios, a leaded-glass and bronze casting studio. It is an interesting workshop. Also in the basement is their JI seed starting area with lights and trays. With their method their seeds planted in Feb. are ready for outdoor planting in July. Never before have I ever seen so many JI seedlings. A lot of good will have to come from all of that work.

The CB radio term I learned this year sure held true of our trip to Mich. "Have fun on your run" and we really did

that.

Marion Vincent

My First thought after returning home was--why haven't we done it before!

Bob and John's map, complete with coloring, was beyond description-no I don't mean it was that bad..it was that good. It even included our reservation at the Red Roof Inn-West.

Friday evening out of town guests, which included Marion and me, were invited to Sylvia Eddy's home for "Ice tea and talk." It proved much more than that. A gracious host, Sylvia, greeted us and made us welcome. While touring her yard, we noticed a very interesting curled limb shrub-Harry Lauder's Walking Stick. We told Sylvia it looked very interesting for iris arrangements done in the Japanese manner. Would you believe she got the pruners and hedge trimmers and told us to take all we wanted as it was interfering with her yard light. We ended up with a trunk full and put our luggage in the back seat.

Saturday AM I stayed away from the Mall until 15 to 11, as 11 A.M. was the time set to judge the show. It was good to see spuria, Louisiana, JI and other irises in the horticultural division. Gold Reserve, a Louisiana, won Best of Show. As always each of us judges learned in sharing the responsibility of being a judge. I helped judge with Adolph Vogt and Frank Grodick. The show chairmen, Bob and John, as well as the entrants, put in a great deal of time and work on the show and it paid off. The Bonsai exhibit as well as the Sogetsu designs helped to make it a show for all to see.

Saturday afternoon was lunch, talk and judges training at the Copeland Garden. Lee Welsh, judges training chairman of that area, had a good 2 hour session planned along with Adolph's knowledgeable comments and mine. There is a very promising

hybridizer in that Copeland family!

Saturday evening we met at the Miller's home for dinner and a tour of their perennial garden. How these folks managed to get meals for all of us, center the show, set it up, dismantle it and still meet you graciously smiling just proves the old saying is still true "Iiris people are nice people."

Sandwiched in between here we visited Mrs. Hazzard's garden and found her busy getting ready for the public to view the garden on Sunday. We spent some time here with this gracious

lady and her garden.

On our way home we made a short detour to Adolph's garden. If there had been two lawn chairs in the front yard we might still be there. That cool shaded front yard looked so inviting. At long last we saw the wading pool and improvised beds for the hundreds of seedlings. The many rows of named JI were something to see. I for one liked the legible tags and the fact they were up where one could see them and not hidden down in the foliage. It was good to see his garden after having heard about it and read about it for years.

It was a good trip and made even more enjoyable because Marion's son and his wife loaned us their new Chevy Monte Carlo!

On our JI want list are Kongo Sam, Driven Snow, Flying Stag, Night Blizzard, Confetti Shower, Jeweled Sea, Joyous Troubour, Blue Nocturne, Venetian Velvet, Gayety and Raspberry Rimmed.

"Ginny" Burton

THE KALAMAZOO 1983 JAPANESE IRIS SHOW

BOB BAUER

The 9th Japanese and other Late-blooming Iris Show, sponsored by Southwestern Michigan Iris Society, was held July 2 in Kalamazoo, Michigan, at Westmain Mall. As in most parts of the country, a dreadful spring delayed iris bloom and at show time, only one garden was in blossom--that of Freda Hazzard, whose Japanese irises perform earlier than most others. Spurias were at peak bloom, however, and many fine stalks were exhibited. Only three local members exhibited show stalks, but the show was "saved" by Don and Sue Delmez, who brought more than 30 stalks of Japanese irises over 600 miles from St. Charles, Missouri, and Jim Shook from Lowell, Michigan, who brought down and entered several stalks after hearing of our situation.

The show was a shopping success. Over 80 bloomstalks were judged by Virginia Burton of Ladson, South Carolina, and Adolph Vogt of Louisville, Kentucky, who substituted for Florence Stout ailing in a hospital in Chicago. Frank Grodick of Grand Rapids, Mich., winner of innumerable bearded iris shows and a new-comer to our beardless friends, was apprentice judge.

Freda Hazzard recieved a Special Horticultural Award for her beautiful exhibit of Arthur Hazzard's and other introductions which were notable in her garden. Anna Mae Miller secured five Ikebana arrangers who made wonderful arrangements around the show area. The local Bonzai Society exhibited several samples of their patient skills in a display that attracted

many admirers.

Five exhibitors entered 32 Japanese, 32 spuria, 3 Siberian, 4 Louisiana, 3 species, and 1 tall bearded specimen. Four exhibitors entered 1 Siberian and 12 Japanese seedlings. Seven exhibitors entered 14 arrangements. The Queen Of The Show and recipient of the Arthur Hazzard Memorial Award was a Louisiana, 'Gold Reserve' (Chowning '77), with Best Speciman of Section a Japanese, 'Strut and Flourish' (Payne '60), both exhibited by Robert Bauer. The court consisted of two Japanese, 'Snow Palace' and 'Prairie Delight', and a spuria, 'Highline Sunset.' Best seedling of the show was '79-15-7' by the young hybridizer, Jimmy Copeland. Best arrangement of the show was made by Irene Hamilton. Bernard Jones won the artistic sweepstakes. Robert Bauer took the Horticultural Sweepstakes (silver medal) and the bronze medal will be sent to Don Delmez.

Luncheon on Saturday was served by Jim and Jill Copeland for club members and out-of-town guests. Afterward Lee Welsh, Virginia Burton and Adolph Vogt presented a two-hour judge's training session. Saturday night after the show was dismantled, Ron and Anna Mae Miller were hosts at their garden for dinner and an evening of informal conversation for show workers and 19 out-of-towners. Sunday, busy informal garden tours were hosted by Freda Hazzard, Jim and Jill Copeland, Ron and Anna Mae Miller, and Bauer-Coble Studios. Even though the Japanese irises were just 'coming on', the gardens seemed to disappoint no one.

Our club and gardens are preparing for our big 1985 International Japanese Iris Show tentatively set for July 6-7. Plan now on attending! In fact, come see us next year and preview the guest gardens being planted for the 1985 event.

MRS. WELLS E. BURTON DR. CURRIER MCEWEN

2nd I'd study it to see what has been done

3rd I'd try not to use the same crosses that have been made

4th I'd work with newer award winners thus using others work to climb towards my goal

5th I'd have a goal -- maybe better branching, maybe 12' JI etc.

6th I'd keep records of my work--in triplicate

7th I'd plant my seeds in an area where the seedlings could stay 2 yrs.

8th I'd keep my Ji sdlgs. 3 yrs.--at least--3rd yr. bloom is more typical

- 9th I'd try to not keep more sdlgs. than I had room for or that I could tend
- 10th I'd look for an improvement in a color or a color break in my sdlgs.

11th I'd look for more than two way branching

12th I'd look for good spacing of the branches so if 2 blooms opened at once they would not be crowding each other

13th I'd look for good form

- 14th I'd look for good substance and texture 15th I'd show my JI sdlgs. every chance I had
- 16th I'd visit gardens of JI growers and hybridizers and JI shows

17th I'd invite judges to see my JI sdlgs, and to give an unbiased opinion

18th IF I were seriously considering hybridizing JI I would check my soil to see if it was acid enough for JI, if I had enough sun in the garden area and if I had an easy, near by source of water supply.

"Ginny" Burton

19th I'd work for early and late season flowers

20th I would look for repeat or continuing bloom

21st I would hybridize both diploid and tetraploid cultivars

22nd I would work for miniatures and all sizes

23rd I would work for flowers with green signals and with no signals

Dr. Currier McEwen

What would you do?

BEWARE THE WALKING IRIS

W. E. OUWENEEL

A friend of mine grows orchids and any given plants. Last spring he told me he had been given a rare plant which was said to be an iris. When it bloomed I hurried over and at a distance of eight or ten feet agreed it was. It had three one-inch standards, three two and a half-inch falls and sword shaped leaves arranged in fans.

However, when I reached the plant I noticed that the bluish standards were pouch-shaped with the openings facing a small capsule containing the sexual parts at the center of the flower. The falls had no beard, crests or signal patches and could have passed without question as apogon iris falls. Perhaps the oddest part of the plant was the bloomstalk which seemed to rise out of the midrib of a leaf several inches below its tip. Or was the apparent leaf a bloomstalk with wings that made it look so much like a leaf? Take your pick. The leaves were about ten inches long and three-fourths of an inch wide.

The fact that made the plant a non-iris was the absence of the typical pistill and stamen arrangement which is the key

identification for all members of the iris genus.

The bloom lasted one day. Shortly thereafter a fan of leaves developed where the flower had grown and grew rapidly. As the weight of the new fan increased the tip of the bloomstalk gradually lowered. When it reached pot level my friend, following verbal instructions, buried the base of the fan in soil without severing the new fan from the parent plant. Two weeks later the fan was obviously thriving, the bloomstalk was severed and a new plant had been formed.

The plant belongs to the neomarica genus. Like the iris genus, gladiolus, crocus, freezias, and other less common genera it is one of the genera that comprise the iris family or iridaceae. It is a tropical plant with about a dozen species which are found largely in Brazil. One species is said to have leaves three feet long. In the 48 states they are hardy only in two small southern tips. Throughout the 48 states Neomarica gracilis, my friend's species, has long been a favorite house plant even though scarce in the trade.

Besides being known as the Walking Iris it is called the False iris, Apostle Flower and The Twelve Apostles. Why the last two? When I checked the offshoot my friend gave me it

had two fans of six leaves each.

THE 1981 CUMULATIVE CHECKLIST

Florence Stout writes as follows:

"When the 1981 Cumulative Index of Japanese Irises was published, it was hoped that the membership of the SJI would take an active part in filling in the blanks, adding more information than was available in past registrations, clarifying and, in general, completing the information wanted.

"Needless to say, I am disappointed. I thought that surely there were people out there with bits and pieces of information to add."

Send such information to Mrs. Florence Stout, 150 N. Main St., Lombard, IL., 60148.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

September 27, 1983 6065 N. 16th St. Kalamazoo, Mi. 49007

Dear Ginny,

The Nomination Committee is pleased to report the following people were contacted and accepted nomination on the Board of Directors for 1984 and 1985 of the Society for Japanese Irises.

Mrs. F. W. Warburton 2 Warburton Lane Westboro, Mass. 01581 Ph. 617-366-2160

Dr. Stanley Baird P. O. 516 Blue Lake, California 95529 Ph. 707-668-5277

Mr. Donald Delmez 3240 Connecticut St. Charles, Mo. 63301 Ph. 314-724-4274

Appointed to the Nominating Committee for a 3 year term through 1986 is--

Mrs. Arthur Hazzard 510 Grand Pre Kalamazoo, Mi. 49007 Ph. 616-344-1721

> Respectfully submitted, Anna Mae Miller Mrs. Ronald F. Miller Mrs. Johnson B. Hale Mr. Adolph Vogt

cc Ouweneel Vogt Hale I will sell in one lot the materials described below to the highest bidder as of midnight, December 31, 1983, and ship same postpaid to any point in the US or Canada:

1. Five tablets of water color prints on rice paper, 10½" x 15". Each tablet contains approximately 50 prints of Iris kaempferi. Some are dated 1912 and

some 1936.

2. Four hard-cover books containing 105 water color prints in a hard cover wrap-around binder. Inside the front cover of the first volume is the following:

Iris laevigata, Fisch. 105 coloured playtes by Manabu Miyashi, D. Sc.

1-Wild plant

2-100 Garden forms

101-105 Evolution of colour

Japanese characters appear on each front cover. The books were probably published before 1936. They measure $12" \times 8 \ 3/4"$.

3. Two undated catalogs from the Yokohama Nursery Co. One illustrates in color "Iris kaempferi- 18 best var." and the other "25 color var".

Send bids and enquiries to Miss Mary Jo Eury, Box 100A, RD 1, Georgetown, PA., 15043.

YELLOW JI FOLIAGE

W. E. OUWENEEL

Yellow or yellowish foliage on Japanese irises may be due

to any one of several conditions.

The recent I. kaempferi x I. pseudacorus hybrids and occasional I. kaempferi seedlings have it because of genetic defects which prevent the plants from producing normal amounts of chlorophyll. There is no cure for this condition.

Plants exposed to lime, such as bedrock, runoff from crushed rock driveways and mortar, or any other condition producing a high pH (perhaps above 7.0) are likely to be yellowish. To treat sprinkle with sulphur dust lightly at intervals of about three months and repeat if necessary.

Iron deficiency produces plants with green veins but

yellowish areas between. Treat with iron chelate.

Nitrogen deficiency produces plants yellowish all over. It may be due to an imbalance caused by a large amount of organic matter in the soil. Treat with a fertilizer high in nitrogen.

Treatment for yellow foliage depends on the cause. Without knowing the cause it is just a shot in the dark. The degree of treatment depends on the degree of deficiency and can be determined only by experiment in your garden. Of course, a local source of reliable scientific advice can help.

There are some other infrequent local causes of yellow foliage which can be determined by consulting county agents

and horticultural schools.

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James Burch, 717 Pratt Ave., NE, Box 10003, Huntsville, 35801
-Mrs. Marjorie Deaton, 423 Arthur St. NW. Huntsville, 35805
-Mrs. Nelson M. McGahee, 1010 Bayfield, SE., Huntsville, 35802
-Mrs. A. D. Wilder, 2219 Matthews, SE., Huntsville, 35801
 ARKANSAS
 -Mr. Arthur E. Rowe, Jr., RFD 3, Box 215, Bentonville, 72712
-Mrs. Marie Watkins, 8806 Clover Hill Rd., Little Rock, 72205
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-Mr. Thornton M. Abell, 469 Upper Mesa Road, Santa Monica, 90402
Mr. & Mrs. David Mogil, Paul Acosta, 23337 Vanowen St.,
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-Maryann Anning, 12864 Viscaino Rd., Los Altos Hills, 94022
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-Mrs. Robert L. Dunn, 4828 Jella Way, North Highlands, 95660
-Margo Eggers, 402 Magnolia, Costa Mesa, 92627
Gigi Hall, 40417 Citrus Dr., Fremont, 94538
-Carl Grunwald, 4880 Glenwood Drive, Riverside, 92501
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Jerry Knesel, 43227 51st St., West, Lancaster, 93534
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 Mr. Theodore Smith, 505 Deerfield Place, Santa Rosa, 95405
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-Mrs. Phyllis Malec, 16 Chimney Swift Dr., Sandy Hook, 06482
-Dr. H. W. Schiessl, 79 Parsonage Hill Rd., Northfield, 06472
-Mrs. Charles Stephenson, 200 Leeder Hill Drve., apt.130, Hamden, 06517
Donn Tooker, 19 Roxbury Rd., Niantic, 06357
-Mr. A. Reading VanDoren, 17 Ingleside Road, Stamford, 06903
-Mrs. Troy Westmeyer, 60 Gary Road, Stamford, 06903
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- -Joe Scott Watson, 116 Watson Reynolds Road, Milledgeville, 31061 ILLINOIS
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- Rev. T. H. Leemhuis, Box 225, Cornell, 61319
- -Mrs. Henrietta Marks, 1536 Ostrander Ave., LaGrange Park, 60525
- -Mrs. Florence Stout, 150 N. Main St., Lombard, 60148 Mrs. Florence Stout, N. Illinois Iris Soc., 150 N. Main St., Lombard, 60148
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- -Mr. Thomas Goff, Stanton, 40380
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- -Mr. Donald Himmel, 2517 South Street, Baker, 70714 MAINE
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- -Dr. William J. Ackerman, PO Box 41, Ashton, 20702
- -Mr/Mrs. William E. Barr, 1010 Greenspring Valley Road, Stevenson, 21153 Mrs. Frank H. J. Figge, 4 Maryland Ave., Port Townsend, 21204
- -Mr/Mrs. Maynard Harp, 605 Kingston Road, Baltimore, 21212
- -Mrs. Andrew Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, 21155
- MASSACHUSETTS
- -Mrs. Robert Dillard, Bolton Rd. R.D.2 Box 493, Harvard, 01451
- -Mrs. Wesley Tiffney, 226 N. Edge Hill Rd., Sharon, 02067
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-Mr/Mrs. Donald F. Miller, 6065 N. 16th Street, Kalamazoo, 49007
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Mr. Darrell Rose, 5481 Johnson Road, Flushing, 48433
 Mr/Mrs. James Shook, 3987 Lincoln Lake Rd., Lowell, 49331
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-Mr. & Mrs. George Griffin, 138 Pine Street, Farmington, 63640
 Harold Porter, Lathrop, 64465
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-Mr. George C. Bush, 1739 Memory Lane, York, 17402
-Mrs. William Chambers, 282 Forrest Road, Merion Station, 19066
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-Mrs. Walter R. Toy, 204 Parker Road, Sarver, 16055
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—Capt. Herbert Rommel, 77 Bridge St., Newport, 02840
—Carlton B. Calderera, Box 535, Greenville, 02828
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-Miss Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, 29456
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-Mr/Mrs. Edward L. Paquet, Rt 1, Box 580, Prosperity, 29127
 Miss Susan Rawlings, Poston, 29588
Mr/Mrs. C. B. Rowland, 113 Laurel Ave., Goose Creek, 29445
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-Mrs. Marian Vincent, Route 1, Box 460, Bonneau, 29431
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-Mrs. Mike Burgess, 885 Barren Road, Lewisburg, 37091
-Mrs. Noel Fletcher, 517 Lake Crest Drive, Kingsport, 37663
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