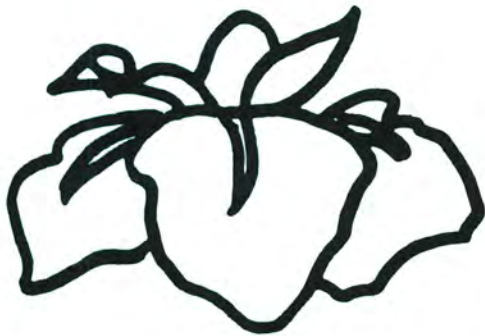
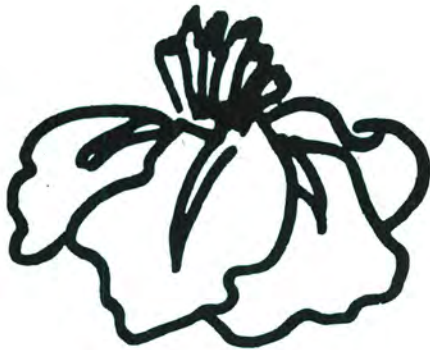


VOLUME 21
NUMBER 2
FALL, 1984



THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It has been an honor and a privilege to have been your president of The Society For Japanese Irises for 1983 and 84.

I'd like to express my sincere thanks to the loyal and cooperative officers, board members, appointed personell and the nominating committe for their generous support. A big THANK YOU also to the JI group as a whole for their gracious hospitality extended to me and lending a helping hand when needed.

As I look back over these 2 years as your president I take pride in our accomplishments, sincerely cherish the friendships made in the society, and hope the decisions the officers and I made were wise, and that we carried out further the aims of the society.

Progress has been made in the steady, but slow, growth in the membership, increased noteworthy articles in "The Review", planting of JI in public places, our trip to Japan, the possibility of a book on JI, and the JI popularity (which had only 9 contributing). The JI membership contest did not materialize.

To Bill Ouweneel who has so abely given us "The Review" twice a year for 18 years a big THANK YOU for a job well done. Please help our new editor, Lee Welsh, by sending him articles long before he has to ask for them. Being editor is no easy task when articles do not come in, and on time.

Mrs. Andrew C. Warner of 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, Maryland 21155 will finish out the term of treasurer for Harry Kuesel for The Society For Japanese Irises. Harry leaves for Arizona Dec. 26th and mail coming to him at his CO address would only be transferred to Arizona and then on to Mrs. Warner, thus the immediate take over of your new treasurer. Welcome to the new slate of officers, Carol.

Mrs. Hobbs has just informed us that the Society For Japanese Irises meeting is scheduled for 9:30 AM, Monday, May 20, 1985 for the AIS Convention in Indianapolis. Details on meeting place, speaker, etc., will be published in the Spring issue of "The Review".

The JI Board Meeting held in Seattle was held to discuss the printing of a book on JI. Topics discussed were how many to print, cost of printing, where to have it printed, how to raise/borrow money, if to print a thousand as collector's items and autographed, and then a 2nd printing, if and when the first ones were sold, writers, colored plates, how many pages, etc.. We talked about the beautiful book on Siberian Iris and thought we'd like to do one similar but on JI and with several different authors and fewer books printed. Dr. McEween as chairman of the editorial board and as your incoming president will keep us informed.

Congratulations to Currier for winning the Payne Award in Seattle, plus the many awards with his Siberians. Congratulations to Dr. Ackerman for his scientific research award and his work with JI. Some of his JI will be on the market in 1985. Congratulations also to Sterling Innerst in his JI hybridizing. His Ipsus and Anytus are good examples of his ability.

I've been asked to comment regarding JI being sold for a certain named JI and at bloom time they are not that iris at all. Let's give the seller a chance first. Tell them about it as just maybe they bought it for that name, or their JI were growing so close together that they dug one instead of the other, or they have hired help and they removed the name stake when weeding and replaced it in the wrong place. Usually, but not always, when approached the seller will correct his mistake. If no effort is made to correct the error I

would not send another order to them. Please JI sellers, send us the correct named iris. If you had a hybridizing goal and thinking you were hybridizing with "Sally Jane", and it really wasn't that at all, it would surely mess up your records.

Happy Holiday Season to each and everyone of you.

Virginia Burton
Sept. 4, 1984

IN RETROSPECT

William E. Ouweneel

When Eleanor Westmeyer asked me to be Editor of "THE REVIEW" in 1966, I had known Arlie Payne, America's leading JI hybridizer. for 38 years, longer than he had been engaged with JIs. I had known "Bob" Swaengen, Arlie's neighbor and our first SJI President, for more than 30 years. During that time I had heard a lot of shop talk about JIs. In addition I had been growing JIs seriously myself for about ten years and, since high school days, had had a serious interest in botany and horticulture as sciences. The net result of these experiences was that I had a bagful of questions about JIs.

I tackled the job with two clear cut objectives. I would try to get answers to my questions by using the Society letterhead to ask them of anyone anywhere who had a chance of answering them, and I would make "THE REVIEW" the English depository of everything known about JIs. If I had needed a motto it would have been "Aim at the stars though your arrows fall to the earth".

With those objectives identical with my personal interests, my term as Editor has been a warm and rewarding experience. It has been that because of response of the persons whose names you have seen in the by-lines of the articles in "THE REVIEW". They have taken time to generate the stories they have reported and to write them for us. They probably were busy without it. One of the most amazing articles has just been received, thanks to Ginny Burton, from Henry Danielson about raising JIs in New Mexico. When I saw the title I repeated - JIs in New Mexico? I'll bet Henry can raise JIs on the moon.

Lee Welsh is going to need the same kind of inspiration and help that you have given me. Not just editorial help but manual help in the preparation of the magazine. The Spring, 1984, issue, for instance, required taking 13 stacks of 246 sheets each and making 246 copies of the magazine with 13 sheetss each and stamping and addressing them.

Ave atque vale! - Hail and farewell,

W. E. Ouweneel

EDITOR'S NOTES

The call asking me to become Editor of "THE REVIEW", came as a complete surprise. After some hesitation I decided to accept due to a desire to serve the Society For Japanese Irises in what way I can, and because it seemed like an interesting challenge.

A challenge it indeed is, and accepted with some fear and trepidation. To follow in the footsteps of someone like "Bill" Ouweneel, who has been at the helm for 18 years, is no small task. The help and guidance he has already given me is greatly appreciated. Undoubtedly, more may be needed. To begin with, I have had no previous experience as an editor. I am not one of the world's better typists, and my spelling is noted only for its errors. To put out the quality publication I hope for, will require vigilance.

I am not a botanist, and sometimes, looking at my garden, I realize that my horticultural abilities need more attention. Though I have grown a few JIs for many years, it was only a year ago that I moved, thus providing room to expand the planting. The expansion was slowed down due to a broken leg received in a December fall, from which I am still trying to recover. Hopefully next season the garden efforts will be back to normal.

Obviously, the knowledge about JIs needed to produce articles of interest to all members, must come from you the members, yourselves. Our objectives are several, mainly to produce a quality magazine of interest, that disseminates information about JIs and SJI activities to all of the members, and as Bill Ouweneel noted in the article above, to serve as the English depository of everything known about Japanese Irises. If we meet any of these objectives, as Editor, I will need help from each one of you.

It has been my privilege in recent years to become personally acquainted with some of you, however the majority I do not know. Hopefully, through "THE REVIEW" I will become acquainted with many more of you, no matter from what locale you may be. Do send me your articles, your ideas, suggestions, questions, and even criticisms. I will need all of them, as well as your encouragement and support.

LEE

SUMMERVILLE IRIS SOCIETY

"Ginny" Burton

The Summerville Iris Society has three new JI projects for this fall. One is at Cypress Gardens at Moncks Corner, SC. Here in the spring one walks along footpaths bordered by azaleas and gets an eerie feeling as he goes deeper into the gardens of a dense growth of Cypress mirrored in the black waters. To add to this feeling are the long strands of grey moss hanging from the trees and twining vines of Jessamine. The gnarled limbs of oaks add still another dimension to this garden. It is said that a Mr. Ben Kittredge bought Dean Hall in 1909 and that the old abandoned fresh water reservoir which was once used to flood the rice fields, was in desperate need of restoration. He planned a new garden there after clearing the reservoir and making islands, inlets and lagoons, built bridges and paths, and now one can take boat rides through these lagoons and around the Cypress. In 1963 Mr. Kittredge gave

Cypress Gardens to the city of Charleston. It is here we will have a JI planting for JI enthusiasts to visit.

Our second JI planting will be in cooperation with the Beaufort Council of Garden Clubs. In Beaufort we will also be working on a third JI planting with the Beaufort Land Trust Foundation.

We felt real bad about having to cancel our JI week-end here in Summerville this year but our JI season was early and our JI week-end date was set late. By the time our scheduled date for our tour and show arrived the JIs were nearly gone. We hope to see you all the last week end of May, 1985.

JI TEST GARDEN and REGISTERING A JI.

"Ginny" Burton

A JI hybridizer wishing his new cultivar to be seen by as many American Iris Society judges as possible, should send his new cultivar to a test garden. The JI test garden at 306 E. Doty Ave, in Summerville, SC 29483, was established for this purpose, as it is not possible for every AIS judge to visit all of the iris hybridizer's gardens. The public can also visit these gardens to see the progress being made in the hybridization of JIs. The judge benefits by going only to one area to evaluate and see more seedlings, rather than visiting many gardens and traveling many miles.

The horticultural term for a new iris is a cultivar. Each seedling is a new cultivar but subsequent plants derived by the division of the rhizomes are called clones.

No iris should have a name which has not been registered with the registrar of the AIS. The reason for the registration is to be sure that 1; a particular iris name is given to only one cultivar, 2; that that name is always associated with that cultivar, and 3; that there is a place for registering iris names.

When a name has been picked by a hybridizer and sent to the registrar, it must be accompanied by a very definite description, such as height, color, form, parentage, season of bloom such as VE (very early), E (early), M (mid-season), L (late), and VL (very late).

To register an iris one must write to the registrar of the AIS for an "Application for Registration". The fee for this is paid to the AIS. If you have chosen a name that no other iris has, have written a full description of the iris and have paid the fee you will be given the iris name of your choice and no one in the world may give another iris that name. If the name has already been used, you will be asked to submit another name. If all of the stock of that newly named cultivar is lost, (rotted, frozen and/or), and it had not been used for breeding, then that iris name you chose may be transferred to another iris after paying a transfer fee and sending a signed statement to the registrar stating the above information.

THE PAYNE AWARD FOR JAPANESE IRISES

"Ginney" Burton

The Payne Award was established in 1965 by the AIS Board of Directors in honor of Mr. W. A. Payne, the oldest and most prolific hybridizer of JI in the USA at that time.

Mr. Hubert Fischer secured the Payne Award Cup and made arrangements for its decorative engraving of a Japanese Iris, after consulting with Mr. C. A. Swearengen and Dr. J. Arthur Nelson. All of this was after Mr. Payne decided to give the award with a suitable cup.

The Payne Award Cup is silver, 10½" tall and 5 3/4" across the top. It is mounted on a square mahogany base, which has a silver plate on each side on which the Japanese Iris's name and its hybridizer's name are engraved.

This cup is equal to the Award of Merit and is given yearly to a JI which previously had won the HM, and which received the largest number of votes cast for this award in that year.

The last engraved name was in 1981, which filled up the four silver plates with 16 names. Dr. Currier McEwen, the latest recipient of this award, has the base, the cup remaining with AIS, and is looking into the cost of adding another base to it with four more silver plates, making room for 16 additional names. The cost will be the responsibility of The SJI. Currier will keep us informed when the information becomes available.

JI "POPULARITY POLL"

"Ginney" Burton

In the JI "Popularity Poll", (and I have put that in quotes as only 9 of our membership responded) those receiving 3 votes were Fringed Cloud, Rose Cavalier, Winged Sprite and Icy Peaks. Those receiving two votes were Muffled Drums, Anytus, Ipsus, Ocean Mist, Tamatsushima, Yusho, Galatea, Yamato, Hime, and Kongo Sam. Those receiving one vote each were My Lady's Fan, Rose Tower, Red Titan, Enchanting Melody, Yuhi, Narihua, Sakura, Jishi, Frost Bound, Light at Dawn, Joyous Cavalier, Kykko, and Red Camellia.

The first to open at Mooresboro, NC were Raspberry Ribbon, Banners on Parade, and Peacock Dance. The last were Acclaim, Enchanting Melody and Stippled Ripples. In Prosperity, SC the last to bloom were Evening Episode and Leave Me Sighing. In Louisville, KY the first to bloom were JI imports #s 52, 53, 57, and 45. The first of US named ones were Eleanor Perry, 6/6/84; Royal Fireworks and Lavender Krinkle 6/7/84 and Icy Peaks 6/8/84. In Winston - Salem, NC the first to bloom was Pin Stripe 6/2/84 followed by Sea Titan, Shakkyo, Enchanting Melody and Enchanted Lake. On 6/20/84 Hue and Cry, Driven Snow, Shinka-no Iro, and Nari Hira. On 6/23/84 Leave Me Sighing bloomed. In this garden Rose Cavalier was the most popular, Frost Bound was liked for its color, and Light At Dawn was considered best in standard performance for a 3 year period without any special attention. In Ladson, SC the 1st to bloom 5/14/84 was Prairie Valor and on 5/19/84 Winged Sprite, Yellow Queen, JI yellow import #1, Miss Colquette and Magic Opal. The last to bloom 6/11-14/84 were Red Titan, Mulberry Splendor and

Jeweled Sea, and on 6/15-17/84 Acclaim and Yuro-no Sumerei. Royal Fireworks at the JI test garden in Summerville, after nearly committing suicide last year (nearly all bloomstalks), came back with 5 bloom stalks and received a lot of attention.

To those who responded THANK YOU for your cooperation. It could be a real interesting poll if we all took part---lets try it again in 1985 if our new president wishes.

FOUNDING of THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

Bee Warburton and Eleanor Westmeyer are the only living founders of the SJI. In response to a request from Bill Ouweneel for a description of the founding, Eleanor sent the following letter:

Dear Bee and Bill,

In reply to your inquiry about the organization of The Society for Japanese Irises, I have had to go through a number of old Reviews to refresh my memory.

There was no formal organizational meeting or election. Bee and I had talked about forming a JI Society and we were acquainted with many Japanese Iris "fans" through the Robin letters. It seems to me that Bee, Bob Swearingen and I chatted about an organization for JIs at a National AIS Convention--probably the 1961 meeting in Newark.

After that, Bee and I drew up a tentative slate of officers and proceeded to draft Bob Swearingen as the first President. The rest of the appointed officers were: Vice President, Eleanor Westmeyer; Secretary-Treasurer, Art Hazzard; Editor, Eleanor Westmeyer.

The Society for Japanese Irises was first listed as a Section of The American Iris Society in the April 1963 AIS Bulletin, and the first issue of The Review is dated January 1964.

The first accomplishment of the Society was the change in date for voting on Japanese Irises by AIS Judges from the July 1st deadline to August 1st, which enabled those of us in the Northeast to vote on awards after our late bloom season.

By Laws were drawn up, patterned after those of the Median and Siberian Societies and Guidelines for Judging Japanese Irises in the Garden were proposed by Arlie Payne and adopted.

Art Hazzard had been promoting an annual Japanese Iris Show in Kalamazoo, Michigan and agreed to help stage a show in Terre Haute. Bee and I agreed to serve as Show Judges.

That show and the delightful tour of the outstanding gardens of Arlie Payne, Bob Swearingen, Bill Ouweneel and Russel Isle really launched the Society.

It was in Terre Haute that Bee and I discovered the many talents of Bill Ouweneel and his appointment as Editor of The Review is one of the accomplishments of which I am very proud. For 18 (?) years, he

has served the Society, very capably getting The Review issued on time and improving the quality of its contents with each issue. A record of truly distinguished service.

The annual meeting of members of The Society for Japanese Irises held during the American Iris Society Convention, with a showing of slides, talks and discussions of general interest has helped to create new interest in our Section.

Region 1 (New England) included Japanese Iris plants in their annual fund raising auction, held at Bee Warburton's garden and very generously shared the profits with our Society. A great help in our formative years.

It was Bee's driving ambition to see all types of irises represented in The American Iris Society and her devotion to correspondence and details that really got us started. Although she would never accept the Presidency, she has remained a Director and a behind-the-scene enthusiast and supporter since our beginning.

We are also indebted to the generosity and guidance of Arlie Payne, Bob Swearingen and Dr. Shuichi Hirao of Japan. And to Melrose Gardens Ben Hager and Sid BuBose for successfully forcing Japanese Irises to bloom in time for several AIS Conventions and skillfully displaying them so that many gardeners could see them for the first time.

Sincerely,

Eleanor

BREEDING FOR DWARFNESS IN JAPANESE IRIS

by

William L. Ackerman
Research Consultant
U.S. Plant Introduction Station
Glenn Dale, MD

Short-stemmed or dwarf Japanese Iris would be a desirable addition to the gardens of many growers as border plants for the taller growing JI cultivars, with other tall perennials, or as rock garden specimens. While there are many classes of bearded iris; tall bearded, border bearded, miniature dwarf bearded, standard dwarf bearded, intermediate bearded, etc., we have but one class of JI's. Although there are a few short stemmed JI cultivars on the market, most range in height from 24 to 48". A series of dwarf JI's of good flower quality ranging from 6 to 18" would expand JI garden potential and might interest more people in using JI's in their plantings.

For over a decade we have included the development of dwarf JI's as one of our breeding objectives. Among the seedling progenies of a number of our crosses has been a small percentage of seedlings

with shortened foliage and flower stalks. These were systematically moved to a special test block where they were free of competition by the much taller specimens. Some proved to be physiologically dwarfed, grew to be normal tall flowering plants and were discarded. Fortunately, many proved to be true genetic dwarfs and were used as breeding parents in an effort to develop a series of dwarf progeny from which to make selections. This proved to be a very discouraging business. For several years all of our dwarf seedlings possessed flowers of thin, filmy substance with short durability. It would appear that we were faced with genetic linkage* between dwarfness and poor flower quality.

Three years ago (1981) we had an apparent genetic breakthrough in that a substantial number of progeny from one of our crosses produced dwarf plants with flowers of excellent substance. Much of our work with dwarfness since then has concentrated on making further crosses among these dwarf seedlings.

Although we have not yet obtained any JI's which consistently flower at 6" in height, we do have several in the 8 to 10" range and many more in the 12 to 15" range and on up through 18". Continued intercrossing among the shortest of these hopefully may ultimately result in true dwarf flowering types in the 6" category.

Flower types and colors among these short stemmed JI's is quite typical of those of their taller flowered cousins. Flower size tends to be slightly smaller, which perhaps is a good thing; they are more in proportion with plant size. One weakness however, has been a lack of good branching. Most of our dwarfs, less than 12" tall, have no side branches; each spathe consisting of a single flower stalk with one terminal and one auxillary flower each. Seedlings in the 13 to 18" range may have one side branch carrying one or two flowers, but none have been observed with two or more side branches. Here, we feel there is room for improvement and plans for next year's crosses include crossing some of the best dwarfs with well branched taller seedlings. Perhaps this may be done without losing too much of the dwarfness at least among some of the progeny.

Dwarf seedlings are by their very nature less vigorous vegetatively than their taller cousins and so it takes longer to propagate them up in quantity. Thus far, we have not named or released any of our dwarf selections and it may be several years before the first of these becomes available.

*

Genetic linkage may exist where two or more genes controlling specific characters are physically located near each other on the same chromosome and are frequently inherited as a unit.

I N M E M O R I A M

THORNTON ABELL
1906-1984

President of SJI
1975 thru 1978

The following tribute was written for the Southern California Iris Society and the Society For Pacific Coast Native Iris by Mr. Abell's next door neighbor and fellow irisarian, DODO DENNY.



Photo taken from
front cover
July 1956 AIS Bulletin

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

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

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

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

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

FORD GRANT
1912-1984

Treasurer of SJI
1971 thru 1982

The following is based on information received from Mr. Grant's fellow irisarian and close friend of over 30 yrs., Mr. Frank Foley.

Ford LeRoy Grant was born Jan. 17, 1912 and lived his entire life in Davenport, Iowa. He retired in 1977 from the Iowa Precision Forge Company (formerly the Davenport Drop Forge Co.) with which

he was associated for 40 years.

Being greatly interested in ecology, Ford was a member of the World National Wildlife Association; American Forestry Association; and the only life member in the Davenport area of the Isaac Walton League.

He joined the American Iris Society in 1961, and was also a member of the Aril American Iris Association; The Society of Siberian Irises; and The Society for Japanese Irises. Ford was the first person in Davenport to grow Japanese Irises and eventually had about 50 varieties in his garden. He and Mr. Foley, with the help of Arthur Hazzard and Arthur Rowe, put on the 3rd Japanese Iris show ever staged in the U.S. at Davenport.

Death came to Ford on March 7, 1984. His friends are grateful to have had the opportunity to share his enthusiasm and interest in our society.

1984 AIS AWARDS FOR JAPANESE IRISES

The following information has been received from Ken Waite, AIS Awards Chairman, regarding the 1984 voting for Japanese Irises. A total of 62 judges voted the Japanese Iris section of the ballot. Of the irises eligible for the PAYNE AWARD, none received the required 10 votes, the highest being 7 votes. Those receiving the HM AWARD are as follows:

1. Freckled Geisha-----Lorina Reid '81-----17 votes
2. Anytus-----Sterling Innerst '81-----13 votes
3. Agrippine-----Sterling Innerst '81-----12 votes
4. Triple Threat-----Currier McEwen '81-----11 votes
5. Prairie Fantasy-----Arthur Hazzard '81-----10 votes

There were no HC AWARDS given this year.

A day of rain;
Somebody passes my gate
With irises.Shintoku

Billowing sails upon the seas...
Ah, no...
Iris blooms upon the breeze.
Leland M. Welsh

KALAMAZOO 1984 JI SHOW

Florence Stout
Taken from JI Robin #5

It is always like the dessert after a good meal to visit gardens with Japanese Irises, for all the others are gone by then and one can leisurely appreciate their grace and elegance. So it was that on July 7th, three of us headed for Kalamazoo. Henrietta Marks did the driving while Helen Tarr kept up a running commentary and Florence Stout checked out the current literature. Before we knew it we were at our destination. Sylvia Eddy was our hostess and had planned an informal get-together at her house Friday evening. Sylvia lives in a farmhouse, once in the middle of her farm, now part of urban Kalamazoo. We were all fascinated by her collection of iris artifacts, memorabilia, antiques and family heirlooms, but her vivacious welcome and thoughtful consideration outweigh all else.

Among those arriving Friday Eve. were Adolph Vogt and his friends from Kentucky, the Wilhoits from Southern Illinois, and the Youngers, just back from an eastern US trip. Local people soon filled the living and dining rooms, and between the food and drink, conversation was uninterrupted, tho' plans were made for the morrow, and sensibly ceased in time for a bit of shut-eye before the show.

The Wilhoits picked me up early (before 7 AM) and we went to the Hazzard garden. (We returned later, too, for pictures). We went thru row after row of Art's own introductions as well as all other named varieties. I had forgotten how pretty some of the older ones are: Sourut Lake, Payne 64, was such a nice light blue, 6 p. with white style arms tipped blue, and ruffled. It's good to see people judging flowers in the garden by quality, instead of date. Prairie Chief is a d. bl., 6 p., with darker style arms and dark veins. Prairie Twilight, a 3 p., med. viol. self, upright styles same, some shading to lighter edges, dark veins. Have you noticed how important the veins are in some varieties? TB aficionados would object. I'm glad so much latitude is expressed in JIs. Prairie Sweetbriar, 6 p. ruffled red-violet. I would have called it rose-veined, in very nice pattern on white ground. Effect is rose. Styles are white tipped rose. I really love this one. Rose Prelude, Marx 57, is quite different. It is a light rose self with white halo around the small gold signal, and radiating white veins. There are definitely 3 small standards and 3 large fall petals. Gay Gallant, Marx 61, 6 p. white with blue veins fanned out from a red. gold signal, was parasol shaped but with good substance. Nice one. Prairie Glory, Hazzard 72, 3 p., (never equalled), very d. red, almost maroon, it had a bluish halo, very d. red styles, fine white edge. Blue Pompom, is well named, 6 p. purple with many styles forming a puff in the center. Sky & Water, Payne 53, is a classic, 6 p. l. blue, but so tall. Shades from light to darker blue-violet, deep gold signal, lighter blue-white styles.

Had to leave this lovely garden to go to the West Main Mall where the show is staged. The show turned out to be smaller than last year, but beautifully staged around what used to be a spectacular fountain, now a stage. One first sees the arrangements entered by Ikebana groups from Kalamazoo and members of the Southwestern Michigan Iris Society, which sponsored the show. The competitive arrangements were staged in niches, so that you viewed each one without distraction. Ikebana arrangements around the stage did not all

have backgrounds, but could be enjoyed from a distance too. Huge arrangements were placed at strategic points. How much the details of staging affects the atmosphere!

We carefully judged each entry and chose the best for the court of honor, Prairie Edge was the best specimen. It was fresh and flawless and obviously well grown. The best seedling was 82-B-1 by Bauer. One other comment about the show. Most of the specimens were acceptable though some entrants forgot to groom their entries and in many cases this was a deciding factor. Some exhibitors came a long distance and the stalks told the story. I know this is always a show problem. Do any of you have magic solutions?

After the judging was finished we all headed for the home of Ron and Anna Mae Miller. The Miller home is practically country, land rolling and lightly wooded. Behind the house the ample yard is surrounded by a naturalized area. Many interesting plants other than iris in evidence everywhere. The large flower garden paralleling the driveway to the house contains everything you ever wanted to grow, with one area devoted to Japanese Irises. I must admit that I was so hungry and tired by now that I didn't do it justice. There were seedlings here that should have been examined minutely, but the aroma of food, and the laughter of guests relaxing on the back porch drew me there. A bountiful spread - including some of Ron Miller's specialty salads was enjoyed by everyone. Car after car arrived and it occurs to me, who minded the store? They took turns. I didn't spend enough time here, I got glimpses of species irises, etc., that beckoned but we had other gardens to see.

It is about 10 miles from Kalamazoo where Bob Bauer and John Coble have their remarkable "place". Remarkable people, these two young men. John was a school teacher who saw this old brick home as he travelled to work, and when it became available. he persuaded his friend Bob Bauer to go halves with him. They took it over to provide a workshop for their growing business - of all things leaded glass! The home had been built by a professional bricklayer and owner of brick works. The basement is high ceilinged and light, perfect for their main business. Just where they switched from educating children to doing glassware that sells in the best markets of New York City I'm not sure, but Bob had gotten started on leaded glass after college to keep busy, and saw its possibilities. It's worth a trip to Kalamazoo to see their house and its workshop. The 1st floor has many samples of their work displayed. We ate strawberry shortcake on the front porch. Set in 4 acres or more of landscaped area, the house is a gem. Built 125 yrs. ago, it has the high ceilings that I adore in our own Victorian house. You must see the house, but you must not miss the beautiful Japanese garden.

From the entrance to the garden one sees a broken s shaped bed with all of the Hazzard iris growing beautifully. To one's left are Bob and John's seedlings, growing so thickly, there must be thousands. To the far left on the western perimeter was a bed of other people's new introductions and seedlings. In another area there is the raked gravel pool and various items to give a Japanese feeling, tastefully done.

Most of Ackerman's new Japanese irises, Shook's, McEwen's, Stahley's, Innerest's, Copeland's and Vogt's were here. I loved Stahley's 84 introduction called Wind Drift, a 3 p. lt. lavender w/darker styles. I had not seen Agrippine, Innerst 81 before. It is a med. pink self. Emiko, Shook 81, is a 6 p. white with purple

veins, white styles tipped purple, nice. Purple Marlin, Copeland 83, is absolutely great. It's a ruffled, 6 p. red-violet. Oriental Eyes, Vogt 77, is lt. violet shading to white at the edge, a purple halo around the yellow signal gives it its name. Styles are dark violet, veins from signal are dark violet. Triple Treat, McEwen, said to rebloom perhaps more than once is a 3 p. white self with a greenish yellow signal and greenish lines. Not a huge flower, but very nice. Caprician Butterfly, Rogers 83, is much like Tuptim, but is heavier veined. Lilac Peaks, Vogt, is a 6 p. white with violet veins, styles are lavender or lilac. Raspberry Rimmed, McEwen, is like Swirling Beauty except it is 3 p. instead of 6 and is a larger white, rimmed raspberry at edges, center splashed with red. Japanese Sandman, Bush 79, was blooming away, the 6 petals of pure white have violet veins and a sort of lavender overwash. The style arms are violet, edged white, signal lemon. Yoko, Shook 81, I was happy to see, for I had admired it in his garden the year of introduction. It is a classic 3 p. white with a faint lt. blue shadow, pale gold signal, styles pure white. One to watch. Snowy Iris, Bush, a new white 3 p. Whiting, Copeland 79, is a good 6 p. white, with a prominent orange signal. It's a waxy white, good substance, and to frost the cake it is only 26" high. The trend in US is toward lower, more compact plants in preference to the 48" mammoth ones once favored. Little Snowman, Vogt, a 6 p. 24" high white that I liked very much. Among Bauer's seedlings I liked especially: 79-6-22, a single white; 79-15-20, a 3 p. blue, horizontal petals with starch; 79-15-9, a 3 p. white, yellow styles, too tall tho.

Prairie Peace, Hazzard 70, is a 6 p. white with red-violet veins, which causes it often to be described as a bi-color. My notes differ from the description in the registration book, mostly in regards to the styles. My notes say lt. blue, but the description says red-violet veins w/dk red-violet styles! Does it vary???? I noticed that Siren Song, Payne 66 has no halo, and the standards are at 45 degree angle tho' the petals were slightly droopy. It's pretty, a 6 p. mottled blue-violet, from med. to lt., and lightly rimmed. Styles light or white, edged lt. blue-lav., with blue-lav. tips. This has been around a while and still quite popular.

Winter Festival, 6 p. white splashed royal purple. If you like mottled ones this is a good example. Petals horizontal, nice. Another oldie as age goes here, Fascination, Childs 1926. This is a wide, full form, 6 p., bright blue-purple, heavily veined white.

We toured other gardens, notably the Younger's sunken garden, and Lee Welsh's new garden. Lee had quite a few JIs in bloom and we took pictures.

I've decided Betteryet, Prairie Mantle, Prairie Fantasy, Gossamer Threads, Chimade, Numazu, and Veined Artistry, ought to be in every JI garden, tho' old they're tried and true. How lovely!

Two imports; Shiosai, by Mitsuda, and Mizutama Bushi, by Hirao, are of excellent quality. I think they are working more on petal substance than they used to in Japan.

1984 IRIS TOUR TO JAPAN

Donald Denny

The June 10 - 24, 1984 iris society member tour to Japan was a great success and a wonderful experience for the fourteen of us who made the trip. This first tour was brought about through the efforts of Ed Varnum, who has worked and traveled extensively in Japan for many years. His friendships with local members of The Japan Iris Society paved the way for us. During the course of the trip Ed and Emily Varnum shared their experience and knowledge of the best things to see, eat, shop for and do in each city.

Our group from the US included long-time growers and hybridizers Ben Hager, Archie Owen and Adolph Vogt, who celebrated his eightieth birthday on the trip. Dora Sparrow came from New Zealand and Dr Gordon and Norma Loveridge joined us from Australia. Dr. Shuichi Hirao and other members of The Japan Iris Society joined us on several days.

Our itinerary provided several days in the Kyoto area, stays in more rural areas, then several days in and around Tokyo. This trip combined a standard two week tour of sights and temples with visits to many iris gardens. We usually traveled by private bus but also used taxis and trains. We changed hotels often and stayed in a wide variety of them, from very plush ones to ones with very compact rooms planned for Japanese business travelers. With so much planned in the scheduled tour we had very little time on our own, which is probably just as well since it is very difficult to get around without being able to speak or read Japanese.

The timing of our trip was planned to catch the peak Japanese Iris bloom. This also coincides with the beginning of the rainy season and so is not a time when Japanese or foreign tourists are around.

Our first iris garden stop was the Osaka Iris Garden in Osaka. Like several others that we visited, this was a large public garden, charging an admission fee, in the midst of a large city. The iris beds were surrounded by dikes and were flooded. The wide foot paths were raised giving an elevated view down onto the blossoms. The various clones were clearly labeled with their names in Japanese characters. This makes it difficult to translate into something that we may be able to find in iris catalogues that we could read.

In Tokyo, Horikiri Iris Garden and Mizumoto Park Iris Garden were of similar design. The Horikiri Garden has been there for about 200 years. It draws thousands of visitors each weekend during bloom season. Befitting its established position, the narrow streets leading to it were festooned with blue banners with iris on them and were filled with small shops displaying everything imaginable with iris designs. The Mizumoto Park Garden contains acres and acres of drifts of JIs in a riverside setting. Hydrangeas are used extensively as borders and companion plants.

Bansho Yamayaki Iris Garden near Himeji, is a commercial garden operated by the local electric utility company. It is situated on a series of terraces down a sloping valley between steep hills. Here, as in many of the large gardens, the iris were mulched with

a thick layer of rice straw. We saw beautiful displays of a large flowered *I. ensata* (kaempferi) x *I. pseudacorus* hybrid and of a form of *I. ensata* with variegated foliage which had been collected from the wild centuries ago.

Temples in Kyoto are like bars in San Francisco, they are everywhere. It was the seat of the Emperors for a thousand years and claims to have a thousand temples. We visited the two large imperial villas, Katsura and Shuganji, dating to the seventeenth century and famous for their gardens. Visits to these require permission from the Imperial Household Agency which is relatively easy for a foreigner to obtain, but, I'm told, takes about a six month wait for a citizen. The garden at Shuganji is most famous for its use of the concept of borrowing scenery. Upon seeing it I finally understood what that meant. Although the city lies at the base of the garden and a subway stop serves it, you never see the city from the garden. From the top of it you look out from the green of the trees in the gardens to the green of the mountains on the other side of the city, without any intruding glimpses of the development below to spoil the tranquility of the site. It takes good planning for this basic garden design concept to still be effective after 300 years.

At Katsura Villa, I appreciated the moon viewing platform, a sort of deck from the house to the edge of the lake. From this platform one would view the August moon with its reflection upon the lake. This garden was designed at a time when a favorite pastime for the nobility was to spend the day watching an iris blossom unfold.

The iris display at the Heian Shrine in Kyoto was like heaven for me. Here the iris were thickly planted in the water in drifts along the edge of a large lake. There was a path along the shore between the iris in the water and a forested border. Since the temple gardens were initially planned as places to meditate, a few rustic benches were appropriately placed from which to view this spectacular sight, which was enhanced by the reflection of the iris in the dark water.

The iris planting at the Meiji Shrine in Tokyo is similar in feeling. It appears to be a mountain stream of iris between two steep and heavily wooded banks. There is a narrow strip of verdant turf along one side with narrow paths on both sides. The sound of flowing water is heard throughout. This garden attracts as many as 25,000 visitors a day during bloom but is perfectly maintained and does not show even a hint of its heavy use.

Near the coast we visited the Ise Grand Shrine, the "Mother Church" of the Shinto Religion. The Shinto philosophy is a worship of nature and recognizes God's presence in chosen spots or objects of nature. Ise is such a spot and the simple timber shrine buildings were originally constructed there 1400 years ago. They have been reconstructed on an adjacent site alternatively every twenty years since then so that they will always appear in a perfect condition. The area is filled with ancient giant hinoki cypress and cryptomeria trees that reminded us of our California coastal redwood forests.

After walking across the bridge over the river at the entrance to the shrine, we passed a long shed, open on one long side with a display of iris growing in 10' terra cotta pots and arranged on

bleacher like shelves. The Ise "type" of Japanese iris with its hanging, drooping, almost crepe-like falls is much more admired in Japan than in the US. There they appreciate the hanging falls for more color from across the garden and apparently like the quality of the blossoms.

We were greeted by many members of the Japan Iris Society at the Kamo Iris Garden in Kakegawa, near Hamamatsu, a 2-3 hour bullet train ride from Tokyo. Mr. Kamo served us a lunch of Japanese food that is traditionally eaten during iris bloom. Toasts were extended back and forth between our group and the Japan Society members. Friends who had previously met only in correspondence met and new friendships were made.

Mr. Kamo maintains a large commercial iris and hosta nursery. His 150 acres at this location is extremely large for land scarce Japan. I understand that the land has been in his family for 400 years, during seventeen generations, and that they have been growing iris there for 200 years. Think of that in terms of the iris aristocracy that you know. Mr. Kamo said that he grows about 1,500 different varieties of Japanese iris. He also grows seedlings and introduces Dr. Hirao's new ones. He admits 6-8,000 visitors a weekend day at an admission price of about \$2.25. Lunch and dinner are available in the restaurant overlooking the iris fields at about \$8. Beautiful scarves and china plates with iris designs by Mrs. Kamo were available in the gift shop. Mr. Kamo gave us a tour through the iris field before inviting us into his home for tea and presenting each of us with one of the beautiful scarves.

Although his fields were flooded when we were there due to heavy rains the previous day, Mr. Kamo said that he doesn't try to grow them in standing water. His soil, former rice patties, is very heavy and he only irrigates about three times a year. His pH is 5.5 and a rice straw mulch is used. In another context he mentioned that *Primula sieboldii* is a good companion plant for JI. Several of us visited his office, where he was doing some work with colchicine and also meristemming JIs and hostas. I was fascinated by his computer with its keyboard all in Japanese characters. He showed us a copy of the checklist compiled of JIs introduced in Japan, again all printed in Japanese characters.

It was in this garden that Adolph Vogt commented that he'd seen more Japanese iris that day than he'd ever thought existed in the whole world. This was truly an event of a lifetime for many of us. The garden, planted on the floor of a narrow valley up to the very edge of steep forested hillsides is a truly spectacular sight, as is the sight of the giant timber bamboo forest.

Perhaps the most charming garden that we visited was at the downtown Tokyo home of Mr. & Mrs. Kobayashi. The building covered the entire lot and there was no yard at all. He is a tailor and his workshop occupied the lower floor. There were magnificent clumps in full bloom off a fourth floor deck, and then the entire roof of the house was massed with iris and roses, all growing beautifully in tubs. All this with a view of the city and of a traffic jam on the elevated freeway behind the house. It reminded me strongly of my former home in San Francisco. If I'd thought of the rooftop, I might still be there. Over tea we marveled at the JIs blooming in a tray in the living room. Dr. Hirao indicated

that this technique has been popular for about 40 years. They dig big plants from the garden in January, place them on the tray outside and feed them heavily. They grow about a foot tall and the blooms are in proportion. After blooming they are replanted in the garden and go back to 40 inches the next year.

The Japan Iris Society hosted a beautiful reception for us on our last evening there, in a lovely room that is part of the Meiji Shrine. They had prepared delicious food and had brought mementos for us. We again exchanged toasts and invitations for future visits. They were so gracious to us that I do hope that they will accept our invitations so that we may return the hospitality.

The most striking overall impressions that I came away with involve the physical beauty of the country, and the Japanese people's great appreciation for beauty and nature. The countryside is lush, typically small valleys and coastal plains meeting forested mountains. Every inch of the flat land seems to be used. In cities if there is a vacant lot anywhere, it has rice planted in it. Vegetable plantings are beside the airport runways. Because only 15 percent of the land is flat and homes are not customarily built on the mountains or hills, the lot sizes are small, almost invariably walled with meticulously maintained gardens around the substantial looking tiled roofed homes.

Plants are everywhere, even in the midst of crowded cities. Pots of bonsai azaleas and JIs in bloom were brought out to sit in the sun on the sidewalk each morning, even in areas of small industrial shops. Most every office building and apartment house had pots of iris blooming at the door.

Above all the people are extremely pleasant and polite. The streets are clean and safe. I'm looking forward to another opportunity to visit there.

1985 IRIS TOUR TO JAPAN

A 1985 tour to Japan for Japanese Iris lovers is being planned for June 8 to 25. The approximate estimated cost of the tour is \$2,500. For further information write to Tours and Travel International, 205-B West Rockrimmon Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO., 80919.

THE SEASON IN CONNECTICUT

Eleanor Westmeyer

This summer should have been our season of the best bloom ever because our rainfall exceeded all records for this area--but we also had record breaking temperatures in mid June. Just as the tall bearded irises reached their peak, the thermometer registered 90 to 100 degrees daily for a whole week. Buds on many clumps of Japanese irises blew up like balloons and the edges looked burned. None of these "burned" buds opened correctly. However the last buds on these stalks did look normal. Since all of these clumps had been treated with a systemic spray, I do not believe that the problem was insect damage.

Bloom was extended for a full month. The first variety to open was Good Omen on June 25th and Mai Ogi was the last to bloom---on July 25th.

The greatest delight of the season was the discovery of a true miniature Japanese Iris at a local nursery. It was in bloom when I brought it home. It is a light blue single, measuring about 3 inches across. Foliage is only 14 inches high and the bloomstalks were 22 inches tall. Unfortunately no seed was formed, but I shall work with the bloom on it next summer.

Looking back over better years, the following varieties have been favorites here:

IROJIMAN--one of the first singles that I grew. Nicely formed flower of a beautiful medium blue self.

BLUE LAGOON--My favorite of all the blues. A double of near Gentian blue.

BLUE NOCTURNE--One I hated to lose. Remembered as a unique dark, rich blue self. Double.

STIPPLED RIPPLES--a white double with the prettiest red violet ruffles.

GAYETY----the double with the remarkable substance. Pansy purple styles on magenta purple with amethyst veining.

LEAVE ME SIGHING--lovely lilac pink double. Very showy in a clump.

IMMACULATE GLITTER--the most distinctive of all of Arlie Payne's introductions. White edging on dark red violet petals.

CONFETTI SHOWER--violet stippled rose double with dark purple center. Very showy.

HISAKATA--the classic double of deep blue-purple with brilliant gold spears. Like most of the Higo varieties, it never grows too tall.

DAZZLING DEBUTANTE--vigorous red violet single with coarse white veining. Distinctive in form with drooping falls.

WISTARIA ENCHANTMENT--lavender violet double. Dependable and long blooming.

PINK TRIUMPH--The original was a multi-petaled orchid lavender self on a stiff stalk. Widely acclaimed in Japan. Not at all like the variety sold here under the same name.

IVORY MANTLE--mauve flushed white with distinctive drooping falls.

POPULAR ACCLAIM--eyecatching bicolored single. Dark violet standards with white falls.

MAGIC RUBY--extremely dark when first opened. Prune purple with darker center.

FUJI-----beautiful blue bordered white flower. Nicely formed and a dependable bloomer here.

SNOWY HILLS--my favorite white double. Ruffled and nicely shaped.

FRECKLED GEISHA--Laurie's lovely wine-freckled, frilly white double. One of the first to bloom.

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE--white double with pale violet tints. Distinctive for its "sweet pea" center.

GROWING JAPANESE IRISES IN NEW MEXICO

Henry Danielson

I became interested in the Japanese Iris in the fifties, when I was located in Chicago, Illinois. Around the Great Lakes Region was an ideal place for growing the Japanese. The soil conditions had a ph value from 6 to 6.5 with rainfall from 45" to 65" annually. Here in Chaparral, New Mexico, we have a rainfall of about 7" annually and a ph value from 7.2 to 7.8 which is not an ideal place to grow the Japanese, unless you do something about it to their liking.

In Chicago I did not go into it in a big scale, but rather in an experimental stage. My room was limited and I was using what space I had for growing Aril Iris. I had a sheet iron pan made up about 6 ft. long and 2½ ft. wide and 4 inches deep, where six 10" pots would stand in water from 2 to 3 inches deep. In this pan I kept 8 ten inch pots of Japanese Iris which I had purchased from Marx Brothers of Oregon. They were kept in there from about April 1st to Nov. 1st, depending on the weather. After freezing they were removed and put in the ground, by digging a place to hold the eight pots deep enough so they were about 5" below the surface of the ground and then mulched with coarse hay. Also sand was filled in between the pots to level with the rim.

Regular garden soil was used and about 20% peat moss (sphagnum type) and about 5% horse manure in the last half of the pot, as horse manure is on the acid side. This method produced some very beautiful flowers with good increase and growth. A liquid fertilizer, Miracid, made by Sterns Products was used during the growing season. A granulated fertilizer (8-16-4) can be used also. I used both.

I quit growing the Japanese in the early 60's because of the extra work, and I was getting very much involved in the Aril Irises which I specialize in. I'm now growing them here in Chaparral, New Mexico, which is located seven miles north of El Paso, Texas, and growing conditions are entirely different. Rainfall is normally 7½" per year, and temperatures up to 110 degrees during July and August. During this year it has not gone over 100 degrees, but for the last month it has been in the upper 90's. Heat does not seem to bother the Japanese. The soil is sandy, about 50%, and the rest a yellow loam and checks from 7.2 to 7.8 ph. Winter temperatures run from 40 to 70 degrees during the days and morning temp's from 20 to 40 degrees, though all sign of freezing is thawed out by 10 AM of the same day.

Growing the Japanese here in the desert is similar to my method in Chicago, as you will notice. I was told it was impossible to grow them here in this type of climate. In 1980 I sent for 8 plants to Arthur Hazzard, of Kalamazoo, Michigan, and placed them in ten inch plastic pots. I bought one of these bathing tubs that you buy for small children (plastic) and kept the pots in there with 2 to 3 inches of water, never letting it go below 1". They did very well in there and the following spring six bloomed out of the 8. This method was repeated again the following spring and every one bloomed. They had not been repotted, the same clumps that bloomed the first year. I repotted them the second year, and every pot had from six to eight increases. Good rhizomes. I knew then that they could be grown here successfully, so I went ahead and built a concrete pool that holds 4,500 gallons of water, and is 2½ ft. deep. We now call it the Japanese Garden, with other flowers and shrubs of Japanese type around it and a bridge built over it. The pots are set on three sides of the pool on boards 8" wide x 2" thick, about 38ft. Boards are set on pillars and pots set on the boards so about 2" of water is above the boards. They seem to grow better here than they did for me in Chicago by using this method. The method is practically the same except for soil condition, which I will explain later.

The first year of growing them in the pool proved very satisfactory, with no trouble at all, very good root systems and well developed rhizomes, and over 75% bloom. I plant two rhizomes to a pot and divide them each fall, about Sept. 1st.

I am now experimenting with growing them in the open ground, this being the first year with 8 varieties. All bloomed and the plants are doing extra well. This coming spring will tell for sure whether they can be grown in the open ground here in the desert satisfactorily. They are watered by the drip system and watered every other day in summer.

As I stated before the ph here in the desert runs from 7.2 to 7.8, which is not satisfactory for growing the Japanese. They would die in it. I like to get the ph down to about 5 to 5.5. The soil mixture for the pots is as follows: about 50% Bacto Soil, a commercial potting soil which is on the acid side, and the rest our regular garden soil, mixed in with peat moss (sphagnum type). The plants are planted two to a pot, and soil put in till two inches from the top. This leaves another two inches to be added. Before you do this add agricultural sulphur completely around the inside rim, I would say about three tablespoons full. Then finish filling

the pot with soil. This leaves the Sulphur two inches below the top level of the soil. By spring the ph should be from 6 to 6.5 or lower, and by fall some will read as low as 5 or lower. Some of mine went as low as 4 ph after it was in there a year, but I could not see any difference in growth or bloom. It does not leach out as it does in open ground. I check ph every six months in the pots. In the open field it is checked every month or two, as in the open ground it does leach out. If your soil is on the acid side all this is not necessary, but here in the desert it is.

This pot culture is similar to what I used in Chicago except for the mixture, as I used no sulphur there.

Miracid acid was used as a liquid fertilizer every 3 weeks. I also used a granulated fertilizer (8-16-4) manufactured by Ionate Corporation of America, El Paso, Texas, named Ionate. It supplies acid immediately.

Here's hoping you the best of luck with these beautiful flowers, where ever you are located.

Henry Danielson
Pleasure Iris Gardens

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Mrs. Thomas W. Simpson
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Mrs. Caroline Spiller
Box 572
Kentfield, CA. 94914

Paul Steinkamp
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R. Terpening
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Fairburn, GA. 30213

Mr. & Mrs. E. E. Varnum
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Ruth E. Walker
113 Sutter Road
Partlow, VA. 22534

Joy Watkins
4124 Birchman
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Dr. Adrienne Whyte
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Falls Church, VA. 22046

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Jane Wollack
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Kathryn S. Wright
R. R. 22, Box 329
Terre Haute, IN. 47802

Donna P. Wuilliez
711 N. W. 17th
Corvallis, OR. 97330

Mrs. Mary Wyss
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Independence, MO. 64055

Mrs. Harmon Morgan
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Lubbock, TX. 79423

Cheryl Morris
5938 River Road
Port Alberni, B. C.
Canada, V94-6Z6

R E D X

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

IRIS FLOWERS

Mary McNeil Fenellosa

My mother let me go with her,
(I had been good all day),
To see the Iris flowers that bloom
In gardens far away.

We walked and walked through hedges green,
Through rice-fields empty still,
To where we saw a garden gate
Beneath the farthest hill.

She pointed out the rows of "flowers":-
I saw no planted things,
But white and purple butterflies
Tied down with silken strings.

They strained and fluttered in the breeze
So eager to be free;
I begged the man to let them go,
But mother laughed at me.

She said that they could never rise,
Like birds, to heaven so blue.
But even mothers do not know
Some things that children do.

That night, the flowers untied themselves
and softly stole away,
To fly in sunshine round my dreams
Until the break of day.

N O M I N A T I N G C O M M I T T E E R E P O R T

319 McClendon Circle
La Grange, GA 30240

Mrs. Virginia Burton
3275 Miller Drive
Ladson S.C. 29456

President: Society for Jananese Irises. September 14, 1984

Dear Virginia,

The nominating committee is pleased to report the following people have been contacted, and accepted nomination as officers of the Society for Japanese Irises.

For officers: 2 year terms for 1985 and 1986.

President: Dr. Currier McEwen
South Harpswell, Maine 04079

Vice-President: Dr. William L. Ackerman
P. O. Box 41
Ashton, Maryland 20861

Secretary: Mrs. Florence E. Stout
150 N. Main
Lombard, Illinois 60148

Treasurer: Mrs. Carol Warner
16815 Falls Road
Upperco, Maryland 21155

Appointed to Nominating Committee through 1987:

Mr. Robert Bauer
9823 E. Michigan Ave.
Galesburg, Michigan 49053

We recommend these nominees to the society for election to their respective offices.

The Nominating Committee for 1984


Mrs. J. B. Hale, Chairman
Mr. A. J. Vogt
Mrs. A. H. Hazzard

Copies to: Welsh
 Vogt
 Hazzard