

# THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR  
JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 26

NUMBER 1

SPRING, 1989



# 25<sup>TH</sup>

ANNIVERSARY  
ISSUE

**THE REVIEW  
OF  
THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES**

**VOLUME 26  
NUMBER 1**

**SPRING, 1989**

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Jill and Sue Copeland, with dog Piere, check Guest planting in Bog Bed at the Copeland Garden during '88 SJI Convention. These plants had been held in pots about a year, and then planted in the Bog Bed in October, 1987. Most of the growth had developed after being planted in the bed. See articles about Bog Beds on pages 24-27.



## BUSINESS ITEMS

The Review is published semi-annually by The Society For Japanese Irises. Editorial office is at 7979 West D Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Deadlines for receiving copy are March 1 and September 1; earlier receipt of material is desirable. Black and white photographs and drawings are welcome; please indicate if you want them returned. Reprinting is by permission of the writer and editor, with due acknowledgement.

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**Renewals:** If your mailing label is marked with the expiration date 8901 this will be the last copy of "The Review" on your present membership. Please renew. If you have just recently sent in your dues, ignore the notice as there is an inevitable gap in passing along the information.

**Address changes:** Please notify the Membership Chairman.

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<b>Slide Sets &amp;</b>	SJI Slide Set rental.	\$ 5.00
<b>Library Items:</b>	Payne catalogs ('56 & '64) &	
	Marx catalogs ('55 & '64) reprints	\$ 2.50
	THE IRIS OF JAPAN by Reed, reprint	\$ 2.50
	Kamo Nursery color posters; rental	\$ 3.00
	Payne breeding diagrams;	
	.10/variety, .50 minimum	
	THE JAPANESE IRIS book, rental	\$10.00
	The 1988 Cumulative Checklist of JI	\$ 4.00

Send your requests to **Slides/Librarian Chairman**, John Coble, with check made out to **The Society For Japanese Irises**. Please order slide sets early for scheduling.

**Advertising"** Will be accepted for plants and horticultural related items. Charges are: Full page layout, \$18;  $\frac{1}{2}$  page layout, \$10; short adds, text only, \$2 for up to five lines and for each additional five lines or fraction thereof.

For information on how to prepair and submit adds, contact the **Editor**. Send adds to the **Editor** with payment in the form of a check made out to **The Society For Japanese Irises**. Deadlines as noted above.

THE REVIEW  
OF  
VOLUME 26      THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES      SPRING 1989  
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## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The members of our society can take pride in what we have achieved in recent years. We have grown in membership, increased the number of beardless iris shows held around the country, implemented the display garden program, initiated the popularity poll, started the program of annual SJI conventions, published and updated the Cumulative Checklist of Japanese Irises, instituted a slide program and historical library, and begun a new robin program.

We have an excellent publication, The Review. We all owe our editor, Lee Welsh, a big "Thank you" for his outstanding work. We also have the manuscript ready for the first definitive monograph in English on Japanese irises. Our debt to Currier McEwen for his diligence and talent in producing this work is very large.

In surveying the accomplishments of our society in recent years, one cannot help but be impressed. We surely have been blessed with excellent leadership. Perhaps our greatest accomplishment is that we have a friendly and harmonious society. We work together and get things done. I certainly feel privileged to be asked to serve as your president, and I shall do my best to deserve the trust you have given me.

Here are some of the objectives I would like to put forth as worthy of our undertaking during the next couple of years:

1. Get THE BOOK published, and launch a publicity program to promote its sale.

2. Increase the number of beardless iris shows and expand into different areas of the country. In 1987, six Japanese irises won Queen of the Show. Let's try to double that number in the next couple of years. I recently received a commitment from the Tidewater Chapter (Virginia) of Region 4 and the Williamsburg Iris Society to have a show in the near future. That's one...now will you give a helping hand in getting five more shows started?

3. If we get more beardless iris shows underway, our membership will increase because there is a direct correlation between iris shows and membership in an iris society. Still it is always good to set a goal to work towards. Let's increase the SJI membership by at least 25% a year.

4. I would like to see more judges in our society. We really need more AIS judges who know Japanese irises. Wouldn't it be great if we could increase the number of SJI members who are judges by 10% a year? I hope we can get a program underway to do this.

5. There is a consensus in the society that the practice of having SJI conventions at Japanese iris bloom season be continued. The wonderful time we all had at Kalamazoo reinforced this view. We shall try to get these scheduled 4 years in advance, and foster new convention sites.

6. Let's support Ensata Gardens in its objective of obtaining and growing every named cultivar in existence as a means of preserving historical Japanese irises. The time and effort I had to expend to acquire FUJI, a very recent Payne Award winner, convinced me that we are in real danger of losing some of our finest hybridizing achievements. Those of us who saw the old but unexcelled Payne varieties at Ensata Gardens last July know that it would be criminal if they were lost. And yet, some great beauties have already been lost. More will be lost if we do not act now.

7. Promote our JI popularity poll. Virginia Burton has done a wonderful service in conducting this poll, and we really need to stimulate greater participation.

8. The display garden program under Claire Barr's leadership has been a great success so far. let's work toward expanding the number of display gardens into all 24 regions.

There are many other meritorious objectives. I certainly hope before long we can initiate a formal system to standardize and correct nomenclature, particularly with reference to the transliteration of Japanese names. If we can update the exhibition judging criteria before too long, this would seem to be a project worth undertaking. I am sure most of you join me in hoping the subject of by-laws will be settled with our vote at the Memphis meeting this year.

I extend a personal welcome to every one of you to come to our SJI convention in Washington, D.C. on June 15 and 16. The headquarters will actually be in Manassas, Virginia, the site of the two great Civil War battles, 1st and 2nd Bull Run. My own local, the Chesapeake and Potomac iris Society, in collaboration with the Francis Scott Key Iris Society in the Baltimore area, is hosting this event. Our hard working treasurer and Membership Chairman, Carol Warner, is General Chairman for the convention, and we have some great plans to see that all who come have a grand time.

On behalf of our society, I would like to thank Don Delmez and Florence Stout for the superb jobs they hve done as our president and secretary.

Finally, your contributions to the objectives I have set forth above are much neded. Please pass along your ideas, suggestions and offers to take on projects. Have a safe and happy bloom season!

Clarence Mahan



## UPDATE ON THE BOOK ON JAPANESE IRISES

Dr. Currier McEwen

My first thought of a book on Japanese irises was prompted by a letter from Ginny Burton in January 1984 when she was SJI President, saying that she and Harry Kuesel had discussed the possibility of developing a book on Japanese irises and asking if I would be interested in helping with such an undertaking. I, of course, thought it a fine idea. Subsequently, the project was discussed and approved by the SJI Board and I was authorized to start work on it.

I have had the great help of a group of 22 advisors and contributors in this country and Japan. A number of chapters have been largely written by members of the group and I have leaned heavily on them all for advice in every chapter. A first manuscript draft was sent to members of the group late in 1986. Their extremely helpful suggestions were then incorporated in a revised manuscript.

In the early planning it had been assumed that the book would be published in paper covers like the one on Siberian Irises. However, there has been some dissatisfaction with that book which on heavy use tends to come apart. Hence, at the meeting of the SJI Board in Oklahoma City in May 1988, it was decided to explore the possibility of doing the book in hard covers. Donald Delmez volunteered to look into the question of a publisher. Meanwhile, through Chandler Fulton who is a member of the faculty at Brandeis University, I was put in touch with Dr. John Hose, the Brandeis University representative of the University Press of New England and subsequently, in September 1988, with Mr. Jeffrey Grathwohl, Acquisitions Editor at the headquarters of the Press in Hanover, New Hampshire.

With Jeffrey Grathwohl's help the various details of publication have been worked out subject to further discussion by the SJI Board on April 29th. The book has started in preliminary steps of production and it is anticipated that it will be ready by the late winter of 1989, in good time for the seasonal surge of interest in gardening in the spring of 1990 and for the AIS Convention that May and our Japanese Iris Convention in July. It will be a hard (cloth) covered book somewhat larger than the Siberian iris one and will include a glossary and appendix, some 30 or more illustrations in color and 13 excellent pen and ink drawings by Bob Bauer.

I cannot thank enough the many who have helped: the advisors and contributors and others who have provided specific information, Bob Bauer for his drawings, the many of you who have sent color slides for illustrations, the iris organizations that gave the necessary funds and, in this final phase, John Hose, Jeffrey Grathwohl and others of the University Press of New England.



The Great 1989  
Society for  
Japanese Irises  
Convention

Hosted by:  
Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society  
Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
June 16 — 17, 1989  
Washington, D.C. area

Headquarters:  
**Holiday Inn**  
Intersection of RT 66 and 234  
(North of Manassas, Virginia)

HOLIDAY INN	<u>RATES (+6.5% tax)</u>
P.O. Box 2535	\$39/single
10800 Vandor Lane	\$42/double
Manassas, Virginia 22110	\$45/triple
Tel: 703-361-0131	\$51/quad

- All room reservations are to be made directly with the HOLIDAY INN, Manassas, VA.
- Registrations with one night's deposit are required two weeks in advance.
- Reservations must be made through Lisa or Lu, mentioning SJI to receive these rates.



Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check here..... ☐  
if you would like Van  
Service from Dulles to  
motel, Fri. until 6PM.  
Please indicate  
arrival time \_\_\_\_\_

✦ Registration Deadline - 1 June! ✦

Convention Registration fee... \$54.00 per person X \*people.. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*This includes all meals, bus tour and banquet*

Tour, lunch and Banquet on Sat.. \$35.00 per person X \*people.. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tour and lunch only on Sat.... \$20.00 per person X \*people.. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet only (Sat.)..... \$15.00 per person X \*people.. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: C & P Iris Society

Total.. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Anne and Mike Lowe, Registrars

Number ☐  
in party..

Rt. 3, Box 135

Blackstone, Virginia 23824

# CONVENTION SCHEDULE



## FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 1989

- 9:00 - 11:00 Show Entries
- 11:00 - 1:00 Show Judged
- 12:00 - 5:00 Registration
- 1:00 - 7:00 Show open to public
- 2:00 - 4:00 Board Meeting, SJ1
- 6:00 Buffet Dinner, Holiday Inn
- 7:30 - 9:30 Judges Training - John Coble

## SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 1989

- 6:45 - 7:30 Breakfast Buffet, Holiday Inn
- 7:30 Board buses for tour
- 7:45 - 8:40 Garden of Diana and Mike Nicholls
- 8:40 - 10:40 Drive via Rt-15 through Leesburg, VA and Frederick, MD
- 10:40 - 11:25 Garden of Carol and Andy Warner
- 11:25 - 11:50 Lunch at Warners
- 11:50 - 1:50 Drive to Georgetown via Washington, DC
- 1:50 - 2:35 Garden of Don Spoon on the campus of Georgetown University
- 2:35 - 3:00 Drive to McLean, VA
- 3:00 - 3:45 Garden of Suky and Clarence Mahan
- 4:30 Back to Holiday Inn
- 6:00 Banquet, Holiday Inn
- 7:15 - 7:45 Awards, Announcements
- 8:00 Auction to benefit Society for Japanese Irises  
*Clarence Mahan, Auctioneer*

Join the Society  
for Japanese  
Iris

- Semi-annual Newsletter
- Polina Symposium, Slide sets
- Single Annual Membership \$3.50,
- Triennial \$9.00

Send Duea To: SJ1 Membership Chairman,  
Carol Warner, 16815 Falla Road, Uppercro, MD 21155



## 1989 SJI CONVENTION GARDENS

The following descriptions of the four gardens on tour at the 1989 SJI Convention were compiled and forwarded to the "Review" by Carol Warner. They do indeed sound most enticing. Everyone in attendance should find much to attract their attention and many garden memories to carry home with them.

### NICHOLLS GARDENS

Mike and Diana Nicholls have been adding to their "gardens" each year in an ongoing process. The mature trees of the forest provide a lovely back drop for the garden. When looking at the maturity of the forest, it is immediately evident that this is a relatively young garden. The forest provides many birds of interest that are being enticed out as our plantings become more mature and varied. Also a few deer can be counted on to do some nonselective pruning from time to time.

Many types of iris are grown in addition to the lovely Japanese iris. A variety of perennials will be in bloom as well as an early daylily or two.

Clematis can be found in many parts of the garden and a few roses too. Dahlias are grown for late summer and fall color. The vegetable patch keeps shrinking each year as the flowers take over.

The garden, although constructed for our own pleasure, is always open to visitors and anyone who will talk flowers as we continue our pursuits as a small commercial garden.

### "DRAYCOTT" - CAROL WARNER

The Warner garden in northern Baltimore County, MD is located on a 9-acre hillside surrounded by woods on three sides and open farmland to the back. The name, "Draycott" means "secluded spot" and comes from the town in England that was the home of Andy's ancestors.

The gardens are planted for landscape purposes and all contain many other perennials mixed with the irises. There is a rock garden in front of the house with dwarf evergreens and rockery plants. A fish pond near the woods in back of the house has goldfish, a few frogs and water lilies. The path from the pond wanders through a woodland wildflower garden.

Most of the original Japanese irises are planted in a bed surrounding the deck of the swimming pool. There they are grown in large clumps for landscape value. The guest JI's are "lined out" in the back part of the vegetable garden for easy viewing. Those which bloomed last year were very nice and some showed great promise as future introductions.

Carol's home also has iris artifacts. Of interest might be the stained glass windows at the front door and also the front porch light using the AIS logo. A traditional hooked rug with irises probably will not be complete but shows two years of work so far.



Lunch will also be served in this garden and the trip from the Warner Garden to the Georgetown Garden of Don Spoon will take us on a quick sight-seeing tour of downtown Washington, D.C.

### THE HEYDEN GARDENS --- DON SPOON

The astronomical observatory on the Georgetown University campus is the second oldest in the nation, built in 1841 and now a national historical monument. It was named in 1987 to honor the last Director of Astronomy, Father Francis Heyden, as the Heyden Observatory and Gardens. The curator of the Gardens is Dr. Donald Matthews Spoon, a professor in the Department of Biology for the past 17 years and a specialist on the Ecology of the Potomac River Basin. The gardens are laid out to appear as if they had been designed by a Jesuit Priest in 1841. Father Curry, the first Director, was also a botanist and brought the first banana plant to Washington. The borders and beds have shapes and arrangements with allegorical meanings accentuated with statuary, such as the lifesize marble statue of St. Mary. Most of the beds are raised with borders of antique cobblestones and bricks. The garden collection is dominated by the iris collection, numbering over 1000 varieties including species, dwarf and tall bearded and beardless iris, especially Japanese iris from the breeding program of Dr. Bill Ackerman. There are over 1000 iris seedlings as well. There are collections of annuals and perennials among the flowering shrubs and trees. Of note are the large collection of roses, hybrid lillies, daisies, dahlias, and spring bulbs of all kinds. Featured are the close relatives of iris. Georgetowners prize this 2½ acre garden that is bordered by national parkland as a green oasis, suspended in time, where one can escape to relax and meditate.

### THE IRIS POND

The Iris Pond, the home and garden of Clarence and Suky Mahan, is located on a half acre lot in the Washington, D.C. suburb of McLean, Virginia, not far from the Potomac River and the headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency. Their Japanese iris collection of approximately 150 different cultivars is planted in a landscaped setting around an artificial pond and waterfall. The Iris Pond has an almost complete set of Payne Award winners plus some Japanese imports not grown elsewhere in this country. Quite a few colorful Japanese Koi live in the pond; frogs, tadpoles, squirrels, chipmonks, birds of all types, and other friendly beasts also make their home in and around the pond.

Most of the hundreds of bearded irises, grown in terraced beds, Louisianas, Siberians, Spurias and species irises will have completed their spring bloom by mid-June. Clarence now has two dozen named Iris laevigata cultivars, and perhaps a few lingering blooms will be seen. The Mahan's dozens of old roses should be flowering, and perhaps a few of Suky's several dozen peonies will still be in bloom. There are stone lanterns, a garden Buddha carved in stone from Korea, and a ceramic "tanuki" from Japan to greet you at The Iris Pond.

**REQUEST FOR JAPANESE, SPURIA AND LOUISIANA  
IRIS GUESTS**

**1991 Society for Japanese Irises Convention  
Portland, Oregon**

The Greater Portland Iris Society will host a Society for Japanese Irises Convention On June 14, 15 and 16 of 1991. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction. When sending guest irises, please observe the following guidelines:

1. Up to four (4) rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. The iris guests will be accepted from August 1 to October 1, 1989.
3. all official guest irises must be shipped to:

**Lorena Reid  
Guest Iris Chairman  
41886 McKenzie Hwy.  
Springfield, Oregon 97478  
Phone (503) 896-3756**

4. The following information should accompany each plant:
  - a. Hybridizer's name and address
  - b. Name or number of the variety or seedling
  - c. Type of iris
  - d. Height and color
  - e. Year of introduction
5. When guest seedlings are named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than February 1, 1991.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors listing the garden locations of the plants. Contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of the plants. If such instructions are not received by June 16, 1991, dispersal will be at the discretion of the Convention Committee.
7. The Committee has adopted a code of ethics for all gardeners to protect the hybridizer's interests.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only rhizomes received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet.

**Terry Aitken, Convention Chairman**



## 1989 SCHEDULED JAPANESE IRIS SHOWS

Information has been received regarding 7 shows planned for this year. anyone who has bloom to exhibit or who wishes to see a show featuring Japanese irises is welcome to participate in or visit any of these shows. The shows are listed in order of occurrence.

### Summerville, South Carolina ----June 3rd.

The Summerville Iris Society will present a standard flower show on June 3rd, 1989, at the Cuthbert Community Building, 101 West 5th St. South, in Summerville. Theme for the show is "Salute With Iris". Show chairman is Leora Moore, whose phone number is 803-552-6347.

In conjunction with the show, there will be a regional meeting of Region 5 of AIS on Friday, June 2, from 4-5 PM. From 5-7 PM will be two hours of judges training on Japanese irises, conducted by Adolph Vogt and assisted by John W. Wood. Following the judges training will be a buffet dinner.

On Saturday, in addition to the show, there will be a breakfast, bus tour to Meadowlake Gardens, lunch, auction, evening supper and guest speaker. All functions except the tour and lunch will be held at the show building.

Registration fee for the complete weekend activities is \$25. It should be sent to Peggy Beason, R2 Box 584, Summerville, SC 29483 (Tel. 803-688-4414) by May 21st, in the form of a check made out to Peggy Beason. The fee includes 4 meals, judges training, bus tour, door prizes and guest speaker. The show itself is open to the public free, from 1-4 PM and open to S.I.S. guests from 1-8 PM.

Motel reservations may be made on your own with:

Econo Lodge 803-875-3022 I-26 and hwy. 17-A Approx. 2  
mi. from show bldg.

Holiday Inn 803-875-300 I-26 and hwy. 17-A

Hamilton Motel 803-873-0220 Main St., nearly opp. show  
bldg. (walking distance).

### St. Louis, Missouri ----June 3rd.

The Greater St. Louis iris Soc. is presenting its annual beardless iris show on Saturday, June 3, 1989 at the Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis Mo.. The theme for the show is "Around the World" with six open classes, featuring six different countries of the world, in the design division. In the horticulture division there will be eight specimen classes and a seedling class for the hybridizers, all to be judged by accredited A.I.S. judges. You are cordially invited to come. For more information, contact Don Delmez, 3240 Connecticut, St. Charles, MO 63301.



#### **Washington D. C. Area ----June 16th.**

The Chesapeake and Potomac iris society and the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, will jointly sponsor their annual beardless irish show on Friday, June 16th. It will be held in conjunction with the National Convention of SJI. Location for the show is the Holiday Inn, 10800 Vandor Lane, Manassas, Virginia (at intersection of Rt. 66 and 234).

The show will be open to the public from 1:00-7:00 PM. For more information regarding the show, contact the Show Chairman, Dick Sparling, 18016 Lafayette Drive, Olney, MD 20832.

#### **Portland, Oregon ---June 17th.**

The Greater Portland Iris Society will hold its annual Japanese Iris Show on June 17th. Location will be in the Pavillion at the Japanese Garden in the Washington Park Area, Portland, Oregon. The show will be open to the public from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There is a nominal charge for visitors to enter the Japanese Garden. Exhibitors will be exempt from the charge. For further information contact Terry or Barbara Aitken, 608 NW 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685 (Tel. 206-573-4472).

#### **Harrisburg, Pennsylvania ----June 24th.**

The Harrisburg area Beardless Iris Show and Rhizome Sale will be held June 24, 1989, at the Harrisburg East Mall in Wanamaker Court. All beardless iris growers are invited to exhibit. For more detailed information the show chairperson: Hope Nancarrow, 4906 Garden Lane, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17109: may be contacted.

#### **Kalamazoo Michigan area ----July 1st.**

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society will hold its 15th Japanese Iris Show on Saturday, July 1, 1989. Location is the Crossroads Mall, South Westnedge Ave., Portage, Michigan. Theme for the show has not yet been established, but there will be classes for horticultural specimens, seedlings, artistic arrangements and educational displays. In addition to the iris show, there will be an Ikebana exhibition and demonstration by Sylvia Wong---assistant director, and members of Sogetsu Michigan Branch. Show and exhibition will be open to the public from 12 noon to 8:00 PM. For more information you may contact the show chairman, Mr. Leland Welsh, 7979 West D Ave., Kalamazoo, MI 49009, (Tel. 616-349-9253).

#### **Newton, Massachussetts ----July 2nd**

The Iris Society of Massachussetts will hold its second Japanese Iris Show on July 2, 1989, at the Newton Art Center in Newton, Massachussetts. The show will be jointly sponsored by the New England Hosta Society, who will stage a cut leaf exhibition.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting the show chairmen, Tom and Alice Schaefer, 27 Waverley Ave., Newton, Massachussetts 02158, (Tel. 617-965-0546).

## HOW TO HAVE A FISH FRY FOR 130 GUESTS

James A. Copeland

Have you ever fixed lunch for 130 people, and served it in an hour? It's easy, simple, and fun. All you need is some preparation, and a lot of help!

### Recipe.

First you need a reason to get together. Such a reason was found for July 2, 1988 in Kalamazoo, Michigan---an international Japanese Iris Convention!

### Ingredients

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Fish---        | 48 lbs. of fresh boneless Walleye fillet.                              |
| 2.                | 50 lbs. of potatoes  |
| 3.                | 12 dozen eggs  |
| 4.                | 10 bags of radishes  |
| 5.                | 2 bunches of celery  |
| 6.                | 2 gallons of Miracle Whip  |
| 7.                | Some pickle juice  |
| 8.                | Friends to bring rolls (12 dozen)                                      |
| 9. Fruit Salad--- | 2 watermelons  |
|                   | 4 muskmelons   |
|                   | 4 honeydew melons  |
|                   | 10 lbs. grapes   |
|                   | 3 qts. blueberries   |
|                   | 2 qts. raspberries   |
|                   | 12 qts. large strawberries   |
| 10. Cole slaw---  | 3 gallons  |
| 11.               | coffee   |
|                   | iced tea   |
|                   | lemonade by the gallon   |
| 12. Desserts---   | Request from club members and get children to make iris shaped cookies |
| 13.               | Drakes mix   |
| 14.               | 12 pack beer   |

Now that you have a list of ingredients, how do you procure and put them together?

There is only one way to get fish... GO FISHING for 4 days and catch 100 Walleye. It's a fishy job, but someone has to do it! I got three volunteers to go with me. Mix Drakes mix and beer together and form a thin batter. Dip fish and put into a large frying pan with 6 quarts of frymax. You need a large burner out of an old hot water heater fired by a propane bottle with no regulator. This makes the burner into a blow torch. It's important to get and keep the frymax HOT. Fish will cook in two or three minutes!

You also need a wife to cook and a daughter to peel 50 lbs. of potatoes. (This was what the cookbook said), actually we had two times what we needed of potato salad, the cookbook didn't

know we had 48 lbs. of fish. Find five volunteers to clean, slice, and mix fruit into 130 fruit cups. Also needed is a purchasing agent to by the necessary table service and all of the above ingredients.

And last of all, you need hungry people! Some people went "light" on the fish the first time through the line commenting they didn't really like fish! Guess who was first to come through the second time!

When asked why I didn't get into the catering business, I simply replied "it's too much work!".

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## **SJI OFFICER PROFILES**

**by Virginia Burton, Publicity Chairman**

### **SHIRLEY POPE - VICE-PRESIDENT**

Shirley does not like to write or talk about herself, so her husband provided me with the following statement:

"Back in June of 1968 Shirley, whose interests didn't include flowers, politely complimented an elderly neighbor on the rainbow of color in his backyard of tall bearded iris. Her kindness backfired, and she was persuaded (against her better judgement) to accept a handful of rhizomes, later, for planting in a garden which didn't exist.

The rest is history. Shirley joined the Maine Iris Society and is a past president. The owners of the garden she first visited introduced her to Dr. Currier McEwen, with whom she is presently associated in marketing his iris. A few years ago Dr. McEwen honored Shirley by giving her name to an introduction she had selected as a potential popularity winner.

Each year Shirley manages to take time from a very busy schedule in her gardens to attend conventions, society functions, give judges training classes and judge iris show.

Shirley and her husband Maurice, have one daughter, a nurse living in Denmark, and a grandson.

She attributes whatever success she has achieved with iris to the many wonderful friends who have so willingly helped her over the years."

Shirley is an asset to the Society for Japanese Irises and will surely pull her share of the load as incoming vice-president. I received my first order of JI from her last year and was very pleased with the size of the rhizomes, cleanliness, packing and extra plant.



## ROBERT A. BAUER - SECRETARY

Our new Secretary, Robert Alan Bauer, was born and raised in Ft. Morgan, on the high plains of Colorado. In 1965 he received his Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. In 1969, still furthering his studies, he received his PhD in chemistry at Northwestern University, in Evanston, Illinois. During 1968/69 he studied at the Technische Hochschule in Munich, Germany. Mr. Bauer continued post doctoral studies at Purdue University in 1970/71 and at the University of Illinois in 1972/73.

In 1973 Bob, as he is more often called, began the stained glass business called "Bauer-Coble Studios", with John Coble (MS in Wildlife Biology). Bob met John at Purdue University, where both were seeking, but unable to find, faculty positions in their fields. In 1975 they moved their studios to Galesburg, Michigan. Here in Galesburg, they have a 120 year old farm house with 80 acres of rich farm land.

Bob's interest in gardening started shortly after the move. In 1980 Bob joined Southwestern Michigan Iris Society after seeing 2 or 3 of their JI shows at a Kalamazoo Mall. In 1981 he joined AIS and SJI and started growing JI under the influence of Arthur H. Hazzard. In 1985 he became an AIS judge and began what is now called "Ensata Gardens". They, Bob and John, sell JI and Siberian Iris. Bob has been hybridizing JI and Siberian iris since 1981. Currently they raise over 350 named varieties of JI and thousands of seedlings. "Ensata Gardens" has been on tour for both the 1985 and 1988 SJI National Conventions. The garden's nursery business has expanded greatly and now takes up most of their summer time, but their main income is from their stained-glass studios, now confined to the winter season.

Marion Vincent and I drove up to one of the Kalamazoo shows and visited Bob and John's "Heaven On Earth" gardens and workshop, and saw their "mass" of seedlings. If you have never been there you have missed seeing an ideal situation for both of their hobbies. Both are excellent hosts and we wish them the very best.



PROGRESS IN THE BREEDING OF JAPANESE GARDEN IRIS,  
Iris ensata Thunb.

by Tsutomu YABUYA

Editor's note: The following article was forwarded to the "Review" by Dr. Currier McEwen at the author's request. Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya is an Associate Professor at the Laboratory of Plant Breeding, Faculty of Agriculture, Miyazaki University, Miyazaki 889-21, Japan.

We wish to thank Dr. Yabuya for the contribution of the article. As his work progresses, we hope that we will hear more from him regarding the results.

Introduction:

The genus Iris is composed of 242 species (Lawrence 1959), which are confined to temperate regions in the northern hemisphere (N. L. 20-60°) (Douglas 1959). Among them, only seven species are distributed in Japan: I. ensata Thunb. var. spontanea (Makino) Nakai; I. laevigata Fisch.; I. sanguinea Hornem.; I. setosa Pall.; I. rossii Baker; I. japonica L. and I. gracilipes A. Gray. I. ensata, one of these species, has been extensively developed as a modern plant, which is called the Hanashobu, I. ensata Thunb. var. ensata (Makino) Nakai in Japan. In this paper, Japanese garden iris is used as the English name for the Hanashobu. The garden cultivars attract many people because of the bright colors and beautiful patterns of the flowers in the rainy season of Japan.

I. ensata belongs to subsection Apogon which is one of the largest groups in the genus, and this subsection involves sixteen series (Lawrence and Randolph 1959). Series Laevigatae, one of those series, consists of five species, I. ensata, I. laevigata, I. pseudacorus L., I. virginica L. and I. versicolor L. (Lawrence and Randolph 1959). The wild species of Japanese iris is widely distributed throughout East Asia such as Japan, the Korean peninsula, northern China and Siberia (Tomino 1963). It is very interesting that this species has developed as a cultivated garden plant only in Japan among these countries.

Confusion of the Scientific Name:

For many years two taxonomic names for Japanese garden iris have been used; I. ensata Thunberg and I. kaempferi Siebold. It is essential to determine which name is the correct one for the species. Miyazawa (1929) indicated more than a half century ago that C. D. Thunberg (1743-1828) had the priority in the nomenclature of Japanese iris, and that I. ensata Thunb. should be used as the scientific name for Japanese iris. His conclusion, however, has not been diffused among the people. Therefore, Tomino (1980) proposed that I. ensata Thunb. should be used as the scientific name for Japanese iris and I. kaempferi Sieb. be shown as the synonym in parenthesis; I. ensata Thunb. (I. kaempferi Sieb.). But, as I. ensata Thunb. was already used for another species of which the Japanese name is Neji-ayame, his proposal could not solve the nomenclature problem. In this regard, Miyazawa (1929) also had reported that I. ensata Thunb. should be applied to



Japanese iris and *I. biglumis* Vahl. to Neji-ayame. According to Köhlein (1981) and McEwen (personal communication), however, the latter species is now called *I. lactea* Pallas. The author supports the conclusion that we should use *I. ensata* Thunb. as the only scientific name for Japanese iris.

#### History of the Breeding:

It is not known when Japanese garden iris, as distinct from the wild species, began to be cultivated. Tomino (1963) reported that Kadan-Komoku (Mizuno 1681) was the first publication to mention varieties such as 'Murasaki', 'Shiro', 'Asagi', 'Usuiro', 'Shibori', 'Tobi-iri', 'Senyo-Hanashobu' and 'Shiro-Senyo-Hanashobu'. Then, 8 and 32 varieties were described in Kadan-Chikin-Sho (Ito 1694) and Zoho-Chikin-Sho (Ito 1710), and these varieties differentiated perianth numbers, flower colors and their patterns. Thus, it is apparent that Japanese garden iris had become established and differentiated as garden varieties by 1700. Thereafter, S. Matsudaira (1776-1856), one of the great breeders, produced about 200 excellent varieties and contributed to the development of Japanese garden iris (Tomino 1963).

Japanese garden iris consists mainly of varieties of three general types, Edo, Higo and Ise-types, which were originated in the Edo period (1603-1867). The Edo-type varieties have developed through plants bred by S. Matsudaira and other breeders in Edo (Tokyo), and Higo-type varieties through about 70 of all the cultivars bred by S. Matsudaira in Higo (Kumamoto prefecture). On the other hand, the Ise-type varieties were originated from cultivars bred by S. Yoshii (1776-1859 in Matsusaka (Mie prefecture) (Tomino 1976).

The breeding of Japanese garden iris had started by seedling selection. Matsudaira (1849) mentioned that remarkable variants for flower color and type appeared in three or four generations from wild types collected at Asakanuma of Mutsu. There are two botanical reasons why Japanese garden varieties developed rapidly in the Edo period. One was through vegetative division of rhizomes. Both outcrossing and vegetative propagation are useful for the accumulation of intraspecific variation.

In 1910, intraspecific-cross breeding was introduced to Japanese garden iris, and since that year, Miyazawa and his co-workers had bred 300 varieties over a period of 25 years (Miyazawa 1936). Many varieties of Japanese garden iris have been developed from Edo, Higo and Ise-types through such breeding.

#### Future of Breeding:

As mentioned above, most efforts for the breeding of Japanese garden iris have so far been directed primarily to the utilization of intraspecific variation because of the high degree of cross-incompatibility of the plant with other species (Tomino 1963, Sakurai and Tomino 1969, Yabuya and Yamagata 1980a, b). Nevertheless, successful interspecific hybridization could bring great strides in the improvement of this species through increased genetic variation. To achieve this, the author is studying the interspecific-cross breeding of Japanese garden iris using methods illustrated schematically in Figure 1.



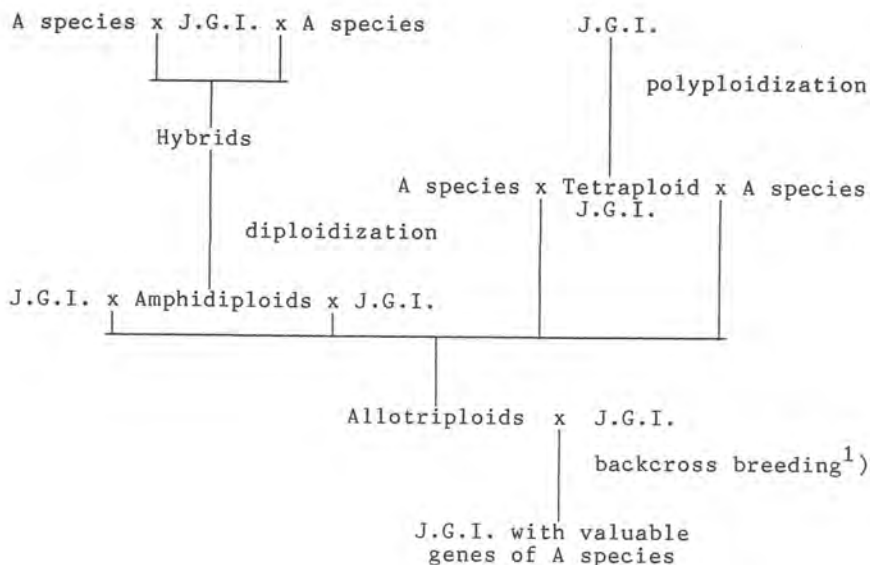


Fig. 1. Schematic illustration of the interspecific cross-breeding of Japanese garden iris (J.G.I.)

1): J.G.I. is used as the backcross parent.

As shown in Fig. 1, the first step in the interspecific-cross breeding of Japanese garden iris (J. G. I. in Fig. 1) is to obtain interspecific hybrids between Japanese garden iris and other species (for example, A species in Fig. 1). Only two types of interspecific hybrids between Japanese garden iris and other species have thus far been reported: *I. laevigata* x Japanese garden iris (Yabuya and Yamagata 1975, 1980b, Yabuya et al. 1983b) and *I. pseudacorus* x Japanese garden iris (Tomino and Sakurai 1972, Yabuya 1984a). One of the objectives of hybridization between Japanese garden iris and *I. laevigata* is the transfer of useful genes such as those for early and continuing flowering from *I. laevigata* to Japanese garden iris. On the other hand, *I. pseudacorus* is useful for hybridization with Japanese garden iris as a source of genes for yellow outer and inner perianth due to carotenoid pigments. However, it is impossible to use these hybrids as breeding material because they are sterile (Yabuya 1984a).

However, even though sterile, interspecific hybrids can be valuable varieties if they exhibit an ornamental value. In 1974, Ohsugi registered a hybrid of *I. pseudacorus* x Japanese garden iris as a new variety 'Aichi-no-Kagayaki'. This variety has received much attention as "the yellow Japanese iris" although it is, of course, an interspecific hybrid and not strictly a Japanese iris. However, it remains an unsolved problem that this variety exhibits leaf-chlorosis. Thus, we

can breed hybrid varieties within a short time, but these varieties show loss of the ornamental quality of Japanese garden iris except in some particular characters.

The second step is the obtainment of amphidiploids between Japanese garden iris and other species (Fig. 1). There are two approaches to overcome hybrid sterility. One would be the amphidiploidization of interspecific hybrids. To overcome the sterility of the  $F_1$  hybrids of *I. laevigata* ( $2n=32$ ) x Japanese garden iris ( $2n=24$ ), in vitro culture of embryos treated with colchicine was evaluated as a means to induce fertile amphidiploids ( $2n=56$ ) (Yabuya 1985a). Treatments of hybrid embryos with 0.05% level of aqueous colchicine for 1, 2 and 4 days were examined to induce the amphidiploids. In all of the colchicine treatments, the effects of the drug were manifested by the induction of amphidiploids. Longer period of the colchicine treatment resulted in a higher percentage of induced amphidiploids, i. e., 5.9% for the 1 day-treatment, 14.3% for the 2 day-treatment and 17.9% for the 4 day-treatment. Consequently, we have used treatment of hybrid embryos for 2 and 4 days at the 0.05% level of aqueous colchicine in inducing amphidiploids.

From the above results, in vitro culture of embryos treated with colchicine appeared to be an effective means for inducing amphidiploids of *I. laevigata* x Japanese Garden iris. This was the first report of in vitro colchicine chromosome doubling in interspecific hybrids of the genus *Iris* (Yabuya 1985a). Such treatment is more advantageous than using hybrid plants because it eliminates the time that would be required to raise the amphidiploids of interspecific hybrids.

The colchicine-induced amphidiploids bore a strong resemblance to the  $F_1$  hybrids ( $2n=28$ ) in the color of the outer and inner perianths, midrib configuration of leaves, pollen color and flower date. However, the amphidiploids showed a taller shape and larger outer and inner perianths than the  $F_1$  hybrids. Moreover, the amphidiploids exhibited high pollen and seed fertility. Such amphidiploids thus appear to be suitable for use as breeding materials for the interspecific-cross breeding of Japanese garden iris.

A special purpose of breeding with induced amphidiploids of *I. laevigata* x Japanese garden iris would be to create novel flower color. Japanese garden iris produces purple, red-purple, blue-purple, light-purple, pink and white flower color due to flavonoid pigments, main components of which are anthocyanins such as malvidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutosido-5-glucoside (Malvidin 3RGac5G and petunidin 3-(p-coumaroyl)-rutosido-5-glucoside (petunidin 3RGac5G) (Hayashi et al. 1978, Ishikura and Yamamoto 1978, Yabuya et al. 1983a). Anthocyanins of the amphidiploids of *I. laevigata* x Japanese garden iris were analyzed by high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) and compared with those of parental species and  $F_1$  hybrids of *I. laevigata* x Japanese garden iris (Yabuya 1987). The amphidiploids exhibited all anthocyanins of the parental species and the  $F_1$  hybrids. Malvidin 3RGac5G and petunidin 3RGac5G in anthocyanins detected were major pigments in the amphidiploids, which exhibited strongly the malvidin 3RGac5G - petunidin 3RGac5G type of Japanese garden



iris rather than the petunidin 3R<sub>Gac</sub>5G - malvidin 3R<sub>Gac</sub>5G type of I. laevigata. Moreover, a higher degree of anthocyanin content was observed in the amphidiploids and the F<sub>1</sub> hybrids. Namely, the anthocyanin content of the amphidiploids and the F<sub>1</sub> hybrids were 2.81 and 2.45 times as much as that of the mid-parent. This implied that there was a complementary effect on anthocyanin synthesis of parental genes. However, the HPLC analysis showed that no useful components of anthocyanin due to hybridity were detected in the amphidiploids. From this fact it appears that these amphidiploids cannot be a source of novel flower color.

Another approach to overcome the hybrid sterility would be the amphidiploidization due to hybridization between autotetraploid Japanese garden iris and other autotetraploid species. The author (unpublished) has succeeded in obtaining F<sub>1</sub> hybrids (amphidiploids) of autotetraploid I. pseudacorus x autotetraploid Japanese garden iris, but cannot observe their first flower as yet. These plants may be also expected as bridge ones for the transfer of genes for yellow inner and outer perianth color from I. pseudacorus to Japanese garden iris.

The third step is the obtainment of allotriploids. Fig. 1 shows that there are two ways of crossing for the obtainment of allotriploids between Japanese garden iris and other species: namely, between amphidiploids and Japanese garden iris and between autotetraploid Japanese garden iris and other species. The obtainment of allotriploids is important as they can be used to transfer valuable genes from other species to Japanese garden iris. The allotriploids may contribute to pairing between homoeologous chromosomes of Japanese garden iris and other species in their meiosis.

Chromosome association has been clarified in two lines of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids of I. laevigata x Japanese garden iris and a line of F<sub>1</sub> hybrids of I. pseudacorus x Japanese garden iris. The mean chromosome association per cell and the range of numbers of bivalents in the former hybrids (2n=28) were 20.22<sub>I</sub> + 3.88<sub>II</sub> + 0.0046<sub>IV</sub> and 0-9 for 'Yukidoro' x 'Kacho' and 20.92<sub>I</sub> + 3.54<sub>II</sub> and 0-7 for wild type x 'Kacho' (Yabuya 1984b). On the other hand, those of the latter hybrids (2n=29) were 23.20<sub>I</sub> + 2.90<sub>II</sub> + 0.0038<sub>III</sub> and 0-6 (Yabuya 1985b). Thus, as both hybrids exhibit partial genomic homology between Japanese garden iris and I. laevigata and between Japanese garden iris and I. pseudacorus, gene exchange due to crossing over between homologous chromosomes of Japanese garden iris and I. laevigata and between those of Japanese garden iris and I. pseudacorus may be expected in the allotriploids. The author (unpublished) has obtained a hybrid plant by crossing amphidiploids of I. laevigata x Japanese garden iris. This plant may be expected to be the allotriploid of Japanese garden iris and I. laevigata, but its traits are not yet examined.

The final step is backcross breeding as shown in Fig. 1. In the backcross, Japanese garden iris is used as the backcross parent and the allotriploids as the other parent. Several backcrosses to Japanese garden iris must be conducted to select Japanese garden iris with valuable genes transferred by other species.



## Conclusion:

The breeding history and future of Japanese garden iris, Iris ensata Thunb. were discussed, and the interspecific-cross breeding was proposed as a new breeding method for the plant. The author has thus far taken only a few steps in his studies of such breeding. Though many difficult problems remain to be solved, the author will spare no effort to realize the interspecific-cross breeding of Japanese garden iris proposed here.

## Acknowledgement:

The author wishes to express his gratitude to Dr. C. McEwen for valuable comments and critically reading the manuscript.

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## JI CULTURE IN ARTIFICIAL BOGS

Robert A. Bauer

Most experts on Japanese iris culture write that JI are not bog plants, but do very well in ordinary garden soil, given an adequate supply of water through the blooming season. The Japanese flood their iris during bloom season, they say, for the aesthetic qualities of the water background. There's more to water, I think, than an aesthetic background.

First of all, Japanese iris may not thrive in ordinary garden soil, and in most parts of the U.S., they will fail to bloom well or even die in ordinary garden soil. For them to do well, the soil must be rich, on the acid side, and water retentive (or have poor drainage). For optimum bloom the soil must be moist, even soggy, from the time the iris begin to grow in early spring through the blooming period. After blooming, the plant continues to grow and the foliage increases tremendously throughout the summer; for optimum performance, the plant must be kept watered all through the growing season.

Two years ago (1986) we decided to add two artificial ponds to the garden, and while in the business of looking for sources of plastic liners, I came across a landscaping firm that had a swimming pool liner left from a job where the size of the pool was changed, and it was available at very reasonable cost. The problem with the liner was its color - a brilliant blue which seemed out of place in the garden. We eventually found 32 mil black PVC liners for the ponds. We also had two areas that had grown Japanese iris for several years where the plants no longer flourished, and we had decided to replace the soil in these areas with virgin soil removed while digging the ponds. It was then that we decided to experiment with bogs. The planting areas were excavated to a depth of 14-16 inches which is where a layer of rocks, sand and gravel begins, and lined the holes with sections of the 20 mil blue PVC pool liner. The excavation of the ponds began by first removing the sod (2") and using the topsoil to fill the plastic-lined bogs. The two bogs were prepared differently; one, which I will call the large one, was triangular, about 12 feet to a side, and was filled with a mix of topsoil:perlite, 3:1. The second, the small one, was circular with a diameter of about five feet, and was filled with a "classic" bog mix of 1:1:1, topsoil:perlite:Canadian sphagnum peat. About an inch of rotted stable manure (horse manure and straw) was incorporated into the top six inches of each bog and they were planted in mid-September and thoroughly watered. The soil level in the bogs was even with the surrounding soil, but because of the slope of the ground, excess water drained to one edge of each; that is, there was never any standing water in the bogs, even after very heavy rains.

All the plants responded very well, blooming the next summer with tall, multiple branched stalks and very large flowers, the stalks being 6-12" taller than those of the same variety in non-bog conditions. The smaller bog, a mass planting of the short pink 'Kyokko', was thinned to about half the number of plants. This year (1988), again the bloom was spectacular.



By September each plant was a clump of 20-40 fans, which we consider to be overcrowded. The planting of 'Kyokko' was replaced with a mass planting of Reid's magnificent red 'Garnet Royalty'. In the larger bog, half the plants were removed and replaced with two-fan divisions and half were left. Normally the remaining plants would have been divided, but they were left to see how large clumps behave in bog conditions.

Based on our experience with artificial bogs, the reports by George Padget (The Review, 24:2, 33 (1987); 25:2, 35 (1988)), and the results of Jim and Jill Copelands' bogs, we most heartily recommend them. If we define bog plants as those that flourish in bog conditions, perhaps Japanese iris would not fit in that class, because they need more nutrients than are present in a bog. Maybe we should call them marsh plants, but I believe it is misleading to represent them as plants which would do well in an ordinary perennial bed.

Making an artificial bog represents a considerable amount of labor with additional problems of where to store the soil while the excavation takes place and the high cost of durable PVC liners. This year we are experimenting with small planting pockets which would allow JI and other water-loving iris to be grown in a perennial border. They consist of holes about 18" in diameter, 14-16" deep, lined with 2 strong, large plastic garbage bags, one inside the other. While excavating the hole, the soil can be amended and stored in a large wheel barrow. After filling the garbage bag lined holes with the amended soil, the plastic is cut to about half an inch below soil level for aesthetic reasons. I call these planting pockets "bogettes" and will report on them in the future.

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#### Editor's note:

Mr. Bauer forwarded his article to several other growers to elicit their comments. What follows are two additional articles in response to his. It should be remembered in reading the Delmez article, that he lives in an area where temperatures often reach near 100 degrees or over during bloom season.

#### GROWING JI'S UNDER ARTIFICIAL BOG CONDITIONS William L. Ackerman

I am writing on this subject as a companion piece to Bob Bauer's article on JI Culture in Artificial Bogs. My own experiences indicate there are many advantages in this method but there are also some pitfalls.

My first attempt with the use of artificially constructed bogs was about three years ago. At that time it was a matter of desperation. I was losing JI's at an unacceptable rate. I had a two-fold problem. We had several very dry summers and my soil, a light sandy loam, was just not maintaining adequate moisture despite frequent watering. Where I was watering conscientiously, I was attracting moles and other underground varmints from the surrounding countryside.

I decided to "kill two birds with one stone" by constructing a series of plastic lined beds which would be varmit proof as well. I purchased several rolls of the heaviest weight (6 mil) black plastic locally available and pressure treated lumber in boards 2 x 6 by 10' long. By cutting one third of the planks in half, I eventually constructed six beds five feet wide and ten feet long lined up end to end in a row 60 feet long. The purpose of the boards was to form a border for each bed that would be reasonably level. My land is so irregular that nowhere on the property is there more than a few feet of level ground. The soil from each bed was dug out to a depth of about 16 inches. The bottom and sides up to the top of the 6" wide boards was first lined with  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch hardware cloth and two layers of black plastic. Both wire and plastic were stapled to the bottom of the boards. The pile of soil removed from each bed was mixed with peatmoss and compost in a ratio of about 2:2:1, respectively.

These beds were used for the preliminary selections I had made from my seedling plots. The purpose was for insurance against loss from varmints and an area where I could have much better control of moisture conditions. The plants grew exceptionally well the first season and the next spring they came up fully a week earlier than the JI's in nearby garden plots. Also, of course, I had no losses from burrowing rodents. I was feeling rather proud of myself and this attitude continued until the following spring.

It was the second spring that proved I was not as smart as I had thought. Instead of the new growth coming up earlier in these beds than in the garden plots, they were more than a week later, growth was weak and a number of plants had died. Later that year, in a conversation with Adolph Vogt, he mentioned the possibility that a buildup of excess water in the beds during the winter might be the problem. This made a lot of sense since I was well aware of the problem of overwintering strawberries. When soil moisture conditions are high, the freezing and thawing of the ground causes severe root damage and loss. With strawberries the solution is heavy mulching over winter. That previous winter had been a very wet one with considerable fluctuation in temperatures. Quite possibly my iris were suffering from root damage. Another possibility was just too much water being held above the plastic liner. In the summer this moisture is taken up by the plant roots and evaporates from the soil surface. During the winter the plants are dormant and surface evaporation is greatly reduced.



Upon returning home, I dug down into the plastic liner in several beds. The lower levels of soil were saturated and had a sour, putrifying odor. It was obvious that I had too much moisture here for too long a time. The solution was easy enough. I ground a point on a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " steel rod and with this poked a series of holes through the plastic bottom of three of the six beds. Two weeks later I could see a decided improvement in these beds so I proceeded to do the same for the remaining beds. Since then I have had no further problems.

What is the answer to all of this? I still feel that the construction of these artificial bog beds was a worthwhile project. Under the proper conditions the grower can maintain a much better control of soil moisture and be rewarded by superior growth. However, there is such a thing as too much of even a good thing. If you live in an area with open winters like I do, be careful you are not setting your plants up for serious root damage. Also, if the soil in the bog continues to be saturated for long periods of time, you could build up anaerobic conditions in the soil which could be detrimental to root growth and development.

Lastly, since there is no drainage past the plastic bottom, there is the distinct possibility of a buildup of fertilizer salts to a toxic level.

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#### JAPANESE IRIS CULTURE IN ARTIFICIAL BOGS Donald Delmez

This also is an attempt to encourage you to try a bed of Japanese Iris in a plastic lined bog. The reason behind this article is somewhat different than the previous articles in that the plastic liner is basically placed in the bed to keep out the encroachment of tree and shrub roots. It is commonly considered that JI prefer full sun, but I have found that they do quite well with only one half day of direct sun light and if possible, the shade in the heat of the day. It is quite important to keep the root zone cool as well as damp, thus the shade from the nooday sun can be very helpful. Of course, if you plant your iris within any distance of a large tree that would give you that kind of shade, it will also help itself to all the water and plant food you could possibly put on your garden. Thus, the plastic liner is most important. One more benefit of planting in a shaded area is that you can get one to two days longer bloom, and in hot climates, you can get late bloomers to bloom before they melt in a hot 95 degree plus June sun, not to mention yourself. We also prepare our beds the way Bob has described in his article, but our bed is in three sections totaling 50 feet long by four feet wide with 100 different varieties. Each section can be dug and divided every third year, thus making the job managable. These are just a few reasons to try a plastic lined bed and with some inventiveness you can improve on this to fit your own special garden.

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**COMPREHENSIVE INDEX OF THE "REVIEW"**  
**VOLUMES 1 THROUGH 25**

**by Leland M. Welsh**

Following is a comprehensive index of the "Review" for all issues from Volume 1 through Volume 25. It is organized by subjects, alphabetically. In general the articles are listed under each subject in alphabetical order, except in a few cases such as meeting and show reports, which are generally listed in chronological order.

An effort was made to list all items which were of interest for their content of editorial information or of interest in the history and development of the society. Not listed were the regular President's letters (although many of them make very interesting reading); notices of future meetings, shows, conventions, etc.; regular business items such as treasurer's reports, nominating committee reports; membership lists; and many small items which constitute only announcements or requests for information and material.

Each listing is keyed in the following order:

Name of article, author (if known), page numbers, Volume number, Issue number, and date of issue.

Many articles are listed under more than one subject heading because of the variety of information in them. Where it seemed feasible, some effort was made to cross-reference between subject headings.

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PROGRESS NOTE ON TETRAPLOIDY - 1978. by Dr. Currier McEwen 1-2, Vol.15 No.2 Oct., 1978

PROGRESS WITH TETRAPLOIDS. by Eleanor Westmeyer 18-19, Vol.2 No.2 Oct., 1965

TETRAPLOID IRIS KAEMPFERI. by Max Steiger 19-20, Vol.1 No.2 May, 1964

TETRAPLOIDS. by Orville Fay 7-8, Vol.1 No.1 Jan., 1964

TETRAPLOIDY - 1976 EXPERIENCE. by Dr. Currier McEwen 28-29, Vol.13 No.2 Oct., 1976

#### **TRANSPLANTING (Time):**

A TIME TO TRANSPLANT. by Ensata Gardens 31-32, Vol.24 No.2 Fall, 1987

MIDWEST REGIONAL REPORT. by Adolph J. Vogt 30, Vol.13 No.2 Oct., 1976

MORE NOTES ON PLANTING TIMES, EXCERPTS FROM ROBIN SOUTH, FLIGHT 20. by Adolph Vogt 25, Vol.25 No.1 Spring, 1988

SOME NOTES ON PLANTING DATES. by Currier McEwen 29-30, Vol.24 No.2 Fall, 1987

WHEN TO DIVIDE JAPANESE IRIS(?)! JULY? --- SEPT.? by Anna Mae Miller 43, Vol.23 No.2 Fall, 1986

#### **VARIETAL COMMENTS:**

A VISIT WITH ARLIE PAYNE. by Bee Warburton 23-25, Vol.3 No.2 Oct., 1966

JAPANESE IRISES AROUND THE WORLD. by Shuichi Hirao 26-29, Vol.1 No.2 May, 1964

JAPANESE IRIS GARDENS IN TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA. by Nancy Christ 39-46, Vol.1 No.3 Nov., 1964

JAPANESE IRISES IN KYOTO, OSAKA. by Akira Horinaka 26-28, Vol.4 No.2 Oct., 1967

MARHIGO IRIS. by Dot Rogers 16-17, Vol.22 No.1 Spring, 1985

NORTHWEST REGIONAL REPORT. by Lorena M. Reid 10, Vol.12 No.2 Oct., 1975

NUMAZU. by A. H. Hazzard 4, Vol.3 No.1 May, 1966

OTHER COMMENTS ON JAPANESE IRISES. by Jack Craig 8-10, Vol.6 No.1 April, 1969



THE SEASON IN CONNECTICUT. by Eleanor Westmeyer 40-41 Vol.21  
No.2 Fall, 1984

THE SWEARENGEN GARDEN. by Bee Warburton 25-26, Vol.3 No.2  
Oct., 1966

#### **WEEDS & WEED CONTROL:**

CONTROL OF COUCH GRASS IN THE HOME GARDEN. by Wray M. Bowden  
7-8, Vol.16 No.2 Fall, 1979

#### **WESTMEYER, ELEANOR DUNHAM:**

ELEANOR DUNHAM WESTMEYER (Memorial). 7, Vol.25 No.2 Fall,  
1988

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#### **REGION 1 APOGON AUCTION**

Region 1 of A.I.S. will hold its annual Apogon Auction on  
September 10, 1989. Proceeds from this auction are donated to  
the sections of A.I.S. such as the Society for Japanese  
Irises, according to the amount of each type of iris sold at  
the auction.

This years auction will be held at the home of Barbara  
Schmieder, whose address is:

566 Old Rd to NAC  
Concord, Massachussets 01742  
Tel. (508) 369-3383

The group would appreciate the donation of any rhizomes which  
hybridizers and growers wish to send. Rhizomes should be sent  
so as to arrive in fresh condition in time for the auction to:

Martin Schafer  
45 Elm St.  
Bedford, Massachussets 01730  
Tel. (617) 275-7723

Anyone wishing more information regarding time, directions,  
etc., may contact either Barbara or Marty.

## THE INTERNATIONAL GARDEN AND GREENERY EXPOSITION, OSAKA, JAPAN. 1990

A news release has been received regarding a major Garden and Greenery Exposition, Expo '90, to be held in Osaka Japan. For the information of those who might be interested in attending this event, the news release is herein quoted.

"Preparations are now being made in Osaka, Japan for the expected twenty million visitors who will come to The International Garden and Greenery Exposition 1990 (Expo '90) between April 1 and September 30, 1990.

What these visitors will find is a 140 hectare area lush with foliage and fauna of every shape. The exposition site is divided into three general areas: the City Area, the Fields Area, and the Mountain Area. Each area incorporates the beauty and characteristics of the natural landscape with the best that the international horticulture society can offer.

Special focus during Expo '90 will be on addressing the environmental problems that face our world today and on the technology and development that will lead us into the 21st century in harmony with our environment.

The Garden and Greenery Exposition 1990 is recognized by the Association Internationale des Producteurs de l'Horticulture, and is registered with the Bureau International des Expositions. Over 12 international organizations and 15 countries will be participating in Expo '90.

Every effort will be made at Expo '90 to exhibit an international blend of flowers from all parts of the world. In addition, it will provide the opportunity for international understanding and exchange of ideas concerning the directions we should take in providing for an increasingly urban environment.

Additional information about the Garden and Greenery Exposition in 1990 and the city of Osaka, Japan is available from the Japan National Tourist Organization, 401 N. Michigan Ave., #770, Chicago, IL 60611. 312-222-0874."



## SJI BUSINESS MEETINGS FOR 1989

The following dates have been set for  
SJI meetings this year.

At the AIS Convention in Memphis:

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
**Saturday, April 29 at 9:00 PM.**

SECTION MEETING  
**Sunday, April 30 at 3:45 PM.**

at Manassas, Virginia

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
**Friday, June 16, at 2-4 PM.**

All members who attend the AIS Convention are encouraged to attend the Section Meeting. This is an important meeting as a vote will be taken on changes to the Bylaws. Any members interested in attending, are also welcome as visitors to the Board of Directors Meetings.

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## THE POPULARITY POLL

The SJI Popularity Poll is on again for 1989. We had an improved participation in 1987, 44 voters, and only 39 last year. How about making it at least 100 this year.

All members are urged to participate. Look at your own garden, the other JI gardens you may be able to visit, the SJI Convention gardens if you can, and then VOTE.

You will find a ballot on the last page of this issue. It is to be cut out and used for mailing your vote. A suggestion, how about possibly photocopying it and carrying a copy with you when visiting a garden for making notes? Whatever works, but let us hear from you.

The results will be published in the next issue of the "Review".

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## THE EDITOR'S "REVIEW"

One of the more satisfying experiences of being an editor is to unexpectedly receive in the mail an article the caliber of the one by Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya. I would especially like to thank him for the article and Dr. McEwen for forwarding it to me. It is hoped that his further studies will be productive, and that we may hear more from him regarding this subject.

The first issue of "The Review" was published in January, 1964, making this the 25th anniversary issue. To celebrate that fact, it was felt a 25 year index would be fitting. That proved to be a most intimidating subject to approach. Some articles seem to defy classification, at least neatly. It is hoped the result will be found useful to members, now and in the future.

During the past 25 years much progress has occurred. Many of the items comprising this progress have been noted in the President's Letter in this issue. One wonders where we will be in another 25 years. I think we may be surprised at what can still be achieved. It only requires our continued efforts and dedication to make the progress happen.

A recent issue of the British Iris Society's Newsletter of the Siberian Spuria and Japanese Group brought news that my counterpart, Joan Trevithick, has been seriously ill. I'm sure that those who know her will join me in wishing a continued and full recovery.

March is beginning to act a little like spring will soon be coming. It has been another strange winter in the Kalamazoo area. There was an unusually warm January, even got up to 60 degrees. Winter did not actually arrive until mid-February, then down to below zero degrees. There has been only a small amount of snow cover during the cold weather. I hope this is not the forerunner of another dry spring like last year. How strange, considering that part of the Upper peninsula nearly set an all time record for snow fall while at the same time Tennessee and Kentucky were experiencing floods. One keeps hoping, and at this time of year looking forward to the bloom season.

Speaking of bloom seasons, the plans for the SJI Convention sound well organized and the gardens sound like they will be a delight to visit. Hopefully, as many of you as possible will attend.

Best wishes to all of you for a great bloom season.



Faintly now a lark . . . . .  
on snow-patched earth the sun; and  
I too, long for spring.

Robert Mainone

## 1989 POPULARITY POLL BALLOT

Vote your favorite 10 Japanese irises as seen in gardens this year. They do not need to be listed in any particular order. This form is to be used by both members of a family membership. Place comments on the reverse side. Mail the ballot, post marked no later than Aug. 15th, to:

Mrs. Wells E. (Virginia) Burton  
3275 Miller Dr.  
Ladson, SC 29456

### Member #1.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

### Member # 2.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Members name. #1. \_\_\_\_\_

#2. \_\_\_\_\_

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# SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

## Financial Statement

January 1, 1988 - December 31, 1988

### MONEY MARKET SAVINGS

Balance on hand 1/1/88	\$10,565.88	
Interest	657.36	
S. W. Mich. Iris Society Auction	1,334.00	
N. E. Apagon Auction	1,200.00	
Life Memberships- Murabayashi, Vogt, Brotherton	225.00	
Donations- Ponchalek, McEwen, Pope, Warner, Delmez	357.50	
	<u>\$14,339.74</u>	
Transfer to Checking	300.00	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/88	<u>\$14,039.74</u>	\$14,039.74

### CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on hand 1/1/88 \$ 1,871.67

#### Income:

Dues	1,487.50
Checklist Sales	327.00
Interest	73.00
Back Issues REVIEW	46.50
Slide Rental	62.50
Medal refund	20.00
Transfer from Savings	300.00
	<u>2,316.50</u>

#### Expenses:

Spring REVIEW	\$ 506.86
Fall REVIEW	1,096.58
Engrave Payne Medal	18.48
Postage, Copies (Mem. Sec.)	100.85
Slide reproduction & Postage	59.52
Checklist Printing	1,383.35
Service Charge	5.00
	<u>\$ 3,170.64</u>

Balance on Hand 12/31/88 \$ 1,017.53

TOTAL CASH ON HAND 12/31/88 \$15,057.27

Respectfully Submitted,

*Carol S. Warner*

Carol S. Warner, Treas.