

THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY
FOR
JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 27

NUMBER 1

SPRING, 1990

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

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The Japanese Iris



Currier McEwen

THE BOOK IS ARRIVING!

See Page 9

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 & 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.

Dues: Single annual, \$3.50; family annual, \$4.00; single triennial, \$9.00; family triennial, \$10.50; single life membership \$75.00; family life, \$100.00. Send either to the AIS membership chairman, or directly to The Society For Japanese Irise's Membership Chairman.

Renewals: If your mailing label is marked with the expiration date 9001 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.

Back issues: Back issues of The Review are available for a charge of \$1.50 per copy, including postage. In some cases there are no original copies available, but photo-copies will be provided at the same charge. Volume 1 (1964) consists of three issues, all subsequent volumes contain two issues each. Order from the LIBRARIAN. Include a check made out to The Society For Japanese Irises in an amount to cover the number of issues ordered.

Slide Sets & Library Items:	SJI Slide Set rental.	\$ 5.00
	Payne catalogs ('56 & '64) &	
	Marx catalogs ('55 & '64) reprints	\$ 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, \$18.00; ½ page layout, \$10.00; short adds, text only, \$2.00 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.

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THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear SJI Members,

All in all, our Society's business is in very good shape. Our book is scheduled to be published in early May, and be available for sale at the National AIS Convention. We have established a prepublication price for SJI members who get their checks off to Don Delmez right away, as indicated elsewhere in this issue of The Review. Currier McEwen plans to be on hand to autograph copies in Omaha. Let's keep our fingers crossed that the publisher comes through in time. The debt our Society owes to Currier, for all his work on the book and its publication, for his great hybridizing achievements, and his many, many other services is beyond calculation.

The Review continues to be one of the finest publications of any plant society---and our debt to Lee Welsh is also very great.

Our Treasurer and Membership Chairman Carol Warner does the bulk of the day to day "grinding" work of our Society, and does it with efficiency and diligence. When you see her, remember to say "Thanks." In her usual modest fashion she will probably say, "Oh, it's nothing." It is everything! It makes the President's job a breeze.

Our friends in Maine are planning a grand time for us in July. Do try to make it there. Our conventions in the future are fairly well scheduled. In 1991 we will go to Oregon; in 1992, its back to super Kalamazoo. In 1993 we shall go to Norfolk-Virginia Beach, Virginia. The Summerville SC Iris Society has invited us back to South Carolina in 1994. In 1995, the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris society has extended us an invitation to return to the Washington, D.C. area. How I would love to get an invitation for our 1996 SJI Convention from an iris society west of the Mississippi!

A number of additional local societies are committing to staging a beardless show in the next two years! This is the single best way to spread knowledge and interest in Japanese irises. When people see them, they love them.

The iris which many of us are growing as 'ROSE QUEEN' or Iris ensata var. 'Rose Queen' is very lovely. At the show at our convention in Manassas last year a stalk of "ROSE QUEEN" won Queen of the Show. If I have a personal 'favorite iris' it is this simple, elegant form of Iris ensata. How sad that it is, by AIS rules, misnamed. John Coble pointed out to me last year that the cultivar bearing the approved name ROSE QUEEN, as reflected in the 1939 Checklist, is in fact a "double" introduced by Frank Lilly in 1915.

When my copy of the British Iris Society 1989 Yearbook arrived in the mail in February I was in for a bit of a shock. An award winning photograph of Iris ensata 'Rose Queen' appears in this excellent publication. Alas! The iris pictured is a single dark purple cultivar---not the cultivar that we know by that name.

The sad state of affairs with 'ROSE QUEEN' unfortunately is not an isolated case. Seventy years after the founding of AIS we devotees of the Japanese iris are faced with the fact that the problem of names' has not been solved as it has for other types of irises.

The official AIS Checklists contain errors and incorrect names for cultivars that originated in Japan. The 1939 Checklist shows cultivar names as obsolete when the cultivars are still in existence. No standard transliteration system, whereby Japanese names could be converted to the Western Alphabet in a consistent way, has ever been adopted. Thus, sometimes hyphenation is used, sometimes the same Japanese character becomes a "z" sometimes and "s", sometimes two Japanese words are merged into one word in English, etc. Most modern cultivars from Japan are not registered with AIS.

Our JI Cumulative Checklist also has some additional errors. Sometimes it has incomplete information. The names of cultivars from Japan are a particular problem. Not all the irises in the Cumulative Checklist are registered with AIS, and we cannot use it to make such determinations. John Coble and Bob Bauer have volunteered to begin a project to update and improve the JI Cumulative Checklist in the not too distant future.

Sometimes the JI Cumulative Checklist lists the same iris under two names, e.g. SUI TEN ISSHOKU and SUI TEN ISHIKI. What a shame, since this iris may well be the best blue single JI in existence! How does this come about? In this case I think I know. The kanji [Chinese characters] for SUI TEN ISSHOKU consists of four characters, the last of which can be pronounced "shoku" or "shiki". Dr. Hirao's book pictures this iris under the name SUI TEN ISSHOKU. In Japanese the kanji characters mean "Color of Water and Heaven." Regardless of name, however, this iris, which originated in Japan before 1939, is not registered with AIS.

For most gardeners, the flower is more important than the name. Problems with names and registration will not interest them. But I do believe that our Society has a greater responsibility. The fact is that irises which are not registered with the AIS registry are not eligible for AIS awards. We have the obligation to work with AIS to get cultivars from Japan properly named and properly registered. I am hopeful that we can arrive at some suitable arrangement with the AIS and Japan Iris Society to effect this end, and welcome suggestions at our Board of Directors meetings in Nebraska and Maine.

The office of Chairman of the Registration and Awards Committee, required by our bylaws, has been vacant for a very long time. I have asked Rich Randall to take on this job, and he has accepted subject to Board confirmation.

See you in Omaha,

Clarence Mahan



THURSDAY-SATURDAY

JULY 12-14, 1990



**MAINE IRIS SOCIETY
INVITES YOU TO THE
1990 CONVENTION OF
THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES**

Word received from Maine indicates a most interesting schedule of events awaiting those who attend the 1990 SJI Convention. Highlights of the tentative convention schedule are:

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 1990

9:00 - 11:00 Show Entries
11:00 - 2:00 Show Judged
12:00 - 5:30 Convention Registration
2:00 - 4:00 SJI Board Meeting
2:30 - 6:00 Show Open to Public
4:15 - 5:15 Lecture by Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya
6:00 Social Hour
7:00 Welcome Banquet - Sheraton Tara
Speaker will be Mr. Kamo of Kamo Nurseries, Japan.

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1990

7:00 - 7:45 Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 4:30 Garden Tours with Luncheon Included
DINNER ON YOUR OWN
7:30 Evening Program

SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1990

7:00 - 7:45 Continental Breakfast
8:00 - 5:30 Garden Tours to Gorham and South Harpswell (Dr. McEwen's)
1:00 Lobster Picnic at Dr. McEwen's - Your Choice of Lobster, or Steak or Chicken.
2:00 Judge's Training led by Jill Copeland
3:00 Collect Ballots
3:30 Awards - Announcements - Auction, with Clarence Mahan as Auctioneer.

Following the Saturday activities there is an optional trip to Freeport and the home of L. L. Bean.

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS
will be the
SHERATON TARA (Exit 7 - Maine Tpk.)
363 Maine Mall Road
South Portland, Maine 04106
Tel. (207) 775-6161

Room rate: \$55 + 7% tax per room per night.
(1-4 persons per room)

Please make room reservations directly with Sheraton Tara by June 21 (Room rate cannot be guaranteed thereafter). Be sure to mention the Japanese Iris Convention to receive convention rate.

FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE TO THE AIRPORT
RESTAURANTS IN HOTEL AND NEARBY
NEARBY SHOPPING MALL

CONVENTION REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 21!

Please register early - available space may make it necessary to limit registrations.

Convention Registration Fee: \$65.00 per person
Includes banquet, 2 breakfasts, 2 days
bus tours, Friday Luncheon & Saturday Picnic.

Partial registrations are available.

For a complete registration form contact:

Evelyn J. White, Registrar
RFD 2 Box 980
Auburn, Maine 04210
Tel: (207) 345-9532

FUTURE SJI CONVENTIONS

- 1990 - Portland, Maine - July 12-14
- 1991 - Portland, Oregon - June 14-15
- 1992 - Kalamazoo, Michigan - July 3-4
- 1993 - Virginia Beach - Norfolk, Virginia
- 1994 - Summerville, South Carolina
- 1995 - Washington D.C.
- 1996 - Open

TIDEWATER CHAPTER AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

MEMORIAL GARDEN

S. Herman Dennis, III

As the Tidewater Chapter of Virginia Beach - Norfolk in conjunction with the Norfolk Botanical Gardens were planning our guest beds for the Society for Japanese Irises' Convention in 1993, our attention was drawn to the fact that although the gardens in honor of their sister city Kitakyoushu have a Japanese garden complete with torii gates, raked gravel and appropriate trees, the Japanese irises are in short supply. With this in mind, and as we are privileged to have Freda Hazzard as one of our members, we decided that in addition to the guest iris beds, we would establish a permanent Arthur Hazzard Memorial Garden. Our goal is to secure at least one each of his introductions.

In order to make this a successful venture, we are seeking your help in the following way. If you are willing to donate a cultivar of Arthur's, please let us know which one, as we would like as large a variety as possible. The plants will be labeled not only with the cultivar name, but also the donors name, city and state.

As many of you may know, the Norfolk Botanical Gardens has over 12 miles of floral pathways, is famous for their Azalea Festival, bicentennial rose gardens, and their boat and train tours which you will be able to enjoy during the 1993 Society for Japanese Irises Convention.

All in all, we believe that the Norfolk Botanical Gardens is offering us a golden opportunity to stimulate interest in the Japanese irises with our displays that are open to the public.

The following are to be contacted regarding the memorial garden, Caryll Randall, 524 Windsor Gate Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, telephone (804) 340-9077, or S. Herman Dennis, III, 2413 Cedar Bark Road, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-1722, telephone (804) 481-1626.

REQUEST FROM SIBERIAN IRIS SOCIETY, GUEST IRISES FOR 1993

The SIS is planning for its first convention, to be held in Michigan in June 1993. This notice is for all growers of beardless irises who may be growing Siberian iris seedlings. If you are interested in sending guest plants to this convention we are ready to receive them. For detailed information write before July 1st, 1990 to:

Jill or Susan Copeland
34165 CR 652
Mattawn, MI 49071

SJI BOOK NOW AVAILABLE

It is with great excitement that The Society For Japanese Irises announces the publication of its book The Japanese Iris by Currier McEwen. Many people have worked toward, and long anticipated this event. The book is expected to be off the presses by the end of April and the first volumes should be available early in May.

The book is a comprehensive work, containing the history of the Japanese iris, both in Japan and the United States; detailed information on cultural practices under a variety of conditions; diseases, insects and controls; hybridizing; seed growing, care of seedlings and registration; judging and exhibiting Japanese irises; companion plants for use in the perennial garden; and other related subjects. Whether you are an experienced gardener or a novice, you will find the book filled with information of use and interest to you. It will be an asset to any gardener's library.

The author of The Japanese Iris is Dr. Currier McEwen, former president of The Society for Japanese Irises. He is a recognized grower and hybridizer of Japanese irises. He is also a well known author, who wrote Siberian Irises, numerous articles about both Siberian and Japanese irises, and a number of medical books and articles. He undertook the writing of The Japanese Iris, for the Society, for our edification and interest, and out of his own love for the Japanese irises and the Society. The Society is grateful to him for his considerable effort in producing this volume.

The Japanese Iris will sell for \$29.95 at book stores and \$32.00 (including postage) if ordered from the publisher. It is being made available for a limited time to SJI members only at the prepublication price of \$21.00 (including postage). To take advantage of this price offer, make out a check payable to The Society For Japanese Irises, and mail your order to Donald Delmez, 3240 Connecticut Street, St. Charles, MO 63301. The order must be postmarked no later than May 15th for the prepublication price. After May 15th the Society will sell the volume for \$29.95 (including postage). If shipment is received in time, the Society will also have the book for sale at the AIS National Convention in Omaha.

NOTE FROM ROBINS CHAIRMAN

Vince Bitzer, SJI Robins Chairman, writes that he currently has one Robin in flight with 7 members. There has recently been a request from 2 more members wishing to join a Robin. Anyone else wishing to join a Robin is encouraged to contact Vince (address in front of this issue). This is a good way to increase personal contact with other growers and to gain knowledge regarding the growing and/or hybridizing of Japanese irises.

LETTER TO A POTENTIAL JI GROWER

by Ruby Buchanan
113 Southoak Drive
Winston-Salem, N.C. 27107

12 March 1990

Dearest Patricia,

Your letter was a delightful surprise but I cannot begin to tell you 'all about the irises of Japan' in a letter 'by return mail'. Maybe I should start with the warning that you cannot grow 'just one' Japanese iris, since they are quite addictive. Still, I can see no reason that you cannot grow these most versatile irises in your garden. They may be found flourishing all over the United States, from Maine to Washington; from Michigan to Tennessee; and from South Carolina back to Maine. Just look around, I think you might find them growing in West Virginia, too.

There are so many reasons why you should at least try the Japanese irises. There is infinite variety and beauty personified in the iris of Japan. Both the single three fall flowers and the double six fall flowers are equally enchanting. They are more easily grown than the tall-bearded irises for me. They extend the iris blooming season several weeks beyond the other species. And the cost is not prohibitive, since there are a number of cultivars which have stood the test of time and differing environmental conditions.

If 'Variety is the spice of life', as we have been told, your life will certainly need a new spice rack after you start growing these lovely irises. By all means, join the Society for Japanese Irises the first thing you do. This is a section of the American Iris society that specializes in the distribution of helpful information - lists of commercial gardens - interesting articles and cultivation tips. Later you may want to join a Japanese iris Robin. Mrs. Andrew C. Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155 is the treasurer for the S.J.I.. She will be pleased to hear from you.

Just select the colors and types that you like best; give them a place in the sun with ample moisture in the spring and watch them grow. It would take a book to tell you 'all about the irises of Japan'. I have found that what you want to know can best be learned in your own garden. There are no words to describe the stately beauty you may enjoy. Let me know if I have not answered your questions. Time is of the essence.

It is time for the post. Happy gardening!

"Auntie Arbee"

REQUEST FOR JAPANESE IRIS GUESTS

1992 Society for Japanese Irises Convention Kalamazoo, Michigan

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society will host the National Japanese Iris Convention, July 3, 4, and 5 of 1992. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings under serious consideration for introduction. Four guest gardens are scheduled, and a fifth garden of ponds and landscaping is planned for the tour.

1. Up to four rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. Guest iris will be accepted from May 20 to September 30, 1990. Our climate is best suited for transplants to be planted by September 1, for best establishment.
3. Send inquiries and guest irises to Guest Iris Chairman:

Robert Bauer
9823 E. Michigan Ave.
Galesburg, MI 49053
Phone (616) 665-7500

4. Please label each guest iris division:
 - a. Hybridizer's name.
 - b. Seedling Number or cultivar Name.
 - c. Year of Introduction, if introduced.

A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. The Guest Gardens have agreed to a code of ethics, for all guest iris, to protect the hybridizer's interests. In 1991, a letter and status report will be mailed to all contributors asking for updates on registrations or introductions, and instructions regarding disposition of their guest plants at or after the convention.

Wish us good weather, and plan on "Kalamazoo in '92".

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM SJI HISTORIAN

The SJI Historian, John Coble, would like to complete the set of Marx catalogues. If anyone has a copy of the 1964 catalog, or any catalogues put out by Marx after 1967 which they would donate to SJI it would be appreciated.

THE SLEEPING BEAUTY

by Willa Owens

So few people know the Japanese iris! Often at our iris shows, I hear visitors explaining to each other "these are Japanese iris" while looking at Siberians. I suppose they see the Siberian form in Japanese paintings. One thing is clear -- they have never seen a Japanese iris!

Gardeners who grow Japanese iris can do much to dispel this general ignorance. We are often the only kids on the block with this glamorous flower. After the neighbors, relatives and friends have "oohed and aahed" sufficiently, let's show Japanese iris faces in public places.

I've taken a vase of cut flowers to my bank on occasion. They have a deep windowledge that simply calls for flowers and they are always delighted to have them. Also the local library likes to show an impressive display of flowers -- properly labeled, of cours.

It's fun to bring a small arrangement to one's hostesses during the blooming season. And always take them to the Women's Club! All that excited chirping -- "What are they?" "They're so beautiful!" "Can you really grow them in your own garden?" -- is so satisfactory.

In the Pittsburgh area, we are tentatively planning a Japanese iris show in 1991. I say tentatively because at the moment only a small percentage of our members are growing Japanese iris. Most of our members are serious hybridizers and/or collectors of tall bearded iris and daylilies.

How any iris grower could resist growing the gorgeous Japanese iris simply baffles me. Japanese iris don't take any more care than other perennials; their foliage is beautiful all season; they increase massively; and the flowers are spectacular!

Let's show these flowers in high traffic places and tell the world about Japanese iris.



REQUEST FROM ENGLAND

the Editor

Joan Trevithick, editor of the "Newsletter" for the Siberian Spuria and Japanese Group of the British Iris Society, gets many inquiries from British irisarians regarding sources for Japanese irises. Would all American sources for JIs, who are willing to ship to Britain, please send Joan a copy of your catalogue or price list? It would be greatly appreciated. I am sure she would also welcome lists for other beardless irises besides JI's.

The address is:

Mrs. Joan Trevithick
86a, Grantham Rd.
Radcliffe-on-Trent
Nottingham, NG12 2HY, England

REQUEST FOR SEED

A request for Japanese iris seed has been received from Mr. Bill Stephani, of Seymour, Wisconsin. He writes that he is interested in obtaining a large amount of seed from gardeners that have a number of varieties planted in proximity, so as to get some natural hybridization. The seed need not be cleaned, stalks and pods are acceptable. He is willing to either purchase the seed, or to trade 1½ year old seedling plants for the seed.

Anyone interested in supplying seeds should contact:

Bill Stephani
Green Acres
5081 County Line Road,
Seymour, Wisconsin 54165

THE SJI POPULARITY POLL

Last years response to the popularity poll was a big improvement, 61 voters from 19 states. Can we make it even better this year? How about 1990 being the year we go over 100 participants?

All members are urged to participate. See as many JI's as you can this bloom season, select your favorites, and 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. As a suggestion, how about photocopying it and carrying a copy with you when visiting a garden, for making notes? Whatever works for you, but do let us hear from you.

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

"YOU CAN COUNT ON THIS"

Ron Harris
Tidewater Iris Society

A few years ago I wrote an article for the Region IV Newscast in which I made a rather off-the-wall comment that the first year I grew tall bearded iris I had planted 52 of these beauties and that I did not intend to grow more than 52 iris. The following year I ordered three hundred (300) tall bearded iris and again made the statement that I would never, under any condition, grow more than 350 iris. Well, that was several years ago and I must now admit I have been somewhat unsuccessful in abiding by this second, rather hastily made statement. You see, I have only a small, city garden, which currently has iris growing all over everywhere, in pots on the tops of sheds, on porch railings, even on the picnic table.

Be that as it may, with well over 450 iris in the ground, on the roof, in the drained pool, and stately ensconced on the picnic table, life returned to its somewhat orderly, structured and disciplined procedures, with the exception of grass cutting, which was no longer necessary, since by this time there was little or no grass to contend with. It was at this time that the "Evil Knight of McLean Virginia", Clarence Mahan, appeared on the scene to further complicate my life. Mr. Mahan, (Evil Knight of McLean, Virginia - here-in-after referred to as E.K.O.M.V. - to avoid possible litigation and perhaps a libel suit) was to lecture at our regularly scheduled Iris Society Meeting on "The Japanese Iris". "No problem here", I thought to myself as I innocently entered the lecture hall at Commonwealth College, where our meetings are held, "the only Japanese iris I ever saw was ugly and I didn't like it at all." Somewhat reassured by this reflection and convinced that I would be entertained by the lecture, but securely incapsulated from future iris-buying sprees that had in the past seriously threatened the repossession of my 300Z, took my seat with an air of disassociation.

For forty-seven minutes the "E.K.O.M.V." lectured on the Japanese Iris, - how wonderful they were, how rewarding to grow, how exotic, how colorful, how prolific, how disease free, etc., God's special gift to horticulture. I was totally unmoved by this most ostentatious portrayal: and then it happened. He looked right at me, and with a definite pretension of placing the olympic medal of victory over his head and around his neck he said, "And Ron, they will add nearly six weeks to your iris blooming season". You talk about "hitting below the belt", suddenly I heard the Star Spangled Banner playing in the distance, there in my mind was "E.K.O.M.V." standing on the high stool, in the very middle of the other olympic medal winners, his arms raised to the heavens in a salute of victory, and the flags were being raised in the air.

One week later, after staggering out of that meeting, weakened and somewhat disoriented, I ordered fifty (50) Japanese iris from Laurie's Gardens, (I felt it was the only patriotic thing to do), and began to prepare the final grassy plot of my yard

for the new JI that by this time had already been ordered. Again life settled down to a relatively peaceful routine of weeding, spraying, fertilizing, digging, separating, praying over rot, planting again, spraying again, fertilizing again, etc. But alas - it was still not over. I received a postcard from the "E.K.O.M.V.", deliberately addressed to me, advising that the Japanese Iris Society's National Convention was to be held in Manassas, Virginia on June 16-17, 1989, and "Please try to attend." Well, no way was I going to be roped into another one of Mr. "E.K.O.M.V.'s" nefarious and carefully planned plots, so I threw away the card with the utmost dispatch. Believe it or not, within five minutes the phone rang and it was the President of St. Leo College, where I teach history. It seems that there was a symposium to be conducted on "The First Battle of Manassas" and I was to attend, compliments of the school. Guess where it was to be held and when it was to be presented. You are right, June 15, 1989 at Manassas, Virginia. While searching through the trash can for "E.K.O.M.V.'s" card I constantly repeated, time after time, "Hail Mary, Mother of God".

I arrived in Manassas, attended the symposium, and registered for the National Japanese Iris Convention. It was wonderful, all the beautiful gardens, Carol Warner's garden, Diana Nicholl's garden, even "E.K.O.M.V.'s" garden. That same day we also visited the Georgetown University garden of Don Spoon, and it was in this garden that I saw Japanese Pinwheel. "I wouldn't mind having that", I said aloud, to no one in particular, since no one was listening. Some gentleman stepped forward and advised me that he thought this iris was an '85 introduction and probably sold for somewhere around \$5.00. "Five dollars is a lot of money for a JI", I thought to myself, but decided that perhaps this one was worth \$5.00. Imagine my shock when I found out it was \$40.00 per , whatever it is you get when you order a JI, I still wasn't sure what it was called that you got. "I wouldn't pay \$40.00 for any iris", I once again cried out to no one in particular.

Safely back in Norfolk on Monday following the convention I ordered Japanese Pinwheel, as well as Immaculate White, Kalamazoo and about ten others. What a disaster this convention was. Mind you, I still did not know how to spell these horrible names, let alone pronounce them, and what did their words mean? Forget it.

Somewhere between Carol's and Diana's I realized with a great deal of dismay, that I was really glad I had ordered all those JI from Laurie. For you see, in the final garden, "E.K.O.M.V.'s" garden, I saw Enduring Pink Frost, and it was here I really bit the bullet - can you believe it, I had become a JI convert. (What would my Catholic friends think? Japanese iris - isn't that Shinto or something?). Thank you gracious, golden Knight of McLean Virginia for having Enduring Pink Frost.

But let me tell you something for sure and you can count on this, I am not going to grow more than 100 Japanese Iris, and that is a fact.....

JAPANESE IRIS DISPLAY GARDENS

Claire B. Barr

The chief purpose of the Japanese Iris Display Garden program is to ensure that people wishing to see Japanese irises may have access to gardens where they are grown well. In a display garden the plants should be accurately labeled with the name or seedling number of the iris. Other helpful information might be the acquisition date, so that visitors can see how well established the plants are, and the name of the hybridizer and the registration date. Hosts should have information for visitors about sources for purchasing a particular plant. Ideally, the garden owners will add some of the newer introductions from time to time.

A list of display gardens follows. The owners invite you to contact them and visit their gardens during bloom season. In most cases telephone numbers and peak bloom times are listed.

JAPANESE IRIS DISPLAY GARDEN LIST

Region 1

1. Dr. and Mrs. Currier McEwen, Seaways Gardens, Route 1, Box 818, South Harpswell, ME 04079
(207) 833-5438 July 7-21
2. Mrs. Maurice B. Pope, Jr., 39 Highland Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 (207) 839-3054 Mid-July

Region 3

1. George C. Bush, 1739 Memory Lane Extd., York, PA 17402
(717) 755-0557 Mid-June to Mid-July
2. Mr. and Mrs. Sterling U. Innerst, 2700A Oakland Road, Dover, PA 17315 (717) 764-0281 July 6-July 10

Region 4

1. Dr. William Ackerman, 18621 Mink Hollow Rd., (P.O. Box 120) Ashton, MD 20861 (301) 774-7538 Mid June
2. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mahan, The Iris Pond, 7311 Churchill Road, McLean, VA 22101
(703) 893-8526 June 1-July 7
3. Mrs. Andrew C. Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155 (301) 374-4788 June 15-30
4. Nicholls Gardens, Michael and Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065 (703) 754-9623
Late May to early July

Region 5

1. Mrs. Wells E. Burton, 3275 Miller Drive, Ladson, SC 29456 (803) 873-7388 Mid-May to Mid-June

Region 6

1. Robert A. Bauer and John A. Coble, Ensata Gardens,
9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053
(616) 665-7500 June 25-July 15
2. Mr. and Mrs. James A. Copeland, 34165 CR 652, Mattawan,
MI 49071 (616) 668-2156
Last wk of June-Peak 1st two wks of July
3. Mrs. Ronald F. Miller, Old Douglas Perennials, 6065 Old
Douglas Road, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
(616) 349-5934 June 25-July 17
4. James W. Shook, 3987 Lincoln Lake Road, Lowell, MI 49331
(616) 897-9169 June 20-August 1
5. Dr. Harold L. Stahly, 8343 Manchester Drive, Grand
Blanc, MI 48439 (313) 694-7139 Peak July 4
6. Mrs. Robert Stallcop, Rt. 2, Box 676 Greencastel, IN
46135 (317) 672-8206 June 10-15

Region 7

1. Adolph J. vogt, 5101 Fegenbush Lane, Louisville, KY
40218 (502) 499-0024 Mid June
2. Dr. and Mrs. Edward T. Browne, Jr., 486 St. Nick
Drive, Memphis, TN 38117 Peak 1st week in June

Region 9

1. Mrs. Florence E. Stout, 150 N. Main St., Lombard, IL
60148 (708) 627-1421 Peak July 7-8
2. Jerry and Melody Wilhoit, route 1, Box 141, Kansas, IL
61933 (217) 948-5478 June 10-30

Region 13

1. Terry and Barbara Aitken, Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden,
608 N.W. 119th Street, Vancouver, WA 98685
(206) 573-4472 Month of June-Peak June 15
2. Mrs. Lorena M. Reid, Laurie's Garden, 41886 McKenzie
Hwy., Springfield, OR 97478
(503) 896-3756 Last wk of May-1st wk of July
3. Allan and Dorothy Rogers, Caprice Farm Nursery, 15425
S.W. Pleasant Hill Road, Sherwood, OR 97140
(503) 625-7241 June 15-July 5

Region 15

1. Donald Delmez, 3240 Connecticut Street, St. Charles, MO
63301 (314) 724-4274 June 1-25

Region 19

1. Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Road,
Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 (201) 783-5974 July

EXCERPTS FROM JI ROBIN SOUTH

Edited by Clarence Mahan

Shirley Paquet: The two JIs I got at the [SJI convention] auction arrived in great shape. Thank you [Diana Nicholls] for all this extra work you did so well. I was remembering the observation that Carol [Warner] made on the bus as we approached your house within the subdivision---something about lawn mowing, which is apparently the main occupation of your neighbors to the exclusion of much other planting. Then we came to [the Nicholls garden] with so much planted and in such great condition---it was like a green oasis within a green "desert".

Clarence Mahan: My recent visit to Norfolk was a wonderful experience. The enthusiasm of the members in that area for JIs is nothing short of fantastic. Turn out at the [Tidewater Iris Society] meeting was large, and there seems to be more interest in beardless irises, especially JIs, than in TBs. The arrangement the local society has made with the Norfolk Botanic Garden is excellent, and they will be putting in large beds of JIs for 1993. The setting is spectacular. There will also be a special Arthur Hazzard section of the garden. This is a new group and if any of you have extra JIs I encourage you to send them to the Tidewater Iris Society for the botanic garden planting.

Carol Warner: My favorites in the garden this year were WARAI HOTEL (the real thing---it's even prettier than SWIRLING WAVES), CASCADE CREST, LITTLE SNOWMAN, GAY GALLANT, RUFFLED DIMITY, THE GREAT MOGUL, ORIENTAL ELEGANCE and LILAC PEAKS. The seedling by Innerst 3044-1 should be introduced by Ensata Gardens in the near future. Sterling also has some other outstanding seedlings....I have found that all of the guest plants are in need of division after 2 years. As I have taken them up I am still amazed at the hard, woody material produced.

Diana Nicholls: Favorites? Tough decision---goodies all over the place. I always enjoy THE GREAT MOGUL. It has what I call the classic three petal form that I particularly enjoy. McEwen's ORIENTAL CLASSIC, a white, has this same form and I fell in love with it....When I was in Summerville [SC] a couple of years ago, Joe Watson of Georgia had put a stalk of LILAC PEAKS in the show. It was love at first sight, and I went about seeking a source for LILAC PEAKS immediately.

Ruby Buchanan: I don't think I lost any [JIs] that were planted last year, so they will be good clumps for next spring. We really had too much rain for vegetables in 1989---but oh, how those moisture loving irises (and WEEDS) loved it. I must retire my medicos and pharmacists and start a new wish list. The very names ROSY SUNRISE and VERMILION SUNSET bring visions of lovely irises.

Pat Brooks: Some of my favorites are ICY PEAKS, ORIENTAL EYES, WILDERNESS SNOWBALL, WILDERNESS RUBIES, RUFFLED DIMITY, ROYAL FIREWORKS, and YAMATA HIME. I had the strangest iris season. I had RUFFLED DIMITY and YAMATA HIME blooming to the

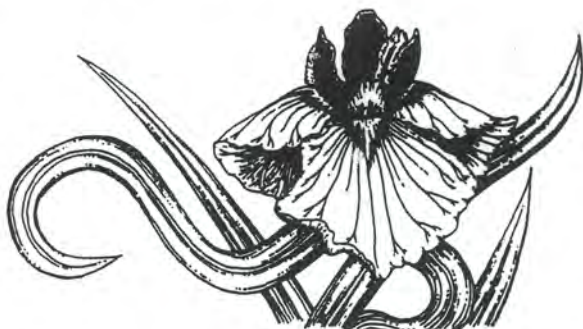
end of July and a short stalk of YAMATA HIME blooming into August. [Ed. This is in South Carolina!]

Rosalie Figge: I agree with Carol [Warner]! LILAC PEAKS, which I have...THE GREAT MOGUL...JAPANESE PINWHEEL, and that dear LITTLE SNOWMAN! [Ed. Dear, dear friend Rosalie was rushing off to New Orleans to attend the National Parliamentary Association meeting as a delegate from Maryland when she wrote her robin letter, and so did not have time to use verbs in this sentence. This "editor" knows better than to put words in Rosalie's letter! But she meant the irises she identified are absolutely gorgeous! And she's absolutely right!]

John Wood: I too like TAGA SODE and LILAC PEAKS. However, one of my all time favorites since I first saw it in Summerville several years ago, before it was named, is ICY PEAKS. It is a consistent performer and gives marvelous seedlings. Although very few seeds...germinate, those that do are very good. I am watching a seedling from ICY PEAKS that is very fluted and starcy. The color is a cream base with hues of faint blue and pink. I have seen nothing that approaches its form and texture. [Ed. We'll be watching for this one!]

Adolph Vogt: Any poor growing JI or JI received with poor roots will have a much better chance of survival if it is potted with good garden soil enriched with 50% bagged [Ed. sterilized] cow manure and placed in a shallow pool. A new root system can be established in 30 days of good growing weather. I cut the foliage off after the first frost....In Florida the foliage just turns brown in December or January and can be cut as the new growth starts to grow. If you cut the foliage 3 to 6 inches above the ground the stubble will keep the leaves from blowing off. The foliage is cut with a sharp weed cycle or grass hook.

Virginia Burton: This year I used cottonseed meal on some [JIs] to see if I could see a difference in growth, foliage color or bloom intensity. I believe there was a deeper green in the foliage and the color of the bloom seemed more intense BUT was going to try it again next spring to verify my belief. Would you try it on potted JI? Well, maybe, but using lesser amounts of cottonseed meal. [ED. We all extend our sympathy to our South Carolina friends who suffered so much from HUGO. There was much damage done to many iris plantings, and SJI members who wish to help our dedicated Carolina friends replenish their JI stock might write a note to Ginny.]



DISASTERS

Sterling Innerst

I had grown Japanese irises successfully for twenty three years. In 1987 I decided to get really successful. What followed was three years of disaster, disaster, and disaster!?!

The first misfortune started when I decided to pot all my Japanese irises. Several things led me to attempt this. I'm plagued with several patches of Canadian Thistles. One took up about one half of the Japanese iris field. After years of Roundup, digging, and various other weed killers, these beautiful patches of the devil's work (I'm sure) continued to grow and spread. I must mention that the farm bordering our property on the north sends over snow flurries of new seeds each July just to make sure we get a fresh new start. I also found out that Japanese irises do not like Roundup - or other weed killers, sprayed to near them. By potting I decided the field would be clear for several years, then I could spray all that I wanted to! In pots I thought less fertilizer would be needed because of the concentrated area. I was right, it took less than one half the amount used in the open field.

Watering has always been a problem here (except 1989). We are usually on restricted usage from April through October. By potting and setting in 'pools' I could water all that I wanted to with much less water.

The above reasons led me to build two 20' x 6' treated lumber frames made of 2x6's, which I lined with heavy black plastic.

I then ran what seems like tons of year old leaf mold through the shredder and began potting the Japanese iris in one, two, or three gallon nursery containers in the pure leaf mold - it was fine, beautiful and black. I had previously grown geraniums, impatiens, and three Japanese irises in the leaf mold successfully, so thought nothing of planting all the Japanese in leafmold.

In August of 87 I potted 472 containers of Japanese iris. I then set them in the frames, watered well, and watered them each week by running about 1 - 3" of water in the plastic lined frames. They all grew lushly and beautifully. In September I placed a ring of 5-10-10 fertilizer around all plants. They looked super.

In late November of 87 I trimmed all growth back to about 2". I then set bales of straw on end around the wooden frames, drained the water out, and left the black plastic open at both ends of the frames for winter drainage. In December of 87 I placed 6" of straw over all pots. Great!!! Wrong.

March of 88 came and I uncovered all pots. Late that month some growth was noticeable. Mid-April I noticed many were not sending up growth. Late April early May told me that about 1/2 of all pots were not going to send up growth - and they never did.

The Japanese iris that did grow bloomed late June and early July at about 10". I lost another 50 or so. After bloom I panicked, and decided to repot what remained into regular garden soil until I had soil prepared in the open field. Sooooo, I did, however, this is where the second disaster was begun. I started hauling good garden soil and replanting. When all were planted I put a handful of 5-10-10 around each plant and watered well. Within three days all were brown and dead. I now know that I burned the roots with fertilizer. I knew this is said to happen, but in the open field for years I'd dig, divide, till peat moss and fertilizer in the row and replant with no problems. I assume that in the pot fertilizer was too concentrated. I lost everything!

Fall of 88 I prepared open field beds. I read that Japanese irises need lots of nitrogen so I got 10-20-20 fertilizer and tilled it in. About this time I had sent for about 30 new Japanese irises and had 'begged and borrowed' to get some varieties and seedlings back from friends to whom I had previously been generous. At this point I had made arrangements to receive about 75 varieties in all.

Late August of 88 I was rushed to the hospital and spent 2 days there. I was sent home - my Japanese irises had arrived. While my wife was teaching I crawled out to the garden - tubes, robe, slippers, catheters and all - and planted the Japanese irises on my knees crawling through the field - also watered each a little. The next night I was rushed to the emergency room at past midnight, was admitted and stayed in the hospital for 16 days. The Japanese iris were on their own. When I got home and started walking around - slowly - to see the fields, plants, weeds, etc., I noticed that the Japanese irises were just 'sitting' there. I credited this to lateness, dryness, getting no attention, etc.. By late November of 88 I was recovered enough so that I could go back to teaching and gardening. I pulled weeds - which had taken over - and mulched the entire Japanese iris planting with year-old leaves. They did not look well. About 1/3 of these grew in spring of 89. I did not decide why until late summer of 89 when my third disaster struck.

This time I was going to do it right. I tilled beds in soil never before used for Japanese irises. Started tilling early summer and tilled them once a week until planting time. I received my first plants from a friend in early July. I planted same and watered every three days - growing beautifully. Three weeks later I received about 30 plants from Ensata. The first planting was 52 plants from Harold Griffie. I planted the 30 from Ensata - doing great! Five weeks after planting those from Harold and three weeks after planting the Ensata plants all were growing beautifully. It was going to rain - all plants seemed established - I decided to fertilize before the rain. One handful around each clump. It rained! Three inches! Plants looked great. Fertilizer used was 10-20-20, Japanese need lots of nitrogen.

It stopped raining in a day or so. Plants look good. Two days of sun, plants planted 2 weeks ago go limp and have poor color. Plants planted 5 weeks ago spot growing but appear okay. In the next two weeks I lost all but one of the plants planted last. I even tried to move several of these when I

decided what I did to kill them. Those replanted to unfertilized ground died within a day. The 50 plants that I put in first had started to grow again and look stable in late October. I had burned their roots again - this is what happened in 88 also.

I have since received guest plants from the Virginia convention and several other people who have generously given or returned pieces of plants that I had given them in years past. These I have planted and will not fertilize until spring of 90. These all look fabulous. At this time I have about 125 plants and I feel I should be able to grow them successfully - what with all I've learned.

It has been a long three years. I have but a few seedlings at this time, so will be starting a program and try to continue breeding in 1990.

Perhaps there will be some one or two Japanese iris growers out there that will benefit from my tale (s) of woe. Please don't do the things I've just told you about. Tried and true is always best - I guess! I presume pure leaf-mold and early fertilizing is not good!

1990 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 2nd.

The Summerville Iris Society will present its annual flower show on June 2nd, 1990, at the Cuthbert Community Building, 101 W. 5th Street S., Summerville, SC.

There will be classes for all types of iris (bottles supplied by show committee). In addition there will be classes for annuals, specimen and 3 of a kind; perennials, specimen and 3 of a kind; roses, 12" stem and miniature; blooming shrubs 12"-30"; cut foliage (3 leaves and 3 stems of the same plant); and ivy, 12" - 30", both small and large leaf. Please bring your own green bottles for all classes except iris.

Theme for the design division of the show will be "New Beginnings", appropriate after the devastation of Hurricane Hugo. Classes for this division, all to be done in a creative manner, are:

- Class 1. The Day After The Storm --- a hanging design hung from a 5' T bar, 36" wide space (Note National Council Handbook pg. 128).
- Class 2. Once Tall Trees --- floor design 36" x 36" space, no height limit, viewed from the front.
- Class 3. Now The Quiet Peace of Home --- Tokonoma.

- Class 4. Promenade of Beauty --- Pedestal design, top 16" x 20" and 41" from the floor, viewed from the front.
- Class 5. Water, Water Everywhere --- A creative design with parts placed underwater to create interest. (Note N.C. Handbook pg. 131) Frame size 36" high x 30" wide.

Show entries will be taken from 7:30-9:00 AM. at the Cuthbert Building. Show chairman is Claire Honkanen, telephone 803-886-4691.

The show is being held as part of the Summerville Iris Society Weekend activities. There will be judges training on Japanese irises (with exam.), held at the Cuthbert Building June 1, from 5:00-7:00 PM.. It will be conducted by Adolph Voght of KY., Clarence Mahan of VA. and John Wood of N.C.. Following judges training will be a buffet supper.

On June 2nd, breakfast will be served from 7:30-9:00 AM. The Bus Tour will include the gardens of Pat Brooks, Claire Honkanen and Virginia Burton, and also the Charleston Battery. Lunch will be served at the beautiful beach home of Claire and Arvid Honkanen, where Clarence Mahan will be the guest speaker. After the bus returns to Summerville there will be a plant auction and supper. Please dress for comfort.

Cost for the complete weekend's activities is \$25.00. To register, make a check out to Summerville Iris Society and mail to Peggy Beason by May 21st. Peggy's address is: R. 2 Box 584, Summerville, S.C., 29483. Telephone 803-688-4414.

For overnight accomodations, reservations may be made at:
Hamilton Motel --- across st. from show bldg. --- Tel. 803-873-0220
Econo Lodge --- 2 miles --- Tel. 803-875-3022
Holiday Inn --- 2 miles --- Tel. 803-875-3300

St. Louise, Missouri --- June 2nd.

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society will present their annual beardless iris show "Looking Up" on June 2, 1990, at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. Entries will be accepted from 7:00 to 9:45 AM. Judging will start at 10:00 AM. Classes will be open in horticulture and design. For more information contact: Susan Smith, 400 S. Woodlawn, Kirkwood, MO. 63122. Tel. (314) 821-6670.

Washington D.C. --- June 16th.

The Washington D. C. area Beardless Iris Show will be jointly sponsored by the Chesapeake and Potomac and the Francis Scott Key Iris Societies. It will be held at the U. S. Botanic Garden, Washington D. C., on June 16th. Further information may be obtained by contacting either the Show Chairman, Ruth Filsinger, 6230 Cheryl Dr., Falls Church, VA 22044 or the Co-Chairman, Carol Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155.

Portland, Oregon --- June 16th.

The Greater Portland Iris Society will hold its annual Japanese Iris Show on June 16th. 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. There will be exhibition classes for both named variety specimens and seedlings. For more information regarding the show, contact the Show Chairman, Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685 Tel. 206-573-4472.

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania --- June 30th.

The Harrisburg area Beardless Iris Show and Rhizome Sale will be held June 30th, 1990, at the Harrisburg East Mall in Wanamaker Court. All beardless iris growers are invited to exhibit. For more detailed information contact either of the show co-chairpersons; Hope Nancarrow, 4906 Garden Lane, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17109, or Dorothea Marquart, 2060 Good Hope Road, Enola, Pennsylvania 17025.

Kalamazoo, Michigan area --- July 7th.

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society will hold its 16th Japanese Iris Show on Saturday, July 7th, at the Crossroads Mall, South Westnedge Ave., Portage, Michigan. Theme for the show is "The Great Ones". 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. The 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, Miss Sue Copeland, 34165 CR 652, Mattawan, MI., 49071, Tel. 616-668-2156.

Newton Massachussetts

The Iris Society of Massachussetts is foregoing its show this year so that they may help out with the show in Portland, Maine.

Portland, Maine --- July 12th.

The Iris Society of Maine will be holding its first Japanese Iris Show in conjunction with the National Convention of The Society For Japanese Irises, on Thursday, July 12, at the Sheraton Tara, 363 Maine Mall Road, South Portland, Maine. Entries will be received from 9:00 - 11:00 AM. Judging will be 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM with the show open to the public from 2:30 - 6:00 PM. Anyone attending the convention who may have bloom to bring is welcome to exhibit. For more detailed information regarding the show contact the show chairman, Peter Young, RFD #1 Box 780, Buckfield, Maine 04220. Tel. 207-225-3685.

THE MYSTERY OF PINK TRIUMPH

Currier McEwen

For me, this story began in 1974 when an international medical meeting took me to Japan. From my point of view, the planners of the meeting showed sad lack of judgement in selecting the date because it was after the Japanese irises had bloomed. However, I did enjoy the opportunity to meet Akira Horinaka and Koji Tomino in the former's home near Osaka and, a few days later, to meet Shuichi Hirao in Tokyo. Among many other topics, Dr. Hirao spoke about Louise Marx's iris Pink Triumph which had been sent to him in 1964 by Eleanor Westmeyer; and he quoted Arlie Payne as calling it the best pink Japanese iris he had ever seen when he observed it in Dr. Hirao's garden in 1967. Bill Ouweneel confirmed this high regard in which Mr. Payne held it. The following day, Dr. Hirao kindly brought me several of his own recent introductions and also the plant labeled Pink Triumph. He warned me however that, unfortunately, it was completely sterile.

All those plants grew well and the one labeled Pink Triumph bloomed the following year, 1975. I made many crosses with it both ways both that year and in 1976 and, as Dr. Hirao warned me, none was successful. In 1976 however, I noticed that both the plant and flower had features similar to those of my tetraploids. with strong, wide leaves, petals of excellent, firm substance, and larger anthers than those of diploids. The pollen grains were therefore checked microscopically and those that looked viable were of typically large tetraploid size. It was at once crossed with the only second generation tetraploid Japanese iris I had achieved by that year ($T_{273/5}$), and one healthy pod was set. Seeds from that cross produced seedlings all of which have pollen of tetraploid size. One of these ($T_{276/35}[8]$) was registered in 1988 as Fourfold Mystery. No crosses of them with diploids have been successful either way. Crossed with advanced generation tetraploids they have been successful both as pod and pollen parents. I have not done a chromosome count but this experience outlined above made me confident that the plant of Pink Triumph given to me by Dr. Hirao is a tetraploid or a chimera. This subsequently has been confirmed by Hiroshi Shimizu who has obtained seedlings from controlled crosses of Dr. Hirao's Pink Triumph with Raspberry Rimmed.

Unfortunately, in 1978 I lost the plant given to me by Dr. Hirao. Meanwhile, I had given a plant of it to Lorena Reid in 1977 in exchange for a plant of the Marx Pink Triumph then commercially available. Subsequently, Lorena returned to me a plant of the cultivar I had sent to her. My current plants labeled Pink Triumph consist of that one returned by Lorena, one from Shimizu that he had obtained from Dr. Hirao after I had reported its being polyploid, and others from George Bush and Mrs. William (Donna) Sylvester, and Lorena Reid's that she had obtained from Marx in 1971. These have been carefully compared in 1988 and 1989 and I have continued my own crosses with them. In 1988 a cross of the polyploid plant with my very fertile seedling $T_{80/149}$ as pod parent succeeded but a number with several ⁴others of my tetraploids failed. Continuing those efforts, all of eight crosses I made in 1989

failed. These included crosses using the Hirao plant returned to me by Lorena and the one from Shimizu as both pod and pollen parents with Japanese Pinwheel and Maine Chance.

Hiroshi Shimizu kindly sent me detailed results of all his crosses made with the Hirao Pink Triumph in 1988 and 1989. His earlier seedlings from Raspberry Rimmed and pink Triumph crossed readily with Pink Triumph but only with the latter as pollen parent. Similarly, crosses of Maine Chance by Pink Triumph succeeded but in both years many crosses with Pink Triumph as the pod parent failed.

In 1989 I made careful microscopic study of the pollen of all my plants labeled Pink Triumph. The plant from George Bush and Lorena Reid's plant that she had obtained directly from Marx in 1971 were typically diploid. The polyploid one returned to me by Lorena and the ones from Shimizu and Donna Sylvester were all alike. The great bulk of the pollen grains were small, shriveled debris and clearly not viable. Of one hundred normal looking pollen grains counted, perhaps 10 were of indeterminant size and might have been diploid and the other 90 or more were of typical tetraploid size.

Shimizu had kindly sent me in 1987 together with the Hirao Pink Triumph, two of his seedlings resulting from his crosses of that Pink Triumph and my Raspberry Rimmed. One bloomed in 1988 with a lovely soft pink flower. Its pollen is typically tetraploid also.

This experience raises two large questions: (1) What relationship is there between the two presently existing Pink Triumphs and (2) How did the one I received from Dr. Hirao become polyploid? The first question can be answered definitely that there is no relationship other than the fact that they have the same name and both were introduced by Marx. The one that Eleanor Westmeyer sent to Dr. Hirao she had obtained from Marx when it was first listed in his catalogue in 1956. She kindly gave me the following description of it taken from that catalogue.

"The high water mark thus far in our endeavor to produce a pinker Japanese iris. Similar to World's Delight but definitely a step nearer the true pink we seek. Of larger size measuring up to 8 inches across and fully double with almost no signals visible, this beauty is without question the very finest pink self we have and has yet to meet a rival in any of our best unnamed pink seedlings. Extra wide robust foliage and stocky stems 2½ to 3 feet high. This is the pink seedling that has excited so many visitors the past 3 years."

The description of Pink Triumph in the 1988 checklist of Japanese irises reads as follows:

Pink Triumph (Louise Marx 1956) 30", EM, Dbl, VRI, light orchid pink, styles shaded pink. Mata Hari x Karahashi. Marx 1956.

In 1989 I carefully compared the diploid and polyploid flowers. They are distinctly different. The polyploid is

larger with stronger substance and wider, more flaring falls. The leaves also are wider and stronger. Overall color of the falls is RHS 75B with a white area surrounding the greenish yellow signals. The styles are white with 75B at the tips. Overall color of the diploid is 76B with veins of 76A and bluish tones around the narrow yellow signals. The styles are white with slight marking of 76B at the extreme tips.

Eleanor Westmeyer received her plant from Marx in 1956 and sent it to Dr. Hirao in 1964. Lorena Reid obtained her original plant from Marx about 1971. Eleanor lost her Pink Triumph the year after she had sent it to Dr. Hirao. She reported to me that she remembered it as having more sturdy leaves and stalks than her other Japanese irises. Dr. Hirao also noted it as having distinctive features and wrote about it to Arlie Payne on May 15, 1967, saying:

"Do you know a variety, Marx's Pink Triumph? years ago Eleanor sent me a piece and since then I am wondering if it is polyploid. It is a rather untidy eight petal pink, but the substance is heavier than the normal ones, and the color is more like the skin of European Lady, the life of the flower is slightly longer than ordinary varieties, the leaf is thick and deep green and is more like *Iris pseudacorus*, and the rhizome, especially in the fall grows thick twice as large as ordinary ones. This variety is sterile in both ways." (1)

One might wonder whether the differences between the two Pink Triumphs can be explained by the difference seen between the diploid and tetraploid form of the same cultivar. I am sure that this explanation can be discarded. A tetraploid can be larger, of richer color and stronger substance than its diploid counterpart but the difference in color tone and especially the differences between the bluish area around the signal in one and the white area in the other would not be seen in the diploid and tetraploid form of the same cultivar. Eleanor Westmeyer wrote to me that she believed Walter Marx introduced two different plants with the same name. She lost her 1956 plant of Pink Triumph and suspected that Marx did also and, since he had already listed the name, merely used it for another cultivar. This is borne out by Kay Nelson who tells me that although the first version of Pink Triumph was registered in 1956 she has a note in her files that "Marx discarded this iris and asked to transfer the name to seedling 106-1 in 1967. However, the application was never completed."

A second question is how the plant I received from Dr. Hirao had become tetraploid. I think of three possibilities: 1. that it had been converted through the use of colchicine or some other agent in Japan, 2. that this had been done in this country by Walter Marx and 3. that it had occurred spontaneously.

The possibility that the conversion was brought about by the use of colchicine in Japan is untenable. Dr. Hirao reported to me that he tried to induce tetraploidy in Japanese irises as early as 1952 but had no colchicine and used merely a suspension of a ground up bulb of colchicine and had no

success until after 1963 when Orville Fay gave him colchicine and instructed him in its use. In the following years, he treated thousands of sprouted seeds. The surviving seedlings were planted on the property of a friend who owned a farm. He wrote to me that unfortunately he did not move to his own garden the plants that looked as though they might have been affected and subsequently all those plants at the friend's farm were lost. Since the plant of Pink Triumph received from Eleanor Westmeyer was grown in his own garden, he was sure that it could not have become confused with any of those he treated with colchicine. Furthermore, the excerpt from Dr. Hirao's letter to Mr. Payne of May 15, 1967 quoted above shows that by that date he wondered if the plant might be polyploid because of its appearance. Obviously therefore that plant was receiving much attention and any possibility of its having been confused with another iris in his own garden or the farm would have been noted and clarified. Dr. Hirao informed me with certainty that he never treated the plant sent to him by Eleanor Westmeyer in any way. Finally, and most conclusively, Donna Sylvester's plant purchased from Marx in 1957 certainly never went to Japan but has the same physical and chromosomal characteristics as the one I received from Dr. Hirao.

With regard to the possibility that the conversion was brought about at the Marx nursery it can be said with assurance that Walter Marx never had any such intention. Both Mrs. Marx and Mr. M. K. Thaxter, who had been associated with Walter and Louise Marx in their nursery, have assured me that colchicine was never used there. Indeed, in 1956 when Pink Triumph was introduced, I believe no one, with the possible exception of Gerald Darby in England, had ever used colchicine with irises. Orville Fay may have treated daylilies by then but not irises. Max Steiger did not start his use of colchicine with Japanese irises until 1957 and I began in 1960.

In his letter to me Mr. Thaxter wrote "I got quite a lot of experience with pollinating methods but at no time did we ever use any chemical agents except in experimenting in weed killers - and not very much of that." This confirms their lack of use of colchicine but raises the possibility that a weed killer they tried might have had a colchicine-like effect. Dr. Robert Hollingworth whose interests as Director of the Pesticide Research Center at Michigan State University also includes herbicides has explained that the mechanism of action of the dinitroaniline herbicides such as Treflan is similar to that of colchicine i.e. they prevent spindle formation during cell division thus interfering with the distribution of chromosomes to the newly divided cells. (2, 3) Because of this similarity of action Bob tried Treflan to induce polyploidy and in 1982 encouraged me to also. I ran comparative trials treating equal numbers of seeds of 10 or more crosses with colchicine and with Treflan. An expected number of the seedlings treated with colchicine became polyploid but none of those treated with Treflan. Bob Hollingworth's trials were disappointing also and we both stopped using Treflan. I have no knowledge of what the "weed killers" mentioned by Mr. Thaxter may have been. Treflan probably was not available until after 1956. It is conceivable that some herbicide with a colchicine-like action

may have been used but it does not seem probable. Furthermore, Bob Hollingworth's and my efforts with Treflan used specifically to try to induce polyploidy were so ineffectual that it would seem improbable that any agent merely applied to the garden rows to kill weeds could have induced polyploidy.

The third possibility is that the conversion occurred spontaneously, by which I mean that it occurred in nature without man's intervention and was brought about by unknown causes. Spontaneous conversion of wild diploids to polyploids occurred in some mediterranean tall bearded species of iris in the unknown past. Such an occurrence must be rare, however, and to my knowledge has not been known to have occurred previously in Japanese or other beardless irises. Nevertheless I believe it must have occurred in this instance. If so it is possible that other conversions of this sort may have occurred. It would be of interest to check other presumable diploid cultivars that will not cross either way with diploids. I suggest that it would be worth while to try crossing such plants with known tetraploids. If anyone knows of apparent fully sterile diploids I would be eager to know of them and to test them for possible polyploidy.

In summary, the evidence cited in this article indicates that the cultivar introduced as Pink Triumph by the Walter Marx Nursery in 1956 is a polyploid, probably a chimera of mainly tetraploid character; and that its conversion from the diploid state occurred "spontaneously" in nature. If it resulted from the use of some chemical or physical agent it certainly was unintentional and there is no knowledge of any such use. Although I believe these observations are accurate and the conclusions sound, the occurrence of such a phenomenon is so remarkable that I hope urgently that others will study these plants to check our results and conclusions.

The secondary question of the relationship of the polyploid cultivar to other existing plants of a diploid Pink Triumph can be answered I believe with assurance that they are not diploid and polyploid examples of the same plant but are entirely different cultivars. Because of this, to set the record straight regarding two different cultivars with the same name, and to give the lovely pink polyploid flower proper recognition, I have, with the approval of the AIS Registrar, registered it in 1988 as Pink Mystery and suggest that the name Pink Triumph be limited to the diploid cultivar. The note in her file mentioned by Kay Nelson suggests that this is what Walter Marx intended regarding the diploid plant.

All of the plants discussed in this article will be on display in our garden for the Japanese Iris Convention to be held in Maine in July 1990.

References

1. Dr. Hirao - W. A. Payne Correspondence. The Review, 17(1):10, Spring 1980.
2. Hollingworth, R. M. Personal communication
3. Corbett, J.R., Wright, K. and Baille, R. C., The Biochemical Mode of Action of Pesticides, second edition, pp. 212, Academic Press, 1984, New York.

JAPANESE IRIS CHALLENGE FOR SYDNEY B. MITCHELL IRIS SOCIETY

David A. Lennette

I have been asked to provide a brief report on the plans and progress of the Sydney B. Mitchell Iris Society to put on a late Spring show in 1991, featuring Japanese iris. The Society, which holds meetings in Oakland CA, has been in existence for over 35 years and has not previously sponsored a show other than in April, which is bloom season for tall-bearded and pacific coast native irises in the San Francisco Bay area. Several of the Society's eighty members have been growing Japanese iris for quite some time, and several more have started growing them for the first time in recent years.

At our June, 1989 meeting, we heard a report from one of our members that Clarence Mahan had offered an incentive to local iris societies to sponsor a show featuring Japanese iris: he would personally send some Japanese iris to any society that pledged to put on such a show for the first time during the next two years. Well, Sydney B. Mitchell I. S. qualified, and the membership voted to accept the challenge. I wrote to Clarence, and within a few weeks, a large package of healthy Japanese iris arrived at my office. I quickly split them into five bundles and distributed them to our volunteer growers. Several of our members, myself included, have ordered additional plants from commercial sources, hoping to have an adequate collection for 1991.

A survey in mid-March 1990 revealed that almost all of the plants have overwintered nicely (no problem in our mild climate) and are putting out new growth. We next have to make plans for 1991; we will take careful notes on this year's bloom season here in order to pick a good date for our show. We have a consensus that bloom begins in late May and extends through most of June--but is there an obvious "peak" period for the varieties that we have acquired?

Here are the varieties we received from Clarence Mahan, and which we hope to have in good condition for next year:

Abundant Display	Osho Kun
Geisha Gown	Royal Fireworks
Gusto	Sea Titan
Maiko No Hama	Shihoden
Mammoth Marvel	Taga Sode
Narii Hira	Wine Ruffles
Ocean Mist	Yamato Hima

I do not know how our other members are growing their Japanese iris. Initially, I planted mine in an ordinary raised bed that receives almost full sun. The soil is heavy clay loam, and is watered every four days -- perhaps less than is desirable, but our area has had near drought conditions for several years, and has had water rationing in effect for most of that time. In my garden in Berkeley, there is a pond with two shallow margins, one of which is under less than two inches of water when the pond is filled. I plan to transfer a few of the

Japanese irises into the shallowest margin this spring, and see how well they grow. I previously had some Louisiana iris in the same area, but removed most of them last fall, because of their aggressive growth habit--they had been placed in large plastic tubs which they had outgrown in two years.

I asked Lorena Reid (Laurie's Garden, Springfield, OR) to pick out a few Japanese iris from her extensive collection, ones that she thought suitable for a rock garden with a pond. She sent me:

Chosin
Matsuono
Miyashino
Rose Queen

Springtime Showers
Springtime Snow
Tatsushima

These are also doing well at present, and I look forward to seeing them bloom this spring.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE JAPANESE IRIS SECTION OF THE JUDGE'S HANDBOOK

Jill Copeland

At long last, we have come up with a suggested revision to the chapters in the judge's handbook for Japanese irises. Most of this is the result of a committee action. Please review carefully and come to Omaha and Maine prepared to make suggestions.

The committee is composed of:

Jill Copeland
Anna Mae Miller
Leland M. Welsh
John A. Coble
Robert A. Bauer
Dr. Currier McEwen
technical help from Sue Copeland.

Following is the complete text for the proposed revised Japanese Iris Sections:

B-10

GARDEN JUDGING JAPANESE IRISES

INTRODUCED VARIETIES AND SEEDLINGS

Japanese iris flowers are distinctly different from those of other iris groups. Japanese irises (JI) bloom at a later period than any of the other irises, and they present a unique challenge to the judge. Only the Japanese among the garden irises have been bred selectively from a single species (I. ensata) to a proliferation and modification of flower parts that give them great variety in form.

One of the judge's responsibilities is to evaluate and encourage the work of hybridizers toward new goals. For garden use, regardless of how beautiful the flower, unless the cultivar is healthy and vigorous, the number of blooms will not be satisfactory. No rigid rules should be allowed to limit future development. The added variations and improvements of the future can be brought about only by careful and impartial consideration in making judgments for awards.

SCALE OF POINTS

A. Plant	50
1. Vigor	35
a. Foliage	30
b. Versatility.....	5
2. Stalk.....	15
a. Proportion.....	5
b. Branching and bud count.....	5
c. Strength and flower support.....	5
B. Flower	30
1. Form, Substance and Proportion.....	20
2. Color, Pattern and Texture.....	5
3. Durability.....	5
C. Distinction.....	20
D. Expansion of Season.....	10
E. Carrying Properties.....	5

A. Plant - 50 points.

1. Vigor - 35 points.

This is the single most important set of points in the scale. Regardless of size, a plant with commendable vigor will be a good grower, a reliable bloomer and produce many flowers. No iris should receive an award unless it has vigor.

a. Foliage (30 points). Japanese foliage can be blue green or yellowish green. It can be upright or fountain like, but each must be vigorous and in good proportion to the stalks, disease resistant and attractive all growing season. In general, bluegreen upright foliage will be the most trouble free.

b. Versatility (5 points). Versatile iris will grow in many soil and climatic conditions.

2. Stalk - 15 points

a. Proportion (5 points). As judged in the garden, height should be in proportion to the size of the plant and flowers, with the flower carried above the foliage. The stalk should neither be too high nor too low to display the flower to best advantage consistent with its size and particular form.

b. Branching and bud count (5 points). The bud count for a clump depends both on branching and on the number of bloom stalks produced. It should not be judged on branching alone. Any branches present should be spaced so that the individual flowers are properly displayed. Preferably, only one flower should be open at a time.

c. Strength and flower support (5 points). The stalk should be reasonably straight and sufficiently strong to carry the flower erect, regardless of the size, during ordinary weather conditions. The flower should be held firmly attached in an upright position.

B. Flower - 50 points.

1. Form (including size), Substance and Proportion - 20 points.

These three are grouped because they are part of the same thing. The many different forms of the various flower parts must be harmonious and pleasing, in other words in good proportion. Any unusual arrangement of flower parts must be attractive as well as distinctive. Single types and the various double forms are all equally desirable. At present these are (a) three-fall types or singles, (b) six-fall types, (c) multiple fall types (nine-fall, twelve-fall) etc. The style arms may be vertical or in graceful arches or they may be fully converted to petals. The anthers may have petal-like extensions or they may be fully converted to petals. There may also be extra petaloids. Standards may be large or small or converted into falls. They may be vertical or angled, plain or fancy but they must be consistent. Falls may be tailored, ruffled, or fluted. They may be wide and horizontal, or arching downward but must be graceful and in good proportion to the rest of the flower. Since the fall is the prominent area of color, anything like narrow falls or recurved falls which limits the show of color should be discouraged. Signals can be large or small, sharp or diffuse. Currently the size of a Japanese flower may vary from eight to twenty-four centimeters (three to ten inches). All of these sizes are good if they are in good proportion with the plant. The substance, whether heavy or light, must hold the form.

2. Color, Pattern and Texture - 5 points.

All colors must be clear and pleasing. New colors should be encouraged whether they come as inter-species crosses, chromosome mutation or genetic engineering. As the flower grows, the color may lighten, but it must remain clear, pleasing and harmonious. Japanese iris have the most diversity of pattern of any iris. These include selfs, veining, reverse veining, bi-colors, marbled, splashed, blends, shading, sanding, etc. All these are encouraged but must be harmonious. Texture is varied in Japanese iris, including velvety, satiny, creped and smooth. Texture may greatly enhance the color and richness of the flower. Signals are another source of color, pattern and texture.

3. Durability - 5 points.

Flowers must have the ability to resist heat, rain, and other stresses and to remain fresh a normal number of days. A flower that does not have durability when judged against other varieties in a garden should be penalized. The durability or lasting quality of the flower is extremely important because Japanese irises bloom in the summer heat. Durability is a

genetically determined factor. However, temperature, water and nutrient availability, as well as sunlight intensity, all affect the life expectancy of the flower. High temperatures may cut the flower life in half.

D. Distinction - 20 points.

Distinction is a combination of flower qualities that gives a particular flower charm and sets it apart from others that are similarly colored. Distinction may be a new color, a new pleasing pattern, a new harmonious combination of color, a new graceful form, a new pleasing texture, a new size, more flouriferousness, more durability, a different bloom season, a longer season, more flexible growing conditions, or more disease resistance. In any case the distinction must be an improvement.

We have now totaled 100 points, but there are two other characteristics which must be rewarded. Not having these qualities, however, is not to be penalized.

D. Expansion of Season - 10 points.

This can also be found under distinction, but it is so important to encourage that it should get extra points. This includes earlier varieties, later varieties and more importantly those with a long season because of additional buds or consecutive stalks or repeat bloom.

E. Carrying Properties - 5 points.

The color should be of sufficient intensity, brilliance or contrast to carry well. The individual plant and flower should offer a pleasing appearance in a mixed border or mass planting.

C-11

EXHIBITION JUDGING JAPANESE IRISES

INTRODUCED VARIETIES

Shows are held for the purpose of displaying irises to the public. Ribbons are not given to the iris or hybridizer, but to the grower for his ability to grow and display the iris.

Japanese irises show great diversity of form and pattern within any one color group, making a schedule of color classes both difficult and unsatisfactory. Thus, it is highly recommended that an exhibition schedule of cultivar classes be used. This simplifies judging, because each cultivar is judged on its own horticultural perfection.

Because of the height of Japanese irises, show chairmen are encouraged to stage them on lower tables, so they can be viewed more comfortably.

SCALE OF POINTS

A. Cultural Perfection	75
1. Flower.....	50
a. Form and substance.....	35
b. Color.....	15
2. Stalk.....	25
a. Proportion, balance and form.....	15
b. Attachment of flowers.....	10
B. Condition and Grooming.....	25
	100

See page c-69 for selecting The Best Specimen of The Show.

A. Cultural Perfection - 75 points.

In Japanese iris the height, branching, flower size, etc. are greatly influenced by culture. Cultural perfection is growing the iris to its greatest potential.

1. Flower - 50 points

a. Form and substance (35 points). Form is determined by a combination of the shapes of the flower parts, relative sizes of those parts to each other (proportion) and the position in which they are held in relation to each other. In a cultivar show, the form should be characteristic for the particular cultivar.

Substance is the inner tissue structure which determines and sustains the form and color of the flower. Lack of substance causes degeneration of characteristic flower form as well as fading or streaking of color.

b. Color (15 points). Color should be characteristic for the well-grown cultivar. It must be recognized that JIs are unique in that as they mature they change in form and color; and the color of a mature specimen, if characteristic, is to be considered as valid as the color of the first day bloom.

2. Stalk - 25 points.

a. Proportion, balance and form (15 points). Proportion of the stalk to bloom is a characteristic of the cultivar. As the culture is improved, the stalk becomes taller and the flowers become larger and branching may increase. More than one open bloom should not be penalized as long as the blooms are displayed effectively and do not destroy the overall grace and balance of the stalk. The form of the stalk should be straight for most cultivars.

b. Attachment of flowers (10 points). Flowers must be firmly attached in an upright position.

B. Condition and Grooming - 25 points.

Condition and grooming evaluates the performance of the exhibitor in selecting and preparing the iris for entry. The flowers should be fresh and fully open with no signs of advanced ageing. There should be no evidence of disease, damage or insect infestation. The stalk should be clean with all old or damaged blooms removed in the least noticeable way possible.

SEEDLINGS

We are now judging the iris and not the exhibitor so condition and grooming are not considered. Even though the EC is not a recommendation to introduce an iris, it can be a method to give the hybridizer truthful analysis.

SCALE OF POINTS

A. Distinctiveness.....	25
B. Flower.....	50
1. Form.....	30
a. Substance.....	10
b. Proportion.....	20
2. Color, Pattern and Texture.....	20
C. Stalk.....	25
1. Proportion.....	5
2. Attachment of flowers.....	5
3. Overall Grace and Balance.....	5
4. Branching and Bud Count.....	5
5. Strength.....	5
	<hr/> 100

A. Distinctiveness - 25 points.

It is important to reward the hybridizer who is doing something to advance Japanese iris. Distinctiveness is a combination of flower qualities that gives a particular flower charm and sets it apart from others. This could be a graceful new form, a new clear color, a new pattern, a pleasing texture or any combination that makes it distinct.

B. Flower - 50 points.

Since the judge can not see the plant, more emphasis is placed upon the flower than in garden judging.

1. Form - 30 points.

Even though we have divided this into substance (10 points) and proportion (20 points) it is impossible to completely separate them. Form is determined by a combination of the shapes of the flower parts, relative size of those parts to each other (proportion) and the position in which they are held in relation to each other. Substance is the inner tissue structure which supports the form. All forms must be pleasing and any unusual arrangement of flower parts must be attractive as well as distinctive. Single types and the various double forms are all equally desirable.

2. Color, Pattern and Texture - 20 points.

All colors must be clear and pleasing - new colors should be encouraged. Japanese iris have the most diversity of pattern of any iris. All should be encouraged but must be harmonious.

Textures are determined by the surface layer of cells of the flower. They include velvety, waxy, smooth, creped, etc. New textures should be encouraged but must be pleasing.

C. Stalk - 25 points.

1. Proportion - 5 points.

The size of the flower needs to look like it belongs to the stalk.

2. Attachment of flowers - 5 points.

A seedling should be penalized if the flowers are not held upright.

3. Overall Grace and Balance - 5 points.

4. Branching and bud count - 5 points.

Iris seedlings may extend the bloom season by more buds per stalk or more stalks per plant, but the seedlings can only be evaluated on the show bench for buds on the stalk. If the seedling is branched, the branches should be well spaced and pleasing in appearance.

5. Strength - 5 points.

The stalk must have enough strength to easily hold up the flowers.

MATERIALS RECEIVED FROM ELEANOR WESTMEYER ESTATE

The Society For Japanese Irises wishes to express its appreciation to Lynn Westmeyer Slink, for contributing to the Society all iris related materials from her Mother's estate. Two large boxes of materials have been received since the last issue of "The Review" went to press. These have been turned over to the SJI historian, John Coble, for sorting.

The sorting process has provided some happy discoveries. One of the most important finds was all of the Marx catalogues from 1950 thru 1967 except for 1964. There were also some old catalogues from other nurseries. A large number of slides were found, well over 100 of which are still in good condition and color. Many of these are copies of slides taken by Mr. Payne of his own varieties. Some slides were of rare, or possibly no longer existing varieties. There are many letters from Eleanor's correspondence with Mr. Payne, Bee Warburton, Dr Hirao, Arthur Hazzard and Bill Ouweneel. These mostly date from the early period of SJI's formation and the period when Eleanor was editor and then president of the Society. In addition were some interesting Robin letters from the period of 1968 to 1970.

The Society is most grateful to have the addition of these materials to its historical collection.

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Strunk, John T., P O Box 105, Harriman, 37748
Vogt, Debra Lynn, P O Box 95, Pigeon Forge, 38763

TEXAS

Freedman, Debbie, 4405 Colgate Ave., Dallas, 75225
Ikins, Dr/M W. Clyde, P O Box 1539, Bandera, 78003
Jobe, Leslie D., 12718 Oak Plaza Dr., Cypress, 77429
Knoblauch, Ed, 1019 Moore, El Paso, 79902
Langford, Mrs. William, 1121 Highland Dr., Henderson, 75652
Reece, M/M Gomer, 633 Kindred, Richardson, 75080
Rockwell, Mrs. C. C., 4312 S. 31 St., #27, Temple, 76502
Shults, Sue, 4622 Bayview, Dallas, 74211
Stephens, Frank L., 4110 Shelby, Amarillo, 79019
Tarrant, Lavada, Box 215, Frankston, 75763
Wheeler, James B., 608 Woods, Wichita Falls, 76301

UTAH

Maginn, F. Paul III, 2351 West Williamsburg Cir., West
Jordan, 84088

VERMONT

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Giddings, Elsie T., RR 1 Box 179E, Jeffersonville, 05464
Heald, Catherine, RR1 Box 66, South Ryegate, 05069
Stevenson, Nora C., 34 Monument Ave., Old Bennington, 05201

VIRGINIA

Atkins, Carrie, 824 Norton Ave. N.E., Roanoke, 24012
barker, M/M Kenneth M., 3400 Lorcom Ln., Arlington, 22207
Bigelow, Janice, 1726 Pebble Beach Dr., Vienna, 22180
Buddington, Dr. Richard J., 406 Westwood Dr., Abingdon,
24210
Campbell, Isabelle, 922 Yorktown Rd., Poquoson, 23662
Dennis, Ruby & Herman III, 2413 Cedar Bark Rd., Virginia
Beach, 23454
Filsinger, Ruth I., 6230 Cheryl Dr., Falls Church, 220441805
Fitzpatrick, John T., 1641 Rugby Ave., Charlottesville,
22901
Glasshoff, Roger L., 1111 Wythe Court, Fredericksburg, 22405
Harris, Ronald & Gayle, 3592 N. Ingleside Dr., Norfolk,
23502

Hazzard, Mrs. Freda, 111 Winston Dr., Williamsburg, 23185
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22207

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Hostetter, Phillip, 904 W. Maple Ave., Sterling, 22170
Hulbert, Elaine, R 3 Box 57, Floyd, 24091
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Lively-Diebold, Bobbie, 7908 Lewinsville Rd., McLean, 22102
Lowe, Mike & Anne, Rt 3 Box 135, Blackstone, 23824
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Mellott, Lee C., 6255 Drew Drive, Virginia Beach, 23464
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22065

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Owen, Deborah A., Route 2, Box 186, Courtland, 23837

Padgett, George, 3921 Peterson Street, Norfolk, 23513

Peters, Mrs. Duncan D., 3201 N. Trinidad St., Arlington,
22213

Randall, M/M Richard, 524 Windsor Gates Road, Virginia
Beach, 23452

Reager, William E., 10049 Oldfield Drive, Richmond, 23235

Roundtree, John J., 6514 Elmhirst Dr., Falls Church, 22043

Ruhlman, Thelma O., 6724 Little Falls Rd., Arlington, 22213

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Beach, 23454

Shreckengast, M/M James, Qtrs. F. NAB. LCRK., Norfolk,
23521

Smithson, Robert E. Jr., 3704 Gresham CT., Virginia Beach,
23452

Spoon, Dr. Donald M., 6436 Tucker Ave., McLean, 22101

Todd, Rebecca, 204 Amy Court, Sterling, 22170

Walker, Ruth E., 113 Sutter Rd., Partlow, 22534

Whyte, Dr. Adrienne, 6704 West Falls Way, Falls Church,
22046

Wollenberg, Patricia J., 9006 Brieryle Rd., Richmond, 23229

Worrell, Betty, 172 Skimino Road, Williamsburg, 23185

WASHINGTON

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Carty, Leona, PO Box 956, Woodland, 98674

Church, Alice E., 9870 Glennwood Rd., Port Orchard, 98366

Churchman, Mildred, NE 3491 Old Belfair Hwy., Belfair, 98528

Cntr. Urban Hort., c/o E. C. Miller, Univ. of Wash. #GF-15,
Seattle, 98195

Creedon-McVean, Morris, 14708 Connelly Rd., Snohomish, 98290

Davis, Michele, 105 Brush Creek Rd., Elma, 98541

Dudley, Helen S., 4537 S. Sheridan, Tacoma, 98408

Grainger, Ruth, 2706 Queen Anne N., Seattle, 98109

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Harris, Chad, 1601 Lincoln Ave., Vancouver, 98660

Holst, Eric, R 4 Box 592, Vashon Island, 98070

Iked, Paul, 2760 NE 98th Street, Seattle, 98115

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Price, Elmer J., 3507 N. Stevens St., Tacoma, 98407

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Smith, Marcia, 1014 Crest Acres Place, Yakima, 98908

Tucker, Richard, 7622 54th Ave NW, Gig Harbor, 98335

Wood, Deane R., 962 East 104th St., Tacoma, 98445

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Ostrem, Gladys, RR 2, Viroqua, 54665

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Stephani, Bill, 5081 County Line Road, Seymour, 54165

Thrum, Daniel, 2411 White Oak Trail, Oregon, 53575

Wis.-Iris-Soc., Ruth Rogers, Lib., W269N686 Meadowbrook Rd.,
Waukesha, 53118

SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES FINANCIAL STATEMENT

JANUARY 1, 1989 - DECEMBER 31, 1989

MONEY MARKET SAVINGS

Balance on hand 1/1/89	\$14,039.74	
Interest	750.32	
Donation G. Butron	25.00	
Summerville Iris Society	500.00	
Northeast Apagon Auction	500.00	
Life membership - M. Nelson	75.00	
Income	127.00	
Loan- AIS Foundation	5,000.00	
	<u>21,017.06</u>	
Transfer to checking act. for book	15,000.00	
BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/89	\$ 6,017.06	\$6,017.06

CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on hand 1/1/89	1,017.53	
Income:		
Dues	1,501.00	
Checklist Sales	380.00	
Interest	144.11	
Librarian (reprints and slides)	123.50	
Auction (Manassas convention)	2339.00	
Donations	95.00	
Check for book (incorrect C&P Iris Soc.)	6.00	
Transfer from Savings for book	15,000.00	
	<u>19,588.61</u>	

Expenses:

Spring REVIEW	\$ 961.67
Fall REVIEW	1,104.78
Engrave Payne Medal	22.05
Postage, Cpoies (Mem. Sec.)	113.29
Librarian (Slide postage, copies)	83.08
Postage for auction irises (Manassas)	76.24
Service Charge (bank)	5.00
C & P Iris Society book	6.00
New SJI Stationery	125.83
Copy & mail bylaws	12.27
Debit (Canadian check not cashed by bank)	5.00
Book (University Press of New England)	15,000.00
	<u>\$ 17,515.21</u>

BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/89	\$3,090.93
TOTAL CASH ON HAND 12/31/89	9,107.99

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol S. Warner

Carol S. Warner, Treas.

NOTE: AIS owes \$265.00 dues through 10/1/89

THE EDITOR'S "REVIEW"

We are at the end of putting together another issue, at last! Tomorrow is April Fool's day, hopefully only a coincidence, and of no significance in regards to the publication of this issue, which was supposed to have gone to the printers a week ago. At the deadline for receiving material, only two articles were on file. My thanks to Clarence Mahan for providing some additional material on short notice, for sending requests to several writers for short articles, and my thanks to those writers for prompt responses. Then, at the very last hour, a major article, which I had given up on, came through, and the membership list which had been unavoidably delayed. An effort was made to still get to the printers last week, but it was impossible. This is a request to committee chairmen and others, in the future try to get materials together and to the editor in reasonable time, so that such delays can be avoided.

As Clarence points out in his President's Letter, exciting things are happening in SJI. First, the book is coming out! Since the "Review" is a bit late, time for ordering the book at the prepublication price will be short, so get your orders in the mail promptly. The upcoming convention in Maine sounds like an event not to be missed. There are the usual number of shows planned, with new ones in the wings waiting to be staged next year. Start making plans now to exhibit and attend. Would all show chairmen please see that the editor gets a report of your show for publication in the fall issue? And then the popularity poll, let's really turn in a big response this year! The form is right here, on the next page.

Note especially the proposed changes for the JI sections of the Judge's Handbook. Come to the conventions prepared to give your suggestions to the committee and the board, so that the final result will be the best possible set of standards.

Michigan weather seems to have performed its usual tricks this year. Near record cold for the month of December, record warm for January into the first half of February, then cold again. Mid-March saw record warm days, up to 78 degrees one day with crocus and I. reticulata in bloom, only to go right back into the deep freeze again. Whatever happened to winters of continuous snow cover, gradually warming Marches, and April showers which brought the flowers? Are they only dim memories of the distant past? Regardless of the winter, hopefully the Japanese irises will come on unscathed. Whatever your winter has been like, I'm wishing each of you a good bloom season with reasonable temperatures and weather, shows filled with great bloomstalks, and a perfect weekend in peak bloom for the SJI convention. Is that too much to ask?

While enjoying this bloom season, be on the lookout for any information which you feel is worthy of sharing with the membership. Send the editor articles about your successes, or failures, and what can be learned from them, new ideas, what varieties performed best, etc. That is the only way we can be sure "The Review" will be a meaningful means of communication among all members.

Best wishes,



1990 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. _____

Member's name #1. _____

#2. _____

OVER

Cut along this line