

# THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR  
JAPANESE IRISES



VOLUME 30

NUMBER 2

FALL, 1993

THE REVIEW  
OF  
THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

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Cover photo: ORIENTAL EYES (A. Vogt) - 1993 PAYNE  
MEDAL winner -- Photo by Ted White

FUTURE SJI CONVENTIONS - see page 16

THE REVIEW  
OF

VOL.30 THE SOCIETY for JAPANESE IRISES FALL 1993  
NO. 2

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trations

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Now that the urgency of preparing for the local iris club's annual sale is over, it's time to sit down at the keyboard and "think fall". The local club has their sale out of my garage, so, with several hundred visitors, it means WEEDING, digging iris, WEEDING, digging perennials, WEEDING, and polishing things for the annual visit by all the women checking on the house with three men and no women living in it. My donations brought in over \$900.00 in sales, so we are solvent for another year!

Having attended three conventions this year: Fort Worth, The WONDERFUL Japanese Iris Society convention in Virginia Beach, Virginia, and the Siberian Iris convention in Lansing, Michigan, I really saw LOTS of beautiful gardens, and iris of just about all types. The beardless irises seemed particularly nice this year, especially with all our rain here in the Midwest. Now the reblooming irises are starting to bloom, so it looks like the beauty of irises will continue into November, frosts permitting.

I'm sure all of you who attended this year's JI Convention will remember it as a smaller, more personal-type convention, with beautiful irises, lovely gardens, plenty of moisture, and wonderful companionship. If you missed it, remember 1994, when the convention will again be in the south-east. Make plans now to visit South Carolina in the Springtime!

As part of my letter, Evelyn White asked me to explain the awards for Japanese Irises this year. In 1991, the AIS Board approved a new award system for all classes of irises. This changes which irises are eligible for HM's, from a specific number by type, to a formula where 10% of the eligible irises in each class can receive the Honorable Mention, with a minimum of 2 HM's in each class. Along with this, all classes will now have an Award of Merit award, again based on 10% of those eligible, with a minimum of two awards.

Previously, the Japanese Iris Society awarded the Payne Award, instead of an AM. The Payne Award now becomes the Payne MEDAL, and is given to the iris receiving the most votes, chosen from the past Payne Award winners introduced during the eligibility period. This may sound confusing, but will run smoothly, I'm sure, after a year or two. We are currently having a Payne Medal designed, as it will be awarded at the convention in Portland next May.

Rich Randall is working hard on putting together a Japanese Display Garden program, wherein he will establish a data base of who grows what, so if you would like to input information, contact Rich for more information. The more people he hears from, the more complete his program will be.

Hoping you have all enjoyed an excellent growing season, not too much rain, no drought, no borers, and none of these new diseases that we discussed thoroughly at the Virginia Convention. Have a good winter season, and make lots of plans to expand your Japanese Iris collection in 1994.

Howard Brookins

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#### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Please check your label (on back cover) to see when your dues expire. If your label reads 9401, this is your last issue unless you renew. Renewal bills are not sent out, only overdue notices, so please send your dues before they expire.

Carol Warner, Chm.



## BUSINESS ITEMS

"The Review" is published semi-annually by the Society For Japanese Irises. Editorial Office is located at RFD 2 Box 980, Auburn, ME 04210. Deadlines for receiving copy are Feb. 15 and August 15, with earlier receipt desirable. Black and white photographs, colored prints (glossy), and black and white drawings are welcome. Reprinting -- permission is granted to any other iris society publication to reprint any material in this publication with due acknowledgement.

DUES: Single annual, \$3.50; triennial \$9.00; life \$75.00. Family annual, \$4.00; triennial, \$10.50; life \$100.00. Send either to the AIS Membership Chairman, or directly to Membership Chairman, The Society for Japanese Irises.

RENEWALS: If your mailing label is marked with the expiration date, 9401 | this will be the last copy of "The Review" on your present membership. PLEASE RENEW.

Address Changes: Please notify Membership Chairman

### SALES and RENTAL ITEMS:

THE JAPANESE IRIS by Currier McEwen \$24.95

Back Issues of "The Review", per copy 1.50

Volume 1 (1964) consists of 3 issues.

All subsequent volumes contain 2 issues each.

SJI Slide Set Rental \$ 5.00

IRIS LAEVI GATA - book rental \$ 5.00

All prices include postage. Send your requests for items above 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 ads, text only, \$2.00 for up to 5 lines and for each additional 5 lines or fraction thereof. Send ads with check to Editor.

## 1993 JAPANESE IRIS AWARDS

### W.A.PAYNE MEDAL

ORIENTAL EYES (A. Vogt)	41 votes
(runners-up)	
FRECKLED GEISHA (L. Reid)	39 votes
CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY (W. Marx)	37 votes
JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEwen)	29 votes

IRIS	HYBRIDIZER	VOTES
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#### AWARD OF MERIT (JI)

CASCADE CREST	T. AITKEN	47
KALAMAZOO	A. HAZZARD	38
EDGE OF FROST	M. DIENSTBACH	25

#### HONORABLE MENTION (JI)

GALA PERFORMANCE	A. MILLER	19
EXUBERANT CHANTEY	C. McEWEN	14

This information was provided by Bennett Jones,  
AIS Awards Chairman.

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### SJI HONORS THREE FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS

Clarence Mahan

The highest award which SJI can bestow on individuals for outstanding contributions to the Society or to its objectives of improving and popularizing the Japanese Iris is Honorary Life Membership. This year three persons were named by the Board of Directors to receive this Award: George C. Bush, Ben Hager and Lorena Reid.

George Bush, of York, Pennsylvania, was named to receive the Honorary Life Membership Award for his lifetime contributions to further the objectives of the Society. George has been growing, showing, selling and breeding irises for five decades. He has imported many cultivars from Japan and introduced them to commerce in the U.S. HOZAN, YODANO KAWASE, and YUSHO are a few of these.

George's hybridizing efforts have led to the creation of such excellent irises as JAPANESE SANDMAN and TEA CEREMONY. He was a major actor in beginning the tradition of the Harrisburg beardless show at a time when the only other two Japanese iris shows in the country were in Michigan and South Carolina. Through this show and George's tireless promotion of "unshaven irises", the popularity of Japanese irises has spread through the mid- Atlantic states to reach the levels of today.

Ben Hager and his irises have won so many awards that he may have a problem to find an empty space on his wall in Stockton, California to hang his Honorary Lifetime Membership Award plaque from SJI. One can only wonder how he has ever found the time to accomplish so much in every class of iris. His own hybridizing efforts with Japanese irises have been notable, including the Payne Award for STRANGER IN PARADISE. When few sources of Japanese irises existed, Ben was promoting their virtues and offering new and old cultivars through Melrose Gardens.

In addition to Ben's own cultivars, Melrose introduced a large number of new Japanese cultivars for others, such as Fred Maddocks, Thornton Abell, Jonnye Rich. Ben also brought excellent varieties from Japan for the U.S. market when they could not otherwise have been obtained.

The third honoree this year is Lorena Reid of Springfield, Oregon. Lorena has performed innumerable services for our Society, including service as our President (1973-74). For quite a few years she has operated Laurie's Garden, providing a source for many cultivars that were not available any place else in the U.S.....indeed many of these cultivars would probably have been lost altogether had Lorena not grown and offered them.

Lorena has also bred and introduced outstanding cultivars, including the exquisite 1987 Payne Award winner, FRECKLED GEISHA.



We congratulate all three of the 1993 winners of SJI's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. And we sincerely thank them for all that they have done for the beautiful iris to which our Society is dedicated.



Lorena Reid receiving her Honorary Lifetime Membership Award at the SJI Convention in Virginia Beach from Howard Brookins, SJI President

Photo by JaNiece Mull

ANNOUNCEMENT ..... 1994 SJI CONVENTION  
SUMMERVILLE SC

The SUMMERVILLE IRIS SOCIETY, an affiliate of the AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, will host the 1994 Convention of the Society for Japanese Irises June 2 - 4, in Summerville, SC.

Peggy BEASON, R2 Box 584, Summerville, SC, 29483 is Reservations Chairman. Her phone # is (803) 688-4414. Your reservation check should be made out to the SUMMERVILLE IRIS SOCIETY. Until May 1 the cost is \$50.00. Between May 1 and May 16 (deadline for reservations), the cost is \$60.00

Headquarters for the 1994 convention is the HOLIDAY INN. This Inn is on Holiday Inn Drive near the intersection of Routes I-26 and 17A, (Exit 199 off I-26 to Route 17-A South. Holiday Inn Drive is the first street on your right). Phone: (803)875-3300. Toll-free # for reservations is (800) 238-8000. Tentative cost per room with two double beds is \$46.00. The Holiday Inn does not offer a courtesy airport/hotel limo service. YELLOW CAB has quoted \$16.00 fare (one to four passengers).

Featured during the 1994 SJI Convention is a two hour Charleston Harbor Cruise. This will be for those arriving before 6 PM on Thursday, June 2. It will be a dinner cruise, the cruise and dinner cost is through courtesy of the SIS. To minimize expenses to the SIS it is imperative THAT YOU TELL US ON YOUR RESERVATION SLIP IF YOU PLAN TO GO ON THE CRUISE. The SIS must pay for all 'no-shows'. Your reservation packet will be awaiting you at the hotel.

The convention registration desk will open at 4 PM on June 2. It will close at 6 PM, so all SIS members and guests can go on the Harbor Cruise. The desk will be open again 6 - 8 AM on Friday, June 3.

The convention WELCOME BREAKFAST at the hotel is scheduled for 8 - 9:15 on June 3.

Starting at 9:30 AM there will be a two hour JUDGE'S TRAINING course conducted by Pat Brooks, President of SIS.

Buses are scheduled to leave at 11:45 AM. One of the co-chairmen, Geny MORRISON will be one bus captain. Helen BEASON will be the other.

Our first destination is ST. STEPHENS, SC, where we will be served a church luncheon. From there we will visit the spacious garden of B.C. and Maggie JOHNSON, then on to another good sized garden belonging to Peggy BEASON (another hard-working SIS member). Upon returning to the hotel, your evening meal will be on your own. Within walking distance of the hotel are HARDEES, HUDDLE HOUSE, QUINCY'S FAMILY STEAK HOUSE, WAFFLE HOUSE, and ZAMBOLI'S. Or, you may prefer dining at the HOLIDAY INN.

Friday evening at 7:30 Ruth WILDER one of the co-chairmen, will present a slide/question/answer session at the hotel.

Saturday AM breakfast is on your own. QUINCY'S FAMILY STEAK HOUSE offers an excellent breakfast buffet.

There are three gardens on the tour schedule for Saturday, those of Pat BROOKS, Virginia BURTON, and Lavinia GOLDSBERRY. In addition there will be an Iris show at AZALEA PARK in Summerville. Here you will see JI plantings and the ADOLPH VOGT memorial tree donated by SIS. Also, you will attend a luncheon and Saturday banquet, plus an auction. As a finale, there will be door prizes.

Near the Holiday Inn there is a medium size shopping center where you have access to WAL-MART, CATO, RADIO SHACK, and other shops.

If you want to make a vacation of your Convention trip, our area offers many interesting historical places to visit, plus some fine gardens and restaurants.

The following write-up by Peggy Beason describes her garden. Peggy is a hard worker in SIS. She is its treasurer and has been chairman of two shows. She has also taken over meetings. To know her is to like her.

Virginia Burton

## MY GARDEN

Peggy Beason

My garden and that of my mother, Helen, are located in Black Tom Swamp in an area called Paradise, not far from Summerville. There is no longer a swamp, but it is a bit of Paradise. What was a barren three acre lot ten years ago has been transformed into two one-acre landscaped homesites separated by an acre natural area.

We joined the Summerville Iris Society in 1987. At that time the only iris we were familiar with were the bearded and the Dutch. When the Spring show came, we found out about different iris that existed and could be grown in this area. We each received two Japanese iris to grow in our gardens that year.

That was five years ago. Now I have about a hundred Japanese irises. Many are older, tried and true varieties, such as Light at Dawn, Frosted Pyramid, and World's Delight. Then there are some of the latest introductions, the guest iris, among which are Wilderness Snowball, Picotee Princess, and Stately Flamingo. You will also find Louisiana, Siberian, Dutch, roof iris, walking iris, species, and bearded iris.

Iris aren't the only plants in the garden, though. There are herbs and perennials, wild-flowers for the butterflies, fruits and berries for the birds, and numerous blooming shrubs just for the pleasure of looking at. I don't think my garden will ever be finished. I keep finding "just one more plant" that I must have. There is something here for everyone to enjoy. So come and see the flowers, walk the wooded pathways, or just sit and enjoy the birds.

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### ATTENTION ROBIN MEMBERS!

Please send a card to Pat Brooks at the time you send your "Robin" on. This will make it easier for Pat to keep track of the Robins. Did you know that she directs 5 different Robins? She needs any help you can give her.

## EXCERPTS FROM ROBINS

Sent in by  
Pat Brooks

### From Bob Bauer - Michigan

I am particularly interested in branching of cultivars, and it seems that the culture that the plant receives is the most important factor in branching. For years it has been obvious to me that the new seedling bloom and branching was always so much more exceptional than it was after the plants were saved and replanted. The reason for this is that the seedlings had always been planted in "new" soil in the Spring in our ever-expanding garden, and after culling were replanted later in the summer in the same (although always heavily amended) soil. It soon became obvious that the soil was not growing the irises very well after 2 or 3 years. The reason for this is a mystery: do the irises add a pathogen to the soil, or do they use up something essential for superior growth?

When I discussed this problem with Mr. Kamo two years ago, he was of the opinion that irises add a waste product to the soil and that they do not do well when growing in their own waste. He recommended allowing the soil to rest for two years between plantings with amendments of manure 3 or 4 times a year and adding lobster, crayfish, or shrimp shells would be very beneficial. He was rather vague about what the waste products might be, although it is well-known that heavy manuring and adding chitin to the soil promotes beneficial nematodes which kill the nematodes that harm irises. Nematodes are a problem in irises from Japan. I personally have found that one summer's rest with an application of manure greatly rejuvenates soil for growing irises.

### From Currier McEwen - Maine

Among the Japanese some new ones that bloomed first last year (1991) are of the marbled pattern, and this is the first of those I have had in the tetraploid state. Now I am trying to get a white or pale one with a narrow, richly colored edge ..... Among that same 1989 batch



of seedlings blooming for the second time (1989 means that the crosses were made that year) are about a dozen diploid pinks that I am particularly pleased with. .... What has interested me especially is the fact that, although they all come from parents that have no branch and only two buds, all of these seedlings have one or two branches, and two of them even repeated this year. I could not understand the genetics of it but John Coble has suggested to me that probably it is not genetic so much as cultural, and that probably those seedlings were planted in a row where the soil had been particularly well prepared and where they had received especially loving care.....

....Some of you who were at the 1990 Convention here in Maine may recall one, T787/14(2), a rather exotically patterned red which had come from Japanese Pinwheel and a white parent. In the 1990 crop, there are a number rather similar to it which also have come from Japanese Pinwheel crossed with white. That looks like a promising cross. Another red that came from Japanese Pinwheel is large and velvety with three branches plus terminal and eight buds. If it continues to behave in this way, it surely will be a future introduction.

From Donna Aldridge - Kansas

It's April 10th (1993) and... we have an actually sunny day! The six new JI tets are showing almost as much leaf as the new TBs planted near them, and a majority of the other JI's have foliage higher than the Siberians. This is bizarre! The increase on HBG #s 1 and 2 is remarkable (see Dr. Waddick's report in 1993 Spring issue, p. 22. Ed.) and far outdistances anything else planted in that 1½ year old bed or the bed a year older. #1 has about 38 tips, while #2 has about 28.....While #1 increases a bit more rapidly, the seed pods were terribly small and yielded few seeds. #2 had wonderfully full, huge seed pods. And both were bursting over with pollen.

.... Jim's favorite is HBG #1 - partly because it happened to always be putting on its best performances the days he came to see them. The beautifully cut arch-shaped standards are very strikingly upright and attention-getting, red-violet rimmed white over lovely clean white falls. #2, which is my favorite, has the same coloring with absolutely stunning huge, round, crisp falls, and standards that sit atop them in a perfect little dome like a cherry on pure white whipped cream. While the color pattern is "basic", I think these are marvellous in the garden and full of promise hybridizing.

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## 1995 CONVENTION UPDATE

Carol Warner

Excitement is really building as the Francis Scott Key Iris Society prepares to host the 1995 S.J.I. Convention in northern Maryland. Guest irises from our noted local hybridizers and as far away as Belgium are nestled in their guest beds and more are arriving practically every day. The five host gardens are being treated to some major landscaping improvements in preparation for your visit. At least 2 of the major hybridizers from Japan have written to say that they will attend and may have a talk or slide program for us.

Ladew Gardens, where we will have lunch and see a newly planted display of Japanese irises, is an outstanding topiary garden. Watch for articles about it in national magazines and as a location for one of the national morning TV programs.

Our hotel has given us a very good rate for June 23 and 24, 1995. Incidentally, it is located directly opposite Maryland's premier shopping mall - start saving your pennies.

Hybridizers who have not as yet sent guest irises should do so immediately following instructions given in the Spring REVIEW. Hopefully, they can be potted and held over winter and should make a nice 2-year clump.

## 1995 Convention (cont.)

It's not too early to begin making your plans to share in the excitement of this meeting. F.S.K. Iris Society is noted for its friendship and hospitality.

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### Request For Japanese Iris 1996 Society for Japanese Iris Convention in St. Louis Missouri

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society will be hosting your 1996 Japanese Iris Convention. There are 5 guest gardens including the Missouri Botanical Garden. The Guest Iris Chairman is inviting all hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions or seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.

1. Up to 5 rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. Guest plants will be accepted from May 1 1993 to May 1994
3. The following information should accompany each plant:
  - a. Hybridizer's name and address
  - b. Name or number of each variety or seedling
  - c. Type of iris
  - d. Height and color
  - e. Year of introduction
4. When guest seedlings are named, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than Feb. 1, 1996.
5. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors listing the garden location of your plants. Plants will be handled with full courtesy to the hybridizer. We will exercise all precaution to see that plants do not set seed or that pollen be used. The guest iris committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control; reports of losses will be promptly issued to the hybridizer.

6. Contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of their plants. If such instructions are not received by Feb. 1, 1996, dispersal will be at the discretion of the convention committee.

I wish my plants to be handled as follows:

- ( ) Dispensed with at the discretion of the Convention Committee
  - ( ) Sold at auction, proceeds going to S.J.I. or G.S.L.I.S.
  - ( ) Returned to hybridizer (out of U.S. returns at your cost)
  - ( ) Destroyed
  - ( ) Others
7. Only plants received through the Guest Iris Chairman will be listed in the convention booklet and be eligible for awards, for this convention.
8. All official guest iris must be shipped to:
- Mrs. Betty Bohrer  
1 Summer Court  
O'Fallon, MO 63366  
Phone: (314)272-8780

Thank you for supporting this SJI Convention.

Don Delmez  
Convention Chairman

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#### FUTURE SJI CONVENTIONS

- 1994 - Summerville, SC - June 2-4
- 1995 - Baltimore, MD - June 23-24
- 1996 - Greater St. Louis, MO
- 1997 - Sacramento, CA
- 1998 - Open
- 1999 - Open
- 2000 - Kalamazoo, MI

## GROWING JI'S IN NORTH CAROLINA

Note from Walter Hoover: In their effort to respond to the many queries of people who have asked about their experiences growing Japanese irises, and in response to a specific request from Ruth Wilder--past RVP, Region 5, Alfred and Isabelle Nix of Henderson, North Carolina, submitted the following article:

We started growing Japanese irises after I attended the Carolina Mountains Iris Society auction in 1988. At that auction I bought a few different kinds of iris, including a few Japanese. We buried the pots in the ground and mulched them for the winter. The following Spring we dug up the pots, repotted the irises, and set them in a water bed. When the irises bloomed, they were nothing fancy, but we were hooked on growing Japanese irises. The following year, 1989, we ordered six Japanese irises from Ensata Gardens. These included ORIENTAL EYES and FRECKLED GEISHA. They were just beautiful! In 1990 we ordered many more varieties.

In 1991 we made a long display bed. We dug out the soil about 10 inches deep, put landscaping timbers around it, and filled it with top soil, composted manure, and peat moss. We set 81 varieties in this new bed and mulched it with pine straw, and then wet the area thoroughly. In addition, we made four wet beds by framing them with landscaping timbers and using pool liners. We put the plants we divided in pots and put them in these wet beds with one or two inches of water. We also made four dry beds in which we set pots on the ground and watered from the top. In 1992 we made another display bed. This time we tilled the soil and again framed the bed with landscaping timbers and added peat moss and composted cow manure. We set 72 plants in it and mulched with pine straw.

We fertilize the Japanese irises twice yearly with 10-10-10--first when the foliage is about three inches tall and then after bloom. We also use Miracid as needed. We spray our Japanese irises with Cygon for insects, and Alfred takes



takes great care to water all the plants as needed. We dig and pot overgrown clumps and repot crowded pots after the bloom season. The irises are then set in wet beds until October, when we set them in the ground and mulch them for winter.

We also grow tall bearded irises. I guess we have grown tall bearded for about 15 years. I have a table at the Henderson Country Curb Market. I go three days a week to sell tall bearded and Japanese irises and other things, such as berries and crafts I make when I'm not working in the irises. Visitors are welcome to visit our place, especially during peak bloom, which is usually mid-June.

#### Isabelle and Alfred Nix

Alfred and Isabelle have approximately 175 varieties of Japanese iris in their garden at present, and they have ordered approximately 60 new additions for 1993. As stock has increased, the Nixes have been selling their container grown surplus from their garden and at the curb market, where Isabelle has promoted this culture with evangelical zeal. Their garden is always open to the public and is located on Sugar Loaf Road in the Dana section of Henderson County. In their garden one can see Japanese irises grown to perfection using their three techniques of open beds, pot culture with overhead watering, and pot culture in standing water. One can only draw inspiration from the work of these two enthusiastic iris growers who are constantly searching for better ways to grow and promote their addiction.

Walter Hoover, President  
Carolina Mountains Iris Society  
Region 4

## DISPLAY GARDENS

Rich Randall

The number of Japanese Iris Display Gardens has almost doubled this year (from 26 to 44), and a minimum of 6 will be added this year.

When you encourage friends and neighbors to view your Japanese Irises, you have a Display Garden. By inviting others, you have fulfilled the purpose of the program - to locally promote the iris to the general public. You do not need many cultivars nor the newest varieties to do this. It takes only your commitment to share.

For your garden to be recognized as a J.I. Display Garden, just inform me that you display. Besides listing you in THE REVIEW, I will assist you by supplying culture sheets, source lists, and SJI membership applications for your visitors.

A listing of all J.I. Display Gardens will be included in the Spring 1994 issue of THE REVIEW.

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### LOOKING FOR A JAPANESE CULTIVAR?

Is your "Payne Award Bed" incomplete? Are you looking for a specific cultivar? Is there a "HIPS" iris that you seek? If so, it may be in my computer.

In establishing the "Caretaker Program", a data bank has been created. This data bank is available to everybody. If you want to locate a particular Japanese iris, send a SASE to:

Rich Randall  
524 Windsor Gate Rd.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452

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THE 1993 JI POPULARITY POLL RESULTS  
Virginia Burton SJI Publicity Chairman

The first members to enter the 1993 JI poll were Stephen Smith from Mass,, followed by the Randalls from VA, Walter Hoover from NC, the Paquets of SC, and Ruth Wilder of SC.

There were 50 participants from 18 states, plus 2 from Belgium. The States represented are AZ, CA, GA, MA, MI, MO, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, ME, SC, TN, VA, VT, WA, and WI.

The results for 1993 are:

16	votes	JAPANESE PINWHEEL	
14	"	KALAMAZOO	
11	"	CASCADE CREST	
9	"	ELECTRIC EYES	FRILLED ENCHANTMENT
		LILAC PEAKS	
8	"	CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY	JOCASTA
7	"	DANCING WAVES	SOUTHERN SON
6	"	GLITTER AND GLAMOUR	GUSTO
5	"	ORIENTAL EYES	SNOWY HILLS
4	"	ANYTUS	CONFETTI SHOWER
		CONTINUING PLEASURE	FRECKLED GEISHA
		FUJI	GAY GALLANT
		IKE-NO-SAZANAMI	IPSUS
		KONTAKI-ON	MAINE CHANCE
		ROSE ADAGIO	ROSE PRELUDE
3	"	CASCADE SPICE	CENTER OF ATTENTION
		FASHION MODEL	JEWELLED SEA
		JOYOUS TROUBADOR	KNIGHT IN ARMOR
		LE CORDON BLEU	LIGHT AT DAWN
		MAI OGI	NIKKO
		OVER THE WAVES	PEACOCK DANCE
		PINK DIMITY	PRAIRIE GLORY
		ROSE QUEEN	ROYAL GAME
		SUMMER STORM	SWIRLING WAVES
2	"	AMETHYST WINGS	BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT
		CAPANEUS	CASCADE SPRING DRESS
		CASCADE STORM	DOUBLE FIRST
		EPIMETHIUS	FROSTED PYRAMID
		GAYETY	GEISHA DANCE
		GEISHA GOWN	GOOD OMEN
		HAGOROMO	HAPPY FAUN
		HUE AND CRY	IAPETUS

2 votes	IMMACULATE WHITE	JOAN TREVITHICK
	JACIVA	JOY PETERS
	KATY MENDEZ	KYO-NO-MI
	LET ME SEE	MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS
	MIST MAKER	OL' MAN RIVER
	ORIENTAL BOUQUET	ORIENTAL CLASSIC
	ORIENTAL FANTASY	PICOTEE PRINCESS
	PINK MYSTERY	PRAIRIE FANTASY
	PRAIRIE NOBLE	PRAIRIE PRINCESS
	REIGN OF GLORY	RIPPLES STIPPLES
	RUFFLED DIMITY	SARU ODORI
	SAYO-NO-TREKE	SPARKLING SAPPHIRE
	SWEET AND LOW	SWEET MURMUR
	SYLVIA'S MASQUERADE	UMI BOTARU
	TAFFETA AND VELVET	WINDRIFT
	VERMILLION SUNSET	WINE RUFFLES

Plus many with one vote each.

Comments with the 1993 Popularity Poll:

Currier McEwen---" We hope to see you in 1994." (ED. In talking to Peggy Beason, our registration chairman for next year, Currier and Elisabeth have already registered.) Currier said he had a good bloom season and now had several hundred plants to sort out and replant. He still likes FRILLED ENCHANTMENT and GLITTER AND GLAMOUR among the oldies.

Pat Brooks---"JACIVA has grown real well for me in spite of the dry weather. Our 95° plus temperature started in mid-June and continued with 95° plus for 45 days with a heat index of 121 the last of June ---plus no rain. (ED. I echo her comments. Many of us looked at the JI and saw the foliage turning a straw color. We dug the JI and put them in pools and then found that the pool temperature was bath temperature.

Rich Randall--- "It has been a great bloom season with 200 cultivars in bloom (ED. From all reports of the VA Convention, SIS has their work cut out for them in '94.)

Paul Cook, VT--- His first bloom opened July first, and then they had temperatures in the 80s and low 90s and the iris came out very fast. His season peaked about July 20th. He sent his list in on July 30 and still had about

35 in bloom. He liked CASCADE CREST for its good "staying" power. JAPANESE PINWHEEL was liked by all visitors, who wanted to know about it and its distinct markings. JOCASTA was the year's favorite among the Innersts. ORIENTAL BOUQUET ---like so many short people, this one makes up in personality what it lacks in stature- ( a great description -- I also like it. ED.)

Willy G. from Belgium--- "My JI season was two weeks early this year. I have seen 300 JI imports from the US of A. Some crosses of ensata with I. pseudacorus were outstanding. FRECKLED GEISHA, MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS, and CASCADE CREST were popular here. I hope to find more registered JI's and learn more about the hybridizers. Thanks for the Popularity Poll, as it gives some idea of the JI most popular across the country."

Joe Watson and family, GA--- KONTAKI-ON was lovely this year with 20 plus blooms. ROYAL GAME is a good grower here in our soil. CASCADE CREST was the most distinctive iris this year. KALAMAZOO, ICY PEAKS, SNOW AVALANCHE, and LILAC PEAKS were very popular with the garden visitors. The "hems" and JI make great companion plants. Denny, our son, will be at GA College this fall, having earned a student scholarship. Our daughter, Lou Anne, finished her 2nd year here and is working on her music therapy degree.

Virginia Burton, Ladson, SC--- TAFFETA AND VELVET was an iris that took our record-breaking heat here and bloomed over a longer period than anticipated. SOUTHERN SON is a good grower and was a mass of bloom, but it needs part shade here in this climate. STATELY FLAMINGO was 48" tall and had three way branching plus terminal, but it is a slow increaser. FLAMINGO FROLIC is an interesting twirled JI.

NOTE: Editorial comments are those of Virginia Burton



## PROBLEMS IN DEALING WITH INTERSPECIFIC HYBRIDS

### (IRIS PSEUDACORUS X I. ENSATA)

William L. Ackerman

In the pursuit of yellow flower color in Japanese Iris through crossing with I. pseudacorus, several problems appear to have been overlooked. It has come to my attention that there is the belief that if one turns wide-cross hybrids into tetraploids by doubling the chromosomes, the problems of further hybridization have been largely overcome. Unfortunately, this is not true.

First, it would be well to identify the various cultivars involved in this undertaking. On this, I am indebted to Dr. Currier McEwen for straightening me out on the nomenclature. The first contact most of us had with any of these wide-cross hybrids was 'Aichi no kagayaki', a sterile diploid with one set of chromosomes each of I. pseudacorus and I. ensata. Other similar diploids include 'Kimboshi', as well as about six others which Currier received from Kamo and Ichie. In their present form, none of these has any potential for further breeding.

It is among the tetraploids (amphidiploids) that possibilities exist for further breeding and development. Two purported amphidiploids, 'Sayo no tsuki' and 'Hatsuho', were auctioned at the 1990 JI Convention in Maine. Actually, 'Sayo no tsuki' exists in two forms, a diploid hybrid introduced in 1987 as well as the amphidiploid form of 1990. It is only the latter form that will be discussed here. Further complicating the situation is that, according to Currier, 'Hatsuho' is not a simple amphidiploid (48 chromosomes), but has an odd number around 56. This makes predictions about its breeding potential highly speculative. More about this later.

Although tetraploid (amphidiploid) hybrids, such as 'Sayo no tsuki' and 'Hatsuho', may be fertile themselves, their progeny, when back-crossed to tetraploid I. ensata (or I. pseudacorus) will be sterile. Thus, under these circumstances, future generations of hybrids incorporating

desired characteristics of both original species, will not be possible.

Basically, the problem has to do with the fact that each chromosome must have a corresponding compatible partner in order that normal reduction division (meiosis) takes place. In diploid (and amphidiploid) organisms, the number of pairing chromosomes is equal to half their somatic (body cell) number. These chromosomes line up along the cells' equatorial plate and one of each pair moves to opposite poles. The cell then divides with each daughter cell receiving one-half the original number. This orderly process is necessary for the production of viable eggs and pollen.

To understand the genetic processes involved, perhaps it would be well to realize that all tetraploids do not function alike. First, there are tetraploids (autotetraploids) produced by treating a diploid individual with colchicine, doubling its chromosomes. 'Raspberry Rimmed' of Dr. McEwen, is a good example. As an autotetraploid, it has four sets of compatible (homologous) chromosomes. It should be completely fertile and when crossed with other autotetraploids of I. ensata, should produce viable, fertile offspring. If crossed with a diploid jl, it is quite possible that some offspring will be produced. However, these will be triploids, having three sets of homologous chromosomes and, since only partial pairing would be possible at meiosis, these progeny would be expected to be completely sterile.

Amphidiploids are tetraploids of a very different kind. They do not have four sets of homologous chromosomes, but, theoretically, two sets derived from I. pseudacorus and two sets from I. ensata. They are called allotetraploids or amphidiploids. Although they possess four sets of chromosomes, among the total there are only two sets which are homologous. Thus, they act strictly like a new form of diploid.

Amphidiploids in the wild commonly possess a better viability and competitive ability than the original species and diploid hybrids. These

properties frequently result in the establishment of amphidiploids as a new species. As such, they have separated themselves from their origins and, in time, may actually dispossess one or both their parent species. Incidentally, this process, in all probability initiated by Mother Nature not man, was responsible for the development of the Bearded Iris as we know it today.

Amphidiploids 'Sayo no tsuki' and 'Hatsuho', if selfed or crossed with each other, should produce viable fertile progeny. However, if crossed with any I. ensata autotetraploid (example: Raspberry Rimmed, etc.), the progeny will undoubtedly be sterile. Such an individual will have three sets of I. ensata chromosomes (one from the amphidiploid and two from the autotetraploid) and one set of I. pseudacorus chromosomes from the amphidiploid. As such, there will be only partial pairing of homologous chromosomes (two sets of ensata chromosomes) at meiosis, and disjunction among the others, resulting in sterility. Should one of the amphidiploids be crossed with an autotetraploid I. pseudacorus, a similar result will occur, except here there would be three sets of I. pseudacorus and one set of I. ensata chromosomes.

Does this mean that all our efforts towards the production of a new color spectrum in Japanese Iris cultivars have been in vain? These are rather formidable genetic barriers, but, hopefully, there are ways of overcoming them. However, I believe it will be no easy task.

The important question is where do we stand and where do we go from here. I have had an opportunity to check only with Currier on the progress thus far, so the following remarks are limited to our own experiences.

I obtained a plant of 'Sayo no tsuki' (amphidiploid) at the auction during the JI Convention in Maine. It flowered for the first time this year. As the saying goes, 'don't count your chickens until they hatch'. Thus, I hesitate to count progeny from immature seed capsules. However, at the present time (August 20th), it is all I have to go on, so bear with me.

My plant of 'Sayo no tsuki' produced two flower stalks with two flowers on each. After harvesting available pollen, I selfed each flower. The primary flower on each stalk would appear to have set and at present contains a normal-looking seed capsule. The secondary flower on each stalk rather quickly withered with no indication of capsule formation. Thus, as expected, 'Sayo no tsuki' appears to be self-fertile and, hopefully, will produce viable seeds. Secondly, I was able to make 24 crosses using the remaining pollen on an assortment of white and near-white cultivars, both tetraploid (one) and diploids. If any of these were to take, I did not want a deep pigmented cultivar masking any possible transmission of yellow. At present, I have five normal-looking seed capsules. All this proves is that the pollen of 'Sayo no tsuki' is capable of stimulating seed capsule formation (and, hopefully, viable seed) when used in crosses with both diploid and tetraploid cultivars. Any progeny that may develop are expected to be sterile.

Currier writes me that his plant of 'Hatsuho' bloomed the first year and set two pods with pollen from 'Maine Chance' (autotetraploid). They contained four viable-looking seeds of which two germinated, but both were albinos and died. Ichie obtained 50+ germinated seeds of which one was green and 49 albinos. The green one bloomed with purple flowers. Ichie told Currier that the seedling produced some pollen but he has had no seeds from it.

My studies with Camellias have indicated that odd chromosome numbers (aneuploidism) among diploids invariably result in sterility. These odd chromosomes just do not have any partners to pair up with. However, at the polyploid level (tetraploids and higher) aneuploidy is not nearly as damaging, but unusual situations can develop - such as a high degree of albinism. It will be interesting to see what level, if any, of albinos result from the 'Sayo no tsuki' crosses.

Where do we go from here? In my opinion, the most promising prospect is the extensive selfing of both 'Sayo no tsuki' and 'Hatsuho' and,

where possible, crossing between these two amphidiploids and with any others like them having equal components of the two species. This is to be followed by intercrossing the progeny. Here there is a decided advantage of 'Hatsuho' over 'Sayo no tsuki'. because it already has visible yellow pigmentation. This brings up a question, for which I have no answer, and which I will discuss later. The objective will be to shuffle and reshuffle the multitude of genes responsible for flower color so that by the law of averages, some favorable combinations express themselves. If this process were to become wide-spread and fruitful, a new man-made species would evolve. This perhaps, is the most exciting part of this research.

Not to be completely overlooked is the potential from crossing either amphidiploid with either autotetraploid or diploid I. ensata cultivars. Hopefully, not all 'Hatsuho' hybrids will be albinos. Although each seedling produced will be a one-shot deal (being sterile), it just may have flowers that are exceptional in themselves.

For some time now, I have been puzzled about the origins of 'Sako no tsuki'. As an amphidiploid hybrid between I. pseudacorus and I. ensata, it should possess flower color genes from both species. As we all know, I. pseudacorus is a monocolored species. There is only one flower color and that is yellow. However, the flowers of 'Sayo no tsuki' are basically white with a narrow purple band around the signal. Thus, if it contains yellow flower genes from I. pseudacorus, they must be recessive to white flower genes from I. ensata. If the flowers were any other color but white, I would assume that the yellow pigment was masked by some deeper, more dominant color. It is hard to imagine yellow being masked by white.

My own genetic inheritance studies have indicated that white flower color is recessive to all other flower pigment genes. In fact, I have considered 'white' as the blank card in the deck of flower genes. This leaves few



alternate explanations that I can think of.

1. Yellow flower color from I. pseudacorus is recessive to all flower color genes in I. ensata. This cannot really be true because of the yellow flower color in such hybrids as 'Aichi no kagayaki' and 'Hatsuho'.

2. The two species have entirely different gene mechanisms and/or gene loci, for flower color expression and the relationships of dominance and recessiveness we associate in I. ensata do not apply in the hybrids.

3. I have somehow erred in my calculations about the recessive nature of the white flower color.

4. 'Sayo no tsuki' does not actually contain yellow flower color genes from I. pseudacorus.

Of the four explanations above, I am inclined to favor alternative number two. Only time will determine which explanation is the true one. In the meantime, we will continue to proceed as best we can.

I am sure I have not exhausted the various complexities involved in dealing with these interspecific hybrids. However, these are the best potential lines of action I can think of at present.

[ The following is an excerpt from Dr. Ackerman's letter to the Editor.]

The important hope is that someone ultimately comes up with that much prized yellow (or orange) hybrid. However, knowing the genetic limitations of what is possible, will, hopefully prevent some hybridizers from wasting time (perhaps years) on impossible combinations.

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## THE 1993 CONVENTION REPORTS

JUNE 3-4-5

### TIDEWATER IRIS SOCIETY BEARDLESS SHOW

Attendees of the 1993 SJI Convention were greeted with a beautiful exhibition of iris staged dramatically on long, low Japanese style tables in a glass surrounded skylit room, which enhanced the irises' natural beauty.

Although Japanese Iris predominated, the other beardless iris were well represented. The JIs were divided into three sections according to fall type: 3 Fall, 4-6 Fall, and Over 6 Falls. The BEST SPECIMEN OF SECTION, AIS AWARD was awarded to the "Best" of these three sections and to the "Best" of the other sections. These were further judged to determine BEST SPECIMEN OF THE SHOW and three SPECIAL AWARDS to Runnersup. These winning exhibits were:

KYO NO MIA - (3 Fall JI) - BEST SPECIMEN OF SHOW  
exhibited by D.J. Kelly  
NEMURYISHI - (4-6 Fall JI) - SPECIAL AWARD -by  
D.J. Kelly  
CAPANEUS - (Over 6 Fall JI) - SPECIAL AWARD -by  
D.J. Kelly  
HARPSWELL HAPPINESS - (SIB) - SPECIAL AWARD -by  
Carol Warner  
ANN CHOWNING - (LA) - by Carol Warner  
I. VERSICOLOR - (MISC) - by Clarence Mahan  
SEEDLING #85 G 3A2 (Siberian) - Robert Holling-  
worth exhibited by Carol Warner

The AIS Silver Medal was won by D.J. Kelly.  
The Bronze Medal was won by Carol Warner.

The show was enjoyed for two days. Although the star attraction may have been the JIs the "other iris" held their own. The Siberians were well represented in quality and quantity. Several varieties and hybrids of *I. pseudacorus* were exhibited, along with exquisitely marked, named *I. Versicolor*. A specimen named BELISE intrigued me, but I neglected to find out from the exhibitor what iris type it was.

Shirley Paquet

## THE DENNIS GARDEN

Kitty & Bill Ackerman

The first thing to strike our eyes as we walked up the drive was a large WELCOME sign above the garage doors. This was to be the theme of our entire stay at Ruby and Herman Dennis' peaceful retreat at the end of a cul de sac overlooking the natural beauty of lower wetlands beyond the back of the property. The lawn at the front of this large lot sported a huge specimen of pine, as well as pines all along the right side. Also on the right side of the yard was a winding path with natural plantings of perennials of every variety imaginable, backed by a long hedge of large azaleas. The lovely tree-shaded back lawn also contained many beds of perennials and both bearded and beardless irises.

The peaceful setting was dotted with tables and umbrellas for all to relax and enjoy Ruby's homemade goodies - a complete breakfast here!

A lovely rectangular pool contained waterlilies, many-colored Japanese Koi fish, and a statuary. The pond was covered with a fish net. When asked about this, it was revealed that the herons would eat the fish if they could. Herons come up from the river, which is at the bottom of a gentle slope, giving a lovely view of the boats and birds.

Despite a heavy downpour the night before, there were Japanese and Siberian iris in bloom. AICHI NO KAGAYAKI (the yellow hybrid of *I. ensata* x *I. pseudacorus*, created much interest, as did the blooms of the early Japanese irises WORLD'S DELIGHT (Marx), a delicate lavender pink; PEACOCK DANCE (Marx) with 4 deep red-purple blooms out and about 40 bloom stalks to come! Also out were HIGHWAY WALKER (Shook), and ROYAL FIREWORKS (Ackerman).

Here was a tranquil garden that begged you to stay and relax - a garden you did not want to leave.

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Opposite page - top - Bill Smoot and Freda Hazzard at the Show. Bottom - Libby Dufresne demonstrating Ikebana at the Welcome Banquet





RODNEY DICKERSON GARDEN  
Theresa Jewell

We visited Rodney's garden during the second day of the Virginia Beach Convention. Unfortunately, the night before a severe thunderstorm with heavy rains wiped out most of the Japanese Iris blooms that may have been open for our viewing pleasure; but there were plenty of other attractions, besides Japanese iris, to see in Rodney's garden.

Upon arriving at Rodney's home, which is located in a quiet community with numerous mature pines, magnolias, and other trees, we were greeted by Laddie, a playful Sheltie Collie, who was full of energy and kept us all entertained during our visit! Rodney was also there to greet us and to answer any question one might have.

As we walked through the garden gate, which was surrounded by a Crimson King maple and large oleander with showy white flowers, our eyes feasted upon rows of perennials that included daylilies, which unfortunately were not in bloom at the time. Southern Crinum lilies in shades of pink, red, and white, hardy Amaryllis, Elephant garlic, and various perennials, too many to name, were blooming.

Defiant of the rains the night before, there were a couple of Japanese Iris blooming, not marked with names, but none the less still lovely! These raised beds were mulched with pine needles and leaves that Rodney collects from his yard, as well as from his neighbors. I bet we all wish we could be so lucky to have a handy natural supply of mulch!

Surrounding Rodney's perennial beds were Dogwoods, pine trees, and fruit trees: pomegranates, cherry, pears, and nice fig tree specimens, with extremely large figs on them. I believe that, if they had been ripe at the time of our visit, Rodney mightn't have had any left when the buses were gone! They did look tempting!

Around the refreshment table were Kalmias, a gardenia that stood at least 6 feet high, with lovely dark green foliage and an abundance of



buds, and a 25-year old Ponytail Palm which stood 5 feet tall.

It was evident that Rodney loved the outdoors and believed that the land could produce food as well as provide him with pleasure and an array of colors with his flowers. Nice job, Rodney, and thanks for having us.

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### D.J. KELLY GARDEN

Eileen O'Melay

Our first introduction to D.J.'s expert gardening started Thursday afternoon at the Beardless Iris Show in Virginia Beach with D. J.'s KYOU-NO-MIA taking Queen of the show. Her NEMURIZISHI and CAPANEUS were both on the Queen's Court, and D.J. also earned ribbons for SARU ODORI, SYLVIA'S MASQUERADE, SEN HIME, and PRAIRIE TWILIGHT. She also entered a very nice Hirao seedling, SH-1.

On Friday AM we arrived at D.J.'s garden and were graciously greeted. Walking up the driveway we had a view of a very lovely landscaped yard with mature trees and several azaleas. As we approached the house there was a very interesting planting of JIs right in the middle of the driveway.

The back yard held the main planting of her JIs, including a very unique collection that she imported from Japan. White shells made very attractive signs with individual names painted on.

The raised brick patio served as a background for some of the JIs and a cosy little Koi pond. The outside of the back yard was bordered with mature trees. The whole area was very peaceful with a park-like atmosphere.

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Following page - top - D.J. Kelly in her garden, photo by Eileen O'Melay; Bottom - Shirley Pope, Carol Warner, and Clarence Mahan with D.J. - photo by Bill and JaNiece Mull



In the D.J. Kelly Garden



Scenes from  
Ron Harris'  
garden

Photos by  
Shirley Pope



## RON HARRIS GARDEN

Japanese irises could be seen peeking through the cyclone fence as the bus stopped in front of Ron Harris' house. Ron, who had been growing Japanese irises for just 3 years, has a beautiful Japanese Iris border in his front yard. In bloom were: GREAT WHITE HERON (Marx '53), CENTER OF INTEREST (Maddocks '64), ELECTRIC RAYS (Aitken '90), ROSE WORLD (Reid '88), and MAINE CHANCE (McEwen '84). The zigzag border allowed more plants and easier viewing.

Following a path around the house, we entered a wonderful oriental garden. The 70 X 110 foot pie-shaped lot was nicely landscaped. Choice plants were expertly placed among Japanese lanterns, pagodas, statues, and a well attended gazebo.

Having lived there for 33 years Ron has collected a wide variety of choice plants. Early Spring brings forth blue wood hyacinths and 52 varieties of daffodils. He has an excellent collection of Hostas in the shaded area of the garden. Siberian Irises and more Japanese were mixed in with other perennials. Behind the figure of a Chinese man was a well grown bloom stalk of AMETHYST WINGS (Ackerman '89). A crane statue of The Three Graces was the focal point in another area of the garden.

Ron told me there were 5 or 6 varieties of ferns including the Japanese Sword Fern. The soft red pine mulch was not only pleasing to the eye, but gave a pleasant woodsy smell to the garden.

On commenting about his daylilies, I found out that he was President of the local Daylily Society. At every turn another unusual perennial appeared. It was easy to forget Japanese Irises for awhile during our tour of this garden.

Somehow Ron finds the time to keep this garden well groomed while teaching American History at a 4-year college.

Shirley Pope



## CARYLL AND RICH RANDALL GARDEN

As the bus approached the last tour garden, I realized that our charming tour guide lived here!

It was a delight stepping off the the bus and observing the front yard beautifully maintained. The raised beds of 4x4 timbers outlined with wooden shingles was a nice background for the fragrant sweet alyssum and other plantings.

Proceeding along the left side of the house to the entrance to the back yard, the walkway was bordered with neat plantings of hosta, perennials, and a variegated lily of the valley. At the unusual-designed wooden fence and gate, attached on the gate post, was a stuffed work-glove with miniature tools attached and a sign on the glove "Working in the Backyard".

Walking through the gate it was evident that someone works hard. Bearded iris grew along the fence and the Japanese Iris were in raised, circular beds. I am sure the proud owners were watching the surprised, delighted, and impressed expressions on the faces of their visitors.

Colors - colors everywhere! A great collection of JI's and hybridizers; to name a few iris: GLITTER AND GLAMOUR, JAPANESE PINWHEEL, CASCADE CREST, and a beautiful 6-fall pink, SAKURA NO SONO. This later appeared on our banquet table as a cut bloom and rhizomes of this beauty were offered for sale at the auction.

Stepping back and enjoying coffee and the largest assortment of bagels (even chocolate ones), cheese, and fruit that I have seen in a long time, then and only then could you see the individual blooms quietly but inwardly still ohing and ahing.

Reluctantly, we had to leave and, passing through the gate, I am sure as I looked back I saw those beautiful Iris tilt their heads slightly and bow, or was it the breeze?

Thank you, Caryll and Rich, for sharing your garden with us.

Elsie Skinner





In the Randall Garden



In the Schwarz-Miller Garden - Photos by Mull

## ANN SCHWARZ-MILLER GARDEN

John Coble

This turned out to be a large peninsula property jutting out into Broad Bay. Too large a property to landscape the whole lot, it was much more appreciated with its natural areas interspersed with gardens and landscaped areas. The guest iris planting was in the most picturesque setting at one point of the peninsula - an open bay scene on two sides with a background of near mature cedar and pine planted with camellias and edged with azaleas.

The guest plants were some of the largest and most robust plants on the tour. Most plants had tall, wide foliage and multiple, well branched stalks between 3-4 ft. high. Oh, to see this garden in bloom the following week! I hope the local iris society members went back to appreciate the bloom and take note of what we refer to as "cultural perfection".

We did find some early varieties in bloom. KIRIGAMINE (Yoshie) was a large 3F dark red-violet, a very large version of the species bloom. SARU ODORI (Shoo), an older variety from Japan (possibly 200 years old) exhibited its perfectly formal blooms of the classic 3F Japanese Iris. This is a rose-lavender flower, shaded darker in the center from the blue-violet tinted halo from which radiates thin white rays. In stark contrast we saw Sterling Innerst's 1555-2: a full overlapping 6F seedling with ruffled red-violet petals, white sanded halo and rays; white stylearms with tipped crests gave great contrast. Well branched stalks were noted - as on most plants in these beds of virgin soil. The largest and most floriferous clump in this planting was PRAIRIE TWILIGHT (Hazzard '77).

On the other side of the property, behind the house, we all found Ann's circular perennial bed planted with many types of iris. Siberians, Louisiana, and Japanese were all growing well together and obviously rewarding Ann's culture with iris bloom for well over a month outside her kitchen window. We appreciated the hospitality and many garden views.

## BILL SMOOT GARDEN

Claire Honkanen

What a wonderful convention and special treatment awaited us as we arrived for the annual Japanese Iris Convention in Virginia Beach, VA! I was privileged to view and judge the flower show presented for our pleasure, and also that of other guests at our hotel. It made me really look forward to viewing the gardens so carefully tended and prepared for our visit.

One of these gardens in nearby Portsmouth, VA is the Bill Smoot garden. We were graciously greeted by Bill, and many of us paused for a soft drink and some refreshments before going on into the garden.

A description of this garden was given in the program, but I wasn't quite prepared for all that awaited me as I entered the backyard. The front and sides of this yard included different types of iris and many favorite perennials, such as columbine, astilbe, achilleas, ferns, hostas, and something similar to phlox, red in color, that was new to me. There weren't too many Japanese iris in bloom; however, some I noted were: GLITTER AND GLAMOUR, PRAIRIE TWILIGHT, OCEAN MIST, and LITTLE SNOWMAN.

Bill's interest in container gardening was evident in many nooks and crannies of this interesting garden. The plants were all growing beautifully and certainly adapting well to their surroundings. Bromeliads, annuals, orchids, cacti, and others caught my eye as we rounded a corner.

The decks, trellises with climbing roses, jasmine, and exotic vines, and pathways were all so inviting. Travelling along the areaways of this garden is certainly a visual pleasure.

A most unusual metal sculptural form with a birdcage on top really attracted my attention; one wonders what might have inspired this creativity. The unusual goldfish pond near this sculpture is another area for pause and reflection.

One would certainly appreciate more time to view this garden and its many areas of beauty. I feel fortunate to have been able to spend a brief time in this special place.

## NORFOLK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Lorena Reid

After lunch on Friday, June 4, we visited the Norfolk Botanical Garden. Located on 175 acres, it was started in 1938 as a WPA project, and today consists of many gardens and thousands of species and varieties of native and imported plants. There are more than 12 miles of trail in the park.

Either a train or a boat trip is available. I selected the train trip, as it was ready to go, while the boat ride would require a 20 minute wait. The "train" was really a connected group of rubber-tired cars. The driver gave us a running commentary.

At the garden there are more than 100 varieties of holly of 3 types: English, American, and Oriental. Most of the trees along the roads and trails are labeled with both common and botanical names. We passed the "Friendship Pond" with its many hybrid water lilies just beginning to bloom, and a formal garden, the Renaissance and Coronation Court Garden. Statues of the four seasons stood in the four corners of a wide grass lawn rectangle at this garden. On the banks of one pond were hundreds of hemerocallis (Daylilies) whose name means "Beautiful for 1 Day".

There was one lovely long lawn-covered lane with large marble statues situated along both sides. At the end of the lane at lake-side was a statue of a flying eagle. This was Statuary Lane, and behind the statues were banks of beautiful shrubs and trees. Lake Whitehurst is 2-25' deep and several miles long, partly natural and partly man-made. Lined along part of the shore are large bald cypress trees, with their weird-looking knees sticking up above the surface.

Azaleas lined many of the roads, perhaps as many as a quarter of a million plants in all. About 250 varieties are planted along Mirror Lake at the southeast end of the park. At one end of Mirror Lake there is a bog garden, across which we could see some Japanese Irises.





In the Norfolk Botanical Garden: Top - Rosalie Figge in foreground (S. Pope photo) and bottom-Currier and Elisabeth McEwen (Mull photo)



A lovely Camellia Garden contains 700 varieties of 2 types of Camellias: the Japonica type (blooming in winter or early spring) and the sesenqua type (blooming in the fall). Our driver mentioned that the tea plant is in the Camellia family. One learns something new every day!

There were numerous Kousa Dogwoods, late bloomers from Japan, still blooming. Built into one of the bridges were more than 10,500 cobblestones, once used in the city streets of Norfolk. A small long pond on one side of the Nato vista, called Turtle Pond for the many turtles there, was nearly filled bank to bank with pinkish water lilies.

The train carried us through an arbor of climbing roses on the way to the lovely Rose Garden. Though long past peak, this garden still showed a lot of color, and issued an enticing aroma. A large grass berm has been constructed between the garden and Norfolk's airport.

After the train tour we walked through the Japanese Garden, located near the Tropical Pavilion and Restaurant/Gift Shop. Most of my time here was spent looking at the two beds of Japanese Irises, and not so much with the hill and pond design of the garden itself, or the many Japanese trees and shrubs there.

One Iris bed had been planted as a Hazzard Memorial bed, beginning three years ago and continuing until last fall. So there were 1, 2, and 3 year clumps of Hazzard Japanese Irises. PRAIRIE TWILIGHT was lovely here, as in many other convention gardens, with its electric-light blue violet look, intensified by the darker halo. Other Hazzard irises in bloom were: PRAIRIE FROST, PRAIRIE PASSION, GOSSAMER THREADS, PRAIRIE EDGE, PRAIRIE BLUEBELL, PRAIRIE CHIEF, and PRAIRIE BLUE MOON.

In the other bed of Japanese Irises were the many guests, named irises and seedlings. Although the bloom was not yet at peak, there were many flowers to observe. I cannot hope to mention all the varieties, but will mention a few that caught my eye.

BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT (Aitken) had its first lovely flower open. SYLVIA'S MASQUERADE (A.M. Miller) exhibited its pink blooms with lilac halos. Copeland's PINK DACE, with its white ground and shaded pink and lilac overlay, waved its ruffles in the breeze. Innerst's ADMETUS was interesting with its light ground veined dark lavender (even the tufted styles were veined). EPIMETHEUS (Innerst), all in dark maroon velvet with light blue flecking, was also nice. CASCADE CREST (Aitken) showed off its sanded blue bands on 6 white falls and darker blue violet styles. Shimizu's KOSHUI NO ASA, with 6 pale blue ruffled falls and very ruffled additional petaloids caused many ohs and ahs. Ackerman's ACK-COUNTABLE, white with maroon flecks, gave a nice pastel appearance. PICOTEE PRINCESS (Reid), with light ground and lavender stipple border on 6 ruffled falls, was also admired. INTREPID INGENUE (Hazzard), with a white ground, light red purple rim and light violet shading, was quite attractive. SARU ODORI (?Hirao? - the booklet didn't say) with 3F, a light ground and white rays with red overlay was an attention getter here, as wherever seen in convention gardens. This variety won the Best Guest Award.

Among the numbered seedlings these were attention getters: 1555-2 (Innerst) - a 6F maroon with white area around the signal and white rays; SH 11 (Hirao), a deep velvety maroon 6F with white flecks; 28-12-1 (Innerst), a very ruffled and textured iris with light ground and dark veins and shading; 2 similar 3-falled Reid seedlings - 87J18-5, larger but perhaps not such good substance, and 87J18-6 with more contrast in its blue flashing below the signal and darker maroon violet edge, and heavier substance. Both these seedlings had light grounds and a general pastel appearance.

Our time was up all too soon, and we piled back on the buses to compare notes and dream of the irises on our way back to the Holiday Inn.

## JUDGING JAPANESE IRIS

Given by Carol Warner at 1993 Japanese Iris Convention, Virginia Beach, VA.

Reported by Chad Harris.

The Judges Training covered many points of Garden and Show Judging of the Japanese Iris.

One of the first points Carol made was for anyone interested in growing any iris: "Get the Handbook for Judges and Show Officials". This book will not only help you understand the guidelines for what a good iris is in the garden, it will also help you get those blue ribbons at the shows. The Handbook is available to anyone through the American Iris Society. It is an investment of only \$6.00.

In the garden "the plant is # 1 and the flower is # 2". The foliage of the Japanese Iris should be "strong and upright". One doesn't want to grow a plant that in the Spring is 4 to 5 feet tall, only to have it spreading on the ground after bloom. The bloom stalks should be slightly above the foliage to show off those magnificent colors.

Also for extra points: Are those lower branches going to extend themselves after the terminal bloom is gone? Be sure to count the buds. And when do they open? Hopefully, one at a time, to help extend the season. But, also to keep crowding down at the top of the plant. Remember - you are looking for proportion and symmetry. "Evaluation should be made on two and three year old transplants. By the 4th year the plant will have started to go downhill". Also, ask the grower about the conditions where the plant was grown: soil, water, fertilizing programs? Look at other iris growing around the one you are evaluating. Make comparisons.

The Japanese Iris bloom grows as it opens. This is called "The Act". Knowing this, is the color and pattern in an old bloom (hopefully 4 to 5 days) as pleasing as a fresh bloom? And what is the weather like? Has it been hot and sunny or raining, or has it been cold?

All of these factors have to be known to evaluate the bloom. Note: In Virginia we had great weather for evaluating substance of a bloom. Heavy thunderstorms at night and warm sunny days. Did the bloom hold up? In most cases: yes, with some that were outstanding.

Show Judging the Japanese Iris is not for the iris. "The exhibitor gets the ribbon - not the flower." One has "to grow the plant, transport the bloomstalk, groom it and present it".

Groom the bloom stalk as best you can. This begins with bringing your best specimens from the garden. "trim off brown or unsightly leaves, remove any spent blooms, and wipe off those fingerprints". The bloomstalk is then ready for propping in a container with that extra old stalk that was brought to the show or with small wood blocks. Judging entails all of this at the show and much more. As a Judge at the Japanese Show, "You have to grow them to know them". Remember "The Act". The bloom is changing all the time. One person may bring in a one day old flower and right next to it will be a 3 day old flower. They will probably look like different plants. "Know your plants, and have a checklist with you at the show bench".

As a judge, get out to as many gardens as possible each and every year. See how a plant grows in one part of the region compared to another, "keep notes". "Visit gardens out of bloom", it is the plant that gets most of the points. "Judging should be 90% of your time".

Note: Carol, I don't know how you do it, but WEEDING takes about 90% of my time.

Had a great time. Thanks, Carol and thank you, Virginia Beach!

## THE 1993 SHOW REPORTS

Summerville, SC---May 29---Virginia Burton

The Summerville Iris Society has had two iris shows again this year. The first included all early blooming iris. The second show on May 29 was a standard flower show including iris, companion plants, an educational section, well done by Peggy Beason, and 20 Designs.

Lavinia Goldsberry was Show Chairman. She also made up our Show Program booklet, took care of show staging, and performed many other helpful jobs.

John Wood won the Iris Sweepstakes; Pat Brooks won Best of JI with KALAMAZOO. Winner of the Horticultural Sweepstakes in the Companion Plant Division was Betty Black, and Betty Boats received the Award of Merit for her hollyhock. Pam Whitman won an Horticultural Excellence Award with her white gladiolus, and Kathy Woolsey earned the Design Sweepstakes.

Verley Stirman won her first blue ribbon in the novice class, and Janice Shumake, entering for the first time, won a 1st in the Small class in Design. Claire Honkanen, our Region 5 RVP won a first in the Design Division.

In conjunction with the show, John Wood and Virginia Burton conducted a Judges' Training on Iris Terminology and Color the previous evening. A bus tour to Swan Lake and an auction rounded out this weekend of southern hospitality.

Virginia Beach, VA---June 3 --- see p. 29

St. Louis, MO---June 12---Don Delmez

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society held its annual Beardless Iris Show on June 12 at the Missouri Botanical Garden. There were 122 entries exhibited.

Queen of the Show was a Japanese Iris, BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT, shown by Don Delmez. Best Louisiana was BAYOU SHORT STUFF. Best Siberian was KING OF KINGS, and Best Spuria was PRIMER.



The Silver Medal for most blue ribbons was won by Sheldon Butt, while Don Delmez was second with the Bronze Medal.

In the Design Division Nadine Wallenstein won Best Design, and Betty Bohrer won the Artistic Sweepstakes.

The Queen's table looked especially lovely this year, as we had a beautiful large Japanese style fan as a background. It made the showing of the beardless iris especially effective. We had many nice comments from the public this year.

Hendersonville, NC---June 17-18---Walter Hoover

The unpredictability of the weather and the existence of microclimates due to elevation differences are the bane of a small society attempting to choose the right date for a Japanese Iris show. But the Carolina Mountains Iris Society managed to put on an exquisite 2nd annual all-Japanese show just the same.

With sixty entries, the show was smaller than the 1992 show; however, the quality equalled or exceeded last year's show. Many newer varieties not previously shown were on display, including MAJNE CHANCE, PICOTEE PRINCESS, IAPETUS, JAPANESE PINWHEEL, SAKURAJISHI, and CAPANEUS. Old standbys were also well represented, some examples being FRINGED CLOUD, ROSE QUEEN, PINK SAPPHIRE, VINTAGE FESTIVAL, SEA TITAN, and FROSTBOUND.

The show's Best Specimen award went to McEwen's JAPANESE PINWHEEL, exhibited by Isabelle Nix, who also won the Silver Medal for the most (18) blue ribbons. Alfred Nix won the Bronze Medal with five blue ribbons.

The show was staged in the lobby of Opportunity House, a center serving primarily the retirement community of Hendersonville. This high traffic area and the generous coverage by the local press provided excellent exposure for the show. The show was staged at floor level with rice paper screening providing a background that gave unity to and provided an

appropriate aesthetic complement to the show. The total effect brought raves from passersby-- many of whom had never seen Japanese irises before-- and compliments from out-of-town guests who had staged iris shows themselves. Simplicity of staging is an important consideration on aesthetic and practical grounds for a small society.

Plans are already being made for next year's show. To address the peculiarities of our local climate, a decision has been made by those at lower elevations to grow more late varieties and for those at higher elevations to grow more early varieties. This effort should help close the gap between those who had "bloomed out" and those who had not reached "peak" at the time of this year's show. An even richer show should be the result in 1994.

Portland, Oregon---June 19---John Ludi

The Greater Portland Iris Society held its Late Show on Saturday, June 19. Location was the Pavilion in the Japanese Gardens in Washington Park, Portland, Oregon.

We had 8 exhibitors submit 66 entries of Japanese, Spuria, Louisiana, and Tall Bearded Iris. Commercial Gardens represented were Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, Vancouver, WA and Laurie's Garden, Springfield, OR.

#### SHOW RESULTS:

Best Specimen of Show: ADOBE SUNSET, a Spuria exhibited by Mountain View Iris Gardens, Sandy, OR

Best Seedling of Show: # 87J28B, Japanese, Hybridizer - Terry Aitken, Vancouver, WA

Silver Medal and Certificate Winner: Leo P. Walker, Tenmile, OR

Bronze Medal and Certificate Winner: Mountain View Iris Gardens, Sandy, OR

Exhibition Certificates were awarded to:

Terry Aitken	#87J28B	Japanese
(Vancouver, WA)	#90J-11	Japanese
	#89J5	Japanese
	#87J28C	Japanese

Exhibition Certificates also to:

Chad Harris	#89JA21	Japanese
(Vancouver, WA)	#89JA18	Japanese

Our wet Spring and Summer was to the liking of all beardless iris. This year our Late Show was only a week before peak bloom on most gardens.

Newark, DE---June 19---Bud Maltman

After two tries at having a Japanese Iris Show and not choosing the dates that the iris would agree to, we finally had our first show. The show was sponsored jointly by the Diamond State and Delaware Valley Iris Societies and was held at the Christiana Mall in Newark. Also included in the show were some very good exhibits of Louisianas.

Best Specimen of Show was FROSTBOUND, exhibited by yours truly, Bud Maltman. The runner-up irises on the Queen's table were FRILLED ENCHANTMENT, KATY MENDEZ, GLITTER AND GLAMOUR, CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, and a perfect trio of CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, exhibited by Larry Westfall.

Silver Medal for most blue ribbons went to Larry Westfall, and Bud Maltman won the Bronze Medal.

There were approximately 60 cultivars exhibited by eight exhibitors and judged by Mr. and Mrs. Clement Reeves from Cape May, NJ and James Wilson of Newark, DE. The show was co-chaired by Freda Martin and Larry Westfall.

The public's response to the Japanese irises was terrific and, hopefully, we will continue to have this June show between our areas in the future.

Ellicott City, MD---June 19---Carol Warner

The 8th annual Beardless Iris Show, jointly sponsored by FSK and CAP Iris Societies, was held on Saturday, June 19 at the Chatham Mall in Ellicott City, MD. Eleven exhibitors brought in 127 entries including Japanese, Siberian, Louisiana, and Spuria. Our specially-built low tables covered with grasscloth and the use

of Perrier bottles for display containers always add an elegant appearance to the already elegant irises.

Best Specimen of the Show was CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, exhibited by Dan and Carolyn Schlanger. Runnersup were REIGN OF GLORY, THE GREAT MOGUL, and FUJI. The AIS Silver Medal for most blue ribbons went to the Show Chairman, Carol Warner.

Dr. William Ackerman's JI seedling A 4-4-69 won Best Seedling. It is a very broad 3-fall mottled violet streaked with white. He has since placed it as a guest for the 1995 convention so that we can determine if it does as well in the garden as it does on the show bench.

Special thanks go to the wonderful crew of faithful helpers and exhibitors for putting on such an outstanding show.

Kalamazoo, MI---July 3---Bob Bauer, Chm.

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society held its 18th annual Japanese and other late-blooming Iris Show at The Crossroads in Portage, MI. There were 86 entries (including 1 Siberian, 1 Spuria, and 1 species) and 18 seedlings.

The Silver Medal went to Ensata Gardens and the Bronze to Anna Mae Miller. Best specimen of the show was ELECTRIC GLOW (Aitken) exhibited by Ensata Gardens. First Runner-up was CONFETTI SHOWER (Payne '50). Others on the Court were STATELY FLAMINGO (Vogt '90), JOYOUS TROUBADOUR (Payne '69), GRAPE FIZZ (Ackerman '85), HARLEQUINESQUE (Marx-Hager '86) and SEA OF AMETHYST (Rich '71).

Best seedling went to J88H-3 (Bauer/Coble), a tall, single light sanded rose color with darker standards. Judges voted Exhibition Certificates to PXE-1 (Jill Copeland), an *I. pseudacorus* x *I. ensata* interspecies cross of blue-violet with white standards which drew many favorable comments; J89T-2 (Bauer/Coble), a JI double in shades of purple; J86MM-11 (Bauer/Coble), a large dark red-violet double JI; and J90H-1 (Bauer/Coble), a multiple petalled light blue-violet JI.

Ensata Gardens displayed a non-judged exhibit of 20 seedlings in the Bauer/Coble multiple-petal JI breeding line.

Judges of the show were Chuck, Becky, and Kathy Simon of Hinsdale, Illinois in Region 9. The show was well attended by the public and brought the usual "what are these?!" with many signing up for the club's newsletter.

Newton, Mass.---July 10---Barbara Schmieder

There is something majestic about Japanese irises that makes them the most suitable of irises to be shown as a single stalk. All that is needed are a few mats unrolled on the floor, simple containers, and voila - you have a show! In the auditorium of the new Newton Public Library, the placement of a number of Japanese parasols and fans added a finishing touch to a beautiful show. Iris Society of Massachusetts is extremely fortunate to have had the same wonderful team of Co-Chairmen Alice and Tom Schaefer and super-stager Jane Kratsch for all four of their shows - may we continue to be so blessed!

Best of Show was HIDENISHIKI (thanks, Clarence, for registering it for SJI in 1992), exhibited by Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer. Jan and Marty also won 1st and 2nd runners-up with REPRISE (a Siberian on repeat bloom) and PRAIRIE NOBLE. Stephen Smith took 3rd runner-up with KATY MENDEZ. Best seedling was a yellow and white Siberian (S88-6-1) of Sacks/Schafer.

Silver Medal went to Sacks/Schafer with 14 blue ribbons; the Bronze Medal was won by Steve Smith with 4 blues. There were 68 entries in the Horticultural Division, 8 in Artistic. Considering that the temperatures were in the 90's all week (100° the day of the show, and weren't we all glad to be in that air-conditioned library!), we felt lucky to have had so many entries.

The Artistic Division entries were all beautiful - I'm glad that I didn't have to judge. Best Arrangement of the Show (Feathers and Fins) and Artistic Sweepstakes (with 3 blue ribbons) were won by Kathy Marble. Jean Doucette's entry in "Feathers and Fins" was given a special



Rosette.

Attendance at the show was very good, probably partly because of the air conditioning, but mainly because of the publicity gotten out by Alice Schaefer. The show attendees voted CONTINUING PLEASURE their favorite, with PRAIRIE CHIEF as runner-up.

Judges were David Nitka and Rebecca Wong, with Ada Godfrey as Apprentice Judge. Accredited judges of the National Council of Garden Clubs judged the Artistic Division, with help from AIS Master Judge Fred McAliece on iris questions. Next year the show will be held in Maine, as we alternate with the Maine Iris Society in putting on this show.

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#### ATTENTION - SHOW CHAIRMEN

When your society's plans for 1994 are in place and you know the date and location of your JI (or Beardless) Show - will you PLEASE send this information to your Editor, Evelyn White, before February 15, so it can be published in the Spring REVIEW.

After the show - send the Editor a report of the show with any comments you want to include. Mail this to reach her before August 15.

I am sure that there are more shows than we report - so let us know about them.

Thanks to all of you who sent in this year's reports.

Your Editor

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MINUTES OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, June 3, 1993 - Virginia Beach, VA

The meeting was called to order by President Howard Brookins at 3:00 pm. Others in attendance were Shirley Pope, John Coble, Robert Bauer, Evelyn White, Rich Randall, Rosalie Figge, Currier McEwen, Donald Delmez, Carol Warner, Bill Smoot, Clarence Mahan, Bill Ackerman, and Chad Harris.

The minutes of the 1992 meeting were approved as published in the Fall issue of THE REVIEW. Carol Warner submitted her Treasurer's Report and it was unanimously approved. Editor Evelyn White initiated a discussion about the cost of THE REVIEW. No budget had been set because the printer had been changed to AG Press with an addition of a color cover, and she had been given freedom to use her best judgment until more experience of the printing costs could be obtained. Between the years 1988-91 the average cost of the printing was \$1038 per issue; in 1992 the average cost was \$1450 per issue (this figure includes the cost of mailing, which the previous printer had not supplied, plus the additional cost of the color cover). The feeling of the Board was that the cost appeared to be in line with the improved quality of the color covers and because the cost of mailing was unknown; the Editor was left with the impression to continue with her present course. She announced that the picture of the Payne Medal iris will appear on the Fall cover and the winner of the Popularity Poll will appear on the Spring issue (unless they are the same).

The Editor's report prompted a discussion about raising the membership dues to cover the cost of printing THE REVIEW. Warner stated that the dues would be doubled if this were the case. It was decided that because of donations to SJI, it would not be necessary to raise dues at this time.

A discussion began concerning the project of publishing color photos of Japanese irises. Bill Smoot presented ideas on compact disc (CD)-

computer technology whereby photos can be translated into digital images on CD, shown on computer monitors or a television using Kodak technology. It was thought that in the future printing from CD might be cheaper than using conventional photographic methods, and that the computer has the additional advantage of changing the composition and colors of a CD image. Warner moved, Randall seconded, and it was unanimously passed to have Bill Smoot print two color photos in an issue of THE REVIEW so that the membership could judge the quality of the process.

Mahan suggested printing color photos in a format similar to that of the Kamo Nursery (Japan) poster, which arranges 96 pictures of iris on a 21x30" color poster. He said he would write to Japan for printing costs, etc.

In a discussion of the new Payne Medal which will be awarded this year (and must be ready for the Spring AIS Convention), Librarian Coble was asked to inquire about the retired Payne Award Trophy. Bauer was given authority to design and have 25 - 30 Payne Medals made at a cost of \$3000 to \$5000. Bauer suggested crystal with sandblasting on a wooden mount.

President Brookins announced that AIS has decided that all sections must incorporate, because AIS ByLaws and the sections have no clear legal tie and this could cost time and money if there should be a lawsuit. AIS will help defray the costs of incorporation up to \$500. Pope moved, Smoot seconded, and it was unanimously approved to have Brookins begin proceedings for incorporation. He will need a contact person and a state for the corporation.

Awards and Registrations Chairman Mahan announced that he has registered 98 iris imported from Japan for SJI. He also gave a report on AIS not allowing registered iris from foreign hybridizers to win awards. A discussion followed. Mahan will chair the AIS committee to make a final decision.

Warner and Delmez led a discussion on the problem of holding the 1996 Siberian Convention in Mass. near to the time St. Louis plans to hold the SJI Convention. It is thought that attenders interested in beardless irises would have to choose between the two, which would cut the attendance at St. Louis. President Brookins said he would try to resolve the conflict at the Board meeting during the 1993 Siberian Convention next week.

Randall made the suggestion that the Board purchase a word processor incorporating a floppy disc for Editor White. This would allow easier editing and contributors to THE REVIEW could submit their work without retyping. The discussion that followed was tabled pending a review by the President, Editor, and other interested members.

Rich Randall, who was appointed coordinator of the newly created SJI "Caretaker" program (to preserve Japanese irises which may be in danger of being lost), asked who should pay for the shipping costs for irises in the program. It was the consensus of those present that the recipient gardener should reimburse the sender so that the new host would have at least a small monetary interest in preserving the plants. Randall also announced that, after sending letters to appropriate members from the membership list, he has compiled a list of 47 display gardens for Japanese iris! He also stated that there is an increase in the number of gardens that sell JI.

Pope moved, White seconded, and the motion was passed to adjourn the meeting (5:36 pm).

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Bauer, Secretary

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# SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1993 - June 1, 1993

## MONEY MARKET SAVINGS

Balance on Hand 1/1/93	\$15,028.83
Interest	153.28
Life Membership (Harder)	75.00
Book Royalty	357.48
Donation (McEwen)	50.00

BALANCE ON HAND 6/1/93 15,664.59

Note: \$1750.00 is Life Memberships

## CHECKING ACCOUNT

Balance on Hand 1/1/93 5,414.40

### Income:

Dues	721.00
Interest	59.51
Librarian (reprints and slides)	47.00
Book Sales	54.95
Checklist Sales	201.00
Ads in REVIEW	20.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,103.46

### Expenses:

Librarian (Copies, postage)	110.81
Secretary's postage, copies, etc.	92.86
Display Garden postage	34.22
Checklist postage	10.96
Spring REVIEW	1,429.55
Engrave Payne Medal	23.10
Honorary Awards	161.81

TOTAL EXPENSES 1,863.31

BALANCE ON HAND 6/1/93 4,654.55

TOTAL CASH ON HAND 6/1/93 \$20,319.14

Submitted by Carol Warner, Treasurer



## SJI COLOR POSTCARDS

SJI has been talking about producing color photos of Japanese iris to promote our favorite iris and help expand the knowledge of our members and the public to their many colors and patterns. We've talked about a color booklet or poster, but have decided to start producing sets of color postcards. If EXCELLENT color slides can be obtained, it would be nice to produce two sets (16 cards per set) each year. You can make your own postcard/photo album, arrange them as you prefer (alphabetically, by hybridizer, etc.) and easily add new sets to it as they are issued.

Buy extra sets to use as real postcards and promote the beauty of JI to your friends. It will really help SJI "promote the knowledge and appreciation of Japanese iris" if local clubs will buy extra sets to sell to the public at iris shows and sales.

Hybridizer, year of introduction, catalog or registration description, and awards won will be printed on back of cards.

SET #1 16 Postcards (1000 sets printed)

16 different W. A. Payne cultivars, to honor one of our most famous American hybridizers.

1 Set of 16 Postcards	\$5.00
2 Sets	\$9.00
5 Sets	\$20.00

Make checks out to: SJI      Order the postcards from Slides  
Chairman: John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan, Galesburg, MI 49053.

Overseas orders need to add \$1 per set ordered.

In the spring REVIEW we hope to announce Set #2 is ready: 16 Payne Award winners or maybe 16 Walter Marx varieties? Send suggestions and please submit excellent slides for consideration for Set #2. Photo credit will be given.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee is pleased to offer the names of the following members to serve a term as officers of the Society for Japanese Irises, starting January 1, 1994:

### Directors at Large:

William E. Barr  
12565 Cloudesly Drive  
Rancho Bernardo  
San Diego, CA 92128  
Tel: (619) 451-6333

Mrs. James (Jill) Copeland  
78118 M-40  
Lawton, MI 49065  
Tel: (616) 624-1968

Chad Harris  
P.O. Box 507  
Vancouver, WA 98666  
Tel: (206) 693-2538

### Nominating Committee Member (serving through 1996)

Joseph B. Grant, II  
7851 Carmencita Ave.  
Sacramento, CA 95829  
Tel: (916) 689-7460

If no other nominations are received, these nominees shall be considered elected.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Jones, Chairman  
Anna Mae Miller  
Rich Randall

## THE EDITOR'S "REVIEW"

I am truly grateful to all of you who have sent in articles, reports, and photos for this issue - many thanks!

We who were at Convention appreciated the hospitality of our members in the Virginia Beach area. They provided us with marvelous gardens, fine accommodations, and an excellent weekend program.

Now that garden chores are slowing down, there is time for other considerations. One situation that Howard Brookins brought to my attention is of particular concern to those of us in the northern states, especially AIS Judges.

At the AIS Board Meeting in Fort Worth (see p. 82, July AIS BULLETIN), a motion was made that Japanese irises be put on the same Awards ballot and the same voting schedule as other irises. A vote on this motion will be taken at the November meeting of the Board.

At present the Awards ballot for all irises other than Japanese must be returned by July 1. The Japanese iris ballot has been a separate sheet to be returned by August 1. There is a very good reason for this.

In the northern tier of states, our Japanese irises do not bloom until July and bloom continues into August. If judges should be required to return Japanese Iris ballots by July 1, (or any time before August 1), they will not have an opportunity to assess bloom and plant development. Their decisions for awards might have to be made on their memory of the previous year's bloom. Newer introductions could not be considered.

If you are concerned about this possible change, please make your ideas known to Bennett Jones (Awards Chm.), Howard Brookins (SJI Pres.), Clarence Mahan (Past SJI Pres.), or any AIS Board member. Howard will represent SJI at the Board Meeting in November. Any input by SJI members will be helpful to the AIS Board as it considers this issue.

I wish you all Happy Holidays and Good Gardening in 1994.