

THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY
FOR
JAPANESE IRISES



VOLUME 34
NUMBER 1
SPRING 1997

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

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Past Pres.

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1997 14052 Tel. (716) 655-1762
- Through Kathy Colburn, 93 Doolittle Road, Harpursville
1998 NY, 13787 Tel. (607) 655-1726
- Through Chad Harris (Address above)
1999

APPOINTMENTS

Editor Mrs. John W. (Evelyn) White, 193 Jackson Hill
REVIEW Road, Minot, ME 04258 Tel. (207) 345-9532

Members. Robert Bauer
Chairman (Address previous page)

Slides Chm John Coble
Librarian (Address previous page)

Robins Patricia (Pat) Brooks
Chairman (Address previous page)

Publicity Kathy Guest
Chairman (Address previous page)

Display Rich Randall, 524 Windsor Gate Road,
Garden Virginia Beach, VA 23452
Chairman Tel. (757) 340-9077

Awards Clarence Mahan, 7311 Churchill Road,
& Regis- McLean, VA 22101
trations Tel. (703) 893-8526

COVER PHOTO: **ROSE ADAGIO** (Payne '69) - Winner of
1996 Japanese Iris Popularity Poll.

REMINDER: Please be sure to vote this year's Popularity
Poll. Notice that this is a separate sheet in this issue. Mail as
directed to Kathy Guest.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

My willingness to serve in SJI office was driven largely by the realization that the Society is already in good hands. John Coble, ably assisted by Carol Warner, secretary and Bob Bauer, treasurer and membership, as well as Evelyn White, our very capable editor; Pat Brooks, in charge of Robins, Kathy Guest, publicity, Rich Randall in charge of our display gardens, and Clarence Mahan, Awards and Registration, has kept the business of the Society running on an even keel these past several years. I can only hope to continue on in his footsteps. Thank you, John and company, for a tremendous job!

Spring is breaking out all over (in some places quicker than others)! Weeds are sprouting and the bugs are stretching after a long winter's nap. New control methods are on the horizon, yet to be tested. *Ornamec* controls grass in bearded irises, but it is not yet tested on beardless. A new biological insecticide called *Naturalis-O* is actually a fungus which attacks insects like thrips, white flies and spider mites. Hopefully some folks may be able to report on these soon. Anything that makes our gardening life easier!

Communications systems are changing rapidly. The postal service would like to see more use of the 9-digit (zip + 4) zip codes. The use of bar codes should speed up mail service. Telecommunications are exploding with the use of computers "on line". Zip codes (and telephone area codes) are constantly changing, so keep membership people updated. Add FAX numbers and e-mail numbers on your communications where applicable.

Last year SJI business was hampered by some of the board members going to the AIS convention in Sacramento, others to the SJI convention in St. Louis, as well as the MASS Medley in Massachusetts. Hopefully, we can assemble a quorum in Dearborn, Michigan this Spring. The only new business that I am aware of will be the discussion of non profit status for SJI. This is intended to limit the liability of the officers while

legitimizing tax deductible donations to the Society and maintaining the bank accounts "non-taxable". It does involve paperwork reports and selecting a state in which to declare our non-profit status. Let's talk about it in Michigan.

The next SJI Convention will be in Portland, Oregon in 1999. Many guest irises are in place, with many more expected to arrive before July 15th of this year. We are targetting a date in late June, which should give us late bloom in Laurie's Garden (Lorena Reid) and early bloom in Chad Harris's garden. The Board may begin a search for a location for a 2002 SJI convention. We look forward to meeting with "you all" in Michigan.

Terry Aitken, President

Robin Reminder

Pat Brooks, Robins Chairman would like you to know that there are two Robins in flight: one a hybridizer's Robin and the other a general Robin open to anyone interested in JI's. If you would like to participate in either one, contact Chairman Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Tel. (803) 871-0239.



BUSINESS ITEMS

"The Review" is published semi-annually by the Society for Japanese Irises. Editorial office is located at 193 Jackson Hill Road, Minot, ME 04258. Deadlines for receiving copy are **February 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.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Please notify Membership Chairman.

SALES and RENTAL ITEMS:

THE JAPANESE IRIS by Currier McEwen \$24.95

COLOR POSTCARDS of JAPANESE IRIS

Set #1 16 different W.A. Payne introductions

Set #2 18 different Payne Award winners

1 set (designate #1 or #2) \$5.00

2 sets (one of each set) 9.00

4 sets or more (designate #s) 4.00 each

Overseas orders - add \$1.00 per set for Air mail

Back issues of "The Review", per copy \$1.50

Volume 1 (1964) consists of 3 issues. All other
volumes contain 2 issues each.

SJI Slide Set Rental \$5.00

IRIS LAEVIGATA - book rental \$5.00

All prices include postage. Send your requests for above items to Librarian John Coble. Make check to 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

Half page layout 10.00

Short ads, text only 2.00 for up to 5 lines and for each additional 5 lines or fraction thereof.

Full page layout, **Color** 4" x 7" - \$00.00

(color separation to be provided by advertiser)

NEW 1996 J. I. CHECKLIST

Nearly 200 confusing, unapproved names have been dropped and about 250 new entries have been added since 1992, including about 170 Japanese imports registered by Clarence Mahan for SJI.

No more searching through *REVIEWS* for annual registrations. Get the correct spellings for the JI imports in your garden.

Order from SJI Sales Chairman:

John Coble

9823 E. Michigan Ave.

Galesburg, MI 49053

\$5.00 postpaid US

\$6.00 Canada \$10.00 Overseas Air

(\$US only, Make checks payable to SJI.)

Also available on disk, write for details.

SJI MEMBERSHIP LIST AVAILABLE

An up-to-date membership list for SJI can be obtained from Membership Chairman Bob Bauer. It will be produced as a computer printout, listing members alphabetically by states. Price - \$3.00 including postage. Send check made out to SJI to Robert Bauer (address on page 1 of this issue)

ROSE ADAGIO --- POPULAR IRIS

A Japanese-American Hybrid

Arlie Payne introduced ROSE ADAGIO in 1969. Mr. Payne began hybridizing in 1932 with just a handful of Edo varieties from Japan. Through meticulous line breeding of select seedlings he proclaimed to have produced a superior American strain from purely Edo varieties. (At the same time Walter Marx was proclaiming his superior varieties of purely Higo background!) When Mr. Payne received plants from Dr. Hirao in their generous plant exchanges, Mr. Payne wrote that he was very appreciative of Dr. Hirao's plants, was sure that they would be of high quality, but probably would not use them in his strict line-breeding.

It appears on the front cover of this REVIEW, that we are now pleased that Mr. Payne saw some irresistible beauty in some of Dr. Hirao's work and made an out-cross with one in 1963. In 1958 Mr. Payne crossed his FIREY STEED with his DEBONAIR PRINCE and got WINDSWEPT BEAUTY (9-12 falls). In 1963 he crossed WINDSWEPT BEAUTY with YUKI-DOHRO (sic), (YUKIDORO is listed as Hirao 1958, and plate 226 shows it as a 9+fall white in The Japanese Iris by Hirao and Kuribayashi). This cross gave sdlg. 1342. Mr. Payne's garden notes on this seedling are: "Nine petal medium colored flower. White ground stippled and very lightly veined Mathew's purple blending heavier at edges of petals. 30". No branches. Lovely light rosy color." Mr. Payne registered the sdlg. in 1968 as ROSE ADAGIO and amended the description of height to 39".

P.S. Mr. Payne sent all 170 of his introductions to Japan through Dr. Hirao. Mr. Marx did not correspond with other hybridizers or exchange any of his 150 introductions. Mr. Payne and Mr. Marx did not grow any of each others varieties.o

John Coble, SJI Historian

A Lesson for All Gardeners

Clarence Mahan

George Percival Baker (1856-1951) was a man much loved by his contemporaries. His early years were spent in Constantinople, where his father arranged for the importation of Oriental fabrics. Educated in England, Baker at a young age became his father's representative in England. Then, with his brother, he began a business printing Oriental textiles, greatly enhancing his fortune in the process. He was the epitome of the British entrepreneurial gentleman. Of his eight children, three sons died fighting in WWI. Of his many contributions to his country, this was the greatest.

G. P. Baker enjoyed mountaineering and acquired an abiding interest in Alpine flora. A chance meeting with George Yeld led to Baker's purchasing his first irises for which he developed a great affection. He subsequently combined mountaineering in the Balkans, Greece, Kashmir, the Caucasus, and Asia Minor with observing and collecting alpine plants and iris species. A founding member of the British Iris Society (then called The Iris Society), he became its second President. Upon leaving that office in 1925, Baker was elected Vice-President of the Society, a position he held until his death. He wrote many articles on bulbous and aril irises. One of the irises he introduced to England was a collected form of *Iris mesopotamica* named SAUL OF TARSUS.

Above all else, G. P. Baker was famed for his good nature and his generosity. His kindness to his employees and associates, his philanthropy, and his willingness to serve his fellowmen were legendary. Typical of his generosity was his purchase of F. H. Round's splendid original drawings for Dykes's *The Genus Iris* to present to the British Iris Society. No one was surprised when Amos Perry chose a lovely yellow tall bearded iris to name G. P. BAKER in his honor - and this subsequently won the British Dykes Medal. If one visited Baker's garden and

admired a plant, Baker would insist on giving a division of the plant to the admirer.

Sir Arthur Fenton Hort (1864-1935) was born at Hurstbourne Tarrant, Hampshire, the son of the 5th baronet. A botanist and avid gardener, Sir Arthur Hort was a master at Harrow for over thirty years. He edited a number of works, including Theophrastus's *Enquiry into Plants*, and translated Linnaeus's *Critica Botanica*. A close friend of Sir Michael Foster, he was a great lover of irises. He was also one of the founders of the British Iris Society, and his charming book *The Unconventional Gardener* (London 1828) has beautifully written and very interesting chapters on irises.

"What does all this have to do with Japanese irises?" you might ask. Well, actually very little. In fact, although Sir Arthur Hort greatly admired Japanese irises and referred to them as "astonishing creations", he regretted that the chalky soil of his own garden "presents the antithesis of their requirements..."

Even as my ramblings may have little to do with Japanese irises, I present them to you as a background for a poem. I originally read the poem in an old issue of the *BIS Year Book*. Recently, in reading through old issues of *SIGNA*, I discovered that Roy Davidson had the poem reprinted in that excellent publication in an article called "Sharing". I believe that it is a beautiful poem that merits being brought to the attention of every generation of gardeners including those who grow Japanese irises.

A great number of the plants in my garden were gifts from friends. When I see the plant it reminds me of the person who gave it to me. The Santa Rosa plum makes me think of Everette Lineberger. The double lily of the valley will always be Shirley Pope. When the Louisiana iris RED DAZZLER blooms, or even if I just see its name plate, the late Alice Bouldin is alive again and walking through my garden. Even in the depth of winter I can close my eyes and see the pink coral bells from Rosalie Figge, the yellow poppy from Joy Peters, the little gray standard dwarf iris TRESCOLS from Jean Peyrard, and the wee clump

of *Iris minutoaurea* from Hiroshi Shimizu. There are so many more! My friends are ever in my garden , and thus, ever in my mind.

How many times have you given a division of a plant to someone, and then lost the plant yourself? There are several plants in my garden that were "return" gifts from someone to whom I had given a piece of the plant years before. And so, I share with you a poem:

To G. P. Baker

Hath thou plants in plenty say
of a species rich and rare?
Don't forget to give away
those thine affluence can spare.
Endearing friends delight will feel
when the gracious flower they greet,
As its coming buds reveal
dainty blossoms shyly sweet.
Then gratitude takes up a pen
to thank you, and with shining eyes
You read your treasure blooms again
'neath other care and other skies.
And then should any Evil chance
your garden of its pet bereave,
You are no slave of circumstance;
a thought will bid you cease to grieve,
For if you gave you will be given
the plant you've lost, and you'll perceive
It is the rule approved in Heaven
That he who giveth shall receive.

Sir Arthur Hort

PURSUING IMPROVEMENTS IN JAPANESE IRISES

Jill Copeland

Way back in the 1970's, I started thinking about making interspecies crosses. In each case, I envisioned an improvement to the existing iris. At an AIS Convention in CA where Bob Brown was a bus captain (and let me sit with him), I spouted long and hard about all the crosses I would make and the improvements the hybrids would make. I wish I had written them down; there may have been a good idea in that discussion. I have long wanted to improve JIs. I know, if they were easier to grow, everyone would grow them and they would be as popular as TBs.

I worked for many years in high pH soil trying to get JIs to grow in soil with calcium. It was very discouraging because the garden looked awful most of the time. When I got a good foliage plant, indicating that it was calcium tolerant, the flowers were junk. Now we have a yard with low pH.

I envisioned a cross of *I. pseudacorus* x *I. ensata* producing very large prolific plants (the way *I. pseudacorus* grows in water) with the many branched and budded stalks (16-21 buds of *I. pseudacorus*) and with JI flowers. Wouldn't that be something? Oh yes, yellow color in the flowers would also be nice, but that was not my main goal.

The problem with doing an *I. pseudacorus* x *I. ensata* cross is that in our location *I. pseudacorus* is through blooming before the first JIs start, or maybe a 1 to 2 day overlap. That doesn't leave many opportunities to make crosses. I could save *I. pseudacorus* pollen, but apparently the *I. pseudacorus* pollen can't grow long enough to reach the ovary of the larger JI flower. I tried it anyway and no pods formed. I saved JI pollen for eleven months, but it wasn't any good and wouldn't set pods even with other JIs.

I. pseudacorus seems to time its bloom with the length of the

day rather than with the temperature. JIs bloom in response to the temperature, so that the very hot springs brings them into bloom earlier. We had a record hot spring (and summer) in 1988. I. pseudacorus and JIs bloomed together for almost two weeks.

To make the crosses, I looked for loose buds (buds that would open the next day) on I. pseudacorus in the early evening. I opened them and removed the falls and the anthers to prevent bees from interfering with my crosses. At this time, the style arms stick straight up and the stigmatic lip is tight to the style. I picked fresh JI pollen and brought it into the house to keep it dry. The next day when the styles were arching and the stigmatic lip was loose, I put the JI pollen on the lip and tagged the cross.

I made 97 crosses that year, got 8 seed pods to form, and germinated 7 seeds (all from only one pod) over a 2 year period. The cross that germinated was from a white pseudacorus (they seem to bloom later) and a purple 6F JI seedling. When we moved in 1993, I threw out the rest of the unsprouted seeds. All seven plants had short yellow foliage, but only one ever bloomed. When this one first bloomed, I let out such a holler that the dog thought I was hurt. I called everyone in the Southwestern Michigan Iris Society to come see it.

With blooms at 12 inches (for me) to 18 inches (at Ensata gardens), this plant was about as far from my expectations as possible. The flower itself is a little larger than those on I. pseudacorus with 3 violet falls and 3 short rounded violet standards. The signals are yellow with a very dark violet thin edge all around them. The style arms are creamy and give a bicolor effect. The form of the flower is JI form, not pseudacorus form. Even though none of its siblings has ever bloomed, this one blooms every year. It is being introduced this year as PIXIE WON by Ensata Gardens. (Photo on back cover of this issue. Ed.)

PIXIE WON and like crosses are sterile. Tetraploid forms of

this cross are reported to be fertile, but the leaves are still yellow and the plant and bloom stalks are short.

All other major sections of irises are hybrids of more than one species. Bearded, Louisiana, Siberian, PCN, etc. are fertile hybrids of several species each. Some have become tetraploid but most have not. As far as I know, there is no interspecies hybrid with *I. ensata* that is fertile at the diploid level. Dr. Yabuya has made an *I. laevigata* x *I. ensata* cross, induced tetraploidy in it, and then crossed the tetraploid hybrid with RASPBERRY RIMMED (McEwen tetra JI) with wonderful (at least in the pictures) results. This, of course, won't get yellow flowers or the bud count that *I. pseudacorus* would give, and I don't know what the plant is like. The discouraging thing is that Dr. Yabuya uses embryo culture to germinate his hybrids. I guess I'll have to learn embryo culture.

A UNIQUE HYBRID

PIXIE WON

Jill Copeland's PIXIE WON (1997) is the first successful *I. pseudacorus* x *I. ensata* cross to be registered and introduced by a U.S. hybridizer. This is a historic note that will be researched by future SJI historians - so let us publish the fact here. Hybridizers in Japan have made the cross several times in shades of white and yellows with various amounts of brown markings. PIXIE WON is unique in its violet color with white styles and it is a first for a U.S. hybridizer.

John Coble, SJI Historian

DISPLAY GARDENS

Rich Randall (Virginia)

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.

To be recognized as a display garden, just inform me that you display. Besides listing you in the REVIEW, I will assist you by supplying culture sheets and SJI applications for your visitors.

(If you are visiting another part of the country, or perhaps abroad, check the Display Garden List. Perhaps there is a garden you can visit. Display gardeners will welcome you. Peak bloom time is listed. If possible, call ahead. Ed.)

JAPANESE IRIS DISPLAY GARDENS LIST

Belgium

1. Willy Hublau, Steenweg op Borgloom 37A, 3830 Wellen
Belgium Tel. 011-32-012-745521 Peak June 30

Canada

1. Jean-Marc Boileau, RR 1, Box 592, 72 Chemin du Barag
Chelsea, Quebec, JOX 1N0, Canada
(819) 827-2592

England

1. R. J. Henley, Wychwood Carp Farm, Farnum Rd,
Odiham NR Basng Hamps RG25 1HS, England
011-44-1256-702800 June 23 - July 7

New Zealand

1. Eddie Johns, O'Tara Birsh Gardens, P.O. Box 81,
Rongotea 5454, New Zealand Tel. +64-6-324 8490
Peak - Mid December

Region 1

1. Philip Boucher, Tranquil Lake Nursery, 45 River St., Rehoboth, MA 02769 (508) 252-4002
June 14 - July 14
2. Phil Cook, Poker Hill Gardens, P.O. Box 338 Underhill, VT 05489 (802) 889-9928 July 1-20
3. Anne and Dick Jarzowski, Reflections, 17 Chestnut St., West Newbury, MA 01985 (508) 363-2282
June 24 - July 9
4. Bob Kendall, 35 Suncrest Drive, Watertown, CT 06795 (203) 274-3422 July 1 - 20
5. Kathleen Marble, 84 Littleton County Rd., P.O.Box287 Harvard, MA 01451-0287 (508) 456-8086 July 1 - 7
6. Dr. and Mrs. Currier McEwen, Seaways Gardens, Rt. 1 Box 818, South Harpswell, ME 04079 (207) 833-5438
July 7 - 21
7. Mrs Maurice (Shirley) Pope, Jr., 39 Highland Ave., Gorham, ME 04038 (207) 839-3054 Mid July
8. Steve and Marcia Smith, 720 Oxbow Rd., Orange MA 01364 (508) 544-3088 July 1 - 15
9. Darlyn Springer, York Hill Farm, 18 Warren St., Georgetown, MA 01833 (508) 352-6560
June 19 - July 11
10. Cindy and Ron Valente, Valente Gardens, RFD 2 Box 234, East Lebanon, ME 04027 (207) 457-2076
July 1 - 25
11. Andy Wheeler, 90 Call Rd., Colrain, MA 01340 (413) 624-8800 July 1 - 14
12. John, Evelyn, and Ted White, 193 Jackson Hill Rd., Minot, ME 04258 (207)345-9532 July 5 - 31
13. Sharon Whitney, Eartheart Gardens (for McEwen) RR1, Box 847, South Harpswell, ME 04069 (207)833-6327 July 7 - 21

Region 2

1. Alice D.Belling, Raiber Rd., Holland, NY 14080 (716) 537-2798 July 5 - 20
2. Kathleen Colburn, 93 Doolittle Rd., Harpursville, NY 13787 (607)655-1726 July 1 - 15

3. Leonard and Kathy Guest, 494 North St., East Aurora, NY 14052 (716) 655-1762 July 1 - 15
4. Rachel Martin, 464 Crescent Ave., Buffalo, NY 14214 (716) 837-2285 July 1 - 10 (Call first)
5. Stephen McCarthy, Woodside Gardens, P.O.Box 4205 212 Port Van Tyle Rd., Port Jervis, NY 12771 (914) 355-6919 June 15 - July 15
6. Anna Rettig, 3371 Bowen Rd., Elma, NY 14059 (716) 684-2655 June 25 - July 10
7. John and Helen Schueler, Lamson Rd., Box 2620 RD 2, Phoenix, NY 13135 July 1 - 15

Region 3

1. Steven Brown, Mt. Gretna Gardens, 2493 Pinch Rd., Manheim, PA 17545-9466 (717) 664-5080
June 14 - July 14
2. George C. Bush, 1739 Memory Lane Ext., York, PA 17402 (717)755-0557 June 14 - July 14
3. Vincent Faycock, 550 E. Berner Ave., Hazelton, PA 18201 (717) 454-0337 June 22 - July 1
4. Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Innerst, 2700A Jakland Rd., Dover, PA 17315 (717) 784-0281 June 6 - July 10
5. Theresa L. Jewell, 310 Lloyd Guessford Rd., Townsend, DE 19734 (302)378-7746 June 5 - 30
6. James D. Marks, 33-B Sylvan Drive, Holidaysburg, PA 16648 (814)605-1865 4th week of June
7. Elwood A. (Bud) Maltman, 206 Milltown Road, Wilmington, DE 19808 June 10 - 25
8. Joan Wood, RD 2, Box 772, Felton, DE 19943
June 10 - 25

Region 4

1. Herman and Ruby Dennis, 2413 Cedar Bark Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23454 (757) 481-1626
May 25 - June 30
2. Mrs. Frank J. (Rosalie) Figge, 4 Maryland Ave., Towson, MD 21286 (410) 377-9118 June 15 - July 10
3. Walter Hoover, Box 337 Charles St., Saluda, NC 28773 (704)749-5846 June 10 - July 1

4. Bruce Hornstein/ Richard Huge, 1620 Sulgrave Ave.,
Baltimore, MD 21209 (410)367-8030 June 10-30
5. D.J. Kelly, 1289 Holly Point Rd., Virginia Beach, VA
23454 (757) 481-1420 May 25 - June 30
6. Jack Loving, 10483 Edgehill Lane, King George, VA
22485 (703) 775-4043 June 1 - 30
7. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Mahan, The Iris Pond, 7311
Churchill Rd., McLean, VA 22101 (703) 893-8526
June 5 - 25
8. Mr. and Mrs. William Mull, 7112 Fox's Lair Court,
Norfolk, VA 23518 (757) 858-5521 May 25 - June 30
9. Michael and Diana Nicholls, Nicholls Gardens, 4724
Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065 (703) 754-9623
May 21 - July 7
10. Norfolk Botanical Gardens, Azalea Garden Road
Norfolk, VA 23518 May 29 - June 30
11. Rich and Caryll Randall, The Iris Edge Gardens, 524
Windsor Gate Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23452
(757) 340-9077 May 25 - June 30
12. Bill Smoot, 213 Derby Rd., Portsmouth, VA 23702
(757)393-4617 May 14 - June 21
13. Donald and Ginny Spoon, 1225 Reynolds Rd., Cross
Junction, VA 22625 (540) 888-4447 June 8 - 16
14. Mrs. Andrew (Carol) Warner, Draycott Gardens,
16815 Falls Rd., Upperco, MD 21155
(410) 374-4788 June 15 - 30

Region 5

1. Peggy Beason, Rt. 2 Box 584, Summerville, SC 29483
(803) 688-4414 May 15 - June 15
2. B. C. and Maggie Johnson, P.O.Box 554, St. Stephens,
SC 29479 (803) 567-4399 May 15 - June 15
3. Mrs. Betty A. Jones, 205 McKinley Drive, Griffin, GA
30223 (770) 227-4463 2nd wk. May - 2nd wk. June
4. Everette and Ann Lineberger, Quail Hill Gardens, 2460
Compton Bridge Road, Inman, SC 29349-8489
(864) 472-3339 June 10 - July 1
5. Shirley Paquet, 857 Circle H Woods Rd., Prosperity,
SC 29127 (803) 3624-2724 May 20 - June 12

8. Joyce and Bill Reinke, 3223 Gum Flat Rd., Rt.1, Box 136-A, Bells TN 38006 (901) 663-3744 June 5 - 12

Region 8

1. Howard Brookins, N75 W14257 North Point Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051 (414) 251-5292
June 15 - July 15
2. Ainie Busse, Busse Gardens, P.O.Box N, 13579 10th St. NW, Cokato, MN 55321 (612)286-2654 June 25
3. James L. Scharff, 1712 Kalahari Drive, Green Bay, WI 54313-5492 (414) 494-6158 July 1 - 21
4. Daniel Thruman, 2411 White Oak Trail, Oregon, WI 53575 (608) 835-5562 June 15 - July 15
5. Marlene Wolinski, 8635 Fremont Ave N, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444 (612) 561-2017 July 4 - 10

Region 9

1. Nina Dix, 1414 Biscay Dr., Edwardsville, IL 62025
June 25 - July 10
2. Lou Emmons, Blossom Bend Gardens, 7805 Tryon Grove Rd., Richmond, IL 60071 (815) 678-4383
July 1 - 14
3. Jerry and Melody Wilhoit, Redbud Lane Iris Garden, Rt. 1, Box 141, Kansas IL 62933
(217) 948-5478 June 10 - 30

Region 13

1. Terry and Barbara Aitken, Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, 608 NW119th, Vancouver, WA 98685
(206) 573-4472 June 1 - 30
2. Debbie L. Gorham, 18353 S. Grasle Rd., Oregon City, OR 97045 (503) 631-3020 June 1 - 30
3. Bill Halstead, Maxwellton Valley Gardens, 3443 East French Road, Clinton, WA 98236 (206) 321-1770
June 15 - July 31
4. Chad Harris, MPO O1R, Washougal, WA 98671
(206) 835-1016 June 1 - 30
5. Ruth Musil, 1461 NW Meadowgreen Place, Corvallis, OR 97330 (503) 757-8261 June 14 - 24

6. Allan and Karen Oudean, 7421 137th Ave. SE,
Snohomish, WA 98290-9022 (360) 568-6024
June 15 - July 4
7. Will and Tracy Plotner, Wildwood Gardens,
P.O. Box 250, Molalla, OR 97038
(503) 829-3102 July 1 - 15
8. Mrs. Lorena Reid, Laurie's Garden, 41886 McKenzie
Hwy., Springfield, OR 97478 (541) 896-3756
May 22 - July 6
9. Dave and Nancy Silverberg, Abbey Gardens, 32009
S. Onaway, Molalla, OR 97038 (503) 845-2622
July 1 - 15
10. L.R. Walker, 2515 Tenmile Valley Rd., Tenmile, OR
97481 (541) 679-4666 June 20th

Region 14

1. Carl Boswell, 1821 Gross Lane, Concord, CA 94519
(510) 682-0777 May 15 - 30
2. Gigi Hall, 40417 Citrus Drive, Fremont, CA 94538
(510) 657-4789 May 9 - 16

Region 16

1. Joy Flint, 92 Moss St., Victoria, BC V8V 4L8, Canada
(604) 383-2443 June 17 - 27

Region 18

1. Donna Aldridge, 7503 W. 54th Terrace, Overland Park
KS 66202 (913) 831-3990 May 27 - July 5
2. Donald Delmez, 3240 Connecticut Ave., St. Charles,
MO 63301 (314) 724-4274 June 1 - 25
3. Riley Probst, 418 N. Van Buren, Kirkwood, MO
63122-3921 (314) 822-2485 June 8 - 25

Region 19

1. Joe and Margaret Griner, 25 Mill Chase Road,
Southampton, NJ 08088 (609) 859-9251 June 6 - 20
2. Presby Memorial Gardens, 474 Upper Mountain Road,
Upper Montclair, NJ 07043 (201) 783 -5974
July 1 - 31

Region 22

1. Mary Ann King, Pine Ridge Gardens, 832 Sycamore Rd
London AR 73847 (501)293-4359 May 26 - June 16
2. Mrs. Beatrice Williams, 4345 Ritchie, Enid, OK 73703
(405) 234-8066 June 1 - 8

Region 23

1. Mrs. Henry Danielson, Pleasure Iris Gardens, 425 E.
Luna, Chaparral, NM 88021 (505) 824-4299
May 15 - 30

The Netherlands

1. K. Sahin, Loevestein 48, 2403 JB Alphen aan den Rijn,
The Netherlands Tel. +31. 172. 445797
June 20 -July 15

Looking for a special cultivar?

In the back of the AIS Bulletin there is a "Shopping Section". In it you will find growers of all different types of irises. By obtaining one of their catalogs you can usually find the iris that you are looking for.

But, what if you cannot find that special or old Japanese cultivar? What then? Try Rich Randall (address on page 3). In his computer he lists hundreds of cultivars, with the names and addresses of the growers - most are small backyard gardeners that are not listed in the Bulletin. To locate that grower and iris just send a s.a.s.e. to Rich, or e-mail him: caryll@pinn.net (all small letters).



PEACOCK DANCE

Carol Warner

One of my very first Japanese irises was a lovely three fall variety originally from George Bush. He was one of the first to grow Japanese in this area and had gotten his stock directly from Walter Marx. Lorena Reid had also ordered PEACOCK DANCE from the Marx garden and received a similar specimen. She has used her plant extensively in her hybridizing program because it will produce six fall offspring with good form.

At the 1995 SJI Convention I exhibited my specimen and received a blue ribbon. Bob Bauer very nicely and quietly told me I had one of my exhibits mislabeled. When he pointed out PEACOCK DANCE I knew I had not made a mistake, I had grown it for years and there is nothing else that looks anything like PEACOCK DANCE.

However, after seeing a copy of the 1962 Marx catalog in which there is a full color page of a white background iris with dark purple stripes labeled PEACOCK DANCE, I had to admit something wasn't quite correct. It is the same thing that Ensata Gardens has pictured in their catalog. So ... which is the real PEACOCK DANCE? The early registration descriptions are not conclusive.

Walter Marx planted his irises in alphabetical order, so the two varieties which have been mixed may have started with the letter "P". Neither Lorena Reid nor I have listed this variety for sale in the last couple years so as not to spread the confusion. However, both of us have sold it in the past.

The variety which I grow is certainly deserving of a proper name but the problem comes in what to call it. As George Bush said the last time I talked to him about the situation, "It certainly isn't settled". Could we call one PEACOCK? The picture in the Marx catalog certainly must be correct. I ordered a start of the PEACOCK DANCE from Ensata Gardens last year so I could compare the two plants.

Lorena said she was willing to accept a new name for our plant but she would definitely not eliminate it from her hybridizing program.

This article is a starting point to settle the controversy. Hopefully there will be some input from others as to the correct procedure to follow to separate the two PEACOCK DANCE specimens.

JAPANESE IRISES, WATER LOVERS????

Rich Randall

Water water everywhere, but..... Just because it is wet and comes from the ground does not mean that it is consumable to man, beast, or Japanese irises.

Knowing that Japanese irises do their best when supplied with additional water, I installed a timer and soaker hose watering system. The \$20 timer automatically turned on for 10 minutes every other day. All went well for 3-4 years. Then it was noticed that blooms and stalks were smaller and that plants were not as healthy. Fertilizer had been applied on a somewhat regular basis and the Japanese were in a sunny location for most of the day. What had changed over the years?

Could it be the water? Though I am not a scientist, I do know that if water smells, it is not good for humans. But then, because it doesn't smell doesn't mean that it is good. Water can still contain undesirable minerals or there may be a lack of desirable minerals. Prior to using the new well water, I had had a member take a sample to her testing laboratory. The result determined that it was of quality for human consumption. If it didn't smell and it was fit for human consumption, then what was the problem? What about the soil's pH?

I used a Cornell University pH tester - measurements were 6.5, 7.0, and 7.2. Do these high pH readings affect Japanese irises? You had better believe they do. Japanese irises like a low pH of

5.5 to 6.5. How did the pH get so high and what do I do to change it? Asking at a feed and seed store, I found that there are different chemicals to lower the soil's pH and that they will work at different speeds - some taking 6 - 12 months. Which one do I use and in what quantities? Nobody seemed to know, so I bought a few different types to try out.

What I eventually used was aluminum sulfate. First the Japanese irises were removed and held in water buckets. Then the soil was tilled to loosen it up. Next a 1 pound coffee can of aluminum sulfate was added to 40 gallons of water. This solution was heavily applied with a watering can. Soil was then tilled and retested. It usually took 2 to 3 applications of the solution and tilling to lower the soil's pH to 5.0/5.5. I used about 50 pounds of sulfate for a section 400 square feet by 8" deep. The quantity will vary with whatever pH you are starting with. Other products might have the same results, but the aluminum sulfate was water soluble and there were immediate results.

Also, I turned off the timers and stopped using the well water. I now let Mother Nature do her thing, because it is not nice to fool with Mother Nature. Why did the pH go so high? Because my well water was alkaline. Over the years the high pH water slowly changed the soil pH, and therefore the quality of my Japanese irises declined.

If you have a similar problem, contact Cornell University, 804 Bradfield Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853. Tel. (607) 255-4540. Ask about a 1 1/4 oz. pH tester - 5.0 50 7.2. I now order by the 1/2 pints, but you need the small bottles to count the drops.

RECENT JAPANESE IRIS
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS
 Compiled from the 1996 AIS Reg. and Intros. Book
 Corrections marked *

- ***ALEX SUMMERS** (Hirao, S. by Mahan, C.) Reg: 1994. (30in 76cm) EM (3-F). Correction of description: S. lilac pink; F. light violet, greenish yellow signal..
- AZURE HEAVEN** (Delmez, Donald) Reg: 1996. Sdlg DB-1 (33in, 84cm) M (6-F). Ruffled sky blue, small yellow signal; style arms white, blue-tipped multi-style arms. ['Sakuraku' X 'Sakuraku'] Delmez Gardens 1996 (Available).
- BELGIUM SKY** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. Sdlg B1 (35in, 90cm) M (6-F). Light Blue (RHS 91D), dark violet halo around dark yellow signal, light yellow rays; style arms silvery white edged blue, 4-6 styles, stamens crested. [Seedling X Lady in Waiting].
- BLUE SPRITZ** (Delmez, Donald) Reg: 1996. Sdlg DWSAP (35in, 89cm) M (6-F). Blue white, veined blue purple, with white edge, yellow green signal; style arms multiple, dark blue with white line; ruffled. [Caprician Butterfly X Warai Hotei] Delmez Gardens 1996 (Available).
- BLUE ZEBRA** (Ackerman, William L.) Reg: 1981. Stock destroyed; name released 1996..
- BUSHI** (Matheny III, Ed) Reg: 1995. Ed's Iris Garden 1996.
- COBALT GEM** (Ackerman, William L.) Reg: 1984. Stock destroyed; name released 1996..
- DIRIGO CLOUD NINE** (White, John) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 91E, COL-2 (colchicine treated) (36-40in) ML (6-F). Soft blue (near RHS 97B), veined white, signals gold; style arms white, tufted light blue. [89-C8: (86L-7: (Nikko x Continuing Pleasure) x 86L-7) X Southern Son.].
- DIRIGO DELIGHT** (White, John) Reg: 1992. Pope's Perennials 1996 .
- DIRIGO OLD PEWTER** (White, John) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 91E-9 (40in 102cm) ML (6-F). Violet blue (RHS 94C), very finely veined slightly darker, slim pale gold signal; style arms tufted and edged violet blue. [98C-8: (86L-7: (Nikko x Continuing Pleasure) x 86L-7) X Southern Son.].
- EARTH AND FIRE** (Held, Frederick) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 04 (36in 91cm) M (3-F). S. reddish purple; style arms bluish purple; F. medium purple marbled on white, glistening white edge. [Parentage unknown.].
- ENTICING GEISHA** (McEwen, Currier) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J 89/28 (36in 90cm) ML (3-F). S. violet (RHS 87B) with darker (87A) veins; style arms dark violet (86B), edges and tufts very dark (86A); F. lobelia blue (91C) with dark violet blue (90A) halo around rich lemon yellow (13B) signal, dark violet blue veins radiating to edge of falls. [Ashi-No-Ukifune X Kalamazoo.].

- FLANDERS LION** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. Sdlg B7 (35in 90cm) ML (6-9-F). Greyed purple (RHS 187D), silver rays and dots, dark yellow signal; style arms greyed purple, stamens forming crest. [Sdlg. X Surprise Light.].
- FOURFOLD PINK** (McEwen, Currier) Reg: 1995. Sdlg T(6)90/48(ERI) (30in 75cm) EML Tet. (3-F). S. white, edged phlox purple (RHS 75C); style arms white, edged and tipped lavender pink (75B); F. lavender pink opening from deeper (75A) buds, white central area crossed by mimosa yellow (8C) veins, signal rich lemon yellow (13B). [T(5)88/11(11): (T(4)80/149:(Maine Chance x inv. sdlg 8 generations from Arlie Payne seed) x Pink Mystery) X Pink Mystery] Eartheart Gardens, Seaways Gardens 1996 (Available).
- FROSTED PLUM** (Rich, Lois by Ensata Gdns) Reg: 1996. Sdlg K74-3A (32in 82cm) M (6-F). Light colored ground, blue (95A) halo and veining; multiple style arms, crests and petaloids are dark blue purple (89A). [Unknown parentage] Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- GIVE-ME-PATIENCE** (White, Anne Blanco) Reg: 1996. (36in, 91cm) M (3-F). S. vibrant reddish purple, greenish yellow margin; F. reddish purple; ruffled. [Parentage and origin unknown].
- HEIKE HELD** (Held, Frederick) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 09 (42in, 107cm) L (3-F). S. medium purple; style arms dark purple; F. dark purple, dark blue surrounding signal aging to purple. [Parentage unknown].
- IKEBANA** (Matheny III, Ed) Reg: 1995. Ed's Iris Garden 1996.
- IMPERIAL PRESENCE** (Rich, Lois by Ensata Gdns) Reg: 1995. Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- INDIGO MAGIC** (Rich, Lois by Ensata Gdns) Reg: 1995. Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- ITTOO** (Matheny III, Ed) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J:02-03-93 (37in, 94cm) EM (6-F). F. blue, wide lavender rim, signals yellow with white halo; style arms white, tipped lavender. [Nemurijishi X Sapphire Star].
- JEANNINE'S PRIDE** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. Sdlg B5 (26in, 65cm) M (6-F). Silvery white, edged and dotted light violet, golden yellow signal; style arms white, edged lavender pink. [Sdlg X Lady in Waiting].
- JOYCOS COLLOR** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. Sdlg C7 (32in, 80cm) E (6-F). F. white, yellow signal, light yellow (RHS 7A) rays; stylearms light primrose yellow (4D); stamens forming flags at top. [B22 X Japanese import].
- KITAYSKI FARFOR** (Amekhin, Oleg) Reg: 1996. (30in, 75cm) M (6-F). Light purple, thickly veined purple violet. [Sakura-Gawa X double seedling] Amekhin 1996.
- KOM-BANWA** (Matheny III, Ed) Reg: 1995. Ed's Iris Garden 1996
- LASTING SNOW** (Paquet, Shirley) Reg: 1994. Pecan Grove Iris 1996.

- LION KING** (Bauer/Coble) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J89U-5 (40in 107cm) M (9-F). F. ruffled, edged rose (RHS 77A) with wide white center, white veining nearly to edge, hidden yellow signals; style arms multiple, upright, crests tipped violet. [Frosted Pyramid X Frilled Enchantment] Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- MANCUNIAN** (White, Anne Blanco) Reg: 1996. (30in, 76cm) ML (3-F). S. white ground, heavy purple violet veining; F. white ground dark violet veining. [Unknown parentage and origin.].
- NIGHT ANGEL** (Aitken, J. T.) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 87 J 27 (34in, 86cm) ML (6-F). [Dancing Waves X Electric Rays] Aitkens Salmon Creek Gardens 1996 (Available).
- PACIFIC BREEZE** (Held, Frederick) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 001 (36in, 91cm) L (6-F). White with few scattered purple veins; style arms amethyst, bordered white, multiple. [Parentage unknown.].
- PELOPONNESUS** (Innerst, Sterling) Reg: 1994. Name transferred to Sdlg. 1532-2..
- PELOPONNESUS** (Innerst, Sterling) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 1532-2 (36in, 91cm) M (6-F). Red purple with blue rays except on 1 1/4in solid red purple rim; gold signal with blue halo; style arms light red purple, some extra petaloids. [Frostbound X Fringed Cloud].
- PLEASANT EARLYBIRD** (Harris, Chad) Reg: 1995. Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens 1996.
- PURPUROVA MANTIYA** (Amekhin, Oleg) Reg: 1996. Sdlg X-1985 (47in, 120cm) E (3-F). Reddish purple self. [Oyodo X "Vasili Alfiorov"] Amekhin 1996.
- REISYUN** *Cold Spring* (Shimizu, H. by C. Mahan) Reg: 1994. The Iris Pond 1996.
- RODNAYA UKRAINA** (Amekhin, Oleg) Reg: 1996. (35in, 90cm) M SPEC-X (3-F). Blue self, bright yellow signal. [I. ensata X (I. versicolor x I. virginica)] Amekhin 1996.
- ROSEWATER** (Bauer/Coble) Reg: 1995. Ensata Gardens 1996.
- SAMURAI CREST** (Ackerman, William L.) Reg: 1995. Nicholls Gardens 1996.
- SAPPHIRE CROWN** (Bauer/Coble) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J88H-1 (38in 95cm) M (6-F). Ground white to whitish, with small blue violet (93A) sanded halo and veins out to 1/4in edge of red violet (83B) heavy veining, white wire rim; style arms multiple, dark purple (83A), with large flared crests. [Iapetus sib. X unknown] Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- SHASHOO** (Matheny III, Ed) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J:00-04-92 (38in, 97cm) M (6-F). White, brushed victorian violet (RHS 90B), signals yellow; style arms cream with lavender (85C) sheen. [Snowy Hills X Flashing Koi].

- SILENT THUNDER** (Bauer/Coble) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J88E-5 (40in 102cm) L (9+-F). Medium rose violet, veined darker; multiple style arms light violet, large crests dark violet. [Jocasta X Hagoromo] Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- SURPRISE DARK** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. (28in, 70cm) M (6-F). Beetroot purple (RHS 71A) stripes and dots on grayed white (156D), dark yellow signal; style arms beetroot purple. [Sdlg X Sdlg].
- SURPRISE LIGHT** (Hublau, Willy) Reg: 1996. (26in, 65cm) M (6-F). Greyed white (RHS 156D) striping and dotting in beetroot purple (71A), signal dark yellow; style arms greyed white. [Sdlg X Unknown].
- TORA-TORA** (Held, Frederick) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 06 (36in, 91cm) M (3-F). S. reddish purple edged white; style arms dark purple, white at tip; F. center dark purple, dark purple veins extending into grey outer portion, bordered white. [Parentage unknown].
- TROPICAL STORM** (Bauer/Coble) Reg: 1996. Sdlg J89F-7 (40in 107cm) M (9-12-F). Red violet (shaded RHS 77A to 80A), veined darker in center, lighter (near white) edges, dark yellow signal; style arms white, large crests veined violet. [J86M-2: (Lace Ruff x Innerst 1532-2) X Hagoromo] Ensata Gardens 1996 (Available).
- VARIATION IN PINK** (McEwen, Currier) Reg: 1995. Eartheart Gardens, Seaways Gardens 1996.
- WARABE-UTA** (Ichie, T. by C. McEwen) Reg: 1996. Sdlg 8A-123 (36", 90cm) EM (3-F). S. white, edged violet purple (RHS 77A); style arms white with light pinkish purple tufts; F. White center, blending to violet purple at outer 3/4in, signal rich aureolin yellow (12A); small flower type. [HO-6, inv. small-flowered sdgls. X NAGA #14, from sdlg. at Nagai Ayame Park].

Compiled by Bob Bauer



3 FALL — 6 FALL GENETICS

John Coble

Some questions came up in the JI hybridizers robin about 3-fall japanese iris that make 4-fall and 5-fall blooms: standards that try to make falls — “twixt and tween” form. Another statement was made, “I crossed two 3-fall and got a 6-fall”?

The 3-fall species form is dominant, 6-falls is recessive. If we note the dominant gene as (F) and the recessive gene as (f), then the pure 3-fall form would be (FF) genome; the 6-fall recessive form would be (ff). If one crosses a homozygous 3-fall (FF) with a 6-fall (ff), all seedlings (100%) will be heterozygous 3-fall (Ff) — one gene from each parent. If one crosses two of those seedlings, (Ff) x (Ff), one gets 75% 3-fall (25% homozygous 3-fall (FF) and 50% heterozygous 3-fall (Ff)) and 25% 6-fall (ff).

(FF) 3-fall and (Ff) 3-fall usually look the same, so how can one decide which is which? Test Cross your selected 3-fall plant onto a 6-fall plant:

FF x ff = 100% 3-fall seedlings (all will be Ff).

Ff x ff = 50% 3-fall (all Ff) and 50% 6-fall (ff).

The resulting ratio of seedlings will tell you the genome of the parent 3-fall plant: FF or Ff.

The (FF) 3-fall are quite stable. The (Ff) 3-fall can produce blooms that go ‘twixt and tween’, which is a serious fault in JI. This is the main reason for not crossing 3F with 6F — one is sure to get the best color pattern on a (Ff) seedling that isn’t stable — Murphey’s hybridizing law! But if one has such a seedling, a few generations of selective hybridizing may segregate the desired trait onto a stable form (FF) or (ff).

Most 3-fall cultivars are (Ff) and yet they remain stable. There must be a “dosage effect” or other gene(s) that influences size of standards and/or their conversion to falls with signals. We do recognize that there are 3-fall singles with short standards, some with medium size and some have rather tall standards.

The species *ensata* have rather tall, narrow standards, yet they are FF genome. There is still much to learn. The only 3-fall cultivar that I know of at this time that is FF, from 12 test crosses, is CHITOSE HIME, and it has the short, cupped standards form! I would appreciate receiving other's Test Cross reports and will be glad to share the list with any hybridizer.

The above notes are for diploid JI only. Tetraploid genetics are four-times as complicated. For example, a 3-fall tet could be (FFFF) or (FFFf) or (FFff) or (Ffff)! In a Test Cross of just the (Ffff) x a 6-fall tet (ffff), only 1 out of 36 seedlings would be 6F. Hundreds of seedlings would have to be raised to determine the genome of a 3-fall tetraploid.

ANOTHER FIRST?

John Coble, Michigan

We've never heard of (but watched for) a beardless iris seedling that bloomed in the same year that it germinated. In June 1996 it happened in our garden. Is this a first? In early March, we germinated our japanese and siberian seed indoors, raised the seedlings under lights and planted them in the garden about June 1st. On June 22, one seedling bloomed — out of a single fan, a blossom squeezed out at the base of the fan. Four months old! It was a pale pink 3F bloom about three inches in diameter, normal size for the cross. The plant was a yellow-foliaged seedling out of a white *pseudacorus* x OTOME KAGAMI, a 6F pink japanese iris.

1997 SHOWS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Following is a list of Japanese Iris or Beardless Iris shows planned for this year. You are welcome as a visitor or an exhibitor, if you have blooms to display. These shows are admission free. Probably there are other shows that we are not aware of. Contact an iris enthusiast in your area for details. Shows are listed in order of show dates.

Summerville, South Carolina ---- May 31

Summerville Iris Society will hold its annual Japanese Iris Society Weekend on May 30 and 31, 1997. It has been christened "**Roaring Twenties**" to signify the 20th birthday of the Summerville Iris Society. The annual flower show will take place on Saturday, May 31st at the Cuthbert Center in Azalea Park. Flowers and flower designs are to be entered and judged on Saturday morning. The show will be open to the public at 1 PM. Guests from out of town will be treated to a garden tour of four well known private gardens in Summerville, with various historical sites in Summerville included in this tour.

Judge's Training will be given to members and their guests by **Mr. Everette Lineberger**, an accredited AIS judge from Inman, SC. This training will be conducted from 5 to 6:30 PM at Hampton Inn, 1015 Jockey Court, Summerville, SC. This facility is located at I-26 exit 199 as you enter 17-A.

Registration fees for this weekend event, which includes Friday evening supper and Saturday lunch, are \$35.00 through May 10th or \$40.00 May 11 through May 25. Hampton Inn provides continental breakfast for their patrons, and has reserved a block of 40 rooms (both king size suites and doubles) at a cost of \$55.00 per person. Hampton phone number is (803) 871.-8300.

For more information contact Ms. Helen Beason, 1829 State Road, Summerville, SC 29483. Tel. (803) 688-4574.

St. Louis, Missouri ----June 7

The Greater St. Louis Iris Society will hold its annual Beardless Iris Show on Saturday, June 7, at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Entries will be accepted from 7 to 10 AM. The show will be open to the public at 12 noon. There will be open classes in horticulture and a class for potted JI's in 8 inch pots. The local Ikebana Society will present a display using JI's in designs. For further information contact Don Delmez at (314) 724-4274.

Hendersonville, North Carolina ----June 12 & 13

The Carolina Mountains Iris Society will present its 6th Annual All-Japanese Iris Show at Opportunity House, 1411 Asheville Hwy., Hendersonville, NC. Single stalk entries only will be received on Thursday, June 12, from 8 to 10 AM. The show will be open to the public from 12 noon to 5 PM Thursday, and from 9 AM to 5 PM on Friday, June 13. For information contact Walter Hoover (704) 749-5846 or Flossie Nelson - (704) 692-7942.

Ellicott City, Maryland ---- June 21

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society and the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society will hold a Beardless Iris Show at the Chatham Mall in Ellicott City, MD on Saturday, June 21. For more information contact Carol Warner, Chairman, 16815 Falls Church Road, Upperco, MD 21155. Tel. (410) 374-4788.

Wilmington, Delaware ----June 22

The Diamond State Iris Society will hold its annual Beardless Iris Show on Sunday, June 22 at the Delaware Center for Horticulture, 1810 North Dupont St., in the Trolley Square section of Wilmington, DE. Entries will be received from 8 to 10 AM. The show will be open to the public at noon. For further information contact June Roop, 588 Gumbush Rd., Townsend, DE 19734-9126. Tel. (302) 653-9351

Salem, Oregon ----June 28

The Greater Portland Iris Society's "Late Show" is scheduled for Saturday, June 28 at the Lancaster Mall in Salem, OR. Entries will be received from 8 to 9:30 AM. Judging will begin at 10 AM. The show is open to the public from 10 AM to 5 PM. For information contact John Ludi, 35071 SE Hwy. 211, Boring, OR 97009. Tel. (503) 668-9230

Kalamazoo, Michigan ---- July 5

The Southwestern Michigan Iris Society will present its 22nd Annual Japanese Iris Show on Saturday, July 5, at the Maple Hill Mall in Kalamazoo, MI. For information contact Chairman Jill Copeland, 78118 M40, Lawton, MI 49065

Tel. (616) 624-1968

Charlmont, Massachusetts ----July 12

The Western New England Iris Society will hold its Japanese Iris Show on Saturday, July 12, at the Academy at Charlmont, Mohawk Trail Rte. 2, Charlmont, MA. Entries will be received from 8 to 11 AM. Judging will begin at 11:30 and the show will be open to the public from 1 to 5 PM. For more information or a show schedule contact Andy Wheeler, Show Chairman, at (413) 624-1968.



ANNUAL BEARDLESS IRIS SHOW

Sarah Marley

The annual Beardless Iris Show was held on June 22, 1996 at Benke's Nursery in Beltsville, MD. It was sponsored by the Chesapeake & Potomac and the Francis Scott Key Iris Societies. There were 10 exhibitors that placed 113 entries. Judges were Dick Sparling, Gloria Fairhead, and Bruce Hornstein, apprentice. Japanese entries dominated with 82 entered in that section, of which there were 65 varieties.

Carol Warner was the Silver Medal winner, and garnered 1st runner-up with **CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY**, a 1990 Payne Award winner introduced by Marx/Rogers in 1985. She also placed **BELLENDER BLUE**, the 3rd runner-up. This is a 1993 introduction by Bauer/Coble. Dick Hugel received the Bronze Medal, and his entry **SUMMER SPLASH**, an introduction of Lorena Reid's, was 2nd runner-up.

Sara Marley, a fairly new grower of beardless irises, had exhibited just once before in a beardless show. Her first blue ribbon winner ever was **PRAIRIE GLORY** and, much to her surprise it was chosen Queen of Show. **PRAIRIE GLORY** is an early 3 fall diploid (Hazzard '72). This very dark red/violet bi-color with veining was obtained in 1994 at the Region 4 Spring Meeting. I am sure that Sara's beardless plantings will be expanding.

There were 26 seedlings entered, with quality throughout. Bill Ackerman's incredibly branched **AW2-6** was chosen as Best Seedling. Bill describes it as being 36" in height with 6 falls and blooms 6-1/2" in width; EM, medium blue/violet with darker veins, near white styles with blue/violet margins, and yellow/green signal. Its terminal bud has 3 branches with 7 blooms per stalk. Bill has made several crosses from it and has 180 seedlings started. It is not named as yet, but is still being evaluated as a possible introduction. (I have included this 1996 show report as an excellent example. After the show in your area, **please** send in a report for the Fall REVIEW. Ed.)



Photos by Sara Marley from show reported on previous page.

Earthheart Gardens

**R.R.#1, Box 847
Harpwell, Maine 04079
(207) 833-6327**

Japanese Irises

Siberian Irises

1997 Mc Ewen Japanese Iris Introduction

ENTICING GEISHA (J89/28): Diploid, mid season to late, 3 falls. The 7 1/2" flowers are held on 36" stalks. Falls are light violet (RHS 91C) with dark blue violet (90A) halos surrounding rich yellow signals, and veins of 90A radiating to the edges of the falls. Standards are lighter violet. Excellent arching form and nicely ruffled.
(Ashi-no-Ukifune x Kalamazoo)\$30.00

1997 Kamo Nursery Japanese Iris Introductions

KAMIJI-NO-HOMARE (Glory of the Way of the Gods) Ichie 1980: Diploid, 3 falls, mid season. 8 1/2" magnificent flowers on 36" stalks. One of the most beautiful, velvety, very dark purple (83A) flowers with arching, round 4 1/4" ruffled falls. Contrasting light violet styles have large dark tufts and edging. Excellent branching.
(Yamataikoku x Minokobuki)\$35.00

OGI-NO-MATO (Target Fan) Ichie 1984: Diploid, 3 falls, mid season. 36" stalks carry lovely 7" arching blooms. Falls are close to true blue (96C) at center blending to violet-blue at the edges and distinguished by prominent white lines radiating to the edges. Dark edged light bluish standards and white styles tufted light blue complete the charming picture. Nicely branched. (MaiOgi x Hana-no-Kaze).....\$30.00

WARABE-UTA (Child's Song) Ichie 8A-123,1992: Diploid, 3 falls, small flower type, early to late mid season, height 36." Falls have white centers blending to dark red-purple (77A) at outer 3/4." Standards are white with dark purple edging. Styles also white with purple tufts. The 4 1/2" arching flowers literally cover the plant for a long period of bloom. Well branched and vigorous. (HO-6 from small flowered seedlings x Naga #14 from seedlings at Nagai Ayame Park)\$30.00

**For a descriptive price list of previous introductions
Please send 32 cent stamp and your address**

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SIBERIAN IRISES

JAPANESE IRISES

We finally have enough stock to introduce **NEAT TRICK**. This Siberian iris brought Ohhhhhhhhs from the irisarians at the Siberian Judges Training Session during the 1995 AIS Convention. There is a color picture in the new **SIBERIAN IRIS BOOK, Plate 25**, published in 1996 and a black and white photo in **The SIBERIAN IRIS BULLETIN, 1995 FALL ISSUE, page 37**. We are also introducing a Japanese iris that makes you look twice, **DIRIGO OLD PEWTER**. It's a stunning iris.

1997 SIBERIAN IRIS INTRODUCTION OF JOHN WHITE

NEAT TRICK: Diploid, 35". E-M. A two-tone blue violet with neat white splashes on the falls. A medium size iris considered by Dr. McEwen to be a breakthrough in the Siberian iris world. **\$40.**

1997 JAPANESE IRIS INTRODUCTION OF JOHN WHITE

DIRIGO OLD PEWTER: Diploid, 6 falls, 40" M-L. This 6 fall Japanese iris is a subtle shade of gray-blue-violet (closest to RHS-94C) with very fine, slightly darker veins, slim gold signals and white style arms tufted blue-violet. **\$30.**

When ordering please add \$4. for shipping and handling. Postage for overseas and Canadian shipment will be for full amount including State of Maine Phytosanitary Certificate charge of \$25. per package. Please specify Spring or Fall.

For these cultivars and a list of other Japanese and Siberian irises send a stamped self addressed business envelope to:

**Shirley Pope,
Pope's Perennials,
39 Highland Ave.,
Gorham, ME 04038-1701**

TREASURER'S REPORT

SJI

January 10, 1997

BALANCE JAN 1, 1996 **20,946.19**

INCOME

Interest	819.78
Dues	1419.50
(Includes 3 Life, \$225)	
Review Advertizing	49.00
JI Book Royalty	450.32
Librarian Income	1240.95
Checklists	501.00
Books	258.95
PCards	451.00
Slide Rent	30.00
TOTAL INCOME	3979.55

EXPENSES

<i>The Review</i>	3231.00
Service Award	104.09
2 Payne Medals	57.00
Display Gardens	180.64
Checklists	550.33
Librarian	232.31
Membership/Treasurer	111.28
Editor	72.88
TOTAL EXPENSES	4539.53

BALANCE DEC 31, 1996 **20,386.21**

9145.69 is in Checking
102.25 is in Savings (required for Checking)
11,138.27 is in a CD at 6%, maturity 6-97.

THE EDITOR'S "REVIEW"

It seems a bit odd to have no SJI Convention this year to tell you about. However, thanks to several of our members, there are some reports in this issue that I think you will be really interested in.

I hope that some of you were watching HGTV on Saturday afternoon, March 14, when the gardens and nursery of Walter Hoover of Saluda, NC were featured on the "Gardeners Diary". Walter's commentary was excellent, and the photographer captured some wonderful shots of this garden. On two other occasions on HGTV we happened upon reports from the lovely garden of David Maltby and Mary Lynne Brown of Hamilton, Ontario. They are also SJI members. At both locations the Japanese irises were putting on a good show. TV is providing us with an excellent way to inform the general public about JI's.

My most grateful **thanks** to all of you who have contributed to this issue. To all members: do send in reports of your garden experiences, discoveries, and suggestions for the REVIEW. Material for the Fall issue should reach me **by August 15**.

I hope you all have a great summer. **Do take time to fill out the Popularity Poll and mail to Kathy Guest with your comments.**

Best Wishes -

Evelyn White





PIXIE WON (Jill Copeland '97)

Photo by Lee Welsh

See article on page 11