



THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY
FOR
JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 40
NUMBER #1
SPRING 2003



OHAYO GOZAIMASU (GOOD MORNING)

at Sans Souci Nursery

After 11 years of effort, Sans Souci Nursery is proud to announce the registration of Dr. William Ackerman's newest interspecies cultivar. At the 1990 convention of the Society for Japanese Irises in Portland, Maine, two fertile tetraploid interspecies cultivars (*Ensata/Pseudacorous*) were brought to auction from Japan. They were *Sayo No Tsuki* & *Hatsuho*, the parents of this seedling. The bloom is a 3F lavender falls with a bright yellow signal surrounded by a maroon halo with maroon rays extending into the lavender falls; standards are pale yellow in contrast with the bright yellow stylearms. Bloom stalks are 22 inches tall with 2 terminal buds that open 5 1/2 inches the first day and are 6 1/2 inches the second day.

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OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES
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THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

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- Through 2003** Dennis Hager, PO Box 390, Millington, MD 21651
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- Through 2004** Riley Probst, 418 N. Van Buren, Kirkwood, MO 63122
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- Through 2005** Ellen Gallagher, 1689 Riverside Drive, Berlin, NH 03570
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SJI is an affiliate of AIS and all meetings are open to the public.

Appointments

Membership Chairman	Catherine Button, 70 Sharpless Blvd, Westampton, NJ 08060; Tel: (609) 835-4218; <cathy@gixxergirl.org>
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Display Garden Chair	Phil Cook, PO Box 338, Underhill, VT 05489 Tel: (802) 899-9928; <phgarden@together.net>
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DUES:

Single annual - \$5.00 triennial - \$12.50 Life - \$75.00

Family annual - \$6.00 triennial - \$15.50 Life - \$100.00

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Dues may be sent either to the AIS Membership Chairman (see AIS Bulletin for address) or directly to the Membership Chairman, The Society for Japanese Irises.

Address changes: please notify Membership Chairman

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Volume 1 (1964) consists of 3 issues

All others contain 2 issues each

SJI Slide Set Rental \$5.00

Iris Laevigata - book rental \$5.00

All prices include postage. Send requests to John Coble.

Check payable to SJI. Please allow ample time for scheduling.

Deadlines for Submitting Articles and Information

Spring - February 15

Fall - August 15

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Advertising will be accepted for plants and horticultural-related items.

Charges:

Full page layout	\$18.00
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Short ads, text only	\$2.00 for up to 5 lines and for each additional 5 lines or fraction thereof
Full page, color layout	FREE , Photo color separation at cost

Please send original photos (prints or slides) for scanning. Advertising copy and payment to SJI should be mailed to the Editor prior to Editorial deadlines.

NEW!!!

Commercial Directory \$3.00 - includes 2 issues and link to website. Send name, address, phone, e-mail info.

1999 J.I. CHECKLIST

The SJI Checklist contains all registrations and introductions through 1999 of Japanese iris and any interspecies crosses involving Japanese iris. All updates, including awards, can be found in the 1999 edition. The 1999 Checklist is 65 pages of 8.5" X 11" format. The previous edition was published in 1997.

To order, Send \$4.00 postpaid* to:

John Coble, SJI Sales Chairman
9823 E. Michigan Avenue
Galesburg, MI 49053

*\$5.00 Canada, \$8.00 Overseas air mail – payable in US funds only
please make checks payable to **SJI**

SJI MEMBERSHIP LIST AVAILABLE

A current SJI membership list can be ordered. This will be a computer printout, listing members alphabetically.

Send check for \$3, payable to **SJI**, to Catherine Button, 70 Sharpless Blvd, Westampton, NJ 08060, Tel (609) 835-4218; cathy@gixxergirl.org

SJI REVIEW

The SJI Review is published semi-annually by the Society for Japanese Irises. The editorial office is temporarily located at 78118 M-40, Lawton, MI 49065.

The REVIEW is issued twice a year by the Society for Japanese Irises, Inc. which is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and is a Section of the American Iris Society, which is a non-profit organization incorporated February 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. Subscription is free to SJI members. All rights reserved.

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Deadlines for receiving copy are February 15th and August 15th, with earlier receipt desirable. Black and white photographs, colored prints (glossy), slides and black and white drawings are welcome.

ROBINS FLYING AGAIN!

We are pleased to report that the Robins are up and going again. Jill Copeland has included an article in this issue showing more of the interesting hybridizers. If you are interested in any of the Robins, please contact:

JI General Interest Robin: Cindy Rust, director, 2016 Meadow Lane, Union, MO 63084; 636-583-2745; E-mail: srust@fidnet.com

JI Hybridizer's Robin: Jill Copeland, director, 78118 M-40, Lawton, MI 49065; 269-624-1968; E-mail: jandjcope@aol.com

JI E-mail Robin: Dennis Hager, director, E-mail: academyhouse@toad.net; www.socji.org

2005 - INVITATION TO HYBRIDIZERS

The Diamond State Iris Society will host the Society for Japanese Irises Convention in Dover, Delaware, June 2005. Hybridizers are invited to send guest Japanese irises of recent introduction or seedlings under serious consideration.

Shipments will be accepted:

April 1 to May 15, 2003

September 1 to October 15, 2003

Send guest plants to: Theresa Jewell

310 Lloyd Guessford Road Townsend, DE 19734-9544

Email: tljcwjell@aol.com (302) 378-3523

Photographs: We are requesting that hybridizers send a 35mm color slide of each of their submissions. Please mark them clearly with the name or seedling number of the iris. These slides will be shown at the convention.

Guidelines: Three to five divisions of each variety may be submitted. The name of the variety or seedling number must be clearly marked on each division. In addition, a packing list with the following information must be enclosed:

Hybridizer name and address

Email, if available

Name or seedling number of variety

Description, distinguishing characteristics and bloom season (E, M, L)

Year of introduction, if applicable. If a guest seedling is named subsequent to shipping to the convention, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman no later than January 1, 2005.

A receipt will be sent to all contributors. Two months before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding disposition of guest plants. Options are destruction, donation to the SJI for auction at the convention, or return. Returns will be shipped post paid, except to foreign addresses. The convention committee and the owners of tour gardens will follow the code of ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook. Only officially submitted guest iris will appear in the convention booklet.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jill Copeland

Hi,

I hope that you had happy holidays. As I write, my favorite mulch is putting itself on the gardens...and the roof and the roads and every where else. We have about 10" of snow on the ground and it is still snowing. The 7-day forecast is for snow every day.

You will notice that the popularity poll has a new format this year. It will make it easier to vote. One of your responsibilities as a member of SJI is to let the public know which are the best JIs for them to grow. One way to do this is to **vote** the popularity poll. The results get published and listed on the web site for all to see. When you are talking to someone about JIs, you can point to the list with authority, if everyone votes, and say "this is what the SJI says are the best". You can also confidently use this list for your own acquisitions but only if everyone **votes!**

We are having a photo contest for landscape photos with JIs. The photos on the inside front cover of the last *Review* are good examples. I thought they were wonderful. See the ad for the contest for full details. Beside the other prizes, we will see them in future issues of the *Review*.

Hybridizers, if you haven't sent your seedlings for the National JI Convention, there is still time. Put this function, June 16-18, '05, on your calendar because this will be the place to be in 2005. See the last issue of the *Review* or visit our web site at www.SocJI.org.

We need a volunteer group to put on the 2008 Convention. When we had JI Conventions every year, the society grew, and was very healthy. Now we seem to have trouble getting volunteers for every third year. These Conventions are not only good for us; they are **fun!** All you need are three or more gardens that grow JIs and are not too far from each other. You, also, need a core group of people like a local iris society. You will get all the help you want from those who have already done conventions.

Join me in welcoming our new Treasurer, Catherine Button. We also have a new person on the Nominating Committee, Ellen Gallagher. See their bios in this issue. This year we elect new people for 2-year terms for Directors at Large. If you are willing or know a good person for the job, contact someone on the Nominating Committee or e-mail academyhouse@toad.net.

Next year there will be a Region 4 meeting featuring Japanese Irises. They are having a photo contest also. Get your film and extra batteries every time you go to the garden. To learn more about it, see page 26 or e-mail Bill Smoot.
<BillSmoot@earthlink.net>

We are sorry to hear of the passing of Ginny Burton. Before hurricane Hugo took its toll, Ginny was at every meeting. She, also, helped put on at least two Conventions. I missed them but had promised myself that I would not miss the opportunity to see her garden next time. Then came Hugo.

Happy Gardening,
Jill

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INTRODUCING FOR LORENA REID

SJI REVIEW

PHOTO CONTEST

Because we want the SJI REVIEW to be “as good as it can get”, we are announcing a PHOTO CONTEST to augment our paltry collection of good Garden Shots of Japanese Irises. Specific cultivar shots seem to be readily available from many of you, for which I am grateful! We have made arrangements for expert photographers who are not entering this contest to judge the entries.

We hope we will get many new and old pictures of your favorite Japanese Iris scenes.

Photo Contest Rules:

1. Photographer need not be a member of SJI but must submit only his/her own pictures.
2. Pictures must be of Gardens containing Japanese Irises, not individual JI cultivars and be labeled as to Garden identification, location and name of photographer.
3. Pictures will be judged on content, composition, lighting and perspective.
4. All entries will become the property of SJI and will not be returned (so make a copy to send us if you wish to keep the original). Any contest picture published in the REVIEW will be credited to the photographer.
5. Slides, quality prints and high-resolution digital pictures accepted. Each medium will be judged as separate category and a Grand Prize Winner chosen from the winner of each category.
6. All entries must be received by the Editor by July 15, 2003 and results of the contest will be published in the Fall 2003 issue of the REVIEW.
7. Prizes will be awarded as follows:
 - a. Grand Prize - \$50 and two recent JI introductions (from list available)
 - b. Slide First Prize - \$25 and one recent JI introduction
 - c. Print First Prize - \$25 and one recent JI introduction
 - d. Digital First Prize - \$25 and one recent introduction
 - e. Honorable Mention - one recent JI introduction

Decision of the judges will be final.

2002 Registrations, Introductions and Awards

Compiled by John A Coble

AGAIN NOW AGAIN (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (28" 70cm) EM (3 - F). S. and F. white veined light mauve violet, canary yellow (9A) signal. [Wounded Dragon X Sakura-no-Miya]

ALDRIDGE PRELUDE (Allery, Phillip E. Reg. 2002) Sdlg. WY4. (36" 91cm) M (3 -F). S. imperial purple (RHS 78A/B) blending to violet center, base white; style arms creamy white midrib edged pale violet, darker crest streaking; F. violet (87B) paling (87C) to edge, paler around white signal with deep yellow center and veins, white central line extension; upright S., flared to horizontal F. [Kizasa Gawa X H6/83AY series sdlg. From Hirao seed.] Aulden Farm 2002

ASIAN FESTIVAL *intro by Aitken* 2002

BELGIUM CROWN (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 97 F 5-1. (31" 80cm) EM (6 -F). Medium blue, cream rays, yellow green signal; style arms white, top blue. [C 7 X Midsummer Happiness]

BELGIUM SILK (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 2000-01. (30" 75cm) M (6 -F). Deep purplish bordeaux, small lighter purple rays, deep gold yellow signal; style arms white, dark bordeaux edge. [Electric Glow X Mandarin sdlg]

BELGIUM TREASURE (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 99-002. (31" 80cm) M (3 -F). S. purple with darker rays, small silver edge; style arms grey blue; F. grey blue with hint of purple, purple rays, signal yellow with green rays. [G1 X Goshō Asobi]

BELGIUM WARRIOR (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 98 H 16-2. (33" 85cm) ML (6 -F). Mandarin purple, dark yellow signal surrounded by blue spot; style arms fluorite purplish blue. [E 5-1: (Stippled Ripples x unknown import from Japan) X Midsummer Happiness]

BEYOND BELIEF (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (37" 95cm) M (3 -F). Amethyst violet (RHS 84C), style arms stained lavender blue (84A), F. with blue violet (90A) signal halo extending as veins to petal edge. [Sakura-no-Miya X Mysticism]

BONAVISTA (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 94-70. (28" 70cm) ML **SPEC-X** (3 -F). S. violet blue (RHS 91B) veined bluebird blue (94B); style arms lilac, base violet purple (77B), center light cornflower blue (95C); F. violet blue (90A) to light cornflower blue, bright yellow signal veined purple and white; slight sweet fragrance; miniature flowers, highly branched. [91-161 biversata: (Belle Promesse x self) X 91-035, sib]

CENTENARY *intro by Eartheart* 2002

- CHESLEY'S CHOICE** (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 96E 15-1. (30" 75cm) M (6 -F). White with hint of fuchsia lavender, small dark fuchsia purple edge, green yellow signal and rays; style arms white, cream midrib, hint of yellow and purple. [B22:(3-F sdlg. X Walk in Beauty) X Silver Cascade]
- CHUBASCO** (Spoon, Dr. Don Reg. 2002) (36" 91cm) ML (3 -F). Maroon, F. with yellow signal; S. erect, F. arched, wide. [Parentage unknown] Winterberry 2002 (Available)
- CONFETTI DANCER** *HM 2002*
- CULT DEITY** (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (30" 75cm) M (6 -F). White, sanded and brushed violet blue (RHS 90B), intensifying at petal edge to violet (88A), very prominent lemon yellow (13B) signals; style arms white, heavily stained violet blue. [Hekito X unknown]
- CURRIER McEWEN** (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 98-91 (2n=84). (39" 100cm) ML-VL **SPEC-X** (3 -F). S. violet (RHS 86C to 87B) veined darker; style arms butterfly blue (106A) bordered white, with french blue (100C) midrib, crest violet (87B); F. blue (102B) aging more violet (89B), large bright yellow signal with purple veins surrounded by blue and white; S. rounded, F. ruffled; slight fragrance. [Biversata 95-207: (Oriental Touch x I. Versicolor sdlg.) X Raspberry Rimmed]
- DREAMS UNFOLD** (Delmez, Donald Reg. 2002) Sdlg. DPRUST. (30" 76cm) EM (6 -F). Ruffled light pink, darker pink veining, light yellow green signal; style arms pink, lighter midrib, laced styles. [Hime Komachi X Saigyo zakura]
- ECSTATA** (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (45" 115cm) M (3 -F). S. violet black (nearer RHS 83A than falls), large, somewhat fall-like; style arms violet black (nearer 89A); F. violet black (83A to 89A), satin flush effect, signal canary yellow (9A). [Ipsus X Thunder and Lightning]
- ELECTRIC GLOW** *HM 1995, AM 1998, PM 2002*
- FAIR SCOTTISH MAIDEN** (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (28" 70cm) M (6 -F). Silvery white progressively veined and brushed to petal edge with rosy violet purple (RHS 77A); style arms very white, stained rosy purple. [Voodoo Mischief X Wounded Dragon]
- FOREIGN INTRIGUE** *HM 1998, AM 2002*
- FRANCIS CABOT** *intro by Osiris 2002*
- FRECKLED PEACOCK** *intro by Aitken 2002*
- GEISHA DOLL** *HM 1998, AM 2002*
- GENTLE LIFT** (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 94-010. (35" 90cm) ML **SPEC-X** (3 -F). S. violet blue (RHS 93B); style arms lighter violet blue (93C) veined darker (93A); F. violet blue (93B) veined cornflower blue (95A), signal light yellow and white with extended white line. [HA-48 versicolor: (inv. I. Versicolor collected on Magdalena Island, Quebec) X violet ensata sdlg]

GILDED EFFORT (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (24" 60cm) M (6 -F).

White (RHS 155D), canary yellow (9A) signals. [Parentage unknown]

GREYWOODS CATRINA (Wilkinson, Darlyn Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 96-35B.

(35" 89cm) EM (6 -F). Clean white, yellow signal with basal greenish cast, rose violet veins radiating from deeper rose area surrounding signal; style arms rose violet, tipped white. [Pink Dimity X 93-18: (Frisled Enchantment x Midsummer Reverie)] Greywood Farm 2002 (Available)

GREYWOODS DARK DESIRE *intro* Greywood Farm 2001

GREYWOODS ETCHA SKETCH (Wilkinson, Darlyn Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 93-

9. (32" 81CM) em (6 -F). White ground, multiple but variable violet blue lines extending to edge, signal yellow gold; style arms violet blue tipped white, tufted. [Center of Attention X 91-22-1: (Winged Sprite x Light at Dawn)] Greywood Farm 2002 (Available)

GREYWOODS GYPSY SPIRIT *intro* by Greywood Farm 2002

GREYWOODS NIGHT MIST (Wilkinson, Darlyn Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 96-32.

(36" 91cm) EM (6 -F). Violet purple with variable white marbling, few purple veins, blue shading around deep yellow signal; style arms violet purple, center shaded white. [Epimetheus X McEwen light blue sdlg] Greywood Farm 2002 (Available)

GREYWOODS PERSIAN DUSK (Wilkinson, Darlyn Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 96-

35A. (38" 97cm) EM (6 -F). Maroon violet veined deep violet purple, faint white flecking between veins, faint white rim; style arms maroon violet veined violet purple. [Pink Dimity X 93-18: (Frisled Enchantment x Midsummer Reverie)] Greywood Farm 2002 (Available)

GREYWOODS RIVER SONG (Wilkinson, Darlyn Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 92-2-3.

(36" 91cm) EM (6 -F). Clean sky blue wash on white, edges paler, variable white veining, signals yellow gold lined gold; stlye arms white trimmed medium blue. [Winged Sprite X McEwen light blue sdlg] Greywood Farm 2002 (Available)

GREYWOODS SNOW ETCHINGS *intro* Greywood Farm 2001

GREYWOODS SOCIAL BUTTERFLY *intro* Greywood Farm 2001

GREYWOODS ZEBRINA *intro* Greywood Farm 2001

IMPERIAL RANSOM (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (30" 75cm) M (3 -F).

Red purple (RHS 77A) edged white (115A), F. with canary yellow (9A) signal; style arms red purple. [Parentage unknown]

INDIGO DELIGHT *HM* 2002

JOLIETTE *intro* by Osiris 2002

JOYFUL WIDOW (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 97-27. (43" 110cm) ML

SPEC-X (3 -F). (biversata) S. hyacinth blue (RHS 91A/B), center darker and with darker veins; stlye arms violet blue, base darker; F. violet blue (98A/B), signal sanded yellow, lined violet, with black eyed spot; lightly ruffled, some flowers multi-petaled at times; slight fragrance. [Belle Promesse X Nouvel Age]

- LATE CALL** (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 94-074. (35" 90cm) EML
SPEC-X (3 -F). (biversata) S. french blue (RHS 100A) aging violet (88C); style arms french blue (100B), white borders and crests; F. french blue (100B) veined violet (80A), aging violet (88B), yellow signal with extended white and yellow veins; slight fragrance. [Oriental Touch X (pink versicolor: (pink versicolor sdlg x self) x pink ensata sdlg)]
- LITTLE PRINCE** (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 96-045. (28" 70cm) ML
SPEC-X (3 -F). (biversata) S. violet blue (RHS 90B aging 90C); style arms violet blue (90A); F. violet blue (90A/B), yellow signal edged dark brown and surrounded by lighter violet blue halo zone; flowers small. [Bonavista X self]
- MARGO-NO-SAKURA** (Griner, Joseph Reg. 2002) Sdlg. BSRV-01x. (40" 102cm) M **TET?** (3 -F). S. bright pink, upright; style arms white, lavender pink on end; F. bright pink, inconspicuous fine blue center line, yellow signal with blue edge. [Sherwin BS94-01, unknown, X Maine Chance (Ed. not registered as Tet)]
- MARIE CHUARD** *intro by Osiris 2002*
- MIRABEL GLOW** *intro by Osiris 2002*
- NIGHT STAR** *intro by Nicholls Gardens 2002*
- ORCHID FOUNTAIN** (Spoon, Dr. Don Reg. 2002) (36" 91cm) ML (3 -F). Orchid pink, F. shading darker around yellow signal; S. erect, F. arched and wide. [Parentage unknown] Winterberry 2002 (Available)
- OREGON MARMALADE** (Walker, Lee Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 93-68-2. (32" 81cm) ML (6 -F). Underlying F. amethyst violet (RHS85C), veined medium violet blue (93B), bright canary yellow (9B) signal; uper F. narrower, ground and veining amethyst violet, darker medium violet (83C) areas extending outward in uneven patterning, signal narrower; style arms sea lavender violet (85D). [Cascade Crest X Marx sdlg]
- PINKERTON** *HM 2002*
- PLEASANT SANDMAN** *HM 2002*
- PUGNACIOUS LASS** (Marshall, Nerissa Reg. 2002) (30" 75cm) M (3 -F). White (RHS 155D), sanded and veined claret (58A), F. with canary yellow (9A) signal; style arms white stained claret. [Parentage unknown]
- QUE REVERIE** (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 95-135. (28" 70cm) ML
SPEC-X (3 -F). S. blue (RHS 104B/C), veined princes blue (105A); style arms blue (99B), pink and lighter blue border, base darker; F. blue (103B) signal sanded white lines; ruffled. [Biversata 91-850: (versata 89-62 x I. versicolor sdlg.) X biversata 090: (versata 89-73 x I. versicolor sdlg.)]
- RASPBERRY CANDY** *HM 2002*
- RICH RANDALL** (Hublau, Willy Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 98 G 6-3. (31" 80cm) ML (9 -F). Snow white ground, large old rose edge with white rays; style arms white, small pink edge. [D4 peony sdlg.: (Frosted Pyramid x red white peony sdlg.) X Hagoromo]

RIVULETS OF WINE *HM 2002*

ROWDEN CZARINA (Carter, John & Galen Reg. 2002) (36" 91CM) m (3 - F). S. white, narrow red edge, large; style arms cream, narrow red edge and tips; F. white, pale beetroot red border veined white, very small creamy white signal; F. large and rounded, slightly crinkled. [Parentage unknown]

ROWDEN EMPRESS (Carter, John & Galen Reg. 2002) (30" 76cm) M (3 - F). S. pale sugar pink, small; style arms violet, fading to white at edge and tip; F. translucent white, darker veining occasionally blue, small greenish primrose signal, flaring. [Parentage unknown]

ROWDEN SIRDAR (Carter, John & Galen Reg. 2002) (36" 91cm) EM (3 - F). S. red purple veined darker, very narrow white edge; style arms blue purple, midrib and tip grey white; F. white, heavy red purple veining more concentrated along central axis, small buttercup yellow signal with very small blue halo; F. lightly crinkled, rounded and drooping. [Parentage unknown]

SAINT NICK (Held, Frederick Reg. 2002) (22" 56cm) M (3 -F). S. white; F. white, purple edge. [Parentage unknown] Nature's Garden 2002 (Available)

SANDY'S BLESSING (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:03-05-97. (36" 91cm) M (6 -F). White, veined and lightly brushed pinkish violet, yellow signal with violet halo; style arms light pinkish violet. [My Heavenly Dream X self]

SAPPHIRE SKIES (Delmez, Donald Reg. 2002) Sdlg. DLBBST. (33" 84cm) M (6 -F). Ruffled light blue self, signal light yellow; style arms darker blue, midrib lighter. [Spirit Lake X Total Image]

SHAPE SHIFTER (Hensler, Christy Ann Reg. 2002) (36" 91cm) M SPEC-X (3 -F). S. white; style arms white with yellow midrib, long feathered white crests; F. pale primrose yellow, pseudacorus-type dark maroon signal, lime green centerline; foliage dark blue green. [Adrenaline Rush X I. pseudacorus]

TORII (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J;01-10-97. (38" 97cm) M (3 -F). S. fuchsia; style arms white, edged red violet, crests red violet edged white; F. fuchsia, yellow signal. [Sapphire Star X My Heavenly Dream]

TREMBLANT SPIRIT (Huber, Tony Reg. 2002) Sdlg. 95-201. (41" 205cm) EML SPEC-X (3 -F). S. violet (RHS 84B) veined darker (84A); style arms violet purple (77B) bordered white, darker near base; F. violet (87A-C) veined darker violet (83B), signal yellow surrounded by white, veined violet (83B); slight fragrance. [MR-02-14 versicolor: (MR-02 x MROR-02-555) X lilac ensata sdlg]

TULE CRANE (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:00-09-94. (40" 102cm) M (3 -F). White self, F. with yellow signal. [Returning Tide X unknown]

- TULE DANCE** (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:02-05-97. (36" 91cm) M (6 -F). White, brushed and veined lavender, signal yellow; style arms white, wide violet edge, crests violet. [Nemurijishi X My Heavenly Dream]
- TULE RIVER** (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:05-03-97. (38" 97cm) M (3 -F). S. violet; style arms white brushed and edged purple, crests purple; F. bluish lavender, yellow signal. [Returning Tide X unknown]
- TULE TIDE** (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:05-08-97. (42" 107cm) ML (3 -F). S. white, lavender rim; style arms white, lavender crests; F. bluish lavender, large white central area, yellow signal. [Returning Tide X unknown]
- TULE TRIBUTARIES** (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:00-08-94. (37" 94cm) M (3 -F). S. lavender, lined white, violet edge; style arms white, lavender crests; F. lavender, lined white, signal yellow. [Returning Tide X unknown]
- VEINED BANNER** *intro by Osiris 2002*
- YASASHII NAMI** (Matheny III, Ed Reg. 2002) Sdlg. J:05-02-97. (38" 97cm) M (3 -F). S. pinkish violet; style arms white, edge sanded blue violet, with crests white, sanded and veined blue violet; F. white, brushed bluish lavender, signal yellow. [Returning Tide X unknown]

Memorial Donation
received in remembrance of
VIRGINIA BURTON
from

Summerville Iris Society
Summerville, South Carolina

SJI Popularity Poll, 2002

Bruce Filardi, Oregon

I'd like to thank all the SJI members who sent in their ballots for the 2002 Popularity Poll. I hope we'll have even more ballots in 2003. If you didn't vote and your favorite cultivar is missing from the list of favorites, be sure to make your voice heard in '03!

The results were widespread. Almost 150 cultivars received at least one vote. 17 separate responses were received (either by US mail or e-mail), representing 23 members. One or two ballots can make a significant difference, so be sure to vote this year.

The favorite Japanese Iris for 2002 were:

- | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1st: | ELECTRIC RAYS (Aitken '90) |
| 2nd: | CASCADE CREST (Aitken '88) |
| 3rd: | LION KING (Bauer/Coble '96) |
| 4th (tie): | FRILLED ENCHANTMENT (Marx '59) |
| | HEAVENLY REFLECTION (Delmez '99) |
| | LITTLE BOW PINK (Delmez '98) |
| | PINKERTON (Bauer/Coble '99) |
| | ROSEWATER (Bauer/Coble '96) |

Runners-up: ALL IN WHITE, ALPINE MAJESTY, BLUE SPRITZ, BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT, CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, CHIGOKESHO, ELECTRIC GLOW, FLASHING KOI, JAPANESE PINWHEEL, JEWELLED SEA, JOY PETERS, JOCASTA, PINK DIMITY, PURPLE PLUS, and SNOWY HILLS.

The oldest cultivars among the favorites are CHIGOKESHO (introduced between 1923-'30; registered in 1939), SNOWY HILLS (Marx '54), FRILLED ENCHANTMENT, and JEWELLED SEA (Payne '69). The "youngsters" are ALL IN WHITE (Delmez '00), HEAVENLY REFLECTION, PINKERTON, and LITTLE BOW PINK.

Thanks again to all who voted!

MEET THE HYBRIDIZERS

ED MATHENY III, TULARE, CA

I am 54 years old, married to Sandi for 33 years. We both teach; Sandi teaches 3rd grade and I am the Physical Education Coordinator for the Tulare City School District. Our two children Michele and Chris are in college and both are planning to become teachers.

We live in Tulare, California where we run Ed's Iris Garden. Elsie Fell, Alice Davis and Evelyn Hayes helped me to get started with irises in the mid 1980's. I first started hybridizing in 1989 with tall bearded iris.

My instruction of hybridizing was from Ben Hager and John Weiler. After being introduced to the Japanese iris from Evelyn Hayes in 1992, I added Japanese iris to my effort in hybridizing. The soil around our home is on the acid side, so Japanese and Louisiana iris do very well. I started hybridizing Louisiana iris in 1995 and Siberian iris in 2000. The bumblebees do most of the crossing of the Louisiana iris for me.

Since 1995 all of my work has been with the Japanese, Louisiana and Siberian iris. My goals are simple when hybridizing. I try to work only with plants that grow well for me. I'll always remember one of the sayings Ben Hager told me when referring to seedlings - "the strong survive". If I come across a flower in my seedling bed that is striking (gets my eye) from a distance and is pretty up close, it will be crossed with a strong growing plant.

After that I think it's up to our maker. When people come to my garden and ask how I got a specific flower color, my answer is always "I cross them and God paints them".

GEISHA DOLL, Winner of AM 2002

Geisha Doll:

Parents:	Geisha Gown x Glitter & Glamour.
Seedling #:	J:00-04-93.
Registered:	1994.
Introduced:	1995.
Bloom:	Mid season.
Flower size:	6 1/2 inches.
Height:	33 inches.
Branches:	One.
Flowers:	3-4
Increases:	3-5.
Petals:	Silver white, veined and heavily brushed red-purple (77A).
Signals:	Yellow.
Style arms:	Violet, edged silver white.
Pattern:	Double (6 petals).

(Editor's Note

The above is in his own words. Thanks Ed, for letting us get a glimpse into your life and plans.

Ed Matheny's introductions are getting attention these days and, according to the latest R & I, he has 8 new ones in 2002.)

GREYWOOD FARM

85 River Road

Topsfield, MA 01983

greywoodma@att.net

Fax: 978.887.7625

2003 JAPANESE IRIS INTRODUCTIONS

My Japanese Iris hybridizing program continues in full swing, and we are pleased to offer four new introductions this year. I think these merit special value, and hope you will agree. Additional seedlings are constantly being evaluated - look for more to come. Peak bloom time is usually June 28th through July 10th.

GREYWOODS AMETHYST MIST (Wilkinson 03) 6F EM 38" **\$ 25.00**

Beginning early, this blousey JI seems to wave in the breeze. Amethyst purple with a soft grey-blue cast by afternoon, the petal centers are flecked with white. White stylearms tipped lavender violet. Excellent performance. (MIDSUMMER REVERIE X Sdlg: (WINGED SPRITE X FRILLED ENCHANTMENT).

GREYWOODS GYPSY PLUMES (Wilkinson 03) 6F EM 34" **20.00**

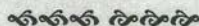
This exquisite flower is a clean, crisp white with deep red violet lines radiating out from a small violet plum center. Vivid violet plum stylearms tipped white. A showy study in contrasts. Sdlg: (PRAIRIE SAPPHIRE X CHIGOKESHO) X LAVENDER HINT).

GREYWOODS LADY'S FANCY (Wilkinson 03) 6F E-EM **25.00**

Wavy and showy, this iris has a large crisp white center with white lines that run out to a bold, wide violet lavender border. White stylearms trimmed in violet, and bright gold spears. Wonderful in front of the other JIs. Sdlg: (GEKKEIKAN X CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY) X SKYROCKET BURST.

GREYWOODS SOFT EFFECT (Wilkinson 03) 6F EM-M 40" **20.00**

Chosen for it's beauty and vigor, this color always catches my eye. Wide petals are a pale greyed lavender with thin deeper veins and contrasting gold spears. Vigorous and a wonderful landscaper! Sdlg: (STRUT AND FLOURISH X CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY) X SHIROTAI.



SHIPPING: \$ 8.00 Plus 40¢ for each plant
Daylily and Hosta Listings & Photos at: www.greywoodfarm.com

TREASURER'S REPORT

SJI

Feb 15, 2003

BALANCE JAN 1, 2002	20,758.70
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INCOME

Interest	515.12
Dues	2844.00
(of which Life = 1350.00)	
Review Advertising	30.00
JI Book Royalty	26.67
Librarian Income	64.50
Auction	631.00

TOTAL INCOME	4111.29
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EXPENSES

<i>The Review</i>	5904.24
(4 issues published in 2002)	
Editor Expense	256.81
Payne Medal	42.50
Librarian Expense	58.02
Membership Chairman	264.86

TOTAL EXPENSES	6526.43
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BALANCE DEC 31, 2002	18,343.56
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1159.78 is in Checking
6.21 is in Savings (required for Checking)
17,177.57 is in a CD at 4.05%, maturity 3-11-03.

COMING ATTRACTIONS!!

Spring of 2004 - Region 4 is planning to have a JI - Regional meeting. *Ensata Extravaganza* will be held on the 3rd, 4th, & 5th of June 2004 in the Norfolk, Virginia area.

Ensata Extravaganza will have something to offer the beginning as well as the advanced JI enthusiast. Our main focus will be to introduce everyone to the beauty of Japanese Irises.

Six Hours of Judges Training

- Exhibition Judging of Japanese Irises (2hrs)
- Garden Judging of Japanese Irises (2hrs)
- Judging the Design Division (2hrs)

Irises for Beginners 101 – a two hour education series of mini-courses covering topics such as JI growth, culture, showing, dividing & planting, color patterns & form, and hybridizing.

An AIS Beardless Iris Show complete with a JI Design Division.

A Day of Garden Tours featuring visits to unique gardens. We'll visit:

The Norfolk Pagoda – a Chinese Garden featuring a two story pagoda, goldfish & koi ponds, unique plants, and the HRIS display bed of JIs. An interesting side-trip will be an opportunity to go aboard the Battleship Wisconsin, which is berthed adjacent to the garden.

Tour a private Japanese Garden owned by a financial company with a large plantings of JIs.

Visit 3-4 private gardens of HRIS members.

The Norfolk Botanical Gardens, and visit the HRIS display planting of Japanese irises. You'll have an opportunity to tour the gardens and to take a boat or tram ride thru the gardens.

Exhibitions, Demonstrations & Displays An art exhibition Sumi e flower paintings, and an exhibition of painting techniques, a Ikebana flower arranging, and a Photography Contest.

A Super Plant Auction!

For further information, contact Bill Smoot at (757) 393-4617 and watch the REVIEW and website for updates.

INVITATION TO JOIN SJI

We are pleased to report that the new SJI **Invitation to Join** has been delivered from the printer and it is spectacular! I have a small supply and the majority were shipped to Cathy Button for membership use. I have mailed a couple to each of the officers and board members and they will be available for meetings and conventions.

We will also mail some to each of the gardens listed in the Commercial Directory (in this issue of the REVIEW) and each Display Garden.

If you need more of these brochures prior to the Convention, let Cathy Button know. Otherwise, to save postage, we will have a major supply at the Convention for distribution.

We hope you will be as pleased with the ITJ as we are! Many thanks to my Graphics artist/designer and mate, Tom Gormley. Good job!

Rita Gormley, Editor

IN REMEMBRANCE

GINNY BURTON

The Society for Japanese Irises mourns the loss of Ginny Burton. Ginny was past president of SJI and the organizer of a number of Japanese iris Conventions as well as RVP of Region 5 from 1975 to 1977.

She was tireless in her support of AIS, SJI and Japanese irises in North America. The world of irises has lost a good friend.

THIS 'N THAT

Granted, the Electronic World is not for everyone and even if you are part of it, the changes are constant and immediately happen just as you are getting used to a new update! Our favorite Electronic guru, John Jones, tries to keep us updated on "what's happenin'!"

There have been many astounding changes in methods of communications in the past few years (overnight mail, faxes, e-mail) and many more are coming. Websites (like AIS's www.irises.org and SJI's at www.socji.org) give us access to a veritable plethora of current information without having to dig out AIS Bulletins, Section newsletters, catalogs, or call our friends (local and long distance!). Most of us who use the internet have relatively inexpensive connections that eliminate long-distance phone calls!

Rita Gormley, Editor

ELECTRONIC WORLD OF IRISES (EWOI)

www.irisregister.com

The Electronic Services Committee of the AIS has embarked on a project to provide electronic access to registration and checklist data. The long-term goal of this project is to have the complete registration data for every iris registered by the AIS in a database on the internet and to have it searchable with a standard search engine.

We have electronically scanned the 1989, 1979, and 1969 Checklists and a group of volunteers have proof read and corrected the errors that were found. This data is available on the irisregister website (<http://www.irisregister.com>) at the Checklist Data Button.

The data is divided into three segments:

- Name, Hybridizer and Year
- Seedling number, Type, Height, Season
- Parentage, Introduction, and other info

Each of these sections can be selected to be included or excluded from a particular search. Additionally, we have a list of every iris name ever registered by the AIS through and including the 1999 R&I. This data is available at the Name Data button on the irisregister home page. This data is also divided into three segments:

Name

Source (year of the document containing introduction or registration information)

Award and Misc. data

Each of these sections can be selected to be included or excluded from a particular search.

Hybridizers Note: This is the database to search when you are looking for a name for that new fire-engine red flower you just discovered in your seedling patch. However, this database does not include any name that has been reserved by the AIS Registrar, or any name registered since the publication cutoff date for the 1999 R&I. We are trying to design a process that will keep this database more current, but for now at least you can check against the almost 50,000 names registered prior to 2000.

Currently access to the databases is free, but when we get the 1999 checklist uploaded to the database, there will be a \$10.00 per year charge. The charge will be only for access to search all the checklist data. Additionally the 1989, 1979, and 1969 Checklist versions will be available to download.

We hope to have the 1999 Checklist finished shortly.

In order to use the checklist you will need a user ID and a password.

Follow the instructions at the database website:

<http://www.irisregister.com>

John Jones, Fremont, CA

Chairman, AIS Committee for Electronic Member Services

Dear Editor,

When preparing my article "Visit Your Local Gardens", *SJI The Review*, Fall 2002, page 44, I must have had a brain freeze. In commenting about the wonderful mass planting of JIs in the Missouri Botanical Garden, I attributed them to Adolph Vogt when I should have credited Art Hazzard from Kalamazoo, MI. for his generous contribution of plants. The contribution was doubly generous because the original JIs were planted in the water by the Japanese horticulturists who designed the Garden and most irises died in the winter freeze. Subsequently the iris beds were raised above the water level, new JIs were planted, and they have thrived ever since. In 1981, during the AIS Convention in St. Louis, we posed Art in front of the zigzag bridge in the MOBOT Japanese Garden. The picture was subsequently printed in the *AIS Bulletin*, July 1981 issue. Sorry for the misinformation.

Jim Morris, Ballwin, MO

NOTES REGARDING

HENSLER'S PUTATIVE JAPANESE X SIBERIAN IRIS HYBRIDS

**BY CHANDLER FULTON, SHARON HAYES WHITNEY, AND
CURRIER MCEWEN**

Christy Ann Hensler was kind enough to send us some of her seedlings, which she believes result from crosses of Japanese with Siberian irises, about which she and Sam Norris reported in articles in the April 2001 *Bulletin of the American Iris Society*. Here we report an evaluation of these plants, and then discuss some aspects of the genetics of such wide hybrids.

Our major goal has been to seek further evidence whether these plants are or are not hybrids. This is an important question because the occurrence of hybrids between the two series, *Laevigatae* and *Sibiricae*, in the genus *Iris* would be noteworthy. While there are other interseries hybrids in irises, none appears to have been reported between these two series.

Ms. Hensler first sent irises to Dr. McEwen to be planted in 1999. She sent several of her first-generation (F_1) plants, which were represented as offspring of unnamed Japanese irises (JIs) crossed with unnamed Siberian irises (SIBs). She also sent a series of second-generation (F_2) plants, which were described as crosses of the F_1 plants to one another or using named Siberian irises as the pollen parent. Subsequently additional plants were sent to Dr. McEwen and to Dr. Fulton.

Over the past two summers, 2000 and 2001, we carefully evaluated about 25 putative hybrid plants from Ms. Hensler, and the blooms of 22 that flowered. In 2001 we also attempted crosses of these plants, using flowers carefully prepared to prevent fertilization by insects. (The flowers of the pod parent were prepared in bud, with falls and anthers removed before the flower opened. The pollen for each cross was collected, in most cases, from anthers of buds that were opened indoors. The pollen of those irises that bloomed with other Siberian irises in the garden was stored dry at 4°C until use on the later-blooming Japanese irises. In conventional crosses of fertile Siberian X ?Siberian irises or Japanese X Japanese irises, in our hands, these procedures routinely produce >50% pods with seeds.)

In a first evaluation, we examined the foliage of each iris, and classified the plant as Japanese or a Siberian iris. There were no uncertain intermediates;

every plant could easily be classified. As flowers bloomed, our evaluation based on the foliage was confirmed in 100% of the 22 plants that bloomed.

Second, we examined the flowers. Every flower on the F_1 and F_2 plants was readily classified as a typical diploid Siberian iris (on 4 F_1 and 4 F_2 plants) or a species-like Japanese iris (on 4 F_1 and 10 F_2 plants). Careful examination of each flower and bloomstalk did not reveal to us any blended or "hybrid" characteristics. In their articles, Hensler noted the putative hybrids were either JI-like or SIB-like, and Norris also noted "no sign of a blend."

Furthermore, every SIB-like flower bloomed with other Siberian iris in our gardens, and every JI-like flower bloomed with other Japanese irises. Thus the bloom times of the plants corresponded with the appearance of their foliage and flowers.

Finally, we attempted crosses. The relevant crosses are those utilizing Japanese-phenotype plants as pod parents and Siberian-phenotype plants as pollen parents, since this is the direction in which Ms. Hensler reported her successes. We made 27 such crosses (12 of $F_1 \times F_1$ plants, 1 of $F_1 \times F_2$ plants, 3 of $F_2 \times F_2$ plants, 3 of $F_2 \times F_1$ plants, 7 of named JI $\times F_1$ or F_2 plants, and 1 of $F_1 \times$ a named SIB plant). Most of the F_1 and F_2 pod parent plants showed their intrinsic fertility by forming bee pods, and all of the anthers of the pollen parents had pollen. In seven of the 27 wide crosses, the hybridized flower began to form a pod and then regressed, a "pseudopregnancy" often seen in crosses of 28-chromosome \times 40-chromosome Siberian irises or in other wide crosses that usually do not form pods with seeds. But in no case did a JI-like flower form seeds when fertilized with pollen from a SIB-like flower. This is a relatively small number of crosses, and it would be desirable to do many more, but in this sample we were unable to obtain any "takes" in phenotypically interseries crosses using the Hensler plants. In personal communications, several hybridizers have informed us that they have attempted such crosses, but obtained only negative results. Another hybridizer mentioned that he has made apparently successful crosses between JIs and Siberians; we await the results of these crosses with interest.

In summary, all of the seedlings we have studied appear to be pure *ensatas* or pure *sibiricas* with no evidence of mixed features that would be expected in hybrids. As is the case with any negative results in science, our failure to find an indication of a hybrid nature in the Hensler plants cannot establish whether or not these F_1 and F_2 plants are interseries hybrids. On the other hand, our observations offer no support for that interpretation.

In order to understand these putative hybrids better, it is useful to think a little about the genetics of irises (as well as other plants and animals).^{*} Genes are those magic segments of DNA molecules that give irises their phenotype (i.e., their appearance, as determined by their genes). Genes reside on chromosomes. A diploid iris gets a matching pair of each chromosome, one from the female (pod) parent and the other from the male (pollen) parent. Overall, plants get half their chromosomes from the female parent and half from the male parent. The matching pairs are important, because in the next generation when it is time to form germ cells (gametes) — the ovules and pollen — the matched chromosome pairs must find one another in order to separate properly (in the process called meiosis). Thus a diploid Japanese iris gets 12 + 12 or 12 pairs or 24 chromosomes, and a diploid 28-chromosome Siberian iris gets 14 + 14 or 14 pairs or 28 chromosomes. A true chromosomal hybrid of a cross of JI X SIB would receive 12 JI chromosomes and 14 SIB chromosomes, and since these are very different species the “pairs” of chromosomes probably would not match very well.

In his article in the April 2001 issue of the *Bulletin*, Sam Norris reported the chromosome number of four of the Hensler plants. He noted that in these plants counts were obtained only with difficulty, but in three plants he reported counts of 26 chromosomes, which would be expected for true hybrids, and one plant gave a count of 24, which would be correct for *ensatas*.

By now geneticists have more than a century of experience in performing crosses of distantly related plants (and animals) since the first principles of genetics were understood. In such “wide crosses” it has been found that if a true hybrid forms it regularly shows characteristics of both parents. Thus to a geneticist, these putative JI X SIB hybrids are puzzling. It is expected that if the Hensler plants contained 12 chromosomes from the JI ovule and 14 chromosomes from the SIB pollen nucleus, they would show unequivocal hybrid characteristics. It is particularly difficult to imagine any hypothesis in which some true chromosomal hybrids would show the many characteristics of a JI but none of a SIB, while others from the same cross would show, reciprocally, only the many characteristics of a SIB. Another puzzle is that if interseries hybrids formed, in this case with 12 JI + 14 SIB chromosomes, it is unlikely that the hybrids would be fertile, except perhaps rarely. The expectation of infertility arises because in such hybrids many if not most of the chromosomes would not have the very similar partners that are necessary for pairs to form and separate properly, which is an essential part of the meiotic divisions that form the female and male gametes. Thus most gametes, if they formed at all, would not receive a complete set of chromosomes. In previously described successful crosses, the chromosomes of such wide hybrids are often

quite mixed up, and infrequently form functional gametes. Yet the Hensler plants regularly formed bee pods, indicating that matching chromosome pairs were present and meiosis occurred quite normally in these plants. Overall the general knowledge gained from other crosses gives us confidence that if these putative hybrids contained a reasonably full complement of genes from both of their parents, JI and SIB, the plants would show at least some hybrid characteristics — yet they did not. They should be relatively sterile — and they were not.

An alternative explanation of the “hybrids” would be that the Hensler JI X SIB crosses, by one process or another, formed seeds and plants that contained the genes of only one parent. Such pseudohybrids are known in certain plants, with many variations (including apomixis). A final possibility is that formation of a true hybrid is followed by some kind of incompatibility and chromosome elimination such that the plant would end up, for example, with 24 chromosomes “endoreduplicated” from the JI parent and 2 from the SIB parent. Such processes might form pseudo- or partial hybrids, but in addition to being rare, they often are directional, e.g., the pod parent produces a plant by endoreduplication without using any of the genes from the pollen parent. Any such explanation for the Hensler seedlings would require there be no directionality; some plants would have received primarily JI chromosomes and others primarily SIB chromosomes.

Our observations to date offer no support for the hypothesis that the Hensler plants are interseries hybrids, and we thought it useful to report these results. At the same time we hope further attempts will be made to obtain hybrids of named JIs with named SIBs, and look forward to further results of Christy Hensler and others. In addition, if further hybrids can be obtained, it is hoped that irisarians will seek means to determine their genetic origin and composition, as well as methods more decisive than chromosome counts to evaluate the presence of genes from both parents in the putative hybrids. One such method would be DNA testing. In the meantime, the possibility of such interseries hybrids brings excitement to iris hybridizing, and promises to lead to interesting results in the future.

Submitted March 28, 2002

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Bulletin of the American Iris Society, October 2002, page 59

* Dr. Fulton is a biologist, and teaches genetics at Brandeis University.

JAPANESE-SIBERIAN HYBRIDS – PAST THE F₁S

Christy Ann Hensler, Newport, WA

Over the past 11 years I have focused on species crosses (both iris and non-iris) and the wide array of hybrid types that can result. Though why they happen and why most of them are fertile is speculation on my part, a few rules governing F₁ species hybrids seem to apply regardless of the species-crosses I've worked with.

I've noticed that hybrids which clearly resemble both parents in the first generation also show little to no fertility. At the opposite end of the spectrum, those that show a great amount of fertility will also show a strong resemblance to only one parent while traits from the other parent will be subtle at best. Between these extremes the rate of fertility seems to be linked to the balance of traits and this is where knowing a species intimately can pay off for the determined hybridizer.

If a species cross is made simply to produce an interesting garden specimen, none of this really matters. All any hybridizer needs to do is bet that if he slaps enough pollen onto a pod parent over a long enough time, the odds of eventually getting some seed will pay off. If a cross is done with the intent of bringing new traits from one species into the family of another, then being limited to a small pool of difficult or sterile hybrids is not an option. Understanding the mechanics of the wide cross is essential. This type of hybridizing is not for the faint of heart or those who require immediate and obvious results but fertile diploid species-crosses offer huge rewards.

Knowing how to do simple chromatography, field comparisons, and advanced dissection or having access to someone who can do laboratory testing is certainly of benefit. It's also important to understand that each of these options is only one tool of many. In breeding for fertile diploids in species crosses, having a hunch that a cross was good just isn't good enough because visual proof can be generations away. Such was the case with my original lines of Japanese X Siberian irises.

The first generation segregated into two clearly defined types. One line resembled the Siberian pollen parent except in two plants that showed JI influence in wider leaves with a considerably heavier rib. The plants that resembled their JI pod parent fortunately preferred the growing conditions of

the Siberians. For the first time under our less than ideal conditions we enjoyed a nearly carefree show of "JI" bloom. The real fun however, started with the hundreds of seedlings in the second generations.

The new combination of genes intensified some traits inherent in the individual species involved. Instead of "reddish" bud sheaths in the Siberian-looking lines, we saw cvs with dark maroon to deep purple coloring. New shapes and forms of "Siberian" blooms emerged and roughly 8% of the SIB-types began to show partially or fully solid stems. Of the hundreds of Siberian-type F2s only one has shown a change of bloom time, opening only in August.

In the JI-looking lines we found wonderfully saturated color (markings approaching pure black in some cases!) passed along by a few plants though the smaller size of the Siberian ancestor was clearly evident. Foliage began to show the effects of the Siberian influence in a lack of chlorosis in some individuals even when subjected to soil ph of 7.6 to 8.0. The plants thrived in average to poor soil with good drainage and though they preferred to keep their roots cool, loved heat and responded to spring warmth by producing as many as 5 branches in addition to the terminal.

Of interest to anyone who is fascinated with recessives, both types of F2s showed roughly the same percentage of pure white blooms.

Outcrosses are bringing out even more interesting features. Though certainly more difficult than crossing within each group, the extra effort is worth it. The JI-type lines, when crossed to Siberians, pulled up new color combinations and even smaller sizes of blooms. A small number of these plants show dark purple or forest green lines that run the length of their normal yellow JI signals. Color combinations are also more interesting than in the F1s. One of the most intriguing so far is a seedling with baby pink standards, pale lavender falls with a powder blue halo around a typical yellow signal. The addition of pale yellow stylearms with a light overlay of pale pink giving them the appearance of apricot, adds to the effect.

Crossing SUMMER SKY with a JI-type brought out a wide range of color but the blooms were only the size of a small Siberian and nearly all were sterile. In using SEA SHADOWS, the percentage of whites nearly doubled. Fertility suffered and some plants are sterile while most of the rest are compatible only with JI-types from this program. A few individuals though are proving to have increased fertility and are being used to bring new JI, SIB-type, and Siberian cvs into the mix.

As with the JI-types, the SIB-types are also more difficult to cross to pure Siberians. The first of these bloomed only last season. If the rounder shape and unusual dappling of color are any indication, these plants should be just as interesting as their JI-type counterparts.

Bringing outside JI genes into the mix will be difficult if only for the fact that without a huge amount of care, most JIs succumb to our high summer heat, sandy soil, and lack of water without ever showing a bloom. New plastic lined beds filled with compost should solve the problem.

Of special interest is the discovery that some of the F1s of both types show an increased ability to cross to additional species. Especially exciting is a new line of hybrids out of ADRENALINE RUSH (F1 Siberian type). The pollen parent is *I. pseudacorus* and shows through readily in the seedling now registered as SHAPE SHIFTER. (Parentage has been confirmed using paper chromatography.) At first glance, it resembles a wide petaled *I. pseudacorus* or small JI-pseud hybrid. Unlike either, its leaves are a beautiful dark blue-green. It's also outrageously self-fertile, producing pods noticeably longer than any *pseudacorus* and filled with an abundance of cream-colored seeds. The first seedlings from a viability test done last fall show remarkable diversity. What the blooms will look like is anyone's guess but we're devoting a large part of the nursery to this new line.

My initial goal was only to combine the more forgiving habits of the Siberians with the beauty and grace of the Japanese irises. Oddly, within the iris community I have found that the idea of balanced/sterile hybrids is accepted as the only possible outcome of a species-cross even among people who know the histories of the Bearded and Arilbred irises. Since there appears to be a need to provide proof that these plants are hybrid by also producing plants with blooms showing balanced characteristics of both species I've begun working toward this goal as well. Three potential routes to this end are by breeding intensely within each line, continually crossing out to the "silent" species, and by crossing both lines together.

Line breeding, though potentially a slower method, offers the best chance of producing visually hybrid types without loss of fertility and indeed the first of the F3 Siberian-type seedlings shows an unusual arrow shaped signal but with Siberian markings.

For whatever reason, visual attributes of the blooms seem to be linked together and breaking those linkages will also take time and patience. In the JI-types dark lines on normal JI signals is only a start of what can be accomplished by bringing in new genes from purebreds.

Crossing opposite types is, with the JS, probably the most difficult of the pairings possible. The first small group of JI-type X SIB-type was lost to gophers. The second pairing of JI-type with SIB-type from dozens of attempts has produced only two seedlings. Germinated last spring, one showed the heavy rib of the JI and one showed no rib at all. Growth, height, increase, and width of leaves was identical at the end of their first season. What the blooms will look like is a mystery but what is known about all of these plants is that they will continue to offer new insights while providing a wonderful display in the garden.

*Christy Ann Hensler
952 Viet Rd.
Newport, WA*

For more photos and information on the JI-SIBs along with the first of the fertile Siberian-setosa groups visit our webpage at <http://www.povn.com/rock/hybrids.html>.

A fertile seedling 97JS032C from INTAGLIO (JI-type F1) X SEA SHADOWS.



Siberian-type F3 seedling 97JS3B
from ((ADRENALINE RUSH X self)
x ADRENLINE RUSH X self))



MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

ATTEMPTED SIBERIAN-JAPANESE IRIS CROSS ANECDOTAL REPORT

Introduction

Though crosses between Siberian and Japanese irises should theoretically be possible, until recently, no successful crosses have been reported. With the validity of the reported crosses in question, this author attempted to make the cross using embryo rescue.

Procedure

Using freshly collected pollen, crosses were made in both directions, using *I. Ensata* 'Springtime Melody' and at least 12 selections of 28-chromosome Siberian irises. All crosses were done using flowers that were just beginning to open. The flowers were forced open and the falls removed immediately to reduce the possibility of accidental bee pollination. All crosses were completed before 10 am.

None of the six crosses using 'Springtime Melody' as the pod parent developed to the stage of pod set. Three of the 20 crosses using Siberian irises as the pod parent developed to the point of pod set. Three crosses of 'Super Ego' x 'Springtime Melody' resulted in two pods. Two crosses of 'Percheron' x 'Springtime Melody' resulted in one pod.

Sixty days after the cross was done, the pods were harvested, sterilized and excised under sterile conditions. There were very few seed and no healthy endosperm was found in any seed, indicating that there were no viable seed. Occasionally, with near sterile plants and with wide crosses, an embryo will form, but without the endosperm to provide nourishment, it will die. It can be saved by excising it and growing it on culture medium.

Though no easily recognizable embryo was found on dissection of the seed, suspected embryonic tissue was found in 14 seed. Healthy embryos have a smooth surface. All of this tissue was quite irregular. The tissue was, however, distinctly different from the seed wall and lifted from the wall quite easily. The tissue was placed on sterile media (full strength Murashige and Skoog

macrosalts with 30 grams of sucrose and 7 grams of agar per liter). The tissue was grown at room temperature under florescent light (14 hours per day).

The 'Percheron' embryonic tissue did not grow in the culture tube, however seven of the ten 'Super Ego' samples did grow roots, but no apical growth was recognized. Two of the samples were treated with gibberellic acid (GA_3), but without success.

Cross	Attempts/pod set	Seeds formed	Tissue root growth
'Percheron' x 'Springtime Melody'	2/1	2	none
'Super Ego' x 'Springtime Melody'	3/2	10	7

Discussion

Though this attempt at Siberian X Japanese iris crosses resulted in no new plants, it is a positive step in the quest for an uncontested successful cross. The setting of the seedpod indicates that at least part of the mechanism for the cross is in place; however the failure to develop an endosperm suggests that the formation of a viable seed is unlikely and that the developing embryo is likely to be flawed. In this case, the flaw could be fatal, in that there is no apical meristem. However, before declaring that the failure to develop apical growth is fatal, embryo rescue should be attempted at an earlier stage of development. Additionally, treating the embryo with hormones to stimulate growth may overcome this flaw. However, finding the correct concentration and/or combination of hormones is usually by trial and error. With the small number of viable embryos that are produced by this cross, there are few opportunities to determine a mix that will work. Hopefully, with the sharing of experiences and the concerted effort of beardless iris growers across the country, this elusive goal can be unquestionably attained.

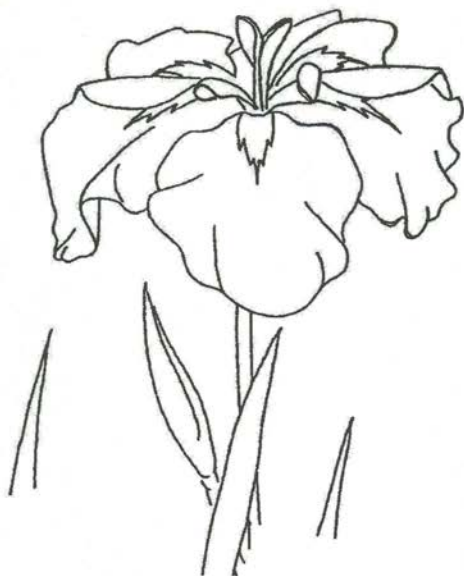
*R. Dennis Hager
Millington, MD*

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

Crosses of Japanese and Siberians

In this issue, we are having a debate on crosses between Japanese Iris and Siberian Iris. As most of you know Japanese Iris all belong to one species, *I. ensata*. Siberians can be one or a combination of several species. In the past, people have crossed JIs with *I. pseudacorus* with dramatic results. The plants are shorter than either parent, the foliage is yellow, and they are totally sterile. JIs have been crossed with *I. versicolor* with intermediate results and fertile offspring, even though, their chromosome numbers are 24 and 105. Indeed, *I. versicolor* crossed with *I. pseudacorus* produces sterile offspring, while *I. versicolor* crosses with *I. virginica* are very fertile, even though, their chromosome numbers are 105 and 70, respectively. Siberians cross with many things. The 28 chromosome types will cross with 40 chromosome types with sterile results, I think. Siberians have been crossed with PCNs, *I. setosa*, and *I. versicolor*. So, I wouldn't rule out crosses between JIs and Sibs. In fact, I have produced pods by crossing *I. ensata* X named Sibs and named Sibs X named JIs. None of the seeds have germinated. I have tried crossing the two at the tetraploid level. I didn't get a pod but tetraploid JIs are difficult anyway. Where would the TBs be with out the "impossible" cross that produced SNOW FLURRY?

Jill Copeland
Lawton, MI



ARRANGEMENTS WITH JAPANESE IRISES

Japanese irises are favorites of flower arrangers. Their form and colors make them easy to use. When making an arrangement you must keep in mind the space that it will occupy and organize the Elements of Design according to the Principles of Design to attain beauty, harmony, distinction and expression.

The Elements of Design includes the visual characteristics of the plant material, containers, bases, accessories and the mechanics. Japanese iris are by nature large, delicate looking with textures that look silky or velvety. They therefore need to be used with more refined containers rather than heavy, rough textures that are more appropriate for sunflowers, for instance. There are eight elements—light, space, line, form, size, pattern, texture and color.



SPACE, is the area the arrangement occupies and how you handle the plant material to make solids and voids into a pleasing whole. Since the iris is what you want to be dominant they need to be placed so their beauty is appreciated for their form and color and not crowded.

LINE, is the visual path through the design. Once this line is established, often with thick or thin branches, then the added materials need to follow it. A line design may also be created by repetition of shapes, forms, sizes, textures and colors. (This is more difficult with Japanese iris as they continue developing into the ultimate large flower—thus a bud won't keep that shape for several hours like other flow-

ers that are slower to open.) Traditional and Creative Line and Line-Mass designs are some of the terms used in Flower Shows. Usually this is a triangle, vertical, horizontal, crescent, S-curve, zig-zag etc. Once the line is determined the transitional and focal material follows that line. It is necessary to have rhythm and dominance. Since the stems of the iris are straight they lend themselves to different variations of the triangle.

Authentic Oriental designs were triangular, line arrangements with open space whereas the European Design styles were mostly mass arrangements. Creative Design is an American form that incorporates space within. The designer uses a branch of wisteria or Chinese bittersweet with no leaves that twist into interesting shapes and finds a place to position 1 or 2 large blossoms of iris to give a plastic organization in a 3-dimensional design having great depth and overall interest that creates tension by using contrasting colors or shapes. A simple container with 1/2 openings to hold the branch and the iris may be enough or possibly add a large leaf to balance the whole creation.

Anna Mae Miller, Kalamazoo, MI

EDITOR'S ESSAY

Rita Gormley

First, last and in the middle, I want to thank each and every one of the contributors, officers and SJI Board Members for their prompt and wonderful response to my requests for articles, pictures and information. You are the BEST group to work with, EVER!

We have worked very hard to make it easier than ever to vote the Popularity Poll. There is now a new format so you don't have to wrack your brain coming up with names. You can fill out the form, or e-mail the information to Bruce Filardi or (very soon) vote on the website! Just DO IT!

It is IMPORTANT for members to "recommend" their favorites to the general iris buying public (members or not) and if SJI does not get a representative sample (and last year's 5 % of the members can hardly be called representative!), we have to question our choices! It is the responsibility of members of the Society for Japanese Irises to be able to firmly endorse specific JI cultivars as good growers in many parts of the country and continue to recommend them as specimen, as well as landscape plants. Please help us by voting your ballot.

Thank you also to our newest Officer/Board Members, Cathy Button and Ellen Gallagher (bios are in this issue) for taking the time and effort to help the SJI. Bob Bauer has spent over a decade being the Treasurer and Membership Chairman and we sincerely thank him for all his work!

We are very excited about the Photo Contest (see page 14 for the rules!) and advance notice has already brought in great pictures. Although we only have four pages of color photos in each issue, we feel that promoting "landscape shots" is very important. We urge all of you to look through your past pictures for entries and take new ones this year. We do apologize to the Northeast people for making the deadline so

early as their JIs might not be peak by then but we need to meet the printing deadline! If you take new ones too late for this year, send them anyway and maybe we'll do this again next year! We do thank the many hybridizers who have donated the prizes (new and classics) as prizes as well as SJI for the cash awards.

In going through the REVIEWS from Spring 1989 forward in order to do a new Index, I find that there used to be many black & white "people pictures". I would love to re-institute this practice so please send me "people" pictures (prints or digital) labeling them with the date, place, people and we'll put them in - new or old!

All of you who are involved with shows in your Region, please remember to send reports to me for the Fall REVIEW. There is also now a spiffy "INVITATION TO JOIN" for the SJI. These will be available at the AIS Convention and can be obtained by contacting Catherine Button, Membership Chairman. They will help recruit new members from those attending your shows. To promote the shows in advance, send Dennis Hager the specifics and he'll put the information in the website.

Speaking of the website, be sure to check it out frequently! Timely information about shows and conventions and display gardens is now posted along with lots of pictures!

We have a new piece of artwork in this issue thanks to Sue Delmez and all the ones used previously (and regularly for years) are compliments of John Coble.

Be sure to keep those letters and e-mails coming!

Happy Spring!

Rita



MEET THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS

TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Catherine Button lives in Westampton NJ, with a rescued afghan hound, Apollo, who also loves the iris garden. Cathy recently became an accredited garden judge with the AIS. She maintains the web pages for AIS Region 19 and Region 3, and is also treasurer and membership chair of the Garden State Iris Society.

In Cathy's words:

My passion for irises originally came from a developing interest in gardening. Though I had always liked outdoor activities, they were usually of a much different nature: technical rock climbing, 3-day eventing (cross country equestrian competition), and racing motorcycles to name a few.

When I first mentioned my newly developing addiction to irises to members of my family, I typically got back comments like "Cathy? Flowers? Who is this really and what have you done with my real sister?" Even though I didn't know it at the time, the genetic tendency for the cultivation of flowers is definitely in the family. My mother and grandmother grew and showed orchids. My grandmother had a definite taste for Japanese irises as well, as she used them in her Ikebana arrangements. It was my preference for Japanese irises that brought me along the same path - and I currently take Ikebana lessons in the Sogetso School. That's when I found out many years after Gram had passed away, that she had been a frequent Ikebana exhibitor at the Philadelphia flower show.

After many years of irising, I think I have come up with the main reason I like JI's so much - you can't overwater or overfeed them! Experience tells me I can't find too many other garden plants like these.

One of the best surprises of the iris world was finding so many wonderful people all in one group. When I recently went thru the student and apprentice training for becoming an AIS judge, I found that iris folks were also great at sharing their knowledge, skills and the joy of irising. Volunteering for club activities was a way I could give back at least some of all I have received.

Having served in many capacities with the local iris society and enjoying all of them, its a great pleasure for me to be able to help with my very favorite iris group - the SJI.

Apollo in the garden



NOMINATING COMMITTEE Through 2005

ELLEN GALLAGHER, By herself

As a gardener, I always feel obliged to share the fact that I live in the far Northern White Mountains of New Hampshire in the northeast US. We live and garden in USDA Zone 3 where the thermometer can register a low of -40 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter. The only real problem is the very short growing season. Irises do very well here, especially Siberians, which adapt well to our temperate rain forest climate, Bearded irises, principally the Median classes also thrive, as well as lilies which are planted in raised beds.

I was born in Massachusetts in a little town named Adams which is home to the tallest peak in the state, Mount Greylock. It seems that I have followed the eastern mountains all my life. Raised on a farm in a small village in southern Vermont, my gardening and love of the land stems from this beginning. My mother was a grower of irises (Tall Bearded, shhh!) and I weeded her flower gardens. My village school used to sell packages of seeds (flowers and vegetables) every spring to raise money and my mother said she would buy several packets if I would agree to plant them. So I started a rock garden (searching for the rocks and hauling them in) and planted it with the plants raised from the seeds. That began, at age nine, the enrichment of my life with flowers.

The iris people that I have met are a special lot and Siberian/Japanese Iris fanciers are an especially terrific group. I currently edit the TSI.

PAYNE MEDAL

This medal is restricted to Japanese irises (JI). It is named in honor of W. Arlie Payne (1881-1971).

W. Arlie Payne was born on a farm near Terre Haute, Indiana. He graduated from Central Normal Collage in Danville, Indiana, and studied pattern making. Payne worked as a lumberjack, photographer, real estate agent, and pattern maker until he established a landscaping business on sixteen acres of land south of Terre Haute. He was at first especially interested in peonies, but in the late 1920's, he "discovered" Japanese irises. He started hybridizing Japanese in irises in 1932. Over the next three and a half decades, he raised many thousands of seedlings.

During the 1930's and 1940's, there was a sharp decline in the popularity of Japanese irises in the United States, especially during the period of WW II. One of the few nurseries on the West Coast that continued to offer them for sale renamed them "Pearl Harbor irises." Arlie Payne continued his, extensive breeding program striving to produce "a race suitable for outdoor American plants." He sought a beautiful flower of symmetrical form and a plant that demonstrated exceptional vigor. One of the most exceptional aspects of his breeding program was that it was developed in the early years using only six cultivars of the Edo type. Payne took line breeding to a new level of intensity.

Arlie Payne did not start introducing his irises until the early 1950's. When he did, it was apparent that he had developed a strain of wonderful new Japanese irises. He ultimately registered 170 cultivars, most of which were of exceptional quality. When his new cultivars were sent to Japan, the Japanese were astonished to see their diversity and quality. The gigantic maroon, 3-fall cultivar 'The Great Mogul' (1958) was especially admired by Japanese specialists. Payne cultivars took the Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals in the Internationale Garten Ausstellug in 1963. 'The Great Mogul' won the Silver Medal at the Vienna Intenationale Gartenschaus in 1964, and 'Confetti Shower' won the Bronze Medal at the same event.

The American Iris Society awarded Arlie Payne its coveted Hybridizers Medal in 1964. When he died at the age of 90, in 1971, he was universally revered as the world's premier breeder of Japanese irises.

Clarence Mahan, McLean, VA

W. A. PAYNE MEDAL

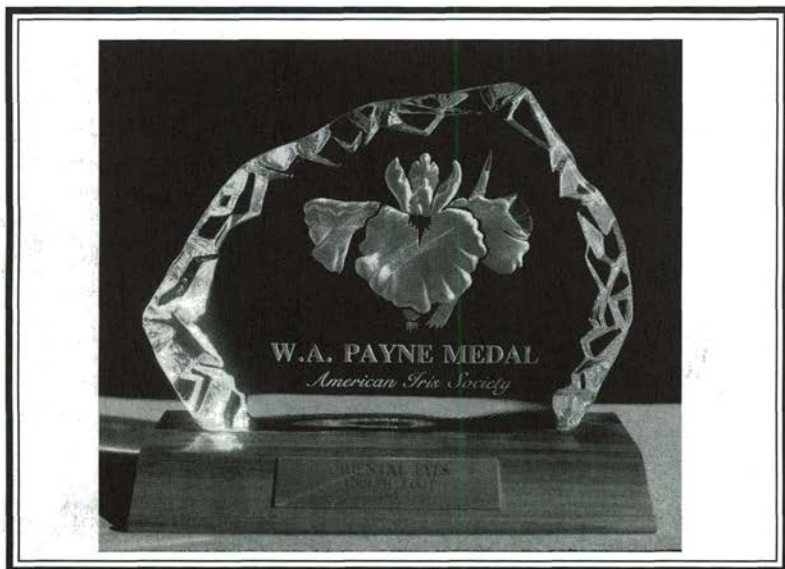
John Coble (Michigan)

A new W. A. PAYNE MEDAL has been made for the new "medal status" in the revised A.I.S. awards system. The first copy of this medal was awarded to ORIENTAL EYES (Adolph Vogt '84) at the Portland, Oregon (1994) A.I.S. Convention awards banquet. The medal has been sent to his granddaughter, Joe Marie Brotherton. The W. A. Payne "Award" was a tall silver cup that stayed with the A.I.S. Awards Chairman. The new Medal is presented each year to the hybridizer of the winning iris.

The new W. A. Payne Medal is a glass "iceberg", 5" X 7" X 1" thick, mounted on a walnut base with a silver plate listing the iris name, hybridizer, and year. Bob Bauer, chairman of the medal committee, ordered the glass blanks (25 of them) with the engraving "W. A. Payne Medal/American Iris Society" and then he designed and etched the Japanese iris blossom into the glass.

From Fall 1994 Fall SJI REVIEW

Below is a photo of the new medal. (Photo by John Coble)





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**Pictures for the favorite Japanese Iris for 2002 can be seen in the following
issues of the SJJ REVIEW:**

Fall 1997	ELECTRIC RAYS (Aitken '90)
Fall 1977	CASCADE CREST (Aitken '88)
Spring 2003	LION KING (Bauer/Coble '96)
Spring 2003	FRILLED ENCHANTMENT (Marx '59)
Spring 2003	HEAVENLY REFLECTION (Delmez '99)
Fall 2002	LITTLE BOW PINK (Delmez '98)
Spring 2000	PINKERTON (Bauer/Coble '99)
Spring 1996	ROSEWATER (Bauer/Coble '96)

ADVERTISERS

Commercial Directory	12
Earthheart Gardens	50, 51
Greywood Farms	24
Iris City Gardens	48
Sans Souci Nursery, LLC	2

COVER PHOTO CREDITS

Front Cover - LION KING (Bauer/Coble '96); Photo by John Coble

Back Cover -

FRILLED ENCHANTMENT (Marx '59); Photo by Terry Aitken

HEAVENLY REFLECTION (Delmez '99); Photo by Don Delmez

DISPLAY GARDENS

Display Garden Chairman, Phil Cook, urges all Display Garden owners to check their listing in the Fall 2002 REVIEW and on the SJI website for accuracy. You can now have one photograph attached to the website - just mail or e-mail the one you want to Dennis Hager!

If you wish to be added to the Display Garden list, let Phil know.

Visit the Display Gardens in your area this Spring. You will be in for a real treat!

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and by appointment

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IRIS ENSATA 'EASTER PASTEL'

Currier McEwen 2003

'Easter Pastel' reminds us of the lavender and pink crepe paper Easter baskets we carried as children. The falls are soft violet blue (RHS 94C) with matching style crests. The standards are soft lavender pink (RHS 84C) with matching style arms. This 3-fall diploid Japanese iris, blooms mid season and stands 34" tall with 1 branch. In 2001 visitors at our Japanese iris open garden day voted 'Easter Pastel' their favorite Japanese iris seedling. Parents go back to Sei Shonagon. \$40.00

IRIS ENSATA 'OREGON MARMALADE'

Lee Walker 2003

The waxy luminescence of 'Oregon Marmalade' will catch your eye. Awarded best seedling at the 1999 SJI Convention held in Portland, Oregon. The lower falls are 3" wide, have amethyst violet background (RHS 85C), violet blue veins (RHS 93B) and canary yellow (RHS 9B) signals. The upper falls are 1" wide, have amethyst violet background (RHS 85C) with areas of darker medium violet (RHS 83C) extending outward from the signal in varied patterns. Style arms are lavender violet (RHS 85D). 'Oregon Marmalade' is a diploid Japanese iris, blooms, mid to late season and stands 32" tall. Cascade Crest X unknown Marx seedling. \$40.00

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Currier McEwen 2003



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