



# THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY  
FOR  
JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 45  
NUMBER #1  
SPRING 2008

# Earthheart Gardens

## IRIS ENSATA 'EVELYN WHITE'

JOHN WHITE 2008



John selected this lovely flower as a tribute to his late wife Evelyn. She was a dear friend to the Maine Iris Society and served as editor of the Review of the Society for Japanese Irises for many years.

(00-W26-29) diploid, 38", M, 6 falls .....\$35

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# THE REVIEW OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

VOLUME 45

NUMBER 1

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### INSERT-BLUE-SJI POPULARITY POLL



# THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

## Officers

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<b>2009</b>	Phil Cook, PO Box 338, Underhill, VT 05489 Tel: (802) 899-9928; <phgarden@together.net>
<b>2010</b>	Anna Mae Miller, Bronson Place, 1700 Bronson Way #155, Kalamazoo, MI 49009; Tel: (269) 349-5934; <irisquilt@aol.com>

## Nominating Committee

<b>Through 2007</b>	Barbara Aitken, 608 NW 119 <sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver, WA 98685 Tel: (360) 573-4472; <aitken@flowerfantasy.net>
<b>Through 2008</b>	John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053; Tel: (269) 665-7500; <ensata@aol.com>
<b>Through 2009</b>	Carol Warner, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155-9445 Tel: (410) 374-4788; draycott@qis.net

**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; <ridingthewind@gmail.com>
Slides Chairman Librarian	John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053; Tel: (269) 665-7500; <ensata@aol.com>
Robins Chairman	Cindy Rust, 2016 Meadow Lane., Union, MO 63084; Tel: (636) 583-6355 <cindy@riverstonequarry.com>
Hybridizer Robin	Jill Copeland, 78118 M-40 Lawton, MI 49065 Tel: (269) 624-1968; <jandjcope@aol.com>
E-Mail Robin	Dennis Hager, PO Box 390, Millington, MD 21651 Tel: (410) 928-3147; <hager@aredee.com>
Popularity Poll	Ruth Barker, 6183 Bar-Mot Dr., Greensboro, NC 274-55; Tel: (336) 644-1573; <ruthbb@aol.com>
Display Garden Chair	Open
Awards	Anna Mae Miller, Bronson Place, 1700 Bronson Way #155, Kalamazoo, MI 49009; Tel: (269) 349- 5934; <irisquilt@aol.com>
Web Master:	Dennis Hager, PO Box 390, Millington, MD 21651 Tel: (410) 928-3147; <hager@aredee.com>

**SJI WEBSITE:**

**<http://www.socji.org/>**

Includes information on Awards, Bylaws, Commercial  
Sources, Convention, Display Gardens, Membership, Offic-  
ers, SJI REVIEW Index, and Member Services

## Business Items

### DUES:

Single	annual - \$5.00	triennial - \$12.50
Family	annual - \$6.00	triennial - \$15.50
Youth	annual - \$2.00	triennial - \$5.50
Overseas including postage : Effective January 15, 2006		
Single	annual - \$10.00	triennial - \$25.00
Family	annual - \$12.00	triennial - \$31.00

Dues may be sent either to the AIS Membership Chairman ([www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)) or directly to the Membership Chairman, The Society for Japanese Irises.

Address changes: please notify Membership Chairman

*Please note that all memberships run from Jan 15th to Jan 15th.*

**JOIN OR RENEW ON-LINE - <http://www.socji.org/>**

### SALES AND RENTAL ITEMS

**The Japanese Iris - Edited by Currier McEwen for the Society of Japanese Irises. A Brandeis University book. 224 pages. 32 color photos. 7" x 10". Published 1990 at \$29.95. (No longer in print)**

**\$20.00 including US Postage**

**Special limited time offer - 2 or more \$15.00 each**

The first definitive book in English on history and cultivation, The Japanese Iris incorporates the 300 year history of breeding in Japan and the experience of US hybridizers from East to West coasts. Contents include history, current hybridizing, color photos, and drawings of flower parts in detail; also soil preparation, watering, mulching, and pest control; display gardens, nurseries, and hybridizers.

### Color Postcards – 2 for 1 Sale

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Back issues of The Review - \$2.00 per copy

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 US postage. Send requests to John Coble.  
Check payable to SJI. Please allow ample time for scheduling.

## ADVERTISING

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

FULL PAGE COLOR (4.5 X 7.5)	\$60.00	
FULL PAGE B&W (4.5 X 7.5)	\$50.00	
HALF PAGE B&W (4 X 3 1/2)	\$30.00	
1/4 PAGE B&W 4 X 1 1/2)	\$20.00	
Commercial Directory (plus web):		
Included free annually with any ad or	\$10.00	Annual charge

Please send original photos (prints or slides) for scanning or high resolution digitals (at least 300 dpi). Advertising copy and payment to SJI should be mailed to the Editor prior to Editorial deadlines.

## 2006 J.I. CHECKLIST

The SJI Checklist contains all registrations and introductions through 2005 of Japanese iris and any interspecies crosses involving Japanese iris. The 2006 Checklist is in 8.5" X 11" format. The previous edition was published in 1999

**To order, Send \$7.50 postpaid\* to:**

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

\*\$9.00 Canada, \$13.00 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; <ridingthewind@gmail.com>

# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: ANTICIPATION**

*Dennis Hager*

As gardeners, we all go through the seasons of anticipation. The labor of love pays off as the Japanese irises emerge and with courtly elegance announces the end of Spring and the arrival of Summer.

As a child, Christmas was the season of anticipation, but gardening soon took its place. My neighbors know what to expect. There are whispered explanations as I celebrate the bloom. Although my neighbors understand, they do not always share my enthusiasm.

Christmas is a time of celebration—a time of sharing. It comes once a year. For Japanese iris enthusiasts, the bloom comes every year, but the time of sharing with other enthusiasts comes only every third year with the Convention. We are extremely fortunate that the Southwest Michigan Iris Society is hosting *A Convention to Remember*, complete with a tour of Ensata Gardens, the largest commercial Japanese iris nursery in the country.

Don't let this opportunity pass you by. Come to Kalamazoo and celebrate Christmas in July with other Japanese iris enthusiasts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis". The signature is written in dark ink and features a long, sweeping horizontal flourish that extends to the left and then curves back towards the center.



**AN OPPORTUNITY  
TO BE  
INVOLVED WITH SJI**

**WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR  
SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER THE DUTIES OF  
TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN  
FOR SJI. ALTHOUGH THE JOB IS NOT A  
HUGE ONE, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE  
ORGANIZATION. IT GIVES YOU A CHANCE  
TO 'GIVE BACK' IN A REAL SENSE.  
REQUIREMENTS ARE THE DESIRE TO BE  
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**IF YOU HAVE INTEREST IN ASSUMING THIS  
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INTRODUCING FOR LORENA REID

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Barbara Aitken, John Coble, Carol Warner

The following names are put into nomination:

Director at Large – Gary White (2011)

Nominating Committee – James Copeland (2010)

If there are no further nominations made from the floor at meeting of the Society for Japanese Irises at their convention July 3, 4, 5, 2008 at Kalamazoo, Michigan, the above officers will be considered elected.

### SJI REVIEW

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



## **A CONVENTION TO REMEMBER**

### **2008 NATIONAL JAPANESE IRIS**

### **KALAMAZOO, MI, JULY 3, 4, 5**

You are all invited to come to Kalamazoo for a good time. There will be 2 large gardens and 2 other very well landscaped gardens with Japanese Irises on tour for your enjoyment. There will be 2 days of bus tours so we promise not to wear you out. We have planted 129 guest irises from 16 hybridizers including many Pseudatas from Shimizu.

Gardens include:

**Ensata Gardens, John Coble & Bob Bauer**, is America's largest grower of Japanese Irises, a commercial garden, and a hybridizer's garden. They were just awarded the Hybridizer's Medal by AIS. This garden has a master planting. They have just constructed 2 new ponds, fully landscaped and stocked with koi.

**Jim & Jill Copeland's** garden is a hybridizer's garden and, also, has a master planting. Between these two gardens, you can see almost all of the introduced Pseudatas and many new seedlings.

**Dick & Eileen O'Melay's** garden will show you how to incorporate Japanese Irises into your landscape. They have won landscaping awards with a pond, and have many companion plantings.

**Jim & Bev Munson's** garden will be a cool oasis on a hot July day. Their well-landscaped garden is in a woodland setting on a lake. Can they grow irises? You bet! They have many other plants and special features.

Special events include:

A Thursday night simple warm supper, another "famous fish fry" for one lunch, a Friday night outdoor grill, and, of course, we will have Anita Gauthier doing another superb banquet.

There will be an auction of plants with proceeds going to the SJI Section.

Everyone is invited to bring their slides of JIs and Pseudatas to show on Thursday night. You will be allowed up to 15 minutes for your slides.

There will also be one hour of garden training on JIs and one hour of garden training on Pseudatas. Here is where to get 2 hours of garden judges training.

The venue will be the Latvian Heritage Center and several nearby motels have been selected for your room reservations.

Super 8 Motel, 269-345-0146; Red Roof Inn West, 269-375-7400; Hawthorn Suites, 269-353-2547

**MORE INFORMATION** [www.SocJI.org/Convention.htm](http://www.SocJI.org/Convention.htm)

Cost will be \$125 if received by May 15<sup>th</sup> and **\$150 if received after May 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Registrations should be mailed to Jim Welch, 9087 S 6<sup>th</sup> St., Kalamazoo, MI 49009 269-544-2211 [joejoe500@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joejoe500@sbcglobal.net)

## **SJI POPULARITY POLL FOR 2008**

*Ruth Barker, Greensboro, NC*

Included with this issue is your blue ballot for the 2008 Popularity Poll. Please choose your ten favorite cultivars. Write-in votes are welcome, but please remember that write-ins count toward your total of ten votes. All cultivars that receive at least two (2) write-in votes will automatically appear on next year's ballot.

The names on the ballot represent all JIs which received votes on the 2007 Popularity Poll. 27 names were removed from last year's list due to failure to receive at least one vote; 9 names were added due to receipt of two or more write-in votes. Due to conflicting instructions, for this year only, 9 additional names were added that received only one write-in vote. Also added are those that received the Payne Medal, AM, or HM in 2007 and were not previously on the list.

Please mark your choices with an X. If there is a second SJI member in the household, that second member's choices should be marked with some other symbol, such as a 2. Send the ballot by August 1, 2008, to:

RUTH BARKER, SJI Popularity Poll, 6183 BAR-MOT DR, GREENSBORO, NC 27455-8267 Or you may e-mail your top ten to <[RuthBB@aol.com](mailto:RuthBB@aol.com)>

**A CONVENTION TO REMEMBER  
SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES  
CONVENTION 2008**

**Registration Form**

**Hosted by the SouthWest Michigan Iris Society**

**PRINT YOUR INFORMATION:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-Mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ person at: Full Registration \$125.00 per person  
Total Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ . 00  
(\$150.00 if received after May 15<sup>th</sup>)

Please make checks payable to: **SWMIS** and mail to:

SWMIS, 9087 South 6th Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49009

**Any questions please feel free to call: J.Welch (269) 544 - 2211**  
**2008jic@sbcglobal.net or JOEJOE500@sbcglobal.net**

to help-us Please indicate the number -

a) planning to attend: *informal get-together* on Thursday  
evening of July 3rd: \_\_\_\_\_ persons

b) or needing *Assistance in walking* for the Garden Tours:  
\_\_\_\_\_ persons

c) if you do **not have personal transportation** from your Hotel  
to the evening events at Latvian Heritage Center, please note your Hotel:

\_\_\_\_\_

d) if you do have personal transportation would you be willing to:  
"give a fellow Iris Person a ride" \_\_\_\_\_ ?

# **KALAMAZOO HOTELS AVAILABLE FOR THE 2008 JAPANESE IRIS CONVENTION**

Garden Tour Busses will be stopping at only three hotels for the 2008 Kalamazoo Japanese iris Convention:

- 1) Super8
- 2) Red Roof Inn
- 3) Hawthorn Suites

The above Hotels have each on reserve a block of 20 rooms available at a special rates until June 3, 2007 - Tell them you are with the Japanese Iris Convention. These Hotels are located in the west side of Kalamazoo just off Hwy 131 near the West Main and Stadium Drive exits. Please note: there are other Hotels in the general area some are adjacent properties, near enough for walking to the Garden Tour Busses.

## **Super8**

618 Maple Drive, Kalamazoo, Michigan

Contact person: Trika Patel (269) 345-0416

(800) 800-8000 Super8.com

**Special rate of \$62.99 (regular rate \$69.99) up to 4 persons**

## **Red Roof Inn**

5425 West Michigan, Kalamazoo, Michigan

(269) 375-7400 (800) 733-7663 RedRoof.com

**Rate: \$60.99 for the 3<sup>rd</sup> & \$74.99 for Weekend.**

## **Hawthorn Suites**

2575 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Kalamazoo, Michigan

contact person: Dave Foster (269) 353- 2547

(800) 527-1133, hawthorn.com

**Special rate of \$ 89.90 (regular rate \$109.)**



## CHIRPS FROM THE JAPANESE IRIS HYBRIDIZER'S ROBIN

*Jill Copeland Reporter*

### **Some Good Crosses**

Chad Harris, Washougal, WA

I thought it would be good for us to share some particular crosses or individual iris that tend to throw good prodigy. This list could help new and old hybridizers alike. Maybe this will entice some of you to try your hand at hybridizing.

For twelve years I have been using 'Peacock Strut' for single flowers. It only has 2 buds, but the flower form is precise and very dominant. This years' introduction, 'Cascade Rain', is from 'Hekium' X 'Peacock Strut'. Other kids from 'Peacock Strut' will be introduced in years to come.

For a nine fall parent I think you would be hard pressed to find any better than 'Hagoromo'. It is fertile both ways, with the first terminal bloom usually having the most pollen. Both 'Avalanche Express' and 'Blushing Snowmaiden' are from 'Frosted Pyramid' X 'Hagoromo'. A word on finding viable pollen on 'Hagoromo' and any other 9-12 fall flowers. If there is any hint of yellow in the anther then you will find pollen. What needs to be done is to dissect the anther with a razor blade and let it air dry for a day or two before using.

From 150 crosses of 6 falls one clearly stands out above the rest, 'Night Angel' X 'Frosted Intrigue'. Initially 15 seedlings from 100+ were selected for evaluation. Subsequently 7 have been kept with 3 being lined out for future introduction. Colors range from rich velvety red violet to blue violet, some with rays, others with veins. Multiple styles are the norm with light tipped dark and dark tipped light. Slides of this cross will be seen at the JI Convention, Kalamazoo 2008.

A tip for crossing multiple styles is to completely strip the flower of all extra parts. This allows you to see which 3 styles are connected to the ovaries.

## JAPANESE IRIS R & I FOR 2007

**AMETHYST ACTRESS** (Chad Harris, R. 2007). Sdlg. 99JC2. JI (9 F.), 40" (102 cm), L. F. white ground heavily sanded amethyst (RHS 86C), fading to near white by day 3, signal yellow (12A); style arms white edged dark amethyst (86B). Hagaromo X 90JA5: (Rose and Silver x Reid 87J24: (Garnet Royalty x Reid D558-2: (Mystic Buddha x Frilled Enchantment))).

**ANTICOSTI PRELUDE** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 98-45-00-75. SPEC-X (versata), 39-43" (100-110 cm), ML. S. violet (RHS 82B), veined violet (83B); style arms blue (100) in center, bordered white extending to pink; F. open violet blue (93A) aging to blue (110A/B), signal greenish yellow aging to cream yellow, bordered by white veins; slight musky fragrance. Anticosti Discovery X magenta ensata sdlg.

**ANTICOSTI VISITOR** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 03-50. SPEC-X, 35-43" (90-110 cm), EM. S. violet (RHS 88C), veined darker (88A), brown base aging to yellow; style arms purple (76B) center pink bordered white; F. throat white veined purple, golden yellow spot veined violet blue (90A), darker (88A) edges. Anticosti Discovery X pseudata 95-011: (I. pseudacorus x I. ensata).

**ARLANDINA** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-9/3. JI (6-9 F.), 26" (65 cm), M. F. very heavy blue-violet veining on pale silvery light blue ground becoming solid color near yellow signal; style arms blue violet; ruffled. Osenneye Nebo X Pervy Bal. Kaulen 2007.

**BELGIUM DANCER** (Willy Hublau, R. 2007). Sdlg. 2000-07. JI (6 F), 28" (71 cm), M. F. white, wine red halo and marks, darker in center, wine red pencil fine edge, yellow-green signal; style arms cream yellow, tipped wine red, stamens form flags at top. (Surprise Light x "Kogesho") X (Hagaromo x White Apollo sdlg).

**BELGIUM DREAMER** (Willy Hublau, R. 2007). Sdlg. 96 F 20-2. JI (3 F.), 25" (64 cm), ML. S. white edged deep purple-blue; style arms white, blue tips; F. deep purple-blue, white halo and rays, dark purple-blue edge, yellow signal. "ideal line" sdlg. X Peacock Strut.

**BELGIUM WARRIOR** HM 2007

**BELOKRYLY** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-5/5. JI (3 F.), 31" (80 cm), M. S. white ground, veined and spotted wine rose; style arms white, blue spots; F. very faint violet veining on white ground. slight light blue wash near yellow signal. J02-56, unknown X J02-31, unknown.

**BLUE STAR CRAOLA** (Lee Walker, R. 2007). Sdlg. C-96-21-36. JI (3 F.), 31" (79 cm), M. S. dark red-violet base, faint yellow with blue violet center and veining over grey; style arms grey center, red violet rim and tip; F. blue violet halo, faint blue-violet edge extending halfway up, blue violet veining over grey white undertone, medium yellow signal. C-93-68-2: (Cascade Crest x Nobori Ryu) X C-93-75-18: (Nobori-Ryu x Fuji).

**BLUSHING SNOWMAIDEN** AM 2007

**BOB'S CHOICE** (Jill Copeland, R. 2007). Sdlg. P-5. JI (6 F.), 35" (89 cm), EML. F. blue violet (RHS 93B), 94A in center; style arms slightly darker (93A) than F., signal yellow (9B). unknown X Prairie Valor. Ensata 2007.

**BROTHERHOOD GIFT** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 95-180. SPEC-X (reensata), 37" (95 cm), ML. S. open rose purple (RHS 76B) veined darker, ages to (84D), upper  $\frac{3}{4}$  veined darker; style arms open blue (106C), midrib violet (81B), crest (81A/B), center (77D); F. open violet (86A/C) aging to purple (78A/B), signal large yellow veined purple; ruffled; slight sweet fragrance. versata 92-143: (magenta versicolor PK 85 x magenta (3 F.) ensata sdlg.) X Raspberry Rimmed.

**CASCADE RAIN** (Chad Harris, R. 2007). Sdlg. 02JH1. JI (3 F.), 40" (102 cm), ML. S. white sharply edged purple (RHS 86A), lightly stippled same; style arms white edged light blue-violet (93D), large upright crest washed same blue-violet; F. white ground heavily stippled blue violet (89B), blue violet wash covering  $\frac{3}{4}$  of petal intensifying to sharp  $\frac{1}{4}\frac{1}{2}$  blue violet edge, yellow green (2A) signal. Hekiun X Peacock Strut.

**COURTESAN'S CHILD** (Dennis Hager, R. 2007). Sdlg. 00-04-01. JI (6 F.), 42" (107 cm), L. Violet blue (RHS 95B), narrow white halo around yellow signal; style arms white, violet blue edge. King's Court X unknown.



**DARK DARLING** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 01-62-01-109. SPEC-X (reensata), 49" (125 cm), ML. S. violet blue (RHS 90B/C) veined darker, ages to (92B); style arms violet blue (97A/B) borders, center (92C), darker midrib; F. violet blue (90), signal green to yellow surrounded by violet blue (93A) aging to (88B/C). 92biversata 95-137: (biversata Dom011 x (I. versicolor x I. ensata)) X ensata 182 3 F., collected

**DIRIGO PINK MILESTONE** Payne Medal 2007

**DIRIGO STAR** AM 2007

**EARLY EXUBERANCE** (Dennis Hager, R. 2007). Sdlg. 01-17-02. JI (6 F.), 32" (81 cm), E. Violet (near 87A) sometimes appearing violet blue (near 77A), signals yellow; ruffled, velvet texture; style arms violet (near RHS 87C). Shihoden X unknown.

**EASTER PASTEL** HM 2007

**ELEGANT ENCHANTMENT** (Ronald James, R. 2007). Sdlg. RJ 631. JI (6 F.), 41-43" (104-109 cm), M. F. white, veined medium red-violet, yellow signal; style arms white; slight fragrance. Stately Flamingo X unknown.

**GREYWOODS KYOKKO TAZ** (Darlyn Wilkinson, R. 2007). Sdlg. 01-33. JI (6 F.), 34" (86 cm), M. Vivid raspberry violet-purple, small white center, few white lines radiating outward, small green/light yellow signal; style arms clean white tipped raspberry violet. Pink Ringlets X 97-12: (Raspberry Glow x Picotee Princess). Greywood Farm 2007.

**GREYWOODS RIVERTIDE** (Darlyn Wilkinson, R. 2007). Sdlg. 01-41. JI (6 F.), 38" (97 cm), ML. Wavy medium blue, small white lines around signal, fading late in day, signals chartreuse lined chartreuse green; style arms clear white tipped medium blue. Greywoods River Song X Tideline. Greywood Farm 2007.

**GREYWOODS VANITY FLAIR** (Darlyn Wilkinson, R. 2007). Sdlg. 02-29C. JI (6 F.), 33" (84 cm), EM. Wavy white, medium blue halo around signal, many blue lines almost to edges, signals deep yellow lined yellow-chartreuse; style arms violet purple. Greywoods Social Butterfly X Sapphire Crown. Greywood Farm 2007.

**DARK DARLING** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 01-62-01-109. SPEC-X (reensata), 49" (125 cm), ML. S. violet blue (RHS 90B/C) veined darker, ages to (92B); style arms violet blue (97A/B) borders,



center (92C), darker midrib; F. violet blue (90), signal green to yellow surrounded by violet blue (93A) aging to (88B/C). 92biversata 95-137: (biversata Dom011 x (I. versicolor x I. ensata)) X ensata 182 3 F., collected

**JOHN'S FANCY** (Jill Copeland, R. 2007). Sdlg. P-6. JI (3 F.), 34" (86 cm), M. S. light red-violet (RHS 81C),  $\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{2}$  white (155D) edge; style arms violet blue (90A),  $\frac{1}{2}\frac{1}{2}$  white (155D) edge on large crests; F. white (155D), violet blue (93D) halos, violet (88A) veins, signal bright yellow (7A) veined green; very ruffled. Rainbow Darter X M-29: (27-I, unknown x Snook).

#### **LAKE EFFECT HM 2007**

**LA METAIRIE** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 97-66. SPEC-X (versata), 28-31" (70-80 cm), ML. S. white veined lavender, reverse shaded lavender, narrow; style arms cream white edged green; F. white center shading to lavender, darker at edges, bright yellow signals bordered with brown veins; foliage jade green. versicolor 91-415: (white versicolor x white versicolor 615) X ensata 92-199: (white sdlg x self).

**LASTING LOYALTY** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 98-93. SPEC-X (reensata), 41" (105 cm), ML-VL. S. opens violet blue (RHS 90A) changing to (80B/C), veined darker; style arms open violet (88A/86A) becoming (88B), crest darker; F. violet blue (90A to 89C) changing to (81B), ruffled, signal large yellow, veined, yellow extension; slight sweet fragrance. Currier McEwen sib.

**LIGHT REFLECTION** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 95-133. SPEC-X (versata), 35" (90 cm), ML. S. white aging to violet blue (RHS 97-C/B) large; style arms very light blue-white; F. open white aging to violet (97C), edges (97B), signal brown veining covered and radiated by canary yellow and green. versicolor 95-616wht: (versicolor 92-887-2wht x ex.versicolor HA-49wht/lilac) X ensata 95-199-6F: (ensata wh3F x ensata wt6F).

**MAUVE ENCHANTMENT** (Ronald James, R. 2007). Sdlg. X-21-06. JI (3 F.), 39-41" (99-104 cm), ML. S. mauve tipped white; style arms same, dark purple tip; F. light mauve shading darker, long yellow signal surrounded by dark purple veins. Tea Ceremony X Rose Queen.

**MOROZHENOYE S VINOM** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-6/6. JI (3 F.), 31" (80 cm), EM. S. red violet; style arms white ground veined wine red-violet; F. white ground heavily veined wine red-violet, signal yellow. J01-17, unknown, X J02-03, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**NEOKONCHENNAYA POVEST** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-7/3. JI (3-6 F.), 24" (60 cm), L. S. white, wine rose spots when 3 F.; style arms, violet spots and crests; F. white, very faint lilac-rose tint near yellow signal, occasional faint red-violet veining. J02-56, unknown, X J02-31, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**NEW APPROACH** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 98-85. SPEC-X (tet. versata), 49" (125 cm), ML-VL. S. violet blue (RHS 92B), midrib veined darker; style arms and crest (92C), borders (92A); F. violet blue (93A) lighter at edges, signal yellow veined (96C) overlaid extended yellow center line. 94-010-01: (Gentle Lift x self) X self.

**ODA OKE** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-14/1. JI (6 F.), 31" (80 cm), E. F. white ground veined blue, signal yellow; style arms bright violet; ruffled. Ozhidaniye X Pervy Bal. Kaulen 2007.

**POSLEDNIAYA ELEKTRICHKA** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J01-17/2. JI (6 F.), 28" (70 cm), EM. F. violet fading to red violet on third day, dark yellow signal; style arms violet. Parentage unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**PUT PILIGRIMA** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J07-19/1. JI (6-7 F.), 24" (60 cm), E. F. bright dark blue acquiring violet tint on third day, dark violet signal; style arms bright dark blue; ruffled. Osenneye Nebo X Summer Storm. Kaulen 2007.

**RED TESSA** (J. T. Aitken, R. 2007). Sdlg. 97J-7. JI (6 F.), 42" (107 cm), M. F. smooth rose veined burgundy, hairline white rim, sharply defined yellow signal; style arms deep burgundy. Tessa Dark Eyes X unknown. Aitken 2007.

**ROWDEN CAESAR** (Galen Carter, R. 2007). JI (6 F.), 30" (76 cm), EM. F. cerise red fading slightly at edge, flare out flat, signal small bright yellow edged white, white rays extending downward; style arms mauve pink, darker at tips, bunched at center. Parentage unknown. Rowden 2007.

**ROWDEN CONSUL** (Galen Carter, R. 2007). JI (3 F.), 30" (76 cm), M. S. and style arms white edged cerise; F. dark cerise, broad white center, slight blue halo, ruffled and pleated at center edge, signal small, mustard yellow. Parentage unknown.

**ROWDEN EMPRESS** (John & Galen Carter, JI, R. 2002). Rowden 2007.

**ROWDEN NAIB** (Galen Carter, R. 2007). JI (3 F.), 30" (76 cm), ML. S. deep purple-black, tall, broad; style arms same, broad, long; F. deep purple-black, velvety, droop down, small bright yellow signal nearly hidden by style arms. Parentage unknown.

**ROYAL DOLPHIN** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 98-92. SPEC-X (reensata), 39" (99 cm), ML-VL. S. violet (RHS 86B/A) aging to (82B) and (84A), crest (84A/B); style arms (76D) midrib darker, crest (84A); F. violet (89B/A) veined darker, aging to (82A/B), signal large bright yellow, center overlaid with purple veins, extended yellow line; slight sweet fragrance. Sib to Currier McEwen.

**ROYAL DYNASTY** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 98-89. SPEC-X (reensata), 37" (95 cm), ML-VL. S. violet (RHS 88B), midrib (85B), short; style arms (85B), midrib darker, crest (85A); F. purple violet (83C) aging to (77A/B), yellow signal, veined, extended yellow line; slight sweet fragrance. Currier McEwen sib.

**RUSSKIY IZRAZETS** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-14/4. JI (6 F.), 24" (60 cm), M. F. bright violet, light blue flashes, bright light blue area around bright yellow signal; style arms bright violet; ruffled. Ozhidaniye X Osenneye Nebo. Kaulen 2007.

**RUSSKIY ROK** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-8/6. JI (6 F.), 31" (80 cm), M. F. heavy red-violet and blue-violet veining on light blue ground becoming solid blue near yellow signal, narrow white rim; style arms dark violet; ruffled. Osenneye Nebo X Ozhidaniye. Kaulen 2007.

**SEMIKRYLY** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-13/6. JI (6 F.), 24" (60 cm), M. F. heavy wine-violet veining on pale silvery light blue ground, bright yellow signal; style arms dark red-violet; ruffled. Ozhidaniye X Osenneye Nebo. Kaulen 2007.

**SESTRA KOLDUNIYI** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-15/4. JI (6 F.), 30" (75 cm), M. F. red violet veins on light blue ground, lighter toward edges, heavier toward yellow signal; style arms red violet; lightly



**SIBLING'S PRIDE** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 95-179. SPEC-X (reensata), 36" (92 cm), ML-VL. S. violet (RHS 84B), darker veining; style arms violet (85A), crest (85B), lower part (87C); F. violet (86C) aging to (87B), ruffled, signal long yellow veined purple, yellow line extension; slight sweet fragrance. Sib to Akira Horinaka.

**SLUMBERING DRAGON** AM 2007

**SNOOK** HM 2007

**STEP IN** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 03-51. SPEC-X (tet. versata), 49" (125 cm), ML-VL. S. violet (RHS 83B); style arms violet (87C), center violet blue (92), crests lilac pink; F. violet blue (93A), signal yellow overlaid with extending yellow lines. 98-85: (Gentle Lift x self) X self.

**STRASHNAYA SKAZKA** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-8/4. JI (6 F.), 30" (75 cm), E. F. dark ink-violet, tiny light blue lines near bright yellow signal; style arms dark ink-violet; ruffled. Osenneye Nebo X J98-47, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**SUMMER REVELATION** (Tony Huber, R. 2007). Sdlg. 03-44. SPEC-X (reensata), 37" (95 cm), ML. S. violet blue (RHS 90C) aging to (72D); style arms purple (76A/B) changing to blue (110A), center darker; F. violet (83A/B) aging to (83A) in throat, (87A to B) elsewhere, signal white veined yellow, center line overlaid yellow changing to yellow veined purple. 95-192: (Summer Review x self) X Muffled Drums.

\***TOPPICK** (Tony Huber, SPEC-X, R. 1998). Iris City 2007.

**TULSKIY PRIANIK** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-2/3. JI (3 F.), 28" (70 cm), EML. S. bright violet; style arms blue violet spot pattern on white ground; F. white ground, light blue veins, light blue area around light yellow signal. J01-42, unknown, X J00-19, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**TWILIGHT MARBLE** (Lee Walker, R. 2007). Sdlg. T-96-61-7 tet. JI (3 F.), 38" (97 cm), M. S. red violet veined dark red-violet, grey edge; style arms red violet speckled grey; F. speckled red violet cast over grey ground, blue violet halo and veining, medium yellow signal. Royal Burgundy X Popular Demand.



**USLADA** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-1/3. JI (3 F.), 35" (90 cm), EM. S. and style arms wine-pansy-violet-rose; F. white ground, slight wine pansy-violet veining becoming heavier toward center, disappearing at edges, yellow signal. J01-42, unknown, X J00-19, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

**VIOLET CRAOLA VORTEX** (Lee Walker, R. 2007). Sdlg. C-96-63-20. JI (3 F.), 35.5" (90 cm), M. S. grey veined red violet, red violet base and rim; style arms medium red-violet, blue undertone; F. grey-white, red violet base and veins, red violet edge, blue halo, medium yellow signal, ruffled. Jocasta X C-93-75-6: (Nobori-Ryu x Fuji).

**\*VISION OF BEAUTY** (Don Delmez, JI, R. 2006). Delmez 2007.

**WONDERFUL DELIGHT** HM 2007

**ZAOKSKIY** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-7/1. JI (6 F.), 24" (60 cm), M. F. white vein veined bright blue-violet, signal yellow; style arms black violet. J99-08, unknown X J00-25, unknown.

**ZAZERKALIYE** (Mariya Kaulen, R. 2007). Sdlg. J06-7/6. JI (3-6 F.), 35" (90 cm), M. S. (when 3 F.) and style arms wine rose violet, F. same, lighter toward edges, heavier toward yellow signal. J03-11, unknown, X J02-34, unknown. Kaulen 2007.

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## SJI CONVENTIONS THROUGH THE YEARS

*Carol Warner, Upperco, MD*

I am very excited about the opportunity to attend the 2008 SJI Convention in Michigan. For me, the small conventions seem to be friendlier. There is more opportunity to meet and talk with others like myself who like to grow beardless irises. Beardless irises seem to prefer my climate and are less prone to disease and are more favorable landscape plants for my garden.

Looking back at some of my back issues of *THE REVIEW* brings a flood of fond memories of past conventions. My first SJI Convention was in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1985 and I'll never forget the sight of Ensata Gardens, Jim and Jill Copeland's garden with the fish fry and Anna Mae Miller's garden. I was overwhelmed by the beauty of Japanese Irises! The opportunity to have judges training in the garden taught me so much about evaluating these special plants. I had to get as many varieties as possible for my garden at home. The Francis Scott Key Iris Society together with Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society signed up to host the convention in 1989. A trip to South Carolina in 1987 had me joining a robin with a group of other enthusiastic writers.

Our 1989 convention was an unbelievable amount of work but the opportunity to grow and really watch the guest seedlings sent from Japan and other noted hybridizers on a daily basis was a learning adventure. SJI went on to register some of the outstanding seedlings from Japan.

In 1990 I was off to Portland Maine to see the great Currier McEwen's garden and five other outstanding gardens. Not only did I have to have more JI's, I had to add a tricolor beech and a bunch of hosta to my gardens. It was my assignment to write up the McEwen garden for *THE REVIEW*. A cool breeze was blowing in off the Atlantic Ocean, lobsters, clams and corn were steaming under a blanket of seaweed and indescribable Japanese irises were blooming in two huge plots separated into garden rooms. I didn't want to write but rather stay forever right in that spot.

1991 in Portland, Oregon brought us to JI heaven but the JI's were cold and slow to bloom so I started another fascination with peonies. One of my best memories was seeing Lorena Reid's 40 chromosome Sino-Siberians in full bloom. This was the opportunity of a lifetime because Maryland just never seems to have Oregon weather.

In Michigan again in '92, we were treated to a return visit to the Copeland's garden and Ensata Gardens. Three other wonderful gardens showcased Japanese irises to perfection. This convention included sessions on exhibition judging as well as garden judging. Rosalie Figge and I also experienced transporting flowers a long distance in a car to a show. Wrap buds and flowers that are just opening in florist paper or waxed paper, never Kleenex as I did which sucked all the moisture out of each flower.

Virginia Beach in '93, Summerville, South Carolina again in 94 and then back home and having my garden on tour for a second time in '95; it's hard to get my mind around all the fun and wonderful friends and fantastic gardens I had seen. Membership in SJI had soared to over 600 members due mainly to interest created by the conventions.

I had a conflict and missed the St. Louis, Missouri Convention in '96 but was able to attend the International Symposium in Canada in the fall of '97. Unfortunately, our practice of having a convention every year became harder and seemed to conflict with other sections having their separate meetings. The every-three-year-plan was begun and it was a treat to go back to Portland, Oregon again in '99. Finally, the 2005 meeting in Delaware brought us all back together again to see gorgeous bloom from so many hybridizers. It was the first time for many to see the crosses of I ensata and I pseudacorus from Mr. Shimizu in bloom. They are proving to be very vigorous and bloom early and certainly extend the bloom time.

I can hardly wait to see what's new in Michigan this year. I already know it will be fun because my friends are already emailing to see who is coming. I'm so glad it is SJI's year for a convention.

**Michigan will be great in 2008.**



## THE JOYS OF ATTENDING SJI CONVENTIONS

*Anna Mae Miller, Kalamazoo, MI*

In 1964 I visited a few gardens for the Chicago AIS convention - the Dave Hall first TB pinks were new - thus began my joy and "love affair" of attending conventions in different parts of the US & NZ to see the progress in the featured guest irises. I enjoy meeting the hybridizers and officers of AIS and following the changes of new colors, patterns, forms and styles that have developed today's modern iris. Bee Warburton, Boston area became a friend and my roommate at an AIS convention. My first AIS Convention was in 1969 in Milwaukee, WI.

Ronald and I were charter members of SJI and it was a thrill to meet Arlie Payne and other officers. Our local society (Southwestern Michigan Iris Society) put on the first, in 1963 and the second in 1964, Japanese Iris shows in Kalamazoo. Arlie Payne, Terre Haute, IN (who hybridized Japanese Irises, grew about 100,000 JI seedlings starting in 1932 and proceeded to introduce 170 varieties), had corresponded with Dr. Shuichi Hirao, the leading Japanese hybridizer and both attended - we were so excited!

After Terre Haute, IN, and Davenport, IA had Japanese Iris shows, we held our 3rd show in 1980. Currier McEwen visited Kalamazoo in 1982 to judge the Japanese Iris Show. The First Japanese iris "Weekend" was held in 1985. Currier attended and was asked to be one of our show judges. Bill Ackerman was invited as the special banquet speaker. Editor Lee Welsh printed in the Fall 1985 REVIEW, Currier did conclude the "Weekend" by stating: "We must do this again."

That same year, Currier, as President of SJI, asked Virginia Burton of South Carolina if they would consider holding what became known as a "mini JI Convention". They immediately planned the "next" event for 1987. And Kalamazoo immediately began plans for another "mini JI Convention" for 1988. I love seeing how others design their gardens and what companion plants they use.

Many things are happening with Japanese iris hybrids. Tony Huber, Quebec, has made headlines with his interspecies crosses using

*I. versicolor*, *I. setosa*, *I. pseudacorus*, and *I. ensata*. He is a front-runner in these new types of irises which have extended the bloom season. Last June I visited Jim and Jill Copeland's garden which has all the guest irises for the 2008 SJI convention and viewed the success that Dr. Shimizu, Japan has had with the interspecies cross with *I. pseudacorus* and *I. ensata* to give *I. pseudatas*. They have become a popular addition to the Japanese convention. Conventioneers have been seeing them for a few years but there are a large number of Dr. Shimizu's as well as Jill's work to be seen and compared.

The SJI convention is smaller than the AIS conventions so you will have opportunities to have conversations with the hybridizers on the cutting edge. Willie Hublau, Belgium is a hybridizer and is planning to attend as well as Don Delmez, St. Louis, Mo who has many new introductions as well as the 2005 Payne Medal winner, Lorena Reid, Oregon, winner of two Payne Medals and John White, Maine winner of the 2007 Payne Medal with the beautiful pink 'Dirigo Pink Milestone'. Lee Walker, Oregon has sent guests as well as Chad Harris, Oregon. *Ensata* Gardens also have all the guest irises and where you will see two new, wonderful water gardens in America's largest Japanese irises nursery.

We have two other outstanding gardens on the convention. Jim and Bev Munson's garden with an extensive collection of hostas and other perennials is in a wooded site on a lake in the Kalamazoo area. We will visit the beautiful garden of Dick and Eileen O'Melay in Grand Rapids. They collect hostas and dwarf rock garden plants and have lovely trough plantings.

I hope to see all of you at the convention.

*New  
Ensata  
water  
garden*





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Ensata Pond

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Earthart Open Garden Whitney

**Inside Back Cover:**

Russian Irises

Jim Copeland

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**Complete Index** of The SJI REVIEW back to January 1964. This will be invaluable when researching a particular topic or author. It is in downloadable Excel format and many thanks to Jody Nolin who completed this project.

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We are offering two new Japanese irises for 2008, as follows:

**CASCADE RAIN** (C. Harris '08) JI, 40"-". 3F. 1-2 branches with 3 to 5 buds. Large 10", flowers rise 6-8" above the foliage. Foliage is bright green with vigorous growth habit and semi fountain form. Flower standards are crisp white edged sharply in purple. Falls are bright blue with large white blaze heavily flecked blue and a sharp 1/4 inch blue rim. White style arms are edged blue. Large upright crests are washed soft blue. \$35.00

**MARGO-NO-SAKURA** (J. Griner '08) JI, 40". 3F. 2 branches, 3-4 buds. Upright standards are bright pink; style arms are white with lavender pink tips. The wide falls are bright pink with a fine blue halo around the signal and fine blue veins radiating out from the halo. This is one of the last irises registered by the late Joe Griner of New Jersey, which he named in honor of his wife Margo. We have enjoyed growing it here in the Northwest, and believe it will make a lovely addition to your garden as well. \$35.00

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## SJI WEBSITE QUESTIONS

The SJI website gets interesting questions and our members are very good about posting answers.

### Question:

Where can I find information on growing from seed? AZ

### Response:

*Patrick Spence, Woodinville, WA*

There are many books that describe in detail this process. My favorite is "The Japanese Iris" by Currier McEwen. It has a chapter dedicated to seed propagation. It is currently out of print, but you can buy it at Ensata Gardens' web site [www.ensata.com](http://www.ensata.com). They charge \$24.95 + \$1.50 for shipping. You can also find it used at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).

Or, follow these steps.

Fill a 1 gallon pot 2/3 full of seed starter mix.

Place 15-20 seeds evenly around the soil.

Cover with 1/4 inch of seed starter mix or sand.

Set outside in a protected area allowing rain to keep the soil moist.

Water if necessary. JI seeds need at least 1 month of sub 40 degree temperatures to germinate. The viable seeds should germinate in the following spring, but some may wait for the second year. When the seedlings are about 4" tall, transplant to individual pots or a garden spot where you can pamper them. Keep them moist and well fed and they should bloom in their 2nd or 3rd year.

If you live in an area with alkaline soils (high ph levels) stick with the pots using potting soil. JIs will not grow in alkaline soil.

I hope this helps.

### Response:

*John Coble here from Ensata in Michigan*

From the Spring 2001 issue of The Review, I wrote an article for beginners on how to make a cross and plant the seed. Below are the paragraphs I used on germinating seed:

“ In Michigan, we pick the pods in late September as the pods turn tan or brown. Within a couple weeks, crack the pods open and store the seed in marked envelopes. This quick removal of seeds is to remove any worms that eat seed. Seed can be stored for germinating indoors (refrigerated) or planted outside (October in Michigan) for spring germination.

Japanese iris seed need stratification to germinate: a cold chilling period (10-12 weeks) to breakdown one set of germination inhibitors, and a wet period to leach or break down another set of germination inhibitors. Plant seed outdoors in organic rich soil about ½” deep, tamp the soil lightly, keep soil moist in spring as they germinate. When the seedlings are 4-6” tall, thin or transplant to 4-6” apart – mulch and keep moist to damp all summer long. Use a mir-acid type fertilizer monthly.

Indoors, we store the envelopes of seed at room temperature or in the refrigerator. We “package” each cross in old nylons in December. The bundles are all put in a bowl and soaked in water for 12 days, changing water daily. The next to last soak is in 10% bleach water to retard mold on seeds in the refrigeration stage. The drained, wet bundles are then refrigerated for 12 weeks in a zip-lock bag. The seeds are removed from the refrigerator in early February. We spread the seed from each cross on a cup of wet sand, covered with plastic wrap, to watch germination which usually begins in 3 days and will continue for 3 weeks. We then pot up only germinated seedlings to save space under the fluorescent lights, where empty cells in the trays would be wasted space. The plain “shop lights” (cool white) are kept close to the seedlings (even touching) and kept on 24 hours a day. We plant the seedlings outdoors after all danger of frost. The 3 month old seedlings (with the equivalent of 6 months light) grow rapidly, show increase fans in July, and often produce 2-4 bloom stalks per plant the following June. You’re hooked!”



## SOME JAPANESE IRIS RECESSIVES

*John Coble, Ensata Gardens, MI (zone 5)*

The BIG white recessive Hope ! Yes, there are recessive whites. No, all whites are not recessive white. Many white Japanese iris have genes for blue (blue-violet). Japanese iris are like Siberian iris, in that they can carry a gene for blue (blue-violet) but it cannot be expressed without a gene (path) for red-violet (and “pink “ is a form of red in this enzyme game). Pink x pink will give all pinks and/or some whites. Any whites coming from pink/red X pink/red will be a “recessive white”. No blues. If there were any genes for blue in those plants they would be Blue! Blue is dominant in the presence of even a tiny gene for red. But blue is recessive, (as not being expressed) if there are no genes for red pigment. This chemistry lesson needs a whole chapter in a book, not here.

We learned some of our genetics by crossing ‘Burbot’ (full form 6F white) x our best 6F pink sdlg out of ‘Kyokko’. We got 100% purple that were all the same and all 6F! The same year we crossed Ling (6F white) x the same best 6F pink sdlg and also got 100% 6F purple, though a slightly different shade. Since then we have found that ‘Frosted Pyramid’ is a recessive white. You can cross it with a JI with red or pink pigment and only get JI with white, red, or pinks — no blues. And we retain some of those white seedlings from those crosses with nice form for hybridizing as we know that they also are pure white recessive.

The other thing we learned from ‘Frosted Pyramid’ is that it has the genes for a wide color band around the falls, but with a white band on white petals, it is not evident. We crossed ‘Frosted Pyramid’ with ‘Frisled Enchantment’ to get a 12 Fall white with thin red picotee rims!!! We got ‘Lion King’ and all of its sibs had wide red edges on the petals! We didn’t get any blues out of that cross, or we would have named it Bee Bee King !

A cross of ‘Frosted Pyramid’ x our best white sdlg with a blue rim gave us 50% whites and 50% white with blue edges. None were better than the parent sdlg and thus none saved. There was one sdlg in that

cross that was a 6F red-violet: contamination of pollen or a wrong seed got picked up on the kitchen table or potting bench — no miracle — Coble error!

Does anyone have some color ratios to share from crosses with 'Frosted Pyramid'? Or from crosses with other white cultivars?

The other easy ratio to figure out is 3F and 6F. 3F is dominant and 6F is recessive. All crosses of 6F x 6F will give all 6F seedlings. However, most 3F cultivars have some 6F parents or grandparents and are usually heterozygous, having a 6F gene. But the only way to test them is to cross the 3F with a 6F and see if you get any 6F seedlings. If you get all 3F seedlings, then your 3F parent is homozygous dominant, and there are very few of those around. I'm going to list the few that we have found and ask you to add to the lists. Maybe the final lists can be published in the *REVIEW* and be of some help to somebody in the future. If any of you have some crosses that disprove my findings, we can knock off that cultivar from my list.

**Homozygous 3F cultivars:**

MAINE CHANCE, JAPANESE PINWHEEL, ROSE QUEEN, IZU NO UMI, KYOKKO, SILVERBAND, CHITOSE HIME

**Proven Heterozygous 3F cultivars:**

CHIYO NO HARU, POPULAR ACCLAIM, IMPERIAL MAGIC, IMPERIAL PRESENCE, SATOZAKURA, SILVER FILIGREE, EDGED DELIGHT, CROWNING MOMENT, KIYOMAI, HATSUKAGAMI, TIME AND TIDE

Now some cultivars have short standards and some (even like *ensata* species) have tall standards that even tend to flop. This is a different set of genetics or dosage effect that I have not studied... other than to say that crossing a 3F with short standards with a 6F gives 3F offspring with well behaved short standards. Using a 3F with very tall standards can give 3F offspring with floppy standards and sometimes standards that fall over and start to show the beginning of a signal. This is usually not done in a harmonious or stable pattern and is usually a fault.

Look through your records while its winter and see if you can add to either of the lists above. I think it is hard to find a homozygous 3F ?

# **SJI DISPLAY GARDENS**

## **OPEN GARDEN DAY**

### **EARTHEART GARDEN, HARPSWELL, ME**

Reading Carol Warner's suggestions for ways we can learn from display gardens encouraged me to write a little description of our open garden days. We have a good time and many folks consider it an annual event, returning every year.

Our gardens are open to the public on three occasions during the gardening season: Siberian and Japanese open gardens and plant pick up day. Siberian Iris Open Garden is held on the Sunday closest to the Summer Solstice which is usually Father's Day. Many gardening dads like to make a trip to our garden as part of their Father's Day celebration. The Open Garden Day for Japanese Irises is usually the second Sunday of July but we adjust it to work well with the Japanese Iris and Cut Leaf Hosta show sponsored by the Maine Iris Society; sometimes a National Convention requires a change of date. The third open garden is plant pick up day in August. At this time people pick up plants ordered earlier in the season.

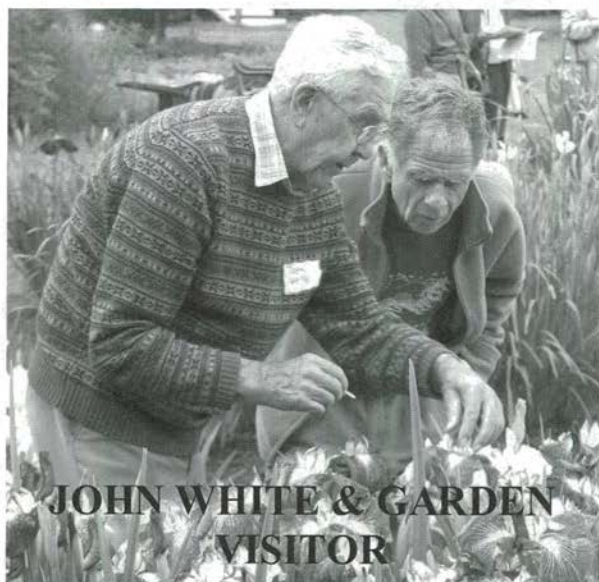
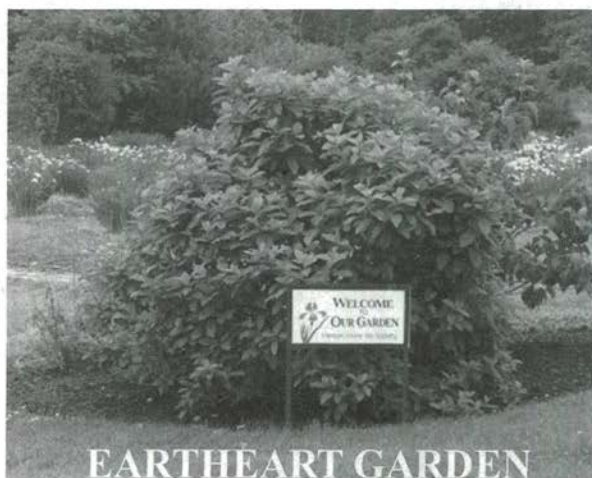
The Harpswell Garden Club generously includes Eartheart Gardens events in their annual booklet. We invite local artists and photographers to offer paintings and cards for sale at the Japanese Iris Open Garden. The garden is open to artists and photographers and by appointment throughout the bloom season.

Visitors to open garden days receive a free seedling. It is great fun when visitors return to our garden with stories of their seedling. John White joins us to share his hybridizing techniques and one of our garden angels is on hand to demonstrate proper planting of Siberian and Japanese irises. I am usually busy showing new seedlings and talking about our breeding program. Others help visitors select plants from containers in which plants started in early spring are growing well and occasionally blooming.

We encourage visitors to bring along a sandwich and join us for lunch on the lawn. We have lemonade and ginger snaps to share.



I am including a couple of photos. One is of John deep in conversation with a visitor; the other of our welcome sign. You will find this sign in the display gardens of members of the Maine Iris Society. Folks enjoy a demonstration and visit with John. Our hope is that his demonstration will encourage people to join in the fun of hybridizing and that we will attract new members to our local and national iris societies!



# SJI TREASURER'S REPORT 12-31-07

BALANCE	DEC 31, 2006	\$15,797.49
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## INCOME

INTEREST	\$640.54	
DUES	\$737.50	
DUES - PAYPAL	\$186.92	
ADVERTISING	\$420.00	
JI BOOK ROYALTY	\$29.48	
LIBRARIAN INCOME	\$30.00	
AUCTION	\$0.00	
DONATIONS	\$0.00	
OTHER	\$16.50	
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<b>\$2,060.94</b>

## EXPENSES

THE REVIEW	(\$2,779.00)	
OTHER PRINT COSTS/		
SUPPLIES	(\$117.29)	
POSTAGE EXPENSE	(\$56.71)	
MEDAL EXPENSE	\$0.00	
PUBLICITY EXPENSE	\$0.00	
SLIDE EXPENSES	\$0.00	
OTHER	\$0.00	
AIS INSURANCE EXP.	\$0.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>		<b>(\$2,953.00)</b>

NET INCOME	(\$892.06)
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BALANCE	DEC 31, 2007	\$14,905.43
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### MEMBERSHIP REPORT-CATHERINE BUTTON

YEAR	MEM	C	L	DA	DT	SA	ST
2003	356	10	70	4	64	35	173
2004	335	10	68	6	58	42	151
2005	302	12	71	4	51	39	125
2006	296	13	70	6	51	24	132
2007	281	14	68	6	46	20	127

## EDITOR'S ESSAY

Conventions are such fun and I'm so glad to be able to go to Kalamazoo again this year!! It is the best place to see all the newest and latest introductions and get great pictures for the REVIEW as well as to see old friends and make new ones! SWMIS are great hosts and the food is always fabulous.

We urge all of you who can possibly do so, to join us in Kalamazoo. Many "big stars" of the JI hybridizing world will be there-Bauer-Coble, Copeland, Delmez, Hublau, Reid, Warner, White, Whitney for you to visit with.

After moving to Dubuque, Iowa just in time for one of the snowiest and coldest winters on record, I am REALLY looking forward to Spring! We have new gardens here where the black soil is a "gift of the gods", quite unlike the difficult clay in Missouri! Things were growing nicely before the first snows arrived and we have great hopes for when the snow is finally gone! I hear tell that snow is great mulch!

*Rita Gormley*

### **FROM SJI TREASURER CATHERINE BUTTON**

We invite all existing members to use the new on-line membership form to renew your membership with PayPal or credit card.

Don't forget, if you want to check what your expiration date is, you can use the SJI membership expiration lookup.

Go to SJI website <http://www.socji.org/> and go to JOIN THE SOCIETY!

The on-line renew option makes it fast and easy to renew your membership and assures that you will never miss an issue of the REVIEW!



## A REPORT OF THE RUSSIAN PROJECT

*Phil Cook, Sharon Whitney, and Jill Copeland*

In 2004 James Waddick sent *I. ensata* seed collected by Nina Alexeeva from various locations in Eastern Russia to Phil Cook, Sharon Whitney, and Jill Copeland. The assignment was to grow 10 *I. ensata* plants from each location. The purpose of growing the Japanese iris plants was two fold. First was to compare the JIs from each region with each other. Second was to find anything unique that would be helpful to hybridizers. Nina Alexeeva wrote a very entertaining report of her adventures collecting these seeds in volume 77 of the SIGNA Bulletin pages 3877-3883.

Most of you know that Sharon worked with the late Currier McEwen and George Rodionenko and other Russians on the "Deep Freeze" project. The project is to develop some modern JIs that can be enjoyed by the Russian people. You can read more about this project in the Review vol. 42 in two articles. One by Irina Makarova Japanese Iris in St. Petersburg starting on page 50 and the other is by Sharon, herself, Project Deep Freeze starting on page 54. Sharon is from coastal Maine (zone 5) and is fortunate to live on one of the few pockets of sandy loam on the peninsula. Freezing rain is the big killer of JIs in that area. She beefs up the soil with compost to help with moisture retention as well as nutrients. The fall before planting, she tilled compost into the planting bed, as usual. After the seedlings were planted, they were mulched with pine needles.

Phil is working on early blooming and small JIs. Phil is from Vermont (zone 4) and his soil is dark brown clay. The bed for this project was established in an abandoned meadow, which was mowed several times in the summer of '04 before receiving two treatments of RoundUp in '04, and another treatment early in the summer of '05. The seedlings, which were left in the pots over the winter, were lined out in trenches in which additional peat and compost had been mixed at the time of planting.

To her husband's dismay, Jill just can't resist a project. Jill's garden is in Michigan (zone 5) and the soil is a sandy-loam augmented with horse manure and aggressively fertilized with 19-19-19- or urea and watered heavily. She mulches with chopped straw to prevent weeds and to conserve moisture.

There were 9 batches of seed representing 9 regions in Eastern Russia. One batch failed to germinate so 8 groups were evaluated.

Most of the flowers were full red violet and velvety and all were 3-fall types except one. All bloomed early some very early. All were pendant but most had excellent substance. They were aggressively pendant with so much substance that they didn't move in the breeze. Many of them had no branches. Some had repeat bloom. Some didn't make bee pods, which probably means that there are different pollinators in Eastern Russia than those in the United States.

One of the most interesting groups of seeds came from the Iliinka Hanka Lake area. About half of the plants from this group bloomed very early some up to two weeks early. Jill found only one repeat bloomer and it came from this area. Sharon had one that bloomed with creamy signals. This group had the longest bloom season.

Another interesting group came from the Romashki Hasanskyi area. Most of these plants had small flowers and were short. Phil had one plant with 6-F. For a recessive trait to be expressed, it must be present in the group in a significant number. The plants from the Kraskino Oktiaborsky area, also, had small flowers and short plants.

So far, we found no unique petal color, no continuous bloom, no better branching, and no ability to adapt to different conditions. Some of these haven't been tested for and others may be recessive and be there but not expressed.

Repeat bloom and a 6-F plant were found but there already are better repeat bloomers. Sharon found the most repeat bloom. Is that because she lives on the coast like Terry Aitkin who gets lots of repeat bloom, too? There is no shortage of 6-F type JIs. Great substance and velvety finish are, also, abundant in modern JIs.

We did find some things that are worth adding to the gene pool. One thing is very early bloom onset. All three gardens found some of

these plants to start blooming very early. Jill had some start blooming with the TBs consistently. Sharon reported a plant in bloom with Siberians, 3 days before 'Seaway's Outset' (McEwen '99), 6 days earlier than 'Enkaishu' and more than a week earlier than 'Springtime Snow' (Reid '85).

All of the plants hardened off to the cold at first frost even though most of the other JIs in the garden didn't. This trait may be the key to Russian hardiness. So hybridizers interested in the Deep Freeze Project may want these genes.

Another set of genes that should be added to the gene pool is the small short plants. This would get JIs in the front of the border and would be good for small pool edges.

The most important discovery of this project is a plant that Sharon found with cream signals. This opens up many new combinations for JIs and their hybrids. With all these traits are the problems of narrow petals, pendant falls, and dominant red-violet color. It will take a lot of work and time for hybridizers to capitalize on the good traits.

Contact the authors for more information and availability of seed or plant material.

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Sharon Whitney

Jill Copeland

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Sharon@eartheartgardens.com

Jandjcope@aol.com

## **ROBINS FLYING !**

We are pleased to report that the Robins are up and going. 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: cindy@riverstonequarry.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: hager@aredee.com; www.socji.org





**ONLY DOUBLE  
(6 FALL)  
SEEDLING IN  
PROJECT**



**CLUMP OF  
RUSSIAN JI -  
PENDANT FORM**

**COMPARISON  
OF SIGNALS -  
RUSSIAN JI**



# GREYWOOD FARM

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greywoodfarm@comcast.net

## 2008 Introductions of Darlyn Wilkinson



GREYWOODS MISS MAYBERRY



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VIEW DESCRIPTIONS AND ALL OUR PRIOR JI AND  
DAYLILY INTRODUCTIONS AT:

<sup>44</sup>  
<http://greywoodfarm.squarespace.com>