

Bulletin of the

American Iris Society

Number 296 January 1995

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ARILIA ACRES



CRYSTAL MORN
H. Shockey '95 - TB

LANCER
H. Shockey '95 AB 1/2 (CGB)



Please see advertisement on page 55

**BULLETIN
OF THE
AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**

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THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

A nonprofit institution incorporated Feb. 2, 1927, in the County of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania. By the terms of the Charter, the Corporation has no stockholders and exists for the sole purpose of promoting the culture and improvement of the IRIS.

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Youth: Jean Morris, 682 Huntley Heights, Ballwin, MO 63021, (314) 256-3927

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On the cover is a scene from The Iris Pond, the garden of Clarence and Suky Mahan in McLean, Virginia. Photo by Dennis B. Gates.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

There are many AIS members who spend large amounts of time working to keep the affairs of The American Iris Society running smoothly. The society has sustained a great loss recently with the passing of Kay Nelson-Keppel, whose involvement with the AIS began at a young age assisting her father, J. Arthur Nelson, when he was Editor of the Bulletin. For many years Kay was a tireless worker as the AIS Registrar and as Advertising Editor for the Bulletin, also, until her death in August. She will be sorely missed.

As the society moves forward into 1995, the seventy-fifth anniversary year, the Board has extended thanks to two persons who are retiring from important positions, Hilda Crick as Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training and Glenn Corlew as Treasurer. Each of the two has done an outstanding job. Changes in the roster of officers, directors, and committee chairmen are not usually noted in this column, but once in a while it is good to emphasize that the efforts of those involved are never taken for granted and are always appreciated, even when recognition is not spelled out. Each year a few Regional Vice Presidents finish their terms of office and new ones are approved to take their places. The gratitude of the Board of Directors and the membership goes out to the retiring RVPs, and a warm welcome is extended to all their replacements. Welcome, also, to Bonnie Nichols, who will become the new AIS Treasurer. Glenn Corlew was named Chairman-elect of Judges and Judges' Training at the spring Board meeting and will now officially begin the duties of that office. Keith Keppel will continue Kay Nelson-Keppel's work as Registrar, and Jean Erickson is the new Advertising Editor.

It is important to note that all workers in the AIS are deserving of praise, but sometimes capable persons are never approached about performing a task, simply because no one is aware of their expertise or their desire to help. Let your affiliate President, your Regional Vice President, an AIS Board member, or a committee chairman know of your interests and/or experience. Perhaps now that the holidays are over and the winter is lingering on, you may find the time to turn this over in your mind and sit down and write a letter to the appropriate person.

Look ahead to the spring convention in York, PA, and make plans to come if you possibly can for The American Iris Society's seventy-fifth anniversary celebration.



NEW DIRECTOR LYNDA MILLER

Born and raised on the banks of the Wabash River in Indiana, Lynda was a true country girl with a cat and a dog always at her side. When she married Roger in 1970, she also married the world of irises, even one of their first dates was a trip to the Moldovan Garden to pick up his iris order. Lynda took to the iris like a duck to water, especially after Roger showed her how to hybridize. In 1974 she became Secretary - Treasurer of the Dwarf Iris Society and attended her first National Iris Convention in Roanoke, Virginia. Besides being a life member of AIS and an active Master Judge, she has served as Regional Vice President of Region 6.

Lynda and Roger's love of plants in general led them to start Miller's Manor Gardens in 1978. It was a hobby that simply got out of control, and still is. Lynda is in charge of overseeing the nursery while Roger still works a full time job away from home, (and a full time job in the nursery also.) The line of plants the nursery carries has changed over the years, so Miller's Manor Gardens is known locally for having rare and unusual perennials and shrubs. The catalog has gone from just listing bearded irises, to carrying Siberian irises, daylilies, hostas, and other perennials. And, to keep them busy, they purchased a place in southern Indiana two years ago, so now part of their irises are growing in a location which is a four-hour drive away. Someday they plan on the whole nursery moving to southern Indiana.

Lynda does most of the hybridizing, even the iris lines have expanded to contain all of the bearded classes from MDB's to TB's. She is also in charge of the catalog and the digging and processing of all orders. If you have a problem with an order, talk to Lynda but after dark, because that is the time they eat year round, dark. The business keeps Lynda very busy seven months of the year. In her spare time she is an active member of three iris societies, one hosta society and one daffodil society, bowls in two bowling leagues, and is an avid reader of historical romances. To Roger's chagrin, she is also a collector. Most of the iris artifacts she collects are mugs, collector plates and magnets. Along with Roger, she collects rare or unusual plants and shrubs, but what she has collected since childhood are antique saltcellars and cats (live ones, she has seven and one stray she feeds at the present time.)

Living at a plant nursery has become an influence on their two grown sons who are still living (mostly sleeping) at home. The oldest one is a landscape and mowing foreman at a large nursery in Ft. Wayne; the youngest, after being gone for several months in the Army, couldn't wait to return to his bonsai plants.



**AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
75TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
York, Pennsylvania
May 23-28, 1995**

**Sponsored by the Susquehanna Valley
Iris Society**

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

The Ramada Inn
Toronita Street
York, Pennsylvania 17402

1650

(717) 846-4940

Rates: \$60 per room for any number of guests. Book reservations with Ramada Inn, stating that you are with AIS. All unreserved rooms blocked for the convention will be released after April 25, 1995. There is free parking for those who drive to the convention and free bus service to and from the Harrisburg International Airport at the following times:

Monday, May 22	12 Noon and 6 p.m.
Tuesday, May 23	9 a.m.; 11 a.m.; 2 p.m.; 6 p.m.
Wednesday, May 24	9 a.m.; 11 a.m.; 2 p.m.; 6 p.m.
Sunday, May 28	8 a.m.; 10 a.m.; Noon; 2 p.m.; 4 p.m.

Convention Registration Fee: Adults - \$178.00 -- Youth Under 18 - \$150.00

Partial Registration: Specify if you do not plan to attend any of the following:

Welcome Dinner or Awards Banquet -- Deduct \$25.00 for either
All Garden Tours (gardens, buses, and lunches) are a package deal, deduct \$70.00.

Partial registration rates are available for advance reservations only.

Full registration refunds will be made if notice is postmarked no later than April 20, 1995. No refunds thereafter.

Send Registration Fees to: Jay Holcomb
824 Brookside Drive
Boalsburg, PA 16827
(814) 466-6114

Make checks payable to 1995 AIS Convention and mail with Registration Form.

Optional Tour Fees are based on a minimum of 25 people per tour. If insufficient registrations are received, money will be refunded.

Tuesday, May 23: AMISH COUNTRY - Depart 9 a.m. - \$22.00
Tuesday, May 23: KEGERISE GARDENS - Depart 10 a.m. - \$35.00
Tuesday, May 23: ATLANTIC CITY - Depart 7:30 a.m. - \$22.00
Wednesday, May 24: OUTLET SHOPPING - Depart 10 a.m. - \$15.00
All who go outlet shopping get coupons valued at \$70 which are good at 150 factory outlets.

Wednesday, May 24: GETTYSBURG - Depart 8 a.m. - \$25.00

Wednesday, May 24: HARLEY DAVIDSON - Depart 9 a.m. - \$22.00

Optional tours must be scheduled at the time of registration and no later than April 20, 1995.

Atlantic City Tour: A trip to the gaming casinos, outlet shopping is for shopping, Harley Davidson is a tour of the factory and the Harley Museum, Gettysburg is a tour of the battlefield with a guide, including the electric map, and the Amish tour highlights the Amish way of life and their farming methods.

A 75th Anniversary commemorative plate of The American Iris Society will be available. It is strictly limited edition, bone China, made by world famous Pfaltzgraff of York, Pennsylvania. These are available on a first-come basis and may be purchased at Ramada Headquarters as long as supply lasts.

REGISTRATION FORM AIS
75TH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION
1995 York, Pennsylvania

NAMES _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

REGION _____ PHONE _____

_____ #Adult registration @ \$178	_____ # Atlantic City Tours @\$22
_____ #Youth Registration @\$150	_____ # Outlet Shopping Tours @\$15
_____ #Amish Country Tours @\$22	_____ #Gettysburg Battlefield @\$25
_____ #Kegerise Garden Tours @\$35	_____ #Harley Davidson Tours @\$22

Total Enclosed _____

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1995

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1991 - 1995 INTRODUCTIONS - mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM WINNERS - 1992 - 1994

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1994 AIS Symposium

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types - especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1991 WASHINGTON D.C. CONVENTION

1994 PORTLAND CONVENTION

IRIS TRIVIA - This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Chairman
Slides Committee
3455 Vallejo Ct.
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Phone: (719) 598-2024

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARILBREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANA: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society for Siberian Irises. Rental fee is \$7.50.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.

AIS SALES ITEMS

HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS	complete ...	\$6.00	
.....	pages only ...	\$4.00	
IRIS SHOW POSTERS	Packet of 6, ..	\$10.00	
Promote your show with these full-color posters 11" x 16".			
AIS LAPEL PINS			
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin 1/2" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.			
1994 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses		\$10.00	
1939 CHECK LIST		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1949 CHECK LIST		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1959 CHECK LIST		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1969 CHECK LIST		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1979 CHECK LIST		\$17.00	
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registration 1970-79.			
1989 CHECK LIST		\$15.00	
Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980-89.			
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—			
1990	\$4.00	1993	\$5.00
1991	\$5.00	1994	\$5.00
1992	\$5.00		
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available			
\$3.00			
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS			
\$2.50			
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.			
AIS SEALS			
Pack—\$2.50; 5 Packs — \$10.00			
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on a silver background. (50 per pack)			
RHS COLOUR CHARTS			
\$45.00			
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.			
1995 AIS CALENDAR			
\$5.00 —10 for . \$30.00			
BASIC IRIS CULTURE			
\$1.25, 25 for . \$15.00			
IRIS POST CARDS (16 per pack)			
1 pack — \$4; 3 packs—\$10; 10 packs — . \$25			

Prices include postage and handling.

Make checks payable to The American Iris Society

Send order to Charles J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132-1808
Phone (918) 445-2222

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual \$ 12.50	Dual Triennial 37.50
Single Triennial 30.00	Single Life 250.00
Dual Annual 15.50	Dual Life 300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin	3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin	4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual \$15.00	Dual Annual \$18.00
Single Triennial 37.50	Dual Triennial 45.00

Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

*PLANNING
TO MOVE ?*



*DON'T FORGET
TO NOTIFY THE
MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY*

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

JUDGES FOR 1995

The letter preceding the judge's name designates the type of judge; (A)-Apprentice; (G)-Fully Accredited; (AM)-Active Master; (RM)-Retired Master; and (E)-Emeritus. An asterisk (*) denotes the region's RVP.

REGION 1

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 G John H. Burton, II
 G Lucy G. Burton
 G L.L. Doucette
 G Mrs. L.L. Doucette
 G Chandler Fulton
 G Elaine Fulton
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 G Ken Roberts
 G Daniel Schlanger
 G William C. Smoot
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 A Frances Thrash
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 G Alma P. Burgamy
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 G Hugh Thurman
 G Mary Thurman
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 A Tommy Nollie
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 G Nancy D. Pocklington
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 AM Mrs. C.J. Simon
 G Cathy Simon
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G Sylvia W. Smith
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 G Dorman Haymon
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 G Ed Ostheimer
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 G Rose Mary Baier
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 AM George F. Lankow
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 AM Ray Schreiner
 E Robert Schreiner
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 G James Whitely
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 A Ladona Cypret
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 RM F. Duncan Eader
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 G Dr. Herbert C. Holk
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 A Mary Ann Spurlock
 AM Kay Tearington
 G Jane Troutman
 E Marion R. Walker
 G Jack Weber
 G John Wight

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*G Catherine Boyko
 A Chuck Chapman
 G Harold Crawford
 AM Donald V. Fritshaw
 G Tom Johnson
 AM Verna Laurin
 G Daniel P. McMillen
 G Gloria McMillen
 G James McMillen
 A Irene Specogna
 A Ken Viner

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 A Venetia Beckhusem
 AM Mrs. Lawrence Burt
 E Marie Caillet
 G J. Farron Campbell
 A Edna Carrington
 RM Valera V. Chenoweth
 G Dorothy D. Coker
 RM Dr. Jesse W. Collier
 E Mrs. Walter Colquitt
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 AM Jim D. Coward
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 G Dana Glaser
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 G Patsy L. Rosen
 A Charlene Seifert
 AM Capt. Otis R. Skinner, Jr.
 AM Mrs. Otis R. Skinner, Jr.
 G Keith Smith
 RM Frank L. Stephens
 G Debra Strauss
 G Ellen Sullivan
 RM Mrs. A.M. Tallmon
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 G Mary Wilber
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 G Nancy Bamum
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 AM Mrs. August Bellagamba
 RM Clifford W. Benson
 G Patricia Bitzer

G Vincent Bitzer
 AM Chester Blaylock
 G Mrs. Chester Blaylock
 G Roy Bohrer
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 G Louie Chestnut
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 G Donald Delmez
 AM Dolores Denney
 G Marie C. Dienstbach
 G Ralph H. Dierkes
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 G Geneva Dies
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 G Frances Evans
 AM Norman Gossling
 A Anna Hahn
 A Clyde Hahn
 *G Mike Hargrove
 G Jim Hedgecock
 RM Calvin H. Helsey
 RM Annabel Hennrich
 A Dan Isbell
 G Vince Italian
 A Mitch Jameson
 AM Rev. Robert R. Jeffries
 A Denyse Johnson
 G Audrey Judy
 G Dan C. Judy
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 AM Mrs. Edwin W. Knight
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 G Riley Probst
 AM James Rasmussen
 AM Helen E. Reynolds
 AM Mrs. Robert H. Robinson
 AM Elvan E. Roderick
 AM Mrs. Elvan E. Roderick
 A Barbara Schuette
 G Dale E. Smith

G Mrs. Dale E. Smith
 G Stephen P. Smith
 G Susan H. Smith
 G Von Smith
 G Mrs. Von Smith
 G Mrs. Herman Stedman
 G Stephen Stevens
 G Mrs. Stephen Stevens
 G Eric Tankesley-Clarke
 G Robert Tankesley-Clarke
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 *G Joseph J. Griner
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 G Michael W. McCarthy
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 AM James G. Burch
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M Robert Raabe
G John Taylor

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G. Koen Engele

ENGLAND

G C.E.C. Bartlett
E H.R. Jeffs
M G.H. Preston
M N.K. Scopes

FRANCE

M Jean Cayeux
M Dr. Jean Segui

GERMANY

G Rainer Zeh

ITALY

G Anne Bianco

G Augusto Bianco
G Maria Carla Monaco
G Valeria Romoli Pallesi
M Prof. Gian Luigi Sani
G Doralisa Ravenni Santi

JAPAN

M Akira Horinaka

American Iris Society Conventions

1995	York, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	
1997	Detroit, MI	
1998	Denver, CO	
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	
2000	Dallas, TX	

Fall Board Meetings

1995 Oklahoma City, OK



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

YOU COULD BE \$100 RICHER IN 1995!

No, this is not a sweepstakes claim. It is a true statement meant to announce the YOUTH ESSAY CONTEST with a bit of eye-catching appeal. All AIS youth members are eligible to participate, regardless of age, so let us hear from you in 500 words or less. The topic for 1995 is: "What is so great about an iris?" Mail your entry, by March 15th, to Catherine Long Gates, 3033 Jefferson, Boulder, CO 80302.

The youth essay contest is administered by the AIS Foundation and is made possible by a donation from Mrs. Robert Thurn as a memorial to her parents, Jay and Marian Ackerman.

To write an essay in four easy steps, do the following. (1) Write down a few of your ideas about this year's topic, (2) develop a paragraph about each of your ideas, (3) add a short introduction paragraph at the very beginning and a short conclusion paragraph at the end of your essay, and, (4) have an adult check your spelling and grammar before you recopy or type your final, corrected version. This is not a great deal of work for a chance to win \$100. So get busy right away, beat the March 15th deadline and be watching your mailbox for that \$100 check. No famous celebrity will be knocking on your door, but the money will be easy to spend, all the same.

REMINDER—Nominations for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement are due by January 31, 1995, so please mail them as soon as possible to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Hgts. Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021. Please read the guidelines and rules for this contest in the October AIS BULLETIN and take a moment to encourage an AIS youth from your region by writing a nomination.

Think about who participates at meetings and shows, who is an active hybridizer, who is a dependable worker at sales and exhibits or who grows a fine iris garden. Who promotes your local club and AIS to others or who is striving to learn more about all types of irises by asking questions? Who has written iris articles for publication or has taken judges' training? Who shows leadership? Your nominee need not excel in all areas mentioned in the guidelines to be considered. Each RVP, Regional Youth Chairman, Local Youth Advisor, Affiliate President and others who want to invest in the future of AIS should contemplate writing a nomination and should encourage others to do so as well.

Don't let the youth of your region down. There are many deserving youths, so do your part and nominate someone today. The Youth Committee is grateful to all who foster our young people in this way and in all the other ways.

GROWING SPURIAS IN ARID CLIMATES

Floyd Wickenkamp (Arizona)

Before getting down to specifics of spuria culture in areas of little rainfall, a little background on spuria species might be in order since their origins and growth habits account in some measure for the cultural needs of the hybrids. Most of the species are native to the middle latitudes starting on both sides of the Mediterranean Sea and extending through Romania, Asia Minor, Turkey, Southern Siberia, Kashmir and Western China, generally, but not always, in desert or semi-desert areas with minimal summer precipitation. In the more northern latitudes, they tend to prefer the sunny, south sides of hills or mountains, but further south they will be found in areas of partial shade as well as full sun.

A review of recent registrations of spuria by AIS reveals that spuria hybridizing is concentrated primarily in California, Missouri, Arizona, Australia and the French Riviera. Within the U.S., most of the active hybridizers live in areas with less than 15 inches of rain a year and with only modest amounts of precipitation during the summer. Likewise, a check of the membership of the Spuria Iris Society shows that a third of them live in California, Texas or Arizona.

Here in the Sonoran Desert, we have a climate that includes long, hot summers with little rain and mild winters which allow the spurias to grow throughout the colder months. The majority of them go dormant around the middle of July and do not revive until they are watered in mid-September or early October. Some growers try to keep them growing during the summer, but if they go dormant in spite of the watering, rot is likely to develop. Because they grow so rapidly during the fall, there is little to be gained by forcing summer growth. For the evergreen varieties, such as BELISE, watering should be continued at a sufficient rate to keep them green, but heavy flooding should be avoided.

No two people probably have the same ideas on how to grow spurias. The Shepards grow theirs on ridges with watering being done by means of drip lines on the tops of the ridges. This seems to work well as evidenced by the tremendous growth achieved on their hundreds of clumps. I plant my rhizomes in shallow ditches, two or three inches deep to retain the water. These ridges do not last long though, as the newly tilled soil is loved by the Gambel's Quails as places to take dust baths, and the curve-billed Thrashers and Abert's Towhees like to dig numerous holes looking for sow-bugs or other tasty morsels. In any event, don't skimp on water during the fall and spring growth periods.

While planting in full sun is desirable in many parts of the country, here in the desert I find the plants will do well in light shade. While the lighter color blossoms do not mind the heat so much, the darker ones will often have their blossoms last only one day or even dry up without opening when the temperature gets up in the nineties. I have some of my clumps of the darker ones under the shade of a Lysiloma tree, and other beds have overhead covers of nylon or polyethylene netting (60% or so rating) which protects them from the worst of the heat.

Fertilizer is another matter of choice. I find that the spurias like plenty of nitrogen, so I usually use either 16-16-16 or 16-20-0 pellet fertilizer rototilled into the bed along

with plenty of mulch, followed by side dressings in fall and early spring. When I want maximum possible increase for the seedlings and new introductions, I apply a weak solution of 15-30-15 liquid fertilizer every ten days or so during the growing season. This is done by means of a "Syphonex" hose attachment which gives a 27 to 1 ratio of dilution. Two cups of the powder in a five gallon pail gives me the strength I want.

Here in the desert where the soil is alkaline, no effort is made to change the pH unless it is strongly alkaline. In this case, gypsum should be added to reduce the alkalinity. Even in the desert, there are areas where the soil is neutral or even acid, in which case the pH might well be corrected as spurias do not like highly acid soil and will refuse to grow well in such soil. This may be the reason why so many people in the Eastern and Midwestern states report difficulty in getting good growth. This is evident from the poor showing of the spurias at some of the national conventions, particularly when they try to grow them like they do the TBs. I grew spurias for many years in northern Virginia, so I know they will do well in that type of climate, if properly handled.

I usually try to complete planting by early October to give the plants a long growing season, but even if planting is delayed until well into November in this area, little harm is done. Spurias are somewhat slower to bloom than most of the bearded irises, but once they are in the ground, they may be left for several years to achieve a large clump without a decrease in the amount of bloom.

The chief enemy of spurias among the fungi is mustard seed fungus. This fungus flourishes under conditions of high temperatures accompanied by high humidity. This is another reason why watering should be avoided during the summer "monsoon" periods. Terraclor fungicide is an effective control, and even though it is expensive, a little goes a long way. I dip the rhizomes before planting in a solution of Terraclor and follow up by spraying the beds with a weak solution of the chemical. A teaspoonful in a six quart spray can of water will cover a bed fifteen to twenty feet long and should provide adequate protection until the bed is re-dug.

POSTER CONTEST WON BY NANCY HARKINS

James Rasmussen (Kansas)

The judging of entries for the 1995 Poster Contest was held in Portland at last year's convention. Selected to be made into a poster was a watercolor painting of a white iris created by Nancy Harkins of the Region 22 Tulsa Club. Nancy also had been the artist who won the competition to design the Wister Medal which was cast a few years ago.

Runners-up were Carole Breedlove, Tacoma, Washington; Pamela Rattray Brown, Inman, South Carolina; and Patricia Shirley, Newport Beach, California. The competition provided a new outlet for talent in the AIS. The 41 requests for contest rules and regulations came from all parts of the nation. Eleven original works of art were submitted to be judged by a panel consisting of Carolyn Hawkins, Anna Mae Miller, and George Waters.

CULTURE OF SPURIAS IN THE MIDWEST

Dave Niswonger (Missouri)

It has often been said that transplanting spurias is the hardest part in growing them. There is a lot of truth to that statement, but the implication may be that after this is accomplished there is nothing more to do—"All you have to do is stand back and watch them grow." As is true with most beardless irises, you can't let the roots dry out when transplanting them, but once they have become established you don't have to worry about keeping them watered to keep them from dying. It is true that you don't need to replant them as often as tall bearded irises—they just keep spreading out in growth. A friend gave me a rhizome of SUNNY DAY (Sass'32) and I planted it without much enthusiasm. After six years in the same spot, I had a clump about three feet in diameter and about fifty or sixty bloom stalks. This is what got me interested in growing spurias. I didn't give them any special attention, but I did keep them free of weeds and cultivated.

Some of us who grow spurias are coming to the conclusion that we probably don't feed them enough or give them enough water when they are in active growth. Some time ago, I discovered that my spurias would grow in ground that was almost too wet for tall bearded irises. In fact, the land behind my house that I use for a garden is the last ground to dry out in the spring when I want to plant my vegetable garden, but my spurias grow much better there than anywhere else that I plant them. This fall as I transplanted my spuria seedlings that I had grown there, I was amazed at the size of the rhizomes. I had also given them more fertilizer than previously (I used a side dressing of 6-24-24 in early spring and a slow release fertilizer, Osmocote, of 14-14-14 that releases over a three to four month period. At times, I thought it might be too wet for them with the spring rains, but they loved it.

Since spurias have such robust growth, we might think that they can be neglected especially after we have enjoyed the bloom. Here in the Midwest, we can't turn off the rain, and we continue to have it after the spurias have bloomed. This encourages the weeds and grass to grow, and if they are not kept under control, they will take away the moisture and fertilizer that the spurias need. There is also another factor known as mustard seed fungus (*Sclerotium rolfsii*) which will cause them to have crown rot if it rains and they are smothered with weeds and the temperature is over 90 degrees, which it usually is in Southeast Missouri. So, keeping them cultivated will preserve the moisture with the dust mulch and also prevent the weeds from taking over, thus giving good growth for the coming year.

You would think that as tough as the spurias foliage is that borers would have no interest in them. This is not true. The borers love them. However, they don't always show up in the rhizome as they do with tall bearded irises. They are often high up in the foliage eating out the bloom that is trying to come forth. So, if you don't have any bloom in the spurias, you may want to look for borers. If you live in borer country as is true in the Midwest, they should be sprayed with a systemic spray such as Cygon 2E.

Spurias love the sun and need a little over one half day where I live, In Northern Missouri or Illinois, they need a full day of sun. Most hybrid spurias grow about 40 inches tall for me, but in the Southwest or Southern California, they can grow six feet tall. Boy, do they love the sun!

When I line out my stock in the country where I have more room, I plant spurias in the same row where I am planting my tall bearded. I will sometimes put compost or Osmocote in the row where I am planting them and will see that I have plenty of water in the row and plant them about one inch deeper than the tall bearded. I weed, cultivate and spray just as I do the tall bearded. If you are planting them in a perennial bed or planting them for show or maximum performance, I would dig a hole about 12 to 18 inches in diameter and work in a gallon of compost or peat about one foot deep, sprinkle a handful of bone meal and Osmocote 14-14-14, fill the hole with water and plant the spuria an inch deeper than you plant TBs--maybe two inches if you have sandy soil, then mulch lightly to hold the moisture--then when the ground is frozen, add more mulch for the winter. After they come through the winter and start to grow just keep them clean and feed and water as I have mentioned.

I hope I haven't made this sound too difficult. I simply want to say that spurias will respond to care. We are getting many new shades of lavender (I want to say pink but not quite yet), rose, white, brown, near black, blues that are truly blue, bicolors, those with haloes, maroons and near reds and some without signals. They extend the iris bloom season blooming one to two weeks after the TBs are finished, sometimes serve as a backup squad if a late freeze has wiped out your TB bloom. They serve as fine accent plants in the rear of a perennial border, and if you get the summer green hybrids, they provide fine green foliage all summer--farther north, even the summer dormant types stay green all summer. They can be transplanted in early spring up until they bloom (a note of caution; if you are too late in transplanting them in the spring, they may go dormant and not green up until fall) and of course, the usual time to plant them is in September, October and early November here in the Midwest. They also provide flowers easy to work with in arrangements and shows and will last three days at least. You can, therefore, see that everyone should grow some. Happy Spuriaing!

Additional Show Information

Two show reports for fall shows arrived too late to be included in the regular report. One show was held in Region 4 at College Park, Maryland. The other show was in Chico, California. Rex L. Clark won the silver medal; Leo and Norma Barnard won the bronze. Best specimen was the SDB SMELL THE ROSES exhibited by Bob Annand. In the Youth Division, Kris Kool won the silver medal and Anna Kool won the bronze. Kris entered the best specimen with VICTORIA FALLS. Rex Clark won the medal for his educational exhibit.

THE SJI CONVENTION IN SUMMERVILLE

Carol Warner (Maryland)

The 1994 convention for The Society for Japanese Irises was hosted by the Summerville Iris Society in Summerville, South Carolina. Southern hospitality abounded as the conventioners gathered at the Holiday Inn on Thursday, June 2.

A glorious dinner cruise of the Charleston Harbor was hosted by the Summerville Iris Society for those who could arrive in time for the 6 p.m. departure. A brief rain had fallen as the bus approached the pier and a beautiful rainbow could be seen as we left the dock. A feast of seafood, barbecue, corn, potatoes, and homemade cake was served as we cruised out toward the harbor.

Friday morning began with a "Welcome Breakfast" at 8:00, followed by judges' training, taught by Lorena Reid. She discussed the terminology used in describing Japanese Irises and showed slides to depict examples of the many forms and patterns characteristic of Japanese Irises.

Our afternoon tour began in B.C. and Maggie Johnson's garden and nursery in St. Stephens. This very large garden had lots to see, including DAYLILIES, ANNUAL PHLOX, HYDRANGEA, MAGNOLIA, BORDER PINKS, and even some fresh plums from the tree. Many of the Japanese Irises had finished blooming but CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, SWEET MURMUR, MAGIC RUBY and 9J28-4D by Lorena Reid still had very nice blooms worth noting.

Helen and Peggy Beason's gardens are joined by a wooded path and contain a lovely array of perennials, shrubs and trees. Peggy's garden had lots of bloom on the guest irises, and it was here that Chad Harris' 89 JD-9 received a lot of attention. SOUTHERN SON, JOAN TREVITHICK, SWEET MURMUR, ORIENTAL CLASSIC, EXUBERANT CHANTEY and STATELY FLAMINGO were the guests which were blooming well. FLASHING KOI, THUNDER AND LIGHTNING and UMI BOTARU were also attracting attention.

After dinner, a panel of hybridizers, moderated by Ruth Wilder, answered questions posed by the audience. The SJI Board Meeting followed.

The Saturday tour began at Ginny Burton's home. Ginny was a founder of the Summerville Iris Society and has been a mainstay in the group and in SJI. It is amazing to see what wonders people can do in small spaces. Her yard has a multitude of trees and shrubs, yet there was space for guest irises, TAFFETA AND VELVET had a rebloom stalk, and nice blooms could be found on BRIDGE OF DREAMS, SILVERBAND, and FUJI'S SNOWCAP.

Pat Brooks' garden is small but very well designed. FLASHING KOI, SIROTAE, TEA CEREMONY, ORIENTAL EYES and PERIWINKLE PINWHEEL were noteworthy. A unique corral for her Pomeranian, Shogun, was an attractive and functional part of the garden with the space between the timbers serving as a planter.

The Goldsberry garden was the last on our tour. Here the vegetables rivaled the irises for attention. Glorious zucchini, peppers, and cucumbers were in abundance. Our garden tours were ended, but the bus driver agreed to give us a riding tour of the lovely town of Summerville before lunch.

The afternoon was devoted to viewing the show and the park which surrounds the community center. Walter Hoover received the queen of the show with MAMMOUTH MARVEL and best seedling went to Don Delmez with VE-B-1 carried all the way from Missouri. The show also included companion plants such as annuals, daylilies, roses, hosta and ivy. Of course, there was also a lovely design section with a theme of "Welcome to our Village."

When the votes were counted and the awards presented at the closing banquet, Chad Harris received the award for best guest iris with 89 J-9 and the most popular garden iris went to FLASHING KOI. The Summerville Iris Society deserves the highest award for hospitality. The irises were well past their peak, but a grand time was had by all.

THROUGH A LENS

Mike Lowe (Virginia)

Bob Plank's instructions to the photographers taking tour garden photos for the *Bulletin* were: "...shots that catch the essential, unique character of the garden." Accompanying the articles describing Convention gardens you may see pictures of vistas of iris. Iris, however, are not the real story of the gardens that I toured through the viewfinder. Oh certainly, iris by the hundreds of acres...iris display plantings bigger than many commercial gardens...seedling beds larger than the entire property of most irisarians...all this and more, are part of the Cooley's and Schreiner's iris Garden story.

In spite of the overwhelming presence of iris, the standout feature in both of these huge enterprises is family. Both of these iris dynasties are headed by individuals who have, day in-year out, 'done iris' since the inception of The American Iris Society. Decisions that affect daily operations, as well as shape the companies' future health, are and always have been, a family affair.

Not amenable to photographing, but quietly evident in everyone connected with both firms, was an incredible depth and breadth of iris knowledge. When breeding, growing and marketing iris is wholly responsible for keeping lights burning, paying mortgages and sending kids to college, learning is the first order of business. To convention visitors, mostly part-time irisarians, this accumulated knowledge is awesome.

Those who achieve huge success, whether measured by money, fame or power are, to paraphrase Gatsby "different from you and me." The standout feature of Cooley's and Schreiner's is that the people involved are not different from you and me. Size has not inflicted its usual toll. Perhaps the saving grace is daily involvement with a beautiful and fickle flower or, could it be that farming (and they certainly are 'iris farming') really is good for the soul? Whatever, the prevailing atmosphere surrounding both enterprises is friendliness, concern, and caring. Long after convention iris memories fade, the visit with the Cooley and Schreiner families will remain as a convention high point.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan, Editor

Joan Trevithick

British Iris Society Newsletter No. 102 (Autumn 1994) contained the following item: "The death occurred in July of Mrs. Joan Trevithick who was Secretary of the Siberian, Spuria and Japanese Group for such a long time. She leaves a son David, who looked after her more than devotedly for years, and to whom we offer our deepest sympathy."

Like so many of Joan's correspondents around the world, I never met her in person; but the many letters we exchanged over the years had made us good friends. Joan was always doing services for people. Whenever she asked a favor, it was always to help someone else or to promote the growing and appreciation of beardless irises. If you needed help finding special iris seed, locating an iris book, getting a British banking problem solved, or in any other way, Joan was always there to help. Everyone who knew Joan knew this.

Joan was born in 1919 in the East Midlands town of Market Harborough. When she was still a small girl, her mother gave her a small garden patch of her own, and a love of gardening marked her life. She had a career in the Post Office, eventually teaching staff courses. For many, many years she did fund raising for a children's charity. Joan belonged to numerous horticultural societies, but her greatest devotion was to promoting beardless irises.

It was said of Joan that "all her work was underpinned by a sense of humility in the presence of the natural world and a strong but private Christian belief." In all our many years of correspondence I do not recall a single negative remark or inference in anything she wrote. A few years ago Dr. Currier McEwen named the elegant pink Japanese iris JOAN TREVITHICK in her honor. The world of irises is much poorer with her passing.

The British Iris Society

Knowing Joan Trevithick's love of the British Iris Society (BIS), I know she would like me to write a few words about its activities. Although the formal organization of the AIS predated the BIS by a couple of years, British and American iris enthusiasts have had close relationships from the early years of this century. And, of course, our Dykes Award comes from the BIS.

The *BIS Year Book* arrives at my home with the coming of each new year. Soon I have read it, and reread it. Then it joins past issues in my library. This surely is the most interesting iris literature to be found anywhere. Starting with George Dillistone in 1930, the Year Book has always had talented editors. In the recent past, C.E.C. Bartlett, Jennifer Hewitt, and since 1991, Berney Baughen have ably performed the editorial duties. The quality of this publication is first rate.

If you would like to join the British Iris Society, the dues for overseas members are 25 pounds for three years, plus 6 pounds for conversion of dollar checks. For additional family members, add 3 pounds each. You will find the dollar/pound conversion rates in the business pages of most major newspapers. Send dues to the Membership

Secretary, E.H. Furnival, 15 Parkwood Drive, Rawtenstall, Lancs. BB4 6RP England (U.K.)

An Invitation

For anyone lucky enough to be in England this year, Mrs. Joy Chambers, 41 Rosyln Avenue, Gedling, Nottingham, NG4 3NQ, England, Tel: 0602 523561, extends the following invitation in the BIS Newsletter:

"At last I have taken the plunge and will willingly open my small garden in June, 1995. I hope the weather will be kind and the Imperial Peonies and irises flower well, as they did last year."

"My husband and I developed our garden from virgin soil, full of brambles, weeds and red clay. Being on top of a hill, the garden was at an angle of 45 degrees. I fell in love with irises 30 years ago, and they have never lost their charm. My lawn has shrunk each year, and is now pocket handkerchief size, as we have developed borders and island beds and created a garden full of interest. This year we made a small bog garden for moisture-loving plants, which should be well established in 1995."

"Looking forward to meeting fellow irisarians!"

Historic Irises in Britain

Ms. Suz Winspear, 63 Park Avenue, Barbourne, Worchester WR3 7AJ, England, who is Historian of the BIS, has taken up the interests of the Historic Iris Preservation Society. In her honor, I will pass on a bit of "old news" which might be of interest to someone trying to build a turn-of-century period garden.

Back in 1930, E.J. Beatty wrote an article for the Year Book in which he recalled the best bearded irises available in 1906. Above all others he ranked BLACK PRINCE (Perry 1900). He then listed the following "other popular varieties" in the categories indicated:

May -flowering

AMAS (Coll. Foster 1985), FRONTARABIE (Coll. Backhouse 1887) [Listed as obsolete in the 1939 Check List] and KHARPUT (Coll. Barr 1995)

Amoena Section

COMTE DE ST. CLAIR [The 1939 Check List lists this as a synonym for ST. CLAIR (Lemon 1854)]. MRS. HORACE DARWIN (Foster 1888), PENELOPE (Salter, before 1859), THORBECKE (Veitch before 1897) and VICTORINE (Lemon 1840)

Neglecta Section

BOCCAGE (Lemon 1840), CLIO (Verdier 1863), COTTAGE MAID (Barr 1906) [Declared obsolete in 1939 Check List], CORDELIA (Park 1873), FREDERICK (1896), HANNIBAL [Declared obsolete in 1939 Check List], NATIONALE (Lemon 1840), and PERFECTION (Barr 1880)

Pallida Section

ALBERT VICTOR (Barr 1885), HER MAJESTY (Perry 1903), LEONIDAS (Barr 1901), PALLIDA DALMATICA [Listed as "DALMATICA (Coll.-cult. bef. 1600)" in the 1939

Check List], QUEEN OF MAY (Salter before 1859), and TRAUTLIEB (G & K 1899)
Plicata Section
BRIDESMAID (Salter 1859), MADAME CHEREAU (Lemon 1844), MRS. REUTHE
(Ware 1899), SAPPHO (Caparne 1902) [Listed as obsolete in 1939 Check List.]
Squalens Section
ARNOLS (Barr 1874), DR. BERNICE (Hooper 1867), JACQUESINA (Lemon 1840)
Variiegata Section
AUREA (Jacques 1830), DARIUS (F.C. Brown 1873), GRACCHUS (Ware 1884),
HECTOR (Lemon 1840), HONORABLE (Lemon 1840), INNOCENZA (Lemon 1854),
MAORI KING (Reuthe 1890), MRS NEUBRONNER (Reuthe before 1898), OSSIAN
(Salter 1868)

For the avid collector in the United Kingdom, Canada or the U.S. who can locate half of the irises on the above list, fame and fortune await!

News From Russia

The Central Iris Society (CIS) in Moscow has been steadily growing both in members and in activities. The CIS now has eighty-five members. Sergey Loktev, who has been the dynamic force behind this young Russian iris group, walked away with the Best Specimen prize at the Moscow Iris show in 1994—it was won by his entry of the beautiful French amoena DELTAPLANE (Cayeux 91).

After failing to have a shipment of irises get to Sergei in 1993, I was successful in getting a box of twenty rhizomes to him via express mail in August, 1994. I understand Dave Niswonger was also successful in getting a shipment of irises to Sergei this past year. Some of the irises I sent were donated by Sterling Innerst, and some others were presented by Anne and Mike Lowe. Sergei was delighted to receive these newer cultivars through the international mail service.

If any iris breeder is interested in having his/her new cultivars grown and shown in Russia, write Sergey for precise shipping instructions and the plant import number to use. His address: Sergey Loktev, ul. B. Maryinskaya, 23 KV. 48, 129085 Moscow, Russia. To telephone (fax): (095) 215-5604. Of course, you must also obtain a phytosanitary certificate to put on the package. Make arrangements to obtain this with your State Agricultural Office, or take your plants to the U.S. Department of Agricultural office at any international airport.

A REWARDING YEAR

The 1994 Bloom Season in an Arkansas Garden

Tom W. Dillard (Arkansas)

Being optimists, gardeners look to the future. That is probably one reason gardeners tend to live long, and usually happy, lives. We forget about our mistakes and disasters - - the insect damage, the hailstorms -- and look forward to next spring with all its possibilities. That forgetful tendency prompts me to keep a detailed garden journal, so I can look back and fondly recall the prize blossoms, the beautiful scenes, even the heady aroma of the trumpet lillies.

In looking back at the 1994 iris season, I am struck by the diversity and variety represented in the garden. As I read my hastily scrawled notes, my mind recalls the glorious surprise at seeing a new iris bloom for the first time, or the pain of disappointment when a highly touted one failed to perform up to expectation, or the amazement expressed by non-gardeners when they see a vase of Louisiana irises with their clear colors and graceful form.

BULBOUS IRIS: The Early Birds

The first iris to flower in my garden in 1994 was the beautiful little *I. reticulata*, a dark blue species, which opened on February 20. This bulbous species, native to Armenia and Turkey, was in flower until March 5, a nice long bloom season considering how cold the weather remained. John Elsley of Wayside Gardens, a large mail order company, says they cannot sell *I. reticulata*, probably due to the public's lack of awareness of bulbous plants in general (excluding daffodils!). These are understated iris, and it takes fifty or more bulbs to create a real display in the garden. I plan to add another clump or two of these early blooming and inexpensive irises in September when the bulbs become available.

Another bulbous species, *I. bucharica*, opened its first flower on March 18. These Asian iris, which were new to my garden in 1994, did not perform well. Though the individual flowers, a pretty yellow, were nice, only about one half of the bulbs produced flowers. This species, like many of the Juno series, prefers a dry summer dormancy, which I have trouble providing in my intensely cultivated garden, so *I. bucharica* will probably only have a fleeting sojourn with me.

The first Standard Dwarf Bearded iris to bloom in 1994 was PLUM WINE (Weiler 1986), which bloomed vigorously starting on March 22 and continued well into April. SDBs are not pleasing to me since the flowers generally fail to emerge from beneath the foliage.

Two Favorite Beardless Species

The most spectacular single clump of iris in my 1994 garden was a three foot expansion of *I. cristata*. This Arkansas native always blooms well, but this year it was an absolute sheet of dainty blue flowers. It is remarkable that this particular clump

bloomed so prolifically given the fact that a hosta overhangs the irises, depriving them of needed light during most of the growing season.

My only named cultivar of *I. cristata*, SUMMER STORM (apparently not AIS registered) did not open until April 15. Though it stayed in flower for a long time, I was disappointed to note that this cultivar was little darker in color than the regular species form. *I. cristata* remains one of the joys of my spring garden.

Another species iris that always contributes greatly to the garden show is *I. tectorum*. This year the blue form outperformed the white, though this is not usually the case. Three or four stalks of these graceful flowers in an Oriental vase will transform a drab breakfast table. In the garden they look especially good planted with candytuft (*Iberis* species), both of them blooming at about the same time and the colors compatible.

Good TB Season

Though I prefer the beardless iris, I grow a few bearded and am always impressed with their color and general garden impact. This year the tall bearded bloom came early, but it was a gloriously colorful season. Two TBs tied for the earliest to bloom in 1994, LUCKY LEMON (Maryott 1990) and BURGUNDY BUBBLES (Maryott 1987), both opening on April 19. LUCKY LEMON always produces nice individual stalks, but its clump effect leaves something to be desired. Not so with BURGUNDY BUBBLES, which this year produced four nice stalks, each sporting perfectly beautiful flowers placed nicely on rigid stalks.

Among the older TBs, PINK TAFFETA (Rudolph 1968) and LEMON MIST (Rudolph 1972) stole the spotlight. Though their substance leaves much to be desired, they maintain a regal bearing that is often missing in the overblown and tarted-up newer TBs. However, I must admit that the best form of any TB in my garden this year was found in a new iris, BOOGIE WOOGIE (H. Nichols 1993), a white/soft violet bicolor with just the right amount of ruffling and a long bloom season.

Despite its long period of bloom, BOOGIE WOOGIE came in second to a Miniature Tall Bearded for longevity of bloom. WELCH'S REWARD (Welch 1987), with yellow standards and reddish-purple falls edged yellow, is an iris of superlatives. My garden journal entries on WELCH'S REWARD are filled with exclamation points: "Opened beautifully! Perfect stalks! Wonderful! Photographed six times today!!" WELCH'S REWARD was the only bearded iris still in flower in my garden when the local show date finally arrived. My perfectly proportioned stalk, with three open blossoms, not only won a blue ribbon but also the "Best Non-TB Award." More exclamation points!!!

Siberian Season

I was not surprised when JAMAICAN VELVET (McGarvey 1983) was the most impressive Siberian iris in my 1994 garden. A three-year-old clump produced 19 stalks, each laden with the unique wine red color and form that earned JAMAICAN VELVET an Award of Merit in 1989.

My garden visitors seemed to find PIROUETTE (Cassebeer 1963) the most graceful clump of the 1994 season. It also bloomed over a long period of time. My only criticism of PIROUETTE is the tendency of its foliage to flop-about after the bloom season. That unfortunate characteristic is less common among more modern Siberian cultivars.

Other outstanding Siberians of the year were NIGHT BREEZE (Wyatt 1978), a tall dark purple that usually produces many graceful bloom stalks; PINK HAZE (McGarvey 1969), a Morgan-Wood Award winner that performs consistently—even though the clump needs dividing; SNOW BOUNTY (McEwen 1973), a white tetraploid that performs consistently in my garden though it too needs more sun; and EARLY BLUE BIRD (McEwen 1968), which despite its name, was the last Siberian to bloom in my garden in 1994.

Louisianas Put On A Show

The Louisiana iris bloom season debuted on April 27 when VALERA (Army 1980) and FELICIANA HILLS (O'Connor 1987) opened their blooms. The famous creamed-coffee beautiful colored VALERA, which is a Debaillon Medal winner, is a shy bloomer in my garden. Nevertheless, the beautiful flowers are worth waiting on. FELICIANA HILLS is a nice rose pink that clumped-up quickly and had a good garden presence.

As usual, Dorman Haymon's HURRICANE PARTY (1986) was robustly floriferous despite its shady location. This cultivar has as much substance as any in my Louisiana collection. Another Louisiana that bloomed well for me despite the shade was SUNNY ANGEL (Rowlan 1989), a golden yellow with good garden presence. Another Henry Rowlan introduction that usually shines in my garden is the delightful SEA WISP (1984), which sports gracefully shaped flowers well positioned on nice straight stalks. Rowlan's RED ECHO (1983) is very popular with visitors to my garden. I like it not only for its vigor and dependability, but because the species-like flower stalks look great in arrangements.

Other Louisianas that performed well were JERI (Bertinot 1984), the near-black that won the Debaillon for 1994, and RIVER ROAD (Butler 1980), a terracotta red that produced nine stalks in one clump on May 13. Neither of these irises stand out in the landscape (their dark flowers recede into the background), but like most Louisianas, they make great cut flowers.

An Oriental Interlude

Since most of my small Japanese iris collection was divided last fall, the 1994 bloom season was a mere shadow of its former self. The most outstanding bloom was on DRIVEN SNOW (Marx 1960), a pure white, ruffled double, of good substance, and a vigorous performer in my garden. Though not as reliable as a garden performer, SILVER CASCADE (Payne 1966) produces absolutely stunning flowers that serve to get the attention of even the most jaded garden visitor.

My two absolute favorite Japanese irises, are PEACOCK DANCE (Marx 1955), a graceful purple and white single, and PRAIRIE SUNBURST (Hazzard 1976), a deep opaque red-violet bitone of great substance. Though PRAIRIE SUNBURST tends to fade in the hot sun of an Arkansas summer, it is such a beautiful flower that I cannot imagine living without it.

Experimenting with Species

As a member of the Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA), I occasionally experiment with introducing additional iris species into my garden. For example, this bloom season saw the second blooming of an *I. pseudacorus* I selected from several large seed sowings of a few years ago. Though the flower itself is only marginally

improved over the species, bud count and branching is very high. It produced many stalks this year for the show bench as well as for friends and neighbors.

I was surprised to discover that the final iris to bloom in my garden in 1994 was another species, *I. versicolor*. This North American native should be grown more extensively in my opinion, especially in water gardens. One of my seedlings produced a deep purple blossom of velvet texture that continued to bloom for weeks, even outlasting the late-blooming Japanese iris. In late June it was still producing blooms on a stalk with three branches! And then I was shocked to discover a proliferation growing on that same stalk. Although I had never observed a proliferation on an iris, I cut it and potted it. The proliferation already had tiny roots while still attached to the mother plant, and it rooted quickly in moist soil.

No one can say that irises are boring. It is a genus that offers delightful complexity, challenging opportunities, and flowers of great beauty and grace. Now, on to 1995!

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AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

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The American Iris Society Bulletin lists the names of all AIS members who pass away as soon after the fact as possible. Generally, the only notification received is when the Bulletin is returned by the Post Office. When someone in a region or club is deceased, any member may notify the Bulletin editor.

Those members who served in a national capacity within the society or who received an Award of Merit with an iris they hybridized are given a longer obituary in the Bulletin. There is some confusion about what constitutes a job of national level importance. Briefly, this includes national committee charmen, AIS Board members, and Regional Vice Presidents. It may also include those people who won awards of national importance, such as the Distinguished Service Medal and Hybridizer's medal.

It is very important if someone who knew the deceased member well will write the information for publication. Although the editor and other national officers may have been acquainted with the deceased, they do not know all the details about their lives that should be included in an obituary. Obituaries must, of necessity, be rather brief.

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FOR YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1994**

Cash in Bank, September 30, 1993			
Operating Funds	21,073		
Restricted Funds	180,189	201,262	
Income 10-1-93 thru 9-30-94		174,901	
Expense 10-1-93 thru 9-30-94		-190,395	<u>185,768</u>
Cash in Bank, Spetember 30, 1993			
Operating Funds	1,675		
Restricted Funds	184,093		<u>185,768</u>
	Income		
Membership Dues		79,384	
Bulletin			
Advertising	18,905		
Back Issues	720		
Other	-219	19,406	
Restrictions		4,527	
Sales			
AIS Publications	24,606		
Other Books & Mdse.	9,986	34,592	
Committees		13,791	
Sections Dues		5,700	
Gifts		7,004	
Earned Interest		5,436	
Other		5,061	<u>174,901</u>
	Expense		
Bulletin		71,152	
Secretary		2,206	
Membership Secretary		2,113	
Recording Secretary		592	
Registrar		4,477	
Sales Director			
AIS Publications	17,971		
Other Books & Mdse.	21,290		
General Expense	2,700	41,961	
Other Officers		1,310	
Committees		22,722	
RVP Expense		12,696	
Section Dues		5,831	
Accounting & Insurance		7,643	
Other		17,692	<u>190,395</u>
	<u>Authorized Salary Personnel</u>		
Advertising Editor		3,300/yr	
Editor		4,200/yr	
Membership Secretary		6,600/yr	
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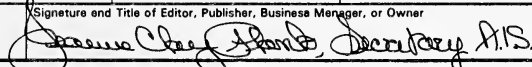
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1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales	0	0
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C. Total Paid end/or Requested Circulation (Sum of 10B1 and 10B2)	6212	6193
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1. Office use, left over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing	1373	1222
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 JEANNE CLAY PLANK, SECRETARY A1S

DR. LOOMIS IRIS TRIAL GARDENS

Mike Moller

The Dr. Loomis Iris Trial Gardens are successful due to the desire of many hybridizers to test the irises. We currently have over 75 hybridizers participating in the program. New participants just sending irises this summer are: Brad Kasperak, Harry Wolford, Dick Gibson, Glenn Corlew, F. Gadd, Ruby Short, Phil Reedstrom, Merle Roberts, Rilla Hickerson, Rick Ernst, James Morris, Joe Ghio, Frank Davis, Marky Smith, Cleo Palmer, H. Wright, Dana Borglum, and Monique Dumas-Quesnel from Canada. As you can see from this list, we have a mix of new hybridizers along with the old time favorites.

The Loomis Garden tests irises over a three period. In this report we will review the top irises in each class. All irises are point scored according to The American Iris Society's Judges' Handbook. The method used to score with the handbook will show that any score of 60 or above is a good Iris. Any iris that tops its class and scores 80 or above will win a Loomis Award, presented by the Elmohr Iris Society. An iris that scores high in this garden will have to prove that it is a good garden iris.

3-Year Classes

Our 3 year class of TBs was topped by Loomis Winner, HOT TO TROT by Jim McWhirter, with a score of 81. This gold/red PLICATA has scored 76, 82, 81 points during its 3-year stay in the garden. This year's clump had well over 30 fans and 15 bloomstalks with 8 buds each. GRAPE CHARM by Stan Dexter was a close second with 80 points. This purple iris made a huge clump and the 9 buds per bloomstalk insured a floral display for over 3 weeks. At 79 points we had CONTRITE by Innerst, a very outstanding pink laced iris with exceptional form and substance. Another 79 point scored iris was MEGAN ELIZABETH by Bob Brown. This iris had 11 bloomstalks holding 9 buds each. Robert Euer, a new hybridizer from California scored a 76 with his seedling NSMF-1. This dark blue-violet iris has performed very consistently over the 3 years, scoring 74, 81, and 76 points. Last year's Loomis winner in this class was TENNESSEE GENTLEMAN, which scored a 75 this year. It seems to be a very consistent garden performer and is well liked for its color. Jim Hedgecock's iris 83-20-12 scored 74 points with a clump of 20 fans and 8 strong bloomstalks. STARS & STRIPES by Monty Byers scored 73 points. This iris has light blue standards, medium blue falls, and a white beard turning into red horns. Ed Roberts scored a 72 with his seedling #901, a pink with very nice color, form, and substance. KANSAS CITY by Henderson scored 71. Good plant characteristics and a nice dark blue color helped this iris score well. Larry Ransom, a hybridizer from France scored a 70 with his seedling EWXBL-1. A clear white with great ruffled form and substance.

The 3-year Border Bearded class was topped by MAINSTAY (69) by Jim Burch. Good plant habits and color help this iris score well. The 3-year SDB class was topped by two of Allan Ensminger's irises. Seedling 388-17, a very nice plicata with a long bloom season, scored a 77. This iris also displayed candelabra branching on many of its bloomstalks. ACEY DUCEY scored 70 points, the same score it received last year. The 3-year IB class was led by Loomis winner CALLING CARD (82) by Virginia Messick. This delicately colored iris had 44 fans, 16 bloomstalks and an average of 7 buds on each

stalk. Two seedlings by Monty Byers, G13-1 and G13-5, both scored 77 points. G13-1 was a light yellow, and G13-5 was a light blue with nice ruffling for an IB. SMITTEN KITTEN by Terry Aitken also scored 77 points. Another Aitken introduction, LEVITY, scored 72 points. Perry Dyer's seedling 89-1A scored a 71 due to outstanding flower form and substance.

2-Year Classes

Our 2-year TB class proved once again that TBs show best after 2 years' time. The leader in this class was MELANCHOLY MAN (81), a recently named iris by Roger Nelson. This iris won a Loomis Award for outstanding plant habits along with near perfect stalks. Second in this class was another Nelson iris, MONDAY-MONDAY (80). Both of these irises displayed exceptional garden value. CHARM CITY CHOICE (78) by Dave Niswonger was a haunting blue with brownish beards that put on a very good show. QUARTA CARAVELLA (78) an Iris from Augusto Bianco of Italy had outstanding color with peach standards over bright rose falls. Two irises scored 77 points PACIFIC DESTINY (Lauer) and PILGRAM'S QUEST (Carr). Both of these had above average bud count, but PILGRAM'S QUEST averaged 11 buds per stalk. OH BE JOYFUL (76) by Ray Lyons was a wonderful light pink self with a very lacy edge. Hedgecock's C-82-12-3 also scored 76 points showing outstanding branching and strength in the stalks. Sterling Innerest seedling 3103-7 was outstanding in a plicata coloring of yellow/purple but very different in that the unopened buds were dark purple instead of the usual green.

Carl Jorgensen has always introduced some very colorful pink irises and seedling 85-P-1C (74) is no exception, a very distinctive iris with its bright hot pink color. Roberts seedling 90-011G (74) had 26 fans on a huge two-year plant. Moller seedling CYCWYB-1 (74) was another good garden iris with 22 fans and very strong stalks. Six irises scored 73 points; 84-102-2 (Hedgecock), BE A DREAM (Niswonger) MMSK-1 (Euer), NIGHT FLAME (Aitken), SLEEPWALK (Nelson), TIME TRAVELER (Pinegar). 84-102-2 displayed flowers over a four week bloom season. BE A DREAM and NIGHT FLAME scored high with outstanding color. TIME TRAVELER looks much like TUT'S GOLD, but it has huge horns! Others scoring well in this very tough class were; Augusto's 497-B (72), Black's 90U20 (72), Nelson's TOOTSIE (72), Zurbrigg's FLYING (71), Innerst's STERLING FLURRY (71), Hedgecocks's 85-216 (70), Robert's #913 (70), and Rogers' F-737-A (70).

The 2-year BB class was topped by Zurbigg seedling KK5-1-1 scoring a second consecutive 75 points. This iris also rebloomed in late September of last year. Jorgensen seedling 1-P12-1 scored 72 points. JOAN'S PLEASURE (69) had 27 fans, 9 bloomstalks, great ruffling, form, and fall rebloom! This iris would have scored very high as a TB, but it was too tall (32") for the Border Bearded class. Lloyd has since registered this iris as a TB.

The 2-year Aril class was topped by Ericson seedling 89GD-6 (73) an AB-MED. This iris is the best growing Aril I've even seen in our area. Forty-plus fans on a two-year clump with 10 stalks of 18 inches in height. The 2-year IB class was headed by Aitken's DARK WATERS and Innerst's KIMMEL FAVBER, both scoring 73 points. These are good examples of two different ways to score the same amount of points. DARK WATERS had an outstanding flower with perfect branching. KIMMEL FAVBER had 35+ fans, 23 bloomstalks, and scored high in areas of plant habits and proportion. It had

a wonderful clump! LL24#1 by Zurbrigg scored 72 points and also showed some rebloom tendency in October of last year.

Our 2-year MTB class had only 2 entries, but both were outstanding. REMINISCENCE by Clarence Mahan won a Loomis Award with a score of 84 points. This MTB had 40+ fans, 15 bloomstalks, with an average of 12 buds per stalk. The bloom period on this iris lasted over 4 weeks. Riley Probst's MINI-WABASH scored 79 points with 28 fans, 16 bloomstalks and 10 buds per stalk. Both are great and would be a welcome addition to your garden! OREGOLD by Bennett Jones topped the 2-year SDB class with a score of 78 points. This iris put on a nice show with 30 fans and 24 bloomstalks. Another Jones introduction, ORANGE TIGER, was second with a score of 73 points. This iris has a bright orange color with dark orange beard. CANDY QUEEN (70) by Dave Niswonger had a nice display on a beautiful clump.

1-Year Classes

The 1-year TB class displayed a lot of potential for the future. The top 2 irises in this class were introduced by Tom Burseen. SHERYL RENEE scored 79 points with good plant habits, having 7 fans and 3 bloomstalks. STAY TUNED (78), a nicely colored plicata, also showed great flower form and substance. AM-1-1C (72), a seedling by Darlene Pinegar, was a beautiful flower in color, form, and substance. Virginia Messick's introduction FUTURE WATCH also scored 72 points, displaying nice branching and flower characteristics. Another Messick introduction, ART NOUVEAU (70) scored well by displaying a strong stalk with outstanding branching. Riley Probst had a beautiful TB with different colored seedling 87BQX25L1 (70).

Our 1-Year BB class was topped by FIRST KISS (79) by Carl Jorgensen. This BB is a pink amoena with bright red beard. Other BB's displaying future potential are: HEATHER SUZANNE (Jorgensen), 90-13A (Markham) PEACH ICE CREAM (Aitken). The 1-Year IB class was topped by a very distinctive iris, PRINCE OF BURGUNDY by Dave Niswonger. Other nice ones in this class were Willot's 91-300 BUCKEYE BELLE, and PLAZA PINK, along with Aitken's LEMON WHIP. The 1-year SDB class was dominated by Willott irises. MOONLIGHTING (73) was a leader due to good plant habits. PRINCESS BLUEBEARD (72) scored well for its pinkish color and blue beard. SILK AND VELVET (72) is a nice SDB with dark purple falls that really look like velvet! BALLET SLIPPERS (71) had 4 bloomstalks on a one-year plant. Chuck Chapman from Canada scored 71 points with his seedling 90-214-2, a very distinctive iris. This SDB class was slow to grow in spring, but by late summer many have developed into large clumps and should put on an outstanding display next year.

For all you rebloom enthusiasts, we have had a few fall blooms at the time I'm writing this report. Chuck Chapman's 89-4-2 (1-year SDB) bloomed in late August with 2 bloomstalks. Rogers seedling F-905-B (1-year BB) put up a stalk in mid-September. GEOFT-1 (2-year TB) by Euer put up one bloomstalk in late September.

I invite all hybridizers to participate in the garden testing. Iris seedlings or named varieties are accepted. Send 1 RHIZOME of each selected variety. There is no limit as to the number of irises you may test. Mail to Mike Moller, 3455 Vallejo Court, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. The irises will be tested over a three-year period, and point scored yearly. Contributors will receive a report in July listing all irises in the garden. If you have any questions, please call or write.

REBLOOM IN PENNSYLVANIA THROUGH OCTOBER '94

Sterling Innerst

Rebloom is usually very sparse in my garden, so '94 seemed to be a bumper year. After spring bloom in '94, we had no rain in June. In July and August we had 8 inches of rain in each month. Rebloomers are planted among the spring bloomers and get the same water and fertilizer that the spring bloomers do.

Several guests for the '95 convention have rebloomed. Bernice Miller's WATERS OF MIRAGA (90) bloomed three different times and is sending up 2 bloomstalks on the last day of October. It is a nice mid-blue with good branching and 9 buds. Her MOTHER EVE ('92) has been in bloom throughout September and October. It is basically white with yellow shoulders and edges and has fairly nice form with 7 buds. Bernice's ELECT LADY ('90) is white with gold beards and shoulders. It had seven mature fans after spring bloom and each bloomed, however, it has 13 increases, and I hope some of them will bloom in spring '95 for all to see. GLOWING SERAPHIN (Miller '90) is white with gold beards and bloomed at October's end. Her CELESTIAL SUNNING ('91) had three stalks but has not yet bloomed.

Gary Sides seedling C11-F11B bloomed in spring and has been flowering on two beautifully branched stalks all through September. It is a full pink with hot pink beards with seven buds. It has good form and is vigorous. His F46-H1 is in bud but has not yet bloomed in the fall.

DeSantis seedling 85-6 has had a stalk in bloom all summer and now is sending up more stalks. It is short, purple and is reminiscent of the diploids of years ago. Lots of bloom throughout summer.

AUTUMN TRYST (Weiler '93) bloomed in spring and is in full bloom now with 5 bloomstalks with many increase from spring, and it is now putting up more increase. It is a white trimmed raspberry-pink plicata with great branching fall and spring, with 9 buds here.

I was honored to judge the Region 4 fall show and had seen several stalks of ROSALIE FIGGE (McNew '93). It is a nicely shaped red-purple with some white markings around the beards. In the guest planting it had tried to rebloom on a newly planted rhizome in fall of '93. It bloomed in spring of '94 and is now in full bloom with each of the 5 mature fans blooming. Both AUTUMN TRYST and ROSALIE FIGGE are performing similarly in my personal planting.

A seedling of BEST BET X CODICIL has been reblooming in the guest planting. Although BEST BET has never rebloomed for me, I do have 2 seedlings that rebloom for me.

Boswell seedling 121-85-S appears to be an SDB AR-Med. It is blooming now. It is brownish blue. Fisher's OZARK EVENING ('91) MTB has stalks about to bloom but has not opened as of this writing.

In my personal planting the following have, are, or will rebloom: CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE, NORTHWARD HO, VIOLET MUSIC, WINTERLAND, I DO, HAPPY NEW YEAR, ANXIOUS, ISTANBUL, QUEEN DOROTHY, JENNIFER REBECCA, BUCKWHEAT, MISTY TWILIGHT, CORAL CHARMER, FEEDBACK, PINK ATTRACTION, HARVEST OF MEMORIES, AUTUMN CIRCUS, AUTUMN

CLOUDS, COLORWATCH, BONUS MAMA, THEN AGAIN, LICHEN and JULY SUNSHINE.

In the seedling fields, I have 6 double grandchildren of COLORWATCH blooming or about to bloom. In the new seedling field lined out in May of '94, the cross of ANXIOUS X RENOWN has 6 seedlings in bud. The one that has bloomed is a nicely shaped yellow green bicolor! The reverse cross had 3 in bud. A cross of MATRIX X BONUS MAMA has three in bud. I hope that since these were first lined out in May that they will rebloom earlier once established. Each of the above mentioned crosses has over 100 seedlings growing.

I grow about 75 rebloomers other than those mentioned and have decided to follow the advice of reblooming experts. After the '95 convention, I'll gather all the rebloomers into one area and feed and water them extra. For years I thought that we should not develop irises that needed more water and feed, however, it seems logical that if we expect more, we should give more. Years ago, I would purchase rebloomers and after the second year, if they did not rebloom, I'd throw them out. Then, a famous West Coast hybridizer mentioned in a communication that rebloomers, especially from the West Coast, should be given 4 or 5 years to acclimate before rebloom could be expected. It works. Rebloomers are here to stay.

Forgot to mention that BABY BLESSED, QUIETLY, and CORN HARVEST are in bloom. Also, blooming is a seedling of PIPPI LONGSTOCKINGS X COMMA.

ABOUT THE BULLETIN

Unlike most magazines, the Bulletin does not go into the mail the month prior to the date listed on the cover. If it is the April Bulletin, it goes into the mail in April, and it usually is mailed in the last half of the month. So, when April 5 rolls around and you don't have your Bulletin, don't panic. It hasn't been mailed.

Deadlines for the Bulletin are always listed in each issue. When something happens after the deadline passes, it probably cannot be added to the issue being processed at that time. So, if something needs to appear in a certain issue, be sure the editor has the information by the listed deadline.

If you do not receive a copy of the Bulletin, please notify the AIS Secretary. Do not notify the editor. He does not have additional copies of the Bulletin to mail out. Also, be sure that other people in your area have received the Bulletin. The Post Office does not have to deliver second class mail in as timely a manner as they do first class, so this often causes delays. West Coast members usually get the Bulletin much later than other areas because the Bulletin is mailed from Tennessee and because of the large concentration of population on the coast.

1995 TALL BEARDED SYMPOSIUM

1994	1995	VOTES	VARIETY	HYBRIDIZER	YEAR	SEASON	HEIGHT	COLOR
1	1	922	Dusty Challenger	Schreiners	'86	M-L	39"	dark purple
5	2	806	Silverado	Schreiners	'87	M	38"	light blue
3	3	710	Jesse's Song	B. Williamson	'83	M	36"	wht. vio. plc
4	4	705	Edith Wolford	B. Hager	'86	M	40"	yellow/violet
2	5	700	Beverly Sills	B. Hager	'79	M	36"	pink
6	6	627	Titan's Glory	Schreiners	'81	E-M	37"	dark violet
6	7	604	Vanity	B. Hager	'75	E-L	36"	pink
8	8	569	Stepping Out	Schreiners	'64	M-L	38"	wht. vio. plc
13	9	489	Laced Cotton	Schreiners	'80	M-L	34"	white
16	10	486	Honky Tonk Blues	Schreiners	'88	M	37"	hyacinth blue
15	11	474	Song of Norway	W. Luhn	'79	M-L	38"	powder blue
12	12	471	Mary Frances	L. Gault	'73	M	38"	blue-orchid
9	13	469	Going My Way	J. Gibson	'72	M	37"	wht. vio. plc
10	14	460	Victoria Falls	Schreiners	'77	E-L	40"	Blue,wht.spo
11	15	429	Lady Friend	J. Ghio	'81	VE-E	38"	garnet red
17	16	423	Breakers	Schreiners	'86	M	37"	blue
14	17	407	Superstition	Schreiners	'77	M	36:	maroon black
18	18	397	Supreme Sultan	Schreiners	'88	M-L	40"	yell./crimson
19	19	379	Mystique	J. Ghio	'75	E-L	36"	lt. blue, f. dpr
-	19	379	Navajo Jewel	J. Weiler	'84	E-L	37"	med. blue, tur
22	21	311	Bride's Halo	H. Mohr	'73	E-L	36"	wht. edge yell
32	22	310	Champagne Elegance	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	pink/apricot
24	23	306	Mulled Wine	K. Keppel	'82	L	36"	rasp. burgundy

25	24	303	Sky Hooks	M. Osborne	'80	M	36"	soft yell. vio. h.
21	25	302	Ringo	G. Shoop	79	M	38"	whit. grp. edge wh
28	26	295	Immortality	L. Zurbrigg	'84	M&Re	30"	white
35	27	289	Skating Party	L. Gaultier	'83	M-L	40"	white
29	28	279	Queen In Calico	J. Gibson	'80	M	34"	apr.rd.vio.pl
33	29	277	Rustler	K. Keppel	'88	M	37"	gold-brown
30	30	276	Codicil	S. Innerst	'85	M-L	32"	lt. blue, blk b.
23	31	274	Copper Classic	E. Roderick	'75	L	30"	burnt orange
27	31	274	Joyce Terry	T. Mulhstein	'74	M-L	38"	yell.wh.t.e yel
31	33	270	Gay Parasol	Schreiners	'74	M	35"	lav.rose vio.
27	34	260	Everything Plus	D. Niswonger	'84	M	34"	blue, wht. vio. pl
34	35	258	Dazzling Gold	D.C. Anderson	'81	M	29"	yell.vein brn.
87	36	243	Night Ruler	Schreiners	'90	M	39"	dark purple
44	37	237	Rosette Wine	Schreiners	'89	M	37"	rasp.rose, wht.s
-	38	233	Conjuration	M. Byers	'89	M-L	36"	wht.vio.e, hms
-	39	231	Cherry Smoke	D. Meek	'78	M-L	34"	red-black
74	40	229	Oktoberfest	W. Maryott	'87	M	37"	red-orange
44	41	226	Bubbling Over	J. Ghio	'82	E-L	36"	blue-lilac
68	42	220	Orange Slices	D. Niswonger	'87	M	33"	lt. orange
40	43	219	Lorilee	Schreiners	'81	M-L	37"	rose-orchid
59	44	214	Eagle's Flight	Schreiners	'86	E-M	35"	blue-rose,wht. pl
49	45	213	Grand Waltz	Schreiners	'70	M-L	35"	lav.-orchid
40	46	212	Olympiad	J. Ghio	'84	E-L	38"	pale blue
66	47	207	Afternoon Delight	R. Ernst	'85	M	36"	gld.tan, lav-whit.
54	47	207	Lemon Mist	N. Rudolph	'72	E	32"	lemon yellow
36	49	206	Kilt Lilt	J. Gibson	'70	E-M	40"	tan-gold/maroon
-	50	205	Acoma	T. Magee	'90	E	30"	pale blue/ivory, violet plic edge
52	51	204	Altruist	Schreiners	'87	E-M	37"	pale blue

38	51	204	Camelot Rose	C. Tompkins	'65	M-L	30"	lilac/burgundy
61	53	202	Best Bet	Schreiners	'88	E	36"	lt. blue, deep blue falls
37	54	201	Ruffled Ballet	E. Roderick	'75	M-L	30"	blue-white S., med. blue F.
44	55	199	Persian Berry	L. Gaultier	'77	M	35"	mulberry-lav
51	56	197	Hindenburg	W. Maryott	'83	M	37"	orange
43	56	197	Thriller	Schreiners	'88	M-L	36"	cerise/claret
92	58	195	Raspberry Fudge	K. Keppel	'89	E-M	36"	rasp.-tan/crea & rasp.tan pllc
71	59	190	Tomorrow's Child	B. Blyth/K.Keppel	'84	M-L	36"	pink/red-violet
57	60	189	Sweet Musette	Schreiners	'86	M-L	37"	flamingo/rose
39	61	184	Easertime	Schreiners	'80	M-L	38"	cream/gold edge
56	62	180	Rare Treat	Schreiners	'87	E-M	34"	blue, white ground plicata
49	62	180	Study in Black	G. Plough	'68	E-M	36"	red-black
85	64	177	Lullaby Of Spring	Schreiners	'87	E-M	38"	mimosa yellow/pastel mauve
72	65	176	Queen of Hearts	O. Brown	'74	M	36"	buff pink/ivory
70	66	173	Designer Gown	J. Ghio	'85	E-M	34"	pink
98	66	173	Master Touch	Schreiners	'80	E-M	40"	purple
89	68	172	America's Cup	J. McWhirter	'89	M	40"	white
57	69	169	Leda's Lover	B. Hager	'80	M	38"	white
48	70	168	Tide's In	Schreiners	'83	E-M	36"	blue
97	71	167	Babbling Brook	K. Keppel	'66	M	38"	light blue
85	72	165	Infinite Grace	M. Hamblen	'82	M	36"	white/med. pink
93	73	164	Winter Olympics	O. Brown	'63	E-M	37"	white
-	74	163	Sweeter Than Wine	Schreiners	'88	E-M	35"	white/royal purple/pink cast, wire rim
74	75	162	Pink Taffeta	N. Rudolph	'68	E-M	31"	pink
72	76	161	Cup Race	S. Buttrick	'63	M-L	36"	white
77	76	161	Theatre	K. Keppel	'81	E-M	34"	white & violet bitone plicata
54	78	159	Christmas Time	Schreiners	'65	M	41"	white, tang. beard
42	79	158	Extravagant	M. Hamblen	'83	M-L	36"	red-purple

93	79	158	Ginger Swirl	Schreiners	'85	M-L	34"	copper-orchid
89	81	155	Catalyst	K. Keppel	'80	M	35"	yellow
63	82	154	Lacy Snowflake	Shreiners	'77	M	38"	white
83	82	154	Michigan Pride	T. Berndt	'76	M	36"	yell./maroon brn.
74	82	154	Navy Strut	Schreiners	'74	E-M	35"	dark violet-blue
99	82	154	Shipshape	S. Babson	'69	M	38"	medium blue
59	86	153	Chico Maid	W. Luthin	'85	M-L	38"	pale blue, blue beard
91	86	153	Latin Lover	G. Shoop	'69	M	36"	lav.-pink/grape wine
-	88	152	Loyalist	Schreiners	'86	M-L	37"	rich claret-wine
-	89	151	Tennison Ridge	J. Begley	'89	E-M	38"	plum burgundy/plum
63	90	150	Holy Night	K. Mohr	'83	E	35"	burg.wht. gr. picata
84	91	149	Rancho Rose	J. Gibson	'75	M	38"	deep violet-purple
68	92	148	Purple Pepper	D.C. Nearpass	'86	M	35"	salmon-rose/magenta
93	93	146	Son of Star	G. Plough	'69	E-L	36"	picata
78	94	144	Bayberry Candle	C. Deforest	'69	M	36"	lav.-blue-violet & white
63	95	142	Dover Beach	D.C. Nearpass	'72	E-L	42"	picata
80	95	142	Dusky Dancer	W. Luthin	'67	M	36"	cadmium orange
61	97	141	Pledge Allegiance	Schreiners	'84	M	37"	chartreuse, gold & olive
-	98	139	Latin Hideaway	H. Nichols	'86	M-L	34"	green
66	99	138	Debby Rairdon	Mrs. H. Kuntz	'65	M-L	36"	white S., blue F.
-	99	138	Glitz 'N Glitter	P. Black	'88	E-M	38"	violet-black
								medium blue
								lav./red edge tan violet
								yell./white edged yellow
								yellow/yellow
								streaked\purple

Runners-up: 133 Gypsy Woman and Blenheim Royal
129 Sapphire Hills
128 Snowbrook
126 Cote D'Or
124 Rapture In Blue

New to the Symposium: ACOMA, GLITZ 'N GLITTER, LOYALIST, SWEETER THAN WINE, TENNISON RIDGE, CONJURATION, NAVAJO JEWEL

Returning to the list: CHERRY SMOKE, LATIN HIDEAWAY

Dropping from the list: GYPSY WOMAN, BLUE SAPPHIRE, SAPPHIRE HILLS, CRYSTAL GLITTERS, CRANBERRY ICE, SPINNING WHEEL

Region 14 had the highest number of members voting (180), Region 18 had 138 members voting, and Region 15 had 133 voters.

Twenty-three (23) overseas members voted.

HOW TO REGISTER AND INTRODUCE AN IRIS

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

REGISTRATIONS

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Keith Keppel, P.O. Box 18145, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 for each registration and \$10.00 for transferring a name from one iris to another.
2. Select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval when you request the blank. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registration and Introduction* booklets (beginning with 1990). Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been filed and approved, and a certificate of registration has been returned to you.
3. Names should follow the rules established by the **International Horticultural Code**. The following names shall not be permitted:
 - a. Names of living persons without their written permission, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.
 - b. Names of persons with the following forms of address or their equivalent in other languages: Mr., Mrs., Miss. Ms.
 - c. Names including numerals or symbols, or any form of punctuation other than apostrophe, hyphen or period.
 - d. Names beginning with the articles "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
 - e. Abbreviations and contractions unless required by linguistic custom.
 - f. Latin names or latinized forms.
 - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
 - h. Slight variation of previously registered name.
 - i. Names containing more than three words, ten syllables or thirty letters.
 - j. Names containing the word "iris".
 - k. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate; e.g., Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black.
 - l. Names translated from the original language. (They may be transliterated as necessary).
 - m. Names formed entirely by recombining parts of the parental species' names.
4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists and advertisements in the *Bulletin of the American Iris Society* are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite for awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for these awards until after it has been recorded with the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar-Recorder a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail, highlighting your introductions **prior to October 15**. Acknowledgement of introduction(s) will be made.

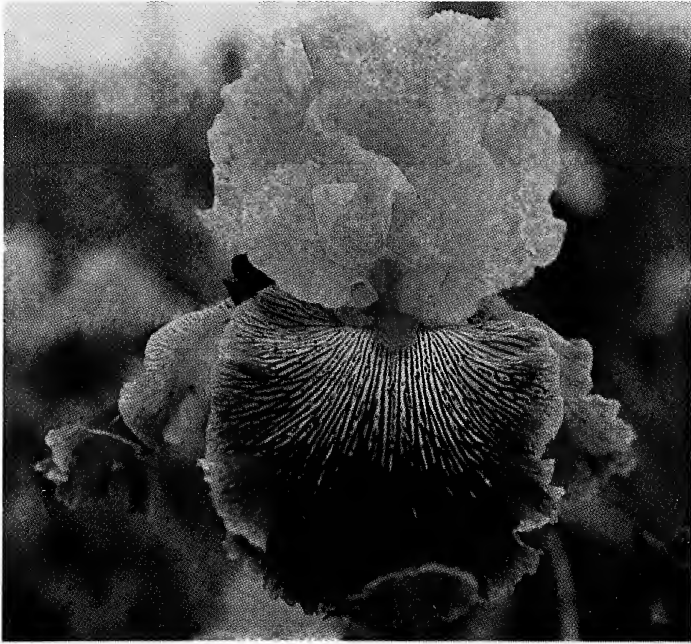
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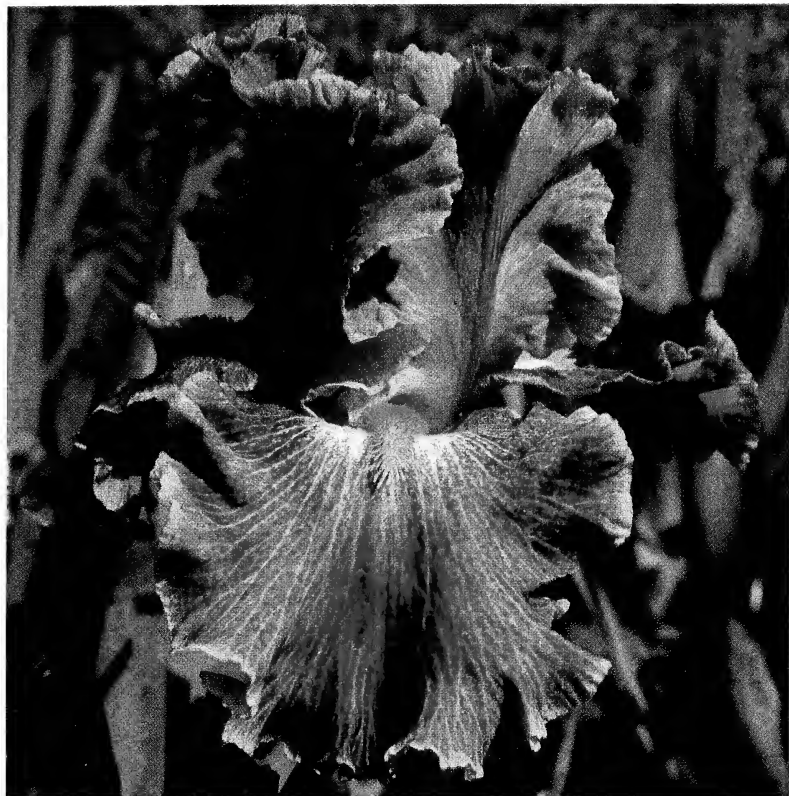
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- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
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| 2. Shirley Trio (McWhirter) | 12. Clue (Wood) (SDB) - \$15.00 |
| 3. Louise Todd (McWhirter) | 13. Destry Rides Again (RE)
(Richard Gibson) |
| 4. Edith P. Wheeler (McWhirter) | 14. Scarlet Embers (Begley) |
| 5. Dodge City (Larry Lauer) | 15. Boxwink's Iditarod
(Winkie Steinhauer) |
| 6. Cruise Control (Lauer) | 16. Boxwink's Lemon Tree
(Steinhauer) |
| 7. Enchanted April (Lauer) | 17. Kalifa's Horn (AB) (Bob Annand) |
| 8. Jurassic Park (Lauer) | |
| 9. Fairmont (Bob Brown) | |
| 10. Pink Dancer (Vernon Wood) | |

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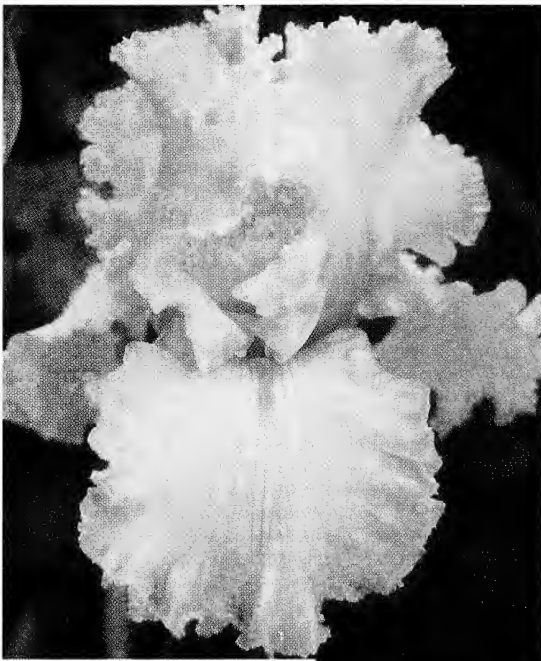
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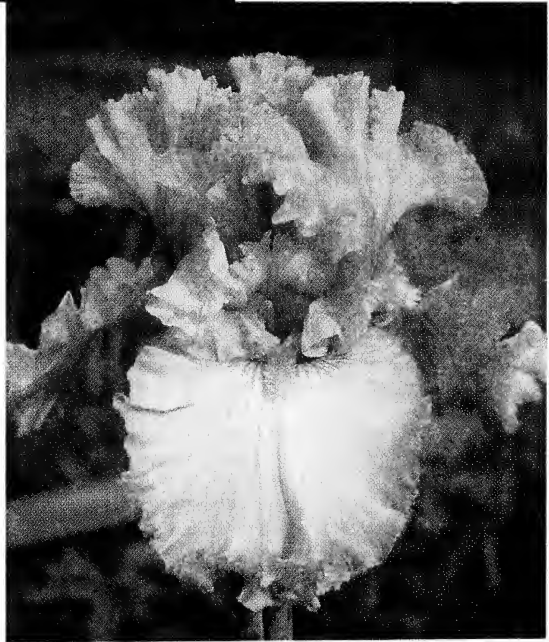
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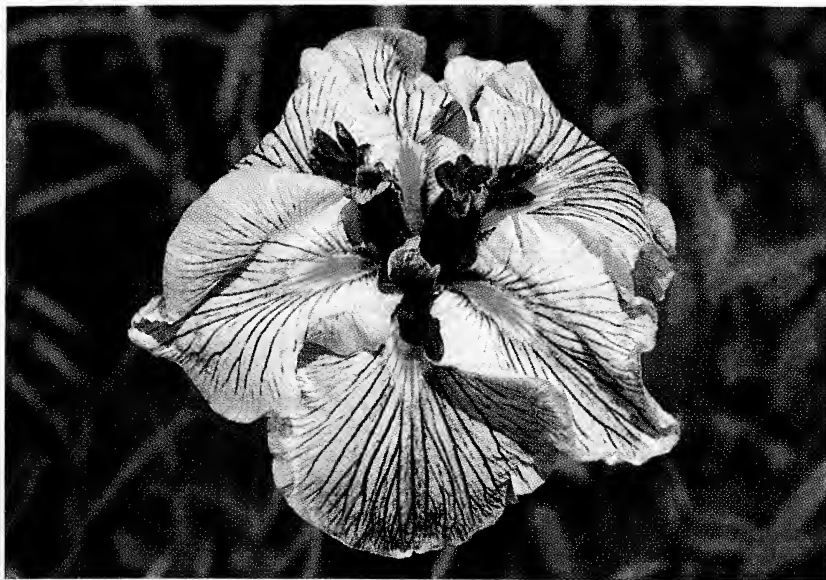


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1994 PAYNE MEDAL WINNER



CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY

(Photo by Horticultural Photography, Corvallis, Oregon)

1994 AIS JAPANESE AWARDS

W.A. PAYNE MEDAL

CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY (Marx) 53 votes

runners-up

FRECKLED GEISHA (L. Reid) 48 votes

JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEwen) 42 votes

AWARD OF MERIT

- 41 IAPETUS (S. Innerst)
- 31 PINK DIMITY (L. Reid)
- 29 ELECTRIC RAYS (T. Aitken)
- 25 JOCASTA (S. Innerst)

runners up

- 21 GEISHA OBI (Johnnye Rich)
- 20 CAPANEUS (S. Innerst)
- 20 LITTLE SNOWMAN (A. Vogt)

HONORABLE MENTION

- 39 BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT
(T. Aitken)
- 20 RUBY STAR (T. Aitken)
- 18 ACK-COUNTABLE
(W. Ackerman)

SOCIETY FOR LOUISIANA IRISES
Annual Meeting

Lafayette, LA

April 7-9, 1995

Programs, Iris Show, Plant Auction, Garden Tours

Hotel Acadiana
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Lafayette, LA 70503

For more information, contact Elaine Bourque, Treasurer
1812 Broussard Rd., E. Lafayette, LA 70508
(318) 856-5859

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(Old members receive publication free)

THE SOONER STATE IRIS SOCIETY

is pleased to announce the sixteenth annual

POLLEN DAUBERS' SEMINAR

February 24-25, 1995

featuring

DAVE NISWONGER

Our speaker will speak to the Society on February 24th following a 6:30 p.m. pot luck. Pollen Daubers' sessions will be from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on February 25th (\$20.00 per person). For assistance contact:

Dr. William E. Jones

2312 Butternut Place

Edmond, OK 73013

1-405-478-3498

or come to Will Rogers Garden Center, 3400 N.W. 36th, Oklahoma City

SECTIONS CONVENTIONS—1995

GARDENING WITH IRIS SPECIES—St. Louis, Missouri—March 24-26,
Contact Riley Probst, 418 N. Van Buren, St. Louis, MO 63122

SOCIETY FOR LOUISIANA IRISES—Lafayette, Louisiana—April 7-9. Contact
Elaine Bourque, 1812 Broussard Road E., Lafayette, LA 70508

SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES—Towson, Maryland—June 22-24.
Contact Beatrice Weitzel, 6106 Winthrope Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206
Registration Fee is \$85.

ARILIA ACRES

Howard Shockey

4611 Rio Grande Ln., NW

Albuquerque, NM 87107

1995 INTRODUCTIONS

See Inside Front Cover

- CRYSTAL MORN** (H. Shockey) TB M 34". Flowers have same basic coloration as Crystal Dreams, BUT on a strong growing plant with good branching, performance, and habit. Stds. are light pink with violet flushed edges - falls are white blending to light violet-pink edges - cerise beards with blue-white ends. (Crystal Dreams X Pink seedling) \$35.00
- HARBOR MASTER** (H. Shockey) TB M 37". A medium-dark violet self with slight undertones of purple - blue-violet beards (difficult to photo accurately). Very large flowers with round, ruffled, semi-flaring falls. Stds. often appear to have a grommet in their tips, such as in a harbor master's cap. Vigorous, strong plants and stalks with fine branching - stands out from others in this color class. (Ron X (El Morado x High Flight)). \$35.00
- LANCER** (H. Shockey) AB 1/2 (OGB) M 28". Blends of medium orchid-violet over white. Featured in the flowers are very large, sharply defined, pointed signals of near black - old gold beards. (Seraph's Jewel X Queen Sheba). \$25.00

Previous Introductions - Tall Bearded

- QUEEN'S VIOLET** 1994. Beautiful, clean spectrum violet of top quality. 26.00
- NORDIC ICE** 1993. Very large, heavily substantanced, vigorous white with blue flushing and blue beards frosted white. \$18.00
- ORANGE EMBERS** 1993. Medium dark orange with vibrant orange-red beards and rose-pink flushed standards. \$18.00

Previous Introductions - Arilbred

- DESERT FURY** 1994 AB 1/2 (OGB). Dark mulberry-red self with exceptional growth habit. \$18.00
- SHEBA'S JEWEL** 1994 AB 1/2 (OGB). Beautiful, broad, near white with large signals of maroon-purple. \$18.00

NO CATALOG

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS FROM GEORGE SHOOP • JOE GATTY • KEITH KEPPEL



Tall Bearded

- ANSWERED PRAYERS** (Keppel) EM 36" (Classmate X inv. Goddess, Mistress sib, Joy Ride, Roundup, April Melody, Full Circle, Rococo, Tea Apron, Irma Melrose). Very ruffled and broad clear light pink "glaciata" (unmarked segregate from plicata breeding). Falls warm white blending to pink edges, hafts touched apricot. Beards orange-red, tipped white. #88-11A \$35.00
- COLOR MAGICIAN** (Shoop) M 35" (Parisian Flight X Snow Crown). White standards, ruffled cream falls with fine pink veining adding to the interest of this tangerine-bearded beauty. The breeding (blue amoena x pink amoena) is also interesting! #89-44. \$35.00
- CROSS CURRENT** (Keppel) EM 38" (God's Handiwork X Armada). Ruffled, with clear light blue standards, violet blue falls paler near the blue-white beards. Excellent stalks, good garden manners. #88-33 A \$30.00
- FANCY WOMAN** (Keppel) VE-M 38" (84-15C, sib to Spirit World's parents, X inv. Mistress sibs, Goddess, Joy Ride, Roundup, April Melody, Irma Melrose, Tea Apron, Full Circle, Rococo). Tangerine orange beards on this heavily ruffled french lilac luminata, delicately shot and edged buff grey. Good grower. #87-65A. \$40.00
- FASHION DESIGNER** (Keppel) EM 40" ((Orangerie x Faraway Places) x (Orangerie x Precious Moments)) X Inland Princess). Wide ruffled and laced blend of cream and apricot yellow, shot apricot gilt and flushed soft peach at base of standards. Beards segue from white to yellow to tangerine. #89-9A \$35.00
- MASTER PLAN** (Keppel) M 35" (((Rancho Rose x (Flamenco sib x (Roundup sib x April Melody))) x Gigolo) X (Ever After x Lorilee)) Large, imposing plicata with muted purplish rose standards and half-inch border on cream falls. Beards brick orange, flowers ruffled. Husky, broad-foliaged plant. #88-61A. \$35.00
- SMART MOVE** (Keppel) L 38" (Burgermeister X Enchanting). Standards butterscotch buff; ruffled, almost horizontal falls are blended tan-rose, flushed amber brown on hafts and margins, and undertoned fuchsia in center. Clean hafts, decisive colors
#88-175A. \$40.00
- TROPICAL MAGIC** (Shoop) M 35" (Fantasy Lace X 84-19, orange-rimmed line). Peach pink standards sit atop ruffled broad white falls which carry smooth, deep peach thumbprints to either side of the tangerine beards. Well-branched stalks with seven buds. #86-12.. \$35.00

Medians

- HULA HOOP** (Shoop) BB, M 26" (79-14 X 82-32, involved breeding). Ruffled beauty with lavender standards, white falls, and a band of yellow around the falls. And, tangerine beards! #85X-34. \$25.00

- GURU** (Keppel) IB, ML 22" (inv. April Melody, Irma Melrose, Tea Apron, Full Circle, Rococo, Artwork sib, Roundup, Osage Buff, Firewater x Daredevil) X Nimble Toes). Ruffled dark royal purple plicata, with white ground showing only in center of standards and as large unmarked fall blaze. Intense red- orange beards, blue white at tip. #90-13B. \$15.00
- ROYAL FLIRT** (Shoop) IB EM 16" (Tillie x Pink Caper X Pink Caper. Smooth deep pink self with tangerine beards and broad, semi-ruffled form. Fast grower, deep green foliage. #89-49. \$15.00
- SEASON TICKET** (Gatty) IB, EM & Re 26" (Florida Orange X Orange Tiger). Nicely ruffled apricot yellow with prominent orange-red beards. #Y9-1 \$15.00
- TACT** (Keppel) IB, EM 24" (Over Easy X Amber Snow). Lightly ruffled white and aureolin yellow amoena. #90-6K \$15.00
- ARCTIC BLAST** (Shoop) SDB, M 9" (Spring Dancer X Pink Caper). Broad and ruffled white self with white beards. #89-47 \$10.00
- BRASH** (Gatty) SDB, EML 15" (Sam X Quote). Brassy ground plic, lavender grey blending in standards, falls with dotted and washed rosy brown "spot". Solid gold beards, ruffled and flared form. #Y7-2. \$10.00
- MISS SUNSHINE** (Shoop) SDB, M 9" (New Kid X Sunny Honey). Wide and ruffled yellow, with darker yellow fall spot and yellow beards. #86-50 \$10.00

Please add \$4.00 for shipping and handling. Catalogue available for \$2.00, deductible from first order.

KEITH KEPPEL

P.O. BOX 18154

SALEM, OR 97305



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KNEE-DEEP IN JUNE

708 North 10th • St. Joseph, MO 64501

Madame Froth (Jameson 95) TB M 36"—38".....\$30.00

1-87-A (Laced Wonder X Song of Spring)

sculptured ruffling at the edges of the milky blue orchid standards and rose-violet falls. The fall centers shade towards silver under the multi-colored, but mostly coral beards. Established clumps tend to produce sequential stalks from mid season to late.

Zebedee (Jameson 95) BB M 24"—28".....\$20.00

7-87-A (Edith Wolford x Song of Spring)

butterfly like ruffled lemon standards and flaring lavender falls.

Mavis Waves (94) TB pink to blue lavender.....\$20.00

My Mauve (94) TB rosy mauve and lavender.....\$20.00

Traitor (94) TB soft blue green, navy violet beards.....\$20.00

Diva Do (93) TB apricot and red-purple.....\$14.00

Wooing (93) BB vigorous pink.....\$10.00

Doo Dah (92) TB blue white to mid blue.....\$10.00

Lion's Share (92) TB lemon cream, ivory white.....\$10.00

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Catalog \$1.00*

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founded 1955

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"Life Begins At Forty"



Central Mall - Lawton, Oklahoma

April 23, 1995 Sunday 12:30 - 5:00

President - MaryAnn Holman - 405 / 875-3720

Show Chairman - Robert Medina - 405 / 355 -7398

Dedicated to the Loving Memory of Winifred S. Ross

HIGH COMMENDATION 1994

VOTES

TALL BEARDED

BLACK, P

(16) 88 116B.

GADD, F.

(8) 16-87C.

(6) 16-87J

GATTY, J.

(5) S29-5A

GHIO, J.

(9) 88-20 C2

HUMMEL, J.

(12) 83-32F

INNERST, S.

(6) 3489-5

(5) 3428-5

KEPPEL, K.

(6) 87-46B

LINEBERGER, E

(6) QHT 131

MEEK, D.

(5) G 9-2-8

MOLLER, M

(6) CYC WYB 1

NELSON, R

(8) 86-37BC

(5) 86-37 BK

RICHARDSON, G

(8) 88-2-1

SHOOP, G

(8) 86-12

SCHRIENERS

(33) AA-401-A

(10) CC-333-A

(10) DD-753-A

(7) CC-946-A

SMITH, M

(20) 90-54A

ZURBRIGG, L.

(5) KK-5-1

BORDER BEARDED

STAHLY, H.

(8) 90-20

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

SMITH, M.

(5) 87-27C

(6) 90-28B

WILLOTT, A. & D.

(6) 93-36

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

WAITE, K.

(7) 87-26-A

(5) 87-26-B

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

PROBST, R.

(8) 92 PQX 18 WR 1

WYSS, B.

(12) 8945-1

SIBERIAN

HOLLINGWORTH, R.

(7) 85 U2 B 18

(24) 88 V 3 B 3

SCHAFFER/SACKS

(12) S87-10-1

(16) S86-8-1

(8) S86-20-1

SILVERBERG, D.

(6) 89-43F (IN HER GLORY)

WILHOIT, J

(5) W-2

SPURIA

DESANTIS, P.

(6) 82-6-A

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY EXHIBITION CERTIFICATES ISSUED DURING THE 1994 SEASON

TALLBEARDED

Allen, Jim	Miss Kay	Knaus, John	9033
Baumunk, Lowell	92 RUHK-2	Lange, Anthony	11-88-11
	92 DSCO-2	Leavitt, Mel	Cloud Bank
Begley, James D.	S.S.G-1	Luebert, Frank	17
Burch, Jim	50-21	Lyons, Ray	86-9-1
	50-23		Oh Be Joyful
Black, Paul	A68A	Lytle, Truman	#048284
	8724A	Mallory, Bob	SJSCH
	Ruth Black	McMillen, Jim	88-12
Brown, Opal	91 8E3	Mead, Johnnie	B-101
Brown, Robert	Fairmont		B-102
Bunnell, Charles	915BTF-4	Meininger, Leroy	90-CP-4
Butler, Richard C.	1-10-84	Messick, Virginia	N187-65
Capshaw, Diana	89-49	Moller, Mike	CWCWYB-1
Carr, Frank	92-72A	Montgomery, Don	89CS2
Coble, John	89B-3	Moorhead, Jerry	89-2-2
		Moore, Walter	88-13
Cook, Mary	11669104	Mueller, Adam	86-11-1
Coon, Milt	90-441	Mullin, Ron	84-441MN
	2D11F		84-189A
Corlew, Glenn	1291-1A		
Davis, Marvin	90-P500-1	Newton, Mary G.	88-KC-DM-09
Dunstone, Don	83-1-2	Nichols, Hooker & Bonnie	92095
Ehrcke, Lou	89-10-B		Rodeo Star
Fort, Lyle E	84-53-B		Marthella
	92-726-B		90-84
Fort, L. Alan	89-483	Niswonger, Dave	#893
Freunda, Richard	F86A-10	Osborne, Marley	91FSX7EE3S
	F86N-1	Probst, Riley	24-BL-46
	F88PI-66	Reinke, Bill	88-2-1
Griner, William & Martha	89-25	Richardson, Gerald L.	79-59-2
	92-72A		R-4
Grise, William & Mary	AWR	Richlie, Hazel & Wayne	NO.661
Hamner, Bernard	90-14-5	Robarts, Evelyn	547.14
Hempel, Inge	H-90-3	Roberts, Joan	LR931-A
James, Wilford	92-1	Robertson, Leon	905A
Jameson, Mitch	L-1-90	Rogers, Francis	88-12-NW
Jewell, Theresa	87MI-2	Saurers, S.L. & Amma M.	90-22Hll
Johnson, Ron & Beverly	91-11	Schick, Oscar	9207-10
Kalkwarf, Eugene	DCSF-1	Shepard, Don	#89-207-A
Kerr, Fred	88-03-02	Shockey, Howard	#87-248-A
	90-83-01		B-94
	91-39-03	Spoon, Donald	ST-92-5
Kindermann, Dick	Shirley's Delight	Stein, Joe	90-19-9
Kinnmen, H & J	91-1	Stevens, Stephen	88-2-2

Sutton, George	C-24	Willott, Tony & Dorothy	90-134
	G-15-AR	Wyss, Betty	851-3
Tasco, Rick	89-05-02RE		
Thayer, Loyd	C91-74		
	C91-132		
Thurman, Daniel	DT89-A	Black, Paul	B330D
Tripp, John	90J8-1		B265A
Turner, Harry & Juanita	3390-1		C152D
Vizvarie, Chris	KC-A	Borglum Dana	B-13-1
Walters, Jeffrey	90-DG-16	Chapman, Chuck	90-50-2
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-229	Godfrey, Ada	BA87
	93-106	Hagberg, Marguerite	94-7
Yunker, Nadine	364	Jones, Bennett	451-2 (Orange Outrage)

BORDER BEARDED

Black, Paul	C45C
Lange, Anthony	11-88-11
Palmer, Cleo	9474
Sutton, George	CW-BB-A
	F-135
	RE-SH
Weiler, John	B-B448-BB

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

Cadd, Anna & David	86-91-4
Corlew, Glenn	1325-1A
Craig, Jim	C63x38
	37x7
Cranor, Robert	9144
Dyer, Floyd	D-59-91-J
Ensminger, Allan	291-19
Morris, Jean & Jim	IB-92-1W
Nichols, Hooker	9104A
Palmer, Cleo	9377
Smith, Marky	90-26A
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-171
	93-44
	93-36
	Malibu Wildfire

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

Burton, Lucy	L90-AD
Hager, Ben	#5009WH
Norrick, Jack	913
	88-2
Probst, Riley	92PQX18WR1
Sorensen, Don	S-91-36-5
Varner, Steve	Miniature Engraving

STANDARD DWARF BEARDED

Black, Paul	B330D
	B265A
	C152D
Borglum Dana	B-13-1
Chapman, Chuck	90-50-2
Godfrey, Ada	BA87
Hagberg, Marguerite	94-7
Jones, Bennett	451-2 (Orange Outrage)
	509-3
Mullin, Ron	91-43F
Smith, Marky	90-07
Stien, Joseph P.	S92-3-1
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	92-187

CALIFORNICAE

Aitken, Terry	90PC5-3
Belardi, Lois	093-1
Eader, Duncan	C93-P-2
Lawyer, Lewis & Adele	XP-228B
Ritchie, Jayne	Itenax-Douglasiana
Sage, Teresa	S94-20
Weiler, John	CAW89 D-1
Willott, Tony & Dorothy	94-215
Wood, Vernon	93-83
	93-86
	93-36
	94-6

LOUISIANA

Haymon, Dorman	138-92-2
	8-91-3
M.A.D. Iris Gardens	L132-1
Morgan, Richard	L676BT
	L662-RVV
Paquet, Shirley	SPL-90-2
Rowlan, Henry C.	89-LA-35

SPURIA

Danielson, Luella	4-30
Jenkins, Charles	BA63A

SPECIES

White, John	92V-5-6 (Versicolor)
-------------	----------------------

ARIL/ARILBRED

Boswell, Carl 45-79AM(AB)
 Danielson, Lou (BoxBP) x Iowa Initica
 (Shah Abbas) x Fairy Fantasy x (59-9)
 Royal Affair x SA8217
 McGrath, Peter A91-22AB
 MCW-2-A(AB)
 Shockey, Howard 92-119-A
 89-207A
 92-112-2Y(OGB)
 91-3-A
 92-117-Z(OGB)
 Walz, Clansy CA8201-1AB
 91-3-A(OH)

JAPANESE

Ackerman, William 94-5
 Aitken, Terry 90-J-11
 Bauer-Coble J89F-7
 J89C-6
 J90C-6
 Copeland, Jill E-15-A
 DBL-1

Delmez, Don

Harris, Chad
 Innerst, Sterling
 McEwen, Currier
 Murphy, Norma
 Reid, L.

Shimizu, H.
 Walker, L.R.
 White, John W.

SIBERIAN

Carmen, Jeanne
 Hamblin, Dale

Helsley, Calvin
 Hill, Mrs. E.J.
 Morley, Kevin
 Ney, Lavone
 Vamer, Steve
 Waddick, James
 Wilder, Ruth
 Wood, John

VE-B-1
 DWSAP
 DLB 1 (Total Image)
 DBV-DK-PUSA
 DDKVOSPW
 91JA4
 2812-2
 T687/14-2
 NM2
 87J18-6
 90J22-G
 REISYUN
 92-52-12
 91A-15
 92B-RA4-15

SB-93
 92A09

#18-8
 M/S 91A
 LN'94
 92A04
 RS-88
 WW2
 W-115-90

RETURN TO OUR ROOTS**Dr. William Griese (Kentucky)**

I detect a significant misunderstanding among many AIS members concerning the value of the roots on our rhizomes

In conversations at local IRIS societies, and with AIS members at National Conventions, I have often heard "I always cut off the roots" leaving long roots only help anchor the rhizomes.

For the purpose of this discussion, let's define "roots" as the new white firm roots that have developed on the rhizome you purchase or take to the rhizome sale. We all are sure the soft brown dehydrated roots of the old rhizome are past any usefulness.

I believe that the white strong roots of the new rhizome have amazing recuperative and functional abilities. Two years ago I planted rhizomes with 4-5 inch roots in loose loam. I dug these out ten days later. Each root showed healthy transverse (horizontal) rootlets extending from the retained white roots. All roots seemed healthy and no new roots had appeared at the heel of the rhizome, beneath the fan.

During late summer 1994, I dug four healthy rhizomes leaving 4-5 inch roots. I put the four in the shade of an oak tree and replanted one rhizome at twenty four hours and one at 60 hours, the other two at 3 days and seven days of bare root exposure to late July summer shade.

The method of planting was to plant in one gallon plastic pots only the 4-5 inch roots, leaving the rhizome itself fully exposed to air. The rhizome was thus 1/2 to 3/4 inch above the soil.

All rhizomes survived, produced new green ears and grew new central leaves in the fan. After the period of observation, the rhizomes have been garden planted in the ordinary manner. At the time of replanting, the plants had grown new roots from the original white roots and these new roots showed the normal appearance of white rootlets with healthy bright yellow tips. The new roots originated mostly two inches or more below the rhizome and grew to the edge of the dirt in these gallon pots.

I concluded that the white roots of this years' rhizomes do have tremendous recuperative power. The question is not whether the white strong roots are of value to the replanted rhizomes but just how long these recuperative powers exist. We prove here that fully recuperation of week-old air-dried roots is only slightly less than for those dried only twenty-four hours.

I always leave my white roots four or five inches long. For best results, I believe you should too. Could it be, the plant knows what is best?

Please, no arm chair rebuttal. Repeat the experiment!

ATTENTION HYBRIDIZERS

We wish to remind you that Registration Applications issued prior to 1990 are no longer valid, and that those issued in 1990 must be completed before the end of this year. There is no refund on non-completed applications, and the names will once again be available on a first-request basis. As stated in the minutes of the AIS Board of Directors' meeting, November, 1974:

"....many complaints have been received about hybridizers' holding of names for several years, thereby tying up these names, and. . . it is felt some limit should be put on name holding. Effective January 1, 1975, a name reserved must be registered within five years, or the name will be released without refund of the application fee."

Upon payment of the registration fee (\$7.50) a hybridizer may, however, re-apply for the same name and begin a new five-year period in which to complete registration.

As a matter of convenience, we will continue to reserve (hold) names on a limited time basis, to allow hybridizers to remit fees for names researched and cleared for them.
IN NO CASE WILL AN UNPAID NAME BE HELD MORE THAN 90 DAYS.

For those now holding unpaid registration applications issued prior to 1995, please review these applications. If you wish to retain the name(s), remit \$7.50 per name and a new application form will be issued, with a five-year limitation period beginning as of the time of payment. **ALL REGISTRATION FORMS NOT PAID (FEE DUE) BY JUNE 1, 1995, WILL BE DECLARED INVALID, AND THE RESERVED NAMES WILL BE RELEASED.**

Keith Keppel, Registrar
P.O. Box 18145
Salem, OR 97305
Phone: (503) 391-9241

EXHIBITIONS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1994

Lillian V. Gristwood

Another iris season has passed, and the results of the shows are always interesting. This year there were 190 spring shows scheduled. Region 18 scheduled 22 shows but had to cancel 2 of them. Region 17 scheduled 19 shows and had to cancel 1 of them. Region 22 scheduled 18 shows and held all of them. Region 14 scheduled and held 18 spring shows and scheduled 2 fall shows. Region 4 scheduled and held 12 spring shows and also scheduled 2 fall shows. Region 21 scheduled and held 7 spring shows and scheduled 1 fall show.

There was no doubt this year as to which iris won the Nelson Award. This award is given to the iris selected Best Specimen in the greatest number of shows. DUSKY CHALLENGER won it by being selected Best Specimen in 10 shows. SILVERADO was chosen in 6 shows and TITAN'S GLORY and SONG OF NORWAY were chosen in 4 shows.

The AIS provided 140 sets of medals to Affiliates and Regional Shows. This is up from 125 sets given last year. The new medals have been overwhelmingly accepted by the members and the comments have been most complimentary.

NUMBER OF 1994 SHOWS REPORTED BY REGIONS

Region	Number of Shows	Position
18	20	1
14	19	2
17	18	3
22	18	
6	15	5
4	13	6
7	11	7
13	8	9
15	7	
21	7	
5	6	11
1	6	
23	6	
9	6	
8	5	15
3	4	16
24	3	17
2	3	
12	2	19
16	2	
19	2	
20	2	
10	1	23
11	1	

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY SHOWS 1994

Place of Show	Silver Medal	Bronze Medal	Best Specimen	Exhibitor
REGION 1				
Auburn, ME	The Whites	The Moors	Silverado	Al Lambert
Auburn, ME	The Hazeltons	Eartheart Gard	Glitter & Gaiety (JI)	Deborah Wheeler
Boylston, MA	David Schmieder Barbara Schmieder			
Newton, MA	Francis Sousa	Maude Pitman	Carolyn Rose (MTB)	David & Barbara Schmieder
Shelburne Falls, MA	David Nitka Rebecca Wong	Deborah Wheeler	Vanity	Marcia Fleming
South Paris, ME	Warren Hazelton Marie Hazelton	Shirley Pope	Serenity Prayer (SDB)	Warren Hazelton Marie Hazelton
REGION 2				
Buffalo, NY	Tony/Dorothy Willott	Judy Tucholski	Busy Being Blue	James Burke
Camillus, NY	Wendy Roller	Dana Borghum	Crystal Ruffles (MTB)	Wendy Roller
Johnson City, NY	Dorothy Fingerhood	Mary Stifel	Brownberry (BB)	Dorothy Fingerhood
REGION 3				
Dover, DE	Theresa Jewell	Art Tucker	Stepping Out	Theresa Jewell
Exton, DE	Larry Westfall	Joseph&Marge Griner	Token of Friendship(JI)	Larry Westfall
Newark, DE	DISPLAY ONLY			
Pittsburgh, PA	John Baron	George Gerhardt	Cafe Society	Richard Moore
REGION 4				
Beltsville, MD	Carol Warner	Clarence Mahan	Virginia B (JI)	Clarence Mahan
Charlotte, NC	David Bowen	Audrey Cline	Copper Classic	David Bowen
Chesapeake, VA	Elton Reitz Maxine Simms	Bill Smoot	Mary Frances	Elton Reitz Maxine Simms
Falmouth, VA	Roger & Sue Glasshoff	Beverly Ruedi	Inner Circle (BB)	Roger & Sue Glasshoff
Hendersonville, NC	Cecil Nix, Jr.	Marshall Goforth	I. Tectorum (Species)	Walter Hoover
Hendersonville, NC	Isabelle Nix	Norma Murphy	Triple Threat (JI)	Alfred Nix
Salisbury, MD	John Vincent	Robert Withey	Rare Treat	Jack Holland
Towson, MD	Carol Warner	Doris Rebert J. Owings Rebert	Snow Prince (Sib)	Carol Warner
Virginia Beach, VA	D.J. Kelly	Rich & Caryl Randall	Japanese Pinwheel (JI)	D.J. Kelly
Washington, D.C.	Dick Spurling	Ginny Waddell	Petite Monet (MTB)	Ginny Waddell
Williamsburg, VA	Mike & Anne Lowe	Joan Caravetta	Honorable (MTB)	Joan Caravetta
REGION 5				
Columbia, SC	Steve Smart	Jim & Peggy Jeffcoat	Whodunit (Species)	Jim & Peggy Jeffcoat
Decatur, GA	Beverly Barbour	Ken Duke	Synchronicity	Betty Hartzog
Milledgeville, GA	Cofy & Velma Brett	David Bowen	Heather Blush	Harry Turner
Spartanburg, SC	John Wood	Steve Smart	Dusky Challenger	Patricia Bowen
Summerville, SC	Maggie Johnson	Patricia D. Brooks	Extraordinaire (LA)	Janice Shumake
Summerville, SC	Walter Hoover	Peggy Beason, Maggie Johnson, John Wood (3 way tie)	Mammoth Marvel (JI)	Walter Hoover
REGION 6				
Akron, OH	Tony Willott Dorothy Willott	Mary Louise Dunderman	Brownberry (BB)	Tony Willott Dorothy Willott
Cleveland, OH	Tony Willott Dorothy Willott	Doug Fuhrmeyer Joy Fuhrmeyer	Manuscript	Tony Willott Dorothy Willott
Dayton, OH	Tony Willott Dorothy Willott	Earl Hall	Honey Glazed (IB)	Matt Robinson
Ft. Wayne, IN	Virginia Wesche	Roger & Lynda Miller	Titan's Glory	Virginia Wesche
Grand Rapids, MI	Carol Kerr	Alice Otter	Little Blue Bell (MDB)	Carol Kerr
Grand Rapids, MI	Don Sorensen	Doris DeHaan	Circus Jewel	Doris DeHaan
Grand Rapids, MI	Doris DeHaan	Lois Wier	Acoma	Bob Mallory
Indianapolis, IN	Carles Burrell	Jack Norrick Glenda Norrick	Aachen Elf (MTB)	Charles Bunnell
Kalamazoo, MI	Ron/Anna Mae Miller	Ensata Gardens	Prom Night	Mike & Pam Thomas
Kalamazoo, MI	Ensata Gardens	Carol Kerr	Sakura-no-sono (JI)	Ensata Gardens
Lansing, MI	Ruth Esper	Frances H. Michalek	Snowbrook	Grant Helmick
Mansfield, OH	Harry Wolford Donna Wolford	Christine Cremeans	Limelighter	Christine Cremeans
Mio, MI	Michael Corthals	Wayne Neumann	Lordy Ways	Nelson Yoder
Muncie, IN	Christine Foy	Marvin Davis	Lady Friend	Marvin Davis
Royal Oak, MI	Keith McNames	Joan Kepf	Whirl Around	Joan Kepf

REGION 7

Bowling Green, KY Dresden, TN	Betty Wilkins Eamnest Royal Deborah Moore	Inez Turns Bobby Goode Melinda Goode	Silverado Lady Friend	Inez Turns Robert Hurt
Jackson, TN Lebanon, TN Lewisburg, TN Lexington, KY Louisville, KY Memphis, TN Memphis, TN Murfreesboro, TN Nashville, TN	Mildred Moore Lou Ehrcke A.C. Fitzgerald Maynard Van Horn Diana Brummitt Mary Ann Collins Bill Reinke Mrs. Regina Crutchfield Sue Gossage	Trudy Lowe Betty Wilkins Frances Luna Hugh Thurman August Vollmer Lottie Lough Beth Koonce Barbara Rittenberry Darnell Hester	Blue Maxx Dusky Challenger Song of Norway Life of Riley Afternoon Delight Dusky Challenger Camera Shy Moon's Delight Song of Norway	Marilyn Vernon Betty Wilkerson Barbara Rittenberry Ed Roberts August Wollmer Mary Ann Collins John Pierce Mrs. Regina Crutchfield Darnell Hester

REGION 8

Blaine, MN Fond du Lac, WI Hales Corners, WI Hales Corners, WI Madison, WI	Victoria Sibell Phyllis Semenas Francis Rogers Howard Brookins Dan Thuman	Joan Cooper Sheila Sayles Sandra J. Lemmer Francis Rogers Karen Eirich	Titan's Glory Maranatha (Sib) Second Opinion (MTB) George Henry (Sib) Rosette Wine	Cindy & Scott Johnson Paula Meyer Sandra J. Lemmer Lavone Ney Julie Burke
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REGION 9

Glencoe, IL North Riverside, IL North Riverside, IL Rockford, IL Rockford, IL Urbana, IL	Marge McCannon Leslie Smith Charles J. Simon Francis Brenner Joe Stien Jerry/Melody Wilhoit	Florence Stout Charles J. Simon Alice Simon Shirley Stien Francis Brenner Steve Varner	Dusky Challenger Choral Music (SDB) Perfect Interlude Petite Jewel (MDB) Choirtime Wake up Call	Marge McCannon Marguerite Hagberg Charles J. Simon Nancy Pilipuf Joe Stien Jerry & Melody Wilhoit
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REGION 10

Lafayette, LA	Dorman Haymon	Gordon Rabalais	Praline Festival (LA)	Dorman Haymon
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REGION 11

Missoula, MT	Hubert & Carryl Meyer	Bob & Billie Gray	Undersea Adventure	Ken & Cleo Swanson
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REGION 12

Logan, UT Salt Lake City, UT	Jeffrey Walters Brad Kasperek Kathie Kasperek	Robert Reeder Joe Brown	Marilyn Holloway (SPU) Dazzling Gold	Cathy Hagen Reed DeRay Taylor
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REGION 13

Bellevue, WA Portland, OR Portland, OR	Paul Ikeda Mt. View Iris Gard. L.R. Walker	Mela Kirk Jim Craig Abbey Gardens Mt. View Gardens (tie)	Tsilil (AR) Pacific Rim (PCI) Cascade Crest (JI)	Arnold Ferguson Wava Ludi L.R. Walker
Richland, WA Tacoma, WA Spokane, WA Tukwila, WA Walla Walla, WA Walla Walla, WA	Clyde Mead Marjorie Kilborn Norma Lunden Paul Ikeda Jean Dietrich Margaret McCrae	Mildred Grow Alan Brooks Laura Buelow Jayne Ritchie ----- Opal Brown	Eagle's Flight Junipero (PCN) Dusky Challenger Countess Zeppelin (Spu) Starbaby (SDB) Skating Party	Mildred Grow Rita Butler Gloria Tussey Steven Ploegstra Marky D. Smith Carrie Criscola

REGION 14

Capitola, CA Chico, CA Clovis, CA Hanford, CA Las Vegas, NV Las Vegas, NV Miranda, CA Oakland, CA Modesto, CA	Joe Ghio George Sutton Bill Tyson Helen Cochran Jean Paul Betty Thomas Gigi Hall Gordon Nicholson Lorraine Nicholson Gigi Hall Peggy Ephland Phyllis O'Hanlon Joe Siebert Gigi Hall Anna & David Cadd Joanne McGrevy	Lois Belardi SEEDLING SHOW (CERTIFICATES ONLY) Bill Tyson Stan Malstrom Oscar Schick Mrs. Marvin Ray Sue Tosten Alan Bobbins Mary Maxwell Ron dela Motte Edie Guidoux Judy Wallach Sandy Olsen M.A.D. Iris Gardens Glenda Rasmussen Jeff & Gioia Davis Kitty Loberg	Crystal Glitters Super Dancer Lovely Spring Guadalajara Poetic Silver Edge (Sib) Touch of Lace (Spu) Double Agent Space Viking Dusky Challenger Mac's Blue Heaven (LA) Gold Country Frosted Buttercup Stratgem Miramar (PCN)	Lois Belardi Bill Tyson Cloyd McCord Helen Cochran Mrs. Marvin Ray Agnes Tupes Carl & LaRue Boswell Gordon Nicholson Lorraine Nicholson Evan Dickinson Judy Wallach Val Lockman Joe Siebert Glenda Rasmussen Jim Begley Joanne McGrevy
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Visalia, CA Walnut Creek, CA	George Sutton Gigi Hall	Dr. John Weiler Glenn Corlew	See The Light (PCI) Blue Eyed Elond (IB)	George Sutton Vern Wood
REGION 15				
Arcadia, CA Palmdale, CA Phoenix, AZ	Peter DeSantis Flo Doull Marge Larson	Duncan Eader Fern Owen Ray Solomon Winona Solomon	Winter's Whimsey Envogue Hello Darkness	Duncan Eader Flo Doull Gloria Beatty
Redlands, CA San Diego, CA Tucson, AZ Woodland Hills, CA	Shirley Plata Hazel Carson Myrleen Hunt Peter DeSantis	R.W. McCullough George Bange Margie Valenzuela Jean Bossier	Lilli (LA) Lively One (Spu) Caracas Hello Darkness	R.W. McCullough Dorothy Driscoll Paul Bessey Jean Bossier
REGION 16				
Burlington, Ont. Norwich, Ont.	Chuck Chapman Chuck Chapman	Dan McMillen Dan McMillen	Coral Chalice Mary Frances	Dan McMillen Dan McMillen
REGION 17				
Amarillo, TX Austin, TX Belton, TX	Kenneth Mazurek Don & Pat Freeman Mary Fussell	Stanley Leonard Jim Landers Roy Rutledge Connie Rutledge	Arabian Midnight (AR) Midnight Dancer Maharishi	Kenneth Mazurek David Grost Mitchell Whitley
Bonham, TX Cleburne, TX	Edith Wolford Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols	Melvin Curtis Zelma Banks	Silverado Hello Darkness Wesley Banks	Edith Wolford Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols
Dallas, TX	Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols	Dell Perry	Jesse's Song	Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols
Dallas, TX	Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols	Farron Campbell	Silverado	Hooker Nichols Bonnie Nichols
Denison, TX	Charles Montgomery Jan Montgomery	Judith Earp	Mary Frances	Martha McDowell
Fort Worth, TX Fort Stockton, TX Lubbock, TX	Tom Welches Mary G. Newton Ramona Howard	Hooker Nichols Janet Newton Vernon Brown Dana Brown	Acapulco Sunset Yukon Fever Plum Plum (SDB)	Dorothy Garner Roberta Dunn Vernon Brown Dana Brown
Lubbock, TX Midland, TX New Braunfels, TX Odessa, TX Sherman, TX	Virginia Hodges Helen Lee J.R. Allen Debra Strauss Ira & Thelma Inman	Ramona Howard Joella Olson Schaefers Joella Olson Frebert Belcher Pauline Belcher	Lady Friend Vanity Maumelle Ruby Wilson (BB) Dusky Challenger	Mary Wilber Helen Lee Schaefers Debra Strauss Dillard Brooks
Temple, TX Waco, TX	Jim Landers Hazel Haik	Dana Glaser Bob Alexander	Olympiad Thornbird	Jim Landers Roy & Connie Rutledge
REGION 18				
Augusta, KS Cape Girardeau, MO Dodge City, KS Garden City, KS Hays, KS Hutchinson, KS Jefferson City, MO Joplin, MO Kansas City, MO Kimmswick, MO Kimmswick, MO Parsons, KS Springfield, MO St. Joseph, MO St. Louis, MO St. Louis, MO St. Louis, MO St. Louis, MO Washington, MO Wichita, KS	Bill & Mary Winzer Jeanne Holley Les Houser Duane Hays Geneva Dies Saundra Grimm Eric Tankesley-Clarke Helen Sheppard Perry-Bates Carla Steinkoetter Stephen Stevens John Spare Calvin Helsley Jim Hedgecock Susan H. Smith Jim Morris Don Delmez Riley Probst Mary Ferguson Helen Reynolds	Dorothy Dickson Helen Lowes Georgina Martinez Wanda Smith Edgar Dies Jo Anne Hooker Dan & Audrey Judy Bill Chapman Dr James W. Waddick Lee Charlton Lee Charlton Lee Robbins Donna Tetrick Mitch Jameson Riley Probst Riley Probst Nyla Hughes Jim Morris Barbara Fonts Dorothy Dickson	Drum Roll Kissing Circle Shaft of Gold Song of Norway Bold Print (IB) Swirling Seas Hi (IB) Gyro Warm Embrace Lime Jade Shepherd's Hey Closed Circuit Festival Prelude (Sib) Shorebird Abridged Version (MTB) Dusky Challenger Strut & Flourish (JJ) Quiet Friendship After Hours Lemon Pop (IB)	Helen Reynolds Helen Lowes Burnice Shelly Duane Van Dolah Geneva Dies Saundra Grimm Eric Tankesley-Clarke Mary Lou Chapman Mitch Jameson Carla Steinkoetter Stephen Stevens Betty Hare Calvin Helsley Reggie Edelman Riley Probst Laura Ferguson Don Delmez Quinton Marshall Edna Dutton George Tripp
REGION 19				
Lawrenceville, NJ Marlton, NJ	William Griner Martha Griner Mr/Mrs George Sproul	Mullen's Iris Gardens Mary Townsend	Cup Race Stardust Memories	William Griner Martha Griner Mr/Mrs George Sproul

REGION 20

Colorado Springs CO Denver, CO	Lowell Baumunk Tim Kuesel	Glenna Chapman Patricia Morgan	Stepping Out Ride the wind Donald Morgan	Lowell Baumunk Randy Penn
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REGION 21

Columbus, NE	Don Peterson	Ron Ullman Jim Berni	Saffron	Ron Ullman
Gering, NE	Leah Eichorn	Julie Fell	Bubbling Over	Leah Eichorn
Lincoln, NE	Allan Ensminger	Connell Marsh	Chanted (SDB)	Allan Ensminger
Lincoln, NE	Opal Wulf	Eugene Kalkwarf	Emerald Skies	Bonnie Kalkwarf
Norfolk, NE	Don Bronzynski	Larry L. Harder	Sun Doll (SDB)	Don Bronzynski
Omaha, NE	Gale Livezey	Janice Fricke	Stardust Memories	Gale Livezey
Sioux City, IA	Larry L. Harder	Arnold Koekkoek	Neil Diamond	Lucille Zellmer

REGION 22

Edmond, OK	Bonnie Hadaway	Perry Parrish	Dusky Challenger	Perry Parrish
Enid, OK	Dana Wade	Bea Williams	Caramel & Honey	Dana Wade
Hobart, OK	Bebe Reimer	Randy Raley	Edith Pope	Mrs. R.M. Kobs
Hot Springs, AR	Jim Bledsoe	Sarah Morgan	Song of Norway	C.C. Chatelain
	Charlotte Bledsoe	Richard Morgan		
Lawton, OK	Ruth Simmons	Robert Medina	Holy Night	Robert Medina
Lawton, OK	Donna Hagood	Joe Norton	Clara Goula (LA)	Marjorie Puckett
	Lacy Hagood	Maude Norton		
Lawton, OK	Donna Hagood	Joe Norton	Titan's Glory	Joe Norton
	Lacy Hagood	Maude Norton		Maude Norton
Little Rock, AR	Mr./Mrs Rich. Butler	Doris Boyles	Acadian Miss (LA)	Doris Boyles
Norman, OK	Perry Parrish	Ted Thompson	Gold Country	Ted Thompson
Oklahoma City, OK	Paul Black	Cleo Palmer	Jesse's Song	Robert Medina
Oklahoma City, OK	Kathy Poore	Perry Parrish	Egyptian	Louise Carson
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Bonnie Hadaway	Holy Night	Rex Matthews
Oklahoma City, OK	Perry Dyer	Perry Parrish	Silverado	Perry Dyer
Ponca City, OK	Robert Dickson	Dorothy Cantwell	Night Ruler	Dorothy Cantwell
		Ray Cantwell		Ray Cantwell
Russellville, AR	Mary Ann King	Juanita Vaughn	Edith Wolford	Mary Ann King
Searcy, AR	LaVera Burkett	Jewell Ozbirn	Silverado	Jewell Ozbirn
Tulsa, OK	Lee Dawson	Phyllis Lyons	Clear Fire	Mr./Mrs Dean Brand
		Trevor Lyons		
Tulsa, OK	Phyllis Lyons	Rilla Hickerson	Eagle's Flight	Phyllis Lyons
	Trevor Lyons			Trevor Lyons

REGION 23

Albuquerque, NM	Scott Jordan	Valerie White	Ravid (AR)	Peter McGrath
	Reita Jordan			
Albuquerque, NM	Scott Jordan	Peter McGrath	Dusky Challenger	Isaiah Price
	Reita Jordan			
Albuquerque, NM	Irene Shockey	Howard Shockey	Armada	Howard Shockey
LaCruces, NM	Ann Wright	Maxine Perkins	Hello Darkness	June E. Mazzolini
Roswell, NM	Leslie Jobe'	Pegi Naranjo	Afternoon Delight	Ruby Chambers
Santa Fe, NM	Pat Feather	Patrick Soland	Titan's Glory	Erlinda Lujan

REGION 24

Birmingham, AL	Nan Elizabeth Miles	Mr./Mrs J.M. Langdon	Pure-As-The	Nan Elizabeth Miles
Coffeeville, MS	Jim Kuykendall	Walter Moores	Boogie Woogie	Walter Moores
	Evelyn Kuykendall			
Huntsville, AL	Margaret Connally	Sue McNeal	Bumblebee Deelite (MTB)	Betty Burch

FALL SHOWS

College Park, MD	Ginny Spoon	Joan Collins	Earl of Essex	Ginny Spoon
Towson, MD	Ken Roberts	Vic Layman	Harvest of Memories	Vic Layman

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY SHOWS 1994

PLACE OF SHOW	BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES	YOUTH YOUTH BEST DESIGN	ARTISTIC SWEEPSTAKES
REGION 1				
Auburn, ME	Sharon Harvie	Sharon Harvie	Jenny Austin	_____
Auburn, ME	Kathleen Marble	Kathleen Marble	_____	_____
Boylston, MA	Kathleen Marble	Andrew Wheeler	_____	_____
Newton, MA	Kathleen Marble	Kathleen Marble	_____	_____
Shelburne Falls, MA	Kathleen Marble	Kathleen Marble	_____	_____
South Paris, ME	Jan Grenier	Alice Yates	Jan Grenier	_____
REGION 2				
Buffalo, NY	Maria Gerbracht	_____	_____	_____
Johnson City, NY	Jane Antes	Edna Bodnar	_____	_____
REGION 3				
Pittsburg, PA	Lenna Easter	_____	_____	_____
REGION 4				
Charlotte, NC	Marie Cruise	_____	_____	_____
Falmouth, VA	Karen O. Dameron	Martha Carter	_____	_____
Washington, DC	Dale De Feo	_____	_____	_____
REGION 5				
Columbia, SC	Madaline Lever	_____	_____	_____
Decatur, GA	Cookie Rowland	_____	_____	_____
Milledgeville, GA	C. Earnest Yearwood	C. Earnest Yearwood	Kelly Geeter	_____
Spartanburg, SC	Etta Leaward	Anna Gathman	Justin Wornick	_____
Summerville, SC	Barbara Mitchum	Barbara Mitchum	_____	_____
REGION 6				
Akron, OH	Dorothy Willott	Dorothy Willott	_____	_____
Cleveland, OH	Frances Holecek	Wilford James	_____	_____
Fort Wayne, IN	Betty Wallace	_____	_____	_____
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski	_____	_____
Grand Rapids, MI	Ruth Levanduski	Ruth Levanduski	_____	_____
Grand Rapids, MI	Theresa Kwiatkowski	Ruth Levanduski	_____	_____
Indianapolis, IN	Judy Vaught	Judy Vaught	_____	_____
Kalamazoo, MI	Linda Garaza	Bernard Jones	_____	_____
Lansing, MI	Joan McComb	_____	_____	_____
Mansfield, OH	Kay Hostetler	Kay Hostetler	_____	_____
Mio, MI	Pauline Courmyer	Kim Kocher	_____	_____
REGION 7				
Bowling Green, KY	Irene Hughes	Irene Hughes	_____	_____
Lebanon, TN	Margaret Joines	Margaret Joines	_____	_____
Louisville, KY	Paul Owens	Diana Brummitt	_____	_____
Memphis, TN	Margaret Smallwood	_____	_____	_____
Memphis, TN	Ginni Hill	Ginni Hill	_____	_____
Murfreesboro, TN	Mary Watts	_____	_____	_____
Nashville, TN	Marsha Baldwin	_____	_____	_____
REGION 8				
Blaine, WI	Char Sindt	Kay Sterzinger	_____	_____
Fond du Lac, WI	Delores Krueger	Delores Krueger	_____	_____
Madison, WI	Keith Eirick	_____	_____	_____
REGION 9				
Glencoe, IL	Priscilla Segel	Priscilla Segel	_____	_____
North Riverside, IL	William Hessel	William Hessel	_____	_____
North Riverside, IL	Margene Rieschal	Margene Rieschal	_____	_____
Rockford, IL	Nancy Pilipuf	_____	_____	_____
REGION 12				
Logan, UT	Venice Larsen	Roma Freeman	_____	_____
Salt Lake City, UT	Kathie Kasperek	Marion Daniels	_____	_____

REGION 13

Portland, OR	Nancy Miller	Laura Moritz	_____	_____
Richland, WA	Norma Boswell	_____	_____	_____
Spokane, WA	Larry Littman	Norma Lunden	_____	_____
Tacoma, WA	Eileen Smiley	Eileen Smiley	_____	_____
Walla Walla, WA	Louis O'Con	Verna Bennet	_____	_____
Walla Walla, WA	Jean Dietrich	Mary Jane Millard	_____	_____

REGION 14

Clovis, CA	Laverne Cottet	Laverne Cottet	_____	_____
Hanford, CA	June Pope	June Pope	_____	_____
Las Vegas, NV	Jean Paul	_____	_____	_____
Redding, CA	Jessie Roberson	Jessie Roberson	_____	_____
San Jose, CA	Dorothy Goble	Dorothy	_____	_____
	Philippa Alvis (tie)			
Ukiah, CA	Jean Near	Terri Hudson	Kimberly Mitchell	_____
Visalia, CA	Dorothy Dominici	Dorothy Dominici	_____	_____

REGION 15

Arcadia, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara	_____	_____
Palmdale, CA	Kerry Tompkin	_____	_____	_____
Phoenix, AZ	Clemence Newcomb	Clemence Newcomb	_____	_____
Redlands, CA	Carol Morgan	Carol Morgan	_____	_____
San Diego, CA	Elba Costello	Kathy Walsh	_____	_____
Tucson, AZ	Sumi Pugh	Sumi Pugh	_____	_____
Woodland Hills, CA	Eileen Fiumara	Eileen Fiumara	_____	_____

REGION 17

Austin, TX	Pat Freeman	Pat Freeman	_____	_____
Bonham, TX	Max Moore	_____	_____	_____
Cleburne, TX	Ida Mae & John Moore	Ida Mae & John Moore	_____	_____
Denison, TX	Jan Montgomery	Jan Montgomery	_____	_____
Forth Worth, TX	Marjorie Powell	Marjorie Powell	_____	_____
Forth Stocton, TX	Janet Newton	_____	_____	_____
Lubbock, TX	Eupha Skillman	Bill Skillman	_____	_____
Lubbock, TX	Virginia Hodges	Virginia Hodges	_____	_____
Midland, TX	Jim Galyean	Jim Galyean	_____	_____
Sherman, TX	Carol Colburn	Alisa Peters	_____	_____
Waco, TX	Hazel Haik	Hazel Haik	_____	_____

REGION 18

Augusta, KS	Mary Jo Coloney	Mary Winzer	_____	_____
Dodge City, KS	Carol Loker	Carol Loker	_____	_____
Garden City, KS	Mary Lou Hays	Mary Lou Hays	Shilo Gillam	_____
Hays, KS	Geneva Dies	Jeanette Tammen	_____	_____
Hutchinson, KS	Pat Bass	Sandra Grimm	_____	_____
Jefferson City, MO	Marsha Richeson	Marsha Richeson	_____	_____
Joplin, MO	Laura Dolan Teverow	Laura Dolan Teverow	Kim Grant	_____
Kansas City, MO	Jenny Predpelski	Jenny Predpelski	_____	_____
Kimmswick, MO	Dorothy Jackson	_____	_____	_____
Kimmswick, MO	Carla Steinkoetter	_____	_____	_____
Parsons, KS	Lucy Pearce	Lucy Pearce	_____	_____
Springfield, MO	Gladys Jones	Gladys Jones	_____	_____
St. Joseph, MO	Lucille Boswell	Lucille Boswell	_____	_____
St. Louis, MO	Nadine Wallenstein	Vince Italian	Joey Italian	_____
St. Louis, MO	Nina Dix	Rita Kinsella	Joey Italian	_____
St. Louis, MO	Louise Bellagama	Rita Kinsella	_____	_____
St. Louis, MO	Jean Morris	Jean Morris	Joey Italian	_____
St. Louis, MO	Nadine Wallenstein	Rita Kinsella	_____	_____
Washington, MO	John Bieher	Rosa Kamyschroeler	_____	_____
Wichita, KS	Kathryn McCune	Jayneen Westervelt	_____	_____

REGION 20

Colorado Springs, CO	Sheryl Rudel	Sheryl Rudel	_____	_____
Denver, CO	Mrs. Jan Maynard	Mrs. V. Spain	_____	_____

REGION 21

Columbus, NE	Edna Kingston	_____	_____	_____
Gering, NE	Virginia Harimon	_____	_____	_____
Lincoln, NE	_____	_____	_____	_____
Lincoln, NE	_____	_____	_____	_____
Norfolk, NE	Marian Burleigh	_____	_____	_____
Omaha, NE	Celeste Micek	_____	_____	_____
Sioux City, IA	Dennis Wolff	_____	_____	_____

REGION 22

Edmond, OK	Maxine Hawley	Sadie Hild	_____	_____
Enid, OK	Veda Moore	Veda Moore	_____	_____
Hobart, OK	Wanda Lee Robinson	Wanda Lee Robinson	_____	_____
Hot Springs, AR	Darlene Lauder	Tim Hassell	_____	_____
Lawton, OK	Mary Ann Holman	Mary Ann Holman	_____	_____
Lawton, OK	Mary Whitney	Mary Whitney	_____	_____
Lawton, OK	Mr./Mrs Howard Edwards	Mr./Mrs H. Edwards	_____	_____
		Velma Bluford	_____	_____
Little Rock, AR	Eleanor Fikes	Billie Jo Wilson	_____	_____
Norman, OK	Lillian Shelton	Lillian Shelton	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Jackie Karban	Genevieve Followwill	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Bernice Miller	Marjorie Franklin	_____	_____
Oklahoma City, OK	Virginia Gregory	_____	_____	_____
Russellville, AR	Beverly Tollison	Juanita Vaughn	_____	_____
Tulsa, OK	Jo Ann Barker	Jo Ann Barker	_____	_____

REGION 23

Las Cruces, NM	Fern Gold	Ellen Tafoya	_____	_____
Roswell, NM	Leslie Jobe'	Leslie Jobe'	_____	_____
Santa Fe, NM	Gwen Anlian	Gwen Anlian	_____	_____

YOUTH DIVISION

PLACE OF SHOW	SILVER MEDAL YOUTH	BRONZE MEDAL YOUTH	BEST SPECIMAN
REGION 1			
Auburn, ME	_____	_____	Satum
So. Paris, ME	_____	_____	Spookhouse (SDB)
			Jenny Austin
			Megan Hazelton
REGION 5			
Milledgeville, GA	Kay Weathers	Kristen Geeter	High Society
Spartanburg, SC	Marle Goforth	Brian Wright	Dusky Challenger
			Kay Weathers
			Brian Wright
REGION 6			
Mansfield, OH	_____	_____	Vanity
			Michelle Gossard
REGION 14			
Ukiah, CA	Alissa Loberg	Marc Loberg	Superstition
			Kindra Schussel
REGION 17			
Temple, TX	Brian Glaser	_____	Venus & Mars
			Brian Glaser
REGION 18			
Garden City, KS	Shilo Gillam	Kenny Smith	Funny Face
Joplin, MO	_____	_____	Song of Norway
St. Louis, MO	Ryan Koch	Kevin Gormley	Sun Doll (SDB)
St. Louis, MO	Kevin Gormley	Ryan Koch	Dusky Challenger
St. Louis, MO	Ryan Koch	Joey Italian	Grandpa's Girl (MTB)
Parsons, KS	Tyler Chapman	Kira Chapman	Silverado
Washington, MO	Ryan Koch	Danika King	Bumblebee Deelite (MTB)
			Waylon Gillam
			Ben Dafoe
			Ryan Koch
			Laura Ferguson
			Ryan Koch
			Tyler Chapman
			Ryan Koch
REGION 20			
Denver, CO	_____	_____	Song of Norway
			Heather Hail

REGION 21

Columbus, NE

Amanda Kruse

Angie Wernhoff

REGION 22

Lawton, OK

Tulsa, OK

Tulsa, OK

Charity Thompson

Thomas Walsh

Carrie Simmons

Catherine Davis

Latin Hideaway

Indigo Princess

Little Much

Geoffrey Day

Catherine Davis

Catherine Davis

REGION 23

Albuquerque, NM

Albuquerque, NM

Isaiah Price

Isaiah Price

Whitney McGrath

Whitney McGrath

Dusky Challenger

Dream Lover

Isaiah Price

Isaiah Price

EDUCATION & COMMERCIAL

Place of Show Commercial

Educational

Region 4

Beltsville, MD

Charlotte, NC

Hendersonville, NC

Washington, DC

Williamsburg, VA

Brian Lazarus

Barbara Moeller

Carolina Iris Society

Don Spoon

S.E. Worrell

REGION 5

Spartanburg, SC

Summerville, SC

Fran Allison

Kathy Woolsey

Everette Lineberger

REGION 6

Cleveland, OH

Mio, MI

Dorothy Willott

Opal Fullerton

REGION 7

Bowling Green, KY

Jackson, TN

Lebanon, TN

Louisville, KY

Lou Ehrcke

David Farrow

Margaret Joines

Diana Brummitt

REGION 13

Bellevue, WA

Tukwila, WA

Portland, OR

Portland, OR

George & Carla Lankow

George & Carla Lankow

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden

Laurie's Garden

REGION 15

Phoenix, AZ

Redlands, CA

San Diego, CA

Grace Martin

Thelma Carrington

Shepard's Iris Garden

Kary's Iris Garden

Cal-Dixie Gardens

REGION 17

Amarillo, TX

Sue Bell

REGION 18

Cape Girardeau, MO

Hays, KS

St. Louis, MO

Mary E. Blackiston

Geneva Dies

Jim Morris

REGION 19

Lawrenceville, NJ

Raymond J. Rogers

REGION 22

Edmond, OK

Bonnie Hadaway

Enid, OK

Monica Combrink

Hot Springs, AR

Lyle & Louise Trimble

The Blue Iris Florist

Lawton, OK

Marjorie Puckett

Little Rock, AR

Doris Boyles

Oklahoma City, OK

Genevieve Followwill

Russellville, AR

Beverly Tollison

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Quality Hotel Four Seasons
4, 5, 6, 1994
Albuquerque, New Mexico

November

The regular fall meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society was called to order at 8:45 p.m., November 4, 1994, by President Claire Barr. Present at the various sessions were President Barr; First Vice President Niswonger; Second Vice President Mahan; Secretary J. Plank; Treasurer Corlew; Membership Secretary Harlow; Recording Secretary King; Publications Sales Director C.J. Lack; Directors Aitken, Crick, Gristwood, Harder, Miller, Stahly, Waters, M. Wilhoit and Witt; RVP Board Representative Moller; Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Photo Coordinator R. Plank; Committee Chairman Jean Morris; RVPs Schmieder (1), Honkanen (5), D. Willott (6), Gifford (7), Meyer (11), Smith (13), Rinehart (15), Green (17), Probst (18), Gossett (22), and M. Perkins (23); Section Representatives Kiyomoto (SIGNA), James Morris (MIS) and McGrath (ASI); others attending were Hobbs, A. Willott (6), J. Wilhoit (9), Nichols (17), K. Lack (22) and Bergamo, Figge, Gordon, V. McGrath, T.C. Perkins, Randall and Sluizer (23).

President Barr welcomed those present and invited their participation in the discussions with the reminder that only Board members could vote on the Society's business. Introductions followed, and everyone was requested to sign the attendance books.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Barr thanked the Albuquerque Iris Guild, Region 23, for hosting the 1994 fall meeting.

Recording Secretary King presented the following corrections to the minutes of the 1994 spring Board meeting in Portland, Oregon, as published in the AIS Bulletin #295:

1. p. 90, paragraph 4 - "comma" instead of "period" should appear after "sale."
2. p. 90, paragraph 5 - "Motion carried." should be added after "buyers."
3. p. 92, paragraph 13 - "Corlew seconded." should be added at the end of the paragraph after "Fund."
4. p. 94, paragraph 3 - "the engraving of" should be inserted between "for" and "medals."
5. p. 94, paragraph 15 - should read "peer review of scientific data is performed on" instead of "the recommended changes were made "in."

With no further corrections, the minutes were approved as corrected.

Secretary Plank reported that as no other nominations for directors had been received, Clarence Mahan, Harold Stahly, Lynda Miller and Jean Witt are duly elected and qualified with terms expiring in 1997. Barr welcomed Miller as a new director and recognized out-going director and Judges' Training Chairman Crick for her able and dedicated work in the past years for the AIS.

Barr announced there had been no interim Executive Committee action. Interim Board approval had been given to two appointees: Keith Keppel as temporary Registrar and Jean Erickson as Advertising Editor. Permission had been granted to Schreiner's Iris Garden to use certain materials from *The Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*, Section B, with proper acknowledgement, for instruction on the evaluation of irises in their recently-formed test panel.

Following the post-convention announcement that John Weiler would serve on the 1995 Personnel Committee as Section Representative, President Barr had asked Marky Smith to serve as chairman, since it had not been possible to elect a chairman at the convention. Barr also related having received a request, belatedly, by the North Shore Iris and Daylily Society of Illinois to copy some material from *The World of Irises* for an educational exhibit at their spring show. She had responded by acknowledging and granting their request for future use, if needed, according to AIS policy.

Secretary Plank reported she had successfully contacted attorney Glen Spain. She has received from him both files and a synopsis of his past work with the AIS. Her conversation with Mr. Spain concerning future needs of the Society confirmed his desire to continue his work with the AIS.

Plank stated it was time to order stationery and that post cards would be mailed to those not present as a reminder.

Membership Secretary Harlow directed attention to the 1994 report mailed prior to the meeting to each Board member, pointing out losses and gains with a total membership of 8,221, which is a net gain of 100 over those lost during the year. Harlow praised the efforts of the regional chairpersons in recruiting new members,

and stated nearly half of the Regions have membership chairmen, five of whom regularly correspond with her. Leading in membership totals are: Region 14, with 752 members; Region 4, with 669; Region 6 has 612 members and Region 18 has 600. The new color "Invitation to Join" brochures have been well received.

Harlow reported that the AIS member requesting a Life Membership time-pay plan last spring has already paid in full and is now a Life Member. She had received no further inquiries regarding payment plans. Barr cited the possible need for a policy on this in the future, however, and will, therefore, appoint a committee later in the meeting to study the matter.

Treasurer Corlew distributed copies of the annual financial report together with the 1995 proposed budget for study by the Board for later action. The report, Corlew said, generally reflected expenses running higher because of the cost of printing postcards and the R & I ten year Check List.

The Editor's report was given by Barr in the absence of Editor Mullin who was unable to attend. Mullin stressed the need for contributors to send articles before the publication deadline of each issue. Cost differences were pointed out between the use of color versus black and white in publishing an issue. Mullin thanked those who had provided slides for the October issue.

With regard to the extra expense of color pictures used in the Bulletin, Barr announced that a large donation had been given by The Greater Portland Iris Society convention committee to help off-set the additional cost.

Photo coordinator R. Plank recognized the photographers who contributed to the national convention coverage: Glenn Corlew, Terry Aitken, Bill Maryott, William Plotner, Bryce Williamson, Jean Erickson, Vickie Craig, Jim Craig, Manley Osborne, Mike Lowe, Marky Smith, Joanne Derr, Lynda Miller and Roger Mazur. It was the consensus of the Board that the color used in the Bulletin, while expensive and complicated, served as good public relations.

The report of the Registration Chairman and Registrar, Keith Keppel, was read by President Barr. New applications to date have numbered 819 with some coming from Russia and the republics of Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, these for the first time. In response to Keppel's request for the number of copies of the 1994 Registrations & Introductions booklet to be ordered, Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that 1,200 copies be printed and sold at the charge of \$5 each. Motion carried.

Stahly moved, Waters seconded, that the Board authorize the Executive Committee to approve funds, if needed, to provide assistance to Keppel in his work as Registrar. Motion carried.

Publication Sales Director Lack reported a total of \$40,441.89 in adjusted sales, and listed inventories on sales items and materials in the AIS Archives. *The World of Irises* has been removed from the sales list because of the small number remaining in inventory, and Lack mentioned the surplus of left-over *Bulletins*. A discussion ensued on the excessive number in stock, especially July and October, on the problem of over-runs, how and where to disperse the extra copies and who would take on that job.

A motion was made by Aitken, seconded by Corlew, that wholesale rates be offered to iris societies for back issues of *The Bulletin* in excess of surplus. The motion was withdrawn in favor of the suggestion that a committee be appointed to study and make further recommendations to the Board. No further action was taken at this time.

Affiliates Chairman Niswonger opened his report with thanks to all the RVPs for their work last year which resulted in a total of 160 affiliates nationwide, an increase of 7 over 1993. Region 18 had the most affiliates with 19, Region 14 had 16, and Region 22 had 15. Niswonger reiterated the benefits of affiliating, such as free medals, a set of AIS slides provided for one program during the year, plus a greater opportunity for fellowship in a more expanded network. Niswonger passed out copies of all regional affiliates with their current presidents and addresses, as this latter information would no longer be printed in *The Bulletin*.

Barr took this time to recognize and welcome RVP Representative Mike Moller, Region 20, to the AIS Board for the year 1994-95.

Awards Chairman Wilhoit presented her fall report to the Board, opening with the results of the 1994 High Commendations, the 1994 Japanese Iris awards, and the 1994 Tall Bearded Symposium. Ballots were mailed to 841 accredited judges, and 683 were returned by the July deadline; 22 were returned late, and 2 judges voted on 1993 ballots. On the Symposium vote, approximately 20% of the AIS membership voted, with Region 14 having the highest number of votes, 180, followed by Region 18 with 138 and Region 15 with 133. Region 12 had the highest percentage voting, 53%. Twenty-three overseas members voted. Wilhoit asked that the names of the two irises left off the printed ballot be included on next year's ballot. Niswonger so moved; Plank seconded. Motion carried.

Foundation Liaison Pettijohn gave a brief report announcing the grant approved to Stanton Gill, University of Maryland, to study the control of iris borer using insect pathogenic nematodes. The study will be conducted in spring and summer, 1995.

Convention Liaison Mahan stated that Region 7 would be unable to host the 1996 fall Board meeting but hoped to be able to do so at a later date. The 1997 fall meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in Temple, Texas, awaiting a formal invitation from that society and Board approval. The 1995 fall Board meeting will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Spring meetings have been scheduled through the year 2000.

The matter of unsigned judges' ballots was raised by Awards Chairman Wilhoit, who stated that 90% of ballots were returned with addresses and names but no signatures.

Since there was obviously some confusion on this issue, Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that the requirement to sign the ballot be removed and replaced with a statement requiring name and address to be printed legibly on the ballot. Motion carried.

The meeting was recessed at 10:45 p.m. and reconvened at 8:40 a.m., Saturday, November 5.

Niswonger shared with the Board a copy of a Russian Bulletin which had its table of contents in both Russian and English. He spoke of the difficulties in sending irises or material to Russian individuals since import permit numbers were assigned only to organizations. Express mail proved to be the answer.

Exhibitions Chairman Gristwood said that copies of her report had been mailed to all RVPs. She reported that 190 spring shows and 5 fall shows were approved this year with only five cancellations; there was one Display show and one Seeding show. The AIS provided 140 sets of medals to affiliates and regional shows. The Nelson Award, given to the iris winning the most Best Specimen of Show awards, was Dusky Challenger with 10; Silverado was second with 6, and Titan's Glory and Song of Norway tied for third with 4 each.

Convention Liaison Mahan distributed the following information for spring conventions:

1995	York, PA, Ramada Inn, 1650 Toronita St.	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA, Hyatt Regency, 1209 L St.	Apr. 23-27
1997	Detroit, MI, Hyatt Regency, Dearborn, MI	June 3-7
1998	Denver, CO, Sheraton-Denver Tech Center	June 1-5
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	Tentative May 4-8
2000	Dallas, TX	

Historical Committee Chairman Harder reported that he continues to solicit and receive catalogues, regional bulletins and other related publications; he requested copies of the reprints of the AIS Check Lists as well as the R & I booklets. He then asked about disposing of an out-dated AIS computer.

Mahan moved, Corlew seconded that Harder be authorized to dispose of the computer as he saw fit. Motion carried.

Harder also asked permission to subscribe to foreign society publications so that they can be secured for the AIS files.

A motion was made by Witt, seconded by Stahly, that a reciprocal approach on the exchange of foreign bulletins be tried through Secretary Plank and Membership Secretary Harlow for historical references. The motion was amended by Mahan, seconded by Corlew, that three copies be secured, one going to the Library. Amendment passed. Motion carried.

The Honorary Awards report was postponed since it would require executive session later, and Barr called for the Judges' Training report. Chairman Crick, making her final report, submitted the roster of judges for 1995 and thanked all RVPs for their cooperation during her term.

There was a discussion of qualifications of overseas judges and their ability to meet the AIS requirements to maintain their accreditation. Crick acknowledged there was no way overseas judges could fulfill the training required of U.S. judges, but they were required to have 3 years of AIS membership along with growing their own irises.

RVP Honkanen, Region 5, and RVP Perkins, Region 23, asked that an apprentice judge from each of their respective regions whose membership will have met the 3 year requirements on January 1, 1995, be placed on the list of apprentice judges recommended by Chairman Crick for approval by the Board as accredited judges.

Niswonger moved, Aitken seconded, that on the recommendations of their RVPs, Marshall Goforth, Region 5, and Dorothy Gordon, Region 23, be added to the list for approval by the Board, subject to the verification of requirements by the Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training and the Membership Secretary.

In addition to accredited judges, the following new Master Judges were also on the Judges' Training Chairman's list for recommendations to the Board:

Region	1	Mrs. Keith Roberts Region	13	David Schreiner
	2	Dr. Edward Valentine		Ray Schreiner
	4	Mrs. Andrew C. Warner	14	Merry Haveman

5	Nina Hawkins	14	William Maryott
	Mrs. Edward Paquet	18	Mrs. James Morris
7	Mrs. Albert Dierckes		Annette J. Vincent
	Jerry Phillips	21	Irene H. Boardman
8	Mrs. R.W. Dalgaard		Jim Hummel
	Dr. Norman Frisch		Vera Hummel
	Mrs. Duwayne Geifer		Marjorie Jansen
9	Mrs. C. J. Simon	24	Carol Burch
12	Susanne Parry		Margaret Connally
	Cathy Hagan Reed		

Niswonger moved, Corlew seconded, that the Board approve the Chairman's recommendations for 1995. Motion carried.

Barr expressed her appreciation again to the Judges' Training Chairman and noted that Crick would remain on the committee for revision of the Handbook.

Crick announced the following judges' training sessions at the York, Pennsylvania convention: Siberians, by Marky Smith, Louisianas, by Farron Campbell, and Ethics, by Phil Williams.

Corlew announced plans for judges' training at the Seminar on Species, March 24-26, 1995 in St. Louis, Missouri.

The Membership Contest report was given by Barr in the absence of Chairman McWhirter. The Chairman recommended in his report that the December 10 deadline for entries be changed so that his report could be complete by the November fall Board meeting.

Mahan moved, Harder seconded, that the date for contest entries be changed, beginning in 1995, so that the contest ends on September 30 and starts on October 1 of each year thereafter. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Moller seconded, that the Chairman be authorized to change the rules of the contest at his/her discretion and to publish such changes in the Bulletin. Motion carried.

The report stated that the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society was the current leader among affiliates, followed by The Iris Club of Southeast Michigan, and The Francis Scott Key Iris Society. Individual leaders in the contest were Kathleen Guest, Region 2, followed by Kathleen Colburn, Region 2 and Sarah Holk, Region 15.

After a 15-minute break, the meeting continued with a report from the Policy Chairman.

In the absence of Chairman Lowe, Secretary Plank read his report to the Board for the record. Lowe suggested that retiring Board members pass on their policy index file to in-coming Board members.

Public Relations Chairman Waters thanked Glenn Corlew, C.J. Lack, and Robert Plank for their help.

Waters moved, Stahly seconded, that a posthumous vote of thanks be given to Don Peterson, recently deceased, for his long-time assistance in shipping the AIS screen. Motion carried. A special letter to the family will be written by the Secretary regarding this act of appreciation by AIS.

New projects consisted of the new car-sticker decals with the AIS logo, new show posters and fold-over notepaper.

Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board authorize the Chairman to proceed with the AIS decals for cars and submit a price proposal to the Board. Motion carried.

Following a discussion on the need for different sizes of posters used for advertising shows, Corlew moved, Mahan seconded, that the Chairman investigate the sizes needed and report back to the Executive Committee. Motion carried.

The use and distribution of the lavender "Invitation to Join" that still show an old address was debated. Membership Secretary Harlow offered to make new address labels for Lack to apply to the old brochures. The offer was accepted.

Robins Chairman Brookins had not sent a report. Harder addressed the desirability expressed by many to have "Flight Lines" back in the *Bulletin*. Following discussion, the consensus was that Secretary Plank should write to Chairman Brookins advising him of the suggestions discussed and asking for his in-put in a report at the 1995 spring meeting.

RVP Counselor Stahly distributed the list of recommendations for the 1995 RVP appointments, naming the following new Regional Vice Presidents, terms expiring in 1997:

Region	3	Theresa Jewell	Region	11	Oz Reyna
	6	Emma Hobbs		14	George Sutton
	9	George S. Poole		18	Mike Hargrove
				22	Ronald Mullin

Continuing RVPs (with expiration dates):

Region 1	Barbara Schmieder	(1995)	Region 15	Bill Rinehart	(1996)
2	John Schueler	(1995)	16	Catherine Boyko	(1996)
4	Dr. Roy Epperson	(1995)	17	Gordon Green	(1995)
5	Claire Honkanen	(1995)	19	J. John Griner	(1996)
7	Jerry Gifford	(1996)	20	Mike Moller	(1995)
10	Mrs. Hubert Rena	(1996)	21	Roger Mazur	(1995)
12	Cathy Hagan Reed	(1996)	23	Maxine Perkins	(1995)
13	Marky Smith	(1996)	24	Joe Christopher	(1996)

Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the list of continuing RVPs be approved by the Board. Motion carried.

Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the new slate of RVPs be approved. Motion carried.

Stahly stated that he would verify all new RVPs' names and addresses, and send them to the Secretary for stationery orders.

RVP Representative Moller read suggestions from the RVP meeting:

- (1) that new registrations and/or new introductions be accompanied by a picture or a slide of the iris along with its history.

It was felt that this was not an issue which could be decided at this time but did merit investigation. Barr said that she would appoint a committee to look into the matter before the meeting's end.

- (2) that Master Judges not be required to have judges' training.

It was the consensus that Active Master Judges must remain current in matters of show bench and garden training requirements, and that this subject should be referred to the Handbook revisionists.

- (3) that the question was raised as to why was there no longer an AIS Regional Test Garden program similar to Loomis Test Garden.

Hybridizers on the Board cited causes that made the program generally unsuccessful for hybridizers.

Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board commend Mike Moller and his Region for what they have done and are doing at the Loomis Test Garden. Motion carried.

After a break for lunch, the meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

Scholarship Chairman Witt reported that activity for 1994 included the continuation of support of Nathan Lange, the 1993-94 scholarship recipient, and that the two new recipients, Shana Gamey of the University of Georgia and Kevin Horst of the University of Colorado at Boulder have been sent their first checks. Expenses for the year were given. The members of her committee, Phil Ogilvie, Sharon McAllister, Elsiemae Nicholson and James Waddick, will be asked to serve again next year.

Secretary Plank read the Scientific Committee report sent by Dr. Chandler Fulton, Chairman. The report included news of the current "disease project" led by Dr. Currier McEwen and a request for the continuation of the project through the summer of 1995. Since funds had been made available at the spring meeting for such a contingency, no further action was needed for the request. Fulton also wrote that Dr. Henderson had been notified of the Board's suggestion regarding his manuscript on iris classification.

Section Liaison Convention Chairman Aitken reported his committee's examination of the relationship between the AIS national conventions and the Section mini-conventions as requested by the President. After passing copies to the Board listing a summary of problems and benefits, Aitken proposed the following recommendations as possible solutions:

- (1) that Sections co-ordinate with the AIS Section Liaison at the preliminary planning stage to prevent potential conflict;
- (2) that national convention dates be published, even if tentative, so Sections can plan around them;
- (3) that Section convention dates be published with national dates, "subject to change."

While it is recognized that the AIS is an "umbrella" organization which shelters a great diversity of interests, it should also promote all iris interests in a harmonious and efficient manner. It should also follow that some section conventions could be scheduled at appropriate intervals of two, three or four years to avoid conflicts in the same year with other sections' interests.

There was agreement that the main problem was co-ordination, inasmuch as mini-conventions for Siberian, Species and, especially, Japanese irises often offered the best, and perhaps the only, opportunity to view the many cultivars judges must see to vote awards. Setting dates within the time-frame of peak bloom would require careful planning.

AIS Slides Chairman Moller reported a very good year for slide requests, with 70 scheduled programs. Most popular were "The Newest in Iris" and "Iris Trivia." Slides of the Portland Convention had recently been added. Moller encouraged members to send in their slides of new varieties, recent HM winners and other popular irises and concluded with thanks to Howard Shockey for his help and advice.

The annual report of the Youth Committee was given by Chairman Morris, showing a total of 173 Youth members, an increase of 9. Several regions are still without a Youth chairman. Morris also passed around the list of irises/seed mailed to 146 Youth members which included 180 varieties of median irises and 140 seed packets of iris seeds from SIGNA. Morris said that Carolyn Hawkins had agreed not only to do a column on design for *Young Ideas* but to help edit the youth Publication. Morris strongly supported a recommendation for the Handbook revision to require a Youth Section as mandatory for an AIS show schedule under which Youth could enter Horticultural, Design and Educational divisions. She also recommended that the Youth show report be on the same sheet as the adult's report.

An offer had been made by an affiliate society to donate a cash award to be given in addition to the AIS trophy given for the Clarke Cosgrove Award.

Mahan moved, Miller seconded, that if any society wishes to donate funds to the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Youth Achievement Award each year, those monies would be accepted by the AIS and dispersed as such as part of that award. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that the AIS pay for one set of Youth medals per AIS show. Motion carried.

Morris read a letter from a 15-year-old West African, uniquely written, requesting some books and material on irises after finding the AIS Secretary's address on the back of a periodical having "many beautiful colors of flowers." An offer was made by Marky Smith to pay for a triennial youth membership for the young man.

Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that the AIS send to him a copy of *The World of Irises*, one or two years of back issues of the *Bulletin* from surplus, an AIS calendar, postcards and a pamphlet on iris culture. Motion carried.

Niswonger, Chairman of the Committee to Study Awards Guidelines and Policies presented the committee's findings. Although there were no specific recommendations, several suggestions from members of the committee were as follows:

- (1) printed guidelines of the duties of the Awards Chairman with a study of the workload;
- (2) an assistant for ballot counting.

Bennett Jones, committee member, has volunteered to count ballots next year.

Niswonger read twelve duties of the Awards Chairman that were on a time table. It was recommended that a D Base File/computer could help the Chairman handle the three different categories, Convention awards, Judges' Ballots and the Symposium.

Corlew moved, Waters seconded, that the Membership Secretary's present computer be transferred to the Awards Chairman, and a new computer compatible with the one sent be purchased for the Membership Secretary, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee. Motion carried.

In the absence of Chairman Mullin, there was no formal report from the Committee to Study the Needs of the *Bulletin*.

Barr expressed the need for more members on the new committee and asked for the approval of Olive Rice-Waters and Terry Aitken.

Niswonger so moved, Stahly seconded. Motion carried.

For the Committee to Revise the Judges' Handbook, Crick reported that a good start had been made but that at this time there were no specific comments.

In-coming committee chairman, Corlew, stated that since there would be a complete revision rather than a page by page insertion, though the form would remain "loose-leaf," it was still at least a year from printing. All Sections are being contacted for in-put, and several improvements have already been made. Any change of rules, of course, would have to come before the committee and then to the Board for approval. Corlew issued a general call to the membership for any legitimate suggestions for improving the Handbook.

In the absence of Chairman McWhirter, Harder reported for the Committee to Study Liability Insurance. He reported findings on an agency willing to handle AIS needs. This agency had recently been contacted by committee member Mike Lowe. Two types of policies were recommended: (1) a package policy that offered liability with some form of property insurance added; (2) a policy for directors and officers insurance. A third alternative would be Workman's Compensation. Estimates were quoted on each coverage. The Workman's Compensation was not applicable, and the second policy was a duplication of present coverage. Therefore, the first package policy offering liability with property insurance was considered.

A motion was made by Mahan, seconded by Witt, that the committee go ahead to the point that they have a policy ready to recommend and return it to Secretary Plank for further action by the Board. Motion carried.

Barr next asked for approval of the appointment of Marilyn Harlow, Jeanne Plank and Riley Probst to a committee to study the time payment plan for Life Memberships. Niswonger so moved, Corlew seconded. Motion carried.

Secretary Plank read a letter from James Rasmussen up-dating activity on the 75th Anniversary, quoting prices on the printing and shipping costs for the 1995 poster and requesting the number of posters to order and the type of packaging for shipment.

Stahly moved, Waters seconded, that the Board authorize Rasmussen to make the decision based on his judgment as to the better quality printer/package and to proceed with it. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Stahly, seconded by Miller, that a price be set of \$10 per print purchased at the convention and a post-convention price of \$15 per print, postage included, be approved. Motion carried.

Barr said that information about the Anniversary Medal would be reported later.

Chairman Aitken opened his report on the 75th Anniversary edition of the *Bulletin* with projections on the printing time and cost, size of publication and number of color pictures and over-all structure of the issue, including the number of issues to order. As editor of this special issue, Aitken appealed to hybridizers, photographers, AIS officers and Section presidents to contribute their knowledge in the making of not only a historical document but a promotional one as well.

A motion was made by Mahan, seconded by Miller, that there be no advertising in the 75th Anniversary *Bulletin*, based on precedent set by the 50th Anniversary *Bulletin*. Motion carried. Aitken stated that he planned to have the commemorative *Bulletin* out before the convention.

Barr asked about the reprinting of *The World of Irises*. Mahan replied that because of the content, it would likely be a year, probably two, before it would be completed. He felt that when contacted by Timber Press about another book matter, they might be interested in publishing it.

Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that Mahan be authorized to research reprinting *The World of Irises* and report back to the Board. Motion carried.

Meeting was recessed and recovered at 9:00 p.m.

Barr opened the evening session with information from Mullin concerning the price of the Anniversary medals. The Midwest Trophy Company in Del City, Oklahoma, quoted the following prices for the medals, in sterling silver, as requested: \$400 for each side of the die, for a total of \$800; \$16.75 each for 500 medals; \$14.10 each for 1,000. The price of resale by the AIS to both members and the general public was discussed. Further action was postponed until later.

Under Unfinished Business, Mahan gave the Library up-date, describing the circumstances under which both the City of Dresden and he failed to come to an agreement in a final contract for establishing the AIS Library there. He submitted two letters, one from the City attorney, LeAnne Moore, declining the proposed contract amendments, and the other, from the City of Silverton, Oregon, expressing their continued interest in the project. Mahan said he had also been in communication with the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland, and that there was an interest there as well.

There was a long and definitive discussion reviewing the history of all three initial locations, of funding, professional oversight, security and the ability to meet future needs. Much credit was given Joyce Reynolds, AIS member, for her work and effort in Dresden on the Library's behalf. Mahan reported favorable conversations with the Weakley County librarian in Dresden, Sue Killingsworth, who assured him of a new library which would provide the environment and professional personnel requested for the AIS Library after it appeared that negotiations had broken down between the AIS and the City of Dresden; the \$15,000 grant from the State of Tennessee was still available. There remained concern among Board members that, whether dealing with the City or with the County, the present and future needs of the research library would be able to operate free from outside, changing influences. The question of the separation of the Library and museum was raised. The observation was made that there developed a genuine misunderstanding between Dresden and the AIS. It was Mahan's opinion that the National Agricultural Library in Beltsville, Maryland, best provided the criteria for both present and future AIS needs since it had the facilities for a research library already in place. He felt convinced that Dresden with its State Iris Festival was better suited for the AIS museum of artifacts.

Niswonger moved, Miller seconded, that Mahan continue to work with the Weakley County librarian, Sue Killingsworth, at least until spring, toward a contract. Motion defeated by a show of hands.

Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that Mahan negotiate further with Beltsville for a research library and work with Dresden on having an artifacts museum. Motion carried by show of hands.

The question was raised as to what constituted "artifacts" and the number of items on hand with which to start a museum. Barr read from a letter from the Philbrook Museum of Tulsa to Dorothy Howard concerning a French Sevres vase which had been donated to the AIS in May, 1980, and which the Philbrook Museum could no longer accommodate. Other items, mostly trophies, and some historical and scientific material also qualified as artifacts. It was believed that once a museum was established, donations would be sent by collectors and hybridizers, and that bequests would be made from estates of AIS members.

Concern was expressed that all possible means be taken to preserve the good will of all involved in the proposals.

Waters moved, Niswonger seconded, that Dorothy Howard of Tulsa, Oklahoma, be asked to take charge of the Sevres vase until final disposition of the matter. Motion carried.

Barr then vacated the Chair for the nominations for President to proceed, Niswonger presiding.

Plank moved, Mahan seconded, the nomination of Claire Barr for President. With no further nominations, Stahly moved, Corlew seconded, that the nominations be closed and that Barr be elected by acclamation.

Barr resumed the Chair and opened nominations for First Vice President.

Waters nominated Dave Niswonger for First Vice President, Mahan seconded. There being no further nominations, Witt moved, Corlew seconded, that nominations cease and Niswonger be elected by acclamation.

Niswonger nominated Clarence Mahan for Second Vice President, Stahly seconded. There being no further nominations, Plank moved, Miller seconded, that nominations cease and Mahan be elected by acclamation.

Stahly nominated Jeanne Plank for Secretary, Niswonger seconded. There being no further nominations, Corlew moved, Aitken seconded that nominations cease and that Plank be elected by acclamation.

Corlew nominated Bonnie Nichols for Treasurer, Plank seconded. There being no further nominations, Waters moved, Miller seconded that nominations cease and Nichols be elected by acclamation.

Niswonger nominated Ronald Mullin for Editor, Miller seconded. There being no further nominations, Mahan moved, Harder seconded, that nominations cease and Mullin be elected by acclamation.

The Board retired into Executive Session to consider the recommendations of the Honorary Awards Committee and the Judges and Judges' Training Chairman.

Following the closed session, Barr announced that the Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to Hilda Crick; there were no hybridizer medals and no Emeritus judgeships awarded.

At the President's request, Robert Plank gave an up-date on his communications with the attorney, Glen Spain. The Board agreed to pursue the plan that had been laid out by Spain and partially implemented and to continue in that direction.

Barr appointed the following administrative officers:

Registrar	Keith Keppel
Membership Secretary	Marilyn Harlow
Publication Sales Director	C.J. Lack
Recording Secretary	Joanne King
Advertising Editor	Jean Erickson

Stahly moved, Corlew seconded, that these appointments be accepted. Motion Carried.

Barr appointed the following chairmen of standing committees:

Affiliates	O. David Niswonger
Awards	Melody Wilhoit
Convention Liaison	Clarence Mahan
Exhibitions	Lillian Gristwood
Foundation Liaison	Richard Pettijohn
Historical	Larry Harder
Honorary Awards	Kenneth Waite
Judges & Judges' Training	Glenn Corlew
Membership Contest	James McWhirter
Policy	Mike Lowe
Public Relations	Olive Rice-Waters
Registrations	Keith Keppel
Robins	Howard Brookins
RVP Counselor	Dr. Harold Stahly

Scholarship	Jean Witt
Scientific	Dr. Chandler Fulton
Section Liaison	Terry Aitken
Slides	Michael Moller
Youth	Jean Morris

Niswonger moved, Mahan seconded, that these appointments be accepted. Motion carried.

The out-going RVPs were thanked by the Board for their work on behalf of the AIS.

Stahly moved, Moller seconded, that the Board authorize Lack to mail out the past-RVP pins to the proper recipients. Motion carried.

RVP Riley Probst, Region 18, spoke to the Board about the unusual circumstance of a past-RVP's death after his pin had been ordered by the Region for his former service and stated that the Region is requesting that the AIS Board send the pin to his widow.

Niswonger moved, Waters seconded, that the AIS pay for the RVP pin for the former RVP, Keith Fillmore, now deceased, and send it to his widow. Motion carried.

Niswonger moved that the Board accept his resignation as director and nominated Glenn Corlew to serve out the remainder of his unexpired term as director. Plank seconded. Motion carried.

The meeting recessed at 11:15 p.m. and reconvened on Sunday, November 6, at 8:45 a.m.

RVP Representative Moller called attention to what he considered a conflict of interest on the Personnel Committee and a Point of Order under Section I, Paragraph D, of the AIS Bylaws in reference to the appointment and election of directors to fill a vacancy: "that the President makes appointments for the Board's approval."

Barr related that she had received the resignation that morning from the Personnel Committee member and that the parliamentary situation regarding the appointment to fill a vacancy was her oversight even though the precedent had been set regarding a director resigning and nominating his successor in order to pass on a voting privilege.

At this time Barr appointed Glenn Corlew to fill the vacancy resulting from Niswonger's resignation as a director and asked for the Board's approval. Stahly so moved, Mahan seconded. Motion carried.

Corlew then formally requested that his name be removed from the Personnel Committee. Barr accepted.

Niswonger moved, Plank seconded, that the Board approve Harold Stahly as a member of the 1995 Personnel Committee. Motion carried.

After a discussion on the reprinting of *The World of Irises*, Harder moved, Niswonger seconded, that Lack furnish Mahan with the number of copies of *The World of Irises* needed to obtain a contract for its reprinting. Motion carried.

Following a discussion on bookstores, universities and libraries getting publications on a discount percentage, Mahan moved, Miller seconded, that there be a single price for *The World of Irises*. Motion carried.

Jean Witt told the Board of a chance meeting in Seattle, Washington, in September with Dr. Johan van Scheepen, of the Royal General Bulbgrowers' Association of The Netherlands. She stated that whatever exchanges of information there once were between the AIS and the Dutch Bulbgrowers' had been disrupted by World War II and never reinstated.

Witt moved, Niswonger seconded, that communication and exchange of registration information between the AIS and the foregoing Association be resumed and that the AIS registration materials be sent to The Netherlands. Motion carried.

Barr appointed Stahly, Gristwood and Paul Gossett to a committee to discuss the disposition of excess *Bulletins* for the Board's approval. Corlew so moved, Plank seconded. Motion carried.

It was the committee's recommendation, after consideration, that upon request from local societies no fewer than 10 copies be sent for the price of shipping. Gossett had volunteered to take charge of mailing the copies etc.

A motion was made by Stahly, seconded by Waters, that the Board approve the plans in principle, and that Gossett get the prices determined and bring them back to the Board. Motion carried.

Barr appointed Mike Moller, Lynda Miller and Barbara Schmieder to consider a ruling that slides or pictures be submitted with registrations or introductions. Niswonger moved, Plank seconded, that the appointments be approved. Motion carried.

After confirming the cost of casting the 75th Anniversary Medal in sterling silver as discussed previously, Corlew moved, Harlow seconded, that the 75th Anniversary Medal price be set at \$27.50. Motion defeated.

Plank moved, Stahly seconded, that the price of the 75th Anniversary Medal be set at \$25.00. Motion carried.

Treasurer Corlew presented the financial report and the proposed budget for 1995 which had been distributed earlier for study by the Board. After reviewing the budget and its changes and additions, Corlew recommended the following salary increases: *Bulletin* Editor, \$25 a month; Registrar, \$25 a month; Membership Secretary, \$50 a month.

Plank moved, Waters seconded, that the Board accept the Treasurer's recommendations for the AIS salary increases for 1995.

Mahan moved, Harder seconded, that the motion be amended to increase the Editor's salary by \$50 instead of \$25. Amendment passed. Motion carried as amended.

Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the 1995 budget be adopted. Motion carried.

Stahly stated that he felt the deficit budget was due not to the general operating budget of the AIS, but to the extra and re-coupable expense of reprinting *The World of Irises* and the publishing of the 75th Anniversary *Bulletin*.

Treasurer Corlew stated that a CPA had reviewed the books prior to transfer to the new Treasurer. It was noted, however, that the in-coming treasurer should have an independent audit/review done as well.

Barr officially welcomed the new Treasurer, Bonnie Nichols, to the Board, and thanked out-going Treasurer Glenn Corlew for diligent and conscientious work.

Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the standard banking resolution be approved. Motion carried.

Barr announced that the 1995 fall meeting will be held November 3-5, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The spring meeting will be held in York, Pennsylvania, May 23-27, 1995, at the Ramada Inn on Toronita Street.

On behalf of the Board, Barr again thanked the Albuquerque Iris Guild, President Hilton and Region 23 RVP Perkins for hosting the 1994 fall meeting. Applause followed.

Registration forms for the International "Gardening with Species" were circulated by RVP Probst, Region 18, as a reminder of the Species Seminar to be held March 24-26, 1995, in St. Louis, Missouri.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Joanne King, Recording Secretary

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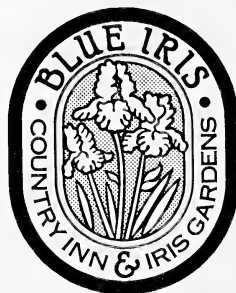
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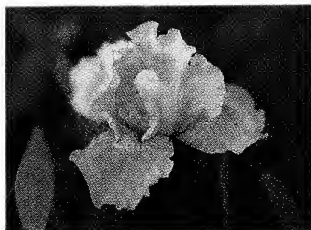
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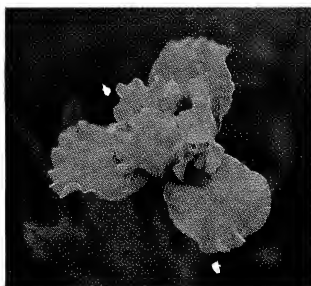


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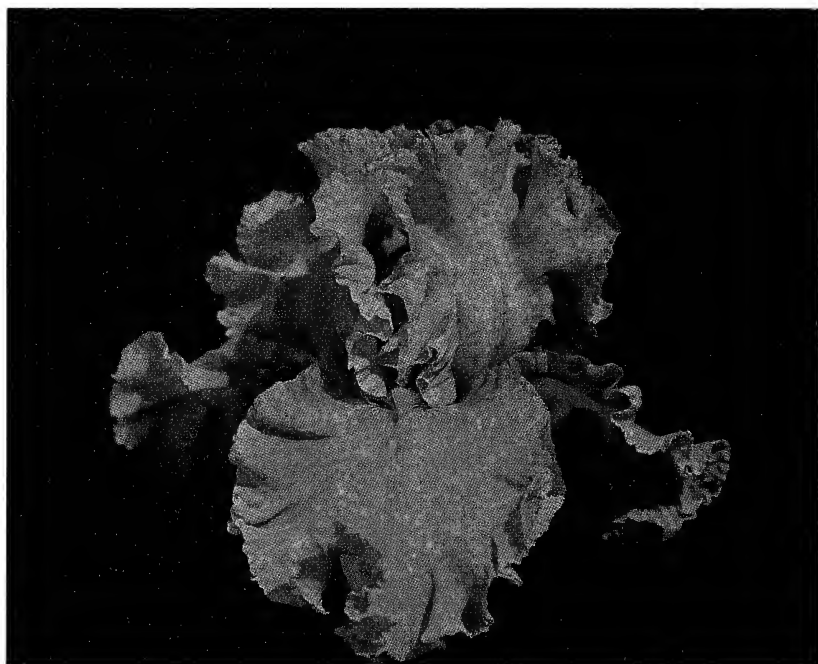


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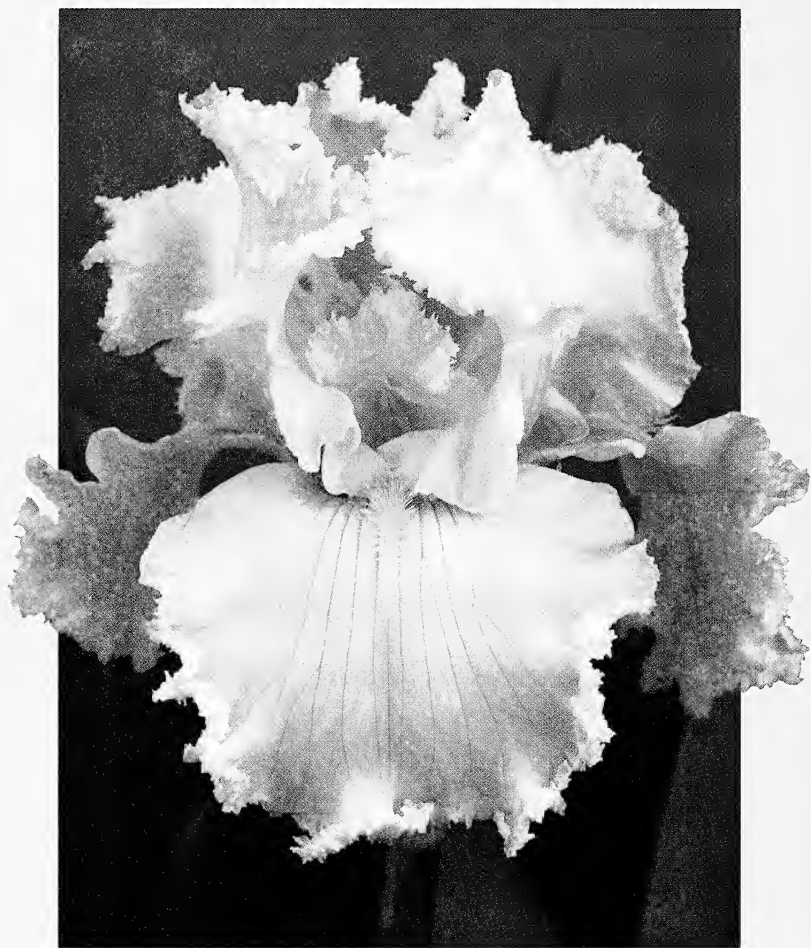
American Iris Society

Number 297

April 1995



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ON THE COVER: With the Flatiron Mountains as a backdrop, irises burst into a glorious array of color in Long's Garden in Boulder, Colorado. Photo by Dennis Gates.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

A lover of irises looks forward each spring to catalogs with tantalizing descriptions of the newest introductions and equally glowing words depicting the beauty of those which have been around for some time. All year long, however, it is possible to leaf through many of the non-flower catalogs (which the postman delivers in frightening quantity) to find stationery, vases, engagement books, place mats, napkins, door mats, articles of clothing, etc., etc. which are adorned with pictures of irises. It is evident that this flower is popular with great numbers of people, many of whom have never scratched the dirt of a garden plot to plant a rhizome. Perhaps we, as members of The American Iris Society, have not scratched the surface of the vast number of potential new members simply waiting out there somewhere to be introduced to the world of irises. The bloom season is here, a time to "strike while the iron is hot," so to speak. What better time to interest others in growing irises and in becoming associated with activities of a society which has been going strong and growing stronger for seventy-five years.

A special issue of this publication, celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of The American Iris Society, will be coming to you in the near future. It is an exciting time, the diamond anniversary, indicating the passage of three-quarters of a century and the beginning of the last quarter. A childhood memory comes to mind, a trip to visit Chicago's World's Fair of 1933, the theme of which was "A Century of Progress." This society has come a long way in seventy-five years. The next twenty-five will pass before we know it, but we need to begin now to make sure that in the year 2020 it can be said that there has been a century of progress for The American Iris Society.

Our seventy-fifth birthday will be observed in May at the convention in York, Pennsylvania. No one knows where the celebration will be in 2020, but let's take the first step now to make sure the society is going strong at that time.

BONNIE J. NICHOLS

New AIS Treasurer

New AIS Treasurer Bonnie Jean Nichols is a native Texan. Graduating from Breckenridge, Texas in 1972, she attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison, majoring in Community Bank Management. Bonnie is presently employed by Gateway National Bank in Dallas, Texas, as Senior Vice-President and Cashier. Bonnie has been employed in the banking business since she was 15 years old.

Bonnie's earliest memories of irises are a direct result of being pushed in her baby stroller past neighboring iris gardens in Breckenridge by her mother and grandmother. From an early age, Bonnie seemed to be drawn to variegata irises.

Bonnie joined The American Iris Society in the mid 1980s. Under the guidance of Leon and Edith Wolford, she began training as a future iris judge. She became an official judge in 1991. Even though she judges several iris shows each year, her main interest seems to be geared toward iris show exhibition. Many people throughout Region 17 and neighboring regions ask her for guidance when questions arise regarding exhibiting irises in spring shows. She is one of the top exhibitors in Texas.

Bonnie and her husband, Hooker Nichols currently grow about 2,000 varieties of bearded and beardless irises. Bonnie has been bitten by the hybridizing bug and makes more and more crosses each year. Besides irises, she is a daylily garden and exhibition judge. She judges numerous daylily shows and travels each year to Florida during daylily bloom season to evaluate the latest introduced daylily varieties. Bonnie and her husband are currently growing around 20,000 daylily seedlings and have 1,000 named daylily varieties in their garden. Bonnie's garden is an official Daylily Display Garden.

The Nichols household holds a vast collection of all types of antiques, and visitors are delighted too with viewing Bonnie's tolepainting artifacts. Bonnie is a master stained glass artist and has taught several classes to various students developing their glass techniques and abilities.

Bonnie is very active in several local iris and daylily societies. Horticulture photography is another of her interests. She has a vast collection of iris and daylily slides. All members are cordially invited to visit the display gardens worked by Bonnie and her husband. These gardens are scattered throughout the Dallas-Ft. Worth metropolitan areas.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL TO CRICK

At the meeting of the Board of Directors in Albuquerque, the Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to Hilda Crick of Tennessee. Mrs. Crick has just finished a nine-year term as a Director.

Hilda joined AIS in 1965. She has been very active from the beginning. She has held various offices in her local club, and served Region 7 as treasurer, assistant RVP, and as RVP from 1982 to 1984.

During her tenure on the Board, Hilda served in the difficult position as Chairman of Judges and Judges' Training. This includes keeping records on all judges, scheduling training sessions at conventions, preparing judges' rosters for the Bulletin, and helping RVPs who have questions regarding the judges' program.

Hilda will represent AIS as a judge at the International Iris Competition in Florence, Italy, this May.



Bonnie Nichols



Hilda Crick

REQUEST FOR CONVENTION GUEST BEARDED IRISES

Dearborn, Michigan 1997

SAY YES TO MICHIGAN

The Iris Club of Southeast Michigan and Region 6 of The American Iris Society will host The American Iris Society Convention in 1997 and invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions or seedlings under serious consideration for introduction.

When sending guest irises, please observe the following guidelines:

1. A maximum of three rhizomes of each variety will be accepted.
2. The guest irises will be accepted after July 1, 1995 and until August 31, 1995.
3. All guest plants should be shipped to:
Howard Hughes
c/o Northwest Propane
237 Graham Rd.
Imlay City, MI 48444
(810) 664-5525
4. Please note that this is a different address than the request for beardless irises.
5. The following information should accompany each plant:
 - a. Hybridizer's name and address.
 - b. Name or number of the variety.
 - c. Type of iris.
 - d. Height and general color.
 - e. Year of introduction, (if introduced).
6. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than December 1, 1996, in order that the name can be included in the convention booklet.
7. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors.
8. In April of 1997, instructions as to the disposition of the guest irises will be requested of each contributor. Failure to reply by June 15, 1997, will constitute permission to destroy all numbered seedlings and dispose of the named varieties as the Guest Plant Committee deems appropriate. Official guest irises which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid except to foreign addresses. All necessary permits for foreign shipment will be the responsibility of the hybridizer.
9. The Convention Committee and owners of display gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
10. The Guest Iris Committee will not be held responsible for losses beyond its control.
11. Only irises received through the Guest Iris Charimen will be listed in the Convention booklet.

Howard and Kim Hughes
Guest Plant Co-Chairs

CONVENTION INFORMATION

Sterling Innerst

The following is a schedule of events for the convention in Pennsylvania.

Tuesday, May 23: 9 a.m. Buses load for optional tour. 1 p.m. Board of Directors meeting; 2 p.m. Dwarf Iris Society; 4 p.m. Siberian Board and Median Board; 6 p.m. HIPS Board; 7 p.m. Reblooming Board, Spuria Iris Society; 8 p.m. AIS Section Reps., RVPs; 9 p.m. RVPs/Judges' Training Chairmen, AIS Foundation, Aril Society Board.

Wednesday, May 24: 9 a.m. Buses load for optional tour. 8 a.m. Board of Directors, Society for Louisiana Irises; 9 a.m. SIGNA; 10 a.m. Aril Society International; 11 a.m. Japanese Iris Society; 1 p.m. Reblooming Iris Society; 2 p.m. Dwarf Iris Society; 3 p.m. Siberian Iris Society, Youth Reception; 6 p.m. President's Reception, Buses load for Welcome Banquet.

Thursday, May 25: 6:30 a.m. Buses load for tours; 5-7 p.m. Dinner on your own; 7 p.m. Judges' Training on Siberian irises; 7:15 p.m. Judges' training on Ethics; 7:30 p.m. Judges' training on Louisianas.

Friday, May 26: 6:30 a.m. Buses load for garden tours; 5-7 p.m. Dinner on your own; 7 p.m. PCI Society meeting; 8 p.m. Median Iris Society meeting; 9 p.m. HIPS meeting, Past and Present Convention Chairmen.

Saturday, May 26: 6:30 a.m. Buses load for garden tours; 5 p.m. Ballot deadline; 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. load buses for Awards Banquet; 7:30 p.m. Awards Banquet.

1995 CONVENTION

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See Pages 6 & 7 of January, 1995 AIS Bulletin for further information.



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

Often, AIS members aren't sure what to call those who work with our young irisarians. Now, now, don't let your imaginations run wild. We just want to clarify the difference in titles chosen since the AIS Youth Committee was approved by the AIS Board in November of 1966.

WHAT IS A YOUTH ADVISOR?

An AIS Youth Advisor is a person at the local affiliate level. This person encourages youth members to grow irises, helps the young person participate in iris shows, reminds youths to attend iris garden tours, provides special instruction to those wishing to create iris designs or educational displays and informs the more mature youths about judges' training sessions.

Youth Advisors may also do additional things to foster young irisarians. They may chair a regular youth meeting separate from the adult iris meeting or at least see that youths are included in the adult meeting by assigning them specific duties. Youth Advisors sometimes provide youth members with quiet games, iris pictures to color or information sheets on iris hybridizing techniques or iris culture tips. Or they may solicit a few up-to-date rhizomes from adult members for distribution to youth members. Often, it is the Youth Advisor who signs up new youths with AIS. Some even ask the local affiliate to pay the AIS dues for those youths who participate in the club's shows, sales or meetings. Also, Youth Advisors may write nominations for regional youth achievement contests or for the AIS Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement.

The Youth Advisor is very important to the AIS youth program. Indeed, he or she has the opportunity to have the most impact on the youth program because of being located right there, available, a phone call away. The rest of us are far away, usually strangers and at the long-distance rate.

The AIS Youth Committee wishes to thank all local Youth Advisors, both official and unofficial. We have many of your names and try to keep you informed. Those who are not receiving mail from the Youth Committee, please drop us a post card, and we will add you to our mailing list. We encourage affiliate presidents to recognize, encourage and thank their Youth Advisors. Or, perhaps you need to appoint one.

WHAT IS A REGIONAL YOUTH CHAIRMAN?

The Regional Youth Chairman works with youths at the regional level and passes along youth information to the Youth Advisors. This person keeps a record of all AIS youth members in their region, and reminds them to pay their dues if they become delinquent. They keep an eye out for exceptional youths and nominate them for the AIS Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. The Regional Youth Chairman also sees that youth news is published in the regional bulletin.

In addition to these duties, there are other things sometimes done by the Regional Youth Chairman. Some send their youths birthday cards. Some administer a regional youth achievement contest by advertising the contest, receiving the nominations, choosing the judges, announcing the results, presenting the award and writing an article about the winner for the regional bulletin. We are aware of regional youth achievement contests in Regions 14, 18 and 23. Are there other regions that honor their youth members? If so, please inform the AIS Youth Committee. If not, think about establishing a youth award in your region.

This year, Region 14 held a regional youth essay contest (not to be confused with the AIS Foundation's Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest). Region 20 involves youth members in their Loomis Test Gardens and Region 1's youths have helped plant irises on a university campus. Deborah Wheeler, Region 1 Youth Chairman, held a youth retreat for her AIS youths. It was very successful. Membership in Region 1 has grown from three members to fifteen since Debbie took over as RYC two years ago.

With only three requirements, the job of Regional Youth Chairman need not be difficult. Yet there are eight regions with the position vacant. This situation makes AIS youth growth difficult for these regions. We need volunteers in Regions 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16. A responsible youth member is often a good choice for the position. RVPs should study affiliate rosters for youth-minded people—teachers, scout or 4-H leaders, parents, grandparents and teenage irisarians who participate in shows and other iris events—then pursue each possibility with letters or phone calls until the position is filled.

Or, perhaps your Membership Chairman would be willing to take on the additional responsibilities of Regional Youth Chairman. If so, please inform the Youth Committee.

At the national level, the Chairman of the AIS Youth Committee is your author. The Regional Youth Chairmen make up my committee members. Writing this column, administering the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award,

publicizing the AIS Foundation's Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest, recording AIS youth memberships, answering mail generated by our youths and those with youth-related questions, heading up the AIS Pen Pals Program, sending out membership packets, editing THE IRIS FAN and reporting on youth activities to the AIS Board twice a year are duties assigned to your Chairman. Dreams of additional endeavors for AIS youths are often thwarted by the fact that I am employed full time in the field of Special Education. AIS youth members are a fun group and quite talented. It is a joy to serve in this position.

Those of us who work with the AIS youth members will, no doubt, be called by many different names. That's okay. We'll answer to most. Usually, we wear more than one hat anyway. Nearly all Regional Youth Chairmen are also the Youth Advisor for their local iris club. The title of "youth" seems to follow us everywhere. The older we get, the more we enjoy having "youth" attached to our names. Aren't we a lucky bunch?

NEW REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

On the following pages is the information on most of the new RVPs who took office on January 1, 1995. My apologies for not having information on all of them, but when it doesn't arrive here, it can't be printed.



Emma Hobbs



Mickey Giefer

MEET THE NEW RVPs

Theresa Jewell (Region 3)

I am a native Delawarean, raised in Middletown, Delaware, on a four-acre parcel of land in the country. Being one of the ten members in my family, we had half of the land dedicated to fruits and vegetables, preserving most of them until the next year's harvest. As the family members moved out on their own, more of the land was planted in flowers. My mother was the one with the green thumb and passion for flowers. She enjoyed growing begonias in her greenhouse and later furthered her interest in other flowers.

I found my love for the iris in my early teens. My father worked construction, and passed by a house which had the whole front yard filled with irises in bloom. It was Charlotte Hankins' place. He stopped in and asked if he could bring his wife down to see them. Of course, she was thrilled with the idea. Later that year, after seeing these beautiful flowers, my mother and sister came home with many rhizomes from her place. This was over 20 years ago. Once I bought a piece of land in Townsend, Delaware. I then went to her house and brought home my first iris rhizomes. Little did I know what was in store for me in the future. I continued to go to Charlotte's house every year to see the irises in bloom and to pick out some new varieties. And every year she would try to get me to join the AIS. Finally, I got up the nerve to join her in participating in a Delaware Valley iris show. At this time, in 1986, I joined this affiliate of the AIS. I joined the AIS in 1987, and I am also a member of the JIS. I served as President of our local group, the Diamond State Iris Society from 1988 until 1991. I then became the Assistant Regional Vice President of region 3 in 1992, became an accredited AIS judge in 1993 and here I am serving as RVP in 1995 with the National Convention being held here this year in region 3. I suppose you can say that I jumped into the iris society with "both feet." I do enjoy growing other plants as well, too many to list. I have tried my hand in some hybridizing, but if there are any introductions, they will be years down the road.

Besides my love for plants, I have a wonderful and understanding husband who does most of the maintenance work on the irises, a daughter in college, a 10 year old son and a 5 year old daughter who help out with the irises and also enjoy them. I am employed full time at a research laboratory which also gives me some access to greenhouse work.

The iris, whether bearded or beardless, are indeed beautiful and bring me a great deal of joy, but my devotion to the AIS and its affiliates is mainly due to the wonderful people who are involved with the societies. These people, along with my family, are the ones who brought me to the point as serving as RVP of region 3, and I am sure that with their continued assistance, devotion and encouragement, we will continue to grow as a society and provide you with a fantastic convention for the 75th celebration of the AIS.

EMMA HOBBS (Region 6)

Emma Hobbs, a former AIS Director, Exhibitions Chairman, and Region 6 and Dwarf Iris Society Newsletter editor, now takes her turn serving Region 6 as RVP. One of Emma's greatest contributions to her region was in 1986 when she served as Chairman of the National Convention of AIS in Indianapolis.

She worked as a radio instructor for the U.S.A. during the war, and after that she worked for several companies in their offices with jobs usually connected with advertising, sales promotion, and public relations.

For several years Emma has dabbled in hybridizing, and she has an iris introduction to her credit. She continues this activity on a smaller scale. Almost everything she does is on a smaller scale since she lost her beloved husband Barney. They were quite a team.

Emma enjoys attending local and regional iris meetings, knitting, embroidery, and crochet. She also enjoys seeing her many friends gained from her activities with the iris society.

MICKEY GIEFER (Region 8)

I grew up in Mankato, Minnesota, and attended Mankato State University. In 1962 I married Dee Wayne Giefer and moved to a farm 25 miles away. We have 3 sons who are married and a daughter who has just started college. We also have 2 grandsons and a granddaughter.

A neighbor gave me my first irises in 1970. I think she was tired of my begging flowers from her to decorate graves on Memorial Day. It didn't take long for me to get "hooked." I grow about 300 irises, and every year I tell myself that I should cut back on the work, but I can never decide which ones to eliminate. I have been the membership chairman for the Iris Society of Minnesota since 1983 and have just reached the status of Master Judge.

I have also been very active in our County Historical Society, working for 8 years raising money, planning a new museum, and having it built last year. I have cut back some of my responsibilities there but still remain active on several committees and doing volunteer work.

The most gratifying part of doing my volunteer work has been the many friends I have made over the years.

STEVE POOLE (Region 9)

Steve is a native of Southern Illinois, where he graduated from Southern Illinois University in 1971 with a B.A. in chemistry and German, and minors in math and botany, plus post-graduate work on his Master's in plant breeding. He has taught science and math at Eldorado High School, Eldorado, Illinois, for the past twenty-three years, where in addition to his teaching load, he trains students to conduct scientific research, then sponsors those students as they compete in the international science and engineering fair. Steve and his wife, Carol, have two children, a twenty year old daughter, Amy, and a seventeen year old son, Aaron Kyle. During her high school years, Amy

conducted research on bacterial leaf blight of irises, developing an antibiotic treatment that made it possible to cure infected irises.

Steve's interest in irises began in childhood. When he was eight years old, part of his birthday present was three varieties of old fashioned iris, which he and his father planted in a front yard display bed. As the years passed, the collection grew in size until even the vegetable garden was being appropriated for irises.

Steve joined AIS in June of 1969, at the urging of Georgia Hinkle of Marion, Illinois. Steve and Georgia became close friends, with Georgia spending many hours teaching and training Steve about her hybridizing techniques and philosophy, plus the history of Georgia's iris breeding lines. Beginning in 1970 with seedlings of Georgia's most advanced breeding stock from both her pink and blue lines, Steve began his own hybridizing program, which has advanced through five generations of selection and thousands of seedlings from the original Hinkle breeding stock seedlings. Steve is also past president of the Southern Illinois Iris Society and an accredited Garden Judge.

OZ REYNA (Region 11)

GEORGE SUTTON (Region 14)

MIKE HARGROVE (Region 18)

A western Oklahoma native, Mike Hargrove also spent many a summer afternoon "helping" in the iris garden of his grandmother, Faye Edelman, in Ft. Morgan, Colorado. Almost twenty years later, his love of gardening had him tending his roses at home in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Visits to Faye's new home in Oklahoma, however, always put him side by side with her again out in the iris garden.

A few years later, a new house in Wichita, Kansas, presented an empty yard with plenty of room for a "few" irises from Grandma. A Christmas gift membership to the AIS put the nail in the rosebed's coffin as Mike's growing interest in irises displaced the rose as the favored flower in the Hargrove garden.

Since then, Mike's activities with the Wichita Area Iris Club, and others across his region, introduced him to Jim and Lucy Frye, Helen Reynolds, Margie Robinson, Jim Rasmussen, Floyd Dyer, Hooker Nichols, Paul Black and many, many other irisarians—each contributing their particular expertise to Mike's knowledge of hybridizing, culture, showmanship and judging.

In 1991, after 14 years in the heating and air conditioning controls industry, Mike chucked it all to realize his dream of owning his own business. He now owns and operates the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Wichita—a very busy and successful backyard birdfeeding specialty store and gift shop. Working with him is his wife Sansi and son Zachary. Daughter Kaeli is married and the mother of two but still helps out in the shop whenever possible.

Besides his duties as RVP, Mike also serves as President of the Wichita Area Garden Club Council and on the Board of Directors for Botanica, the

Wichita Gardens. And every year, he and Sansi continue to serve on the various committees of the Wichita Lawn, Flower and Garden Show.

RONALD MULLIN (Region 22)

Ronald Mullin begins a second term as RVP of Region 22 after having served the region in 1974-76. Since that first stint as RVP, Ron has served AIS in many capacities.

After 31 years of teaching school, Ron retired from teaching at age 52. However, he never stopped working with Pawnee High School's athletic teams because the coaches said nobody else could keep the stats for them. Ron knew that wasn't true, but he continued to do the work anyway. Now, he's back teaching school two hours per day, and he wonders how he ever kept up when he had a full schedule.

An AIS member for 30 years, Ron has visited 40 states in connection with his iris travels. The greatest joy of irisng these days is visiting with the people he knows from across the country. Ron also enjoys photography, sports, reading, and writing. The biggest thrill he has experienced in the iris world is having his first introduction finish in the running at the Portland Convention. It was almost as exciting as getting a telephone call from the lady for whom the iris is named, Rhonda Fleming.



Theresa Jewell



Steve Poole

AN IDEA FOR LOCAL MEETINGS

Pete Rudkin (California)

If we had a Burger King franchise we would have complete policy guides on the conduct of our operation. We are not a franchise, we are a local flower society affiliated with The American Iris Society. The American Iris Society is a volunteer organization; our local societies are volunteer organizations. We have guidance where it matters, flower shows, Judges' training, etc. As far as meetings go, we sort of do as we please. That is the way it should be. Yet, as in all social organizations, we face the problem of inclusion and continuity. How do we involve everyone who wants to be involved? Regional activities provide an agenda, but it is at the society level that most individuals can contribute. It was at the Portland Convention while talking with other AIS members, that I learned how other societies are structured. Another way of sharing ideas is writing for the Regional and American Iris Society Bulletins. So here I am.

Bryce Williamson has a way of getting audience participation. Whether it be a business meeting or a judges' training class, one soon finds himself wrapped up in the activity. His judges' training class, held at the Region 14 fall regional at Ukiah, California, gave me an idea to use at our local society meetings.

After handing out a worksheet to several people, I asked them to form groups, where they were standing, to brainstorm the problems on the worksheet. This worked out so great that our program chairman, Dick Gibson, wanted to use the technique for our next meeting. In order to get a random selection for the groups we used the military count off. 1,2,3,4,5; 1,2,3,4,5 etc. Everyone was asked to group according to the assigned number and select a group leader to present the findings. They were all asked to answer the question, "What can we do now, in January, to insure a great bloom in April?" After about 10 minutes the leaders were asked to report. I think we covered the full range of iris culture, and everybody was involved. Needless to say, a great time was had by all.

This is one method we found for making meetings more informative and more fun. Now it's your turn.

(Pete Rudkin is president of the Sacramento Iris Society.)

Editor's Note: Local program chairmen are always looking for new ideas. Share your ideas with others by sending them to the editor for use in future issues.

JIS CONVENTION

Carol Warner (Maryland)

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society is hosting the annual convention of the Society for Japanese Irises in Towson, Maryland, from June 22 to June 24, 1995.

Headquarters will be: Sheraton Baltimore North Hotel, 903 Dulaney Valley Road, Towson, Maryland 21204 (410) 321-7400. Reservations can be telephoned directly to the Hotel Reservations Department between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday at 1-800-433-7619. You must state your affiliation with the Society for Japanese Irises to receive the convention rates. Single or double occupancy is \$65 per night plus tax, which is currently 13%. A block of rooms will be held until May 22, 1995.

Thursday evening will feature a "Show and Tell" including slides of new introductions and trends in hybridizing. On Friday, show entries will be accepted in the morning, the Board will have a meeting, and a bus tour will begin at 1 p.m. The show opens to the public at 1 p.m. and is open until 5:30. Judges' training with Bob Bauer will be held at 8 p.m. On Saturday, buses will leave for tours of the Figge, Warner, Hornstein/Huge, and Innerst gardens, and the Awards Banquet will be held at 6:30 p.m. At 8 p.m. there will be an auction of guest irises to benefit SJI.

Those flying to the convention should use the Baltimore/Washington International Airport.

Full Registration fee is \$85. per person. This includes both days of tours, Saturday lunch and two dinners at the hotel. Make checks payable to Francis Scott Key Iris Society. List names as you want them to appear on name tag. Send reservation and check to Beatrice M. Weitzel, 6006 Winthrope Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21206. Deadline for reservations is June 3, 1995.

PREPARING IRISES FOR EXHIBITION AT IRIS SHOWS

Sheldon Butt

(Editor's Note: The late Sheldon Butt was well known for his show exhibits. These words of wisdom should help others.)

The first step in preparing your irises for successful entry in an iris show is to cut the stalks before the buds open. Why cut them in bud instead of waiting until the flowers open?

This practice avoids potential damage to the blooms from rain, wind or hail. It also avoids possible sun fading of blooms, particularly a problem in strong sunlight in the case of the darker colored irises. Note that the Judges' Handbook allots 15 points (out of 100 total) to "color." Color saturation (which suffers in sun fading) enters into scoring in this area.

Cutting ahead of time allows you to increase the number of irises from which to select your entries by letting you slow down opening of blooms from plants which otherwise would have bloomed and folded before the show or to speed up blooming by forcing flowers which otherwise would not have been ready in time for the show.

Of course, when you cut your irises in the bud, you won't know whether or not they will have faults, such as splits, deformed petals, etc., when they do open. Also, in spite of your best efforts, the buds may open too soon or, they may not open in time. Thus, it makes sense to cut two or three stalks of each variety as insurance against these problems.

The best time to cut the stalks is early in the morning. Next best is late evening. Why? As the buds mature and flowers open water and nutrients continue to be transported up through the stalk. When you cut the stalk, the "driving force" to carry water up to the buds through the stalk is reduced. It is important that there be as much water and nutrients in the stalk—in the "pipeline", at the time of cutting as possible. During the daylight hours, humidity is lower than at night—or late in the evening. Low humidity speeds up evaporation of water from the stalk, foliage and buds. Transport of water up the stalk in the middle of the day may not be rapid enough to keep up with evaporation. Thus, the stalks when cut in the middle of the day may have less water and nutrients stored in them. After the stem is cut, reduced transport up the stalk will probably not be sufficient to make up for any such deficiency and may not even keep up with continuing evaporation. If the buds are relatively "dry" by the time they open, they will wilt more quickly and/or the flowers may not be as large. Obviously, the time of cutting is more important on a warm, sunny breezy day than on a cool, cloudy still day. (It may be somewhat risky to postpone cutting from early morning in the expectation of a cool cloudy day, how accurate are weather forecasts in the spring?)

As soon as possible after cutting the stalk, it should be placed in a full container of water and placed in the shade or indoors. The foliage at the base of the stalk should be removed at this time. Evaporation from foliage helps deplete available water in the stalk. Furthermore, bad foliage detracts from the scoring of the stalk by judges, good foliage adds little. While cutting, transporting and placing the stalk in a container, avoid handling the bud and avoid letting the bud touch anything. If you bruise the bud, the unsightly results will show up in the opened bloom. It is desirable that each individual stalk be placed in its own container so as to avoid one bud rubbing against another. It is also desirable to "wedge" the stalk at this time with plastic foam, paper toweling, etc., so as to hold the stalk firmly in the upright position in which it will be later shown. All of you have noticed how, when a stalk in the garden is not vertical that the buds will bend away from the stalk and try to orient themselves in a vertical position as they grow and mature. They will do exactly the same thing if the stalk is not upright in the container. You should also attach a temporary label to the container with the name of the variety and the location from which it came in the garden. Remember, you will not see the flower at the time you cut the stalk and if you have incorrectly identified the clump from which it came a record of the location may help you identify it when it opens. For my own guidance, I also record the date the stalk was cut. If the

stalk is to be allowed to flower without being held back by refrigeration or forced by heat, it should be stored in its container in a cool location out of direct sunlight. You should also be careful to allow enough space between containers to avoid contact between the open flower and other nearby stalks or flowers.

What about additives in the water? This subject was discussed after this paper was first presented at a Greater St. Louis Iris Society meeting, and it was suggested to me that adding sugar was advantageous. I tried corn syrup (glucose) at one tablespoon per gallon of water in 1992—it seemed to help.

At what stage of development of the bud should the stalk be cut? Obviously, this depends upon how far ahead of the show date you cut the stalk. If you cut it the morning before the show, you should cut stalks on which the bud is very close to opening and would be expected to open during the day before the show if left on the plant. Bear in mind that storage in a cool location out of direct sunlight will slow down maturation and opening of the bud somewhat. Without question, cutting a mature bud the day before the show is the best practice. However, this substantially limits your choice of varieties to exhibit. In order to increase your potential, you may want to hold additional varieties back by refrigeration. I do this quite extensively.

If you elect to refrigerate, there are some factors of which you need to be aware:

Refrigeration, even at temperatures near the freezing point, only slows down maturation and opening of the bud, it does not stop this process. You must allow for continuing maturation during refrigeration. Since space in the refrigerator may be limited, you probably will not have enough space to separate containers far enough apart to prevent contact between adjacent open flowers. Thus, you should plan to remove the stalk from the refrigerator before the flowers open.

The longer the stalk stays in the refrigerator, the more critical timing becomes. Why? Although evaporation generally slows if everything else is equal, when temperature is lowered, everything else is not equal. The household refrigerator is a great dehumidifier and the air in the refrigerator is very dry. You cannot avoid gradual drying of the bud. The effect is that the life of the opened bloom is reduced. Since the opened bloom has more surface exposed to drying, this is another reason to avoid opening of the bloom while still in the refrigerator.

The extent to which refrigeration slows down maturation and opening varies from one variety to another. Thus you should inspect the stalks in the refrigerator periodically and, when appropriate take the container out and let it sit for a while at room temperature until bloom maturation on the stalk catches up and then return it to the refrigerator.

How long may a stalk be kept in refrigeration? As discussed previously, drying of the bud and consequently its degradation takes place while the stalk is in the refrigerator. If this process of degradation continues for too long, the bud will no longer be capable of producing a good flower. In my experience, three or four days in refrigeration is usually acceptable. The “success rate” is quite high, generally in excess of 75% after four days, and proportionately even higher for shorter periods. Beyond four days, the “success rate” diminishes

very rapidly to something on the order of 10% or so after a week. In the case of bearded irises, refrigeration for more than a week has little chance of success. Beardless iris, and particularly spurias are somewhat more tolerant and ten days is not hopeless.

In my experience, the degree of flexibility which can be derived by forcing bloom is much more limited than can be gained by refrigeration. While refrigeration makes it possible to cut a stalk which would bloom in two days and delay bloom until as much as a week after cutting, I have never been able, as a practical matter to gain more than about a day by forcing. The most effective means of forcing which I have found is to place the stalk in the container in a heated and humid space. I have used our powder room for this, heating the small room with an electric heater to 100 to 110 F while maintaining high humidity by wetting towels and hanging them on the towel racks. Caution, if the temperature is too high, one can "cook" the stalk. Placing the stalk in hot water is substantially less effective.

CONDITION AND GROOMING

The Judges Handbook allots 25 points to these factors. In practice, many judges attach even more importance to grooming. This aspect may best be covered simply by quoting from the Handbook, adding my comments where appropriate:

"Condition refers to the degree of visible improvement in the appearance of the specimen stalk as a result of grooming. Grooming involves those finishing touches the exhibitor makes so that the entry presents the best possible appearance."

STALK HEIGHT

"It is generally recommended that a stalk be exhibited at an appropriate height that is proportional. Indeed proportion is an individual perception, and the suggestion here is only to avoid extremes. Stalks can behave unpredictably in strange weather or differing climates, so very few points can be subtracted under such circumstances." Comments: we can all attest that the vagaries of the weather often result in considerable variations in the height of the stalk, this being particularly true in the case of the earlier classes which bloom while the weather is most unsettled. In order to maintain pleasing proportion in the exhibit, it is often necessary to position the stalk in the container with the end of the stalk above the bottom of the container. Adjust the stalk until it looks good to you.

FOLIAGE

Was all diseased foliage neatly removed or trimmed? Trimming is necessary when there is faint discoloration, disease or injury to leaf edges. Such procedure should remove less than one fourth inch of foliage edges and should follow the natural contour of the leaf in its entirety. Blunt edges or massive trimming is totally unacceptable." Comments: you will have previously removed the foliage at the base of the stalk. Foliage which covers the junction

between a branch and the stalk or is at the base of a bud must be left in place although it may be trimmed.

SPATHES

“If a flower has been removed, ascertain that the spathe has not been damaged and is intact. Detectable trimming of the spathe is unacceptable.”
Comments: I will discuss the subject of removal of a flower and/or branch at some length following the quotations since this is of very great importance.

BRANCHES

“A branch can be removed where a leaf conceals its connection to the stalk, but the stalk and foliage should not display any visible damage.”
Comments: Suppose that you have removed a faded flower (or one that is beginning to fade). If there is an unopened bud remaining (the second bud in the socket) the branch with the unopened bud should be left in place. If there is no unopened bud, the entire branch should be removed.

CLEANLINESS

“The stalk, flower and blossoms should be clean with no dirt, dust or spray residues. Slight smudges or fingerprints on the stalks demand little penalty and are easily removed when the exhibitor gently wipes the stalk with soft tissue.”
Comments: Dirt may have been splashed on the stalk by rain prior to when it was cut. This should be removed with a damp tissue or paper towel. It is much more difficult to remove dirt from the flower, another reason for cutting the stalk before the buds open. The powdery substance naturally present on the surface of the stalk is easily disturbed in handling the stalk. If fingerprints are noticeable as a result of handling, wiping the stalk to remove all of the powdery substance is the answer.

INSECTS

“The presence of one or two aphids or other insects is no cause for alarm as these creatures can travel from stalk to stalk during or after entry. Infestation, however, is obviously a totally unacceptable condition.”
Comments: Many judges do consider one or two aphids or a tiny spider as “cause for alarm.” You should inspect the flowers and stalk for their presence and remove them by gently brushing. Most often, aphids will be found on the underside of the falls, escaping notice until they crawl around and become visible—to your consternation and to the disapproval of judges.

POSITION IN CONTAINER

“The bottom branch should be exhibited above the container’s opening. If a stalk is leaning badly, the judge should check to see if it was originally wedged properly by the exhibitor. If that is the case, the judge should ask the clerk to reposition the stalk, realizing that it could have been jarred by a

placement clerk." Comments: Be sure that you always securely wedge the stalk in the container. In practice, very nearly all judges will assume that a leaning stalk was the exhibitors fault, not the placement clerks. Never simply stick the stalk in the container without wedging. I have found that flexible foam plastic is the best material to use for wedging. It provides permanent and gentle pressure to hold the stalk in place. Foam carpet underlay is about the right consistency.

REMOVAL OF FLOWERS

As I indicated earlier, this is a very important subject. The Judges' Handbook states: "Any flowers that appear on the specimen stalk must show no signs of aging either from natural processes or environment." and also "One fading flower on a stalk will also cost the exhibitor the loss of a substantial number of points . . ." and "As a flower ages, slightly detectable watery areas near the petal edges become visible, often causing some curling." In my experience, the condition of the flowers is the one factor that judges pay most attention to. If one of the flowers on a stalk is aged—showing any signs of curling or showing the watery areas mentioned in the Handbook, it should be removed. Removal should be performed carefully so that no "stub" is visible. There is far less or often no penalty for having properly removed one flower from a stalk while leaving the good flowers in place, which, in practice, leaving a fading flower on the stalk is usually very severely penalized (no ribbon). If the only flower on the stalk is fading—forget it, throw the stalk away.

Frequently, we encounter an SDB stalk with two fresh flowers in which the lower of the two flowers seriously crowds the terminal flower. We could rightly maintain that this is the "normal" condition of the well grown stalk of the variety in question. However, the great majority of judges will severely penalize such a stalk and the exhibitor should carefully remove the lower of the two flowers. The same condition is sometimes encountered in IBs and more often, the "branches" on IBs will be extremely short and the lower bloom(s) will be crowded up against the stalk. Again, although this may be a normal condition, if it is at all severe, remove the offending flower. These are two instances in which it is appropriate to remove a "good" flower.

EXHIBITION CONTAINERS

Insert the stalks into the containers in which they are to be exhibited before you leave home, wedge the stalk securely in place with plastic foam or paper (unless the show furnishes its own containers). You may also attach the entry card with a rubber band at this time.

TRANSPORTING TO THE SHOW

It is easy, after you have done everything right to destroy your entries if you must make a sudden stop or go around a corner too rapidly. I place the containers with the stalks securely in place in plastic crates with empty bottles inserted between the full ones so that no flower can contact anything else and

so that the pack is "solid" and the bottles will not fall over in case of a sudden stop. When you get to the show and as you place your entries on the show tables, check the grooming one more time.

CLERKING

Now that you have gotten your bloom stalks to the show and groomed them carefully, it is time to sit back and wait for the results. Wrong!!! You can learn a great deal about exhibiting and about some of the things which really count and may not be covered adequately in the Judges' Handbook by enlisting as a clerk. Although you cannot discuss matters with the judges while they are judging, if you have clerked for them, most will be glad to discuss their decisions with you after the judging is done. Don't stop after clerking once. There is a lot to be learned and once is not enough to learn it all. You will also find that different judges often have quite different interpretations of what is in the Handbook.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan

SOCIETE FRANCAIS DES IRIS ET PLANTES BULBEUSES

The Societe Francais des Iris et Plantes Bulbeuses (S.F.I.B.), which translated into English is the "French Iris and Bulbous Plant Society", has a number of foreign members. Its quarterly publication, *Iris et Bulbeuses*, always contains interesting articles and color photographs. On the cover of No. 114 (Autumn 1994) is a color photograph of Franklin Carr's beautiful iris STEADFAST LOVE which won the Premio Firenze (Gold Florin) prize at Florence this past year. Among other photographs in this issue are two new tall bearded irises originating in France: CRI DE COEUR (Lawrence Ransom, R. 93) and a new pink Cayeux iris, HELENE C.

If you can read French, even if you need a French-English dictionary to do so, *Iris et Bulbeuses* should be of much interest to you. Not only is France the country where our modern tall bearded irises originated, but in recent years French iris breeders have been making great strides to regaining the position which M. Ferdinand Cayeux held before WW II.

Many of the irises of Jean and Richard Cayeux have justifiably attained popularity in this country. This is also true of quite excellent irises bred by members of the Anfosso family: Laure, Pierre, and Pierre-Christian. Some very nice new irises are also being introduced by Lawrence Ransom and my dear friend, Jean Peyrard.

The S.F.I.B. membership fee for overseas residents is 210 francs, which should be sent to the Secrétaire-Général, Mme Anne-Marie Chesnais, 19, rue du Dr. Kurzenne, 78350 JOUY-EN-JOSAS, France. An inexpensive way to convert U.S. dollars is by purchasing an International Money Order through the U.S. Post Office.

1994 AWARDS OF THE BRITISH IRIS SOCIETY

The 1994 Dykes Medal of the British Iris Society (BIS) went to Mr. C.E.C. Bartlett's border bearded plicata iris ORINOCO FLOW. SWALEDALE, a sky-blue tall bearded iris touched with shades of turquoise, won the Fothergill Trophy. This iris exceeds 44" in height, is well-branched, and produces up to 12 buds. The Souvenir de M. Lémon Trophy for 1994, which is given for short bearded irises, went to Mr. Bartlett's bright golden bronze BRONZAIRE. This 20" tall intermediate iris, which has a greenish cast in certain lights, is an outstanding producer. A two-year plant at Reading put up 42 stems and produced 160 flowers. In its third year it had 63 stems and 250 flowers.

The Foster Memorial Plaque for 1994 was awarded to Dr. Tomas Tamberg, who is well known in this country, especially for his work with inter-species crosses.

The 1994 winner of the Pilkington Award was Ray Wilson, who was the BIS Seed Distribution Officer for a number of years. I have been privileged to have corresponded with Ray for many years, and feel that he and his wife

Joyce are close friends even though we have never had the chance to meet face-to-face. It was delightful news to learn that Ray had been selected to receive the Pilkington Award. Among his many achievements as the Seed Distribution Officer was the establishment of a system to ensure that overseas members could get a fair share by having their seed lists sent airmail.

IRISES SELECTED FOR FURTHER ASSESSMENT BY BIS

Among the irises selected by the Joint Iris Committee in 1994, for further assessment for the Award of Garden Merit, are a number of cultivars bred by American hybridizers. Spurias selected included Eleanor McCown's ADOBE SUNSET; Ben Hager's PORT OF CALL and DESTINATION; and Dave Niswonger's BLUE LASSIE, RUSSIAN WHITE, SULTAN'S SASH and VINTAGE YEAR. The Siberian iris MAGGIE SMITH, bred by the late Dr. McGarvey, and the Japanese iris FRECKLED GEISHA, bred by Lorena Reid, were also selected.

Only two American bearded irises were selected for further assessment. These were Allan Ensminger's intermediate bearded iris, HERS and the hauntingly different tall bearded iris, POINT MADE, bred by Sterling Innerst of Dover, Pennsylvania. Congratulations to all whose irises were selected are in order!

INTERNATIONAL IRIS COMPETITION IN FLORENCE, 1994

The Premio Firenze (Gold Florin) prize of the International Iris Competition in Florence in 1994 went to an American iris, STEADFAST LOVE, hybridized by the late Franklin Carr of Bordentown, New Jersey. Other winners were:

- 2nd Tuscany Region Cup
RUMBLESEAT (S. Innerst, USA)
- 3rd Silver Plate of the Industrial Organization
GROSSER GARTEN (H. Moos, Germany)
- 4th Italian Iris Society Silver Medal
LORELAY (S. Volani, Italy)
- 5th Honorable Mention: VIGILANTE (Schreiners, USA)
- 6th Honorable Mention: ETERNAL MORN (F. Carr, USA)
- 7th Honorable Mention: FIRST INTERSTATE (Schreiners, USA)
- 8th Honorable Mention: UNFORGETTABLE FIRE (Schreiners, USA)
- 9th Honorable Mention: OASIS BROADBEACH (L. Donnell, Australia)
- 10th Honorable Mention: BROADWAY JOE (R. Dunn, USA)

SPECIAL PRIZES

Comune de Firenze Silver Plate for Best Red Variety:

UNFORGETTABLE FIRE (Schreiners, USA)

Rora Bausi Plate for the Best Deep Blue Variety:

GROSSER GARTEN (H. Moos, Germany)

Chamber of Commerce Cup for the Best Commercial Variety:

FIRST INTERSTATE (Schreiners, USA)

- Louise Branch Cup for the Best Branched Variety:
 STEADFAST LOVE (F. Carr, USA)
- Piaggio Cup for the Best Early Variety:
 LODOLETTA (S. Volani, Italy)
- Florence Garden Club Cup for the Most Original Color:
 VIGILANTE (Schreiners, USA)
- Perugia Garden Club Cup for the Best Scented Variety:
 RUMBLESEAT (S. Innerst, USA)
- Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze Prize for the Italian Hybridizer with the Best Variety in the First Five;
 S. Volani
- Cassa di Risparmio di Firenze Prize for the European (excluding Italy) with the Best Variety in the First Five:
 H. Moos, Germany
- Arezzo Garden Club Cup for the Best Late TB Variety of 1993:
 JAZZ FESTIVAL (Schreiners, USA)
- Collodi Garden Cup for the Best Border Bearded Iris:
 CANNINGTON BRIO (C.E.C. Bartlett, Great Britain)

NEW IRIS BOOK PUBLISHED IN POLAND

Mr. L. Komarnicki has produced a new book entitled *Irysy* which is believed to be the first time a work devoted to irises has been published in Polish. The volume has 212 pages and 153 photographs in color. The book deals mostly with tall bearded irises of American origin.

Anyone interested in procuring Mr. Komarnicki's book should write him for information on price and shipment cost. His address is Mr. L. Komarnicki, Raszynska 3 m 6, 02-026, Warszawa, Poland.

American Iris Society Conventions

1995	York, PA	May 23-27
1996	Sacramento, CA	April 23-27
1997	Dearborn, MI	June 3-7
1998	Denver, CO	June 2-6
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	
2000	Dallas, TX	

Fall Board Meetings

1995	Oklahoma City, OK
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GIFTS TO THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

July 1, 1994 to December 31, 1994

GIFTS IN MEMORIAL

WILLIAM E. BARR (CA)

Thelma Harden Carrington (CA)
Joan H. Verwilst (MI)

JOE BARROWS (OK)

Kitty & C. J. Lack (OK)

CAROL BOELTER (WI)

Fond Du Lac Iris Society (WI)

SARAH SANDERS BOOTH (GA)

Frank & Jane Johnson

BOB BROWN (CA)

Santa Rosa Iris Society (CA)
Shasta Iris Society (CA)

MRS. SUE CAMPBELL (AR)

Central Arkansas Iris Society
(AR)

FRANKLIN CARR (NJ)

Garden State Iris Society (NJ)

REAVIS CARRINGTON (CA)

Thelma Harden Carrington (CA)

MILDRED CORRELL (CA)

Thelma Harden Carrington (CA)

FRANCES ELAINE COURSEY (NM)

Albuquerque Iris Guild (NM)
AIS Region 23 (NM)

DOROTHY DAVENPORT (TX)

Fort Worth Iris Society (TX)

HELEN DUDLEY (WA)

Pierce County Iris Society (WA)

THOMAS "MACK" GODWIN (GA)

Oconee Valley Iris Club (GA)

BILL GUNTHER (CA)

Thelma Harden Carrington (CA)

CELESTA HAMNER (CA)

June T. % John H. Wright (WV)

MRS. JOHN HUDSON (GA)

Oconee Valley Iris Club (GA)

F. ELIZABETH KILGORE (NM)

*Roswell Iris Society (NM)

BETH & LES KILGORE (NM)

AIS Region 23 (NM)

WILLARD KING (AR)

Hot Springs Iris Society (AR)

AARON "RED" LOGAN (WA)

Pierce County Iris Society (WA)

PEGGY McCROSKEY (CA)

Thelma Harden Carrington (CA)

DON MORRISON (MI)

Grand Valley Iris Society (MI)

KATHLEEN KAY NELSON- KEPPEL (OR)

AIS Region 18 (MO/KS)

AIS Region 23 (NM)

Albuquerque Iris Guild (NM)

Tom & Jean Burns (CA)

Garden State Iris Society (NJ)

Paul Gossett (OK)

*Greater Kansas City Iris
Society (MO)

Greater Portland Iris Society
(OR)

Greater Saint Louis Iris Society
(MO)

Inland Iris Society (CA)

Kitty & C. J. Lack (OK)

Lea County Iris Society (NM)

*Suky & Clarence Mahan (VA)

Connell & Barbara Marsh (NE)

Gordon & Lorraine Nicholson
(CA)

Pecos Valley Iris Society (NM)

Pony Express Iris Society (MO)

Randy Renner (OK)

San Fernando Valley Iris Society
(CA)

San Joaquin Iris Society (CA)

Santa Rosa Iris Society (CA)

Shasta Iris Society (CA)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

George W. Warner, Jr. (KS)

CAROLYN NEWMAN (TX)

Waco Iris Society (TX)

MRS. LOUISE NICHOLS (TX)

North Plains Iris Society (TX)

MRS. LOUIS PERNER (TN)

Twin States Iris Society (TN)

DON PETERSON (NE)

C. T. (Chuck) & Signey
Claussen (SD)

TAZWELL POWELL (AR)

Hot Springs Iris Society (AR)

CAROL RAMSEY (KS)

Sooner State Iris Society (OK)

HELEN H. SAVAGE (NY)

Empire State Iris Society (NY)
Robert Savage (NY)

KEMPTON SETTLE (IA)

C. T. (Chuck) & Signey
Claussen (SD)

MILDRED SIMPSON (KS)

Wichita Area Iris Society (KS)

JOAN TREVITHICK (UK)

*Suky & Clarence Mahan (VA)

DR. TRUETT VALENTINE (TX)

Waco Iris Society (TX)

ELMER WINFREE (TN)

Twin States Iris Society (TN)

WILLIAM F. WINZER (KS)

Wichita Area Iris Society (KS)
Augusta Iris Society (KS)

**MRS. EVIE MARY WOOD
(GA)**

Oconee Valley Iris Club (GA)

GIFTS IN HONOR

**ADAM & AMELIA MUELLER
(KS)**

The Hutchinson Iris Club (KS)

***The AIS Library Fund**

****Scientific Committee**

Research Projects

*****BULLETIN Color Fund**

IN MEMORIAM

Harold O. Bunker (Indiana)

Helen Carney (Tennessee)

Dorothy Davenport (Texas)

Lawrence C. Faulhaber (Arizona)

Ralph Gordon (Oklahoma)

Verna Schmid (Nevada)

CONTRIBUTIONS AND MEMORIAL GIFTS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S. 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

1995 MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

The 1995 Membership Contest follows the same rules as those used in 1994. Three separate and distinct awards will be presented at the 1996 Convention—one to the youth, one to the adult and one to the affiliate with the most total points. Certificates of achievement will be awarded to the individual youth, adult and affiliate in each region who obtains the largest number of points. A minimum of 30 points is necessary to qualify for any award. Names of the award and certificate winners will be published in the future.

Each affiliate must decide whether its members will participate as individuals or as a group.

Point Scale

- 10 points for each new single annual membership
- 10 points for each new youth member added to an existing dual membership
- 15 points for each new dual annual membership
- 20 points for each new single triennial
- 25 points for each new dual triennial
- 25 points for each new youth member registered as a solitary member

The following points will be given for conversion from annual to triennial membership, providing the membership has been in effect for a minimum of one year:

- 10 points for converting from single triennial to dual triennial
- 15 points for converting from single annual to dual triennial
- 25 points for converting from dual annual to dual triennial
- 100 points for each single life membership
- 150 points for each dual life membership

Rules

1. Membership application and payment of dues are made directly to the AIS Membership Secretary and may be submitted by the recruiter or by the new member.

2. The RVP or Membership Chairman of the contestant's Region and the AIS Contest Chairman (James P. McWhirter, 451 N. Lillian, Stockton, CA 95215) should be notified by the recruiter within 30 days.

3. Each new membership should be reported on separate 3 x 5 cards. The following information is needed: the name, complete address and region number of the new member; the type of membership—annual, triennial, or life; the name, address, and region of the recruiter. Only those memberships reported correctly will be awarded points.

4. Renewal of memberships following a lapse of two years will count as new members.

5. New memberships received by the Membership Contest Chairman postmarked after September 30, 1995 cannot be counted for the 1995 contest but will be automatically credited to the recruiter for the 1996 contest.

1994 GARDEN SEASON IN REVIEW

Ted White (Maine)

INTRODUCTION

The 1994 garden season ranks among the most memorable for us, for it was the year we finally fulfilled our dream to visit Schreiner's Gardens in Oregon. Not only were we fortunate enough to visit Schreiner's, we were able to attend the American Iris Society Convention in Portland, Oregon. We managed to make the most of this excursion into the *Mecca* of the iris world by renting a van which allowed us to see several gardens not officially on the convention tour.

With your writer at the wheel, we began a most memorable pre-convention tour. Memorable for several reasons, not the least of which was the thrill of driving an unfamiliar vehicle in unfamiliar surroundings with five back-seat drivers none of whom had a valid Oregon State driver's license. Pinky Young was our navigator. She kept us traveling north when we should have been traveling south. Charlotte Young and Evelyn White were in charge of lane changes on 3-lane highways. When Charlotte advised us to veer into the left lane, Evelyn was certain that we should be in the right lane for the next exit. Phil Young and John White, sitting in the rear of our van, were a bit more conservative, usually suggesting that we remain in the middle lane, so that we might be better prepared for any eventuality. However, all five often led us on a great adventure around the city streets of Portland in search of our hotel. Despite all of their assistance, we usually managed to locate the Portland Hilton on our fourth or fifth spin around the alternating one-way streets of the city. All kidding aside, we had a great time laughing our way through our seemingly endless misadventures.

PRE-CONVENTION TOURS

We arrived in Portland on May 20, and in no time were on our way to the garden of Bennett and Evelyn Jones. With camcorder in tow, we began our first video here, a video production that at convention's end would run nearly eight full hours! Bennett is a longtime hybridizer of median irises, and although the median bloom was over, we did see the Jones' nice display of tall bearded irises and their superb hosta collection. Then it was on to Beaverton to the lovely garden of George and Roberta Shoop. Although in ill health, George was a most gracious host who proudly displayed many of his fine seedlings and newer introductions. Two tall bearded irises really impressed us. One was his '94 introduction, PRIVATE TREASURE, an intensely vibrant blend of deep orange-apricot with orange beards. We were impressed, too, with Shoop Seedling 86-12, an outstanding TB whose standards are apricot suffused pink. The round falls are cream pink with a very prominent deep pink *thumbprint* at the hafts. Most distinctive!

May 21 found us at the Keith Keppel garden in Salem. Keith, a recent California transplant, has a passion for *plicatas*, and he does have some *very* different *plicata* seedlings coming along. He, also, continues to introduce new irises hybridized by the late Joe Gatty. OVERJOYED (Gatty '94) was a most impressive, ruffled, light yellow amoena with excellent branching and bud count. Keith has two outstanding deep golden yellow amoena seedlings complete with heavy substance and rich color saturation. Not to be outdone was AURA LIGHT (Blyth), an outstanding yellow amoena (not yet introduced), that has pristine white standards and flaring, exceptionally rich, deep, golden yellow falls. This is, without question, the finest iris in its class—a class in which advancements have been difficult and slow to emerge. Keith has some seedlings of exceptional merit coming along. Particularly notable was a finely ruffled, intensely saturated, *black* seedling from BEFORE THE STORM breeding. Seedling 91-186-B was a most dramatic reverse blue amoena with very deep blue standards and near white falls. The best we've ever seen!

THE IRISES AT SCHREINER'S

With a display garden so vast and plants grown to such perfection, it is difficult to select absolute favorites, but we will attempt here to offer many of the finest. We begin with our pick for the Best Iris of the Convention. FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiner '94) seemed to cast its spell over many of the convention faithful. And no wonder! Schreiner's describes the bloom as "a pleasantly cool lavender-grape shade," and that is as good a description as any we can conjure up. FEATURE ATTRACTION is exquisitely frilled, laced, and ruffled with large 6'' x 4'' blooms carried on 37-40'' stalks. Apparently, others were impressed with this variety, too, as it won the President's Cup in a landslide garnering 250 first place votes!

It was evident right from the start that the Schreiner's line of blue irises would dominate this convention garden. No one does blue irises any better than Schreiner's—no one. DELTA BLUES (Schreiner '94) was the epitome of ruffling and refinement in this color class! DELTA BLUES is a wonderful, heavenly blue color that becomes slightly lighter in the center of the falls. We were impressed with its vigor and plant habits. You don't have any *blues* until you have DELTA BLUES blooming in your garden! This was our second choice for the President's Cup.

The finest clump of blue Schreiner irises could easily have been the very ruffled, royal blue purple BLENHEIM ROYAL (Schreiner '90). At peak bloom, it was awesome! RIVERBOAT BLUES (Schreiner '91) had very wide, ruffled blooms about 6'' x 4'' in a blue shade perhaps with lavender undertones. The stalks on this beauty were ramrod-stiff ably supporting the 8-9 lavishly ruffled blooms. YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiner '92) was displayed in a massive clump, and oh, what a sight! The flowers are huge and very globular, and a very rich marine blue color. Another *must have* variety! INDIGO PRINCESS (Schreiner '92) strutted its bold, deep blue-violet color in another Schreiner *megaclump*. This is a dramatically ruffled self of large size and aristocratic bearing. It is most imposing in a mass planting when flanked by yellow or gold irises!

CHAMPAGNE WALTZ (Schreiner '94) is a lovely variety best described as soft ochre-apricot in the standards and creamy white falls with a 1/4" band of yellow-apricot. Bright tangerine-red beards add the finishing touch to this fine introduction. We were also taken with GYPSY ROMANCE (Schreiner '94). This one is all done up in a rich violet-mulberry color which contrasts nicely with the blue-purple beards. It is irresistible in a clump! JAZZED UP (Schreiner '94), the Schreiner catalog cover iris for '94, was blooming in a gigantic clump with huge flowers. A rose-orchid amoena may best describe its color. Bud count and vigor are both commendable. The 8-9 blooms are held aloft by strong 42" stalks. CASCADE SPRINGS (Schreiner '94) formed one of the most beautiful clumps seen at Schreiner's. The standards are a pale sapphire shade which lightens to near white in the falls making this a near reverse blue amoena. As we were filming this one, a young woman a few feet away playing a large harp, provided just the perfect musical background for this scene. This iris impressed us so much, that upon returning home we ordered it right away! SMILING ANGEL (Schreiner '94) is a wonderfully laced pure white self. It was growing tall at Schreiner's (but so was everything!) and in an expansive clump. Good bud count and robust stalks are typical of this fine variety.

The Schreiner *blacks* were very commendable. NIGHT RULER (Schreiner '90) is without a doubt the most heavily ruffled in this color class. And it is a beauty! To our eye, it is the deepest of color in the Schreiner *black* lineup. Schreiner's describes it best as "an inky purple with a pervasive black sheen." Also rating high was BLACK TIE AFFAIR (Schreiner '93). This is a very elegant *black* iris with many of the same attributes as NIGHT RULER. Both have a very velvety quality to their blooms. Perhaps BLACK TIE AFFAIR has a better bud count, but NIGHT RULER may be the darker. Not to be outdone was HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiner '92). Obsidian purple-black seems to be about right here, but it is difficult to say if HELLO DARKNESS is any darker than its other *black* brethren mentioned here.

However, the blackest of the black award goes to BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '89). In every garden where it was observed, this was the general consensus. Its blooms are noticeably smaller and more tailored than the Schreiner *blacks*, but they are clearly darker. They really do look black even in bright sunshine. BEFORE THE STORM has excellent vigor. This is not surprising as one of its parents is SUPERSTITION (Schreiner '77).

ORANGE JUBILEE (Schreiner '93) would make a perfect complement to any of the black irises mentioned above. Probably apricot-orange might better define its basic color. Historically, orange irises have lacked modern form, but not ORANGE JUBILEE. OJ comes complete with ruffling and beautifully formed flowers and matching orange beards. The best we've seen in this color class! FIRST INTERSTATE (Schreiner '91) was shown off to perfection in a simply massive and striking clump! This one is all dolled up in a vibrant deep yellow color with pristine white falls banded in the same yellow color as the standards. Blooms are nicely ruffled and come 8-9 per stalk. Mass planted next to Schreiner blue irises proved to be the perfect complement. FIRST INTERSTATE is, hands down, the best in its color class. We managed to see Schreiner's FALL FIESTA ('92). This is a striking unique amoena which

embodies beautiful white standards and falls of deep, rich amber-tan with perhaps caramel tones blended in. This one surely is distinctive and most desirable.

Schreiner classics, DUSKY CHALLENGER ('86), SILVERADO ('87), and HONKY TONK BLUES ('88) were simply exceptional! DUSKY CHALLENGER is peerless. It put on an incredible display both at Schreiner's and at Cooley's Gardens. This is a rich, silky blue-purple gem that is still unsurpassed in its color class. Gigantic blooms are held on very strong stalks with superior branching. SILVERADO was growing in Dykes Medal form, and later in the season, was voted the prestigious medal. Clumps of SILVERADO were near flawless, and the cool blue-white coloring and ruffling were perfection itself. HONKY TONK BLUES won the Wister Medal in '94, and who could disagree after seeing its performance in Oregon. Distinctiveness should be one of the criteria used to select recipients of high awards, and HONKY TONK BLUES epitomizes this quality. Blooms are blue-violet swirled with white and nicely ruffled.

MULBERRY PUNCH (Schreiner '92) proved to be very difficult to capture on video accurately, and that's a shame because it is a lovely self of cerise-purple with intense cerise-claret tones. MP comes complete with very large blooms which occasionally appeared a bit loose in the standards. 9-14 buds keep this one blooming a long time. IN THE MOOD (Schreiner '94) looked much better close up and personal than it did in Schreiner's catalog. This is not the most ruffled flamingo pink you will ever see, but it was gorgeous in a large clump. Flowers have excellent substance and are of flaring form. Plants appeared very vigorous and robust, traits you do not always see in pink irises. We didn't see many *red* irises at Schreiner's, but their new CANNONBALL ('94) was certainly a lively number. This one was a bonus iris from Schreiner's this year, but it seemed to exemplify the best in red irises. We would call it a red bitone with the falls being a dusky maroon and the standards a lighter shade. The falls are trimmed in the same color as the standards. Fine yellow-orange beards add a measure of distinction.

Back to the Schreiner blues one more time. CAPTAIN'S JOY (Schreiner '94) was another "giveaway" iris, but it had all the attributes of any Schreiner top-of-the-line blue iris. CAPTAIN'S JOY is a lavishly ruffled medium blue flower with a slight bi-toned effect. The falls are marine blue and slightly darker than the standards. CJ displays 8-11 buds on sturdy, well branched stalks. RAPTURE IN BLUE (Schreiner '90) was truly magnificent in a massive clump. A very elegant iris, this one is a very light ruffled blue that looks especially attractive when planted alongside dark blue or black irises. Another first rate introduction. Without a doubt PROUD TRADITION (Schreiner '90) was the best blue bitone we observed at Schreiner's. The silver-blue standards are arched and really set off the deep blue falls. Growth and plants habits seemed beyond reproach. JAZZ ME BLUE (Schreiner '93) is another rich, marine blue of considerable merit. Strong stalks make it unlikely that this one could ever topple in heavy rain or wind. Blooms are very large on this variety, too. Bud count did not appear to be as great as some of the other Schreiner blues. SIERRA GRANDE (Schreiner '92), a superior blue amoena growing in large clump proportions, demanded and got our attention. Clean, immaculate white

standards rest above the medium blue falls which lighten at the ruffled petal edges. Branching and a bud count of 8-10 should make this one just right for your garden. SIERRA GRANDE was our second runner-up for best iris of the convention.

We were smitten with ELEGANT IMPRESSIONS (Schreiner '93) for many reasons. It blooms in the late season just when color is most needed. Its luscious, creamy citron color is embellished with heavy lace, frills, and ruffles. Stalks easily support the lovely blooms. Best of all, when it comes to color and frills, it's in a class by itself. INNOCENT BLUSH (Schreiner '93) is another fine iris that blooms toward the latter part of the season. It's a gorgeous blend of rose, pink, and orchid shadings complete with intricate lace and heavy substance. These attributes assure this one wide popularity. Schreiner's claim that it is slow to increase. Perhaps so, but the plants we observed were very robust with good increase. JAZZ FESTIVAL (Schreiner '90) is a fine bi-color sporting creamy-buff standards and rosy falls infused cerise. Growth, vigor, and stalks all receive an A+.

FESTIVE MOOD (Schreiner '93) is a glorious bitone with buff-pink standards and bright magenta falls. Showy tangerine red beards complete the picture. This variety is medium in height (35') and bud count, but richly colored. A number of outstanding early blooming plicatas were nearly bloomed out, but are worthy of mention here. Three of the best were CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner '92), CHANGE OF PACE (Schreiner '91), and FOOTLOOSE (Schreiner '93). In CLASSIC LOOK you get the latest in form and style in blue and white plicatas. The precise stitching on the starchy white falls is the best we have seen in a class that has been hard to improve in recent years. CHANGE OF PACE is a classy plicata with a very wide, deep rose-violet band that surrounds the white falls. The standards are finished in delicate pink tones. FOOTLOOSE is very early to bloom. Here, again there is a rich rose-violet band around the falls, but the standards are a similar color with a white infusion.

BOLD LOOK (Schreiner '93) is a handsome deep, radiant yellow which blooms late, and comes complete with heavy ruffling and fine substance. The flaring falls, accented with a central white spot, give it a pert and perky look. Very showy in a large clump. ROSETTE WINE (Schreiner '89) was one of the most impressive Schreiner varieties with incredible branching and buds numbering 9-14! This is an excellent example of a zonal pattern in irises. Let's begin with a lustrous raspberry-rose color, then apply a light, almost white center to the falls, and you've got a fabulous iris! Two huge clumps at Schreiner's stopped us dead in our tracks! VIGILANTE (Schreiner '91) is not a large flower, but in a clump, this variegata is tough to beat. Butterscotch-caramel standards provide a sharp contrast to the flaring maroon-black falls. FIREBREATHER (Schreiner '92) was Pinky Young's choice for the *President's Cup*. Hardly a fire-breathing dragon, it nonetheless was a fiery garden beacon that, in a clump, practically knocked you dead! We saw a whole five-gallon pailful of FIREBREATHER on display inside Schreiner's exhibition building. Under those lighting conditions it looked as if it were a neon orange shade which the tangerine beards only enhanced. FIREBREATHER is late to bloom, and consequently can provide your garden with some high voltage intensity just when a vibrant splash of color is most appreciated.

COOLEY'S GARDENS TOUR

It was early morning on May 23 as our convention bus approached the Cooley's Gardens in Silverton. There was a sense of great anticipation as the bus rolled alongside some of the 250 acres of irises at this great commercial enterprise. The landscape looked like a giant patchwork quilt with broad strips of color separating one variety from another. The Cooley's operation is located near the foothills of the Cascade Mountain range with majestic Mt. Hood in the background. And so, the stage was set for another unforgettable tour in the heart of iris country.

Richard Ernst, the grandson of Rholin and Pauline Cooley, is now the manager of their iris business, and has been actively hybridizing tall bearded irises for several years. The fruits of his labor are now clearly evident. Without a doubt, **COMPETITIVE EDGE** (Ernst '91) is his best introduction to date. This is a true rimmed bicolor with a fascinating combination of deep reddish-brown and bluish-lavender tones accented by yellow beards. Colors are clean and well-defined. This iris was a real showstopper throughout the convention gardens, and it did extremely well in the balloting for *Favorite Guest Iris*. **WINNER TAKES ALL** (Ernst '93) in many ways made one think of **SILVERADO** but this one is fine all on its own. This lovely creation is nearly white throughout, but a close inspection reveals some very delicate, light blue plicata markings near the hafts and the petal edges. Heavy waxlike substance and very ruffled blooms mark this one as a winner. **NOTHING TO LOSE** (Ernst '92) is just the beginning of some of Rick's fine irises emanating from **EDITH WOLFORD** (Hager '86) lines. Creamy standards infused lemon at the midribs rest above handsome violet falls. We saw several seedlings from the same lineage that were substantial improvements on the **EDITH WOLFORD** theme—the best is yet to come from Cooley's. To describe **THINKING OUT LOUD** (Ernst '94) we begin with pure white standards and style crests that are highlighted with bright lemon, laced edges. The falls are a shade of berry-maroon and honey tan and very heavily laced. 8-10 buds per stalk are average. This wild outburst of color makes for quite a treat when grown in a large planting.

The visitors' display garden at Cooley's was simply spectacular. A large Japanese style garden served as a stunning centerpiece for the main garden. Golden arborvitae, dwarf Japanese maples, and blue spruce, situated around a most attractive gazebo, were just a few of the key elements in the superb garden design. And just beyond, was a large wooden waterwheel with irises planted in the foreground. Directly across, a beautiful fountain with crystal clear water against a blue background further enhanced the picturesque setting. Toward the rear of the garden was evidence of Rick Ernst's latest addition to the garden display. Here were at least two expansive beds supported by three foot high concrete walls. This allowed visitors to view many irises at eye level. One can only wonder what Rick's next project may be!!

CONVENTION GUEST IRISES

Over 4,000 guest irises were on display from iris hybridizers all across the country and the world. That was certainly enough to keep the 1,100+ convention-goers (a new convention attendance record) occupied throughout

the three days of tours. Every convention garden displayed a representative group of new introductions and seedlings. Here are some of the finest.

Dave and Nancy Silverberg's Abbey Gardens in Mt. Angel, Oregon had many great irises on display. If we could pick only one from this garden, it would definitely be REDEFINE SHINE (Burseen '92). This deep, exceedingly rich, yellow-gold with an orange influence had a color saturation so intense it threatened retinal burnout! But now, the rest of the story. Never have we seen an iris of this color persuasion with such dramatic ruffling, heavy lace, thick substance, and color intensity. It has no competition—nothing even comes close, not even the best Schreiner yellow irises! The blooms were so mesmerizing, we forgot to check this vigorous plant for branching and bud count. But does anyone really care?!? Cooling things down just a bit was IN REVERSE (Gatty '93), a first rate, reverse blue amoena with excellent contrast. RUFFLED COPPER SUNSET (Gibson '93) is a flamboyant, fancy plicata with very ruffled copper red standards. The ruffled edging on the falls is also copper red, but the shoulders and center stripe are a richer reddish-brown. Orange beards add the crowning touch. This one was a favorite of Pinky Young's, in fact, she even bought a T-shirt with this iris pictured in full color! BOSS TWEED (McWhirter '94) will please anyone who covets brown irises. This is a fine, ruffled honey-tan brown color with a white blaze under the gold beards with the flowers being in perfect proportion to the stalk. ACOMA (Magee '90) is a large, almost globular flower with great garden appeal. The standards are the palest blue to white while the falls are ivory with just a trace of violet etching. Add unusual henna beards to complete this picture. HARVEST KING (Schreiner '90) was fine at Schreiner's, but exceptional in color contrast at Silverberg's. When grown best, it looks a bit blocky upon first opening. The standards are an extremely rich, golden light brown with the falls being a lighter golden-tan color. HARVEST KING is embellished with lacy standards and superior substance throughout—a most distinctive introduction that was a knockout when planted beside NIGHT RULER at Schreiner's. Just as we were leaving Silverberg's, we caught a glimpse of FROSTED VELVET (Fisher '89), a miniature tall bearded iris. What a great little plant! White standards and velvety purple falls trimmed white made this a most showy clump.

Duane and Joyce Meek's D & J Gardens is located in Silverton, practically in Cooley's backyard. This is another large commercial iris garden showcasing some of the newest iris varieties. FINAL DECISION (Roderick '91), a very ruffled, full bodied, deep golden yellow iris caught our eye just as it did at Schreiner's. Yellow-orange beards round out this superb variety. In a convention not dominated by pink irises, COMING UP ROSES (Gatty '92) was far and away the best in its class. This is a signature Joe Gatty iris, a rich rose pink that is gorgeously ruffled and laced. This is really a great color! TEMPTING FATE (D. Meek '93) certainly made heads turn! Blue-white standards are nicely complemented by wide, velvety, black-purple falls and violet beards tipped bronze. Keith Keppel's SNOWBELT ('92) is a very impressive variety with snow-white standards and falls. The falls are trimmed with a medium blue band—a very sharp and clean color pattern. SMART MOVE (Keppel '95) comes complete with butterscotch-tan standards and lively, cerise-

maroon falls. It looked fine in all gardens. We were intrigued with FIESTA SONG (Wood '92). This iris has a rather unique coloration that we found appealing. It could be described as a honey-gold blend that is flushed and blazed with violet and brown tones. Robust plants were the rule wherever it was grown.

RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93), yes, it is named for the movie star, is a very modern looking plicata. Ron may be very proud of his first introduction. It is a very starchy and flaring plicata that has lovely ruffled form that is enhanced by a fine light blue-violet plicata edge. MEGABUCKS (Tompkins '90) is brilliantly appointed with vivid golden-yellow standards and nicely blended fuchsia and rose falls trimmed in old gold. The late Jim Gibson's YELLOW BRICK ROAD ('92) was seen in a number of gardens, and we must say, right up front, that it is not the most vigorous variety we observed. It was, however, among the most vibrant yellow ground plicatas that you're likely to see. Standards and falls are a very rich, brassy gold shade with amber-brown shoulders and plicata markings. Heavy lace, not always seen in plicatas, and a white area below the golden orange beards add the finishing touch.

In Tom and Vicki Craig's garden we saw LADY BIRD JOHNSON (Mahan '91) a lovely self. This time in a pale, silvery blue shade with lots of ruffling and intricate lace. If there ever was a *fancy* plicata, MAGIC SHOW (Keppel '94) is it! Keith describes this lively number as having a lemon-buff to yellow ground that shows mainly in the falls. The standards are almost solidly suffused soft rosy russet. The fall borders match the color of the standards deepening to russet-maroon at the hafts. Golden bronze beards light up this *magic show*. Abundant ruffling and a great blending of colors make this a top pick for plicata fans. We first saw BOOGIE WOOGIE (Nichols '93) in Bennett Jones' garden and liked it. In the Craig garden, it again got our attention. Its unique coloration consists of white standards and falls washed a soft violet, but it's the brown hafts that seem to make this medium sized flower. It has very pleasing, semi-flaring form and plant habits are noteworthy. This is one of those varieties that seems to *grow* on you.

Wil and Tracy Plotner's Wildwood Gardens is home to a most beautiful hosta collection. Oh yes, there were wonderful irises, too! RUFFLED GODDESS (Tasco '93), a child of the legendary MARY FRANCES (Gaulter), is a superbly ruffled iris self in a delectable shade of pinkish lavender (perhaps amethyst) with excellent branching. CHANGELING (Plotner '92) with its unusual color pattern really caught our attention. The Plotners describe this one as having "Indian tan standards bordered wisteria violet with wisteria violet falls bordered amber brown." Colors sometimes change to orchid white and mustard yellow. Thus, the name CHANGELING. SUNCATCHER (Ensminger '93), is certainly a non-traditional Ensminger introduction. No striped, stipled, or mottled blooms here! SUNCATCHER has very circular, heavily substantced, and flaring white falls encircled by a wide, deep yellow band. The standards are solid yellow and tightly held. Blue irises clearly *pulled rank* on all other irises at this convention. DRUM ROLL (Hager '92), in a class with the Schreiner blues, was an extraordinary medium blue-violet with a wonderful depth of color and lavish, bubble ruffling. LACE LEGACY (Greenwood '92)—talk about lace! This variety was simply awash with lace both in the standards and in the falls.

Some of the purists might say the degree of lacing was too extreme, but that's probably because it didn't appear in any of their seedling patches. Not tall at 34", LACE LEGACY is a lovely shade of deep orange-apricot with white falls blending to orange-apricot at the petal edges. Prominent tangerine-red beards nicely accent this very round, most contemporary iris. WINTER SONNET (Stahly '92) is a very graceful and serene iris self from Michigan. This is an elegant, very pale blue to cool white shade with light blue beards.

Two generations of the Ludi family own Mountain View Iris Gardens that rests in the shadow of Mt. Hood. On a clear day Mt. Hood is clearly visible from the garden. John and Wava Ludi and their son John, and his wife, Kay, operate this fine commercial planting on the family's sixty-acre cattle ranch. CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner '92), mentioned earlier, was just incredibly good—the pinnacle of blue *plicata* breeding! One iris whose uniqueness beckoned us for a closer inspection was NOVA AT MIDNIGHT (Boswell '89). The standards are royal purple with a strong white infusion at the base. The falls are an even darker purple with a large white area around the dark blue beards. Really nice! For those who thirst for something really unusual, NOTORIOUS (Ghio '91) should accommodate your passion for novelty! The standards are a solid, bright salmon pink, and the falls are purple with a shocking pink sunburst radiating from the tangerine beards over two-thirds of the petals. Wow! The hybridizer says this is "not for the faint of heart." Believe it! NOTORIOUS exhibited excellent growth with good, healthy fans.

Our final tour garden was Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden. Of all the gardens visited this was most decidedly past peak bloom, but there was still much to see. XANTHIPPE'S HALO (Niswonger '92) is simply alive with color! Deep red-violet standards blend nicely with near lavender-blue falls banded red-violet to brown. A very pretty color combination. PERFECT PITCH (Gatty '92) is not your typical Joe Gatty iris. It is a ruffled, sooty dark violet with a slight velvet sheen in the falls. Dark blue beards embellish this handsome iris with purple-based foliage. Early morning sun seems to enhance its sparking sheen. We missed SONG OF ANGELS (Schreiner '91) on its home turf, but not here at Aitken's. It "combines dramatic lacy edges with chaste lavender and white tones," to quote Schreiner's. "The centers of the falls are immaculately white while the borders are gently tinted with a soft hint of lavender." From the master hybridizer, Ben Hager, comes PRESTIGE ITEM ('92), a glowing salmon rose blend with excellent showstalks. Plants appeared vigorous, and its color was certainly unique.

Our vote for the Best Space Age Iris goes to CONJURATION (Byers '89). For the neophytes among us, space age irises are characterized by either horns, spoons, or flounces emanating from the beards. Early work in this class produced the desired space age traits, but most were miserably lacking any semblance of modern form. No longer! CONJURATION has taken care of that. It has very clean white standards tipped and tinted delicately in pale blue-violet. The snow-white falls are encircled with very deep, 3/4" bands of amethyst-violet. Fuzzy white horns extend outward from the tangerine beards. A bud count of 8-12 is typical on 40" stalks.

There's something about the color of HORATIO (Hager '91) that entices you to take a closer look. Perhaps it's the royal-purple coloration that ages to

pleasing, silvery-blue fall centers or perchance it's the deeper violet blue petal edges that will seduce you. It's wide, robust, and forms a fine clump. FOUNDATION VAN GOGH (Anfosso '90) is something very different from France. Cream-white standards flushed apricot nicely complement the flaring apricot falls bordered in creamy white. We guarantee, you will not pass this one by without a second glance. CHEROKEE NATION (Hedgecock '92), a good brown iris, also looked promising at Cooley's. It is a rather large, ruffled red-brown iris with considerable, but not objectionable, white striations or veining near the throat and at the hafts.

SIBERIANS GALORE IN '94

The Siberian irises all flourished in Oregon, and looked particularly fine in the Silverberg, Ludi, and Abrego gardens. Tom and Ellen Abrego manage the Chehalem Gardens, a family-run commercial garden catering to beardless iris connoisseurs. The Abrego's beautifully landscaped garden sits high atop the rolling hills of Dundee, Oregon in the heart of wine country. As we entered their attractive garden, we were greeted by a glorious sea of the Siberian iris WHITE SWIRL (Cassebeer '57) in full bloom. What a sight! Many of Dr. Currier McEwen's irises were in full bloom—SHIRLEY'S CHOICE, GOLDEN EDGE, HARPSWELL VELVET, CHATTERBOX BELLE, IVORY CREAM, MARSHMALLOW FROSTING, and miniature, BABY SISTER, to name a few. WATERLOO (Varner '92), a wide, medium-blue diploid, was especially nice.

There were many Siberians at the Meek's garden in Silverton, and among them were some of our favorite McEwen introductions. SHIRLEY POPE (McEwen '79) was growing in a long row in clump form, and it provided the class for this Siberian planting. HARPSWELL HAPPINESS (McEwen '83) and DEAR DIANNE (McEwen '79) were stunning. It was very satisfying to see so many home-grown varieties thriving here, and enjoyed by so many Siberian enthusiasts.

Our choice for Best Siberian of the Convention went to STRAWBERRY FAIR (Hollingworth '94) which mesmerized most who saw it in the Silverberg garden. The name STRAWBERRY FAIR is a good one, but not for this iris. Dr. Bob Hollingworth describes his lovely creation as a "crushed strawberry" color, but upon close inspection, we could not detect even a hint of strawberry, crushed or plain. Perhaps, there is a special strain of strawberry that prospers in Michigan of which we are unfamiliar! STRAWBERRY FAIR does have a coloration that is exceedingly difficult to define precisely. We think that it is a melding of rose, lavender, and orchid tones. Whatever the color, it is a handsome Siberian with intensely ruffled and flaring falls that feature a small white blaze with a hint of green in the heart. STRAWBERRY FAIR so captivated irisarians that it was voted the *Franklin Cook Cup* for the *best iris hybridized outside the host region!* No small feat when you consider that this convention was held in the very heart of tall bearded iris country!

Another Hollingworth variety that impressed us was his CORONATION ANTHEM ('90). Here we have a very bold, deep blue with a large creamy yellow blaze that fades gracefully to white as it ages. The stylearms are lighter

blue with red tinges. Tall and vigorous, CORONATION ANTHEM makes quite a statement in the garden. We would be remiss if we did not mention DOTTED LINE (Reid '92), a Sino-Siberian iris cut from a whole new piece of cloth. This is so individual, we must rely on the hybridizer's description. Lorena Reid describes DOTTED LINE in this fashion "standards are violet blue with darker vertical stitch marks and a crinkled white edge; the falls are broad, vertically stitched white and violet blue; large white [pure white] signals with a blue-black edge and center lines." It varies in height from 24-30' and blooms in the early-midseason.

AND NOW, OUR AWARDS FOR THE 1994 SEASON

Tall Bearded Award of Excellence:

This award is given annually to a TB iris that we have observed in Maine gardens for a minimum of two seasons. It must grow, flower, and increase well in this environment. This year our choice is HONKY TONK BLUES (Schreiner '88). Distinctiveness is an important quality that we should be looking for in all new irises. Too often many are just near carbon copies of others previously introduced. Not so with HONKY TONK BLUES. If you are familiar with this variety, you can easily identify it in anyone's garden without an identifying marker. This is a beautifully ruffled flower in a novel blending of blue and white shades. It has excellent branching and bud count which contribute to its popularity. It has already become a tall bearded iris classic!

Best New Tall Bearded Variety of the Year:

This recognition is given to a recent TB introduction of the highest merit. Our choice for '94 is GOOD SHOW (Hager '88) for several reasons. Here we have an extremely vigorous, nicely ruffled, brilliant orange self with bright tangerine beards. These are not necessarily traits we have come to associate with orange irises. We have watched GOOD SHOW closely for the past two seasons, and have been very pleased with its very strong plant habits. It came through the disastrous (for us) 1992-'93 winter completely intact while others around it were devastated by soft rot. In '94 it bloomed on strong stalks carrying about eight buds. An excellent upgrade in this color class!

Median Award of Excellence:

This recognition is usually accorded the one median iris that impressed us with its vigor, harmonious color, and superior form, but we have tie for 1994. Our co-winners are SERENITY PRAYER (Dyer '89), a fine standard dwarf bearded iris, and ASK ALMA (Lankow '87), an impressive intermediate bearded iris. SERENITY PRAYER is a vigorous SDB with creamy white standards flushed warm light yellow on the midribs. The falls are a mother-of-pearl cream flushed yellow on the hafts. Deep blue beards tipped powder blue add just the right finishing touch. ASK ALMA brings a much needed new pink color to the intermediate class as really good pinks are difficult to find. It has a luscious, deep, coral pink-orange color that draws you like a magnet. You will be impressed, too, with its extremely vigorous growth habits, but it's the color that steals your heart.

Siberian Award of Excellence:

This distinction is reserved for a Siberian iris that has exhibited outstanding color, growth, and garden value. In 1994 one Siberian stood out from a crowded field as clearly superior to most of the rest. The obvious choice for this past season is SULTAN'S RUBY (Hollingworth '88). Visitors never failed to spot this one. Its vivid red-violet color and very pronounced creamy yellow signals make this one a wonderful garden beacon. It just happens to be the 1994 Morgan-Wood Medal winner.

Japanese Iris Award of Excellence:

This recognition is given to a Japanese iris of exceptional quality, form, and color. Our choice for '94 is the captivating IAPETUS (Innerst '88). We observed it about three years ago and were immediately impressed with the distinctiveness of its blooms. This is a 6-petaled or double JI that has a ruffled light ground, sanded and veined deep blue to red violet. A nice blue-violet halo and deep red-violet styles are a perfect complement. No matter what the description we may use, it will not do justice to IAPETUS. If you have a penchant for Japanese iris, this is certainly a *must have* for your collection.



Bob Hollingworth with the Franklin Cook Cup he won in Portland for Strawberry Fair. Photo by Bob Plank.

COMPOSTING

Jerry Bowers (Montana)

Faced with wads of dead plant material comes the question of what to do with it. Rather than put bags of stuff out for the landfill, we try to compost as much as possible.

The leaves can be shredded and bagged by using a lawnmower, spread on the open beds and either rototilled or worked into the beds with a spade or garden fork. If you have a spare corner somewhere, the leaves can be moistened and covered with a bit of soil to break down into leaf mold which is a good addition to the garden. It does take a fairly long time for the leaves to break down, so we generally spread them on open beds and till them in. Everything else is tossed into wire cages and left to break down as it will.

There are almost as many methods of composting as there are people who do it. It can be as complicated or as simple as you want it to be. There are several formulas for constructing compost piles, and the literature is full of carbon/nitrogen ratios, size of piles, what materials to use and not to use, and how often the piles should be turned.

WHY COMPOST?

Correct composting is the gradual breakdown of organic material through aerobic microbial decomposition. When finished, compost is dark, friable, odorless and very similar to the organic material found in the soil. Generally, compost has a very low nutrient content. Its major benefit is to improve the physical structure of the soil. Properly aged compost helps with soil moisture retention and increases the microbial activity in the soil which in turn helps make available nutrients that are already in the soil but unavailable to the plants.

When fresh organic material is added to the soil, microbial activity increases dramatically as the material begins to break down. Unfortunately, this increased activity can draw nitrogen from the soil and any existent plants may show signs of nitrogen deficiency. This can be offset somewhat by the addition of nitrogen. It would perhaps be better to first compost the organic material and then add it to the beds. If you have open beds the "green" material can be worked into the soil, some nitrogen added and the bed be allowed to "work" over winter. Usually, the material will be mostly broken down by spring and not be a problem.

There are a couple of basic ways to produce compost: the simplest is to use dry organic matter, leaves, lawn clippings, anything removed from the beds piled and left alone until they have decomposed. This is a somewhat lengthy process and never heats up enough to kill weed seeds or disease organisms. A more rapid method uses yard and garden products as well as kitchen scraps and produces enough heat to kill weed seeds and pathogens. It is also a bit more complex and takes more gardener input to be successful.

SIMPLE SYSTEM

This is a method after my own heart because I'm too lazy to worry about turning piles and making sure I have a proper carbon/nitrogen ratio of the materials. For a long time when we took sods off to make a new bed we would beat the soil out of the sods and discard the grass that was left. After a while we decided this was more trouble than it was worth and decided to pile the sods upside down and let them decompose. This process usually takes about a year to break down but leaves you with some very nice soil.

The simple compost system entails making a pile of yard and garden wastes in an out-of-the-way spot and allowing it to decompose at its leisure. This process can take up to a year to produce compost, and there is the possibility that some nutrient leaching could take place. The process can be hurried along a bit by occasionally turning the pile and adding a bit of nitrogen and some water. If such a pile is really dry, ants may move in.

COMPLEX OR "HOT" SYSTEM

This is probably the type of system that most of us are more familiar with. It is certainly the one described most often. Using this system will hasten decomposition and enough heat will be generated in the pile to kill weed seeds and many disease organisms.

Most often some sort of bin system is advocated, though a pile may simply be constructed up to five feet square or so and four to six feet high. Most of the literature shows some sort of three bin construction. These bins can be separate or connected and made of wood, wire or even concrete block if you happen to have some left over from another project.

If you have an interconnected three bin setup, start by placing yard and garden waste and kitchen scraps in bin one. Continue this until the bin is full. This can be turned every couple of weeks or you can simply fork everything out of bin one into bin two and start over filling bin one again. When bin one is full the second time, fork the material from bin two into bin three and one into two. By the time bin one is full again, the material in bin three should be ready to be screened and used and you can continue the rotation process. It really is simpler than it sounds but does take more effort than a simple pile. Any material from bin three that is not "finished" can be added back to bin one or two to finish decomposing.

While this wondrous process is taking place there is the possibility that a foul odor will occur. (One of the objections to making compost in the first place). Bad smells mean that anaerobic decomposition is taking place. This usually results from a pile that is too wet and doesn't have enough oxygen for aerobic bacteria to thrive. To correct the problem, turning the pile will put more air into the mixture. Another method of ensuring proper amounts of air is to put tubes of wire mesh vertically into the pile during construction or using a bar to poke holes in the pile later on.

We have had pretty good results using wire cages four or five feet in diameter and about four feet high. Generally, I put in a layer of green material and then a layer of soil and then a layer of green stuff and then soil until the bin is full and cap the whole thing with a bit of soil. Sometimes I moisten the pile

and sometimes not, depending on the day, and once in a while I may throw in a handful or so of fertilizer on each layer. Most often whatever is at hand is thrown on the pile, and that is the end of it. It is amazing how fast these piles shrink. A full bin one day may be only half as high a few days later.

If you use the "hot" method, decomposition will be quite rapid during the summer and come to a virtual halt in the winter. Not being in any particular hurry, I seldom worry about turning piles. I also have found no need for commercial compost starter products. There are generally enough microbial bacteria in the materials themselves and in the soil layers to "activate" decomposition.

Commercial bins are available, as well as drum type composters, that promise amazing results in a short time. There are also plans available for homemade type compost drums. If nothing else, you can put organic materials in plastic trash bags and roll them over every day or so to help break down materials.

There are some materials that you should *not* use when building compost piles. These include bones, dog and cat manures, meat, milk and other dairy products, and lawn clippings that have been sprayed with herbicides. For example, Dacthal (DCPA) can persist in the soil for 4-8 months; Glyphosphate (Roundup, Cleanup) usually less than one month, 2,4-D (lots of formulations) 1-2 months, and Dicamba (Banvel) 3-12 months. Paper products, colored paper in particular, should be avoided unless explicitly biodegradable.

COMPOST BENEFITS

The immediate benefit is the improvement of soil structure when compost is incorporated. Compost also helps utilize moisture more efficiently, adds microbes to the soil which aids nutrient uptake, and can help alleviate soil toxicity at low pH levels. A two inch thick mulch of compost can also help reduce weeder problems.

Reprinted from Newsletter of Missoula Iris Society.

FROM THE EDITOR

This issue contains many articles which are not originals for the Bulletin. Thankfully, these items were available for use when promised articles did not appear.

The January issue had many "surprise" errors—surprises even for me. One of those errors showed Jimmy Burch's MAINSTAY as a 1969 introduction when it is actually 1989. The other errors were provided by a grinch who invaded the printing room.

IN MEMORIAM—BLUE SAPPHIRE

Joe Ghio (California)

With the publication of the 1995 Symposium, we must note the passing of an old friend, BLUE SAPPHIRE. This iris has been on some 40 popularity polls to set a record that will be difficult to equal. BLUE SAPPHIRE was introduced by the Schreiners in 1953 with little fanfare. It was pictured almost as an afterthought on one of the back pages of the 1953 Schreiner's catalog. It was priced at \$12, while their feature introduction of that year, LAVANESQUE, was listed at \$20.

Prior to 1960, an iris could win an Honorable Mention award the year of introduction. Nearly all that were destined for future awards would do so. BLUE SAPPHIRE was an exception to the rule. It did not win its HM until 1954, but it was being discovered. When it came to receiving the Award of Merit, it was the leader with 215 votes to the second place finisher, REHOBETH'S 161. When it came to winning the Dykes Medal in 1958, it overwhelmed the runners-up with 136 votes to JUNE MEREDITH'S 39 and PALAMINO'S 36.

It showed similar approval on the Symposium. It appeared at #71 in 1955, #19 in 1956, #5 in 1957, and finally #1 in 1958. Up to that time, BLUE SAPPHIRE was only the second current Dykes Medal winner to head the Symposium. (WABASH being the other in 1940).

An interesting sidebar is that in the first BULLETIN I received as an AIS member in July, 1955, an article on the Sacramento show has a 3/4 page picture of Mrs. Al Nahas winning Queen of the Show with BLUE SAPPHIRE.

It is doubly sad for me to see BLUE SAPPHIRE ride off into the sunset since 1953 was my milepost year. That Schreiner catalog was one of my first introductions to irises and hybridizing. From that catalog came my first purchase and the inspiration to begin a hybridizing career with the irises' first blooms in 1954.

BLUE SAPPHIRE was from a classic cross of the time, SNOW FLURRY X CHIVALRY. That cross would be the cause for my making a cross of NEW SNOW X CHIVALRY. (NEW SNOW was a SNOW FLURRY child). This would produce seedling #58-13A, my first introduction, FROSTED STARLIGHT. In turn, it would be the basis of a line that ultimately would produce MYSTIQUE, BUBBLING OVER, and "bubble" ruffling.

While it would be a few years before I could afford BLUE SAPPHIRE, and it proved to be a miffy performer in our Santa Cruz climate as well as a poor parent; nonetheless, the signpost that marked the beginning of a career. So it is with sadness that we bid BLUE SAPPHIRE a fond farewell and thank it for a long play and a job well done.

BLUE SAPPHIRE was the first Schreiner Dykes Medal. In the popular nomenclature of the day, it was described as a blue-white or pale blue. The circle is complete with the latest and sixth Schreiner Dykes, SILVERADO. It would fit the blue-white/pale blue description of 1953 and most interesting, it can be traced directly to the same SNOW FLURRY X CHIVALRY genetic

pool that produced the 1958 Dykes winner. SILVERADO: STORMY NIGHT SIB: (STARINA X NAVY STRUT), the Chivalry genes, X CARRIAGE TRADE, the SNOW FLURRY genes; hence, we have an updated version (blue x white) of the cross that produced the classic, BLUE SAPPHIRE.

LADYBUG, LADYBUG—MAKE THIS YOUR HOME

Sharon McAllister (New Mexico)

For many years, insecticides were our main weapon in the local war against aphids—but it seemed that all we really accomplished was to force the aphids to evolve into a new, hardier strain. In early 1993, we added something stronger to the arsenal: ladybugs. Because they never damage plants, they are truly beneficial insects. Soft-bodied insects, their eggs and larvae provide all the food that the ladybugs need. They never feed on plants, but just use them for shelter as they forage for meals. Our ladybugs had established a breeding colony by year's end, providing better control over the aphids than we had ever achieved by chemical means. We've now concluded that ladybugs are not only safer to use, but are actually cheaper in the long run because they are eventually self-sustaining.

But our success was based on trial and error. It depended on piecing together tidbits of advice from a lot of different sources. The following is what I wish I'd known when we started this project. I hope it makes life easier for you, should you decide to try a similar experiment.

THE LIFE CYCLE OF THE LADYBUG

Like many insects, the ladybug goes through four distinct stages during its life: egg, larvae, pupa, and adult. All are essential in a breeding colony and the wise host provides for their welfare. Fortunately, they aren't very demanding. All they really require is food and shelter. It took me a while to learn what each stage looks like, and what it needs to survive—but this seems to be the key to establishing a viable colony.

EGGS

The adults deposit yellow or orange-colored eggs in clusters, usually on the under side of leaves. These eggs are so small that they can barely be seen with the naked eye, so about all you can do to care for them is to be sure that you provide appropriate shelter. In iris beds, the ladybugs seem to prefer older leaves that are already on the ground—but the eggs hatch in about 15 days, well before the leaves have dried up enough to remove so the eggs aren't endangered unless you keep the beds *too* clean. (Does anyone actually manage to do that?) I've found the ladybugs have an affinity for perennials like

roses, and have learned from pecan growers that clover provides an ideal breeding environment for them.

LARVAE

When the eggs hatch, the tiny larvae look nothing like the adults. They grow rapidly, feasting on aphids and other insect eggs and larvae. By the time they reach $\frac{1}{8}$ " in length, they are recognizable: tapered and flattened in form, dark brown in color, somewhat warty in appearance, with bright orange spots that almost converge into stripes. It takes about 20 days to pass through the larval stage, and reach full size of $\frac{1}{4}$ " to $\frac{3}{8}$ ". A key element of aphid control is to always have some of these ravenous youngsters in the garden, so it's very important to learn to recognize them.

PUPA

The larvae attaches itself to a leaf or stem, curls up into a ball, and pupates. In the week to two that it takes to transform itself into the familiar adult form, the pupa is no longer feeding. In fact, it may even be mistaken for a pest that feeds on the plant, simply because it is attached to it, which makes it vulnerable to the ministrations of an overly zealous gardener. Don't pluck the pupa! Doing so will interrupt the life cycle, damage the viability of the colony, and require you to buy more ladybugs just to sustain it.

ADULT

The mature ladybug is the form you're probably familiar with: about $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, round, with a shiny orange or reddish "shell" with dark spots. Of course, the shell is actually formed by wing shields that cover its folded flying wings. The majority of the ladybug's life is spent in this stage. The adults mate and lay eggs throughout the growing season. In the fall, they seek protected places to hibernate. They spend the winter in crevices, under boards or rocks, or under mulch. If you never see *any* adults, your colony is in trouble, but you shouldn't expect to see a lot of them. When the aphid population is down, the adults fly away in search of food. Our colony seems to have spread far beyond our 5 acres. Our neighbors, the equivalent of several city blocks away, report they have quite a few ladybugs now.

"PLANTING" YOUR COLONY

The best time of year for this is late winter, when the ladybugs of an established colony would normally be coming out of hibernation to mate, lay eggs, and start the cycle anew—but in practical terms, ladybugs can be introduced any time that they are commercially available. The best time of day to release ladybugs is about sundown, because the cooler nighttime temperature encourages them to settle in. The best conditions: when the ground is somewhat moist.

Don't scatter them. If they're handled roughly, they'll get excited and fly away. Instead, gently place small handfuls on the ground near the base of

infested plants. Their instinct is to climb the plants in search of food. How many to buy? One Rule of Thumb I've encountered is 6,000 ladybugs to the acre. We introduced about that many each month through most of the 1993 growing season, until the colony became self-sustaining.

MAINTAINING A COLONY

The ladybug's worst enemy is insecticide. It will take time for the colony to stabilize, but once committed to it you *must* be prepared to stay the course. If the aphids seem to be getting the upper hand, release more ladybugs—don't resort to insecticides. With chemicals, you can *almost* wipe out the aphids, but when survivors reproduce there will be another massive infestation—and your ladybug friends won't be around to protect your garden.

With a self-sustaining colony of ladybugs, the predator/prey population will be in balance. The aphid population will never be as low as it was immediately after a thorough application of an insecticide, but it will also never be as high as in a post-treatment outbreak. The measure of success is not the number of adult ladybugs you see, because the adult ladybugs will fly away when their food supply gets scarce. As long as there are enough adults to lay eggs for the next generation, however, the colony will remain viable.

The true measure of success is the number of aphids you *don't* see. By that standard, we're quite proud of our colony. We've also noticed a marked decrease in the population of other insects like box elder bugs, which don't harm the iris but greatly annoy visitors to the garden. If you decide to give ladybugs a chance, be prepared for pleasant surprises. And let us know what happens!



David Schreiner with the President's Cup presented to him for Feature Attraction. Photo by Bob Plank.

MEASURING WIDTH

Jim Craig (Oregon)

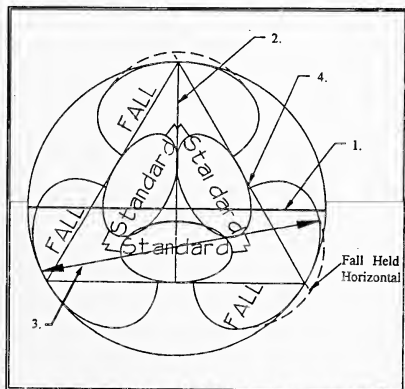
During the past month, two respected AIS Judges have espoused two different ways of measuring the width of bearded iris blooms. Another AIS Judge has recommended another way of measuring, and I use a fourth method. This note explores why we measure, and what can happen if we use different measurement techniques.

The basic question is why measure bloom width at all? Bloom size for the same bearded iris variety can vary by season and by region of the country. It also varies slightly in the same clump during the bloom season. Nevertheless, bloom size in relation to the other dimensions of the plant is critical to the balance and proportion of the plant as a whole. It is also useful information for horticulturists, landscapers, and designers of artistic arrangements who wish to use the plant.

The American Iris Society uses bloom width as one of the descriptive standards for three classes of bearded iris. In addition a range of width is recommended for Border Bearded Iris, and a combined height and width of not more than 15cm (6 inches) is set for Miniature Tall Bearded Iris. Hybridizers who register irises with the AIS are asked, "For bearded irises, state in cm as to height and width of flower".

The dimensions used by AIS in the standards range from 5 to 13cm (2 to 5 inches). The degree of resolution in the standards is 0.5cm; so any method of measurement used on the same bloom which will yield a result within 0.25cm of the "true" size should be acceptable.

1. The diameter of a circle surrounding the flower at its greatest horizontal dimension, 7.5cm (3 inches) in this example.
2. The height of a triangle formed by joining the points of greatest horizontal extension of each fall, 5.15cm (2½ inches) in the example.
3. The distance between the two points most widely separated in the horizontal plane, 7.3cm (2¾ inches) in the example.
4. The distance between the ends of two undisturbed falls as they are growing, 6.7cm (2¾ inches); or as measured between the ends of two falls held in a horizontal position by the Judge for the purpose of measurement.



The last is not quantified because the result would depend on the form of the flower and the shape of the falls. The third listed method is the easiest to apply consistently and it corresponds to the visual image of the flower, regardless of the position of the viewer. The first listed method yields an acceptably similar result but is much more difficult to apply in practice. The second and fourth listed methods yield quite different results and are difficult to apply with consistency. Should "width" be defined in the AIS classification standards?

From The Medianite, Summer, 1994.

GERMINATION INDOORS

John Coble and Bob Bauer (Michigan)

We have always (since 1982) germinated our Japanese and Siberian iris seed indoors. From some of our first experiments with this technique, we had 80-100 percent germination. With favorable weather, we were planting 8-12" seedlings in May, with the first fan increases seen in July and in some crosses, 100 percent bloom the following year. Our most vigorous seedling produced eight bloom stalks on a one year plant!

Our main reason for germinating seed indoors is to gain one year on first bloom and thus one year on evaluation. Most important is the elimination of unworthy seedlings and freeing garden space for another crop of seedlings. This does become important with an annual crop planting of 1000-1500 seedlings.

We collect our seed pods when ripe and starting to split, usually early September. The seeds are stored in paper envelopes—but for no more than a month. Be sure to shell your pods and search for and kill any worms. As soon as all seeds are collected, the seeds of each cross should be wrapped in panty-hose material (maybe cheesecloth would do). These little tied-up bundles are then put in a large bowl and covered with water—a saucer on top to hold the bundles down. The water should be drained and changed everyday for at least two weeks. This soaking and rinsing treatment is to remove the seed germination inhibitor present in the seed or seed coat. Outdoors, the fall rains and melting snow in winter do the same thing over a 3-4 month period.

After the final rinse the seeds are covered with a 10 percent solution of bleach (one part bleach with 10 parts water) for 1/2 hour. Pour off the bleach solution and rinse quickly with water a couple times. Then cover the bowl with plastic-wrap and secure with a rubber band (do not seal with an air-tight lid); or we transfer the tied bundles to a plastic bag and secure them with a twist-*em*. The bleach treatment is to reduce the mold population that will want to grow on the wet seeds during the next refrigeration (stratification) stage.

The wet, rinsed bundles (in bowl or bag) now need to be refrigerated for 12-14 weeks. Fewer than 12 weeks will find fewer seeds germinating. After the 12 weeks refrigeration the bowl or bag can be removed to room temperature (kept closed and moist). Some seeds may have already germinated in the

refrigerator, but most will start after the third day at room temperature. After the third day, we get more germination if the seeds are warmed to 90-100 degrees F. for 1/2 to 1 hour each day. You can set your covered bowl of bundles in another bowl of hot water and let the seeds gradually warm up and cool back down. We fill the bowl of bundles with warm tap water, let sit until room temperature and then drain off the water until the next heat treatment the following day.

Tall bearded irises and day lily seeds are handled the same way through the soaking and refrigeration stages, but NOT the warm water treatment after refrigeration. Bearded irises germinate best at 55 degrees F.

Once seeds start germinating, handle them as best fits your needs and situation. This will depend on the number of seeds that you are handling, the size of your house, and your spouse!

At about the fifth or sixth day at room temperature, we open each bundle and remove the germinated seed to plastic cups half filled with wet sand (one cup for each cross) and cover with plastic wrap. We continue this every other day for about a week. The ungerminated seed can be returned to the refrigerator for a minimum of two more weeks and then the room-temperature heating treatment repeated.

The germinated seed can be potted whenever you want. The other ideal of this system is that only germinated seed are planted; no trays of empty cubes from ungerminated seed. We raise the germinated seed on wet sand in plastic covered cups near a window. When we have a sufficient number of seedlings with green shoots about one inch tall, we transplant them with tweezers to seedling trays filled with a soilless seedling potting mix. The trays are set about six inches below florescent lights; ideally the bulbs about 1-2 inches above the tips of the plants. We use cool white bulbs and run the light 24 hours a day. We raise the lights until the plants are about 8-10 inches tall. Then we let the seedlings grow to the lights and start "mowing" off the tips every couple weeks as they grow into the lights. We fertilize every two weeks with a Miracid solution of one teaspoon per gallon of water.

Hopefully by mid May the danger of frost is past and the seedlings can be hardened off outside—for a week in the shade and gradually moved to full sun. Watch these tender plants, they will probably need watering every other day while outside—every day in sunshine.

Line out your seedlings in good organic rich soil and keep them well watered all summer their first year (and mulched). The next spring you will have bloom.

Reprinted from Region 6 Newsletter, January, 1995.

ATTENTION HYBRIDIZERS

We wish to remind you that Registration Applications issued prior to 1990 are no longer valid, and that those issued in 1990 must be completed before the end of this year. There is no refund on non-completed applications, and the names will once again be available on a first-request basis. As stated in the minutes of the AIS Board of Directors' meeting, November, 1974:

"... many complaints have been received about hybridizers' holding of names for several years, thereby tying up these names, and . . . it is felt some limit should be put on name holding. Effective January 1, 1975, a name reserved must be registered within five years, or the name will be released without refund of the application fee."

Upon payment of the registration fee (\$7.50) a hybridizer may, however, re-apply for the same name and begin a new five-year period in which to complete registration.

As a matter of convenience, we will continue to reserve (hold) names on a limited time basis, to allow hybridizers to remit fees for names researched and cleared for them. **IN NO CASE WILL AN UNPAID NAME BE HELD MORE THAN 90 DAYS.**

For those now holding unpaid registration applications issued prior to 1995, please review these applications. If you wish to retain the name(s), remit \$7.50 per name and a new application form will be issued, with a five-year limitation period beginning as of the time of payment. **ALL REGISTRATION FORMS NOT PAID (FEE DUE) BY JUNE 1, 1995, WILL BE DECLARED INVALID, AND THE RESERVED NAMES WILL BE RELEASED.**

Keith Keppel, Registrar
P.O. Box 18145
Salem, OR 97305
Phone: (503) 391-9241



AIS Gold Medal winner Robert Schreiner addresses the audience as Honorary Awards Chairman Ken Waite listens. Photo by Glenn Corlew.

AIS SALES ITEMS

HANDBOOK FOR JUDGES AND SHOW OFFICIALS	complete.....	\$6.00	
.....	pages only.....	\$4.00	
AIS LAPEL PINS		\$5.00	
AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin 1/2" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.			
1994 AIS MEMBERSHIP BOOK. A complete listing of members of AIS, including addresses		\$10.00	
1939 CHECK LIST.....		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1949 CHECK LIST.....		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1959 CHECK LIST.....		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1969 CHECK LIST.....		\$10.00	
Reprint. Soft cover.			
1979 CHECK LIST.....		\$17.00	
Reprint. Ten-year compilation of registration 1970-79.			
1989 CHECK LIST.....		\$15.00	
Ten-year compilation of registrations 1980-89.			
REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS—			
1990.....	\$4.00	1993.....	\$5.00
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1992.....	\$5.00		
BULLETINS: Back issues, if available.....		\$3.00	
BRONZE ANNIVERSARY MEDALS		\$2.50	
The AIS 50th Anniversary medal in antiqued bronze. Suitable for pendants, show prizes, and special awards.			
AIS SEALS.....	Pack—\$2.50; 5 Packs—\$10.00		
Self-adhesive ovals larger than a half dollar, official design in blue and green on a silver background. (50 per pack)			
RHS COLOUR CHARTS		\$45.00	
Set of four color fans, plus instruction leaflet.			
1995 AIS CALENDAR	\$5.00—10 for	\$30.00	
BASIC IRIS CULTURE.....	\$1.25, 25 for	\$15.00	
IRIS POST CARDS (16 per pack).....	1 pack—\$4; 3 packs—\$10; 10 packs—\$25		

**Prices include postage and handling.
Make checks payable to The American Iris Society**

Send order to Charles J. Lack, 718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132-1808
Phone (918) 445-2222

IRIS SLIDES FOR RENT

AIS offers a number of iris slide sets for rental to members, each consisting of approximately 100 35mm slides. These provide excellent programs for both iris societies and garden clubs.

SLIDE SETS AVAILABLE FOR 1995

THE NEWEST IN IRISES: 1991-1995 INTRODUCTIONS—mostly TB, but contains other types.

RECENT AWARD WINNERS: HM and AM WINNERS - 1992 - 1994

THE POPULARITY POLL: Favorite irises as reflected by the 1994 AIS Symposium

TYPES OTHER THAN TALL BEARDED: Bearded and beardless arranged in approximate blooming sequence.

RELIABLES: Mostly past award winners of various types—especially suited for newer iris societies and garden clubs.

1991 WASHINGTON D.C. CONVENTION

1994 PORTLAND CONVENTION

IRIS TRIVIA—This is a small set of slides and questions that can be used for a fun and informative meeting. (Use of all questions and slides takes at least one hour.)

To Order: Requests for slides should be made well in advance of requested date, preferably six to eight weeks. If optional, specify alternate sets and/or dates. Clearly PRINT name and mailing address to whom slides are to be sent. Rental fee is \$7.50 per set, payable to AIS. Only one set allowed for any request date. AIS Affiliate Societies are entitled to one free set per calendar year. Slide sets are to be returned next day after viewing by PRIORITY mail.

Send check with request to:

Mike Moller, Chairman
Slides Committee
3455 Vallejo Ct.
Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Phone: (719) 598-2024

SECTION SLIDES AVAILABLE

The various Sections of AIS also have slide sets available for rent. These feature irises of each respective group. Rental fee is \$5.00 per set, unless noted otherwise. Requests for these slide sets should be submitted as follows:

ARILS and ARIL BREDS: Order from Clay H. Osborne, 47806 Calle Fiesta, Indio, CA 92201. Rental fee \$7.50—Check to Aril Society International.

DWARF: Dorothy Willott, 26231 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood, OH 44122-7111. Check to Dwarf Iris Society.

HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

LOUISIANA: Order from Dalton Durio, Route 7, Box 43, Opelousas, LA 70570. Check to Society for Louisiana Irises. Rental fee is \$10.00.

MEDIANS: Order from Terry Aitken, 608 N.W. 119th St., Vancouver, WA 98685. Check to MIS.

REBLOOMERS: Contact Diana Nicholls, 4724 Angus Drive, Gainesville, VA 22065. Check to Reblooming Iris Society for Siberian Irises. Rental fee is \$7.50.

SIBERIANS: Order from Thomas Abrego, P.O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. Check to Society for Siberian Irises.

SPECIES: Several sets available—Order from Helga Andrews, 11 Maple Ave., Sudbury, MA 01776. Check to SIGNA.

SPURIAS: To order, contact Patricia Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson, SC 29456. Check to Spuria Iris Society.



DON'T BE CRUEL

**1995
INTRODUCTIONS
FROM
BARBARA &
STERLING
INNERST**



MEGGLETHROP

AGGRESSIVELY FORWARD — 3104-1, TB, 36", M, Point Made X 2238-11: ((Osage Buff x Spinning Wheel) x Burgundy Brown) Full yellow standards, falls full yellow trimmed red-purple-grape black-purple dart under bronze yellow beards. Two to three branches with 7 to 9 buds. Vigorous and fertile both ways **\$30.00**

DON'T BE CRUEL — 1928-11, TB, 36", M, (Dualtone X Cozy Carol) Full lavender that is a super grower. Ruffled with perfect branching with 7 to 9 buds. Sib to Different Approach, and Deserving Treasure. Fertile both ways. **\$30.00**

DOROTHY DAVIS — 3147-1, TB, 36", M, (Embellishment X Hindenburg) Mid orange-self, very ruffled and laced. Excellent branching and stalks carrying 9 buds. Named in memory of a woman responsible for many branch libraries in rural southern York County. Fertile both ways **\$30.00**

CREDIBLE JUSTIFICATION — 3642-6, TB, 36", E. (Round Table X Progressive Attitude) Smooth yellow trimmed brown plic. Great vigor. Great branching with 7 buds. Fertile **\$30.00**

LASCIVIOUS DREAMS — 2953-B-50, TB, 36", M. (Catalyst X Idol's Dream) Blocky full dark peach self. Three branches with 7 to 9 buds. Very vigorous. Fertile both ways **\$30.00**

GROBSWITCHER — 3267-1, BB, 26, M. 1827-9: (Hayride x 909-2: Golden Brilliance x 38-1: (Gypsy Rings x Candy Counter)) X Hindenburg. Full peach-pink-orange self. Great branching with 7 buds. Fertile and has never grown out of class here **\$20.00**

MESENTER — 3578-4, IB, 19", M. (Point Made x Chubby Cheeks) White trimmed purple, excellent form, 6 buds. Vigorous. A famous (or is that infamous?) west coast hybridizer visited before the D.C. Convention and left a note in the branching of this IB, thus the name **\$15.00**

SQUIDDLER — 4140-1, SDB, VL, 12". 3531-10: (HeeHaw x Jeepers) X Assignment. Moss-green standards. Aqua-blue midribs. Falls aqua-blue. Orange tipped blue beards. One branch, 3 buds. Fertile. **\$10.00**

SCOTCH-HOPPER — 4139-1, SDB, M, 14". (Assignment X Jeepers sib) Mustard yellow self, brown-green spot, orange tipped white beards. 2 branches, 5 buds. **\$10.00**

Median Collection — \$50.00
5 TB's for \$125.00

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AUTUMN YEARS

AUTUMN YEARS is a child of ISN'T THIS SOMETHING x GOOD-BYE HEART. Its name is more appropriate for its hybridizer than for an Iris but good Iris names are very difficult to find. (There have been 85 Irises with names beginning with Autumn.) You can see, however, that AUTUMN YEARS has autumn colors and displays the yellows and reds so prominent in autumn leaves.

Sorry, this one won't be available until 1996. Until then please be satisfied with the Ensminger Irises listed on the adjacent page.

VARIGAY GARDENS

7909 Cornhusker Hwy

Lincoln, NE 68507

Allan Ensminger

Nebraska-Born Irises

Hardy to -20°

Varigay Gardens 1995 Price List

MEAN STREAK TB 1995

A beautiful variegated Iris that doesn't have a mean streak in its entire plant. It is very generous in size, in flowering and in increase.

But it throws a mean streak, if you know what we mean. Please indicate as an extra one of the following:

SUNCATCHER TB '92, pictured pg. 66 AIS Bulletin 285, or ISN'T IT SOMETHING TB '93, pictured pg. 70 AIS Bulletin 289, or BRINDED BEAUTY TB '94, pictured pg. 57 AIS Bulletin 293.

Two beautiful TBs for \$35.00.

BB COLLECTION 1993

CALICO KID — seedling #85-19, venitian pink, striped bishops violet with red beard
CALORIFIC — an amoena with mauve falls and a saturn red beard

CAN DO — an attractive lavender-violet plicata with a black beard

BRIGHTEN THE CORNER 1995 — a very bright yellow that attracts attention across the garden

VERY VARIED — Royal Purple with white streaks and yellow beard

YO — Rhodamine purple with a saturn red beard. Appears to be a red Iris in the garden.

**The above 6 beautiful Border Bearded Irises
Six for \$25.00**

IB COLLECTION 1990

BASSO — Dahlia purple - HM 92

BLUE EYED BLOND — yellow - blue beard - AM 93

COME SEE — White with violet edging, intro. 92

HERS — White with lavender flush - HM 94

HIS — Chrome yellow - violet flush - MH 92

HUBBUB — Variegated - HM 91

JOHN — Standards brown, falls yellow - AM 94

KERMIT — Chartreuse with blue blaze - HM 92

MORNING SNOW — Cardinal Red - AM 92

WILLOW WARE — Blue amoena - HM 92

**The above 10 beautiful, award-winning
Intermediate Irises for \$25.00.**

1994 SBD COLLECTION

We have a collection of beautiful standard dwarfs available this year for a limited number of orders.

To make the collection inclusive of a greater variety of color patterns, we have included two varieties of several years back. WHAT AGAIN, best out-of-region variety, Median Spree in '93, and Barry Blythe's CHANTED, a rose pink with blue beard.

There are eight 1994 introductions with these fascinating names - AGELESS, ABUZZ, ABBA ALIAS ABBA, ACEY DEUCY, TERRA VERDE, VAVOOM, AJAX THE LESS, AND OOH LA LA.

We have included with the above, two 1995 introductions -

PERT — a neat little plicata

SEVENTY SEVEN — This little salmon colored Iris had 77 bloom stalks and 50 increases in a two-year clump.

A total of 12 beautiful SDBs for \$25.00.

BB COLLECTION 1988

BATIK — White ground striped purple - Knowlton Medal 92

BERRY RICH — Purple self - AM 92

COLOR BRITE — Pink variegated - remontant - HM 89

FEATHERED FRIEND — White serrated edges - HM 88

LITTLE MISS — White, variegated violet - HM 89

LUMINA — Blue-violet, white center - intro. 91

SONJAS SELAH — Near pink amoena - AM '93

ZINC PINK — Pink - Knowlton Medal '93

**The above 8 beautiful Border Bearded
Irises for \$25.00**

Terms of Sale

All orders will be acknowledged. Shipments will be made in same sequence as orders are received unless otherwise requested. Shipments will be made by UPS on Mondays between July 1 and Aug. 31. Irises listed in collections may not be purchased separately. For orders less than \$50.00, please include \$3.50 to help pay for shipping.

Varigay Gardens

7909 Cornhusker Hwy Allan Ensminger

Lincoln, NE 68507

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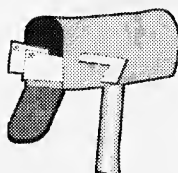
Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

SECTION MEMBERSHIP RATES

	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	14.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for Pacific Coast				
Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of				
North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Dwarf Iris Society	3.00	8.00	4.50	12.00
Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

PLANNING
TO MOVE?



DON'T FORGET
TO NOTIFY THE
MEMBERSHIP
SECRETARY

Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455 San Jose, CA 95155-8455

IRIS POSTMARK AVAILABLE

Jerry Cathey (Oklahoma)

The United States Postal Service will again issue an Iris postmark in conjunction with the 1995 Ponca City, Oklahoma, Iris Festival. This will be the seventh consecutive Iris postmark issued here. Date of this year's postmark is May 5, 1995.

For those wanting a souvenir postmark—put a self-addressed stamped envelope or postcard inside a slightly larger envelope addressed to:

POSTMASTER

Iris Festival Station

402 E. Grand Ave.

Ponca City, OK 74601-9998

To avoid the disappointment of inadvertent over-cancellation by other postmarks along the way, it would be helpful if you would also furnish either another self-addressed stamped envelope to put the special Iris cancellation inside of, or include an address label. Some people even include a glasine (clear waxed paper) envelope with their mail-in requests.

The postal service can now accept mail-in requests for special postmarks for up to 30 days past the issuance date, however, the postage stamp used by the customer (U.S.A.) must have gone on sale prior to the date of the postmark.

You are allowed up to 50 postmarks before a special written request is needed, so send one to a loved one or friend, also!



DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins (Georgia)

The designs pictured in this article inspire a review of some of the basic thought processes that help construct a flower design. When preparing to enter a flower show the schedule will tell you where you will put the design and some dimensions or restraints you must use. If the design is for the home, almost anything goes as long as it is pleasing to the designer, but the following information will help whether it is for the show exhibit or for the coffee table.

The Handbook for Judges and Show Officials will be referred to in this article. You may wonder if you really need this book as you “don’t want to become a judge.” The Handbook is for everyone and gives a multitude of information on each type of iris and what makes a show quality specimen—after all this is really what we all strive for—quality blooms. Garden judging is also in the Handbook and describes evaluation in the garden and what to look for in a good-growing iris. There is a chapter on show rules and one on awards. Also a chapter is included on design with general rules and an explanation of the scale of points. The Handbook is updated from time to time in an effort to clarify and adapt the changing needs. This bargain reference book can be ordered from Charles Lack in Tulsa, Oklahoma. See the AIS Sales page listed in the Table of Contents for details.

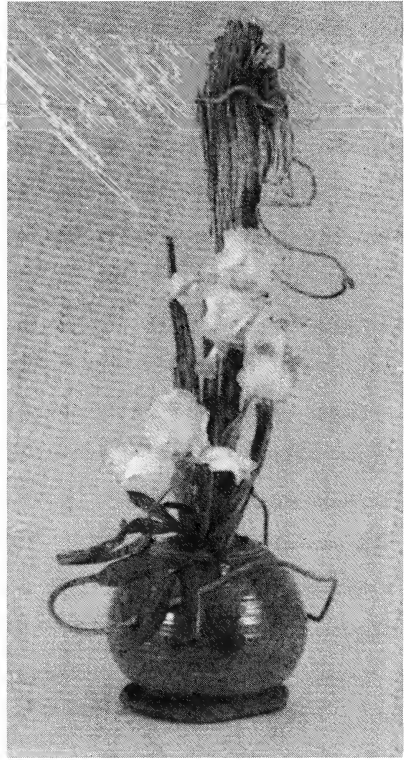
On page C-78 of the Handbook Conformance to Schedule is the first consideration in the scale of points for a design in a flower show. Simply stated it gives the requirements of the class where the design is to be entered. These requirements can be a restriction of size for the design, a request for a traditional design or a creative design, OR just to use iris and designer’s choice of materials. The last requirement is a good choice as it does not limit the designer. If the exhibitor does not “conform” all or most of the points will be deducted.

The next category listed in the Handbook is **Design**. It is broken down into several areas which can easily be covered and reviewed. These are areas that we don’t think about when putting a design together but if some attention is given to each one they are like a checklist to a confident conclusion.

1. Balance: Is the design about to fall over, are the flowers leaning to one side? Is all of the plant material in the top half, bottom half or evenly distributed within the allotted space? Stand back and take a look at the design. Close your eyes and then open them again—objectively looking at the overall design. There is another type of balance you should consider besides the physical construction. That is a visual balance which includes colors. Some colors really make a statement and all clumped together create a “weight” on one side or the other. Balance it with placement of these colors elsewhere in the design (this will help with unity too). Black creates a HEAVY feeling, white or yellow creates a light spot. Temper



Picture 1



Picture 2

them both by placing a color throughout the design or by placement of a leaf or other plant material across the color to “cut” it.

- 2. Proportion:** This is the relationship of the design to the location where it is placed, as well as, to the internal construction of the design. Is this confusing? Let's take the design first—are there some areas where there are many flowers and no spaces. Spaces in the design help handle proportion. The location for the design is easier to judge—a small line design will not fit well on a large, long dining room table. Nor will a large mass design fit on a small coffee table. Prepare the design to fit the area and to fill the space appropriately.
- 3. Scale:** The size relationship of the various parts of the design to each other is covered under scale. Using baby's breath with large iris is a good example of plant materials out of scale. Use a flower with iris that is closer in size to the iris blooms. The same is true with the choice of foliage. This is an easy thing to do wrong and when a more appropriate size of material is used the design comes together with more unity.
- 4. Rhythm:** The visual path one takes through a design is the rhythm and suggests motion. Is it curvy, straight, interesting, or boring? Iris buds can be the top line of this path, with larger blooms placed lower and lower

(graduating) OR a line can be created by using driftwood, curving foliage, spear shaped foliage (iris, yucca, etc.), or branches from a tree with the leaves removed. This is a chance to really create a knockout of a design using interesting line and it makes the whole process so much more fun when using unusual materials.

5. **Dominance:** This is an area that most of us forget to think about. We get even amounts of this flower or that color and wonder just why we don't like our design. Quoting from the Handbook, "Dominance implies subordination and gives character."
6. **Contrast:** Contrast relates to color contrast, and texture contrast. All the same colors with no contrasting line material, foliage or flowers makes for a dull design. But spice it up with some dark line, bright flowers and green foliage and it comes alive. The same is true of texture. All smooth plant material is boring—add some feathered, coarse, grooved, etc. plant material and the design will take on a new and interesting look.
7. **Unity:** This has been mentioned several times and is the final look of the design. It is unified—are all parts appropriate and in harmony with each other and with the space.

Color Use is "powerful" to quote the Handbook. We are all emotionally tied to color and the influence it has on our judgment is very strong.

Creative Expression is simply using original ideas in the interpretation of the theme. There can be originality in a traditional design, as well as a creative (or abstract) design just by using some unusual plant material or using some plant material in an unusual way.

Distinction is the last category and it is "marked superiority." Is the design OUTSTANDING!, or it is so skillfully coordinated that it really makes a statement. Considered under distinction is the condition of the plant material and how well it has been cleaned and groomed.

Let's judge the two pictures together and see if we can put into practice some of the above information to come to a conclusion. Both pictures are yellow iris with a medium blue background. The schedule could read, "Creative designs with designer's choice of materials. Iris must be used in the design."

Picture No. 1 is entitled "In the Woods" and was done by Mrs. Dorothy Jean Spoelstra of Arcadia, CA. First is **conformance**. Does it conform, is it creative? Does it look like it came from the woods? The large piece of swirled wood at the bottom looks like a stump and the iris grew right out of it.

Design is next. **Balance?** Here is a good example of weight balance. The brown wood is dark but the lower yellow iris comes down over it some to "cut" the weight. The loops are curved leaves and they give balance to the stalks of iris.

Proportion (Can you see some spaces in the design?) **and scale** have been controlled by the designer's choice of materials and **rhythm** is managed by the placement of the iris high in the design, the loops and even the swirled wood. Does your eye start in one place and then move up, or at the top and move down? Is it a continuous path? Or is it stopped?

Dominance is achieved by the large number of iris. **Contrast** of materials is evident with the rough swirled wood and the smooth textured iris with ruffled petals. In your opinion is the design **unified** and in harmony?

Color use is bold and bright and **creative expression** is displayed by the loops and the interesting wood.

Now we come to **distinction**. You be the judge and decide if it is marked superiority. The condition and grooming of the plant materials is excellent.

Did the design score 100? No, usually nothing is perfect but it certainly falls in the mid 90's range and is a blue ribbon winner, and if you decide, it could win a top award.

Picture No. 2 is "Welcome to Sunshine" by Mrs. Bette Lewis of Eugene, OR. Now that we've judged one design, judging the second one will be easier.

Does it **conform**? The yellow irises say "sunshine" and they appear to be reaching out for the sun—and to welcome you.

Now we go to **balance**—it is well balanced with greenery and the vine cutting the weight of the pottery container. The iris blooms help manage the wood in the upper part of the design. **Proportion** (again note the spaces) **and scale** are evident and **rhythm** is a combination of the straight wood with the curvy vine meandering throughout.

Dominance—the brown color of wood and container dominate with the iris subordinate. **Contrast** is everywhere—shiny pottery, rough, grooved wood, delicate smooth petals of iris.

Is the design **unified**? One of the most obvious unifiers is the vine—it "ties" it all together. **Color use** is excellent and good contrast (we would not be able to see a dark iris against the brown wood).

Creative expression and distinction are up to you to decide. I score it in the blue range, about mid 90's also and again it might be eligible for a top award.

Now that we've finished this exercise you might say, "But I only design for my home." Take what you've learned here and apply it in the same way, but adapt it to your taste and where you'll place the design.

Thank you for joining in this judging effort. If you have any questions contact Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512.



Distinguished Service Medal winner C. J. Lack and Awards Chairman Melody Wilhoit. Photo by Glenn Corlew.

WHAT DOES THE MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY DO?

Marilyn Harlow (California)

Have you ever wondered what The American Iris Society Membership Secretary really does? Have you thought you might like to have the position? Following is the answer to the first question. Only you can answer the second!

One would think the Membership Secretary would keep a current list of AIS members, send out dues notices twice a year and make address corrections. All of that is true, but there is more. Dues money is received and deposited. Labels are generated not only for The American Iris Society Bulletins but also for Regions or Membership Chairmen, as well as an occasional retail business. Correspondence is also high on the list. The Spring and Fall American Iris Society Board meetings are regularly attended at the expense of the Membership Secretary, as is the situation with every other Officer, Director or Standing Committee Chairperson. What takes up the most time? Undoubtedly, it is processing dues notices, receiving, depositing and posting dues and answering letters.

There are two different dues paying periods. One begins in mid May (right in the middle of iris bloom season) when the bulk of the memberships will expire on June 30th. It is generally thought that more memberships come in during April, May, June and July because of increased awareness of The American Iris Society due to shows, etc. Between 2,500 and 3,000 dues notices are printed about the first of May. They must be separated, stuffed into envelopes, sealed and stamped and into the mail by May 15th. (The same thing happens again on November 1st, but on a bit smaller scale, down to 2,000 notices or somewhat less.) Taking only postage into consideration, the May mailing alone (@\$.29 each) will cost somewhat less than \$900 to mail. This will go up in 1995. After all that work, one would think a sigh of relief was in order. However, there are a few of you who pay the same day the dues notice is received, and I am "back in business" within seven days or less of putting the last of the dues notices in the mailbox. (Experience has shown that about 65% of our members will pay dues prior to the expiration date. The other 35% will be deleted for nonpayment. We lose about 1,100 non-renewing members per year.) This past June, I opened and processed some 1,700 pieces of mail. (Not all months are so heavy with mail.) All of this mail was not from dues payments. Several hundred letters contained inquiries about AIS membership or iris questions generated by current magazine articles. Trying to strike while the iron is hot is of importance, so letters inquiring about membership are answered as soon as possible. If each and every member would take it upon him/her self to get just one new member, our membership would double. Take the challenge! I won't complain if the mail doubles, I promise.

All that mail brings many checks, which you have indicated you want deposited right away. The AIS Treasurer also wants the same thing. Therefore,

checks are never held more than five to seven days unless something unexpected occurs. (Iris bloom season doesn't count as unexpected.) Many of you send dues to be paid to the sections. Section dues are forwarded once a month. If your section dues are received in June, they are forwarded to the section in early July and so on.

One of the most misunderstood things about membership brings many letters inquiring about "just exactly when does the membership year begin?" The answer is based on when the dues arrive in this office. If dues are received between October 1st and March 31st, then the membership year begins January 1 and goes through December 31. If dues are received between April 1st and September 30th, then the membership year begins July 1 and goes through June 30. Start dates are very important, particularly if you are planning to become an AIS judge. New members may look forward to receiving a New Member packet which consists of a welcoming letter plus Robin and Section information from this office and a complimentary issue of the Bulletin as well as the current Bulletin from the Sales Director's office in Tulsa.

Another frequent question is "What is the definition of family membership?" Because children were **not** part of "Family" memberships, the word "Family" was deemed to be causing confusion and was changed several years ago to the word "Dual," meaning two. A Dual membership is "any two people at the same address." This could be any two people as well as a parent and child. However, in the case of the latter, since the dues for a dual membership is \$15.50, it might be better to choose a Single membership (\$12.50) for the adult and a separate youth membership (\$3.00) because the youth would then receive AIS Youth information. This same youth information does not necessarily get to the youth member if the youth is part of the Dual membership. (Mostly because I am not informed of the relationship of the two members.) A Dual membership only receives one Bulletin. Youth members who are old enough to enjoy receiving and reading their own Bulletin may join AIS for only \$4.50 annually until he or she becomes 19 years of age.

It is important that you be aware of what actions the Board takes concerning this office and membership. (These actions are printed in the Minutes of the Board Meetings in the Bulletins.) Several years ago, it was determined that the 35% of the membership mentioned previously who did not renew by the expiration date were receiving "free" Bulletins. (That is, the beginning issue for the second year.) This meant too many Bulletins were being ordered, printed and paid for as well as additional postage costs. It was determined that any member whose dues had expired because of nonpayment would not receive the July (or January, as the case may be) Bulletin. **Further**, it was determined that if the member paid "late" (after the expire date), the July (or January) Bulletin would not be sent **unless requested**. This past spring at the Board meeting in Portland, Oregon, it was decided that **second dues notices** to those members who had not responded to the first dues notice **would no longer be sent**. Primarily because of time and postage costs, but mostly because of lack of response. The RVPs are kept aware of those members who are delinquent, and it is one of their responsibilities to then remind the delinquent member.

There are some clubs throughout the U.S. who pay member's AIS dues as a convenience to the member. You, as the member, need to be aware that

some payments do not always reach this office in time to keep your membership from being delinquent or in the worst case, deleted. There are times when long lists of member's name are submitted from clubs with incorrect information or the total amount of money sent has been added incorrectly. Any of the foregoing will result in letters going back and forth which in turn delays the posting of your dues payment. This can be an important factor if the member in question happens to be a judge. Paying dues in a timely manner is required of judges. The biggest error is that some clubs pay for Single Annual dues when the member in fact has a Dual membership. This happens most often when clubs are paying officer's dues. I would urge each club treasurer or membership chairman to get dues to me no later than the first of December or the first of June, whichever is appropriate.

Membership secretaries frequently inherit what is left over from the previous membership secretary's office. The present dues notice is one of those inheritances. Yes, I know the dues notice does not fit the return envelope, but the return envelope does fit the dues notice envelope, and that is important, If the dues notice is folded in half, once, it will fit the return envelope. I understand the frustration of some of you, and when I get a dues notice returned to me which has been folded up to the size of a quarter, then I also get the message. I have made inquiries about different types of dues notices but none can come close to the cost of the present type of notice. Those of you who have vented your frustration have received replies but no solutions have been forthcoming.

Mailing labels for the Bulletins are generated in this office (not the Editor's office or the Secretary's office) by the last day of the month prior to publication. Once the labels are printed on plain unglued paper, which takes 2-3 hours, they are sent to the printer in Nashville, Tennessee. The printer then takes them to a jobber who cuts the labels and glues them to the Bulletin envelope. Many of you asked for the membership expiration date to show on the mailing label. It is now printed on the top right of the first line of the label. If there is no date after the word Expire: then it means you have a Life Membership. Some of you have noticed this information and are paying ahead, which is appreciated. You may pay ahead at any time.

I have been asked why AIS is not using the 4-digit zip code on its mailing labels. The reason for the 4-digit zip code in the first place, according to my post office, is faster facilitation of mail delivery; something which will be utilized "in the future" when automation occurs in every post office of the U.S. My postal information person admitted she had no idea when "in the future" might be. Currently, I understand AIS qualifies for the very best second class postage rate available to non-profit organizations. For the present, I do take note of those 4-digit zips when I see them on your return addresses or checks. A request goes out to each new member to send me his or her 4-digit zip, but only 1 new member out of 100 responds.

Surprisingly, I get very little mail regarding changes of address from members themselves. Most of the information comes from the post office when the Bulletins are returned for an incorrect address. Are you aware it costs AIS \$1.33 every time a Bulletin comes back, and then when it is remailed, it costs **another \$1.33**? Changes of address should come to this office, not the AIS

Secretary or Editor of the Bulletin. Neither of these offices keeps member or address information. Changes of address sent to others means a delay in getting the information to the Membership Secretary. Most information about deceased members comes from regional publications. Some RVPs see that I am kept informed of address changes and deceased members, and I sincerely applaud their efforts. I should point out that I make no address changes unless I receive them directly from the member or from the post-office. If I see one address on your check, a different address on your return envelope, both of which are different from what I have, I **will not** make any changes unless so directed.

Many envelopes are received with just checks in them. No note or letter enclosed. It would be very helpful if the check is for a membership renewal to just write "renewal" on the memo portion of the check. No information leads to a delay in posting the check. Each member is assigned an I.D. number. This I.D. number also appears on the first line of the Bulletin label. With the I.D. number, your name can be found in two seconds in the computer. Then there are times when I have to don my Sherlock cap to help me decipher the unique abbreviations used in some addresses. Here in California, BA is a well known abbreviation for Bank of America. It took me a while, with help from the trusty zip code book, to discover that in Oklahoma, BA stands for Broken Arrow.

The work goes on. Twice yearly, in January and July, each RVP receives an edited and updated computer printout of the members in his or her region. On a monthly basis, the RVP of each region gets an "Additions and Corrections" report about any changes made to his/her regional membership during the previous month. These changes may include new and reinstated members, address changes, deceased members, etc. Some regions have membership chairpersons, in which case, the membership chairperson gets a duplicate of the RVP's report. There are currently ten regions who have membership chairpersons. Six times per year each RVP (and/membership chairperson) receives a printout concerning members who are delinquent or who have been deleted. The Bulletin Editor receives a monthly list of deceased members so they may be remembered in the Bulletin. The Youth Chairman receives a monthly list of new Youth members, complete with birthdates (when provided). The Sales Office receives labels for all new members every month so complimentary Bulletins may be mailed promptly.

In September of each year, the Membership Secretary works closely with the Judges' Training Chairman in making changes, additions and corrections to the list of about 1,000 AIS judges. New apprentices are added every year which must then be added to the existing judges' list. This list is used in late winter to generate the labels which are sent to the Awards Chairman when he or she mails out the ballots in early April. Here again, address changes are very important as they are used not just for mailing Bulletins, but other important data as well.

In between all the dues notices, reports and correspondence, this office also generates mailing labels for some regional publications. These are purchased by the regions at a very nominal cost. About once or twice a year, a retailer will purchase labels of the entire membership. These retailers must be

in some kind of horticultural business. Your AIS Board is adamant about protecting your privacy and your name and address will never be sold to a company selling shoes, for example.

How much equipment does this office have and how much space does it take to store consumables? AIS owns a computer, laser printer and a heavy-duty dot-matrix printer. I make use of, but AIS does not own, a copier and another dot-matrix printer. I order envelopes in 20,000 lots, and there are three different sizes used. Computer paper is purchased in 6 to 12 box lots. All the paper supplies and other office supplies must be stored as they are not all used up at the same time. I keep correspondence for a period of six months. This has worked out to be about the right length of time to save letters. The dues notices which you send back to me are saved for three years. Good office practices are adhered to, so even though we are in an age of computers, there is a good paper trail for most information. If everything could be stored in one area, instead of the basement, closet and bookcases, I would estimate it would easily take more than one full room to handle the supplies and equipment needed by the membership office.

For those of you with computers, I do not have to sing its praises. For those of you who have not yet entered the computer age, I can only say the computer has given me an immense appreciation for all the work done by previous membership secretaries who were not so fortunate. The sorting capabilities alone are mind boggling. We presently have over 8,000 members. To get some idea of what the membership data looks like (for those of you without computers and databases), imagine a very long piece of paper with about 7,000 lines on it. (Some memberships contain double names.) All information about one membership is kept on one line. This particular information is kept in I.D. number order. When an editor wants labels for only his/her region's newsletter, it probably takes less than five minutes to "ask" the computer for all the members in the specific region, sort them in zip code order and alphabetical order all at the same time. A few more commands and labels appear almost magically. All sorts of membership data is available from the computer and is generated several times a year for various reports. If you have any question about your membership, why you did or did not receive a Bulletin, or just want general membership information, you will get the quickest reply from this office. Other officers do not always have membership information and cannot answer questions about when your membership expires, or why you get two Bulletins, for example.

INFORMATION NOT IN THIS OFFICE

Information about new or upgraded memberships sent to this office is **not** forwarded to the Membership Contest Chairman. Membership contest rules are printed in the Bulletin and must be followed. Dues are to be sent to the Membership Secretary and information about the new member for contest credit is to be sent to the Membership Contest Chairman.

I am frequently asked by local club membership chairpersons "for a list of members in my club." Information in almost any form is available about **regional** members, but I have never been sent lists of local club members, so

I do not have that information. It would be next to impossible to keep up with such lists due to the fact there are many, many iris clubs out there. Not all of them are affiliated with AIS. As you already know, many of the local club members are not AIS members.

This office does not have large supplies of Invitations to Join The American Iris Society. Small numbers may be requested from the AIS Secretary or larger quantities purchased from the AIS Sales office. I would urge each affiliated club to secure current Invitations to Join AIS which contains **current** dues information. We are all savers in some way or other. The old blue Invitations to Join AIS are long since outdated, both with dues amounts and names, but are still out there being used. You do both the club and the prospective new member a disservice by making the old Invitations available. Since May, 1994, there is a new Invitation to Join AIS color brochure. It is available for purchase at \$.50 cents per copy, for your most special meetings, etc. These may be ordered from either this office or the office of the Secretary.

All books and back issues of the Bulletins should be ordered from the AIS Sales Office. Requests which come to this office are forwarded to the Sales Office. As in the case of address changes being sent to the wrong office, delays occur, and your shipment of books or other materials are held up.

THE REST OF THE STORY . . .

Like many others in AIS, I consider my work to be mostly volunteering. We "volunteer" because we want to or like to be involved with a favorite project. Even though we like volunteering, there are times when we must wear other hats. For the past ten years or so I have managed a very busy commercial iris garden in San Jose, California. That takes up about seven months of the year. I use the other five months to work on my family history through genealogy, traveling for pleasure and also to see four children and six grandchildren who are scattered from Indiana to Southern California. Reading, writing articles for magazines and newspapers, working crossword puzzles and stitchery, gardening and much correspondence with old friends and new are all part of the regular routine.



75th Anniversary Poster, designed by Nancy Harkins of Tulsa. Photo by Bob Plank.

BLODGETT IRIS GARDENS

1008 E. Broadway

Waukesha, WI 53186

APRICOT FLUSH (Blodgett '93) T.B. 32" M. Buttercup yellow with tangerine beards, closed ruffled standards and flaring falls . \$25.00

BROADWAY BEAUTY (Blodgett '94) B.B. 26" M. Salmon pink self, tangerine beards. Excellent grower and bloomer with many buds \$20.00

FROST MAIDEN (Blodgett '94) T.B. 32" M. White standards and falls with a greenish cast and pale yellow edge on falls; light yellow beards. \$30.00

FULL FASHIONED (Blodgett '93) T.B. 34" LM. Ruffled rose-pink with tangerine beards. Large blossoms with heavy substance. . . . \$25.00

WAUKEE PRIDE (Blodgett '94) T.B. 36" M. Ruffled campanula violet, lighter in center of falls, light yellow beards. \$25.00

*Please include \$3.50 for postage and shipping.
Send 1st. class stamp for price list.*

HAHN'S RAINBOW IRIS GARDEN

200 N. SCHOOL ST.
DESLOGE, MO 63601

CHRISTINA DIANE (CLYDE & ANNA HAHN, 95) Sdlg. 91-5-C; TB, 35"; M. Ruffled black self with purple tint; Black beards; 2 to 3 branches and spur; good increaser. (BLACK FLAG X MIDNIGHT FRAGRANCE) \$35.00

BRIAN RAY (CLYDE & ANNA HAHN, 95) Sdlg. 91-1-C: SIB., 27"; M.: S. Light purple; F. Bright purple; White signal, veined light purple; Parentage unknown. . . . \$25.00

FLIGHT PATTERNS (S. STEVENS, 95) Sdlg. 88-1-5; SDB. 12", M-L; S. are a delightfully ruffled jasmine yellow (RHS10B); yellow ground falls are nicely flared and ruffled with brown lines radiating out from throat; 1/4 yellow border; white beards tipped orange; (PAC MAN X STARLIGHT WALTZ). \$15.00

HEATHER JOEL (CLYDE & ANNA HAHN, 95) Sdlg. 91-10-C; TB, 28", M; S. Chinese yellow; F. White with 1/4 Chinese yellow rim; red beards tipped yellow; ruffled; 7 buds; 3 to 4 branches and spur; good increaser; (SUNKIST FRILLS X PIPING HOT) \$35.00

OUR TRACY (CLYDE & ANNA HAHN, 95) Sdlg. 91-1-C; TB, 38"; ML; ruffled light rose pink self; red beards; 5 to 6 buds; 2 branches; good increaser; (DOROTHY PALMER SDLG. 4975-A X DOROTHY PALMER). \$35.00

SWEET FREIDA (CLYDE & ANNA HAHN, 95) Sdlg. 91-14-C; TB; 38"; M.; bright chrome yellow self; self beards; ruffled and laced; 3 branches and spur; good increaser; very showy in garden; (SUNKIST FRILLS X PIPING HOT) . . \$35.00

Catalog \$1.50 Deductible on first order.

NEW IRIS FOR 1995

IN FLIGHT TB E 31" This ruffled, flared, warm white is accented by a yellow beard. Small (4½" wide, 2½" high) blooms will provide a "lift" for your flower arrangements and the plant will provide a vigorous garden show. A two-year clump in the 1994 AIS Convention guest planting produced eleven bloom stalks and 21 additional increase. Slender stalks average three branches and seven blooms, all in well balanced proportion. (Hager AMT 3798, sib to Little Me) X (((Light Fantastic x Aphylla Van Nes) x ((Enroute x Maroon Caper) x Whole Cloth)) x (((Enroute x Maroon Caper) x Whole Cloth x (Chapeau x (Sacred Mountain x Aphylla Werkmeister))))). Pod fertile, no pollen. #C63X39 \$25.00

BOLD CRYSTAL BB E 26" This electric blue charmer has attracted garden visitors every year of its life. The light blue color intensifies in the heart of the flower and in the beard. Up to seven ruffled and flared blooms are attractively displayed on three-branched stalks. ((Odyssey x Maroon Caper) X ((Odyssey x Deborah Suzanne) x ((High Above x Lhasa) x High Life) x ((High Above x Lhasa) x Stepping Out))). A fine parent, fertile both ways. #C2V6 \$20.00

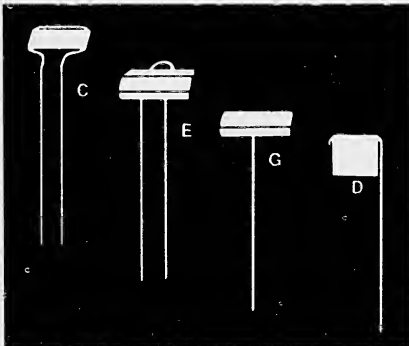
CLASSIC IMAGE BB E 24" This proportioned white plicata has light blue margins on standards and falls. The blue color intensifies in the beard and in the heart of the flower. Expect three branches with 5-7 buds, blooms are ruffled and flaring. (((Light Fantastic x Aphylla Van Nes) x ((Enroute x Maroon Caper) x (Whole Cloth)) x ((Light Fantastic x Aphylla Van Nes) x (Starchild x (Sacred Mountain x Aphylla Werkmeister)))) X Bold Crystal). Fertile both ways, producing fine seedlings. #C61Y10 \$20.00

INNER GLEAM IB M 27" Creamy white standards and medium fuchsia falls are smoothly united by warm yellow in the heart of the flower and in the beard. Well proportioned 3-4 branched stalks can produce ten buds. Ruffled and flaring, the fragrant blooms are 4" wide and 3" high. (Payoff X (((Light Fantastic x Aphylla Van Nes) x ((Enroute x Maroon Caper) x Whole Cloth)) x ((Odyssey x Maroon Caper) x (Chapeau x (Sacred Mountain x Aphylla Werkmeister))))). Fertile both ways. #C37X7 \$15.00

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INTRODUCTIONS from DAVE NISWONGER

- BETTY DUNN** (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 36-89: 7-81: (Coral Strand x Lisa Ann) X Champagne Elegance. TB, 33" (84 cm), M. This salmon pink amoena has a white rim around the falls. There is a slight flush of pink at the base of the white standards. A bright tangerine beard adds to the distinction of this iris. It is named in honor of Betty J. Dunn who used the iris as a symbol of hope in the Mental Health movement in Connecticut and later by The National Alliance for the Mentally Ill. She was known as the Iris Lady. She was the wife of Joseph M. Dunn of Bethel CT. She promoted the use of potted irises to raise funds for Mental Health research. Specifically, genetic research in Schizophrenia \$35.00
- DIRECT FLIGHT** (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 55-92: Pink Blue Genes X 58-88: (Matinee Idol x Pink Ballerina). TB, 34" (86 cm), M. This is one of the nice outcomes on working for a pink with a blue beard. The front tip of the beard is blue but not very prominent in the deep tangerine beard. It is a deep pink with blue infusion approaching rose pink. The nice branching and easy growth makes it a desirable addition to any collection. The name was suggested by Polly Chism of Festus, MO. Fertile both ways. \$35.00
- GORDONVILLE CREAM** (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. PS 1-87. Third generation selection from chartreuse line of *I. pseudacorus* originating from Albert J. Motsch of Chicago, IL. SPEC, 42" (107 cm), M. This is a light chartreuse with a slight burgundy eyezone. Very fertile \$25.00
- GORDONVILLE WHITE** (Niswonger '95) PS 1-91: White Horinaka Sdlg. X Unknown (Prob. selfed). SPEC, 40" (102 cm), M. A white pseudacorus with a slight eyezone of maroon \$25.00
- PUMPKIN CHEESECAKE** (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 25-92: Apricot Frosty X Sib to 26-85: ((Ambrosia Delight x 16-80: (Coral Beauty x Pink amoena sib to Marmalade Skies)). TB, 30" (76 cm), M. When this seedling first bloomed, I thought it was going to be Border Bearded but it later grew taller; so, it's somewhere between a BB and TB. It's an orange amoena with a tangerine orange beard that will stand out in any planting. The falls are semi-flared and ruffled and it sets seeds easily. Nicely branched with 7 buds. It should be a good parent for amoenas and unusual bicolors. The name was suggested by Gloria Fairhead of Annapolis, MD \$35.00
- RUSTY MAGNIFICENCE** (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 55-89: Parentage was lost but it is probably from Minted Halo X Kabaka, a sib to Halo In Rosewood. TB, 34" (86 cm), M. Often I hear the complaint that modern day irises are not as hardy as the old time flags. This one came through many freezes and thaws and unusually harsh weather when many seedlings were lost. So, this one is introduced in response to that complaint. But, it's more than just a vigorous iris with deep green foliage, it's beautiful too in a most unusual color of deep brown. It also has the rest of semi-flared falls, well ruffled, good branching, etc. It will set seeds and although I have not bloomed seedlings from it yet, I have the suspicion that it might add vigor to the reds and produce some unusual blends \$35.00

SHELDON BUTT (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. SDB 16-92: SDB 2-89: (Chubby Cheeks x Unknown) X Unknown (Prob. a self). SDB, 14" (36 cm), M. A citron-chartreuse yellow with a shocking purple beard that will call for attention. It is well formed, an easy grower and is fertile both ways. It is named in honor of Sheldon Butt the former outstanding editor of the Medianite. It is thought that Sheldon has won more silver medals in Iris Shows than anyone in the A. Iris Society; namely, 73 silver medals and only 3 bronze medals. He won most of these medals with Siberians and Medians. It is my hope that this iris will come close to the high standards that Sheldon expected of himself and from the many hundreds that he grew. \$15.00

SLAM DUNK (Nichols-Niswonger '95) Sdlg. IB 29-87: Lemon Mist X Captured Spirit. IB, 20" (51 cm), M. The form of this iris is probably its best feature with nice wide rounded falls. The standards are pale yellow and the falls are white with some yellow at the hafts. It's a good grower and makes a pleasing clump \$20.00

SMOKED PEARL REVISITED (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 44-88: Matinee Idol X Pink Ballerina, a sib to Raspberry Splendor. TB, 34" (86 cm), L. When this smoky mauve bloomed for the first time, it reminded me of Truman Gladish's Smoked Pearl with better branching and wider form. The beard is dark tangerine. This cross produced some very nice seedlings; however, I haven't been able to get seed from this one. It's about the last TB to bloom in my garden so if you are looking for a season extender or if you are normally bloomed out for the iris show, you will want this one. It makes beautiful show stalks. \$35.00

SUNKIST DELIGHT (Niswonger '95) Sdlg. 92-91: Sunkist Frills X 38-88: (Halo In Yellow x Peach Band). TB, 36" (91 cm), M-L. The pollen parent of this one was my very favorite in 1988 with the deepest gold halo and the most ruffles I have ever seen but it bloomed out and was lost but it's genes remain with this introduction. The standards are light yellow with some deeper flecks of gold and the falls are white with a wide deep yellow, near gold, halo. The beard is deep yellow and the stalk is strong. It has been a favorite of visitors since it arrived \$35.00

SUNRISE IN MISSOURI (Niswonger '95) Sp 5-88: Sp6-80: (Far Out x Redwood Supreme) X Unknown (Prob. a self). Spu, 40" (102 cm), M. This golden spuria has the wide blocky form that I like in the modern day spurias. When this seedling was lined out last year with fairly small rhizomes, it bloomed almost 100% right down the row. It's an easy grower, slightly ruffled and fertile both ways. \$25.00

WHITE OLINDA (Niswonger '95) Sp7 B: Sp 1-80: (Blue Lassie x Unknown) X Ila Crawford, a sib to Olinda. Spu, 42" (107 cm), M. When I introduced Olinda, I sent this one out by mistake. The following year I replaced it with the real Olinda. Barry Blyth, of Australia, was one of the recipients of the wrong Olinda but grew it anyway and felt that it too should be introduced. It is very floriferous, vigorous and a dependable bloomer. It's solid white with a yellow signal and some ruffling. It's fertile both ways \$25.00

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS

CLOSE SHAVE (D. Meek) TB, ML, 34". Perfectly formed very pale pink standards. Falls ivory with pale pink edges. **NO BEARD!**, only a slight pink ridge where one should be. Fringed styles give a deep inner glow. All petals exquisitely ruffled and laced; good substance. 3-4 br. + terminal, 8-9 buds. Sweet Revenge X Sue Ellen. #R17-1-8. **\$35.00**

FALLEN ANGEL (D. Meek) TB, ML, 35". Deep mauve standards with $\frac{2}{8}$ " pale lavender border. Lavender-tinted ivory falls, slightly darker at rims, mauve at hafts. Entire flower heavily ruffled. Beards coral, lavender at end. 4 br., 7+ buds. Glory Be X Spring Tidings. #92-1-0. **\$35.00**

GLORY BE (M. Hamblen) TB, ML, 34". Closed soft tan standards with hint of mauve shading. Falls creamy yellow, deeper at hafts to match the styles. Brick beards. Petite flowers, petals nicely ruffled. 4 br., 7-9 buds. Glorious Sunshine X (Sophistication x Henna Accent). #H85-02B. **\$35.00**

LIGHT AND AIRY (J. Meek) TB, ML, 33". White standards with $\frac{3}{4}$ " red violet plicata rim. Falls white, with very narrow red violet rim widening near hafts. White beards, barely tipped coral. 4 br., 7 buds. Nicely ruffled sib to Striking. (Deanna Darcy x Candace) X Lingering Love. #55-2-6. **\$35.00**

MIND BEND (D. Meek) TB, EM, 35". Solid light maroon standards. Falls pale apricot ground, with patterned streaking from the cinnamon beards to the very wide irregular dark maroon border. Lovely ruffled petals. 4 br., 7-8 buds. (Mistress x Lingering Love) X Wild Berry. #150-1-5 **\$35.00**

PILLOW FIGHT (D. Meek) TB, EM, 34". Soft pink standards. Wide falls, ivory below the beards merging to soft pink petal edges. Melon beards, lavender blue at end. All petals ruffled and laced. 4 br., 7 buds. Magic X Sugartime. #R21-1-8. **\$35.00**

RAINBOW SKY (D. Meek) TB, ML, 36". Oyster white standards. Falls white, with red violet shading that deepens in center; white area around beard, with dark veins raying out to petal rim. 4-5 br., 10-14 buds. Love Magic X Premonition. #246-1-1 **\$35.00**

REALLY MINE (J. Meek) TB, ML, 34". Pale apricot pink standards, light red violet falls, and melon beards. All petals with lacy, fluted edges; lovely form. 4 br., 7-8 buds. Candace X Janie Meek. #261-1-3. **\$35.00**

STORYLAND (D. Meek) TB, M, 33". Lovely very intense pink with light area below deep coral red beards. All petals ruffled and lightly laced, styles fringed. 4 br., 7 buds. (Blond Goddess x Chanteuse) X Blushing Pink. #G9-2-8. **\$35.00**

We hope you like these introductions. If ordering from this ad, please include \$4.50 for shipping and handling (\$5.00 east of the Mississippi). If you would like a catalog and are not on our mailing list, send \$1.00 (deductible on order). We enjoyed visiting with you at the Portland Convention and hope you return. May 1995 be your best year ever!

Regards,
DUANE & JOYCE MEEK

LLOYD ZURBRIGG INTRODUCTIONS FOR 1995

BABY PRINCE (sdg. KK 20A) SDB 20" EE & RE. EC. Extremely wide, well-formed violet self. Violet beards are tipped yellow. Excellent growth and rebloom. (Plum Wine X Baby Blessed). \$10.00

RED EYELASHES (sdg. KK 25B) SDB 10" EE. Bright yellow with red eyelash pattern on falls. Yellow beards. (Sunstrip X Marita) \$10.00

BLESSED ASSURANCE (sdg. LL 24 #1) IB 18" E & RE. Bitone daffodil yellow. Extra wide and very well-formed! This rebloomed even in Colorado Springs, where it was only one point out of first place in the IB category in the Loomis Test Gardens. Slightly fertile both ways. (I Bless X Marmalade Skies) \$50.00

ELEANOR JEAN (sdg. HH 18-2-2) TB 38" M. Gentian blue self, perfection in color and form! Two stalks seen at the Spring Regional bore four open blooms each, in perfect symmetry. Good growth, and fertile both ways, unlike so many blues. (Sapphire Hills X Bethany Claire) \$25.00

JEAN MARIE (sdg. KK-5-1-1) TB 34" M. Pure white standards; bright, light yellow falls, with self beards. Wonderful, clear color, excellent ruffled form. This top winner of the BB category at the Loomis Test Gardens in Colorado Springs, has been of TB proportions in most guest gardens, therefore will be re-classified as a TB. Extremely fertile both ways, giving up to 100% germination in the seedling bed and has produced exciting seedlings with some remontancy. (Borderline X Champagne Elegance) \$25.00

MARGARET HELEN (sdg. KK126) TB (Space-Age) 36" ML. Wide blue-violet with self-colored spoons. Blue beards are tipped slightly with yellow. Growth is somewhat slow, but sure. Greatly admired by all visitors! Fertile both ways. ((Shipshape x Trumpet Concerto) x (Victoria Falls x (Grand Dame x Summer Holidays)) X Scented Bubbles. \$35.00

MARY ESTELLE (sdg. KK 84-1-2) TB 35" M. Ruffled light blue with beautiful, long deeper blue beards. Named for the lady who has grown my brother Carl's irises since his retirement. Remontants and Space-Agers behind this lovely iris. HH 12-2-2: (Howdy Do x Song of Norway) X Song of Norway x (Magic Memories x Key Lime). \$25.00

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS

- BOTTLED SUNSHINE** (H. NICHOLS) IB E-VL 22" 4-5 Buds. Ruffled and closed bright aureolin yellow standards, falls are slightly ruffled being white with darker yellow borders and hafts. Gold beards. (Highborn Kinsman X Joyce Terry) \$15.00
- EDITH ANDERSON** (H. NICHOLS) TB M-L 32" 3 branches with 7 buds. Ruffled flowers are smooth creamy peach with tangerine beards. A short one for the border front. Rapid increaser. (Academy Awards X Oklahoma Sunshine) \$25.00
- COSTUMED CLOWN** (H. NICHOLS) TB 38" M-L. A bubble ruffled peach ground dusted raspberry plicata with tangerine beards. 3 branches with 7-10 buds. Admired by all garden visitors. Fertile. (Sorceress X Capricious) . . . \$40.00
- EVENING OASIS** (H. NICHOLS) TB 36" M-L 3 branches with 12+ buds. A very ruffled dark blue neglecta with blue and yellow beards. Fertile. (Sea of Galilee X Titan's Glory) Sib to Balch Springs and Danube Waltz. \$40.00
- GADABOUT** (MARGE HAGBERG) #9-34 SDB 11.5" M. Standards and style arms are light violet blue. Falls are light beige edged violet blue with blue beards. Rapid increaser. (Flirty Mary X Jade Mist) \$10.00
- KITTY LACK** (H. NICHOLS) TB 36" L-VL 3 branches with 9 buds. A ruffled peach apricot with slightly darker hafts and tangerine beards. Fertile both ways. Named for a wonderful lady who has a fine outlook on everything. (Billie Yvonne X Mandolin). This beautiful iris will be among the last iris to bloom for you and a fine way to end the iris season. We have many orders for this iris booked, so order early. This fine iris will definitely sell out early. \$40.00
- MARHELLA** (H. NICHOLS) TB 36" M-L 3 branches with 12 buds. The ruffled flowers have smoothly blended peach raspberry standards and the magenta red wine falls are edged the standard color with orange beards. This beautiful iris has won numerous Best Seedling Exhibition awards. Named for a dear friend, Marthella Shoemake. Fertile. ((Careless Rapture x In Tempo) X Sorceress)) \$40.00
- RODEO STAR** (H. NICHOLS) TB 36" M-L 3 branches with 10+ buds. Standards are ruffled being gold with a fine dusting of cinnamon throughout. Ruffled falls are yellow with red-brown plicata edge and brown plicata hafts. There is a white area below the tawny gold beards. Certainly one that will make you notice it. Fertile. This one blooms and increases very well. (Showcase X Sorceress) \$40.00

SPECIAL OFFER

You may purchase one of each of the above 1995 introductions for \$120.00 which includes postage. This offer is good until July 1, 1995. The above collection will be for summer 1995 delivery. All can be seen at the 1995 A.I.S. National Convention. Texas residents: Please add 8.25% sales tax. If not ordering the entire collection, please remit \$5.00 for postage.

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ABSALOM (Innerst 95). Sdlg 3693-1, Japanese, 6 falls, 38", 2 branches, 7 buds. Absalom was King David's favorite son, and this splendid mid-blue iris with white mottling, blue style arms, and yellow signals is certain to become a favorite Japanese iris by all who grow it. Fertile and very vigorous. 2462-3 ((Stranger in Paradise x Yusho) X Anytus)) X 3244-1 ((Frostbound x Fringed Cloud) X Hegira)). Sterling Innerst's garden will be on tour this year during the Society for Japanese Irises convention in Towson, Maryland. We expect ABSALOM to be sold out after it is seen on tour, so order early to avoid disappointment. And be sure to come to the SJI convention! \$35.00

We are also proud to introduce a new reblooming tall bearded iris

FOREVER IN LOVE (Mahan 95). Sdlg BROSU-90R. TB, 36" (91 cm), EL & RE. Standards violet (RHS 88C) with prominent white zonal; falls are also violet with prominent white zonals. This iris has the SUKY double white zonal pattern on a lighter shade of violet. White beards tipped yellow. Pronounced spicy fragrance. Three branches plus terminal and a minimum of 8 buds. Reblooms in Virginia in Oct/Nov. Brother Carl X Suky \$35.00

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T.B., 35-36", M-L. A ruffled, flared, lovely delicate pink self, with pale blue beard. Nine blooms displayed on excellent branching. Spicy fragrance. Fertile. Named in honor of my English born compassionate neighbor and dearest friend. \$30.00

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EASTER CLOUDS — TB 31" EM. S. White, touch of peach at midrib; peach style arms tipped thin white edge; F peach, thin white rim; orange beards. Love Chant X Peach Spot. Sdlg. 899 . \$35.00

FIVE STAR FINAL — TB 36" ML. S. Dark blue blending to lighter edge; F. blue-white, dark blue spot by dark violet beards. Sdlg. RV-3-92. Olympiad X Honky Tonk Blues \$35.00

SUSQUEHANNA — TB 32" M. These blue-violet flowers are streaked with swirling white edges. WIDE falls and well domed S. Sdlg. RV-15-93 \$35.00

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS

GEORGE SHOOP * JOE GATTY * KEITH KEPPEL

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COLOR MAGICIAN (Shoop) TB, M 35". White standards, cream falls finely veined pink.	\$35.00
CROSS CURRENT (Keppel) TB, EM 38". Neglecta fancy plic . . .	\$30.00
FANCY WOMAN (Keppel) TB, VE-M 38". French lilac luminata, tangerine beards.	\$40.00
FASHION DESIGNER (Keppel) TB, EM 40". Cream and apricot blend, laced and ruffled.	\$35.00
MASTER PLAN (Keppel) TB, M 35". Purplish rose plicata	\$35.00
SMART MOVE (Keppel) TB, L 38". Butterscotch and blended rose bicolor.	\$40.00
TROPICAL MAGIC (Shoop) TB, M 35". Peach pink standards, white falls with deep peach haft thumbprints	\$35.00
HULA HOOP (Shoop) BB, M 26". Lavender standards, white falls banded yellow, tangerine beards	\$25.00
GURU (Keppel) IB, ML 22". Royal purple and white plic, tangerine beards	\$15.00
ROYAL FLIRT (Shoop) IB, EM 16". Deep pink self	\$15.00
SEASON TICKET (Gatty) IB, EM 26". Apricot yellow	\$15.00
TACT (Keppel) IB, EM 24". White and yellow amoena.	\$15.00
BRASH (Gatty) SDB, EML 15". Brass, lavender grey fancy	\$10.00
MISS SUNSHINE (Shoop) SDB, M 9". Yellow, darker spot	\$10.00

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- ABIGAIL ANN** (Carl Jorgensen) #84-P-4D TB 34" L-VL. This jaunty, ruffled pure light azalea-pink is named for his youngest granddaughter, a winsome, irrepressible delight. The wide-petalled, gracefully flaring falls and lightly closed standards are accentuated by shrimp-red beards. Well branched stalks carry up to 8 buds. Blooms late into the season. Slight fragrance. \$30.00
- AMARYLLIS** (Ruth Goebel) TB 28" M. Is it an iris? . . . or is it Amaryllis? The flower form is very much like an amaryllis. The six chinese yellow petals with shades of pink, blue and bronze all form a whorl around the lacy style arms. Unlike some novelty types this has been a very consistent performer. Mount Spokane X (Tillamook X self) \$35.00
- CHAMPAGNE LADY** (Ray Lyons) #82-43-A TB 30" M-L. Carved Cameo X Mattie Silks. A bubbly light amber self. Heavily ruffled with fine lace. The domed standards bear a hint of yellow at their tips. The light yellow styles and hafts frame rich gold beards. The broad yellow hafts narrow to a fine line at the tips of the falls \$30.00
- JOHN HOEHNER** (Joseph Hoage) #H82-42-2 TB 36" M-L. Portrait of Larrie X Song of Norway. A smooth pale blue self with dark blue beards. 7-9 well-spaced buds. When I was Region 13 RVP in 1955, my mother suggested I contact John Hoehner of Topeka Kansas as he had an "interest" in irises. I did and found an enthusiastic retired Topeka High School teacher with 1300 iris varieties in his yard. John was an AIS judge in Region 18 and a legend — over 30 years teaching — many friends — they named the auditorium at Topeka High School for him. When this seedling bloomed I knew a name for it that was worthy . \$30.00
- MEGAN DIANE** (Carl Jorgensen) #85-P-1 TB 36" M-VL. A saucy ruffled orange-pink self, named for another of his granddaughters. Graceful flaring falls and closed standards, with pronounced shrimp-red beards. Floriferous bloom on S-branched stalks carry 6 buds over an extended period. Slight cinnamon fragrance \$30.00
- NORDIC YULE** (Carl Jorgensen) #87-Wrb-3 TB 30" M-L. A snow-white, ruffled charmer. Flaring falls and semi-open standards reveal the deep vermilion-red beards. Three branched stalks plus a terminal carry 6 buds over an extended bloom season. Fragrant. \$30.00
- OH BE JOYFUL** (Ray Lyons) #85-19-E TB 30" M-L. Playgirl X Blushing Lady. A faintly pink self with nice pink beards. Named for the favorite saying of a vivacious young lady of the Tincup Colorado mining camp, who, with her lover, eloped one night to fulfill their dreams. EC 1994 \$35.00
- SPLASH OF RASPBERRY** (Joseph Hoage) #H85-14 TB 36" M-L. 7-9 brilliant raspberry red flowers with red beards. The heart of the flower does indeed suggest a splash of raspberry jam. The parents, Far Corners X Mulled Wine, have given us an addition to this elusive red blend color classification. \$30.00
- THERESA LYNN** (Joseph Hoage) #H86-10C TB 34" M-L. 6-8 well spaced buds. A pale lavender white blend with fiery red beards fading to a very pale lavender. The hybridizer was fortunate to have 2 seedlings, one from Jim Gibson, the other from Opal Brown. The genes of this iris hold the promise of huge wide red beards. Gibson 47-7CF: (Starfrost Pink X ((Lorna Lee X (Tahiti Sunrise X (Tahiti Sunrise X Lorna Lee))) X ((Lorna Lee X Tahiti Sunrise) X (Tahiti Sunrise X Lorna Lee))) X ((O. Brown 78-3B4: (Old Flame X ((Grandiflora X Arctic Flame) X Buffy))). \$30.00

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Bob and Mary Dunn

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Phone (916) 482-0562

No. Highlands, CA 95660

1995 INTRODUCTIONS OF MARY AND BOB DUNN AND RON MULLIN

ALMOST CAMELOT (Mullin-Dunn) A fancy bicolor; a step above most bicolors. The standards are a very nice light lilac-violet, almost white. Falls are plum-violet with a fancy speckled area at the tip of the beards. Very ruffled and super-form; copper-lilac styles with copper-orange beards tipped violet. Great show stem, almost every stem has 3 open flowers **\$35.00**

BROADWAY JOE (B. Dunn) Ruffled variegata; old gold standards matching styles. Falls are wide velvety burgundy. Ruffled and flared. Substance heavy here. Old gold beard. A stand out in Italy. (Tarde x P.T. Barnum) X (Charro x Cavalier) **\$35.00**

FABIO (B. Dunn) Large blue-violet self with matching beards; a complete self. A show off with large, wide overlapping flower with personality. Ruffled, heavy substance, well branched. Allstar X Busy Being Blue **\$35.00**

JAMES P. (M. Dunn) Silver-blue lilac, deeper at the edge of the petals. Silvery area at center of fall below matching beard. Very wide and ruffled; outstanding substance and form. A favorite since first bloom. It has been named for a very involved IRIS friend — JAMES P. McWHIRTER. **\$35.00**

MY WAY (M. Dunn) Very lacy plicata, standards are pastel lilac, a stain of lilac on the lacy edges of the standards and styles. Falls are wide with textured veins on the white ground falls, with a very lacy edge of lilic plicata marks. This has multi-branched and many flowers. I have watched this for some time; the lace is different, I feel. Patterns X Laced Cotton **\$35.00**

PRETTY IS (R. Mullin) Very ruffled sunny yellow with large irregular spot of white around deep yellow-gold beards. Great garden performer in Oklahoma with many blooms and fast increase; but Pretty Is as pretty does and sometimes branching is not outstanding. Sdlg. #84-455M. Speculator X Precious Moments . . . **\$35.00**

WARM MEMORIES (R. Mullin) A mauve-lavender self with a coral glow emanating from the heart of the flower, coral styles, tangerine beards. Very Ruffled and wide. Sdlg. #84-133W Simple Pleasures X Starcrest **\$35.00**

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INTRODUCING FOR 1995

FLORENCE FISHER

(L. Markham 1995) - TB - 30-32" M. Sdlg. #87-4C2. 7783-2A: Angel Feathers x ((Hall pink x Celestial Snow) x Arctic Flame) X Vanity. Crossing the Angel Feathers BB line with Vanity gave a gorgeous gang of smaller-scale tall bearded, four of which still live here and are making pretty babies in both classes. "Florence" is a luscious cream self lit lemon in her heart, with light lemon beards blending to cream at the tips. The flowers are very wide and deeply ruffled with perfectly held standards, almost horizontally flaring falls, crisp substance and unusually smooth finish, and are presented on beautifully branched stems (3 + terminal). Named for Lynn's mother, who grew beautiful irises most of her adult life and would have loved the quiet elegance of this one. Fertile both ways and a promising parent. \$35.00

OTHER RECENT INTRODUCTIONS:

SECRET WEAPON (L. Markham 1994) — BB — 25-27" — EM. Sdlg. #85-2A3. Angel Feathers X 7783-1A: Angel Feathers x Warburton 20KL-3: ((Buttrick blue sdlg. x (Progenitor x Serene Valley)) x (Sunfrost x (Summit x l. aphylla Polonica))). Pale violet-blue reverse bitone with deep gold beards blending to violet-blue tips; superb branching, fertile both ways and a truly outstanding parent. HC 1993. \$20.00

INVASION IN PINK (Boswell/Schmieder 1993) — IB — 18-20" — EM. (Complex seedling lines involving Buffy, April Melody, Yum-Yum, Campus Flirt, Java Dove, Java Charm, Palisades and Little Lynn) X Pink Cushion. Clean light, true pink with harmonizing beards. Vigorous! Some fertility with both 40's and 48's and has some fine seedlings. HC 1992. \$5.00

PATRIOT'S GEM (Gadd 1993) — AB-MED — 18" — EM. Lady X Vindaloo. Soft soldier blue with petal edges highlighted in pale gold; pale blue beards frosted gold. Excellent plant habit, classic form, fine substance and finish. HC 1992. \$10.00

SUNSPINNER (L. Markham 1991) — BB — 26" — EM. Sheaff 62-21X: BB sib to Pearl Kemp X Tulare. Crisply flaring and ruffled bright yellow self with lighter area surrounding thick yellow-orange beards. Pod fertile — excellent parent. HC 1990. \$5.00

TERMS: Cash with order (no minimum). Please add \$3.00 per order for U.S. Postal Service Priority Mail shipment, or \$5.00 for UPS Second Day Air.

NOTE: Limited listing of older Markham and Gadd varieties available upon request.

MESSICK GARDEN
200 Pine Creek Road
Walnut Creek, CA 94598



INTRODUCTIONS
 by
VIRGINIA MESSICK

- ANGELS IN FLIGHT** (Messick '95) TB 37" M87-39 (Olympia X Breakers). Angels do exist, at least in my garden! I never pass a clump of it without thinking "flutter of angels". A clear, clean white with an infusion of blue below the beard and up the midribs. It boasts good branching, great ruffling, fluting and substance. A consistent heavy bloomer with usually 3 open flowers of broad flaring form \$30.00
- MIZ MARY** (Messick '94) TB 37" M87-65 (Spring Fling X Flower Show). A new blend of tawny-tan with a pink-peach infusion. Gold hafts and matching beards giving it a glowing golden-honey haft. A novel color combination unlike any other. Good traits in substance, broad form, ruffling and tall stalks. Usually 3 open blooms, well spaced. My mentor, Mary Dunn, has encouraged me to introduce this and so the name "Miz Mary" Best seedling '94 Mt. Diablo Iris Society \$30.00
- SWING AND SWAY** ('94) TB white with blue-violet infusion. \$20.00
- VOLTAGE** ('93) TB Shocking orange — Queen of Show '93 \$20.00
- ART NOUVEAU** ('92) TB Deep old rose. EC '91, HM '94. \$15.00
- ALADDIN'S FLAME** ('93) SDB 14" Brass, deep blue beard \$5.00
- RUSTY NAIL** ('93) SDB 11" Gold standards, rusty brown falls \$5.00
- CALLING CARD** ('91) IB Loomis Award — top 3 year IB \$3.00

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS of Paul Black

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- GROOVY GRUBWORM** Sdlg. 89231B, 10" SDB - Lt. lime yellow standards; olive-lime green falls; beards appear dark brown; color varies with season \$12.00
- MIDNIGHT MIST** Sdlg. 87134C, 14" SDB - Red-violet fancy sanded plicata on white ground; round & ruffled; Best Seedling & EC 1993; best of Chubby Cheeks offspring . . . \$12.00
- SHADOW BOX** Sdlg. 91289A, 14" SDB - Purple standards & wide band around red-violet falls; round and ruffled \$12.00
- SPIN AGAIN** Sdlg. 91216A, 11" SDB - Yellow standards, haft, rim & reverse on white falls; petite round form . . . \$12.00
- SWEET BITE** Sdlg. 91316C, 14" SDB - Buff standards; warm white fall with tan pink blush at haft; orange beards. \$12.00
- WACKO** Sdlg. 91235A, 10" SDB - Yellow ground with plum plicata marked standards and falls. \$12.00

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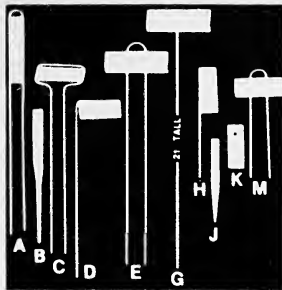
1995 INTRODUCTIONS

- ALATELY** (R. Sparling) MTB, 20", L. Domed rich straw yellow standards sit atop flaring spectrum violet falls edged straw yellow. Lighter straw yellow veins ray out from the hafts, below the bright yellow beards one yellow stripe runs to tip of the fall. Sdlg. MTB 93-1 \$15.00
- BANGLES** (L. Miller) MTB, 21", EM. Sparkling blossoms with medium amethyst standards and medium sapphire blue falls with deeper veining. Blossoms pale with age to a more pastel coloring while keeping their very round flaring petite form, gold beards. HC 1993. Sdlg. 3791: Lucky Mistake X Rosemary's Dream \$15.00
- BOOM BOOM BUNNY** (L. Miller) SDB, 10", E-L. A medium pink SDB that just keeps blooming. Falls are pale pink veined medium pink with a small pink spot around tangerine-tipped white beards. Lightly ruffled. Sdlg. 2489: 985A: (380: (Dove Wings X unknown) X Cherub Tears) X 1085: (Pixie Pink X Oriental Blush) \$12.50
- HARVEST HUES** (L. Miller) BB, 27", L. Bright yellow-gold standards and style arms contrast the gold falls that are washed and rayed rust brown. The small flaring ruffled blossoms are adorned by yellow orange beards. 7 buds. Sdlg. 5181: Brown Lasso X Anon \$20.00
- JUST DO IT** (L. Miller) TB, 34", EM. Outstanding splash of color for the perennial garden. Standards of apricot, falls of maroon red-violet accented by apricot hafts and lines around tangerine-orange beards. Sdlg. 23989A: 12784A: (Mandolin X Queen in Calico) X Gigolo \$35.00
- OLNEY BELLE** (R. Sparling) MDB, 6", EM. Showy snow white blossoms accented by large deep blue spots below white beards tipped yellow. Lovely round flaring form. Parentage unknown \$10.00
- PAGAN GODDESS** (L. Miller) TB, 32", M & RE. Standards of pale creamy pink are flushed peach pink in the midrib. Falls are full peach pink with paler serrated edges. Beards are white tipped tangerine. Rebloomed in northern Indiana in 1992 and in southern California Aug. 1993 thru Jan. 1994. Sdlg. 13387C: 3176: (Coral Magic X Love Sonnet) X Vanity \$35.00
- RAPSCALLION** (L. Miller) SDB, 11", E. This rascal is sister to Widow's Veil but is a dark purple-violet self with bushy medium blue beards, but he does have a slight sweet scent. Sdlg. 100291B: Dark Vader X Bantam \$12.50
- RAVISHING** (L. Miller) TB, 29", ML. Worth the wait. Intense orange with pink cast on the midribs and around tangerine beards. Laced edges enhance the beauty. Sdlg. 4489: Can't Elope X Copper Classic \$35.00
- SASSY LASSIE** (L. Miller) SDB, 12", ML. Indescribably intense bright yellow bitone. Standards are light canary yellow, while falls are deep canary yellow tinted green. Beards are light blue tipped yellow. Almost horizontal flare to falls. Sdlg. 22289: Dark Vader X Jewel Baby \$12.50
- SPIN DOCTOR** (M. Davis) TB, 32", E. Spun into a very round, ruffled form, Standards are a soft mustard yellow. The jazzy falls have a creamy yellow ground veined and heavily dotted full dahlia purple intensifying to a solid band of plum brown at the edge. Cream beards are tipped yellow orange. Vigorous grower. Sdlg. 87-165X: Rancho Rose X Spinning Wheel \$35.00
- SQUIGGLES** (L. Miller) MDB, 5½", EM. Neat round blossoms of bright canary yellow with a few brown rays below the cream beards. Sdlg. 100391: 987: (Daring Eyes X Copper Chief) X 2187: (Candy Fluff X Bright Vision) \$10.00

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RICHARDSON'S RAINBOW'S END GARDEN

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IRENE FRANCES (G. L. Richardson '95) TB 32" ML. Coral-pink with creamy area highlighting the falls; white beards tipped tangerine. A bright spot of color for the late iris garden. 86-29-1: (Old Flame X Eastertime) \$25.00

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Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks**

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS:

PLEASURES OF MAY — SIBERIAN. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. S87-9-5), 30", E-L. A lavender-pink amoena with beautifully smooth coloring. The standards are the very palest lavender though the effect is white. Neither standards nor falls have the darker dots, dashes, or veining typical of "pink" siberians. The signal is clean — white with lavender veining and a light yellow glow at the hafts. The styles are pearly white. This iris starts blooming very early — in the middle of SBD season while most siberians' bloomstalks are still sleeping down in the foliage. Some years it gives us the pleasures of May by repeat blooming through June and July well into August. The plant is vigorous with two branches and an average of five buds per stalk. Lavender Light X Mad Magenta \$30.00

TRIM THE VELVET — SIBERIAN. Schafer/Sacks (Seedling No. S86-8-2), 40", M. This rich blue-purple self was chosen Best Seedling at the 1993 Siberian Iris Convention in Michigan. The velvet-textured falls are delicately trimmed with white. The plant is vigorous and the tall stalks hold the many flowers (4 to 6 per stalk) high above the foliage. Each flower is 4½" across with full, gently ruffled standards and falls and small, neat, diamond shaped stylearms. The signals are small and white, veined with blue-purple. As a garden subject it is tall, dark and handsome. HC 1993. Forrest McCord X Springs Brook \$30.00

Prices include postage

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**MINIATURE TALL BEARDED
FROM OHIO GARDENS**

Featuring Miniature Tall Bearded Iris introductions for 1995 of **Mary Louise Dunderman** and **W. Terry Varner**.

TODD (Dunderman, R. '91) Sdlg. KK993. MTB 19" (48 cm). L. Very dark violet blue (darker than RHS 90A) with blue signal. Blue beard tipped white. EE375: ((Panda x Z589 dark purple) x sib) X EE503 violet: ((Blue Twinkle x Z588A purple) x (K188D blue x Surprise Blue)). \$15.00

MOVE OVER (Varner, R. '95) Sdlg. Q-356. MTB 20" (51 cm.). L. Attractive blue purple self with white beard. Nice form with closed standards and flaring falls. Fertile both ways. 7-8 buds. Velvet Bouquet X N-318 blue self: Blue Twinkle x ((J-311 light blue: (MLD 0-144 light blue x Velvet Bouquet)). \$15.00

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1995 INTRODUCTIONS From Charles Jenkins & Floyd Wickenkamp

CHICA de SONORA (Wickenkamp) Petite & dainty is this 4" blue-violet blossom. Large gold blaze on fall shades to brown with 1/4" rim of full blue-violet. Height 36" ((Burnished Brass X (Burnished Brass x Proverb) X (Highline Honey x Proverb)).....\$25.00

CLOVER HONEY (Jenkins) Very round petals form a rich golden honey self. Slightly darker veining in falls. (Crow Wing x Equality) X (Forty Carats x unknown).....\$25.00

FALCON'S CREST (Jenkins) Like daddy, this plant slow to increase, but does produce fantastic offspring and good show bench blooms, proved by EC's in '89 and '93. Stands are rich brown; falls are bright yellow edged narrowly with brown; brown veins converge to middle. (Highline Honey X Crow Wing)....\$35.00

LAVENDER PUP (Jenkins) Delicate pale lavender standards, falls are soft yellow with a deeper gold-yellow signal effect extending to the lavender ruffled edges. Many buds. (Color Focus X Diminuendo).....\$25.00

LEMON TOUCH (Jenkins) Lacy lemon yellow self with a dark gold-yellow signal area. Sdlg. #B267B (Candle Lace X Finally Free).....\$25.00

NEW VISTA (Jenkins) Is it plicata? bitone? The combo of colors make one look twice at this beautiful cluster of blooms. The stands start out as a light shade of purple and blend into the falls with ivory ground and plicata pattern of purple lines intensified at margins. Second day bloom softens in color. Sdlg #C4-17B (Blue Lassie X Highline Honey).....\$25.00

PURPLE SMOKE (Jenkins) Blended violet-purple stands, falls have small deep yellow signal blending to soft yellow washed lightly with purple, and fused into a purple edge. Sdlg #BJ27D (Lively One X Now This).....\$25.00

STELLA IRENE (Jenkins) Black! Black! Black! This is such a dark purple with only a slight narrow yellow signal that it stands out across the field. It holds the dark color even in Arizona sun! ((Crow Wing x Equality) X Purple Reign).....\$25.00

YELLOWCOPTER (Jenkins) Do helicopter blades fascinate you? Then you will like this large flaring solid golden yellow self. (Bali Bali X Cinnamon Stick).....\$25.00

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1995 Introductions

ANGEL'S BLUSH TB 30" EM-ML. Ethereal coloring! S lt. chamois-peach; flaring F are creamy with chamois-peach shoulders and edges. Lots of ruffles. Wide, deep orange beards, tipped white. Up to 10 buds. Delicate looking but super substance. EC '93. Sdlg. VF-1-2-2B (Victoria Falls x Cloud Fire) X (Gypsy Rings x Moon Mistress) \$30.00

BLUE FIRE TB 35" M-L. Medium blue; flaring F lighten, leaving darker center wash, light edges. Dark blue center line; deep yellow beards tipped lt. blue. Heavily ruffled. VERY FRAGRANT! Good stalks and branching; 7-9 buds. Tied for 8th place of 150 first year plants in '93 Loomis Trial Gardens. Pod fertile; pollen not tested. Seedling GR-1-8-1A. Gorgeous! (Gypsy Rings x Moon Mistress) X Olymriad. \$30.00

CROWN OF ISIS TB 34" M-L. Fit for a goddess! Brilliant, deep golden yellow; flaring F slightly darker; honey-gold hafts and markings. Dark yellow-orange beards. Moderate ruffles crown this beauty. 5-8 buds. Pollen not tested. Seedling CT-1-6. (Carnival Time X Spiced Custard) \$30.00

MYSTERY STORY TB 35" M-L. Somber and beautiful! S cream ground heavily flushed grey-plum; darker edge and midrib. Plum brown styles; flaring falls have white centers blending to creamy yellow; darker greyed plum haft marks and 1/2" plicata edge. Old gold beards tipped greyed plum. Ruffled. VERY FRAGRANT! 7-8 buds. Pollen not tested. Seedling SW-1-4 (Spinning Wheel X Grape Freeze). \$30.00

NIGHT SQUALL TB 33" M-L. S dark wine; velvety flaring F are blackish-wine, white around upper beards, wine marks. Old gold beards tipped dark purple. Ruffled. Up to 11 buds, fertile both ways. Tied for 3rd place in 112 first year plants in '94 Loomis Trial Gardens. Sdlg. AM-1-1-1C (April Melody x Spinning Wheel X Capricious) \$30.00

OVER THE RAINBOW BB 27" M-L. S and styles blue-white; F have gold shoulders with reddish-brown marks, medium orchid center, partial gold inner edge, blue-white outer. Deep yellow beards. VERY FRAGRANT! Fertile both ways. 6-7 buds. Seedling BC-1-2 (Bayberry Candle X Latin Lover) \$15.00

VICTORIAN CHARMER BB 26" EM-ML. This gorgeous little beauty has white S with lt. pink veining and midribs. Flaring falls are creamy-white overlaid lt. pink and veined medium pink. Orange beards are tipped white. Ruffled. Up to 9 buds; fertile both ways. Very delicate in looks but not in performance. Best seedling and EC '93. Sdlg. V-1-1 (Vanity X Marmalade Skies) \$20.00

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Stahly Introductions for 1995

AFTER EIGHT (Stahly '95) TB, M, 34". A deep colored flower of the night — a self of deep, deep violet, near black. Self beards. Good sized semi-flared flower with wide, round falls, moderately ruffled; well branched. Has grown well in several parts of the country. Sdlg. # 86-5: Superstition X Black Flag \$30.00

CHIP SHOT (Stahly '95) SDB, M, 12". Lavender violet with a small deep red spot on falls, light violet beard. Ruffled, blocky form with wide, round, flaring falls. The flower has a luminous glow. Vigorous. Sdlg. # 1-8: Plum Perfect X Little Annie. . . . \$15.00

COMBUSTION (Stahly '95) BB, M, 25". Another step in my quest of red-bearded black. This flower has very deep violet standards, slightly deeper falls, and red-orange beards. Deeper color than its pod parent and more prominent beard. Wide parts, lightly ruffled. Has been a good grower here and in Massachusetts and Oregon. Sdlg. # 90-20: Ignition X sdlg. involving Black Swan, Licorice Stick, Pretty Carol, Barcelona, Mary Randall, Edenite, Orange Chariot, and Swahili . . \$25.00

IN THE RED (Stahly '95) SDB, M, 11". Deep bright red with deeper maroon spot, violet beards. Open-erect standards, wide, flaring falls, ruffled. Here it has the best red color I have seen. Vigorous grower. Sdlg. # 1-5: Sib to Chip Shot \$15.00

Please include \$3.00 for shipping.

MELLOW FELLOW

BB (L. Burton '95). sdlg. L86-BK-22 EM 22"-23" S. Tawny yellow. F. Cream, blending to standard color at the edges; gold texture veining in center running to hafts. Yellow beards. Sib. to Margaret Beaufort. (Louise Hopper X Miss Nellie). Another BB which stays in class. EC 1992. \$25.00

Also Available

MARGARET BEAUFORT (L. Burton '94) BB Violet, lemon beards 18.00

BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '92) MTB Golden brown blend, purple wash on falls. 7.00

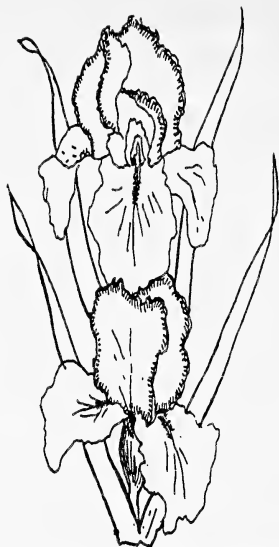
SUN SPRITE (L. Burton '93) SDB Perky yellow bitone. 7.00

Shipping \$3.00

Lucy G. Burton

188 Sagamore St.

S. Hamilton, MA 01982



Sutton's Green Thumber

**1995 INTRODUCTIONS FROM
ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES**

AARON'S DAGGER (Sutton 95) TB 37" E-M
Our first Space Age introduction stands tall with marvelous branching. The 7 to 9 ruffled flowers are red-violet with consistent 3/4" fuzzy horns. Every stalk has show bench branching.
(Twice Thrilling x Bubble Up) \$35.00

BURGUNDY FIZZ (Sutton 95) TB 37" M-L
The standards are light violet burgundy and the falls darker violet burgundy edged effervescent silver white. Ruffled and laced, it stands tall with 7 to 9 buds on well placed branches.
(Silver Flow x Ringo) x Adventuress) \$35.00

DENNYS HUMPHREY (C. Bartlett 95) TB 34" E-M-L
It goes without saying this English introduction is well branched and budded. The standards are a light buttery cream with the falls a bit darker paling towards the center. Nicely ruffled with a light honey fragrance. Quite pretty.
(Jeanne Price x Joyce Terry) \$35.00

HALF and HALF (Sutton 95) TB 34" M-L
We've been working, like so many others, for a white iris with a black beard. Half & half is about as close as we've come. A very pale blue ruffled self. The beards are half black bronze and half dark blue bronze, thus the name. The styles are speckled black bronze.
(Silkwood x Pinch of Spice) x Skating Party) \$30.00

MARY CONSTANCE (C. Bartlett 95) IB 24" E-M
By British Dykes Medal winner, Cy Bartlett. Cy considers this his best ever iris, good enough to carry his lovely wife's name. He's right! This blue violet self with a blue beard will rival the best of BB's. Every stalk is perfectly spaced, with flowers perfectly proportioned and bubble ruffled. Absolutely beautiful!
(Violet Lass x Amadora) \$20.00

SHERBET LEMON (C. Bartlett) IB 22" E
This cute IB has standards of bright lemon yellow with lemon yellow beards on slightly darker falls. Nicely ruffled. Very attractive.
(Mrs. Nate Rudolph x Sunny and Warm) \$15.00

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GARDENS

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TOMORROW
TODAY

We wish to thank everyone, including those *scandalized* by the name **BABOON BOTTOM**, for making our first year exciting, challenging, and just plain wonderful! This year we bring you our first variegated foliage and plicata irises, plus more color breakers. Also, we added a new feature, **DERANGER'S CORNER**, for Kathie's introductions which are primarily selected for their value in artistic arrangements.

BEWILDERBEAST (*Kasperek '95*) **TB 30" M.** The name says it all! Neatly closed standards streaked light mauve and silver white. Laced, wide horizontal falls streaked dark mauve and silver white are accented by *sunshine yellow shoulders* with mauve veining. Golden brown beards. 6-8 buds. Tiger Honey X Rustic Dance (91B-2A) \$40.00

NIGERIAN RASPBERRY (*Kasperek '95*) **TB 36" M. Scrumptious!** The luscious raspberry cream background of the standards and wide, ruffled, flaring falls are liberally splashed red raspberry. Deep orange beards. 6-7 buds. Maria Tormena X Bygone Era (91B-71A) \$35.00

SAHARAN SUN (*Kasperek '95*) **TB 30" EM.** Get your "shades" on! The clear, brilliant sunshine yellow of the standards and the wide, ruffled, flaring falls are lightly streaked with silver white. Golden yellow beard. 6-7 buds. Hot Streak X Tiger Honey (91B-7A) \$35.00

TANZANIAN TANGERINE (*Kasperek '95*) **TB 38" EM.** Garden standout! The deep tangerine standards of this fancy plicata radiate warmth over surrounding iris as the lightly ruffled, flaring, tannish orange falls, overlaid with stippled red wine, provide the perfect contrast. Accenting light orange beards. Well branched stocks display 8-10 flowers over several weeks. Tiger Honey X Jitterbug (91P-1C) \$35.00

ZEBRA BLUSH (*Kasperek '95*) **TB 34" EM. Variegated foliage!!!** The dark green, red-purple based fans are streaked and marbled with white. Stripped stocks play host to numerous flowers with light yellow standards and light rose purple flaring falls. Lavender beards. Vigorous. Few all green fans. Ensminger sdlg. X Capricious (89-6A) \$40.00

DERANGER'S CORNER

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TERMS: Postpaid quantity discount prices: 2 for \$65., 3 for \$85., 4 for \$100., 5 for \$115., and 6 for \$119.95. Price list, including 94 introductions, upon written request. (The answering machine "don't spell too good".)

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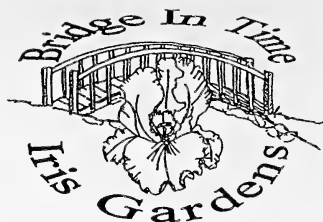
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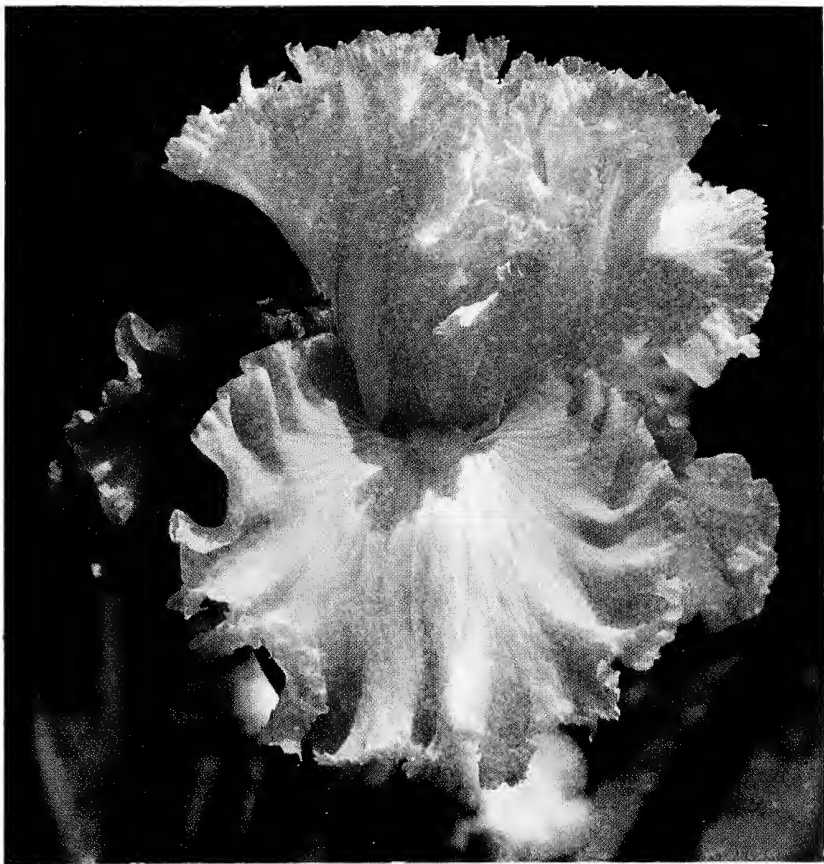
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July 1995



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On the front cover is a scene from the Rojahn Garden during the 1995 convention in Pennsylvania. On the back cover are Miniature Tall Bearded irises in the Leader Garden in Pennsylvania.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

The American Iris Society has just celebrated its 75th birthday at the convention in York, Pennsylvania. There were challenges for the Board of Directors in 1920 just as there are now. Some of the difficult situations which occur today would not have been issues in the early years. Travel was more difficult then, the number of members was smaller, computers were unknown. There was no formal Judges' Training program for many years, and for the first four years of the society there was no *AIS Bulletin*. Seventy-five years later there are still problems and challenges, but they are different ones.

There is at present a revision of the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* in the works. With the current sizeable roster of judges, it is not surprising that there are many different opinions about what should or should not be included in that revision. With regard to the *AIS Bulletin*, criticisms voiced by members have followed a pattern through the years (perhaps increasing in number as the membership has grown larger). There are concerns, just to name a few, about whether the publication should contain more scientific material or more information helpful to the beginning irisarian, about whether the print should be larger, about whether too much emphasis is placed on tall bearded irises. Questions such as these go back to the beginning of the publication. And now there is the question of color photographs, a question more complicated than it might seem on the surface.

These subjects are just a tiny portion of the business which is carried on, day by day, by the officers, Board members, and committee chairmen of The American Iris Society. The persons who hold these positions are usually active regionally and locally and are growing their own irises, perhaps hybridizing, also. They are giving their time, much time, for the love of irises, for the good of the society, and for the friendships among the AIS members.

Many decisions must be made, and they are often difficult ones. No action taken can please everyone, but every effort is made to select the best course, and it is hoped that the members of the AIS, wherever they may be, will realize that all the officers, directors, committee chairmen, RVPs, and Section leaders are simply members who are performing the various complex duties of their positions. If criticism of a particular situation is needed, well and good,

but let it be of the constructive type. By the same token, if accolades are in order, let them be forthcoming. Be aware that there are many who work tirelessly for long periods with little recognition and that everyone likes a pat on the back for a job well done.

CORRECTIONS TO SYMPOSIUM RESULTS

Melody Wilhoit

The following irises were omitted from the 1995 Symposium of Tall Bearded irises:

BEFORE THE STORM	409 votes	17th place
ANNA BELLE BABSON	346 votes	20th place
THORNBIRD	314 votes	21st place

The three omissions would make the following changes:

New to list: Acoma, Loyalist, Sweeter Than Wine, Tennison Ridge, Conjunction, Navajo Jewel

Return to list: Cherry Smoke

Drop from list: Debby Rairdon, Gypsy Woman, Blue Sapphire, Crystal Glitters, Cranberry Ice, Spinning Wheel, and Sapphire Hills.

Runners-up:	139 votes:	Latin Hideaway
	138 votes:	Debby Rairdon
	138 votes:	Glitz 'N Glitter

ATTENTION MEMBERSHIP CONTEST PARTICIPANTS

Those members who are participating in the AIS Membership Contest are advised to send information for the contest to Lynda Miller. The change was necessitated by the untimely passing of Jim McWhirter.

Send information to: Lynda Miller
3167 E. U.S. 224
Ossian, IN 46777

ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL LETTER

The American Iris Society

July 1, 1995

Each year the terms of office expire for one third of the twelve directors of The American Iris Society, and four are elected to fill those positions. As provided in the AIS bylaws, a five-member Personnel Committee recommends to the AIS Board of Directors candidates for nomination as directors. The Personnel Committee consists of two directors chosen by the Board of Directors, two RVPs elected by the Board of Counselors, and one Section member selected by the Section Advisory Board.

As approved during the 1995 spring meeting held in York, Pennsylvania, the four incumbent directors, all eligible for additional terms, were renominated. Therefore, approved in accordance with the AIS bylaws, the nominees for regular three year terms expiring in 1998 are:

Glenn Corlew
Larry Harder
Olive Waters
Melody Wilhoit

The bylaws provide that nominations may be made by any forty members, of whom not more than fifteen may be located in any one region. Such additional nominations must be received by the AIS Secretary on or before September 1, 1995. Should additional nominations be made, a ballot on which all nominees are listed will be mailed on or before October 1, 1995, to all AIS members and must be received by the AIS Secretary or Election Committee (if one is appointed) on or before November 1, 1995. If there are no nominations in addition to those listed above, issuance of a ballot may be omitted.

Claire Barr, President

COLORADO '98 REQUEST FOR BEARDLESS GUEST IRISES

Region 20 will be hosting the 1998 Convention of The American Iris Society. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction.

Please observe the following guidelines when you send guest irises:

1. Up to three rhizomes of each variety should be shipped.
2. The guest irises will be accepted from July 15 to September 15, 1995.
3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:

(via UPS)	or	(via USPS)
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c/o Long's Gardens		c/o Long's Gardens
3240 Broadway		P.O.Box 19
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4. The name of the variety or seedling number should be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information should accompany each plant on a SEPARATE PACKING LIST:
 - A. Hybridizer's name and address.
 - B. Name or seedling number of the variety.
 - C. Type of iris (SIB, SPU, LA).
 - D. Height, color, and bloom season (E, M, L).
 - E. Year of introduction (if introduced).
5. If a guest seedling is named, it will be the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairman not later than Dec. 1, 1997.
6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 1998, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
7. The Convention Committee and the owners of the tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chariman will be listed in the convention booklet.

THE SIGNA SPECIES SYMPOSIUM

GARDENING WITH IRIS SPECIES

Bob Pries (Missouri)

In the last week of March a historic event occurred at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. Species iris enthusiasts from all around the globe gathered to celebrate the genus iris and the family Iridaceae with a series of lectures. Many of the registered participants had as much to offer as the prestigious speakers. It seemed everybody who has a deep interest in the genus iris and could be, was there.

The program ranged from an evolutionary discussion of the iris family by Dr. Peter Goldblatt, followed by an overview of the genus iris by Brian Mathew on Saturday, culminating in a view of rare irises presented by Dr. Rodionenko of Russia on Sunday. With twelve speakers the pace was quick and the schedule full.

Dr. Jim Waddick presented cultural information on the rare irises he brought back from China. Panayoti Kelaidis, curator of Denver Botanical Gardens' Rock and Alpine Garden, showed how all types of iris could be grown by creating the proper microclimates. Alan McMurtrie showed his breeding program with the Juno Irises. Darrell Probst wowed us with his new creations arising out of *Iris dichotoma* and *Belamcandra*.

The Pacific Coast Natives were ably represented by Colin Rigby, and Dave Niswonger advocated the spurias. Jean Witt talked about how species have given us new directions in hybridizing, while Eberhard Schuster showed the revolution occurring within the water irises. Phil Ogilvie presented some new ways of looking at the Louisiana iris complex that may result in there being ten species accepted instead of just five.

By Saturday night, everyone was having wonderful visions of irises and the prime rib dinner was capped beautifully by Brian Mathew's sharing his adventures observing irises and other plants in Turkey. Last minute bids were being placed on the silent auction organized by Anna Mae Miller and Greg Speichert. For those who wanted unusual dreams, there was Luella Danielson's whimsical Yucca pod iris display.

The Friday night before the symposium had also been a full evening, with slide presentations by Tomas Tamberg (Germany), Robyn Rohrlach (Australia), Tony Huber (Canada) and many others. At the garden, we had watercolors displayed by Jean Witt and Paul Martin. The photo contest was a room full of interesting pictures, and the glorious displays of Pacific Coast Native Irises brought by Lewis Lawyer and the Arils brought by Luella wowed everyone. Josephine Shanks brought some Louisianas and so many participants contributed so much. It was everyone's cooperation that made this one of the most delightful iris events in my experience. I have to admit to being exhausted, but somehow it didn't matter that I had practically no sleep for four days, there were so many wonderful people to meet, books to have signed,

etc. Each participant took home a 350 page proceedings edited in a heroic effort by Dr. James Waddick to whom we all owe a large thank you. With over fifty contributors from around the world, it should prove to be an interesting, limited edition, collectors' item. Species are at the root of all hybrids, and Signa's Symposium proved that species are a dynamic and exciting area of interest. A few new irisarians commented that they worried they would be intimidated by scientific jargon but discovered species to be fun and their fears unfounded.

Everyone was helpful, including Mother Nature. The early spring display outside was at a peak. The Greater St. Louis Iris Society came through, as always, with gracious hospitality. The young Gateway Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society proved they could do a great job as their first convention experience. As gardeners, we proved we could pull together.

Bringing together so many intelligent people always results in new ideas and challenges for the future. The 1923 Iris Symposium in France initiated work toward an international registry which, conducted by The American Iris Society, has continued to this day with the publication of iris check lists. It could be argued that this has been the most important purpose of The American Iris Society in the first 75 years. I believe we have identified another purpose that is as important for the next 75 years.

Dr. Rodionenko, who Brian Mathew calls Mr. Iris, presented the participants with a problem and a challenge. Being a salesman, I understand that every problem is always an opportunity, if you view it correctly. I believe Dr. Rodionenko's challenge may represent an idea as important as registration was in 1923.

Dr. Rodionenko has spent the past forty years of his life studying irises. He has seen once bountiful populations of wild iris disappear. He has identified twelve beautiful species which are on the verge of extinction. One such iris is a yellow *reticulata* species which occurred on only two mountains. Recently, one population was totally destroyed, and the other is in precarious condition. By collecting some plants and propagating them in St. Petersburg, he was able to reintroduce plants into their former habitat, giving them a second chance of survival. Unfortunately, many endangered bearded irises will not survive the harsh climate of St. Petersburg. Dr. Rodionenko has students and colleagues throughout the Soviet Union. He has proposed that, with some financial assistance, he could mobilize these individuals to collect seed and plants of rare irises to be grown in appropriate climates in the USA, where, hopefully, stocks could be increased for reintroduction into their native habitat. Many of these are forms of species unknown to American gardeners. Of course, establishing them in cultivation and distributing them among gardeners would safeguard their existence. Can The American Iris Society rise to this challenge? Jean Witt explained in her talk how species may not only be valuable garden subjects in themselves, but provide those critical genes for the improvement of garden cultivars of the future. I believe there could be no nobler cause than such an effort to protect our irises' genetic resources.

Several people have already asked me how they can help. Dr. Waddick has already begun raising money for this effort. Jim and I will keep the members of AIS aware of what plans are developed to ensure the survival of these

species. Signa has expressed a commitment to species preservation and already is attempting to help through its seed exchange (Darrell Probst) and scientific committee (Phil Ogilvie).

It troubles me that the USA has no organized effort ongoing to save its garden heritage, both species and cultivars. Australia, New Zealand, France, and Great Britain have all developed systems of national collections that include one or more collections of iris. The United States has, as yet, not gotten its act together, but that does not preclude the AIS from acting. Great Britain has proven the practicality and value of national collections. The USA offers even more promise with our greater diversity of climates. Someday, I would like to see us save not only Dr. Rodionenko's species but some of our own cultivars. These are two separate but related topics.

At the moment these Russian species are in eminent danger and every growing season may be the last. Anyone wishing to help Dr. Rodionenko, feel free to contact me or Jim Waddick.

I would judge the symposium a success, and I expect many ideas were discussed and contacts made that will enrich the lives of the participants in the future. Prague, Rome and New Zealand have already offered to do another in a few years. These offers were serious, and we will be communicating to decide where and when we should pass the torch.



Presenters at the International Species Symposium were (L to R): Bob Pries, Eberhard Schuster (Germany), Alan McMurtrie (Canada), Jean Witt, Darryl Probst, Dr. Georg Rodionenko (Russia), Dave Niswonger, Brian Matthew (Great Britain), Colin Rigby, Dr. James Waddick, Phil Ogilvie, and Panyoti Kelaidis. Photo by Jean Morris.

DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins

This time we will discuss a little of this and a little of that. I ran across the following two schedules and thought you might like to adapt them to your show as needed. *Be sure to require emphasis on irises in each design* and try allowing accessories in some or all design classes, depending on the theme.

One schedule was based on Broadway plays and designs could be named:

“APPLAUSE, APPLAUSE”—and do a mass or line mass with all fresh plant material.

“CHORUS LINE”—a line or line mass might work with some fresh and dried plant materials.

“ANYTHING GOES”—obviously this should be a design of your choice using fresh, dried and treated plant materials.

“MAIN ATTRACTION”—this again could be designer’s choice.

“PHANTOM OF THE OPERA”—how about a line design with fresh, dried and treated materials. (I could picture this one with dramatic reds, blacks and a touch of white)

“OKLAHOMA”—a line or line mass using fresh and dried plant material.

Another schedule used art as the theme, and it was called “The Artist’s Eye.” The design classes were as follows:

“ROMANTIC REVIEW”—Mass design with all fresh plant material interpreting Romanticism in 18th Century art.

“ARTISTIC LICENSE”—This title would lend itself to designer’s choice of the type of design using fresh and dried plant material.

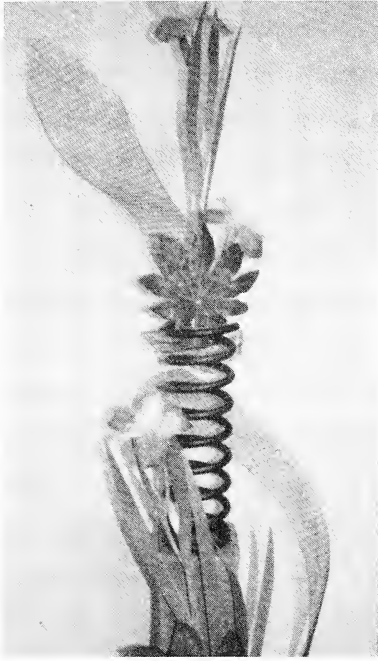
“AGELESS ART”—Depict art of an ancient culture. Allow designer’s choice of design type, and allow fresh and dried materials to be used.

“CUBIST COMPLEXITIES”—This title says creativity, creativity! Let your imagination go wild (while using good design principles) and allow fresh, dried and treated materials.

“MASTERFUL MASS”—Obviously a mass design using all fresh materials.

“FOLK ART FANCY”—This could be a creative design also using fresh and dried materials.

These are just ideas to inspire you as you write the schedule classes for design, and change any as you feel would suit your designers and their qualifications. A good rule to add to the design section is to require designers to include a card of explanation about the design. This will help the judges interpret the thoughts of the designer and will help the public as they view the designs. Also, ask for a list of the plant materials used. This is educational, and that is what a flower show is all about.



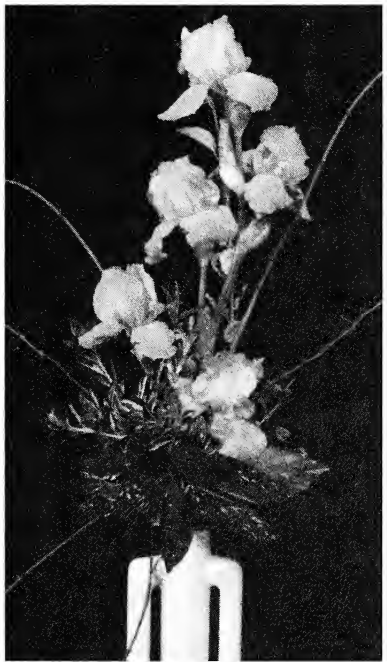
Picture 1



Picture 2



Picture 3



Picture 4

Pictures Nos. 1 and 2 are both very creative designs that were in a flower show in Milledgeville last year. They incorporate all of the principles of design, they are well executed, and to top it off, they are both done by men. Design is not gender specific, and they are fun to do as they allow ALL of us to use our imagination and be creative with one of our favorite flowers.

Picture No. 1 was done by Joe Scott Watson (Louisiana iris used was COUP D' ETAT 1990 by Dunn). As we discussed his design, he shared with me how he got started. He did not necessarily score on top with his first design, but he kept trying, got some input from judge friends, kept trying, and now, he is a consistent blue ribbon winner (in BOTH design and horticulture). As Joe and I discussed the future of AIS, we agreed that it certainly rests in the hands of the youth, and they should be included in all shows in both design and horticulture.

Picture No. 2 was done by Earnest Yearwood. Earnest is a great designer (as is his wife, Juanita) and uses large, bold materials which capture the top prizes. He is also a great horticulturist and grows *hemerocallis* in addition to wonderful irises.

Pictures Numbered 3 and 4 were both done by Marshall Goforth. He is interested in designing and has been competing for some time, and as you can see, has been very successful. Picture No. 3 depicts the theme "Birds in Flight" in a recent Piedmont Carolina flower show and is a nice combination of irises and *strelitzia* (Bird of Paradise). It won the NCSGC Tricolor ribbon. A *very special* honor for him was the use of Picture No. 4 on the cover of the Garden Club of South Carolina Engagement Calendar. The iris used was CAROLINA GOLD.

One last thought—open your mind to new ideas, whether it be to do a design you have never tried, or whether it is simply taking a different route to the grocery store. Some deep thoughts sneak in here from time to time, and we want to try something new but are nervous or afraid someone will make fun of us. The time is now to try it, don't wait. This might apply to any part of your life, but take heed that if you wait, you may not get the chance again. Help out with the local show, help weed someone's garden, take those blooms that you hesitate to take to the show, take a chance, take a chance, take a chance—you might like it. Open your mind to change—they call it "progress." Think of all the great things that have been accomplished by a person trying something new that someone said couldn't be done. Include designs in your show, try a new location for your show, do a design you have never done before, grow a type of iris you have never grown before—and take another route to the grocery store. Good luck!

If you have any questions contact Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236-2512.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan

CITY OF FLORENCE INTERNATIONAL IRIS COMPETITION

When the application forms for the City of Florence International Iris Competition arrived this year, it was apparent that the address of the Societa' Italiana dell'Iris (Italian Iris Society) has changed. The new address is:

Societa' Italiana dell'Iris
Via Bolognese, 17
50139 Firenze
Italy

For iris breeders who have not entered this competition in the past, you can obtain information on how to enter, along with the entry applications, by writing the International Competition Committee at the same address. This is also the address to which irises for competition must now be sent.

The rules for submitting irises for this competition are precise, and must be followed. Also, you must obtain a phytosanitary certificate from your State agricultural department or from the USDA plant inspection office at international airports. Even though this requires some effort, it is well worth it.

One of the most outstanding features of this competition is that irises are identified by a coding system, and judges are not aware of the names of the hybridizers or of the cultivars when making their assessments. Tall bearded irises and border bearded irises are eligible if they are seedlings or have been registered less than five years from the date of entry.

HISTORIC IRISES IN FRANCE

In an excellent article in the Winter 1994 issue of *Iris et Bulbeuses* entitled "Cultivez des iris anciens" ("Growing Antique Irises"), Jean Peyrard mentions an iris that will be of interest to historic iris collectors and to reblooming iris enthusiasts. M. Peyrard writes that the white iris LUGANO (Cayeux 1948) is more dependable in its rebloom in his garden in Grenoble than any of the modern, American bred rebloomers. He wonders why this iris has not been used to establish a different line of rebloomer breeding.

TOMAS TAMBERG

In 1994, the British Iris Society awarded the Foster Memorial Plaque to Dr. Tomas Tamberg. Dr. Tamberg, who resides in Berlin, Germany, is well known to many members of The American Iris Society. His many achievements certainly merit special recognition and, upon reading about his history in the British Iris Society 1994 *Year Book*, thought it appropriate to share this information with you.

Dr. Tamberg, whose doctorate is in nuclear chemistry, heads a precision chemical analysis laboratory in Germany. He remains active in the nuclear field and often attends international meetings representing Germany.

Dr. Tamberg first became a member of the British Iris Society as an extension to his membership in the German Society of Friends of the Hardy Perennial (Gesellschaft der Staudenfreunde). He organized the iris section of that organization, and has organized and exhibited in a large number of German iris shows. Even before becoming active in iris organizations, he grew and bred tall bearded irises. He often enters (and wins many prizes) in shows in Great Britain.

Although Dr. Tamberg has registered 14 TBs, his work with Siberians and interspecific hybrids is probably better known to most of us. He has registered 39 Siberians, 23 of which are tetraploids. Many of his Cal-sibes, Sibtosas, Chrysatas and Versilaev hybrids are extraordinary plants, and he continues to work at new, innovative crosses.

Dr. Tamberg has written numerous articles on various aspects of irises, and on his unusual breeding lines and techniques. His contributions to the world of irises are numerous and distinguished, and we join in congratulating him upon the well-deserved honors bestowed by the British Iris Society.

REPORT ON *IRIS PSEUDOPUMILA*

In the latest issue of the British Iris Society *Year Book* there is also a most informative article, "Looking at *Iris pseudopumila*" by Nigel Service. This article is recommended to those interested in dwarf irises and iris species. One of the most significant items in this article is Mr. Service's observation that the species is much larger than reported in past measurements.

Mr. Service reports that the plants of *Iris pseudopumila* blooming on the island of Gozo had as many stems reaching over 20 cm as they had under that height. The other parts of the plants on Gozo were considerably larger than the official description also. He suggests that the "race on Gozo has become so distinct in its isolation from those of Sicily and its sister island that formal recognition, possibly of subspecies rank, should be accorded it. Perhaps *gozensis* would be a suitable epithet.

PLANTING AND CARE OF BEARDED IRISES

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

It's summer—time to plant bearded irises. In warmer climates, this may be done into the last months of the year, but northern gardeners need to know their climate and know when is the last good time to plant and still have good survival rates. Probably, July through September is the best time to plant.

Iris plants may arrive as early as July, but many people successfully hold them out of the ground until later. Southern gardeners may want to request later shipment because of losses which may result from planting and watering during hot, steamy summer months. Some people shade newly planted irises. This sometimes creates a “tacky” sight, but there are those people who consider our garden markers tacky too, so if it is a good idea for you, have at it.

Those who live in hot summer areas may discover that the sun actually bleaches the color out of the fans. Irises usually recover from this, but one should try to avoid the problem by using shade, delaying the planting, or planting the rhizomes so that the sun doesn't shine directly on the full side of the fan, i.e. if the sun's rays come directly from the west, plant the rhizome so that the direct rays hit the edge of the fan.

Where the irises are planted is very important. Irises need at least a half day of full sun. Anyone who has been around irises has seen the pathetic stem that grew in search of sun. It usually gets too tall, falls over, and has blooms only on the side nearest the sun. Plants with too little sun do not perform well even when the stalks remain erect.

Median irises can tolerate more shade than their tall bearded relatives. Trees which do not leaf out until late in the season are not as much a problem as early ones. Irises should be outside the drip-line of a tree. Black walnut trees are NOT good companions for an iris planting. Some say that they poison the soil.

Raised beds are ideal for providing drainage needed by the irises. They should never be planted in an area which is lower than the surrounding lawn. Standing water will almost always lead to soft rot, and these low beds are an invitation.

Bearded irises prefer soil that is nearly neutral on the PH scale. If plants don't do well, a soil test might help find the problem. Oak leaves have a tendency to increase soil acidity, so if they are plentiful, try the test.

Organic matter can be added to the soil, and fertilizer which is low in nitrogen can be used in early spring and about a month after bloom. Many people incorporate fertilizer in the planting site as planting is done. This is placed below the rhizome, making sure that the two do not touch, or out to the side.

When planting, make sure that the rhizome is not planted too deeply. It should be just below the surface. In hot, humid areas, it is best to leave the top portion uncovered, particularly where the fan joins the rhizome.

Planting two feet apart is ideal, but most of us try to grow too many varieties and don't have enough space. If plants are close together, dividing will be necessary sooner than normal. Leaf spot may occur more frequently. If air does not circulate between the plants, rot problems may become common in humid periods. Some gardeners try to help this problem by cutting back the fans so that the sun reaches the rhizome area. No, we don't normally trim the fans except for the removal of unsightly brown tips from late freezes, etc.

Dividing the clumps every third year is recommended. Some plants can do well with dividing less often, and some must be divided more often. In some climates, growers divide every year, but this is seldom necessary in most areas.

As soon as bloom season ends, the bloomstalks must be removed. Old hands can snap the stalk with a quick hand movement. The newcomer may want to bend the stalk and cut it off at ground level with a sharp knife.

If a seed pod is on the stalk, it is sometimes a good idea to strip the stalk so there's no place for moisture to collect and cause rot.

If plants are newly planted, keep them moist, but NOT WET. Too much water invites rot, no water at all allows the plant to dry up without starting to grow.

Destroy all leaves infected with leaf spot. Cultivate shallowly, and keep the garden as weed and grass free as possible. Be VERY careful when using chemicals. Follow the directions explicitly.

Mulching is not recommended for bearded irises. It can lead to rot, and hundreds of varmints make their home underneath it.

If you aren't sure about the amount of sunlight in a particular place in your garden, go ahead and plant the irises in some selected spot. Then, next year, really study the area where the planting was made to see how much sunlight is hitting the plants. Knowing your garden well is a good step in selecting the proper planting site.

So, find a sunny, well-drained spot, make a raised bed, if possible, and plant. Spread out the roots, and don't plant too deeply. As soon as your bearded irises are starting to grow, it will be time to plant the beardless ones—and that's a different planting story.

APPROVED AFFILIATES 1995

Dave Niswonger

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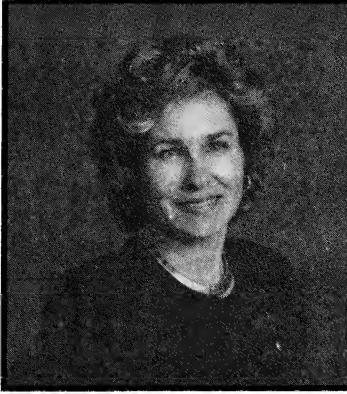
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YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

1995 YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to fourteen-year-old Danika King of St. Clair, Missouri, the winner of this year's Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Danika's interest in irises began when she was eight years old. Her many contributions to both the Washington Iris Club and to AIS are commendable.

Not only does Danika enthusiastically enter the horticulture educational and design divisions of her local iris shows, but she also helps less experienced youth members with their entries. She competes successfully against adults in the design division, has had Best Specimen in the youth division and won runner-up to Best Specimen in the adult division.

The Washington Iris Club noticed her natural ability to inspire others and appointed her as their Youth Director. Danika conducts special meetings for a growing number of youth members, always carefully preparing iris games and other fun activities to hold the interest of her young group. She ensures that everyone has a wonderful time while also learning about irises.

Danika maintains her own large iris garden of many iris types. She likes cold-hardy irises in dark colors and has a special interest in rebloomers and space agers. She experiments with various fertilizers and uses good cultural practices in her garden. Her present hybridizing goals include working toward a reblooming dark iris with the vigor and attractiveness of DUSKY CHALLENGER. Danika is excited that she was chosen last year to participate in a seedling evaluation program for Schreiner's Gardens.

A good artist, Danika submits many drawings and articles to the AIS youth newsletter, THE IRIS FAN. She has also entered the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest several times.

The Washington Iris Club appreciates having Danika around at iris show time and at iris sales. She finds it easy to talk about irises with everyone. She carefully explains how to plant and care for the rhizomes purchased by customers and encourages them to join her club and AIS. She has been successful in the recruitment of many new AIS members.

Danika was nominated by several members of her region. One nominator stated, "It is almost incredible that one so young has so much zeal, insight and ability to work with others. Her personality is happy, pleasant and cooperative. She is a joy to know." Words of another nominator include, "She combines learning about iris and FUN, an ideal combination for teaching youth members. This, plus her patience, makes her a natural leader."

Danika pays close attention at iris programs and judges' training sessions, and puts the knowledge gained into practice. Then, she goes a step farther and passes along this iris knowledge to others.

The first runner-up in this year's contest is, again, thirteen-year-old Shilo Gillam of Garden City, Kansas. With a long list of iris achievements and activities, Shilo is a valuable AIS member. She has many Silver Medals and Best of Show awards in the youth division, and has twice won Best Design in competition with adults. The many educational exhibits done by Shilo are a hit, as well.

Shilo is a very enthusiastic worker for her local affiliate, the Garden City Area Iris Club. She has helped at iris sales, has served as show clerk and has assisted her club as they hosted a regional tour. In addition, she presents an informative program for her club every year. Shilo began this tradition at age ten, the year after she won the Region 18 Stanley Goodman Youth Award.

Shilo has promoted irises through the 4-H Program for the past five years and is always encouraging classmates and school teachers to grow irises. She maintains her own iris garden of more than 100 varieties. While she prefers MTBs, she grows many iris types and is always willing to donate rhizomes for the local sales.

Creative, generous, enthusiastic and a superior leader are descriptive words used by Shilo's nominators.

In the second runner-up position this year, there was a three-way tie. Those sharing the honor are Erin Marie Griner of Bordentown, New Jersey, Ryan Koch of Pacific, Missouri, and Kenneth Smith of Holcomb, Kansas.

Fifteen-year-old Erin, also the second runner-up in the 1994 contest, is an enthusiastic irisarian who keeps her iris garden up to date by attending iris auctions. She has won many show honors, including Best of Show in competition with adults. She was the winner of the Ackerman Youth Essay Contest in 1993. She has been hybridizing for two years. She was advanced to Apprentice status in the AIS Judges' Training Program this year. She has served as Youth Chairman of Region 19 for the past two years. While this is a job usually reserved for an adult, Erin is doing an outstanding job.

Ryan Koch, aged eighteen, grows a very fine iris garden and has many iris awards to his credit, including several Youth Silver and Bronze Medals and Best Specimen awards. He helps set up shows and enters in both the horticulture and design divisions of several area shows each year. He has a hybridizing program which includes space agers and has entered his seedlings in shows. A candidate for Eagle Scout, Ryan is a hard working youth with an easygoing personality and a positive attitude. He was honored in 1994 with the Stanley Goodman Youth Award.

Kenny Smith, aged fifteen, is a dedicated worker for his local affiliate as he clerks and sets up shows each year. He has also co-chaired a show and helped host a garden for a spring regional tour.

Kenny has won many show medals and ribbons including Best Specimen of the youth division. He adds to his iris collection by attending iris auctions where he enjoys the excitement of bidding. He is always willing to donate rhizomes and helps out wherever needed. A winner of the Stanley Goodman Youth Award in 1991, Kenny is popular in his local affiliate because he is a dependable and willing worker. One of his nominators said, "His enthusiastic participation and superior leadership ability have been demonstrated over and over."

Are you thinking how wonderful it would be to clone each of these youth winners for your own affiliate? No doubt, they would add a spark of energy. If your iris society's roster included these youths, you would have a talented youth leader at the local level who works to increase AIS membership; a seller of rhizomes who patiently explains and demonstrates iris culture; a talented artist; a guaranteed, innovative iris program for one iris meeting each year; a promoter of irises to youth in the 4-H ranks; an Apprentice Judge and talented writer who was deemed mature enough to carry out the duties of Regional Youth Chairman; hybridizers of rebloomer and space agers; dependable helpers at sales and auctions; five more members with a good iris garden; and an energetic, hard working show committee. Wouldn't it be a dream come true? How many affiliate Presidents, when asking for volunteers, would be overjoyed to have five hands raised high?

While it is nice to dream, let's get back to reality. Perhaps you already have a few youth members with these talents or the potential for these talents. Think about what you need to do to develop your club's youths. If you have no youth members, recruit some. The payoff will be worth your while.

Danika, Shilo, Erin, Ryan and Kenny have all been nurtured by some wonderful AIS adults. These youths, in turn, have given back to AIS their many gifts of talent, creativity and hard work. May the contributions of these five young people inspire us to be a little friendlier, a little more flexible, a little more willing, a little more energetic and a lot more devoted to the promotion of The American Iris Society to others.

THE CLARKE COSGROVE FUND

An endowment by LaVerne Conrad, sister of former AIS President Clarke Cosgrove, was made through the Southern California Iris Society in 1979. At that time, the Youth Achievement Award Contest was renamed in memory of Dr. Cosgrove and became the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. He was a strong advocate of the youth program, so it is fitting that the Youth Achievement Award is named in his memory.

It is possible for affiliates and individual AIS members to add to the fund by simply noting, "Clarke Cosgrove Youth Fund" along with their contribution and sending it to the AIS Secretary. We are very grateful for a recent contribution by the Southern California Iris Society which makes a cash award possible for our 1995 winner. We appreciate this contribution and any others as

well. AIS youth membership is presently approaching 200. Also appreciated by the Youth Committee, are iris rhizomes and funds for shipment, hybridizing advice aimed at beginners, a page for youth news in regional bulletins and simple words of encouragement.

STRATEGIES FOR HYBRIDIZING

Marty Schafer (Massachusetts)

The seedlings that bloomed for the first time in the summer of 1992 have me very excited. One whole cross was so interesting that I saved every member. It is the next generation from my "Upright Styles," and that unusual feature has been passed on to some of its children. As hoped, the addition of SAILOR'S FANCY to the mix has improved the overall shape of the flower, but to my surprise and delight a great number of color patterns have emerged—blue standards and red falls, silvery purple selfs and pastel blues with rose blushing. The first bloom of these and other seedlings has me thinking about hybridizing. How can I best pursue the potential of these flowers? This is the goal of hybridizing—to discover variation, explore it, nurture it and magnify it. In thinking about the future, I realize that it is helpful to look into the past and figure out how I got here. Also, I want to remember and examine all the advice I have heard from experienced hybridizers. So my winter has been filled with thoughts and conversations of outcrossing, phenotype breeding, line breeding, sib and backcrossing etc. In the process I have found some interesting patterns in my own breeding and discovered lots of possibilities for the future of my seedlings.

There are two hybridizing tools which I have rejected, and I think for good reason. The first is sowing bee pods. This may be an effective method of exploring species or near species but is a very frustrating way to hybridize advanced generation hybrids like most named Siberians. The results give too little information. Half the history of the seedlings is missing and that presents serious limits to pursuing their future. If you are just starting out and want to grow seedlings, bee pods are one way to whet your appetite, but I encourage you to make hand pollinations. It will give your program much more power and give you many more possibilities to explore.

The second hybridizing tool which I do not use is selfing—putting pollen from an iris onto itself. This procedure was highly recommended by some early hybridizers both as a method to determine immediately the pod and pollen fertility of a plant, and as a way to advance a breeding program by exaggerating a desired quality of the flower. I have only made a few self crosses, but each time the results have been disappointing. The seeds sprouted poorly, the seedlings grew weakly, and there were no interesting features in the flowers.

So . . . what is left? Lots!

Outcrossing is using two parents that are unrelated to each other. The most extreme kind of outcross is an interspecies cross such as *I. sibirica* by the newly discovered *I. typhifolia*. However, it is also an outcross to mate two flowers that have basically different parentage—even if they both have a little WHITE SWIRL in their backgrounds as most modern Siberians do. As a tool or a strategy, outcrossing is useful as a place to begin. It is a place to start searching for new features and patterns or simply to explore the possibilities of combining two irises. Last summer I noticed that SNOW PRINCE (Sarah Tiffney's albino *I. sibirica*) has among other wonderful qualities, yellow buds, and I thought "wouldn't it be great to have a plant and flower like SNOW PRINCE but in yellow. A little yellow butterfly!" So I made a number of outcrosses—SNOW PRINCE X BUTTER AND SUGAR, ISABELLE, and a number of yellow seedlings, and (for no reason), SPRINGS BROOK. Because the plants are so unrelated almost anything can result when they flower, but I will be looking for the smallest and yellowest seedlings to carry on the next generation. And if anything else promising shows up, I won't ignore that either.

A variant of outcrossing is phenotype breeding, which ignores parentage and crosses flowers with similar features—light blue with light blue, pink with pink, large signals with large signals, rims with rims. I have done a little of this with neither outstanding nor disastrous results.

The results of outcrossing are not always positive. The flower forms of the parents may be so incompatible that the children have ugly, twisted, awkward or dull flowers. I crossed SNOW CREST with SPRINGS BROOK and DANCER'S FAN with TEALWOOD. The seedlings grew like weeds and had great branching and bud count, but the flowers were awful and had no interesting features.

As a tool, outcrossing is not for refining form or enhancing a particular feature. If a great signal, color or shape emerges from an outcross, a second outcross may well suffocate that new feature. At this point I suggest a different strategy—line breeding. The theory behind line breeding is that crossing irises with common ancestors has the potential to strengthen a desired feature by massing or organizing the genes. Line breeding presents opportunities which with outcrossing are achieved mostly by luck. There are several approaches to line breeding—backcrossing, sibcrossing, and what I call cousin crossing—and this winter, for the first time, I am beginning to understand the different values of each.

Backcrossing is when a hybridizer crosses an iris with its parent or grandparent. A good example of this is Bee Warburton's ATOLL. She outcrossed WHITE SWIRL with ERIC THE RED, then crossed one of those seedlings back on to WHITE SWIRL, then took one of those seedlings, crossed it back onto WHITE SWIRL, and came up with ATOLL. WHITE SWIRL is ATOLL's mother, grandmother and great grandmother. In the process Bee created a marvelous base for future breeding. From WHITE SWIRL, ATOLL has the potential of passing on to its children large flowers, two branches, vigor and excellent plant habits. ATOLL also has a feature of its own—dark fall edges, perhaps the beginning of a future plicata. Bee did not continue to backcross ATOLL to WHITE SWIRL. Instead she chose to outcross at this point. She had taken backcrossing as far as it needed to go.

Backcrossing may feel like a slow and incremental process, but it can be very important preparation in the early part of a breeding program. Each backcross consolidates genetic material. The hybridizer's job is to shepherd that genetic material by choosing strong characteristics generation after generation. Vigor, foliage, branching, bud count, form, clear color, and substance are some of the many qualities that the hybridizer concentrates into a breeding base. It might feel like the hybridizer is standing still, but this is an illusion. At some point the base is strong enough and the hybridizer can begin to explore some of the variation that has appeared. This is where the strength of the base is proven. All of the genetic material that has been organized by backcrossing is like a strong current that flows through the future generations. As new genetic elements are added to the line, the consistency of good form, substance and plant habits should remain, and even if lost in one generation should be easily recovered in the next. The hybridizer can save a lot of time and trouble by starting with a good base. After building up the base the hybridizer is presented with other breeding possibilities—outcrossing or using the other strategies of line breeding.

The second type of line breeding is sibcrossing (sibling crossing)—mating children from the same cross. Bee Warburton's most successful use of ATOLL was to outcross it to RUFFLED VELVET and then take those children and embark on a long series of sib crosses. GEORGE HENRY was one of these children and when crossed with a sibling (ARV 80-28) produced SPRINGS BROOK. SPRINGS BROOK inherited repeat bloom and double branching from GEORGE HENRY and large blue flowers from ARV 80-28.

I crossed PERCHERON with BUTTER AND SUGAR hoping to start a new line of large yellow flowers. I knew yellow was unlikely to show up in the first batch of children and it didn't. But I did get two seedlings that had large fuzzy, soft-yellow signals. One was blue-violet, the other red-violet. They were interesting but far from gorgeous. I crossed them with each other. Up until then I had never made sibcrosses because I was afraid they would be like self-crosses and produce weak plants, but the results were good. One seedling was greenish yellow indicating that a recessive feature like BUTTER AND SUGAR's yellow coloring is recoverable in a sibcross. Most of the seedlings had stronger and larger strong yellow signals, showing that sibcrosses can strengthen small variations. The best thing that happened was a surprise. It was a single seedling that had pale purple falls with a visible layer of yellow under the whole surface of the falls. Naturally it was the one seedling in the cross that had some weaknesses in flower form and stalk strength. It has good breeding behind it, and its children should improve quickly. I wonder if any other kind of cross could have given this result. I made a lot of sibcrosses this year on the strength of this one cross.

The last strategy for line breeding is what I call *cousin* crossing, and I discovered this winter that this is the strategy I use the most. "Cousins" may be all kinds of family relations. They could be aunts, first or second cousins, and even half-siblings or a combination of these. These relationships are a little more distant and can be a lot more complicated than parent-child or siblings. The parents of my seedlings, having come from such a well developed program as Bee's, are pretty closely related with three grandparents in common

or many great-grandparents in common. My outstanding cross this year from “Upright Styles” X SAILOR’S FANCY is this kind of cousin cross. I traced its family tree and found PERCHERON appearing as grandfather and great-grandmother. ATOLL and RUFFLED VELVET each appeared five times and WHITE SWIRL made twenty two known appearances! I made the cross with “Upright Styles” as my primary goal. I wanted to retain the beautiful, floretted stylearms but I also wanted to see them on a flower with nicer form (“Upright Styles” has narrow, twisted falls) and perhaps with a nicer signal (“Upright Styles” has a very bright green UU signal). So I crossed it with the flower with the best form in my breeding program—SAILOR’S FANCY. The results were much more than I had anticipated. All of the flowers were large and full and had good form. Most had upright stylearms—at least to some degree. The signals are softer and lovely. In addition, however, the bitone-ness of SAILOR’S FANCY appeared in a number of the seedlings AND a series of color combinations I have not seen before in Siberians.

I might have backcrossed “Upright Styles” to PERCHERON or MAD MAGENTA or sibcrossed it. And that would have been one way to go. Instead I looked forward in my program to an iris with the same strong genetic base as PERCHERON and MAD MAGENTA, but incorporating the improvements of the last few years’ work. SAILOR’S FANCY is a great advance in form over PERCHERON, SILVER ROSE, MAD MAGENTA and SPRINGS BROOK. So instead of going back to the genetic base, I went forward to the genetic base. In my mind, that is the key to cousin crossing—going forward. Of course, I didn’t know that as clearly two and a half years ago when I made the cross as I do now. I was just going on instinct.

Not every cousin cross I have made has this exciting a result (I do think I hit the cousin crossing jackpot), but the basic principle still flows through the results. Cousin crossing has the same benefits as other kinds of line breeding and yet, it also moves forward from the best products of current breeding—not sideways or sideways or backwards.

I’ve learned a lot writing this article. All of the breeding strategies are important and valuable throughout the life of the program. Outcrossing is a place to start, and it can also change the direction of a line. Backcrossing will build a strong breeding base by using again and again a plant with superior qualities. It can also strengthen fledgling variations and occasionally will create new variations. Sibcrossing is a way to combine the best qualities of both of the original parents without either one of them dominating, and like backcrossing, it occasionally creates new variations. Cousin crossing capitalizes on line breeding work that has gone before. It takes advantage of the best developments of a breeding program.

I do not intend to belittle the value of instinct in choosing parents for breeding. I still believe it is one of the most important elements. And clearly, this discussion of breeding strategies is just a beginning and is in no way definitive. But I feel it gives me more tools to work with to understand what I’ve been doing and where I’m going.

Reprinted from The Siberian Iris, Spring 1993.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schreiner



Phil Williams (TN), Mike James (OH), Hugh Thurman (KY) and Suzanne Sluizer (NM)

REGION 14

PREVIEW TOUR IN SACRAMENTO

Joyce Ragle (California)

This has been an interesting year weatherwise in the Sacramento and San Joaquin Valleys of California. It was quite warm and dry in February; almost constantly wet in January and March; very rainy in April, and we had more rain and sogginess underfoot on April 29 for our spring regional. We did a practice run with the buses for the 1996 convention to the gardens in the Stockton and Sacramento areas.

The first garden visited was Valley Gardens (Scott and Elaine Reed) at Linden. The Victorian home has a lawn and pool which are surrounded by raised beds of irises. A few guest plants in bloom here were RAINBOW HUES (R. Ernst '92), a huge, wide, ruffled lavender and gold blend, edged light brown, and yellow hafts; VIOLET DAWSON (D. Niswonger '93), a large, lightly ruffled cream with slightly darker falls; Mary Dunn's M88-1055A, a ruffled and fringed cream yellow with yellow beard; Sterling Innerst's 3147-1, a gorgeous ruffled peach; and Marky Smith's PHAETON, a ruffled bright yellow gold with tight branching.

Our next stop was Stockton Gardens (Jim McWhirter and Abe Feuerstein) at Stockton. This property is the former garden of Keith Keppel. It features many beautiful irises, many lovely roses, shrubs and trees. Several of the guests that I noted here were VOLTAGE (V. Messick '93), a bright orange; Schreiner's CC 758-B, which I thought was the most different flower I saw on the entire trip—a large flower with cream white standards, cream white falls with a wide rose band around them (not a plicata pattern) with gold hafts and beard, and gold veins shot part way down the falls; YAQUINA BLUE (Schreiners '92), a large mid blue; KISS THE DAWN (Fred Kerr '94) which was ruffled and well branched with 9 buds and rosy standards, light salmon falls with a rosy edge; CHEATING HEART (Keppel '94) a beautifully ruffled flower with warm peach standards and apricot falls with a small cream spot under red orange beards, maroon plicata markings at haft; and YELLOW BRICK ROAD (Gibson '92) a yellow plicata, proved to be popular with the visitors. Vern Wood had several nice pink seedlings for which I did not get the seedling numbers. Jim McWhirter's HOLLY GOLIGHTLY is also one to look for in this garden.

Lauer's Flowers (Larry and Marcy Lauer) in Wilton had guest beds planted in the front, with a variety of beardless irises planted in the back of their home. Larry had several impressive originations of his own in bloom—JURASSIC PARK (Lauer '95) is a huge flower with yellow standards and violet falls; OPENING ACT ('91) is a ruffled and fringed orchid; STRICTLY BALLROOM ('94) is a large ruffled and fringed iris with white standards and light violet blue falls; STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN ('93), a sibling of STRICTLY BALLROOM, has off white standards, mid lavender blue falls and is lightly ruffled. Other guests I liked were ELECTRIQUE (Barry Blyth '93-94), a medium sized flower

with light blue standards and light plummy rose falls with a purplish henna beard which appears very dark; Joe Ghio's 90-10102, a lovely fringed wide light yellow with just a hint of peach in the midrib of the standards, Ben Hager's DIXIE MOON, a beautifully branched light yellow iris; and Ben Hager's RITE OF SPRING ('92) which is a darker and bluer OLYMPIAD pattern.

After lunch, we visited Roris Gardens (Aki Terada) in Sacramento. The office area is nicely landscaped. This is a large property with a creek running through it. Native trees line the banks. Along this creek is a Dykes Medal collection from 1930 to 1994. To the north of this is a large pond area where Japanese irises are being grown. Adjacent to this area is where the beardless guest irises are planted. Some of the noteworthy ones that were blooming were the Siberian PATIO ROSE (L. Bellagamba) which has light lavender rose flowers with round dark blue halos on the falls; D-4-36, Dana Borglum's beautiful light blue stands, darker blue, very round falls Siberian; the Louisiana iris STAR POWER (M. Dunn '93), which is a ruffled intense violet with very small signals and with fine branching; the spuria LEMON DILEMMA (L. Johnsen) which has deep violet blue standards and large round falls of yellow edged lighter blue; and the spuria DANDELITE (Charles Jenkins '94), a nicely ruffled clear bright yellow. South of the beardless guests are the bearded guest beds. In these beds I picked out OVERJOYED (Gatty '94), a ruffled flower of light yellow with falls edged darker.

The last stop was at M.A.D. Iris Garden (Bob and Mary Dunn) in Sacramento. Well cared for, there is beauty wherever one looks in this garden. Along the driveway on the north side are rows of 1995 introductions and seedling "keepers." In this section were seen the 1995 introductions BROADWAY JOE (B. Dunn), a variegata with old gold standards and burgundy falls; FABIO (B. Dunn), a large ruffled blue violet self; PRETTY IS (R. Mullin) ruffled medium yellow with a white area in the center. Some of the 1995 introductions had already bloomed. Along the side of the house were many hanging baskets and plants in pots. Some lovely rhododendrons were in bloom. Next to the deck in the back of the house was a collection of cute miniature roses in containers and in full bloom. Along the fence on the other side were Louisiana seedlings. There was a pond with water lilies and goldfish, and as I passed that, irises, irises, irises, and more irises planted in raised beds. Most of these are seedlings and reselected, both Louisiana and tall bearded, but one bed is planted with recent tall bearded introductions from various hybridizers. As I made my way out of the back yard and returned to the driveway, I paused to look at the large collection of Louisiana varieties on the south side of the front yard. So the day's tour was over, but I can look back and reflect on what I have seen and look forward to next year's convention.

At the state capitol planting of irises hybridized by Region 14 hybridizers, the grounds keepers have taken very good care of the iris plants and the growth on most of the plants was exceptional, with tall branched stalks and very large flowers in most instances. Some of the varieties that I particularly liked in this planting were: STATUS SEEKER (Lily Gartman '90), a ruffled peach; DESIGNING WOMAN (Gatty '90), ruffled and fringed lavender; HORATIO (B. Hager '91), a dark ruffled lavender; AUSTRIAN GARNETS

(Maryott '91), a ruffled deep blackish red; WINGS OF GOLD (Maryott '91), a white and yellow amoena; LOVELY SPRING (C. McCord '91), a huge flower with yellow standards and lavender falls, brown at hafts; VOLTAGE (Messick '93), a ruffled bright orange; ELECTRIC SURGE (J. Weiler '92), a pale blue with intense blue beards; and PACIFIC DESTINY (Lauer '93) a ruffled medium blue.



Carolyn Lingenfelter and Marge Jansen of Nebraska and Jim Xerogeanes of California visit with garden owner Susan Marquart.



Carolyn Lingenfelter and Phil Williams in a Pennsylvania Garden. Photos by Mullin.

CAN THEY GROW IRISES IN MONTANA?

Jerry and Donna Bowers (Montana)

Yes, irises can be grown in Montana. It takes a lot of patience and the ability to not go totally beserk when all too often our wonderful climate has eliminated half the previous year's planting. In spite of only 14" of rain a year, often open winters, late January temperatures in the 50s followed by storms and windchills that can reach -70 degrees, many types of iris do quite well here in western Montana.

At an elevation of about 3,200 feet, Missoula has a normal frost free season of 111 days. Just 8 short miles south of Missoula in Lolo, our season has been as little as 80-90 days between killing frosts. Depending on the map we are in USDA Zone 4 or 5. Soils are generally clay and alkaline. Summer days are quite long and temperatures can reach the 90s or higher at times, but the nights are always cool. In July the average high is 85 and the average low is 50. Peak TB bloom is generally around the 10th of June. At least that is when we optimistically schedule our show.

Freeze and thaw are the biggest iris enemies here. Sometimes the rhizomes are lifted completely out of the ground. In two SDB clumps this year the mother rhizome was literally split nearly in half. There can be quite a bit of botrytis problems in the spring and sometimes soft rot. Leaf spot is generally not too big a problem, and we don't seem bothered by borers. Deer have become an increasing nuisance even in the heart of town. They just love to munch irises.

Most of us grow TBs because when they do well they do very well. Medians, Siberians and spurias do quite well and are becoming more popular. Aril-breds, in general, do well, but some cultivars seem quite short lived. A few of our members have had some success with JIs and LAs although they don't really seem very happy here. Pure arils are a sometime thing: working well in one garden and not in another even under similar conditions. *Pseudacorus* does well if kept wet enough, and some species do well but are not widely grown. Our native *I. missouriensis*, of course, does well for anyone who wants to grow it.

Microclimates play an especially important role here, especially in TB survivability. Oranges and pinks can be especially difficult, with one cultivar growing like a weed in one garden and barely hanging on in another. If it is possible to use the Montana Symposium as any sort of guide, these are some of the survivors: GYPSY WOMAN (Schreiner's '85), LORILEE (Schreiner's '81), MYSTIQUE (Ghio '75), STEPPING OUT (Schreiner's '64). Yes, many of us do grow newer varieties, but it seems that the older ones are either doing better or have had more exposure to make the popularity poll.

Medians are becoming more popular here, quite frankly because they have a higher survival rate, as well as adding to the bloom season. A couple of SDB examples are PUMPIN' IRON (P. Black '90) and PLUM WINE (Weiler '86).

IB's MAUI MOONLIGHT (Aitken '87), AZ AP (Ensminger '80) and SUNSHINE BOY (Foster '86) are good growers. LENORA PEARL (Nichols '90) and SHENANIGAN (Keppel '85) are holding up the BB end quite nicely. MTB's don't seem to have gotten too much of a foothold with growers here yet. Occasionally, we do have rebloomers, but the most successful ones are generally older varieties that seem able to put up with the vagaries of our climate. CORAL CHARMER (Wright '83) did rebloom this year and managed to put up enough increase that it should survive.

While some years can be a bit disappointing because of weather there is always enough bloom to keep us looking forward to spring because, yes, we can grow irises in Montana.

THE GARDENS OF MISSOULA

Ron Mullin (Oklahoma)

The gardens of Missoula irisarians are not large when compared to some in other parts of the country, but they are well grown and filled with various plants.

Grace Note Garden and Bed and Breakfast belongs to Bob and Billie Grey. The yard is filled with plants of various types, and irises are scattered throughout the garden. Healthy foliage showed no signs of leaf spot. For those who don't remember, GRACE NOTE was the name of a Melba Hamblen SDB. It is at the Grey's home that the enthusiastic Missoula Iris Society members have many of their "eating" meetings. Think how much fun it would be to spend a night in a Bed and Breakfast where one could awaken early and go outside to view the irises.

Swede and Betty Ann Gustafson grow things in a raised beds, something which is probably not a must since rainfall is so sparse. They had the largest petunias I've ever seen. Dahlias were as plentiful as irises, and everything was well grown. Those large petunias were just an equal sized companion for everything else seen here.

Bob and Alverta Symes live in a rural, wooded area, and they need something to deter the deer which seem to love their irises. A walk to the back of the garden leads to a deep ravine through which a clear stream rushes in quest of lower ground. Directly in front of their home is a mountain with a face so sheer it would be a challenge to mountain climbers. Theirs is a serene setting which the irises seemed perfectly happy to live.

Ken and Rosemary Baier are also into dahlias, but they grow plenty of irises in raised beds. Their garden features pools and fountains to enhance the planting. A tall mountain looms near their home, completely blocking the sun for part of the day. When I was there, it served as a silent sentinel for the garden, but high on its side was evidence of a forest fire. Trees, mostly evergreen, are numerous in Missoula, but they are strangely missing in many parts of the

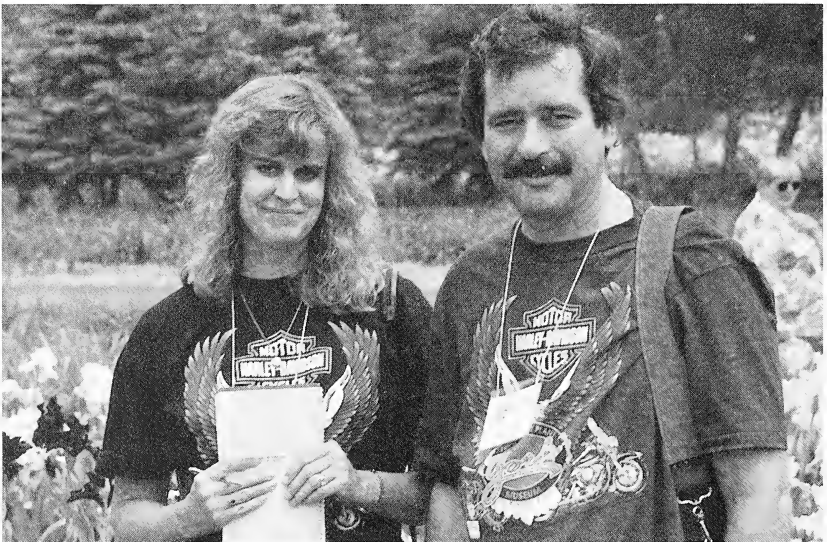
town. It must be pleasant to sit in this garden in the cool of the afternoon and listen to the gurgling water and view the irises.

Jerry and Donna Bowers had the most extensive iris planting, and what a healthy group of plants they were. Planted in beds surrounded by a lush carpet of green lawn, these irises seemed to love their home, even though winter weather might provide them a stiff challenge. No matter which garden one visits, there is a mountain in view, and this one had a mountain which provides the breezes which come down and bring those early freezes that Jerry mentions in his article. Here the foliage was wide and healthy, probably because of Jerry's abundant compost pile. I saw not a sign of any disease whatever. One who truly loves irises could sit in this garden and enjoy them any time of year—well, maybe not when those winter winds are howling.

At historic Fort Missoula, this active group has a planting of irises for the public to view. When I visited, it was evident that the group gives this planting plenty of care. Deer are a problem, but this place must surely interest others in irises.

Although Missoula has an arid climate, rivers filled with rushing water pass through the town. Ironically, these rivers are not used for drinking water or for other household needs. The water comes from wells, and the supply seems plentiful.

Foliage was not as tall in Missoula as it is in some places, but it was more healthy than in most. On two occasions I've visited the friendly Missoula Iris Society members, and these are just a few of the iris gardens found there. Can they grow irises in Montana? Yes, they certainly can, and they have fun doing it. Region 11 is vast, and few AIS members ever visit there, but anyone who has a chance should visit Big Sky Country. It will be Big Reward Country, I promise.



Beth and Jim Alley of Austin, Texas in the Innerst Garden in Pennsylvania. Photo by Mullin.

WHAT'S NEW IN GARDEN LABELS

Lewis Lawyer (California)

Labeling garden plants is not for everyone. If you just desire a pleasant setting, tranquility, and a succession of beautiful flowers, labels might even seem intrusive. If, however, your garden is open to friends or groups who are interested in flowers and their identity, labels become a helpful way to let them know what plant they are admiring (or perhaps coveting). Ultimately, if you are breeding and selecting, selling plants, or giving them to your friends, and need to know their exact identity, labels can become a necessity. It is then that you discover that many plants, especially iris, look very much alike when not in bloom.

There was a discussion of labels in the Fall, 1992, issue of the ALMANAC, inspired by a letter from Kenneth Hixson of Eugene, Oregon. At that time I wrote that, in my opinion, the combination of "See Fine" stakes from See-Fine Marker Company of Lewiston, Idaho, and snap-on labels from Evergreen Garden Plant Labels of Cloverdale, California, make the finest labels available. Shortly after that, I placed an order with Evergreen, and found out that the clip-ons were no longer being produced.

So last year I decided to try making the labels on the computer. How computers do it, I don't know, but it seems to be a simple task for them to spew out data in any form you desire. I already had all the plant names in the computer for printing the pages of our plot book, so I called for a "label layout," and without having to type a word, there was a potential label for every plant in the garden.

Unfortunately, the only label sheets I could find were those manufactured by Avery for mailing labels. I inquired at garden supply outlets, nurseries, and office supply stores, but none had heard of a peel-off label for garden use. So, although their shortcomings were obvious, I printed about 200 self adhesive paper labels and scattered them appropriately throughout the garden.

These paper labels lasted about 3 months, and might have been satisfactory for a single-season usage, except for the ravages of one or more paper-recycling pests, possibly snails or earwigs, which ate more than half of them.

Later last season, I learned that sheets of plastic peel-off labels, especially made for garden use, were available from mail-order sources. Those of you who attended the AIS National Convention in Portland, saw them in use at several of the gardens. I got mine from Horticultural Printers Inc., P.O. Box 180318, Dallas TX 75218.

The labels are self-adhesive, opaque white plastic, and come in at least two sizes. The size I ordered was 1.25 inches x 2.5 inches, or 24 labels per standard sheet. The toner from either a laser printer or a copy machine fuses or bonds to their surface so that the print becomes both waterproof and sun-proof.

These can then be affixed to any garden label which is large enough to accommodate them. I still prefer the See Fine markers for irises. For those of you who are not familiar with them, they consist of a 1¼ x 3⅜-inch

galvanized sheet-metal plate hinged to a 1/8-inch steel wire stake. They are available in 24-inch and 13-inch heights which are suitable for tall bearded and other irises. I prefer even shorter stakes for the PCI. I have shortened a few hundred of them to 8-inches for this purpose.

If desired, the metal plates can be spray-painted, but this is a matter of choice. I have sprayed most of ours with hunters green. With the white plastic labels now available, perhaps a lighter color would be more appropriate, but I have hopes that eventually the peel-off labels will be available in more garden-friendly colors.

NOTE: These plastic peel-offs are also useful for even smaller garden labels. We are all familiar with the small 1/2-inch X 4, 5, or 6-inch white plastic labels which are fine for a season, and then become so brittle that the slightest bending will shatter them. Many have substituted aluminum Venetian blind slats, usually the 1-inch width, for the plastic. For my smaller labels, I am using 1/2-inch, cream-colored aluminum slats which can be cut to 5 or 6-inch lengths with a household scissors.

Since, as I noted earlier, the plastic peel-off labels are 1 1/4 inches high, you can get 2 plant descriptions on each label. You can then cut them into two 1/2-inch strips and stick them to the aluminum stakes. This results in a very legible small-plant label.

Reprinted from Almanac: Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris, Spring, 1995.

NEW ZEALAND IRIS SOCIETY CONVENTION 1995

Dorothy Wood (New Zealand)

The N.Z.I.S. Convention is to be held in New Plymouth in the Taranaki Province of New Zealand during and inclusive the 10th–14th of November 1995. The Taranaki province is world renowned for its fabulous gardens, which are governed by Mt. Egmont (Taranaki). A Rhododendron Festival is held just prior to the Iris Convention from the 27th Oct–5th November 1995. The Rhodo. Festival features over 100 gardens throughout the Province. Why not make it a holiday of a life-time and enjoy the Iris Convention as a bonus. The Convention will be held at the Quality Hotel Bell Block, a suburb of New Plymouth. As bookings are heavy at that time of the year it would pay to book early. Their Telephone No. is (06) 7550379 and Fax No. is (06) 7551616.

Registration fee is N.Z. \$80.00 payable before 14th October 1995.

Any inquiries contact: Mrs. Pat Hook,
19 Puketea St.
Inglewood,
Taranaki, 4651

Contact Telephone: (06) 7567361; New Zealand.

FROM SEA TO SHINING SEA

Graeme Grosvenor (Australia)

A whirlwind four-and-a-half weeks in the USA in May, 1994 certainly opened our eyes to your wonderful country. Together with my brother-in-law John Taylor and my wife Helen (John's sister), I managed to tear myself away from our business and venture to the U.S. for the first time. We would have loved to have traveled in April and thereby had the opportunity to tour Louisiana; but business just wouldn't allow that. As it worked out, Helen had to stay in Australia for two weeks before joining John and me in Oregon—but we certainly made the most of our limited time. When your host is Perry Dyer and hostess the effervescent Miss Kitty, you don't have time on your hands.

In a short period we experienced so much, met so many people, renewed old friendships and made new ones while managing to see "a few" irises en route. After the long flight to Los Angeles, the waiting and then the flight to Dallas, we were delighted and relieved to find Perry waiting at the airport to meet us. It was already getting late, but we made a quick drive downtown to see something of the famous Dallas skyline and then it was off to Marie Caillet's home in Little Elm. We arrived around 10:30 p.m., but patient lady that she is, Marie greeted us and made us most welcome and most comfortable.

Next day we had the opportunity to view Marie's garden. Louisiana irises were past peak and had to give way to a beautiful planting of larkspurs as a highlight, but there were still lots of irises to see. Quite a lot of John's Louisiana irises were still in bloom—some growing better than we can grow them, but all recognizable although colors varied slightly from our recollection of home plantings. However, this is not all that we had come to see. It was the American hybrids that interested us most and we were not disappointed.

Both John and I were most impressed with Joe Mertzweiller's 1992 tetraploid PROFESSOR NEIL. This large, slightly bi-toned red was growing extremely well. Flowers were large and heavily substantiated. It is a winner. Another tetraploid, the light yellow PROFESSOR FRITCHIE (Mertzweiller '95) also had all the desirable features. Both these irises were obviously very happy in the Caillet garden as was evidenced by the vigor and increase.

SWAMP FLAME (Mertzweiller '87) was written up by Perry Dyer in his *Contemporary Views* as being overlooked. As we saw it, I cannot understand why. The large, well-formed blooms are orange red with large yellow signals and heavy darker red veining. We loved it.

ROKKI ROCKWELL (Haymon '92) was of great interest to us both because of the flower and its namesake, the lady with whom I had corresponded quite a lot in the 1980s. The flower is a rich yellow with unmatched color intensity, the flowering spikes are of good quality, and the growth is vigorous. It was impressive, and so was the lady! We managed to meet up with Ellene later in the trip.

A very pleasant surprise was the shorter growing LITTLE MISS LEIGHLEY (Chowning '83). This was all done up in sunset tones with sepals lighter than

petals and large yellow signals edged darker. We have not grown this iris, and the loss has been ours.

HIGH RANK (Dunn '91) is somewhat similar to SWAMP FLAME in color and, as grown in the Caillet garden, is a very vigorous and worthy iris.

We were in for a very pleasant surprise as Marie took us across the road to meet with Aunt Shirley. She even allowed us the privilege of a photograph under the roses and another with her namesake AUNT SHIRLEY (Mertzweiller '92). This was the last flower on a vigorous clump and the mid-pink flowers of attractive coloring showed their DENEBO parentage.

My favorite iris as seen in the Caillet garden was a blue violet seedling of Joe Mertzweiller's, unnamed and unnumbered. Marie thought it could be a tetraploid, but I doubt it. The vigorous clump was in full bloom, so it is late flowering and the strong spikes were multi-budded, each carrying four nicely-placed open flowers. This is a sure show winner and a lovely garden iris. I hope Joe gives it a name!

Not far behind it for interest was the very dark, near black EMPRESS JOSEPHINE (Haymon '90). We had heard that it was good and were not disappointed. Rich color, good form and good plant habits put this very high on our wish-list. John had already named an iris JOSEPHINE SHANKS (Taylor '93), a high-quality pink for a high-quality lady who had visited with us in Australia. Not to be outdone, the American iris to honor this Louisiana iris stalwart is also a high-quality introduction. We met up with Josephine (the lady, not the iris) at the convention in Oregon and it was our pleasure to renew our friendship there. Nostalgia insisted that we photograph Marie Caillet with her namesake and then it was on the road again—this time to meet with Joe and Helen Mertzweiller, who were to be our traveling companions for the next two days, and Farron Campbell whose gardens we visited.

Farron Campbell's large planting of Louisiana irises was impressive, and he is obviously in the process of making a big contribution to the world of Louisiana irises. The irises were rowed out in fields and were growing very nicely. Again, we saw quite a lot of John's introductions and seedlings of Farron's that involved the Taylor irises.

We liked PINK POETRY (Rowlan '88), a smallish flower in a clear pink, and MARIE'S CHOICE (Haymon '88), more lavender in its coloring and a little reminiscent of SCREEN GEM for color. CAMILLE DURAND FORET (Haymon '94) was a very rich yellow with slight ruffling that took the eye.

Farron is obviously looking to put rims and edges on the Louisiana irises, and he has some interesting seedlings being evaluated. He is meticulous in his approach and is to be admired for his reluctance to rush in and register names before he is completely satisfied.

Some seedlings to take my eye were a pink from the cross FC 285, LINA X FINDER'S KEEPERS, a most unusual color to get from a most unusual cross. Another was a rose-red, slightly bitoned, with a white rim on all floral parts from MISS ARKANSAS X GLADIATOR'S GIFT. This lacked the ruffling we would have expected from GLADIATOR'S GIFT, but the color was novel.

I particularly liked a soft cream to creamy white with yellow styles and signals from FC 281, LINA X MIDNIGHT DRAMA. This iris was ruffled. Two seedlings that had actually been numbered were first FC 124-B, a full, slightly

recurved and bitoned pink with a white rim around all the floral parts. This was from DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY X LYNN HANTEL and convinces me all the more that DURAL WHITE BUTTERFLY with its SCREEN GEM parentage will throw superb pinks with the right parents. I wish I knew what the right parents were; I would be tempted to have a go myself. The other numbered seedling that took my fancy was FC 282-A from LINA X BAYOU HEART THROB. I only saw one flower and it had lost 2 sepals so it is difficult to evaluate flower form. Color was a knockout in pale blue violet with a wide white rim on all petals. The styles were chartreuse with a double blue violet railway track pattern and white tips. I have not seen anything like it before.

The next three days were a whirl of activity as we observed two shows, judged at one, met many people, visited several gardens and were treated right royally by so many people whose hospitality and friendliness were beyond compare.

What a delight to meet with the Mertzweillers. We talked irises and iris happenings and I even got to go shopping with Helene who needed a jacket to keep out the Oklahoma cold. (We thought the climate was just fine but it didn't appeal to a warm blooded Louisiana lady.) My only joy was that Helen had not arrived in the U.S. by that time, because I think Helen and Helene would have made a dynamic duo once set loose on the shops. At Farron's we also got to see JUST HELENE (Mertzweiller), a lovely bicolor in soft blue and yellow. Vigorous and prolific.

I am sure there were many interesting things to see on our journey from Texas to Oklahoma, but I must confess that it all was catching up with me and I slept most of the way in the car,

We were next able to see irises in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where we visited the Tulsa Show. It was a lovely day and once again the hospitality was outstanding. The quality of irises at the show was excellent, with a spike of Mary Dunn's COUP DE VILLE (Dunn '91) being best Louisiana. This spike was immaculately clean with one large, perfect flower open. I was particularly impressed by a well-branched, well-positioned spike of the violet purple HURRICANE PARTY (Haymon '88) with four opened flowers. The flowers were not as fresh as that on the COUP DE VILLE. Another eye-catcher was a spike of the blue with a white rim, EXQUISITE LADY (Owen '87), with just a single flower open. Both these irises were exhibited by Dorothy Howard, whose garden we visited later in the day and with whom I was to team up as a judge at the Oklahoma City show on the following day. Dorothy's garden was a delight, and she grew some lovely Louisiana irises.

EXQUISITE LADY was far better grown here than ever I had seen it in Australia. The flower was larger and the substance better than I had previously experienced. Mary Dunn's very dark 'BOUT MIDNIGHT (Dunn '89) was growing very well, but my favorite in this garden was FAR AND AWAY (Dunn '92) a rich royal purple with a yellow star center (signals on all floral parts) and serrated petal edges. Lovely!

A visit to the well laid out and meticulously kept garden of Dale Satterwhite was a joy, but alas no Louisiana irises in bloom to see. We then visited the garden of Paul Gosset who had obviously picked his best for the show. This

was another attractive garden with many interesting plants. At the rear was a large planting of *I. fulva* in full bloom.

Next day was the Oklahoma City show. It seemed such a pity that Marie Caillet and the Mertzweillers had traveled all that distance to judge and the locals were unable to put on a display of Louisiana irises to justify their visit. Cold weather had held the Louisiana irises back, and there were very few specimens on the show bench. The older Arny white ACADIAN MISS (Arny '80) was judged best spike of Louisiana iris. The quantity and quality of the bearded irises were somewhat better, with Perry Dyer's spike of SILVERADO, winner of the 1994 Dykes Medal, being Queen of Show. The show was held at the Will Rogers Garden Center, which had a beautiful display of irises, roses, peonies and other plantings in outstanding landscaped grounds. Joe Mertzweiller was able to see a massed planting of his bicolor COLORIFIC. It was very attractive. Once again the hospitality equaled the surroundings. People were so friendly and so enthusiastic. I could write on indefinitely on how welcome we were made to feel.

Visits to the gardens of Kathy Poore, Rex Matthews, Chris Vizvarie and Paul Black all had points of major interest, but alas, no Louisiana irises.

Then on to our hosts' garden at Blanchard. Tall Bearded irises were past peak bloom, Siberians were in flower, there were lovely poppies and peonies to enthuse over—but where were the Louisiana irises? Again we were beaten by the season—row after row of well-grown, healthy plants were a sea of green, but there was hardly a flower to be seen. We were off to Florida for a few days (dare I say to look at daylilies?) and hoped and expected to see plenty of bloom on our return.

We were not disappointed. Perry has a large collection of the Taylor irises—and why not, as he is going to introduce to the U.S. for John. There were some lovely things among them, but the best of the Taylors so early in the season was the very beautiful near variegata LUCY PAYENS (Taylor '93). Having now seen this iris in the U.S., I am sure its popularity here will equal that in its home country. HIGH RANK, SWAMP FLAME and ROKKI ROCKWELL were again very nice, as they had been in the Caillet garden.

Some others to really take my eye were HEAVENLY GLOW (Morgan '89) a rich coppery sunset-toned iris with green style arms; SUN FLARE (Haymon '90), a rich yellow with ruffles; WILLOW MINT (Morgan—not introduced), an iris unknown to me in yellow tones with the greenest of green style arms and green signals. The flower was small, the growth barely satisfactory but oh, what color!

WINDOW SHOPPING (Morgan—not introduced) was a colorful bicolor with amber yellow sepals with a red central feather, dark red petals, yellow style arms and signals. GEISHA EYES (Arny '90) is blue violet in color with large yellow signals on all petals. This one was smallish but very vigorous. RICH AND FAMOUS (Dunn '93) is a ruffled and serrated magenta plum toned iris which looked fine. DEIRDRE KAY (Granger '91) is difficult to describe. It is basically a pink bitone with a white spray pattern and rim, yellow signals and green style arms.

The Dyer garden was impressive in quantity and quality of Louisiana irises. It was disappointing that we did not see it at its best, but we saw enough to make it a highlight of our stay.

We did get to Oregon, we did see Louisiana irises in Oregon, we even saw the first flowers opening at Schreiner's gardens. Here again the plants were well-grown and clean (as distinct from a 1993 report on the Oregon planting of Louisiana iris—1994 must have been a much better year or perhaps they had acclimatized better). We saw Louisiana irises in Florida—beautiful plantings in the home of Earl Watts with evidence of superb bloom, which alas, we didn't see but the spent spikes were outstanding.

We did get to the SLI meeting at the Oregon convention, and I was able to present Mary Dunn with her awards from the Sydney Louisiana Iris Spectacular. We did get to Cordon Bleu in San Marcos, California, and saw Bob Brooks' plantings of Louisiana irises which were also very well-grown. About the only place we didn't get to see Louisiana irises was in Louisiana, and I know that was our loss—a loss we hope to be able to remedy.

In Florida we were able to meet and talk with Kevin Vaughn, who was able to help John quite a lot with information on weed and pest control. Also in Florida we were able to meet up with Bobo Faggard in the Munson garden and exchange conversation on the run.

In Oregon we were able to meet with long time correspondent Bryce Williamson, who spent ages talking to John about Louisiana iris culture.

It was fascinating to experience the interest of so many Tall Bearded iris-arians in the Louisiana irises. We found their enthusiasm infectious, and it was a most memorable four-and-a-half weeks. Thank you once again, Perry & Kitty, and thank you America.

Reprinted from SLI Newsletter, December 1994.



**Maxine Perkins of New Mexico and Marilyn Harlow of California.
Photo by Mullin.**

HYBRIDIZING FOR DOUBLE LOUISIANA IRISES

Marvin Granger (Louisiana)

Many of the Louisiana Iris collectors in Southwest Louisiana did their hunting in the large fields of *I. giganticaerulea* along the borders of marshes in Cameron Parish. Those who lived in and around Lake Charles did nearly all of their collecting there. Weekend trips were also made to Abbeville, to see or collect the large Abbeville Reds (*I. nelsonii*) that bloomed exclusively in this area. Other trips were made to Houma, the area around New Orleans, or wherever they heard colonies of native irises of any kind were growing. A weekend trip out of town to explore new iris territory is always fun. The excitement is indescribable when you come across a group of native irises in bloom, no matter how large or small the colony is. An area that is new to the collector may be revisited many times in successive years to see if anything has appeared. A single clone, growing off by itself, in full bloom, is a rare sight. You want the whole clump, moved intact, into your garden, but usually wind up removing one or two plants in hopes of creating the same effect in your own garden someday.

Collecting somehow fades into the background when the hybridizing bug takes over. The collecting switches to the other hybridizers' gardens—mainly, I guess, because it takes so long to build up the blood-lines from the collected irises, even though they still can produce surprises when brought into your hybridizing program. To purchase, or swap for, a good named iris sometimes saves years of hybridizing.

We collected almost entirely in the fields of the *I. giganticaerulea*. Blues of all shades, lavenders, near purples, whites and some smoky blues that were almost gray. It was this search to find something we did not already have that caused us to go back many times each year during the blooming season and which resulted in the discovery of the double Louisiana iris, CREOLE CAN-CAN. This is the story that I wish to tell now—the discovery and the hybridizing program built up around this collected double Louisiana iris.

This has been an effort to take a blue, double, native Louisiana iris and see if it was possible through hybridizing to get double Louisiana irises in colors other than blue; also at the same time to try to develop in these doubles, forms attractive enough to be an interesting and colorful garden variety. The day I found CREOLE CAN-CAN must have been one of the last collecting trips we made. I remembered nothing else that happened that day and very little since. We grew this iris for several years before we realized its true value. We even returned to the marshes to collect more of it at one time. It was still there growing quite profusely through one side of a very large colony of native *I. giganticaerulea*. This was in 1955. In 1956 we registered it. In 1957 Hurricane Audrey hit Cameron Parish and the salt waters left in its wake destroyed huge fields of irises including those where CREOLE CAN-CAN grew. All the irises in this particular area were gone.

CREOLE CAN-CAN was grown at first just as a novelty. The first year it was entered in the show in Lafayette it aroused quite a bit of interesting conversation, plus winning a second place ribbon. RUTH HOLLEYMAN was the iris that won first place in the Blue category that year and it is also a collected iris that was found in the same general area. One of the amusing questions that was asked about CREOLE CAN-CAN that year at the show was, "Do you graft them to make them do that?"

Hybridizing with CREOLE CAN-CAN has been a much more difficult program than is normally experienced with an ordinary Louisiana iris. This is because this iris has no pollen. It will set seed but has no pollen of its own. After several years of trying for a seedling that would show some deviation from the normal form, finally one of CREOLE CAN-CAN's seedlings that bloomed was a medium blue all-falls. This had come from a cross with Holleyman's BRANDYWINE. On this all-falls type iris I used Holleyman's CANDLEGLOW. When this batch of seedlings bloomed, there were many different colors and some were very dark and velvety. I used one of these dark seedlings for my next cross and two years later two cans of seedlings from this cross bloomed all sorts of cart wheels, semidoubles and one real double. This one, which had many petaloids, was a smoky, purplish blue when first open and then faded to a delicate lavender-blue. This was the proof that I was looking for. That other doubles could be made from CREOLE CAN-CAN and that in time with careful out-crossing and then a period of line breeding, we could get more doubles and possibly different colors. In the meantime, and before the first double bloomed, I had another streak of good luck. CREOLE CAN-CAN crossed with THE KAHN (Dormon) had given us DELTA STAR. This was a very dark blue star-shaped iris with six small, bright yellow signal patches, one on each of the six flat, flaring falls. DELTA STAR had no pollen either. This meant another out-cross had to be made. I decided to cross DELTA STAR with WHEELHORSE (Dormon) and from this cross grew three seedlings. They had pollen. This is where the line breeding and the back crossing started. The little smoky blue double from the blue all-falls CREOLE CAN-CAN seedling crossed with the pollen bearing seedlings out of DELTA STAR is now producing the breaks in colors I was looking for. A semi-double yellow, a very frilly deep purple, a deep violet double and a greenish yellow, flat cartwheel type are at this time my favorite seedlings coming out of this intercrossing and line breeding. Twelve years had lapsed from the time the first blue all-falls showed up in the seedling bed and the appearance of the yellow semi-double.

This program of line breeding, with maybe an occasional out-cross, will be continued. What may show up in the future seedling beds of these "double-crosses" remains to be seen. We can only hope and dream that it will be more doubles. What is the final goal? A PLAID double.

Reprinted from SLI Newsletter, December 1994.

THE SEASON IN REVIEW

Ronald Mullin (Oklahoma)

The 1995 season came early, appeared to be almost a washout, then rebounded to last for weeks and weeks. Although the quality of many plants was inferior because of strange weather, many performed as well as they ever have.

The winter months had been dry and quite warm. This nearly always means problems because such weather is usually followed by late freezes and heavy rains. This year was no exception as March brought the coldest weather of the winter, and some irises had already started blooming.

Established clumps of Standard Dwarfs bloomed sparsely for the most part. Newly planted ones bloomed well, probably because new plants usually bloom later. This later bloom meant the buds weren't far enough along to freeze during the cold weather.

Several tall bearded irises were struck down by the late cold. Most of these were plants that had hardly been dormant during the winter months. Losses were not, however, confined to tall bearded irises.

Among the SDBs, CHANTED (Blyth 90) captured the most attention with its pink petals and blue beards. DARK RINGS (Gatty 93) a deep blue purple and white plic and MOTTO (Gatty 93) in pale blue and white plic pattern were outstanding.

PRIVILEGED CHARACTER (Black 90) in red violet and orchid; RUSTY NAIL (Messick 93) a bicolor of gold and brown, and SHEER CLASS (Miller 88) a beautiful pink vied for attention in the second wave of bloom.

SIGH (Black 89) had the most prolific bloom, and its beautifully formed blue white flowers put it at the top of my list of favorites. SERENITY PRAYER (Dyer 89) in cream and light yellow with blue beards is always a winner. BROAD GRIN (Lankow 87), in amber pink with deeper hafts, is great.

Nothing ever tops the elegant IB RARE EDITION (Gatty 80). It's hard to believe that it's 15 years old. Snowy white petals edged in mulberry purple, excellent growth, and the perfect garden iris—why didn't it win the Dykes?

Other great IBs were HOT FUDGE (Hager 83) yellow with heavy plic markings in chocolate brown. RASPBERRY BLUSH (Hamblen 76) a beautiful pink with deeper spot can still turn heads. OBLIGATO (Stahly 88) is an excellent light orange that always performs well. MAUI MOONLIGHT (Aitken 87) in light lemon yellow is another top performer. BUNNICULA (Innerst 91) is a fine yellow amoena with smooth, smooth finish.

Border Bearded irises decided that this was the year to outgrow the class. Of course, PINK BUBBLES (Hager 80) was pink perfection, as usual. At the convention, MARGARET BEAUFORT (Burton 94) was definitely in class. Blue flowers were the right size too. BABY GRAND (Meek 94) was the right size in all respects except flower size. At the Oregon Convention, this blue violet reverse amoena was perfect. I'm sure it will settle down in Oklahoma too. LOW SPIRITS (Keppel 94) in its dazzling luminata pattern was just about perfect for size. PETITE BALLET (Keppel 92) has pale blue standards and white

falls widely banded blue violet, and SNOW BUNNY (O. Brown 91), a white with pink petal edges, were two others in class.

To gain my attention, an MTB has to really perform well. In 1988 BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (Norrick) managed to capture the Cook Cup at the Oklahoma City convention with multitudes of flowers in yellow and reddish brown. This year BANGLES (Miller 95) did the same. Flowers on this one are amethyst on the stands and blue on the falls with veining on both. Form and size seemed perfect to me. The lavender blue plic OZARK SKY (Fisher 90) and the violet and plum blended REMINISCENCE (Mahan 94) were two others that seemed good to me.

The tall bearded season began on March 10. As June began, some varieties were still in bloom. FADED LOVE (Meek 94) opened its first bloom on June 1, and several from Melba Hamblen which always bloom late were still full of bloom—such things as DANCE AWAY, GIFT OF DREAMS, MARY D., ENCHANTING, and PRIVATE STOCK.

First to bloom was a plic in rose and cream. It was STORYLINE (Ghio 90). It's nearly always among the first to bloom. This could mean that it can withstand the late freezes.

As the season progressed, the following were impressive, and there were probably others that were equally good.

PRIVATE TREASURE (Shoop 93) a fantastically beautiful blend of orange and yellow. A great garden variety which calls for attention.

RAPTURE IN BLUE (Schreiners 90) a light blue beauty with nearly always three open flowers and buds to back them.

CITY LIGHTS (M. Dunn 91) a deep blue with snow white circles in the center of each petal. It reblooms. It's great.

SPIRIT WORLD (Keppel 94) orchid stands and red purple falls all edged in buff, with a red orange beard on an ivory ground.

VOLTAGE (Messick 93) a brilliant orange of pretty form and sturdy stalks.

WINGS OF GOLD (Maryott 91) a snow white and bright lemon amoena.

APLOMB (Ghio 92) a soft plum violet with red beards. Smooth color, gorgeous form.

APRIL IN PARIS (Wood 92) a lightly laced pink with great branching.

BATTLE ROYAL (Ghio 94) a very fine red toned iris with other good qualities. Very smooth application of color.

BUBBLING ALONG (Ghio 93) a very ruffled coral pink. Simply beautiful!

CALM SEA (Hager 92) a lightly ruffled pale blue with matching beard. Cool and beautiful.

DELTA BLUES (Schreiners 94) a heavily ruffled iris in a wonderful shade of blue. Great performance everywhere it was seen.

DUNSMUIR (B. Brown 92) a deep purple violet with the contrast of white beards. Well branched, ruffled, classy.

FEATURE ATTRACTION (Schreiners 94) a frosty grape with white beards and heavy lace.

HELLO DARKNESS (Schreiners 92) a well branched and vigorous black, or nearly so.

HONEYMOON SUITE (Ghio 91) orchid pink bitone. So beautiful in color and form!

LUCKY DOLL (Hamner 91) salmon apricot stands and white falls edged in salmon apricot. Reminds one of QUEEN OF HEARTS, only darker.

IN REVERSE (Gatty 93) a reverse blue amoena with the most contrast seen yet. Very good form.

ISLAND DANCER (Shoop 91) rosy brown stands, tan falls, bright red beards. Very pretty!

LADY JULIET (Nichols 94) a blend of tan and pink with gold beards, all creating a lovely sight.

MY SHADOW (Magee 90) a dark purple black with an even darker overlay.

OVERJOYED (Gatty 94) creamy stands and lemon falls all ruffled and beautifully formed.

PATTERNS (M. Dunn 90) rosy plum and white plic with a tan halo on stands. Lacy and vigorous.

ZANY (M. Dunn) and SILHOUETTE (M. Dunn) two blue and white irises in unusual patterns of beauty. ZANY's coloring is very irregular and most flowers are different. Silhouette features an overlay of blue over white. Both are vigorous and beautiful. They also feature very fine branching.

BRONZETTE STAR (Ev. Kegerise 92) bright, shiny bronze. Very colorful.

CONTINUITY (Innerst 94) very pale blue with blue black beards.

HANDSHAKE (Ghio 92) a fancy blue and white, very distinctive, very pretty, and probably my favorite this year.

FLAT RATE (Ghio 94) an all flat iris with six falls and no standards. Done up in shining purple, and bearing a name I suggested.

EPICENTER (Ghio 94) black cherry stands and rim on salmon orange falls. Very, very different and pretty.

WENCH (L. Miller 93) pink stands, purple falls with pink sunburst around red beards.

O SO PRETTY (Ev. Kegerise 93) a smaller flower with white stands tinted lilac and white falls edged in rosy lilac.

WATER BALLET (Ghio 93) very, very ruffled azure blue. It seems there are many very fine blues, but I wouldn't get rid of any I have since they are all a bit different.

BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst 89) THE black and President's Cup winner. Flowers aren't large, but they ARE black.

NOTORIOUS (Ghio 91) pink stands, purple falls with pink to ends of red beards. These are not haft marks, they are a different color on the shoulder of the flowers. Pretty.

ORANGE EMBERS (Shockey 93) the most vigorous orange I grow. Tall, lovely, and ruffled.

QUITO (Ghio 93) a coppery orange that blooms and blooms.

EARTH SONG (Kegerise 93) yellow stands, violet falls. Seems to grow well.

PRINCIPLES (Innerst 93) a beautiful silvery white.

VIBRATIONS (M. Dunn 90) copper rose stands, burgundy falls, totally striped and sprayed white (on the falls only). Rampant growth.

SPRING RHAPSODY (Maryott 94) lavender with brown gold at the hafts.

SHIRLEY M. (Ev. Kegerise 95) well worth the trip to Reading to see. This pink (true pink) with blue beard was stunning in the late afternoon sun and in the twilight. Great branching, form, and bud count.

EVERYWHERE (Ghio 95) mulberry stands and white falls marbled with mulberry. Many buds.

Most of these bloomed in my garden. As usual, the garden wasn't overrun with judges. This seems to be a common complaint across the country. Hybridizers are giving us new colors all the time, so let's get out and see the results of their work as often as possible. Who knows, we might visit someone's garden and be among the first to see the first red iris, or that black with a pink beard, or maybe it will be something else that we don't have now. Iris growing is fun, and visiting with other iris growers is even more fun. Visit, visit, visit those gardens.

JUDGING ITALIAN-STYLE

Marilyn Harlow (California)

There's no doubt when a U.S. American Iris Society Judge receives that long envelope with all the Italian stamps on it about the middle of July or so that a dream of a lifetime may be about to come true. At least that's how it felt to me, when on July 13, 1994, the letter from Sergio Orsi, President of the Italian Iris Society, arrived inviting me to be on the panel of judges for the 39th Concorso in May, 1995.

I had little time to think about the invitation, but when I was picking up some airline tickets for a journey in October, I happened to mention the anticipated trip to my travel agent. She told me I should make reservations no later than early January. Thinking I would hear something from the Italian Iris Society by then with further instructions on where to fly, etc., I promptly crossed it off my list of things that needed to be attended to at the moment. The holidays were at hand, and I was busy. However, by the end of January no other instructions had arrived. One former panel member from my region said he had flown into Milan and taken the train to Florence. My travel agent also recommended flying into Milan. I had been to Europe before and knew how jet-lag affected me, so I planned to arrive a day ahead of time. (Hilda Crick had also been invited to Florence to judge, but neither of us knew the other was going until early February, and so did not make plans to fly together.) By waiting so late to make reservations, I barely got them at all for the dates I wanted to fly. Still no letter from Florence, so I decided to call around to see what I could find out. Being a typical American woman, I wanted to know what kind of clothes I should be taking, etc. I called Dorothy Howard and Perry Dyer in Oklahoma for information. I thank them both for their good advice. So with me flying into Milan and Hilda flying into Rome, our reservations were made. All we had left to do was count the days. Well after I had made the reserva-

tions, I received a letter from Italy telling me to fly into Pisa and advising the name of the hotel where the judges would be housed.

I flew from San Jose, CA at nine in the morning on May 5th to Chicago. I changed dollars into Italian Lira as I waited for the next plane which would fly directly into Milan. I left in the sunshine and arrived in the sunshine. While not everyone in Italy speaks a lot of English, enough is understood to get by. At Malpensa Airport in Milan, I was directed to the bus line ticket agent. A ticket was purchased, and the bus trip into Milan was relatively easy. When the bus pulled over and everyone got off, I asked the bus driver how to find the train depot. He said "No English." So I grabbed my bag and walked through the door of the first place that looked like a business office. I was directed to the train station which was only a block or so away. A ticket to Florence was duly purchased. Going to the top of the stairway as directed by the ticket agent, I was confronted by many, many train tracks. The track number indicated by the ticket agent was obviously not the right one according to the signs above the track. A couple from Texas also looked confused, and the gentleman went back down to talk with the ticket agent. The track we wanted was several tracks over. I decided to sit in a designated waiting area. The seats were made of a silver colored metal mesh and looked much like beach chairs. When one sits down in them, the body immediately slides on the slick metal toward the front of the chair so that one ends up barely sitting on the edge. I guess they were designed so that you wouldn't sit in them for a long length of time. Fortunately, I only had to wait a little over an hour. I had been advised to purchase a "first class" ticket for the train trip. I was in a very comfortable compartment with four other passengers. Towns were not announced, so one had to be on the lookout for the right place to disembark. It was easy to find the taxi stand at the Florence Train Depot and take a taxi to the Hotel San Remo. The rooms are quaint, but adequate. We must remember that many European hotels are quite old, and the modern accommodations we are used to in the U.S. are often not available in some European cities. Staple items like face cloths and Kleenex are not provided. The hotel did not have a coffee shop, so after being assured that it was safe to walk the streets at dusk or later, I found a restaurant and had dinner.

The next day, Margaret Cameron Longo picked up Hilda at the airport. John Taylor from Australia and his brother-in-law, Graeme Grosvenor, arrived. John was part of the judging team, but Graeme was not. Ann Blanco-White from England arrived, and we started the afternoon off with one of the things Italians do best, which is to eat! All of us thoroughly enjoyed our luncheon with Margaret. It was our first indoctrination to long, three-hour meals. Her apartment was within walking distance of our hotel, so Hilda and I walked back to the hotel for a much needed rest. Later that afternoon, we all walked up to the Piazza de Michelangelo and through the gates to the iris garden for a first glimpse of where we would be judging.

The garden is within a six acre olive grove belonging to the city of Florence. We were told it is leased on an annual basis to the Italian Iris Society for a small sum. The olive trees are still producing olives, which are harvested each

November. While the setting is lovely, I was disappointed in the overall appearance. Gently curving and descending paths were made of irregular pieces of stone which were weed free, but different areas of the garden ranged from mowed grass to weedy plots. Great numbers of irises were misnamed. Talking later with the dozen or so dedicated irisarians who take care of the garden led me to believe there simply were not enough hands or funds to do any better. The City of Florence would prefer that none of the olive trees be trimmed, as the harvesting of the olives is a money-making venture. Some trimming of the trees has been allowed, however, and even a little fertilizing of the irises has been allowed in the recent past. The garden has no irrigation system, only that provided by nature; soil is not improved with amendments and looks very poor. We found the area of the 39th Concorso roped off in anticipation of the judging week to come. We walked back to our hotel and on the way found a place to get a bite to eat. This was where we found out some Italian restaurant owners don't like "separate checks." Thanks to John who graciously paid the entire tab.

Our hotel did serve continental style breakfasts, and here we found out that their version of "hot chocolate" was not exactly American style. Thereafter, I stayed with tea or Acqua Minerale Naturale (bottled water) and since Hilda found that the Tennessee-made soft drink, Sun Drop, hadn't been exported to Italy, she was happy to make do with a cold "Coca." (Italian for Coca-cola.) After breakfast, we were taken to the garden by private cars. The panel met with Margaret Longo, the judges' training chairman, and Lorena March, who was in charge of selecting judges for the panel and record keeper of the guest irises in the competition. After a brief discussion, John was chosen as Chairman of the panel. Margaret Cameron Longo and Valeria Roselli were the fifth and sixth members of the panel. We were then advised that 90 irises had been planted in 1992 for the competition, which ones had already bloomed (the precocious ones), and what prizes were to be awarded. We were asked to eliminate what we felt was not worthy of being judged. After we were given clip boards, evaluation sheets and pens, John suggested we take a brief look at the garden before doing any eliminating. We did so, and some one and one-half hours later we eliminated 45 irises by voice vote because they had either died, did not have bloom stalks to judge, or the bloom stalk was deemed inferior. Later that morning the Italian Iris Society hosted a social gathering in the garden. We were honored to attend. We spent a little time in the afternoon viewing and judging the remaining 45 irises. That evening we were entertained by the Florence Rotary Club.

The next day was Wednesday, and we were treated to an all day trip to the Italian countryside. We much enjoyed the company of the Italian judges and apprentices who spoke English very well. Sycamores, Cottonwoods and Cedar trees along with Queen Anne's Lace and red-orange poppies, similar to the California poppies, were in evidence along the roadsides, as well as other trees and flowers I did not recognize. *Iris Pallida* grew everywhere with abandon. We did a little shopping and sight seeing on our way to the country home of Irma Isaia's Villa "Il Caggio" at Larniano, where we were to have

lunch. A light rain forced us inside the 1200-year-old stone home where a perfectly delightful luncheon was served with the traditional addition of Italian wines. From there we were taken to the country home of Dr. and Mrs. Longo. A delightful time was had by all.

Thursday morning found us with a free morning, but most of us showed up at the garden, feeling that we needed the extra time there. We broke for lunch at the "Il Granducato." This time the luncheon menu had been chosen for us by Mrs. March, and we were grateful not to have to try to figure out all those Italian words. Back to the garden for more judging. That evening we were taken by private cars to Guido Degl'Innocenti's Nursery in Barbarino Val d'Elsa. A delightful repast of local wines, meats, cheeses and fruit was served.

On Friday morning we agreed on elimination of another 25 irises for a variety of reasons. We were down then to the final 20. John suggested a quick voice count of the one each of us liked for first place. Three judges liked one iris, and three judges liked another. We were not surprised as these two irises had looked good the entire week. Next came the tallying of the scores on the evaluation sheets. Scores were read off, one by one, recorded and totaled by one judge. Those irises scoring highest took first through tenth places. Special awards were given for best red iris, best commercial, best variety by an Italian hybridizer, best branching, best early, best original color, most perfumed, best late, best deep blue and best border bearded. We finished by writing down all the winners, which at that time were still under number. After a pot luck type of lunch at the garden, the copper box with all the names was brought in. I was given the opportunity to open the envelopes in question. It was almost better than Christmas. The first prize was awarded to an Uzbekistan hybridizer, Mr. Volfovich-Moler, for IKAR, a tall bearded iris which looked similar to RINGO. CLASSIC LOOK by Schreiner's took second place. GOLDKIST by Paul Black took third place, and HELLO DARKNESS by Schreiner's took fourth place. Jim Hedgecock of Comanche Gardens took an honorable mention with WITCHES CAPE. Paul Black's GOLDKIST took the best original color and Alan Ensminger's CAN DO took the best border bearded class. After all prizes had been awarded and Lorena March's flying fingers on her ancient typewriter had accomplished their work of proper record keeping, the panel of judges met with the Italian judges for an impromptu judges' training session. That evening we were invited as guests to a dinner at the home of Marcella Malenchini's home in the Piazza Peruzzi of Florence. The hospitality of these fine Italian Iris Society members cannot be denied.

Saturday at 10 a.m., we attended the singularly unique awards ceremony at the Palazzo Vecchio, complete with uniquely dressed trumpeteers. A farewell luncheon was given near the garden at the La Loggia Restaurant.

Then we were thinking of packing up and heading for home. A last minute snafu was caused by a railroad strike, so my plans changed a bit, and I was forced to fly from Florence to Milan. Milan has two airports. One is for local traffic and the other for international flights. When I had to get from one to

the other, I was not too happy with the high charges by the Italian taxi drivers, but there was not too much I could do about it at the time.

AFTERTHOUGHTS

The Italian Iris Society faces some real problems in the future. It is obvious to these dozen hardworking people that something must be done to ensure the future stability of the international competitions, but what to do and how to do it presents many problems. Most funding comes from private donations and members dues. Several of us suggested that a charge be made to visit the gardens, or to at least ask for donations, but that can't be done due to the fact the society does not own the gardens, and it would present tax problems. A revenue making sale of excess irises is not done either, for the same reasons. Our tales of how much money is raised in some club sales in the U.S. brought many raised eyebrows!

When we were given the list of hybridizers who sent guests to this competition, we noticed that the U.S. is sadly under-represented. When we were asked why this was so, all we could do was suggest that word had filtered back to the hybridizers about the poor planting conditions and the shade situation. We were advised that rhizomes arrive from July through September. Even though the bed for these irises is ready well ahead of time, all irises received are planted in pots, for here they will receive some moisture and attention during the summer. It is "too hot" to plant them in the ground in Florence in the summertime where no irrigation is present and rain is not expected. All potted irises are planted in the ground no later than October 1. From then on, Mother Nature is in charge for the next three years. We all know that irises will grow in the shade, but they will not bloom well in the shade, and this is obvious in the Florence garden. Irises are planted in straight rows on beds that follow the normal slope of the land. Some irises are planted between olive trees because space is at a premium. In the case this year, CLASSIC LOOK happened to have been planted between and under the canopy of two olive trees. IKAR just happened to have arrived later, and it was planted in the next spot available which happened to be in the sun. They both grew equally well but IKAR's stalks were straight as sticks and CLASSIC LOOK did what most irises do when they are planted in the shade, and that was to lean toward the sun and nearly fall over. IKAR may have lacked somewhat in form, but it made up for it in other ways. It was one of only a few iris in the entire bed that called to you "to look at me" from wherever you happened to be standing and deserved, by virtue of the scoring, the first place that it won.

I would urge any hybridizer who has not done so, to go ahead and send irises to the competition. While I may have recognized a few of the irises, for the most part, it truly is blind judging. Clearly, anyone stands as good a chance at winning as the next hybridizer. It is the luck of the draw.

A tip of the hat and a strong salute must go to Margaret Cameron Longo and Lorena March for their many years of dedication to the Florence garden

and the younger judges who will begin to take over some of their duties. Without their fierce dedication, there would be no Firenze competition at all. All in all, it was a wonderful experience, and Hilda and I would not trade it for anything. The new friendships which were made will be for a lifetime, and we will treasure those new friends. Arriverderci, Firenze, for this time, but not forever!



Allan and Gladys Ensminger's Lincoln, Nebraska garden. Photo by Marriott.



A view in the Marquart Garden in Pennsylvania



**Bowers
Garden.
Photo by
Mullin.**



**Innerst
Garden.
Photo by
Mullin.**



**Strawser
Garden.
Photo by
Mullin.**



**Roris
Garden in
California**



**Maryott
Garden in
California**



**Maryott
Garden**

*Photos by
Bill Maryott*

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October 1, 1994 to March 31, 1995

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**C. J. and Kitty Lack on their
50th wedding anniversary**

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**AND A GENEROUS
GIFT FROM:**

Greater Portland Iris Society
(OR-WA)

IN MEMORIAM FRED SPAHN

Richard Freund

On December 13, 1994, my good friend of twenty years left this earth for, I am sure, his heavenly home. Fred Spahn was 79 years old. He worked in the Engineering Department at A.Y. McDonald Manufacturing Company for 32 years until he retired. During that time he also was treasurer of the A.Y. McDonald Credit Union for four years. He graduated from Columbia Academy in Dubuque. He was a volunteer at the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens where we have four display beds of irises planted. He also volunteered at the Washington Tool Library for many years.

Fred was a very interesting person who grew roses, gladioli, mums, daylily and asiatics over the years. It was iris which took his fancy, and he just loved having people come to his home during bloom time. He was a cultural perfectionist when it came to his back yard, especially during bloom time. He cleaned the dead bloom every morning and spent the biggest part of each day visiting with people about irises. Fred's wife, Marcie, supported him in his efforts and enjoyed the iris also.

Fred was a Master Judge with The American Iris Society and also named and introduced many irises. He was awarded the Knowlton Cup for his iris, HILLBILLY HEAVEN, in the border bearded class.

IN MEMORIAM

Weldon Ballard (Virginia)
Ruth E. Jackson (Oregon)
J. Norma Knight (California)

Helen Leavitt (New Jersey)
Mel Leavitt (New Jersey)
Mrs. John Wade (Texas)

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AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY: Send to The American Iris Society, Jeanne Plank, Secretary, 8426 Vine Valley Drive, Sun Valley, CA 91352-3656

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY FOUNDATION: Send to AIS Foundation, Richard T. Pettijohn, Treasurer, 122 S. 39th, Apt 604, Omaha, NE 68131. Donations to the Foundation and AIS are tax deductible.

Note: Please include name and address of next-of-kin pertaining to memorial gifts, so that a card of acknowledgment may be sent. Checks should be payable to the American Iris Society or the American Iris Society Foundation.

HOW TO REGISTER AND INTRODUCE AN IRIS

These instructions apply to the registration of all classes of irises except bulbous irises.

REGISTRATIONS

1. Write to the AIS Registrar, Keith Keppel, P.O. Box 18145, Salem, OR 97305, for a registration blank, enclosing a check for the registration fee payable to the American Iris Society. The fee is \$7.50 for each registration and \$10.00 for transferring a name from one iris to another.
2. Select a name which has not previously been used and submit it for approval when you request the blank. To determine availability of name, please refer to all ten-year *Check Lists* (beginning 1939) and annual *Registration and Introduction* booklets (beginning with 1990). Please also suggest alternate names. A name is not registered until the registration application has been filed and approved, and a certificate of registration has been returned to you.
3. Names should follow the rules established by the **International Horticulture Code**. The following names shall not be permitted:
 - a. Names of living persons without their written permission, or names of recently (10 years) deceased persons without permission of next of kin or other authority.
 - b. Names of persons with the following forms of address or their equivalent in other languages: Mr., Mrs., Miss, Ms.
 - c. Names including numerals or symbols, or any form of punctuation other than apostrophe, hyphen or period.
 - d. Names beginning with the articles "a" and "the" or their equivalent in other languages unless required by linguistic custom.
 - e. Abbreviations and contractions unless required by linguistic custom.
 - f. Latin names or latinized forms.
 - g. Use of trademark or copyrighted names unless previously in common use.
 - h. Slight variation of previously registered name.
 - i. Names containing more than three words, ten syllables or thirty letters.
 - j. Names containing the word "iris".
 - k. Names which exaggerate or may become inaccurate; e.g., Heaviest Lace, Tallest Black.
 - l. Names translated from the original language. (They may be transliterated as necessary).
- m. Names formed entirely by recombining parts of the parental species' names.
4. Previously registered names may be re-used provided (a) the original registration has not been introduced or distributed by name, (b) does not appear by name in later registrations, and (c) the new registrant furnishes the Registrar with written statement of permission from the previous registrant.
5. Names will not be released as obsolete unless there is proof that no stock now exists and that the iris was never used as a parent.

INTRODUCTIONS

An introduction is an offering for sale to the public. Catalogs, printed lists and advertisements in the *Bulletin of the American Iris Society* are acceptable means of introduction. It is a requisite for awards of the Society above that of High Commendation. A variety is not eligible for these awards until after it has been recorded with the Registrar-Recorder. Send the Registrar-Recorder a copy of your list, catalog or advertisement by first class mail, highlighting your introductions **prior to October 15**. Acknowledgement of introduction(s) will be made.

AIS MEMBERSHIP RATES

Single Annual \$12.50	Dual Triennial 37.50
Single Triennial 30.00	Single Life 250.00
Dual Annual 15.50	Dual Life 300.00
Youth Member, Without Bulletin	3.00
Youth Member, With Bulletin	4.50

OVERSEAS RATES

Single Annual \$15.00	Dual Annual \$18.00
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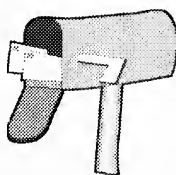
Overseas memberships include first class Bulletin and are payable in U.S. Currency

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	single annual	single triennial	family annual	family triennial
Median Iris Society	5.50	15.00	8.00	22.50
(Overseas members add \$5 per year for postage)				
Society for Siberian Irises	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Spuria Iris Society	6.00	15.00	7.00	18.00
Society for Japanese Irises	3.50	9.00	4.00	10.50
Reblooming Iris Society	5.00	13.00	6.00	15.00
Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
Species Iris Group of North America	4.00	10.00	5.00	12.00
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Historic Iris Preservation Society	5.00	12.00	6.00	15.00

Membership in AIS sections is open to all AIS members. Payment may be made directly to the Section, or may be made payable to the American Iris Society and sent to AIS Membership Secretary, Marilyn Harlow, P.O. Box 8455, San Jose, CA 95155-8455

**PLANNING
TO MOVE?**



**DON'T FORGET
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AIS logo in blue and green on silver plated pin 1/2" x 5/8" with safety lock catch.			
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Mike Moller, Chairman
Slides Committee
3750 W. Arrowhead Rd.
Littleton, CO 80123

Phone: (303) 797-8341

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HISTORIC IRIS PRESERVATION SOCIETY (HIPS): Contact Joan Cooper, 212 West Country Rd. C, St. Paul, MN 55113. Check to HIPS.

JAPANESE: Order from John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Check to Japanese Iris Society.

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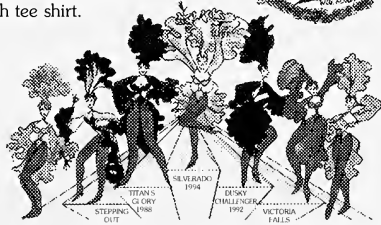
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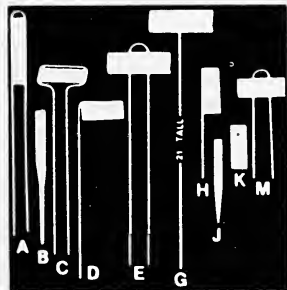
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1998	Denver, CO	June 2-6
1999	Oklahoma City, OK	May 4-8
2000	Dallas, TX	April 16-20

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1995	Oklahoma City, OK	November 3-5
1996	Colorado Springs, CO	November 1-3
1997	Austin, TX	
1998	Bedford, MA	

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" And the last shall be first"

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**THE AMERICAN
IRIS SOCIETY
SYMPOSIUM OF
TALL BEARDED IRISES
1996**

**PLEASE VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE
TALL BEARDED IRIS VARIETIES**

All members of The American Iris Society are urged to participate in this ballot in order that we may obtain a wide consensus of the tall bearded iris varieties that grow and bloom best in gardens throughout America. Mail the completed ballot to your RVP by September 1, 1995. Final results will be published as the popularity poll in a future issue of the Bulletin. Please vote!

ATTENTION: OVERSEAS MEMBERS are invited to vote the Symposium Ballot. Instructions on the following page.

BULLETIN OF THE

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

VOL. LXXVI, NO 3 SERIES 298, JULY 1995

*SECTION 2

PLEASE VOTE

FIFTY SIXTH OFFICIAL TALL BEARDED IRIS SYMPOSIUM OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY 1996

This is your ballot to help determine the One Hundred Favorite Tall Bearded Irises for 1996. The list of candidates was completed by combining the following lists of outstanding varieties:

- The 100 top varieties in last year's Symposium
- TBS eligible for Wister Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 1995 Dykes Medal
- The tall bearded irises eligible for 1995 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 1994 Awards of Merit
- The tall bearded irises that won 1994 Honorable Mentions

Every member of The American Iris Society may participate in this balloting of the 363 irises listed on the following pages. Each member is allowed twenty-five votes. Please follow the instructions below.

1. Vote only for an iris that you have seen blooming in a garden.
2. Clearly place an X in front of each of your twenty-five favorites. The second member of a family membership should use an O symbol to designate votes. Additional, family or youth members should use a number (1, 2, 3, etc.) in front of each vote to identify it. Each member is entitled to a maximum of twenty-five votes. Since the ballot is designed for easy tabulation by the Regional Vice Presidents, please follow directions carefully.
3. No member may vote for more than twenty-five varieties. You may vote for fewer than twenty-five if you wish.
4. Your ballot must be *mailed to your Regional Vice President* by September 1, 1995 in order to be counted. The name of your RVP is listed inside the back cover of each AIS Bulletin. Sign your ballot and mail it first class.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

-
5. Overseas members may vote by mailing their ballot to the Awards Committee Chairman whose name and address appear on the inside cover of each AIS Bulletin. It is advisable to send by Air Mail to assure receipt of Ballot by the deadline of September 1, 1995.

___ LEDA'S LOVER	___ NEPTUNE'S CLOAK	___ PREMIER EDITION
___ LEMON FEVER	___ NIGHT FLAME	___ PRETTY BEGINNING
___ LEMON MIST	___ NIGHT RULER	___ PRETTY WOMAN
___ LION'S SHARE	___ NORMA JEAN	___ PROM NIGHT
___ LORILEE	___ NOTORIOUS	___ PROUD TRADITION
___ LOVE BLUSH		___ PUNKIN PATCH
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___ LULLABY OF SPRING	___ OKLAHOMA CRUDE	___ PURPLE PEPPER
	___ OKTOBERFEST	
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___ MARIA TORMENA	___ ORANGE SLICES	___ RAMONA HOWARD
___ MARTHA'S GOLD	___ OREGON SKIES	___ RANCHO ROSE
___ MARY ELLEN NICHOLS	___ OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE	___ RAPTURE IN BLUE
___ MARY FRANCES		___ RARE TREAT
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___ DUSKY DANCER	___ GAY PARASOL	___ HOT PINK
	___ GETUP AND GO	___ HOT TO TROT
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___ EASTERTIME	___ GIRL NEXT DOOR	___ IMMORTALITY
___ EDITH WOLFORD	___ GLITZ 'N GLITTER	___ INDIGO PRINCESS
___ ELECTRIC AVENUE	___ GLORY STORY	___ INFINITE GRACE
___ ELIZABETH MARRISON	___ GOD'S HANDIWORK	___ IN PERSON
___ ENVOGUE	___ GOING MY WAY	___ INSTRUCTOR
___ EVELYN HARRIS	___ GOLDEN GALAXY	___ INTO THE NIGHT
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___ EVENING MAGIC	___ GOOD GUY	___ ISLAND SUNSET
___ EVENING SILK	___ GOOD SHOW	
___ EVERYTHING PLUS	___ GRAND WALTZ	___ JAZZ FESTIVAL
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	___ GUADALAJARA	___ JOYCE TERRY
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___ FEMME FATALE		___ KATMANDU
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___ FIRE ON ICE	___ HALO IN YELLOW	___ KISSING CIRCLE
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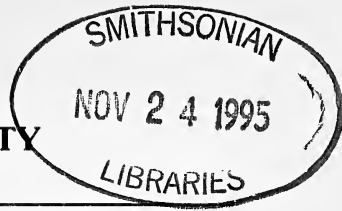
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Technical articles reporting the results of research may more appropriately be reported in specialized journals. If, however, the author wishes to publish such a paper in the *Bulletin*, he must submit with the manuscript a list of competent reviewers. The AIS publication advisory committee, in cooperation with the editor of the *Bulletin*, reserves the right to select a panel from this list, its own reviewers, or a combination of both.

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ON THE COVER: The 1995 Dykes Medal Winner HONKY TONK BLUES is pictured on the front cover. Photo is courtesy of Schreiner's Garden.

INSIDE FRONT COVER: The Evelyn Kegerise Garden. Photo by Bob Plank.



From the Desk of the President

Claire B. Barr

The Board of Directors has lost a valued member. James McWhirter passed away shortly after attending The American Iris Society convention in York, Pennsylvania. Jim will be missed greatly by Board members and by all his many iris friends; the results of his hybridizing will bring pleasure to iris lovers for years to come.

Shirley Pope, of Region 1, has been appointed to fill Jim's unexpired term as a director. We welcome Shirley to the Board. Lynda Miller, who became a director in 1994, has agreed to be the chairman of the Membership Contest Committee, a post formerly held by Jim McWhirter.

At the spring meeting of the Board of Directors in York, O. D. Niswonger was named President-elect. Dave will begin his tour of duty as President of The American Iris Society at the fall meeting in Oklahoma City next month, and I am sure that he will receive from the membership the same cooperation accorded to me during the past three years. It was my pleasure to meet Dave twenty-three years ago at a Region 4 spring meeting in North Carolina where he was the guest speaker; it is always a privilege to hear him speak and to benefit from his wealth of knowledge. Dave is an award-winning hybridizer and a dedicated worker; he will serve the society well as its new president.

It has been an honor to hold the office of president for the past three years. (It is a pleasure just to be a member of the society, and that will continue as before.) My thanks to everyone; there are so many who have helped so much in so many ways.

Speaking of "so many ways," the iris world offers a multitude of ways in which to interest members, old and new alike. There is truly something for everyone. What is needed is a bit of creativity to interest newcomers and to stimulate and challenge those already here. That creativity, plus personal contact, could increase the membership of the AIS and strengthen it at the same time.

The AIS is fortunate in having a strong group of twenty-four regional vice presidents who are sharing their knowledge and experience with each other. A strong RVP is able to coordinate the activities of regional and local groups and be of assistance to both while maintaining contact with opportunities at the national level. Each region, each group, each member, each task is important in the overall scheme of things.

So let your creativity shine. Give your support to new members, to your RVPs, and to President Niswonger.

1995 AIS AWARDS

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

HONKY TONK BLUES (SCHREINERS) 194 votes

runners up

BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (J. & D. Norrick) 102 votes

BATIK (A. Ensminger) 71 votes

votes

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL

(TB)

93 BEFORE THE STORM
(S. Innerst)

runners up

50 Thornbird (M. Byers)
43 Champagne Elegance
(O. D. Niswonger)

KNOWLTON MEDAL (BB)

143 CALICO CAT
(C. Lankow)

runners up

75 Sonja's Selah
(A. Ensminger)
71 Brownberry
(A. & D. Willott)

HANS AND JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

120 BLUE EYED BLONDE
(A. Ensminger)

runners up

66 Morning Show
(A. Ensminger)
60 Baby Blue Marine
(D. Denney)

COOK-DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

129 SERENITY PRAYER
(P. Dyer)

runners up

63 Plum Wine (J. Weiler)
39 Rita Kinsella (H. Briscoe)

votes

CAPARNE-WELCH MEDAL

(MTB)

37 SPOT OF TEA (P. Black)

runners up

32 Egret Snow (D. Sindt)
29 Little Green Eyes
(C. Boswell)

MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (SIB)

79 AQUA WHISPERS
(A. M. Miller)

runners up

28 Cathy Childerson
(D. Johnson)
61 High Standards
(R. Hollingworth)

MARY SWORDS DEBALLION MEDAL (LA)

57 KAY NELSON
(M. Granger)

runners up

52 Exquisite Lady (A. Owen)
46 Professor Jim
(J. Mertzweiller)

WILLIAMSON-WHITE MEDAL (MTB)

116 FROSTED VELVET
(K. Fisher)

runners up

90 Aachen Elf (L. Kennedy)
78 Welch's Reward
(W. Welch)

votes

C. G. WHITE MEDAL (AR)

($\frac{1}{2}$ or more Aril)

- 63 PERSIAN PADISHAH
(H. Shockey)

runners up

- 44 Tabriz (K. Kidd)
- 31 Pro News (H. Danielson)

WILLIAM MOHR MEDAL

($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ Aril)

- 36 SMOKE WITH WINE
(C. Boswell)

runners up

- 34 Solomon's Glory
(H. Nichols)
- 33 Humohr (B. Hager)

votes

ERIC NIES MEDAL (SPU)

- 60 CINNAMON STICK
(O. D. Niswonger)

runners up

- 32 Dress Circle (B. Hager)
- 29 Chocolate Fudge
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 29 Highline Coral
(E. McCown)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL (CA)

- 40 SIERRA DELL
(L. Lawyer)

runners up

- 28 California Mystique
(J. Ghio)
- 17 Big Money (J. Ghio)

J. A. PAYNE MEDAL (JA)

Due to extended deadline for voting, results will be reported in a later AIS *Bulletin*.

WALTHER CUP—Most HM votes—all categories

- 208 BOOGIE WOOGIE (H. Nichols)

runners up

- 191 Black Tie Affair (Schreiners)
- 176 Rhonda Fleming (R. Mullin)

Award of Merit

votes

TALL BEARDED

- 124 TENNESSEE
GENTLEMAN (S. Innerst)
- 113 SIGHS AND WHISPERS
(P. Black)
- 113 OREGON SKIES
(Schreiners)
- 105 CITY LIGHTS (M. Dunn)
- 103 SUKY (C. Mahan)
- 84 SILVER FOX (V. Wood)
- 83 FIRST INTERSTATE
(Schreiners)
- 81 GUADALAJARA
(J. Ghio)

votes

- 74 COMPETITIVE EDGE
(R. Ernst)
- 74 VIGILANTE (Schreiners)
- 74 TRIPLE WHAMMY
(B. Hager)
- 73 TENNESSEE WOMAN
(S. Innerst)
- 73 GOOD SHOW (B. Hager)
- 70 RIVERBOAT BLUES
(Schreiners)
- 68 ABSTRACT ART
(K. Keppel)
- 67 COTE D'OR
(Schreiners)

votes**runners up**

- 66 BUBBLE UP (J. Ghio)
- 66 BUSY BEING BLUE
(D. Denney)
- 65 LEMON FEVER
(Maryott's Gardens)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 82 APOLLO'S TOUCH
(H. Nichols)
- 81 SMITTEN KITTEN
(J. T. Aitken)
- 75 LEVITY (J. T. Aitken)
- 71 NECTAR (Keppel)

runners up

- 63 KERMIT (A. Ensminger)
- 61 HISSY FIT (S. Innerst)
- 58 SHOOTING SPARKS
(P. Black)

STANDARD DWARF**BEARDED**

- 120 BEDFORD LILAC
(B. Jones)
- 71 OREGOLD (B. Jones)
- 70 COURT MAGICIAN
(H. Nichols)
- 68 LEPRECHAUN'S
EYELASH (C. Boswell)
- 64 COMEBACK TRAIL
(H. Nichols)
- 62 KIWI CAPERS
(O. D. Niswonger)

runners up

- 54 VERY VIOLET (B. Jones)
- 53 SASS WITH CLASS
(P. Black)
- 52 PRIVILEGED
CHARACTER (P. Black)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 64 OZARK SKY (K. Fisher)
- 64 CAROL'S DREAM
(M. L. Dunderman)
- 61 OZARK EVENING
(K. Fisher)

votes

- 60 PAYOFF (J. & V. Craig)

runners up

- 46 JOLLY JIM
(M. L. Dunderman)
- 46 LADY OF MARIETTA
(W. T. Varner)
- 40 LADY DI (W. T. Varner)

MINIATURE DWARF**BEARDED**

- 45 ELFIN MAGIC
(A. & D. Willott)
- 38 BITSY (B. Hager)
- 38 PIXIE FLIRT
(A. & D. Willott)

runners up

- 34 GARDEN GNOME
(P. Black)
- 32 LITTLE RASCAL
(J. & L. Fry)
- 24 PETITE BLUSH
(J. Boushay)

LOUISIANA

- 70 BAYOU MYSTIQUE
(M. Dunn)
- 53 COUP D' ETAT
(M. Dunn)

runners up

- 50 CHERRY CUP
(R. Morgan)
- 43 WILD CAJUN
(H. Rowlan)
- 33 WAVERLY PINK
(E. Lineberger)

BORDER BEARDED

- 142 MAUI MAGIC
(J. T. Aitken)
- 96 HONKY TONK HUSSY
(D. Meek)
- 96 RED ROOSTER
(J. Durrance)

runners up

- 75 FRIZZY LIZZY (J. Weiler)

votes

- 73 RUBY WILSON
(D. Denney)
- 60 TINK (J. Durrance)

SPURIA

- 36 CANDLE LACE
(B. C. Jenkins)
- 33 SULTAN'S SASH
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 31 SONORAN CABALLERO
(F. Wickenkamp)

runners up

- 28 SNOW HAWK
(G. Corlew)
- 27 BELISSINADO
(G. Corlew)
- 24 LACED COFFEE
(H. Rowlan)

SIBERIAN

- 69 CONTRAST IN STYLES
(R. Hollingworth)
- 54 SNOW PRINCE
(S. Tiffney)
- 48 VICKI ANN
(B. Warburton)

runners up

- 47 LINDA MARY (J. Cooper)
- 47 WHITE TRIANGLES
(B. Warburton)
- 46 DEVIL'S DREAM
(Schafer/Sacks)

INTER-SPECIES

- 43 ASIAN ALLIANCE
(J. Witt)

ARILBRED (½ or more Aril)

- 23 BRONZE FALCON
(L. Danielson)
- 19 BIONIC FLASH
(L. Danielson)
- 19 TURKISH PENDANT
(H. Shockey)

votes**runners up**

- 16 ARABIAN MIDNIGHT
(L. Rich)
- 16 ZERZURA (B. Hager)
- 15 CIRCUS PARADE
(H. Danielson)
- 15 ARIL SKYLINE
(H. Danielson)
- 15 SHARINA (H. Shockey)

ARILBRED (¼ to ½ Aril)

- 24 HOT SPOT (C. Boswell)
- 21 APRIL FRESH
(M. Brizendine)
- 21 BABY RED MOHR
(C. Boswell)

runners up

- 17 EGYPTIAN LULLABY
(H. Nichols)
- 16 DESERT MELODY
(L. Flanagan)
- 15 LITTLE BROWN JUG
(D. Meek)

CALIFORNICAE

- 22 NIGHT EDITOR (J. Ghio)
- 17 FOOTHILL BANNER
(L. Lawyer)

runners up

- 15 LOS CALIFORNIO
(J. Ghio)
- 15 PEANUT GALLERY
(J. Ghio)
- 12 UP ALL NIGHT (J. Ghio)

SPECIES

- 62 PARTY LINE
(B. Warburton)
- 41 PINK PEAKS
(Schafer/Sacks)

Honorable Mention

votes

TALL BEARDED

- 208 BOOGIE WOOGIE
(H. Nichols)
- 191 BLACK TIE AFFAIR
(Schreiners)
- 176 RHONDA FLEMING
(R. Mullin)
- 146 KATHLEEN KAY
NELSON (B. Hager)
- 108 NORDIC ICE
(H. Shockey)
- 106 IN REVERSE (J. Gatty)
- 102 ACAPULCO SUNSET
(H. Nichols)
- 97 VOLTAGE (V. Messick)
- 97 STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN
(L. Lauer)
- 93 HALO IN ROSEWOOD
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 92 PINK STARLET (V. Wood)
- 85 BOSS TWEED
(J. McWhirter)
- 82 QUITO (J. Ghio)
- 78 CELEBRATION SONG
(Schreiners)
- 75 STAR FLEET (K. Keppel)
- 74 JAZZ ME BLUE
(Schreiners)
- 69 OMINOUS STRANGER
(S. Innerst)
- 66 FLIGHTS OF FANCY
(K. Keppel)
- 62 TENNESSEE VOL
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 62 O' SO PRETTY
(Evelyn Kegerise)
- 62 FILM FESTIVAL
(K. Keppel)
- 62 ELEGANT IMPRESSIONS
(Schreiners)
- 61 LUCILLE RICHARDSON
(G. Richardson)
- 60 FROSTING (J. Gatty)
- 58 WAR CHIEF (Schreiners)
- 58 WENCH (L. Miller)

votes

- 57 NEW CENTURION
(Schreiners)
- 57 NORTHWEST PRIDE
(Schreiners)
- 57 ORANGE JUBILEE
(Schreiners)
- 57 RUFFLED GODDESS
(R. Tasco)
- 56 FIESTA SONG (V. Wood)
- 55 PACIFIC DESTINY
(L. Lauer)
- 54 ELSIE RICHARDSON
(G. Richardson)
- 53 HALO IN GOLD
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 53 IMAGINARIUM (D. Meek)
- 53 TEMPTING (J. Ghio)
- 52 RUMBLESEAT (S. Innerst)
- 51 CLEAR MORNING SKY
(R. Ernst)
- 51 CUSS A'BLUE STREAK
(D. Miller)
- 50 RAMBLIN' ROSE
(Schreiners)
- 49 FOOTLOOSE (Schreiners)
- 49 HALO IN CREAM
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 49 URGENT (H. Nichols)
- 49 WHITE HEAT (K. Keppel)
- 48 GOLD FROSTING
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 48 LIFE OF RILEY
(J. McWhirter)
- 48 SONG OF ANGELS
(Schreiners)
- 47 FOREIGN STATESMAN
(R. Ernst)
- 47 SPRING PARASOL
(R. Ernst)
- 47 TALL SHIPS (J. T. Aitken)
- 46 CHATTER (J. Ghio)
- 46 FESTIVE MOOD
(Schreiners)
- 45 ORANGE EMBERS
(H. Shockey)

votes

- 44 JUAN VALDEZ
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 44 NIGHT ATTACK (J. Ghio)
- 44 PRESTIGE ITEM
(B. Hager)
- 44 RUFFLED COPPER
SUNSET (J. Gibson)
- 43 ALL TOGETHER
(J. Gatty)
- 43 CHEROKEE HERITAGE
(H. Nichols)
- 43 CLARENCE (L. Zurbrigg)
- 43 DAKOTA MOON
(Schreiners)
- 43 GOLDKIST (P. Black)
- 43 LIGHTNING BOLT
(J. Ghio)
- 42 BIRTHDAY SURPRISE
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 42 HELLO-GOODBYE
(R. Nelson)
- 41 ART FAIRE (Schreiners)
- 41 CANNINGTON
BLUEBIRD (C. Bartlett)
- 41 NORDICA
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 41 PRIVATE STOCK
(M. Hamblen)
- 41 SUNRAY REFLECTION
(R. Ernst)
- 40 CHANTILLY LACE
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 40 HIGH DRAMA (J. Gatty)
- 40 ISN'T THIS SOMETHING
(A. Ensminger)
- 40 NOTABLE (J. Ghio)
- 39 CAFE OLÉ (J. Ghio)
- 39 PRIVATE TREASURE
(G. Shoop)
- 39 STRIKE IT RICH
(R. Ernst)
- 38 CLASSMATE (K. Keppel)
- 38 PURE AS GOLD
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 38 TEMPTING FATE
(D. Meek)

votes

- 38 WHERE THERE'S
SMOKE (T. Burseen)
- 37 CHERRY LANE
(G. Corlew)
- 37 SPICED CIDER
(B. Hammer)
- 37 TIMBERWIND
(J. Burch)

STANDARD DWARF**BEARDED**

- 121 PELE (J. T. Aitken)
- 112 STARBABY (M. Smith)
- 74 DESERT ORANGE
(B. Jones)
- 62 JEWELER'S ART
(C. Lankow)
- 55 BLACK CHERRY
DELIGHT
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 55 SNOW SEASON
(E. Jones)
- 48 BEING BUSY (B. Hager)
- 48 DARK RINGS (J. Gatty)
- 46 ALADDIN'S FLAME
(V. Messick)
- 45 LITTLE BLUE EYES
(J. Weiler)
- 43 BLUE EYED MAIDEN
(A. & D. Willott)
- 42 RUBY TUESDAY
(Maryott's Gardens)
- 42 RUSTY NAIL (V. Messick)
- 41 INDIAN BEAUTY
(J. Weiler)
- 39 SMART (S. Innerst)
- 38 SERENDIPITY ELF
(O. D. Niswonger)
- 35 APRIL ANGEL
(H. Nichols)

ARILBRED (¼ to ½)

- 14 PATRIOT'S GEM
(F. Gadd)
- 11 MAGNIFICENT
OBSESSION
(S. McAllister)

votes

- 11 IN TOTO (C. Boswell)

ARIL (½ or more)

- 24 QUEEN SHEBA
(H. Shockey)
18 ALL THAT GLITTERS
(S. McAllister)
14 BAGDAD'S FOLLY
(L. Rich)
14 DESERT PLUM
(B. Hager)
12 ARABIAN ARCHER
(L. Rich)
10 BABYLONIAN FIRES
(L. Rich)
9 ANACRUSIS (H. Mathes)
9 GALILEE PRINCE
(L. Danielson)
9 GHOST DANCER
(S. McAllister)
9 STEP ASIDE
(L. Danielson)
9 WHIRLWIND ROMANCE
(S. McAllister)

INTERMEDIATE BEARDED

- 84 MEGGLETHROP
(S. Innerst)
76 BUNNICULA
(S. Innerst)
55 PRINCE OF BURGUNDY
(O. D. Niswonger)
51 LEMON WHIP
(C. Lankow)
49 AMELIA BEDELIA
(S. Innerst)
43 BOLD STROKE (E. Jones)
41 MASTER SLEUTH
(H. Nichols)

BORDER BEARDED

- 89 PEACH ICE CREAM
(C. Lankow)
67 CALICO KID
(A. Ensminger)
56 RINKY-DINK (K. Keppel)
53 SEA CADET (J. T. Aitken)

votes

- 53 MICHELLE STADLER
(J. D. Stadler)

MINIATURE TALL BEARDED

- 84 PRETTY QUIRKY
(A. Probst)
80 BILLIE THE BROWNIE
(J. Burton)
68 PARDNER (K. Fisher)

**MINIATURE DWARF
BEARDED**

- 73 TOOTH FAIRY (B. Jones)
35 HEY THERE (C. Lankow)
30 ROBIN'S EGG (D. Sindt)

LOUISIANA

- 45 PROFESSOR NEIL
(J. Mertzweiller)
32 ROKKI ROCKWELL
(D. Haymon)
28 PRALINE FESTIVAL
(D. Haymon)
25 EXTRAORDINAIRE
(M. Dunn)
24 PROFESSOR BARBARA
(J. Mertzweiller)

SIBERIAN

- 92 ROARING JELLY
(Schafer/Sacks)
50 HARPSWELL VELVET
(C. McEwen)
38 CHEERY LYN
(A. M. Miller)

SPURIA

- 40 ALPHASPU
(B. C. Jenkins)
31 ILA REMEMBERED
(B. Hager)
29 BRONZE ART
(B. C. Jenkins)

CALIFORNICAE

- 15 EARTHQUAKE (J. Ghio)

votes

- 13 NATIONAL ANTHEM
(J. Ghio)
- 10 SEE THE LIGHT
(J. Ghio)
- 9 DEEP BLUE SEA
(J. Ghio)
- 9 AGE OF CHIVALRY
(J. Ghio)

SPECIES

- 105 DOTTED LINE (L. Reid)

votes

- 19 BUTTERFLY MODE
(L. Reid)
- 11 CASCADE CREME
(L. Reid)
- 11 LITTLE RHYME
(Schafer/Sacks)

INTERSPECIES

- 35 PACIFIC STARPRINT
(L. Reid)

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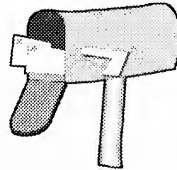
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SEVENTY-FIVE in '95

The seventy-fifth anniversary of The American Iris Society was celebrated with the annual convention in Pennsylvania. This was fitting because it was in the state of Pennsylvania that the AIS was first registered. Unfortunately, not a large number of people attended this wonderful event, and those who did not attend really missed something special.

Every convention has something about it that sets it apart from all others. Each person who attends probably considers some part of the convention as its crowning achievement. To me, the thing that made this convention so special was outstanding bloom and the very relaxed atmosphere. It was exciting to be part of the throng that attended the Oregon convention last year, but this one was much more relaxed. This has nothing to do with the planning by either convention committee. It is just a fact of life that it is easier to take care of 400 people than it is to take care of 1100.

One thing that made this year's meeting different was the fact that no airline flies into the host city of York. Those who attended and had to fly to get there found themselves having to choose between two different airports, if not more. Many flew to Harrisburg, and the stories of being stranded, left behind, and dumped at the wrong location were good for many laughs—especially since everything worked out well in the end. Several other people flew to Baltimore, and these people seemed to fare much better. For the most part, these people rented cars, and this provided them with transportation to and from the meeting sites.

Another unique thing about this convention was the fact that the visitors stayed at a minimum of four different hotels in the vicinity of the meetings. Some of those who had read that their hotel was just across the street from headquarters were shocked by the fact that the "street" was a very busy thoroughfare with lights that "were green for about 10 seconds." The hosts had provided for hotel pickup each morning of the tours at the various sites where guests were staying. They truly had done all they could to make things convenient for the guests.

For the first time that I know of, the buses were accompanied by a representative from the bus company. They rode the buses with the conventioners and seemed to have a good time with the people who were so devoted to a flower. By the end of the week, they were almost as hooked on the beauty of the iris as we all are.

Pre-convention tours to such places as Gettysburg, the Kegerise Gardens, the Harley Davidson plant, etc., were well attended and well-received. For those who lived in other parts of the country, it seemed so unusual to be able to travel from one state to another in such a short distance, and seeing the beauty of the Pennsylvania countryside was a real treat. People tend to think of states as being one dimensional—for instance, Boston does not make up all of Massachusetts, there's more to New York than New York City, and there's more to California than movie stars and Los Angeles. Many probably think of Pennsylvania as Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, etc. It is, however, a very

beautiful area with rolling countryside, many trees, small towns, and apparently, very good climate for growing irises. It was a treat to visit.

After the business meetings on the first two days had concluded, guests boarded buses to be taken to the site of the Welcome Dinner. This was a new experience for most, but it turned out to be not unpleasant at all. Everyone seemed to arrive at the dinner in plenty of time, and I heard no complaints about their having to make the trip. Entertainment was provided by an authentic Pennsylvania Dutchman, and he left the crowd in a happy mood with some of his jokes.

Tour days all seemed to start very early in the morning, especially since this was the Eastern time zone. However, I've never attended a convention when they didn't start "very early." Probably the real reason that they seem to start so early is that most of us stay up too late each night before the tours. It seemed to me that loading the buses was less hectic than usual. Perhaps that was because I was always on the last bus each day and most of the people had already done the usual shoving and pushing that takes place at boarding time. The good thing about the tour days was that they ended early in the day. We had plenty of time in each garden, time for a leisurely lunch, and none of the trips were very long. At the end of each day, there was time to shop, relax, and visit. This was a major plus for this convention in my opinion.

Judges' training classes were conducted on the first night of the tour days, and all the instructors did a good job in presenting the material. One of these schools was in a different hotel from the other two, but this didn't seem to bother those who wanted to attend. Most meetings were held in the headquarters hotel, and nothing seemed to suffer from the fact that everyone was not registered at that hotel.

One afternoon a group of my friends and I decided to make the trip to Reading to visit the gardens of the Kegerise sisters since we had not arrived in time to make the earlier trip to their garden. Any time a group of out-of-state people make a trip to a site they are not familiar with, it usually means a barrel of laughs and many side trips that were not really a part of the plan. One member of our group kept insisting that we not stop until we came to a Dairy Queen. Finally, we decided to stop anyway, and then we found the Dairy Queen one block further up the highway. The trip was well worth the wear and tear on the driver (which wasn't me) because the gardens were both very beautiful. Evelyn was home to take us on a tour of her place, and she accompanied us as we went to Eleanor's. Eleanor and Richard were at the convention, but we had their permission to see the lovely garden they maintain. We did have a barrel of laughs; we did see beautiful irises; and we did get back to the hotel without any major detours.

The Awards Banquet is always the highlight of any convention. This one was different because we again were bused to the site. Again, this didn't seem to create any problems that couldn't be handled with a smile. President Claire Barr thanked everyone for the pleasure of having served as president. Melody Wilhoit and her best friend, her husband Jerry, did a wonderful job of presenting the awards. Hilda Crick received her distinguished Service Medal from Ron Mullin, who was in his last year as president when Hilda became a director. A beaming Sterling Innerst accepted the President's Cup for his iris

BEFORE THE STORM. Most people were not the least bit surprised when this was announced as the winner. Lynda Miller, who had to leave early because of commitments in her own region, was the winner of the Cook Cup for her MTB BANGLES. It was the first time Lynda had won the award and the first time she had left a convention early. Many of her friends kept her phone busy that night as they delivered the good news to her.

The plants at this convention were as well grown as any we've ever seen at a convention. The gardens were well-tended and full of blooms. The hosts were as congenial as any we will ever meet. The luncheons were very fine. People can always find something to gripe about if they look hard enough, but it would have been hard to complain very much about the things that happened in Pennsylvania. Some of us were astonished to find a gentleman shaking his fist at our bus as it passed his home. Fortunately, none of us had done anything to cause this behavior. Perhaps some others had offended him earlier in the week. A special treat for me was seeing the Indian artifacts displayed in one garden and hearing the stories told by the host. It was a pleasure to see so many of the guest plants doing well. There were probably fewer vacant spots than I've ever seen at a convention.

No matter how well-planned a convention is, there will always be a few little glitches. This is through no fault of the planners, and anyone who has ever hosted a convention will not complain about any of this. It is a tremendous task to plan and execute all the things that happen at a convention. Hats off to the Susquehanna Iris Society for a job well done.

For those who have become regulars at the annual conventions, the flowers often take a back seat to the people we go there to see. The greatest asset of membership in AIS is the many friends one makes through that membership and through attendance at the conventions. It is so wonderful to visit with people from across the country who have a common interest, and it is wonderful to look back on those visits long after the convention has ended.

Yes, the Seventy-fifth Anniversary Convention was a wonderful experience. Every convention is different, but all are the same in that they give us the opportunity to enjoy flowers and friends. What could be better?

INNERST GARDEN

Marky Smith (Washington)

In spite of the pulse spike generated by the nuclear reactors of Three Mile Island, in spite of the lush beauty of the wide Susquehanna and the eastern hardwood forests in full leaf, and even in spite of the tranquility of the neat Amish farms, with teams of flax-maned Belgians mowing the hayfields, the prime focus and energy source for me in York was a chance, at long last, to visit Sterling and Barbara Innerst's garden. The garden approach is a subtle ascent, both in altitude and excitement. Starting up the driveway, the con-

ventioneer catches glimpses of rainbow color, and as one picks up speed, these resolve themselves into large blocks of irises in full bloom, with Sterling's collection of named cultivars on the left and his exciting bearded seedlings on the right. As I passed these seedlings, I planned to return at my leisure (Ha! We had 90 minutes each of two days, in which to see everything. A full day at least was required!)

Innerst's was the largest of the tour gardens and contained guests from over 110 international hybridizers. To reach this master planting, the ascent continued, past the house, (and thousands of orchid seedlings somewhere, which "escaped," due to time constraints), past azaleas and pots and baskets of geraniums, past rows of various berries and rhubarb and a flock of "watch-dog" geese, past the Japanese iris and daylily seedlings waiting in the wings, to the wide lawns at the top of the lot, and seven long rows of flourishing guests, fenced in by oaks and pines.

The leisurely approach ended abruptly and scurrying ensued. First impact was a long row of BEFORE THE STORM, (Innerst '89), "always the darkest;" and the fresh flowers glowed velvet black. It was no surprise that this dramatic presentation later won the President's Cup. The afternoon was warm and humid, and my garden notes reflect cool blues, purples and pastels, including excellent clumps of Sterling's deep royal violet FOREIGN STATESMAN ('93), and PRINCIPLES ('93), a large, icy white with 8 well-branched stalks. Mulberry violet STAR FLEET (Keppel '93), shared similar blazing beards with the smoky heliotrope TWILIGHT BLAZE (Keppel '92), a lighter, daintier flower. Then back to near-black for Paul Black's seedling TOM JOHNSON ('96), an heir to WITCH'S WAND, but a better grower with smoother color. Jim McWhirter would have been proud of GREAT GATSBY ('95), a ruffled, purple neglecta of commanding size, with cool lavender standards and strong violet falls.

The Schreiner blues were in full spate, with an impressive clump of sky-colored OREGON SKIES ('91), huge flowers of YAQUINA BLUE ('92), and sea-toned color on STAR SAILOR ('95). Classic ruffles of medium blue-violet, set on tall, well-branched stalks let DELTA BLUES ('94) steal the show. A wide, soft blue plicata, ACOMA, (Magee '90) was soothing, as was Ghio's HANDSHAKE ('92) a luminata-plicata, with lavender wash on white, darker at the rims and beard. There was interest in LA MER (Richardson '94), as large blooms from this Washington State hybridizer showed off icy standards with blue midribs, atop blended blue-violet falls. Taking off were tall stalks of Terry Aitken's elegantly ruffled, soft blue, FLY WITH ME ('90). The fine dessert offering was FROSTING, (Gatty '93), a gorgeous ice-cream mauve with tremendous substance and ruffle.

One entire row of guests was devoted to medians, and Sterling's fine new red Siberian seedlings, several with dramatic styles. Included was a voluptuously ruffled Siberian seedling from the Bauer/Coble line, #S85L1, with lavender standards and very smooth mauve falls. York could be called an MTB convention and there were many to chose from, including Lynda and Roger Miller's BANGLES ('95), a winsome combination of rosewood standards over violet-veined, lavender falls, which won the Franklin Cook Cup. Another stellar performer was ROBIN GOODFELLOW, (Mahan '94), a full clump of the

cleanest white, covered with bloom. Ken Fisher was well-represented by OZARK EVENING ('91), a soft pink, and OZARK SKY ('90), a stitched lavender blue plicata.

Several IBs were still in bloom, including Jim and Vicky Craig's multi-stalked clump of SAILING FREE ('93), with glacial standards, violet falls, and dainty form reflecting its *aphylla* breeding. Evelyn Jones' floriferous gold IB #I 89-15 was a bright light in the garden, as was Innerst's BUNNICULA ('91) a clean, yellow amoena. Before leaving, I was happy to see Smith 90-28 C (FATHOM '97) showing clear blue color on its long-blooming stalks.

We returned to the Innerst Garden the next day, after a heavy downpour the previous night. The morning was overcast and cold, and my notes show a collection of small fires to warm the spirit. First was a molten clump of MARTHA'S GOLD (Aitken '91) which was excellent everywhere; followed with the sunshine of ACAPULCO SUNSET (Nichols '93); the gentle warmth of Rick Ernst's FEMININE FIRE ('91), a glowing peach, and the blazing red of FORGE FIRE (Ernst '91). The search for visual heat expanded to the popular QUITO (Ghio '93), a tall, burnt orange and TEMPTING, (Ghio '92), a luscious addition to any garden, with gold-kissed white standards and rose falls. More fuel was added by a rare TB from Bennett Jones, SPANISH FIREBALL ('95), a brilliant tangerine, heated further by a terrific vermilion beard.

This was a good day for Border irises, with SEA CADET (Aitken '93) providing a dark blue-violet counterpoint to PEACH ICE CREAM (Lankow '93), a superb icy peach amoena that performed in all its gardens. Another excellent amoena is APRICOT FROSTY (Niswonger '92), this one, pure white over mango; and I also liked PAGAN GODDESS (Miller '95), a fine, iced peach to rose-peach blend.

Among the taller pinks, Evelyn Jones' POND LILY ('95) was excellent in all its gardens, with smoky baby pink standards and highly ruffled mauve falls. LADY JULIET, (Nichols '94), is ruffled and wide and reported to be a rebloomer. Its mauve falls, with wire tan edge below standards blended golden-tan to cream, would be a good match with mauve chrysanthemums. Niswonger's HALO IN ROSEWOOD ('93) is my favorite of his "halo" patterns: toasted watermelon standards and matching fall rim around cream to yellow falls, finished with a hot red beard. Among other bicolors, SMART MOVE (Keppel '95) is a smooth bronze over burgundy, and FLIGHTS OF FANCY (Keppel '93) is a rugged luminata bicolor with cream standards and pale-veined, rosy orchid falls. Rick Ernst's THRILLSEEKER ('93) displayed the complementary colors of its crisp yellow-gold standards over soft lilac falls. A final stand-out was Schreiner CC 758 B, a probable descendent of the GYPSY WOMAN line, with cream standards blended to primrose bases and butter yellow falls blended to a wide, hot rose fall ring.

With so many Innerst seedlings and so little time, my short pass among them did them little justice, but I went home coveting GROBSWITCHER ('95), a brilliant peach-pink-orange self of ruffled form and perfect Border proportions, as well as Innerst 3911-5, an excellent tall brown-gold, with copper glitter, and Innerst 3942-5, a wide, waxy, laced orange, the best I've seen. The descent down the driveway to the bus was far too soon. I hope to return.

THE LEADER GARDEN

Clarence Mahan (Virginia)

With the abundance of irises growing in the sweeping hillside garden of Pat and Jason Leader, it was difficult to imagine that the Leaders had lived in their current home for only two and a half years. As the buses pulled up to their lovely wood and brick house, finely wrought masonry was evident, especially in the pattern on the front chimney which mirrored the design of the paladin windows. Greeting us behind one of the windows was a bouncing schnauzer, who had a quizzical expression which seemed to ask: "What in the world are all you people doing at my house?"

The first tall bearded iris to catch my eye was a floriferous clump of Sterling Innerst's STERLING FLURRY (92), which has nicely formed flowers of white with both standards and falls edged in medium blue. TENNESSEE WOMAN (Innerst 90), with closed tan standards and dramatic purple plicata falls, was nearby, performing well as it was in other gardens on tour. Three Innerst seedlings of merit were also on display. Innerst 4062-5 has light blue falls with deeper blue centers and standards. Tobacco brown with a golden infusion, Innerst 3911-5 was growing very well. A good brown TB that grows well in the East is always in demand, so we shall be on the lookout for this one. With charming ruffled, liling form, Innerst 4048-5 was bright violet and very beautiful.

Two very nice seedlings were Leader 57-1 and Leader 27-87-2. Although these seedlings of our host were not listed in the convention book, they gained much notice. Violet with brown shoulders, 57-1 was performing well in the BB class. The bright tangerine beard on Leader 27-87-2 added zest to the lovely flowers colored creamy yellow with orange infusions.

Several of the most impressive tall bearded irises in this garden were from Texas hybridizer Hooker Nichols. The most ruffled variegata I have seen to date is TEXAS GLORY (94). This iris has a lovely full form with gold standards which have a maroon cast toward the base, and rich maroon falls edged in gold. For those who like ruffles and lace, TEXAS GLORY will be a must for their garden.

In the Hawkins garden at the Atlanta convention, I much admired a Nichols seedling registered as LADY JULIET. Introduced last year, this iris was performing well at York also. This bicolor has soft tan standards, nicely formed, and soft violet falls which flare showing their underside the same color as the standards. Nice, indeed, and it has rebloomed in Texas, too!

Another Nichols iris which impressed me was MARTHELLA (95), which showed superb stalks and high bud count. The colors of this bicolor are difficult to describe. Hooker calls the standards a smoothly blended peach raspberry, and this seems about right to me. The ruffled falls are magenta. URGENT (Nichols 92) was quite impressive with its unusual color which reminded me of lemon and orange sherbet, sort of mixed together. The edges of both the standards and falls are ruffled yellow gold, and the lemony orange style crests and tangerine beards enhance the beauty of this uniquely colored

flower. Also lovely in the Leader garden was MARY ELLEN NICHOLS (Nichols 90), named for Hooker's mother. Muted gold standards with white edges, and wine falls edged lavender make this an iris you won't confuse with any other. Very lovely!

My favorite tall bearded iris in this garden and at the York convention was TIGER HONEY (Kasparek 94). I cannot imagine how anyone can view this iris without smiling. Its butterscotch standards have yellow streaks, and its golden yellow falls are streaked and striped caramel and butterscotch—a MARIA TORMENA in butterscotch and yellow! Growing well in every garden where it was a guest, it is an iris that I think every iris grower should have in his garden. If this sort of "variegated" iris doesn't appeal to you, you should still grow TIGER HONEY for the children who visit your garden. Kids will love this iris, as will all who are still children at heart. It is replete with whimsy and joy.

There were three tall bearded irises by the Willotts that were performing very nicely in this garden. MASTER GARDENER (91) is a ruffled peach with orange beards. It is obviously a good parent for two of its very attractive offspring were also on display. The very soft and lovely DEARLY BELOVED (94) is ruffled and lightly laced in pink and peach shades. ADORABLE DIVA (94), which was my favorite of the three, is a lightly ruffled pinkish apricot with bright orange beards.

Very beautiful in this garden as well as in the Rojahn garden was Gary Sides's seedling D32-F17A. With charming lilted flower form, this pink and lavender bicolor has excellent bud count and very nice stalks. Most interesting is the beard on this iris, an attractive blend of tangerine and lavender which complements the flower colors. Watch for this iris!

Great stalks and gorgeous shrimp pink flowers marked Jack Durrance's NORMA JEAN (91). Don't overlook this beauty! Two other Durrance irises I liked very much in this garden were border bearded: TINK (91), with lavender standards and yellow falls kissed violet on the edges; and MOSTEST (90), the brightest ruffled yellow flower one could imagine. Both of these were growing very well.

Other tall bearded irises that showed very well in this garden were EBONY DREAM (Stahly 93), VOLTAGE (Messick 93), MY SHADOW (McGee 90), and WAUKEE PRIDE (Blodgett 94). EBONY DREAM is a gorgeous, smooth ruffled black. In contrast, VOLTAGE is a real showoff in bright orange. MY SHADOW has violet standards and nearly black falls. WAUKEE PRIDE is a beautiful campanula violet, lighter in the center of the falls.

Chatting with iris connoisseur Marky Smith, I asked which were her favorite irises in the Leader garden. In addition to several that I have already mentioned, Marky picked two Schreiner blues: YAQUINA BLUE (92) and STAR SAILOR (95). These are indeed superb irises. Marky also picked SPELLBREAKER (Schreiner 91), a cerise self with violet beards, which is one that I like also.

Two IBs performing very nicely were BUCKEYE BELLE (Willott 90), a soft, clear yellow with brown shoulders; and TROPICAL PEACH (Willott 92), whose name aptly describes its color. An IB seedling, Carl Boswell's 95-89-1, is a most attractive bitone wine with satiny falls. Carl also had a very nice Anilbred seedling blooming in this garden, 95-90-AM.

It was great to see that the Leaders are fans of miniature tall bearded irises. Their collection was in full bloom. Some of my favorites: BUMBLEBEE DEELITE (Norrick 86), AACHEN ELF (Kennedy 84), BETTINA (Dunderman 81), LIVELY ROSE (Fisher 86), and VELVET BOUQUET (T. Varner 84).

As I was rushing to catch the bus, I noticed a neatly kept herb garden just outside the Leader's kitchen. Tarragon, chives, parsley, variegated thyme, mint, feverfew, and lavender were growing there. The star performer, however, was a sage with beautiful blue flowers. It was so nice I wished I could vote for it as one of my favorite "irises," but upon reflection decided against this idea. Many thanks to Pat and Jason Leader for inviting us to their garden—it was great to see irises grown so well!

INNERST GARDEN

Paul Gossett (Oklahoma)

In the rolling hills of South Central Pennsylvania sits the city of York, and just west sits the township of Dover. Here lies approximately 5 acres or 54 plots of land that Sterling Innerst uses for his iris gardens. Upon entering the property we were greeted by and talked about by his gaggle of geese. The house and commercial garden are on the left, the seedling beds on the right, and in back were the daylily and iris beds. The beds that were used for the guest irises formerly had daylilies planted in them.

When we entered the back portion of his land we were greeted by a row of BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst '89) that was growing very well and looking its best. This is a medium black iris with a black beard that is tipped bronze. This iris was the winner of the President's Cup Award.

The next iris that caught my eye was a very large clump of CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiner's '93) this is an iris that was performing beautifully and has a pale peachy pink standards and falls that are white-blue lavender with a bright tangerine beard. Iris in this color range do not normally attract my attention, but this one really did, along with its very healthy foliage.

ACAPULCO SUNSET (Nichols '93), a very golden yellow with a bright red-orange beard, was looking right at home with 6-7 buds, nice proportion and standing tall.

Joe Ghio's 1995 introduction DAWNING is a very beautiful and somewhat lacy iris with standards a blend of lemon yellow and pink with falls also of lemon yellow and white with pink on the shoulders. It had very clean foliage and was blessed with 7 to 9 buds.

RUFFLED GODDESS (Tasco '93) is a very ruffled pink-lavender tall bearded iris with orange-yellow beards tipped lavender-purple that has very nice form and was bred in California and looking very good in the East.

The beautiful RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin '93) was looking like a goddess with its nice show branching stalks and very beautiful blue-lilac, perfect form plicata flowers.

OREGON SKIES (Schreiner's '91) is pale blue with a yellow beard tipped white and looking much at home in this garden.

PRINCIPLES (Innerst '93) a very pale silvery-blue white with some shades of yellow green was growing very well and standing up very nicely.

A large clump of WINDSONG WEST (Nichols '88) with its nice clean foliage and many stalks of light blue flowers was also appealing.

Gary Sides of Tennessee had a seedling F46-H1 that I thought looked very good. It had pale pink standards and white falls with a gold beard tipped white. It was a nice size clump with clean looking foliage, and the stalks had at least 6 buds per branch.

MARGARET BEAUFORT (Lucy Burton '94) a Border Bearded pale violet self with a light yellow beard. It was displaying everything a BB should be, and I kept going back to look at it.

BANGLES (Lynda Miller '95) is an MTB of amethyst standards and sapphire blue falls with a gold beard. The Franklin Cook Cup award winner was very beautiful to view.

BILLIE THE BROWNIE (John Burton '92) MTB with the standards a blend of golden brown and the falls the same but, with gold at the hafts and a purple marking in the center with a bright gold beard.

PRETTY QUIRKY (Probst '92) MTB with yellow standards and violet-red veined falls with a yellow beard.

MINI WABASH (Probst '96) MTB of white standards and falls of purple-blue veining overlaying the white and coming from the yellow-gold beard.

ZULA (Fisher '90) MTB of golden brown standards and white falls with gold-brown veining and edged brown with a yellow-gold beard.

We visited the garden on two different days, and I went back on Sunday morning before leaving the York area for home. I thought the people were very friendly and hospitable and the countryside very beautiful. It was a very enjoyable convention.

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60 YEARS WITH IRIS

Anne Lowe (Virginia)

Fifty-two years ago in Fairmont, West Virginia, Evelyn and Tom Manley promised to love, cherish . . . and live somewhere else . . . and they did just that. The Manley Garden, part of a 150 acre farm, located about 50 miles north of Harrisburg, is rural Pennsylvania at its best. Just across the road runs the now peaceful Susquehanna, backed by the green Appalachian mountains. Flanking the two story white farmhouse are large fields (rented) which will soon be planted to corn and soybeans. It is a warm and quiet afternoon as we get off our red bus.

The house sits in a sea of lush green grass that is still a bit damp from the recent torrential rains. Pin oaks and river birch provide shade and height in contrast to the mixed borders which are lined with bright annuals and where numerous poppies in bud promise glorious bloom later in the season. But it is the iris beds in the distance that attract us and, as we head that way, we pass a prosperous vegetable garden and I am envious—such lush growth (especially the peas) and no weeds.

Our host, Tom Manley, has dealt with irises since the 1930s. As an undergraduate college student, he hybridized in the days of early pinks; his Master's thesis was concerned with the origin of the tangerine bearded factor. His continuing interest and his travels during his Air Force career brought him into contact with a number of important hybridizers from days gone by . . . among them Lapham, Mitchell, Cook, and Salbach.

Our three red buses were loaded with HIPS enthusiasts (on my bus only 5 riders were not HIPS members—the recruiting got pretty strong during the 3 days of riding together to the tour gardens) so many of us immediately headed for the advertised planting of historic irises. These were mostly irises from the '30s which Tom said he had planted for sentimental reasons as they were among the first he grew. He asked us for help in identifying some of these and, with the help of HIPS ID Chairman Phil Edinger, we were able to fill out tags for several of his "No-Names." Of special interest to me were the rich purple CAMEROON; a breath-taking clump of TIFFANJA; the different BROWN THRASHER; old friend SABLE; tall, white, branched PURISSIMA (unusual to see this as it is horribly frost tender); and interesting but sort of ugly MARY GEDDES. Now on to the newer irises . . .

Both the guest irises and Tom's personal planting were displayed in 5 x 8 foot raised beds, separated by wide, wide grass walkways which easily accommodated the 2-3 busloads of viewers, as well as photographers and those of us who were moving more slowly. Since this was the last garden of the Convention for us, no one was hurrying to finish looking before the whistle blew.

Although earlier tours had seen less bloom here because of the northern location of this garden, on this last day we were treated to a goodly display of bloom of all types of irises, especially medians.

The irises were planted 3-4 deep but they could be readily identified as the labels were tall and in large print! Anchoring one end of a bed was the lovely orchid RHAPSODY IN BLOOM (Ernst '93). Flaring deep pink CHINESE TREASURE (Blyth '83/'84) caught my eye and ROLE MODEL (McWhirter '88) was once again holding forth in melon-colored splendor. LADY FRIEND (Ghio '81) and COMMANDO (Schreiner's '86) were thriving here, inspiring me to try them both once again. On to the guests . . .

MTB ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan '94) was a mass of clean green foliage topped with many pure white flowers. Close-by was another recent Mahan MTB, REMINISCENCE, whose rich purple blooms contrasted well with Robin. Both were blooming well in class. BANGLES (L. Miller brand new) was drawing a crowd here as it had in the other gardens where it was guested—this one is a comer. The MTB MINI WABASH (Riley Probst '93), a miniature version of the classic Dykes Medalist from the thirties, drew mixed reviews from HIPS purists—I found no conflict of interests here.

From the Massachusetts household of Burton comes MARGARET BEAUFORT (Lucy Burton '94), a lovely light violet BB which was blooming well in class. I love MTB BILLIE THE BROWNIE (John Burton '92) which looks like a miniature JEAN CAYEUX (one of my favorite oldies—can't keep from referring back to the historic!)

MANUSCRIPT (J. Burch '90) a BB just barely in class here, was a heavenly lavender, and I liked it just as much as I had in the other gardens where I had seen it. As always, IB BLUE EYED BLONDE, (Ensminger '89) displayed impeccable form and growth habits.

A brilliant orange TB seedling with everything going for it, (Bennett Jones 88-5) which had been named SPANISH FIREBALL during the convention, is a MUST HAVE. From the distaff side of the Jones family, BOLD STROKE is a blue IB out of CODICIL X BLUE LINE that has the best qualities of both parents. Also from Evelyn, I-89-15 is a brilliant gold IB with an orange-gold beard—stunning! Guess I must be in my gold period, as MARTHA'S GOLD (Aitken '91), the older MING DYNASTY (Moldovan '73) and KRUGERRAND (Gaulter '89) (which on-the-spot experts assured me would not sun fade) were added to my list. On to the food . . .

We drifted out of the garden and up to the cool garage for refreshing lemonade and marvelous local cheeses and crackers—perfect food for a late afternoon snack. There was a sharp white cheese that was to die for!

Evelyn Manley modestly said "I am not a gardener—this is all Tom's doing." Well, Tom Manley can come and "do" in my iris patch anytime he likes. Thank you both for letting us visit your beautiful Pennsylvania garden.

THE MARQUART GARDEN

Barbara Schmieder (Massachusetts)

On a hillside in rural Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a son and his wife are carrying on the tradition of his mother, Dorothea Marquart, by sharing her irises with many people. Terry and Susan Marquart, with the help of members of the Susquehanna Iris Society, rescued Dorothea's irises (many of them her horned seedlings) after her death and also began an extensive planting of their own, with additional irises purchased at local club sales and through iris catalogs. One would never suspect that this is a new garden, started when Terry and Susan purchased the property on June 10, 1993. In fact, their honeymoon was spent digging and planting the garden, and one of their wedding presents (from Sterling Innerst and Carl Rojahn) was a day of digging and transplanting irises!

Greeting visitors at the mailbox is Dorothea's PINK DIABLO (registered 1988 but never introduced), a cross of SKY HOOKS X VANITY, pink with lighter area in falls, pink beards and long blue horns. Sharing the spot with it is the first iris ever owned by Susan, STEPPING OUT (incidentally, the first iris Dorothea ever hybridized with), which never seems to show its age (and I'm not telling—you'll have to look it up!). The front of the house is planted with a variety of perennials—hollyhocks, heucheras, a red peony, bleeding hearts, hostas, lamb's ears, and irises STEPPING OUT, SKATING PARTY, and SILVERADO—all showing up well against the white house. Around the right side of the house, down a steep slope, is the back yard, filled with rows and rows of irises. Half of the guest irises were planted here, along with Terry's and Susan's personal collection and a selection of Dorothea's horned seedlings, the last cross having been made by Terry under his mother's guidance. Among the interesting seedlings of Dorothea Marquart was an unnumbered one from her last cross—standards palest pinky beige, yellow falls, blue violet beards and horns, quite an unusual combination of colors.

There were many "other than TBs" in this planting, and I was drawn to the miniature tall beardededs (MTBs), as they were mostly at peak bloom. Several of Ken Fisher's looked good, especially PARDNER ('93), the tiny gold and red variegata that makes such a stunning clump. Other Fisher MTBs I admired were ZULA ('90), light brown standards and white falls veined brown; LASTING MEMORY ('94), blue-violet standards and almost black falls; and OZARK SKY ('90), a blue and white plicata. Lynda Miller's BANGLES ('95) was outstanding here and at other gardens, and everyone seemed excited about the new color combination, as this class doesn't get many color breaks. The color seemed to change slightly from one garden to the next, but in this garden I would describe the standards as dusty rose turning to tan on older flowers, falls lavender with darker veining and edge, and lemon beards. The form is quite rounded and growth habit outstanding. Congratulations Lynda, you deserve the Cook Cup for this treasure!

Evelyn Jones' beautiful gold IB with deeper gold beards—seedling I 89-15—will be watched closely for introduction date, as I don't have much in that color in my garden. Another IB that caught my attention was Tony and Dorothy Willott's FOLK MUSIC ('94). My hometown friend, Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh, and I had a good time trying to describe the unusual coloring and came up with this description—pinkish beige self with violet on inside of standards showing through, heliotrope beards turning paprika in throat, fairly tailored form.

Only a few Siberians were planted here, but one was so distinctive that it didn't need a label (and didn't have one!) for recognition—LEE'S BLUE (Bauer/Coble '94), a lovely wide light blue with a large white blaze on the falls. Louise Bellagamba's PATIO ROSE ('93) was nice, a rosy pink with blue center line under the gold signal. It had two branches and a terminal.

In a bed on the other side of the house were the rest of the guest irises, all TBs, and I was impressed with the many intriguing orange ones. I liked an Innerst seedling, 3942-5, with deep orange standards, lighter falls edged darker, and bushy orange beards. It had 3 bloomstalks and 7 fans, and the only drawback was that the branching was a little high, a typical fault in this color class. Lynda Miller's CAN'T ELOPE ('92) had the nicest branching of this group. I could stretch a point and call Joe Gatty's SOFT CARESS ('91) an orange, but it is really more of a peach with orange beards—beautiful in any case! ORANGE EMBERS (Shockey '93) definitely fits the orange class—a burnt orange with glowing orange beards. Keppel's OPPORTUNITY ('90) looked orange to me—my description reads ruffled light pinkish orange standards, slightly deeper falls, orange beards—but Keith calls it dandelion gold! It would be hard to pick the best one from this bunch, as each has something different to offer.

Marky Smith continues to come up with classy seedlings, in this case a very ruffled mid blue with some white around a lemon beard. With four open on one stalk, 90-43D was getting lots of attention. And Tom Burseen probably has the most unusual colors and names—STAIR STEALER ('94—clue me in Tom, I haven't figured out this name yet!), heavily laced with purple pink standards, amber falls, and orange beards.

Of course there were many fine irises from Sterling Innerst here—PRINCIPLES ('93), a beautiful silvery white and FOREIGN STATESMAN ('93), a deep purple self being two of them. I also liked his seedling 3428-5, a white ground plicata marked blue on standards and just barely marked on the falls. There was even a horned seedling from Sterling, 3751-6, yellow with lighter area in falls and midrib and huge horns, bronze on tip and gold in throat.

Leaving the garden, I looked back at Dorothea Marquart the iris (Innerst '94), planted on the highest level of the property looking down on it all. With its pale lemon standards, deeper lemon falls and beards, it seemed a fitting tribute to the lady who inspired Terry and Susan to plant this garden. Her spirit will live on here and new generations will enjoy this garden that so many people had a part in bringing into being.

THE BETTY & GLENN BOWERS GARDEN

Jim Morris (Missouri)

First a perceptible and then a very audible a-h-h-h was exclaimed in unison by the irisarians on our bus as we drove up to the Glenbow Garden in Dillsburg, PA. Iris peak bloom is always stunning, and this group was ready!

We parked on the adjacent Range Country Club grounds and entered Glenbow between the Spirit of 76 flags. "The grouse hunter is home," said the garden sign, and there were over 600 irises, mostly tall bearded, planted in two adjacent yards (their son lives next door) in 15 raised beds.

The first iris that I noted following a cursory walk through was LOYALIST (Schreiner 86) in ruffled wine red. It was accompanied by AMERICAN SWEETHEART (Sexton 83) which was gorgeous with golden brown standards and black falls with a beard matching the standards. I concluded that this one is as good as most anything introduced in the intervening twelve years. Oh, did I say I liked it? Show stalks with three open blooms beg the question.

Because the number of viewing people exceeded the path capacity, I called across one bed to Jim Browne and asked him what the one in front of him attracting a crowd was named. He replied, "Jim." (My name). "No, no," I said, "the iris." Once again he said, "Jim." And so it was that I first saw our mutual namesake, JIM (Richardson 94). It is a white self with blue style arms and was performing quite well with multiple blooms on multiple bloom stalks.

Someone pointed me toward a group of well grown miniature tall bearded irises which were arguably the "stars" of the York Convention. Performing exceptionally well were: ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan 94) a rounded opal white self; PRETTY QUIRKY (A. Probst 92) distinctly different with clean lemon standards over lavender falls veined wine; REMINISCENCE (Mahan 94) orchid over red-black edged orchid with orange beards and white haft markings; MINI WABASH (R. Probst 96) a miniature version of its surname; BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton 95) a lively tan over lavender with amber hafts and gold beards; LASTING MEMORY (K. Fisher 94) medium blue over purple with white haft marks; SUNBONNET SUE (Dunderman 91) lavender pink with a yellow beard; RAVE REVIEW (Craig 91) a bright lavender with a burnt orange beard; and LITTLE MISTY (Craig 90) with standards in gray-white over medium blue falls. Convention Chairman Sterling Innerst later told me how impressed he was by MTB performance in all the gardens. The Median Iris Society President was pleased by the "rave reviews," pun intended. You will read plenty about the bloom of Franklin Cook Cup winner, BANGLES (L. Miller 95) in the other garden articles.

Back to the tall bearded, we were impressed by LA MER (Richardson 94) a light blue over medium blue bitone. It does remind one of the sea. MESCALERO CHIEF (Hedgecock 94) was a most interesting space ager. It is a vibrant red-purple with open standards, lavender style arms and gold beards extending out to lavender horns. Paul Black's seedling A68A, named TOM

JOHNSON (95), is purple over deep black-purple with a bright tangerine beard surrounded by a small white zonal pattern. It had nine bloomstalks on a two-year clump. Ron Mullin's seedling 84-455M, named PRETTY IS (95) fit its name. It is a floriferous yellow over white with an infusion of yellow in the haft area and lightly banded edging. Lynn Markham's seedling 87-4G2 was a petite, flared light pink with a soft tangerine beard. The falls are lighter than the standards. Very nice.

Gene Gaddie's seedling 336-6 was a white self with a clean white beard. TRANQUILINA (Gaddie 93) is yummy. It is a heavily ruffled medium blue with white infusion and a clean lemon-yellow beard. It went on our "want list." LUCILLE RICHARDSON (G. Richardson 93) was doing great and showing why it was given a family name. It is light lavender over lavender blue-purple with sort of a halo pattern around the beard. Also doing great was DELTA BLUES (Schreiner 94) a heavily ruffled blue. Not doing so well was DREAMSICLE (Schreiner 95) a lovely pink but with poor branching here.

After meeting the personable Chun Fan at the Welcome Banquet, it was a pleasure to see his irises on tour. KNOT'S LANDING (Fan 93) was a white self with nine buds on each of eight great bloom stalks. Show quality. MELTED BUTTER (Fan 94) has white standards and falls that have yellow markings remindful of melted butter on popcorn. It is well-named. It was great to see a favorite of mine, MESMERIZER (Byers 91) the large ruffled white with the uplifting white flounces. A stalk of SILHOUETTE (M. Dunn 89) had four open, perfectly placed blooms that are a shade of blue washed or blended onto a white ground. Much prettier than my description, it is flared when first opened and has ruffling.

This was the first time I had seen TIGER SHARK (Maryott 86) and it is distinctive. The standards are a tan brown, but oh my, the falls! They are yellow striped maroon with some white around the orange-yellow beard. You won't mistake this one for anything else. Another distinctive TB was Schreiner seedling CC-758-B. It has white standards, gold style arms, red-purple banded falls with a large white zone infused gold and big bushy orange beards. The older HANDIWORK (Ghio 83) was delightful. It is a luminata with pale lavender-white standards and darker falls with a white area around the white beards. And speaking of o-l-d, the HIPS members were salivating over an unnamed iris that Glenn had salvaged from an old farmstead located during his duties as a professional wildlife administrator. Twelve people lined up and bought it on the spot!

Among the border bearded irises, we liked MARGARET BEAUFORT (L. Burton 94). It had thirteen bloomstalks and was a refreshing smaller lavender flower well within class. Also doing well was TINK (Durrance 91) with white standards tinted lavender and light yellow falls and a bright orange beard. MELLOW FELLOW (L. Burton 95) was a lemon yellow BB. CAROUSEL WALTZ (Helsley 95) had petite flowers that were smoked tan over gold-tan bordering a lighter zone. APRICOT FROSTY (Niswonger 92) is an apricot-peach amoena that looks good in the garden. BOUQUET MAGIC (Craig 93) has white standards and darker blue-purple falls. SWEETIE GIRL (Magee 91) is a lacy pink with pink beards.

At least four IBs were still blooming. STINGER (Byers 91) a short yellow-tan with a horned lavender beard, DARKNESS (Hager 93) a black flower a bit large and with an odd beard, BLAST (Hager 93) which is peach over red-violet, and SAILING FREE (Craig 93) white over lavender-blue.

Back to the TBs, HALO IN ROSEWOOD (Niswonger 93) is hard to describe. It is sort of rose-tan with a lighter area in the falls, hence the "halo" or banding. It has a bright red beard. GOLD FROSTING (Niswonger 92) has white standards and gold falls. TENNESSEE VOL (Niswonger 93) is a bright orange named after the University of Tennessee Volunteers. A Gary Sides seedling F46-H1, looked good in pale pink over pearl white with a blue influence in the beard. CLASSIC LOOK (Schreiner 92) was a clean, flared blue on white plicata. It was staked. ACAPULCO SUNSET (Nichols 93) was a bright gold with a clean wide orange beard. ORBITER (Aitken 85) is a blue-purple with show stalks. POINT MADE (Innerst 88) is a favorite of mine. The standards are bronze gold and the falls are white edged and speckled dark wine. HINDENBURG (Maryott 83) is a large ruffled orange doing well here. RIDE THE WIND (Schreiner 91) a medium blue neglecta was also blooming well.

This garden was also interesting because of the wide variety of perennials and grasses. The hostas were great, including Montano Aurea Marginata. The Dawn Redwood, a deciduous evergreen, reminded me of the ones at home in the Missouri Botanical Gardens.

A chalk board displayed in one of the beds said, "Like the old fishing story—you should have seen them last year." No apologies needed. We saw them this year, and they were beautiful, Betty and Glenn!



1996 JAPANESE IRIS CONVENTION & TOUR

Plan to meet them in St. Louis—the newest, most gorgeous Japanese irises that hybridizers have created! June 13, 14, 15 will feature a six-garden tour, show, noted speaker, and auction at the 1996 Society for Japanese Iris Convention, hosted by the Greater St. Louis Iris Society.

The largest planting of guest irises is at the Missouri Botanical Garden (Shaw's Garden), so you'll be able to visit this famous botanical jewel which boasts a 12-acre Japanese garden. You'll find it quick and easy to get to convention headquarters, too. A free shuttle runs the 15-minute drive from Lambert Airport to the Westport Park Best Western Hotel on demand.

Mark your calendar now to see how far these big beauties have come in the Heartland. For more details, contact convention registrar Annabel Wiseman at (314) 327-8018.

STRAWSER GARDEN

Bill Rinehart (California)

"The grass is greener" almost anywhere than in the hills of southern California six months of the year. Therefore, the wooded hills and verdant vales of Enola, Pennsylvania and the emerald meadow of Don and Ruth Strawser were particularly enchanting to this native son of the all-too-often golden west.

The Strawasers relocated to Colorado upon retirement. And Colorado isn't Kansas, Toto, though a lot of it is. But with all the beauty, Colorado never became home. So our host and hostess returned to Pennsylvania, but not before being infected with the iris virus.

Yet with all the symptoms of advanced infection present, I didn't look at a single individual iris cultivar until after I had made a complete inspection of the other perennial possibilities on the property. Here was a magnificent display of the deciduous choices rarely seen in the southwest—except in catalogs which are filled with plants not recommended for zones 9 and 10 or which cannot be shipped to California. Here were all the things that I tried to grow anyway, when I was a gardener and not an iris collector.

Vying for the greatest curb appeal were a magnificent Weigelia and an even larger Snowball. Clematis enveloping a pole, Peonies flanking the drive, Tulip Trees guarding the house, and Sentries of Holly were all in resplendent review. Decorating the parade ground were banners of Allium, Dianthus, Azaleas, Bleeding Hearts, Violas, Fern, Hostas, Dusty Miller, Dutch Iris, Digitalis, Poppies and Sea Holly. This list is not complete, and furthermore, does not mention fruit trees and a superbly grown vegetable garden.

Completely surrounding the vegetable garden and placed in other commanding locations were steel rods and at their bases a legion of enviable Dahlias, perhaps a hundred plus Dahlias. I stopped counting. What a prospect!

The crescent and free form iris beds were strategically placed, raised and painstakingly prepared. Only a recently developed watercourse featuring Pseudacorus, Louisianas, and Siberians was not mature and at peak bloom. And even in this incipient stage, it provided contrast. Its future value was evident.

In the front crescent Nichols' BOOGIE WOOGIE, Ghio's LADY FRIEND and Hager's EDITH WOLFORD were noteworthy. In other beds BRONZETTE STAR, Kegerise, Burch's SOOTHING, and Williamson's WABASH created comment. All positive.

But the iris feature in this garden was a marvelous collection of Schreiner introductions. In riotous bloom were guests: CASCADE SPRINGS (the sleeper of the '94 intros), DEGAS DANCER, JOYOUS MORN (another cultivar), NORTHWEST PRIDE, and the must have seedling CC758-B. The seedling features snow white standards flushed yellow at the base, the white ground of the falls also blends into yellow, particularly at the hafts, and eventually into a claret rim. A generous yellow-orange beard completes the ensemble. Nonguests in bloom included: ALTRUIST, CARIBBEAN DREAM,

HONKY TONK BLUES, NIGHT RULER, PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE, SPELLBREAKER, and SWEETER THAN WINE.

I was still scribbling and snapping when the whistle blew. Not easy for someone who cannot pat his head and rub his stomach at the same time. What an overwhelming bombardment of visual sensations. I didn't even take time to check out the refreshment table. How's that for an endorsement?

SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES

FAVORITE GUESTS

Winner:	ROSEWATER (Bauer/Coble R.95)
1st Runner-up:	Lorena Reid's 9J-55-16D
2d Runner-up (Tie):	NIAGRA POWER (Rettig 95) STELLA NIAGRA (Rettig 95)
3d Runner-up:	ABRACO (Innerst 93)
4th Runner-up: (Tie)	PICOTEE PRINCESS (Reid 92) Currier McEwen's T6 90/44

FAVORITE GARDEN IRIS

Winner:	CASCADE CREST (Aitken 88)
1st Runner-up:	BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT (Aitken 91)
2d Runner-up: (Tie)	DIOMEDES (Innerst 92) DOUBLE FIRST (McEwen 86)
3d Runner-up: (Tie)	JAPANESE PINWHEEL (McEwen 88) ORIENTAL BOUQUET (Ackerman 91) THE GREAT MOGUL (Payne 58)

CONVENTION AWARDS

PRESIDENT'S CUP

Winner:	BEFORE THE STORM (Innerst)	147 votes
1st Runner-up:	BRONZETTE STAR (Ev. Kegerise)	36 votes
2nd Runner-up:	OMINOUS STRANGER (Innerst)	26 votes
3rd Runner-up:	OH SO PRETTY (Ev. Kegerise)	16 votes
4th Runner-up:	FOREIGN STATESMAN (Innerst)	14 votes

FRANKLIN COOK CUP

Winner:	BANGLES (R. & L. Miller)	32 votes
1st Runner-up:	ROBIN GOODFELLOW (Mahan) & CELEBRATION SONG (Schreiners)	15 votes
2nd Runner-up:	DEGAS DANCER (Schreiners)	11 votes
3rd Runner-up:	RHONDA FLEMING (Mullin)	10 votes
4th Runners-up:	STRIKE IT RICH (Ernst) & POND LILY (E. Jones)	7 votes

THE CARL AND GLORIA ROJAHN GARDEN

Jean E. Morris (Missouri)

As delightful as the beautifully grown irises here were the garden hosts, Gloria and Carl Rojahn. Gloria, amidst the enthusiastic crowd of convention attendees remained calm yet bubbly as she answered questions and pointed us in one direction or the other. Carl has a totally laid-back personality, and it is easy to see how he and the animated Sterling Innerst made a perfect team as co-chairmen of this convention.

Of interest to the HIPS members was an antique little rose-colored bi-tone iris with golden beards named MELANIE (Hillsone 41). Gloria says Carl wanted to discard it, but she “saved it” along with HELEN COLLINGWOOD (K. N. Smith 49) and for sentimental reasons, planted them behind the house in partial shade where they seem quite happy.

The guest beds here were bursting with colorful blooms on two-year clumps. One of the first irises we noticed was a large clump of the BB, PEACH ICE CREAM (Lankow 93). Gloria says this one makes her smile. It is cream over light peach with orange beards and was a profusion of bloom at perfect BB height.

Then it was on to the TBs as RUFFLED GODDESS (Tasco 93) looked great in ruffled amethyst with beards tipped burnt orange. CAN'T ELOPE (L. Miller 92) made another bright spot in the garden in orange with big red beards. The white veining beside the beards adds distinction. Another nice orange was PRIVATE TREASURE (Shoop 93). It has some yellow influence in the falls and sports nice tangerine beards.

EARTH SONG (Evelyn Kegerise 93) caught our eye in rich yellow over blue with yellow hafts—an EDITH WOLFORD with golden shoulders. WITCHING (B. Blyth 94) was interesting in pale lavender over golden tan with reddish chocolate around brown beards. What colors! ELECTRIQUE (Blyth 94) was enchanting as well, in lavender over tan washed smoky mauve. The brown beards made it especially attractive. Another Blyth 94 was AFFAIRE, with lavender standards and styles veined gold over bronzy gold with a white veined area around orange beards. It had a pearly sheen.

Everyone was drawn to the colors of MIND READER (Keppel 94) and FANCY WOMAN (Keppel 95) with their lavender over red violet hues in the luminata pattern. There is peach in the styles and FANCY WOMAN has more peach than MIND READER.

LAMOYNE (Hedgecock 94), a lovely pink with tangerine beards, was blooming in a nice clump and standing up after the previous night's rain. Many were attracted to ISN'T THIS SOMETHING (Ensminger 93) a pink ground variegated iris splashed with raspberry lines. The coral beards complete the look. Also nice, was Schreiners' Seedling AA549-A with large ruffled flowers of RASPBERRY RIPPLES color and tangerine beards. Also this color was the pretty, ruffled APLOMB (Ghio 92). SILENT FORCE (Ed Roberts 94)

was similar but more amethyst and covered with lace. Light orange beards make it really lovely. We liked SUSQUEHANNA (Ed Roberts 95) in medium lavender-blue with dark blue midribs over silvery blue, which is darker around smoky blue beards. The effect is icy.

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN (Bellagamba 92) was attractive in lavender with gold hafts and orange beards. An iris we went crazy over was MY SHADOW (Magee 90) in royal purple over black, edged royal purple. Beards are brownish black. So showy! We also loved RIGHT ALREADY (Durrance 92) in watermelon over deep red edged watermelon. Beards are orange. Just beautiful!

Gary Sides had two seedlings we put big stars by, BC45-F37 in ruffled, palest creamy peach and D32-F17A in pink over rosy amethyst with orange beards—healthy plants and luscious colors. HALO IN ROSEWOOD (Niswonger 93) formed a great clump. This banded one is difficult to describe. It is a lacy peachy rose over lavender with golden veins. The darker band is three-eighths inch wide. Very nice. Ron Mullin's 84-455M, which we understand is named PRETTY IS, made a wonderful clump in golden yellow with a little white in the falls. It has everything going for it with ruffles, nice branching and good bud count.

The wildest thing in the garden was MESCALERO CHIEF (Hedgecock 94), in deep neon violet with bright gold beards extending to very long violet horns. The hafts are brick red as are the fringy styles. This was doing well in several gardens, and we predict that youth members and other open-minded people will love it. Every flower was consistently horned, a feature we like in space-agers.

A real spunky little garden plant, was SNOW PRINCE (Tiffney 90). It is a selected albino form of *I. siberica* and was immediately placed on our "want list."

The Rojahn's non-guests were beautifully grown and a mass of bloom. Especially gorgeous, was LIAISON (Ghio 86) in peachy tan over red-violet edged pink and FAR CORNERS (Moldovan 78) in rich salmon pink. The outstanding clumps attracted a crowd.

We had only enough time left to admire the lovely blue color of Gloria's prairie phlox and the blooms on the tall honey locust trees. Also, the planting of healthy tomato plants, the great rhododendrons and the beautiful hostas cascading in several shady spots. We snapped a few slides of the Rojahns to help us remember these lovely, friendly people and the wonderful time we had in their garden. Thank you, Gloria and Carl. Everything was perfect!



GRIFFIE GARDEN

Marjorie Jansen (Nebraska)

As we rolled through the early morning fog hovering over the Pennsylvania countryside, we passed by dairy farms where milk is produced for the Hershey candy factories. Our congenial tour guide, Nancy, filled us in on many facts about the area and the Amish way of life as we rode along. A lively discussion ensued concerning the purpose of the unusual architecture of the barns with the upper story extending over the lower on one side. Not even the natives were sure of the reason, but Nancy thought perhaps it was to provide a place out of the rain to harness and unharness the horses. The miles passed pleasantly and before long, Gayle was warmly welcoming us to their garden.

Many long hours of labor must have gone into transforming a peach orchard into the lovely convention garden that greeted us. The only trace of its former orchard status was the remaining peach orchard that bordered the garden. Strategically placed, an attractive, screened gazebo provided a comfortable vantage point for viewing the iris plantings fanning out from it in a semicircular pattern. A series of three tiered pools, edged with flat, layered rock flanked the gazebo. Goldfish glided about the base of pseudocorus and other water plants in the pools. Sloping gently downward, raised guest beds curved like miniature versions of Nebraska's soil conservation terraces around the pleasant background of gazebo and pools.

Equally important as the aesthetic effects of the garden was the attention given to designing and constructing paths between the guest beds for the convenience of convention visitors. The design and width of the paths promoted a smooth traffic flow pattern, eliminating those inevitable traffic jams that occur when a hundred or more conventioners descend on a garden not designed for that volume of traffic. Photographers and those lingering to discuss the merits of a particular cultivar did not impede the progress of those proceeding at a faster pace. Visitors lost no time in putting such user-friendly paths to the test as they engaged in their favorite convention activities of searching out iris with photogenic properties, genetic possibilities or wish list appeal.

Among the guest irises blooming for visitors' consideration was SOFT CARESS (Gatty '91), a soft, creamy confection with faint apricot overtones. An orange beard and ruffles finish off this pastel iris. OMINOUS STRANGER (Innerst '93) is one of those instantly recognizable iris, a.k.a. distinctive iris. Standards are yellow-gray with pale yellow falls rimmed in gray. I was surprised to see this described in a couple of catalogs as being yellow ground with purple rather than gray. Sure looked gray to me. PRINCIPLES (Innerst '93) is a pleasing pale, pale blue, while CONFEDERATE ROYALTY (Moores '94) features royal purple falls highlighted with a white spot overlaid with purple speckles. Gray standards complete this appealing iris. RUFFLED SKIRTS (Nichols '93) is a different plicata in pale gray, faintly flecked purple, and, of course, ruffles. WAY OUT WEST (Nichols '90) has a bright gold ground with

wide plicata edges of rich rust-brown. Since I have a weakness for reverse neglectas, seedling # 9202 (Nichols) attracted my attention. It is a large flower with the usual pale blue falls and deeper blue standards. Adding further interest is an intriguing dark stripe down the center of the fall. ZULA (Fisher '90) is a charming MTB with pale tan standards and creamy white falls striped brown.

In addition to bearded irises, Harold and Gayle also maintain an extensive collection of well-grown Siberians and other beardless irises. In fact, the first iris to catch my eye after getting off the bus was a Siberian—LITTLE WHITE (McEwen '70). What was so appealing about it was the perfect proportion of the flowers and foliage. Some of the dwarf Siberians have over-sized flowers on dwarf foliage, giving the impression they are standard-sized varieties that failed to reach their potential. It was an enjoyable experience to wander among these plantings and get reacquainted with old favorites such as KISMET (Varner '80), a pleasing wine-red, NAVY BRASS (McEwen '74), a medium blue with a white blaze edged yellow, STAR GLITTER (Hager '85), white with yellow signal area, the vigorous and graceful SHAKER'S PRAYER (Warner '90) and a long-time favorite, RUFFLED VELVET (McEwen '73), a dark, velvety purple. There were many unmarked beardless varieties in this area, or perhaps I just didn't find the markers in the robust foliage. One interesting variety with a label was PHIL EDINGER, a pseudacorus type with yellow ground overlaid with brown stripes.

All good things must come to an end, as the saying goes, and so it was with the 75th anniversary convention of AIS in York, PA. Now that the convention has become a memory, we extend our thanks to all those who had a part in making it a memorable occasion for those of us fortunate enough to attend. Thank you, Harold and Gayle, for sharing your iris paradise with us.



CORRECTIONS IN AFFILIATES LISTING

Some errors appeared in the listing of Approved Affiliates for 1995 in the July *Bulletin*. The clubs listed below were either omitted or had the wrong person listed as President.

Region 7	MID STATE IRIS ASSOCIATION	Herb Lee, President
Region 18	GREATER KANSAS CITY IRIS SOCIETY GREATER ST. LOUIS IRIS SOCIETY	Jan Bates, President James Loveland, President
Region 23	ALBUQUERQUE IRIS GUILD	Patricia Randall, President

MEDIANS IN PENNSYLVANIA

Lynda Miller (Indiana)

Anyone who thinks national conventions are for tall bearded irises only would have been surprised at the number of medians that were putting on a fabulous show in the guest gardens. Intermediate bearded, miniature tall bearded, and border bearded irises were stealing the show from wonderful tall bearded bloom. Since most varieties were blooming in two or three gardens, I've grouped varieties by type instead of by guest garden.

Several intermediate bearded irises were still putting on a good show in various colors. One with excellent form and proportion was APRICOT FROSTY (Niswonger '92) white standards with apricot falls. Also along the orange line was ORANGE PETALS (Niswonger '91) which was more of an orange and deep peach bi-tone with striking tangerine beards. FIREBUG (Gatty '94) was another bright addition with its late bloom, standards were bright yellow while the falls were red-rust edged yellow. E. Jones seedling I-89-15 was a glowing old gold with deep golden orange beards on great formed flowers. An outstanding seedling I'm looking forward to seeing introduced is M. Smith 90-28C, a crystal blue self on very round and lightly ruffled blossoms. In the soft tones was LITTLE MISTY (Craig '90) white standards, violet falls, and COME SEE (Ensminger '92) a light blue plicata. FOLK MUSIC (Willott '94) was a dusty pink, which I'm sure would be pinker in full sun. PRINCE OF BURGUNDY (Niswonger '93) was a dark plum heavily marked plicata with good proportion. Two varieties appeared to be blooming too tall (out of class), but on closer inspection, the tall stalks were a second round of bloom which meant these two varieties were extending the bloom season. One was MAGIC BUBBLES (Willott '94) a clear pink with deeper hafts on lovely flaring oval shaped blossoms with an interesting serrated edge. The other was BOTTLED SUNSHINE (Nichols '95) a very brilliant yellow with a white spot in the center of the falls.

What stole the show at the convention was the heavy blooming miniature tall bearded with two being the top vote receivers for the Franklin Cook Cup. (That is the award given for the best clump of guest iris which was hybridized outside the host region.) First runner-up was ROBIN GOODFELLOW (C. Mahan '94) a clean creamy white with lemon beards on petite rounded flowers growing on massive clumps. The top vote getter was BANGLES (L. Miller '95). In all three guest gardens in which it was grown, the large clumps were a mass of blossoms in light amethyst over light sapphire with deeper veining. As the flowers age they pale to a lighter shade and in the sun the flowers sparkle like jewels, thus the name. This new color combo was enhanced by proportioned round and flaring flower form.

Petite miniature tall bearded irises have always pleased me. MINI WABASH (R. Probst '96) was very petite with lots of buds on good branching. Blossoms have white standards and purple falls with white haft lines. A real contrast to Probst's '92 introduction PRETTY QUIRKY where the standards are yellow with wildly striped, red-violet falls, a lively addition to

the convention gardens. REMINISCENCE (C. Mahan '94), a violet bi-tone, had the most velvety dark falls with a paler edge set off by orange beards. One of my favorite guests was PARDNER (Fisher '93) perky flowers that were well formed and proportioned in clean caramel over deep plum with a fine gold edge on the falls. A different color pattern for miniature tall bearded irises was STEFFIE (Fisher '93) a white with a blue spot on the falls. Two other Fisher introductions caught my eye, OZARK JEWEL (Fisher '93) standards were gold while the falls were dotted brown with a gold edge, and OZARK SKY (Fisher '90) a light blue plicata with a belly stripe. The only tet. miniature tall bearded I took notes on was OZARK EVENING (Fisher '91) a clear pink, but a little too large for my tastes. The most unusual color of a miniature tall bearded I saw was BILLIE THE BROWNIE (J. Burton '92). The standards were dark beige with a lavender tint while the falls were opalescent violet over medium brown set off by orange beards. Pleasing round form appeals to me with varieties SUN-BONNET SUE (Dunderman '90) an orchid self and CAROL'S DREAM (Dunderman '90) which was a clear sky blue lightening at the hafts. CHERRY (Dunderman '90) was an interesting red violet plicata but a little on the large size, while LITTLE CLOWN (Dunderman '93) old gold over brick red had very large flowers.

Border Bearded irises add so much color to the garden and are perfect in the windy, rainy areas of the country. The following are ones that caught my attention at the convention. LENORA PEARL (Nichols '90) was the ideal proportioned plant with beautiful strawberry pink blossoms with deeper cherry beards. BIG ISSUE (Burch '94) was a very clean ruby red with contrasting gold beards. MARGARET BEAUFORT (L. Burton '94) was a tailored medium violet. MELLOW FELLOW (L. Burton '95) had petite blossoms of pale yellow standards and white bordered pale yellow falls with lots of buds, but the stalks were having a little trouble getting out of the foliage. MOSTEST (Durrance '90) was a gorgeous ruffled brilliant gold. CANYON DE CHELLY (Durrance '91) had the best stalks, flowers were butterscotch with a rusty wash over the fall and the beards were an unusual shade of burnt gold. A little too large in flowers was ONE LITTLE PINKIE (Durrance '92) a lightly laced coral pink. SHRIMP BOAT (Gatty '92) was pale shrimp pink with heavy ruffling. SWEETIE GIRL (Magee '91) was a laced pale strawberry pink with coral beards.

With so much fabulous bloom in the guest gardens, it was hard to see everything. I found it a great help to me that some of the garden owners planted the medians together (that was great for comparing varieties) while others planted the medians on the ends of the rows of irises so they were not covered up by tall bearded varieties. Both were an ideal way of displaying the medians. My thanks to the guest garden owners for growing the medians so well. I can't remember a convention when I've seen any larger clumps of intermediate bearded or miniature tall bearded irises.

FAVORITE GUEST IRISES, 1995

Gloria Rojahn

Ballots for the Favorite Guest Irises were returned by 267 visitors to the 1995 York, Pennsylvania area convention, hosted by the Susquehanna Iris Society. Over 3800 votes were tallied for a large number of varieties.

Rank	Votes	Variety	Type	Hybridizer
1	119	BEFORE THE STORM	TB	Innerst
2	77	BANGLES	MTB	R & L Miller
3	75	BRONZETTE STAR	TB	Ev. Kegerise
4	74	BOOGIE WOOGIE	TB	Nichols
5	64	TIGER HONEY	TB	Kasperek
6	63	ROBIN GOODFELLOW	MTB	Mahan
7	61	CELEBRATION SONG	TB	Schreiners
8	54	OMINOUS STRANGER	TB	Innerst
	54	PRETTY QUIRKY	MTB	Probst
9	48	DELTA BLUES	TB	Schreiners
	48	HALO IN ROSEWOOD	TB	Niswonger
10	43	TENNESSEE VOL	TB	Niswonger
11	40	O' SO PRETTY	TB	Ev. Kegerise
12	37	APRICOT FROSTY	BB	Niswonger
	37	MARTHA'S GOLD	TB	Aitken
	37	OREGON SKIES	TB	Schreiners
13	34	ICE GODDESS	TB	Willott
	34	RHONDA FLEMING	TB	Mullin
	34	STRIKE IT RICH	TB	Ernst
14	31	REMINISCENCE	MTB	Mahan
	31	SNOW PRINCE	SIB	Tiffney
15	30	VOLTAGE	TB	Messick

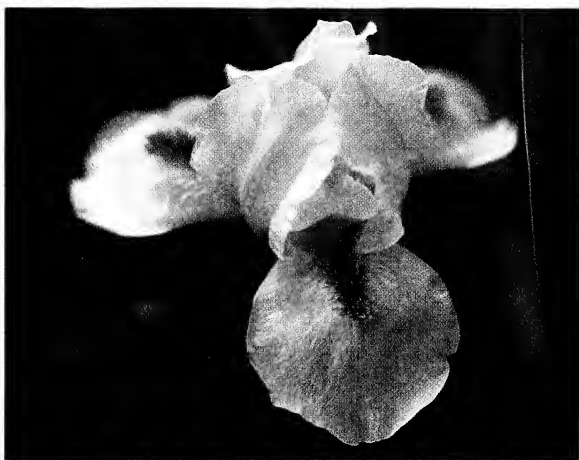
Runnersup in close contention included APRICOT SUNSET by Nichols, FOREIGN STATESMAN by Innerst, and SPANISH FIREBALL by Jones, all with 29 votes each. Also, MANUSCRIPT by Burch and RUFFLED GODDESS by Tasco with 28 votes each.

1995 MEDAL WINNERS



**KNOWLTON
MEDAL
Calico Cat**

**COOK-DOUGLAS
MEDAL
Serenity Prayer**



**WILLIAMSON-WHITE
MEDAL
Frosted Velvet**

1995 MEDAL WINNERS

**MORGAN-WOOD
MEDAL
Aqua Whispers**



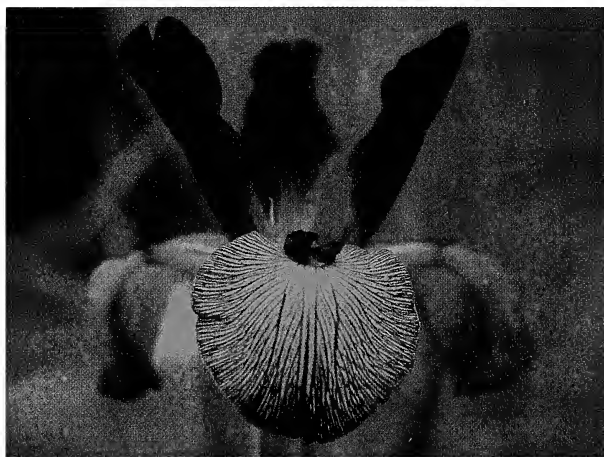
**SYDNEY B. MITCHELL
MEDAL
Sierra Dell**



**MARY SWORDS
DEBAILLON MEDAL
Kay Nelson**



1995 MEDAL WINNERS



**ERIC NIES
MEDAL
Cinnamon Stick**

**CAPARNE-WELCH
MEDAL
Spot of Tea**



**WISTER
MEDAL
Before the Storm**



1995 MEDAL WINNERS

**WILLIAM MOHR
MEDAL
Smoke with Wine**



**C. G. WHITE
MEDAL
Persian Padishah**

**A view
of the
Innerst
Garden**



A DATE WITH AN IRIS

Clarence Mahan (Virginia)

This article is going to seem very simplistic to many readers of the *Bulletin*. Its purpose is to explain the proper date to use behind an iris's name when we write articles, prepare name plates for our gardens, or prepare price lists and catalogues. Although this may seem quite elementary to most iris fanciers, it is a subject that merits renewed consideration. This is because as many of you will have noted, erroneous dates have appeared with increased frequency in the *Bulletin*, regional and sectional publications, and some catalogues.

When we see the name of an iris, followed by the hybridizer and a date, e.g. SPINNING WHEEL (Nearpass 76), what does the date mean? It means that SPINNING WHEEL was introduced in 1976. Why is the introduction date important? It is important for several reasons. First, it tells us when the iris becomes eligible for awards, or at least for the first award, i.e. Honorable Mention. Second, the date of introduction provides an historical record for the iris. And finally, the introduction provides an historical record for the iris. And finally, the introduction date provides a standard means of identifying which *Check List or Registrations and Introductions* book to use to find out when the iris was registered and who introduced it.

What does it mean when an "R" precedes the date, e.g. LONELY RIVERS (Yongsan, R. 95)? It means the iris was registered in 1995, but has not yet been introduced. When AIS judges tour a convention or display garden and see this "R", they know this iris is a registered seedling and eligible to receive their vote for a High Commendation award. When an un-introduced iris has a name plate that omits the "R" before the date, the iris is really being "punished" by being denied a chance for judges' votes.

When iris hybridizers see their registered seedlings listed in a convention book without an "R" it is a bit depressing, to say the least. Having gone to considerable trouble to send their seedlings to a convention where judges could see irises and award them a vote for High Commendation if merited, the hybridizer knows that the lack of the "R" means that judges will rightly assume the irises have been introduced. The irises will not even have a chance.

Authors of articles on irises, sellers of irises, convention and regional guest iris chairmen, and display and convention garden owners have a special obligation to make sure introduction dates are correct, and that an "R" is used before the date for registered seedlings that have not been introduced. These dating conventions have been used in AIS for many years, and it is important we all try to apply them if we are to keep our "common language."

MORE ABOUT ROOTS

Lucy Burton (Massachusetts)

I read with interest the article by Dr. William Griese in the January 1995 AIS Bulletin concerning roots. My question does not concern the recuperative power of roots as proved by Dr. Griese's experiment, but the rationale for removing the roots in the first place.

We have had plants arrive from some of the drier areas of the country with the roots cut so they form a fringe along the upper sides of the rhizomes. One club member was astounded when she received SDBs from a hybridizer with no roots at all. Why are the roots cut or removed? Roots are needed for the health of the plant, and "only anchors" mentioned in the article should be changed to NECESSARY anchors. Plants without anchors fall over with the roots exposed to the sun or cold. The rhizomes can't be planted covered with soil to hold them steady. Believe me, here in New England, if the rhizomes are planted an inch below the top of the soil as advocated in some literature, the result is ROT!

Here, bearded irises should be set with the roots covered, but the top of the rhizomes appearing above the soil. This can't be done with extra short or non-existent roots. The SDBs without roots were placed in a pot and then moved to the garden when the roots grew. That technique means extra work even for two plants. When 30 or 40 plants from various sources are arriving, potting them becomes a chore. The short-rooted plants which came into our garden were propped up against the plant labels until they took hold.

I was surprised to read that some people in the southeast advocate removing roots as Rockytop Gardens in Tennessee usually has a statement warning against covering the rhizomes in that area. Mistakes also can happen. One of our local members spread plants to dry on a sun-baked driveway after washing them for a sale. As a result the roots shriveled and the plants were unsalable.

Plants can be assisted if they become dry by soaking the roots in water, or water plus plant food. The rhizome should not touch the water, difficult to accomplish if the roots are in "fringe mode." Irises have been known to recover even if dried out during shipping delays. But how much better to have the roots 4 inches long as suggested by Dr. Griese and spend the plant energy providing increases instead of regrowing the roots.

Whether local or through the mail, plant sources should rethink root policies. Maybe research into the best policies in different parts of the country is in order so that everyone is satisfied.

AWARDS PRESENTATION '95



**Left: Dave Niswonger
with A.M. certificate**



**Right: Katharine Steele
win A.M. for Petite Monet**

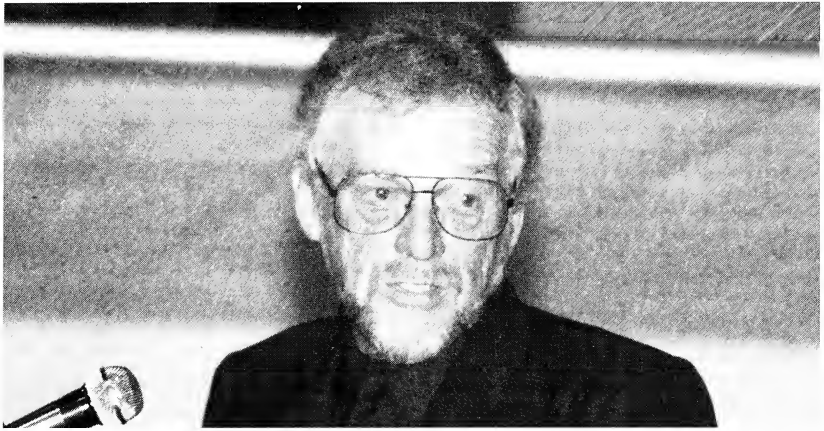


**Left: Hooker Nichols
with A.M. certificate**



**Right: Awards
Chairperson
Melody Wilhoit
announcing winners.**

Photos by Bob Plank



Convention Chairman Sterling Innerst



President Claire Barr



Head Table at Awards Banquet

AWARDS PRESENTATION '95



**Left: Terry Aitken
with A.M. certificate**



**Right: Floyd Wickenkamp
with A.M. certificate**



**Left: Another A.M.
Award is won by
Carl Boswell**

**Right: Jerry Wilhoit
presents President's Cup
to Sterling Innerst for
Before the Storm**



Photos by Bob Plank

AWARDS PRESENTATION '95



**Left: Patricia Schreiner
with A.M. certificates**



**Right: Carol Warner with
certificate for Shaker's Prayer**



**Left: Bennett Jones
with A.M. Award**



**Right: Liz Schmidt with
Walther Cup for
Honky Tonk Blues**

Photos by Bob Plank



GARDEN PATHWAYS

1996 IRIS CALENDAR

It's time to order our eleventh annual iris calendar.

Make check to AIS; for single copies, send \$5.00. Quantity purchases come in packets of ten or multiples of ten; the price for packets of ten is \$30.00.

Order from C. J. Lack, AIS Sales Director,
718 West 67th Street, Tulsa, OK 74132-1808

NEED EXTRAS?

AIS Auto Decals — \$1 each



Order from
C. J. Lack
718 W-67th St.
Tulsa, OK 74132-1808

**AIS Postcards,
Pack of 16, \$4**

Order from
C. J. Lack as above

AIS BULLETINS

For those new members of your local society, back issues of this *Bulletin*, limited to what is available.

Ten issues for \$5

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1708 East 53rd
Tulsa, OK 74105

*Paul chooses which
issues to send!*

For Your Membership Campaigns



Full-Color AIS Brochures

5 for \$1.00
100 for \$10.00

Order from:
Marilyn Harlow
P.O. Box 8455
San Jose, CA 95155



YOUTH VIEWS

Jean E. Morris

MONICA COMBRINK WINS ESSAY CONTEST

We offer our congratulations to Region 22 AIS youth member, Monica Combrink, winner of this year's Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest. The contest is sponsored by the AIS Foundation, which names a new topic each year. The 1995 topic was, "What is so great about an iris?" Monica won the \$100 cash prize with a well written, lyrical essay that seems to flow from the heart. About her essay, Monica says, "I really had a fun time writing it, because it made me think of all the reasons I grow iris and why I'm a youth member of AIS. I'm looking forward to reading some of the essays other youth members have written in the next edition of THE IRIS FAN."

Other youths who entered the essay contest were Casey Ryan of Region 1, Bill Weathers and Kay Weathers of Region 5, Townley Reilly of Region 7, Jason L. Rider of Region 8, Seann Perry of Region 17, Kevin Gormley and Danika King of Region 18, Chelsey and Jessica Seibold of Region 22 and Veronica King of Region 23. These essays will be published in the youth newsletter, THE IRIS FAN, which is mailed to AIS youth members twice a year. Each essay was thoughtful, informative and uniquely written. Thanks to all who entered this year's contest, and an extra special thanks to Monica, whose essay follows.

What is so great about an iris? I will share a few reasons why iris are so great. To me it is one of the most beautiful flowers that I know of. The range of colors, sizes, and varieties is almost unlimited. By growing different species, one can have a long period of bloom. The cheerful little MDB brightens early spring, while the Louisianas and Japanese bloom into June giving almost four months of wonderful color. My remontants, especially the SDBs, give additional bloom from August until October.

What is so great about an iris? Iris will grow almost anywhere if you select the right varieties. Some, like Louisianas and Japanese, will thrive where it is wet and poorly drained. Some, like Arils, prefer hot dry conditions. The most popular iris, the tall bearded, grows over most of our

country except parts of Florida and Texas. Small species, MDB and SDB iris are great for rock gardens and for the front of perennial borders and flower beds. A clump of tall Siberians can be the perfect accent plant for almost every location.

What is so great about an iris? Iris fit perfectly into my schedule. They don't require a lot of work in the spring, and iris shows are on week-ends. Most of the hard work, like digging, transplanting and making new beds, is done in the summer and early fall when I am out of school. I can also help with my club's iris sales which are in July. Iris make ideal subjects for my science projects because hybridizing is both easy and interesting. It is a thrill to see my very own creation bloom and know there isn't another like it in the world.

What is so great about an iris? Because of my interest in iris I have met people from all over the United States and even a few from other countries. Iris lovers know no age limits. Many adults have given me iris to expand my garden and my knowledge. The ladies in my club have helped me learn to make floral arrangements using iris and other materials. Grandmother and I share our love of iris. We enjoy iris activities together.

What is so great about an iris? Most people love beautiful flowers. My knowledge of iris has made it easier to meet adults and talk with them. I have shared my knowledge of iris by giving talks, preparing educational displays and distributing handouts. I also have given live-action demonstrations at the county fair, donating iris rhizomes and planting instructions. I helped beautify our city park by planting iris.

What is so great about an iris? New friends of all ages, many opportunities for educational activities and best of all the beauty of an iris, God's gift to the world.

by: Monica Combrink

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CONTEST NOMINATIONS NEEDED

Once again, it is the time of year for YOU to contribute to the AIS youth program. It will take only a small amount of time for you to nominate an active youth member for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement. Looking at the above list of youths who took the time to enter the essay contest and reading over the winning essay, should serve as inspiration. Also, recall those youths who participate in your club's activities—meetings, judges' training, tours, shows and sales. Read the rules below, and write your nomination NOW, before it slips your mind or gets lost in the pile on your desk.

YOUTH ACHIEVEMENT CONTEST RULES

Any AIS member may nominate any AIS youth member. Entries must be in writing including the name and age of the youth member, and mailed to Jean E. Morris, 682 Huntley Hgts. Dr., Ballwin, MO 63021 by January 31,

1996. You may find the guidelines listed below helpful when you nominate your favorite AIS youth.

He/She grows a very fine iris garden of his/her own.

He/She is an active hybridizer.

He/She has contributed to an iris publication.

He/She has helped an iris organization through a committee or activity.

He/She visits other iris gardens.

He/She has attended regional/national conventions.

He/She is studying to become or is already an AIS judge.

He/She has promoted irises and/or the AIS to others.

He/She has found new AIS members.

He/She competes enthusiastically in shows.

He/She is involved in scientific experiments with irises.

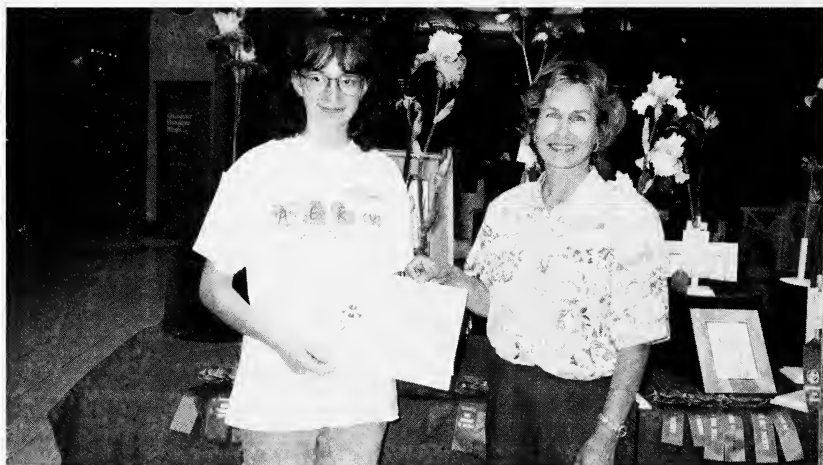
He/She is interested in irises other than TBs.

He/She shows leadership.

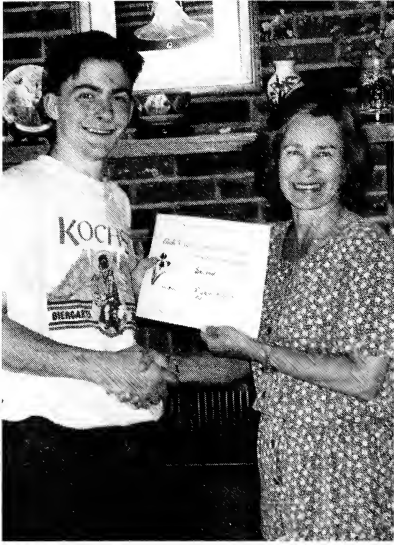
If you know an AIS youth member who is active in any of these areas, please nominate that youth!

The Youth Committee will code the entries to conceal identities and send them to a carefully selected panel of judges. Awards will be presented at the National Convention in Sacramento.

Tips to Nominators: Please use the activity list above as an outline for your nomination, elaborating on each area which applies to your nominee. Try to limit your nomination to a maximum of two pages. A youth may be nominated by more than one person. Feel free to add anything not covered in the list, especially those qualities which make your nominee special. Take as much care as possible in preparing your nomination. How well you present your nominee to the judges can influence the outcome.



Erin Marie Griner of Bordentown, NJ receiving 1995 Second Runner-Up Certificate for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement from Jean Morris. (There was a 3-way tie for the Second Runner-Up position.)



Ryan Koch, of Pacific, MO receiving 1995 Second Runner-Up Certificate for the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement from Jean Morris. (There was a 3-way tie for the Second Runner-Up position.)



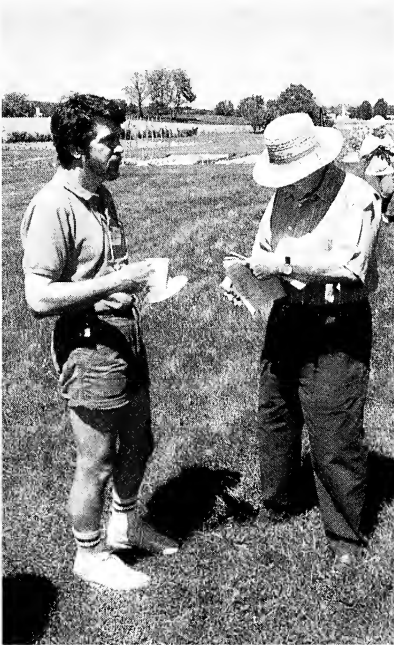
Kevin Gormley of Cedar Hill, MO receiving the 1995 AIS Membership Plaque and Certificate—Youth Category, from Jean Morris. Kevin is the very first winner of this award.



Shilo Gilliam (left) and Kenny Smith, 1st and 2nd Runners-Up for Clarke Cosgrove Youth Achievement Award with their grandmother, Wanda Smith.



Danika King of St. Clair, MO receiving Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement (1995) along with check from Jean Morris.



**Phil Edinger and Tom Manley
in Manley Garden.**



**Marky Smith and Peggy
Carpenter in Innerst Garden.**

BEARDLESS IRIS CULTURE

Dianna Nicholls (Virginia)

The following instructions are for BEARDLESS irises only. Bearded irises will not tolerate much moisture and require different conditions altogether.

BEARDLESS IRIS CULTURE

On arrival, unwrap irises from the damp paper towel and plastic bag. Soak the roots overnight in a bucket of water with roots just covered. This allows plant to replenish water lost in transit and will get the plant off to a good start. DO NOT LET ROOTS DRY OUT during transplanting.

WHERE TO PLANT—Most beardless irises want a sunny garden location for best performance and bloom. At least a half day of sun is best. Japanese and Siberian irises like as much water as you can give them but do not like to have wet feet in the winter. Louisiana irises and several of the beardless species will grow in standing water year round.

WHEN TO PLANT—Plant between August and October, depending on your climate. The fall rains usually supplement your watering and roots grow nicely as the weather cools. The new root growth will anchor the plants before winter.

GARDEN SOIL—A good garden loam with lots of organic matter will make your irises thrive. An acid soil is preferable but the Japanese irises are the only ones that require an acid soil. A PH of 5.0 to 6.5 will keep them happy.

HOW TO PLANT—Plant Louisiana and Siberian about 1 inch deep. Plant Japanese 2 inches deep as they like to make new roots on top of old roots. Keep newly planted rhizomes *well watered* until they are showing active new growth. Drying out at this stage is sure death, but once established they are very tough. Once plants are showing new growth, you may mulch them up to 3 inches.

FERTILIZER—In spring, when plants are a few inches high, apply a balanced fertilizer. Japanese are especially heavy feeders and would appreciate a second feeding before bloom time.

GENERAL CARE—After bloom, cut off the old bloom stalks. Beardless irises can go several years before dividing is needed with the exception of Japanese irises. To remain healthy, they must be divided every three to four years. In early winter, cut off foliage a few inches from the ground. Louisiana irises will remain evergreen in southern climates. Cut only dead foliage and leave anything that is still green.

Reprinted from The Iris Fan, AIS Youth Newsletter, Summer, 1994

RAISING SPECIES IRIS FROM SEED

Elaine P. Hurlbert (Virginia)

Region 4 is a pretty good place for most iris species. The Pacific Northwest probably accommodates the less hardy species better than the Middle Atlantic States, but we can handle almost everything but the Pacific Coast Natives successfully here, and we can do better with the Eastern natives and the Louisianas. There is no iris I can think of that isn't worth at least a trial in our area.

But probably I should try to tailor my advice to the two types of grower who will be interested in this article. One group will be those who have not had any occasion to try growing irises from seed at all. Others will be planting seeds because they are unable to get the rare species (or variations thereof) in any other way. If you are a beginner at growing from seed you will probably want to start with something sure-fire, and the obvious choices are *I. siberica*, *sanguinea*, *setosa*, *ensata* and *tectorum*. Seed of these is usually available in quantity, germination is quick, plants mature and bloom in the second year, and they need little care in the permanent border.

Equally easy are *versicolor* and *pseudacorus*, but these have the disadvantage (if it is a disadvantage for you) of requiring a good deal of room to make a proper show. The color forms of *versicolor* can be a lot of fun, but even seed from segregated forms is more likely to give the familiar blue-violet than the reds, pinks and whites that add so much to a big planting of bog-irises.

You are not likely to have a wasteful abundance of seed of any species unless you can harvest your own. Thus you will probably want to plant your seed in pots rather than in the open ground. A commercial seed-starter is likely to be too light to keep the seed for the above varieties moist enough. Since iris seedlings are almost immune to damping off, they can be planted in garden loam lightened with vermiculite or perlite to encourage root development. There is no better way to ensure germination than to put the pots out to take a winter's weather, preferably plunged in the ground and lightly mulched. You can look at them occasionally to see that they stay moist, and should see germination in April. (At this stage pots may be better protected indoors if your area is likely to get severe cold shocks at this season.)

From this point on your only really iffy decision is when to transplant. By the time the weather is really promising all seedlings will probably have at least four leaves, but two-leaved seedlings are not too small to work with. A spell of overcast damp weather any time in May, June or even July will do. Lining out is quite straightforward with these vigorous species. You can dump the pot into a bucket of water and fish out the seedlings one by one, giving the roots a good deep hole for anchorage. I don't think any fertilizer is called for in the irises' first year, but the better the ground has been dug the better the all-important root growth will be. These species all go thoroughly dormant when the cold weather arrives, and will probably manage quite well through their first winter even if you haven't got around to mulching them until midwinter.

Except for *tectorum* these species do best in sunny places, and they all love moisture but are very tolerant of ordinary garden conditions.

I must include a rave about seed-grown *ensata*. The “Japanese Irises” you know are all derived from this one species. None is actually a hybrid though we may speak of ‘hybridizing’ when we cross *ensata* clones. Whether your seedlings came from named clones or not you are likely to get a wide variety of enchanting forms and colors when you raise these. All of them look “finished.” It may seem impossible that so little effort—because they germinated easily and grow vigorously—could give such results, but it does. Ordinary garden sites suit them very well, and if they can be planted by midsummer in their first year, most of them will bloom the next June and July. Plenty of added moisture is welcome throughout their careers (except in winter), and from the second year on, heavy fertilizing is recommended too.

Rock gardeners can have a lot of fun with seed-raised *pumila* and *cristata*, but unfortunately their seed is not so easy to come by, even though both are widely grown. When I have been lucky enough to get a good potful of seedlings of either of these, I have planted them out as early as possible, May or early June, taking hunks of two or three seedlings at a time from the pot with as much soil as possible, using a tablespoon, because the root systems are by no means as long and bushy as those of irises we dealt with earlier. Firming in with a couple of small rocks will help, on the sunny and shady sides of the rock garden respectively. It is gratifying to see *pumila*’s extravagant bloom in its second year, when you can separate the mixed-up clones to give each one its best chance to multiply.

Louisiana irises are difficult to start from seed, sometimes taking several years to germinate. I have planted these in open ground with some success; after the long wait they are easy to spot once they do come up as the new leaves are big and quick growing. Weeding is not so difficult as it would be for the little grassy PCNIs, for example.

Those Pacific Coast Natives are tempting because the seed is plentiful and the color forms offered sound attractive. Potfuls will be germinating from mid-winter on, and you have a whole lot of seedlings to find spots for by the time your ground has warmed up. This placement is the hard part of raising PCNIs; they don’t like too much sun, too much shade, or too much constant moisture. For me, they seem to find themselves most at home among other smallish plants in high shade, where there is shelter from all extremes. They transplant easily in the seedling phase, but are very hard to move later. If you can get them through their first winter, they will probably bloom (and set seed) for you very nicely and make you feel that no trouble was too great. However much trouble, the results from seed are almost sure to be better than any results from importing plants from the West.

The Spurias are not difficult to raise, although germination may be quick and uniform or delayed and sporadic. Only one species can be recommended as almost automatic from seed—*graminea*. This is a very hardy, permanent and easy-to-place iris that everyone has room for, but unfortunately there is almost no variation to play with. The larger species whose seed is available are slower-growing, but like *graminea* they are practically permanent once

established, and whether received as *carthaliniae*, *notha*, *halophila*, *musulmanica* or *spuria* itself, they will flower in some pattern of blue-violet, yellow and white with slight but pleasing variations.

To deal briefly with some other species you may be able to get seed of: *lactea*, *virginica*, *prismatica* and *aphylla* are all quite easy to start and rewarding in their maturity. But there is a special group I would like you to consider—the sinosiberians or 40-chromosome Siberians. These do so much better from seed than from nursery stock that even growers who would not mess with seedlings will find them worthwhile. You may have to settle for hybrid seed because hybridization among *chrysographes*, *clarkei*, *delavayi*, *forrestii* and *wilsonii* happens everywhere these species grow side by side—but all the variations in flower color, leaf form and stature are nice, and some individuals will come close to the species. Blossom form is quite uniform throughout, much like that of the 28-chromosome Siberians though without the fullness of, say, *sanguinea*. A good many clumps can be accommodated in less space than what is needed by the 28s. And although they are not proof against the severest winters or prolonged spring drought, they can, in favorable circumstances, give you charming displays of bloom in late spring and early summer, as well as the pleasure of growing some things absolutely unique.

I haven't dealt with what is for some experienced growers a favorite system of germinating seeds, the refrigerated packet of moistened vermiculite. It requires another step of transplanting to pot before the lining out, and only fills a real need if you have so much seed you want to cut down on the number of pots you are carrying, or you are trying to shorten the stratification period. However, plenty of ideas for germinating difficult seeds can be found if you search the literature.

SIGNA's seed list is available to anyone sending a self-addressed stamped long envelope to Phoebe Copley, 5428 Murdock, St. Louis, MO 63109. You can join SIGNA and get the list automatically by writing to Florence Stout, 150 N. Main St., Lombard, IL 60148.

The British Iris Society issues a list that is quite extensive and includes some rarities not usually available through SIGNA. The present Seed Distribution Officer is Mr. R. E. Wilson, Dalehead, 100 Blackburn Rd., Chorley, Lancashire, England, PR6 8TJ.

Rock garden societies offer a number of the smaller iris, and some species nurseries include offers of seed along with listings of iris plants.

Reprinted from Newscast AIS (Region 4) March, 1991

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Clarence Mahan

THE BRITISH IRIS SOCIETY

In response to the item on the British Iris Society (BIS) which appeared in the January issue of the Bulletin, J. C. Russell wrote me to provide clarifying information. Three years ago the BIS opened a dollar account at an American bank. The initial purpose for having this account was to facilitate purchases of U.S. publications for the BIS, without being penalized with large conversion charges. However, the existence of this account also allows U.S. members to pay their dues to BIS in dollars and avoid having to pay conversion charges.

Dues for new American members are \$15.00. Renewing members dues are \$17.00, but there is a \$2.00 discount if payment is received before the end of February. Family members living at the same address pay \$2.00. The BIS does not at present offer a life membership, but anyone wanting to send a check covering a number of years will be credited with that amount, and advised when it is running out.

Checks for renewal of membership should be sent to Mr. E.H. Furnival, 15 Parkwood Drive, RAWTENSTALL, Lancs. BB\$ 6RP, England. Checks for new members should be sent to Mrs. E. M. Wise, 197 The Parkway, Iver Heath, IVER, Bucks. SL0 0RQ, England.

SAD NEWS FROM JAPAN

Friends and correspondents of Mr. Akira Horinaka will be much saddened to learn that his wife and other close relatives were killed in the terrible earthquake earlier this year. Mr. Horinaka's home and garden were also destroyed. His health has not been good, but he is rebuilding his house and garden. Mr. Horinaka, the author of the book *Iris Laevigata*, is a long-time member of AIS, and an AIS Master Judge. Those who would like to send cards or letters can address them: Akira Horinaka, Kawara-machi 2-6, Shinomiya Yamashina-ku, Kyoto City, Japan.

MORE NEWS FROM JAPAN

We were pleased to learn that our distinguished friend Mr. Mototeru Kamo has been elected President of the Japan Iris Society (Nihon Hanashobu Kyokai). Mr. Kamo, who owns Fuji Gardens, is well known to many Americans for his beautiful Japanese iris introductions, his famous nursery, and his generosity in contributing many gifts to the Society for Japanese Irises. He and his wife attended the Society for Japanese Irises convention in Towson, MD, this year. Unfortunately, Mr. Kamo became ill during the visit and was unable to attend meetings or go on the tours. His many American friends hope he has now fully recovered.

Also attending the Society for Japanese Irises this year were three distinguished Japanese members who gave interesting presentations on various aspects of Japanese irises: Toyokazu Ichie, Hiroshi Shimizu and Dr. Tsutomu Yabuya. Mr. Ichie and Mr. Shimizu are now Directors of The Japan Iris Society, and Dr. Yabuya is well known for his research on pigments in Japanese irises. It was very good news to learn that The Japan Iris Society recently published the 1995 Check List of all Japanese iris cultivars known in Japan.

The Japan Iris Society is devoted to Japanese irises. There is another society, the Japan Iris and Hemerocallis Society which is devoted to bearded irises and daylilies. The president of that society is Mr. Shinichi Noguchi. Hybridizers who would like their irises grown in Japan may send their introduced bearded cultivars to the Japan Iris and Hemerocallis Society, c/o Mr. Shinichi Noguchi, 4-309, Hanakoganei Kodaira-shi, Tokyo, 187 Japan. Such irises will, of course, be gifts to that society.

JAPANESE IRISES IN BELGIUM

There is significant development in the world of irises in the booming popularity of Japanese irises in Belgium. Three of the largest Japanese iris collections in the world are in the gardens of Koen Engelen, Gilbert Verswijver, and Willy Hablau.

I recently received the Kawana iris catalogue for 1995. Kawana is the iris nursery operated by Koen Engelen. Many types of irises are listed in this catalogue, but I was much impressed, to say the least, to see the extensive listing of Japanese cultivars, many of which are not available in the U.S. or Canada. Koen has gone on iris buying trips to Japan, and obtained many newer Japanese cultivars.

Those who attended the convention of the Society for Japanese Irises this year were pleased to see guest seedlings of Mr. Willy Hablau. They also were able to meet Mr. Hablau and three of his family members who came to the convention. Mr. Hablau is planning to register several of his seedlings with AIS, and some may be introduced in the U.S. in future years.

REQUEST FROM DENMARK

Lars Hopfner, Langengen, 38 Svogerslev, 4000 Roskilde, Denmark, is looking for sources for oncocyclus and juno irises. He would like to hear from anyone who can provide plants.

A NEW HISTORIC IRIS COLLECTION IN ENGLAND

The Orpington Historical Society is located in the Priory Gardens in Orpington, Kent, in England. In their records they have archival material relating to Orpington Nurseries. They are interested in building an iris garden of introductions by Orpington Nurseries. Orpington irises are listed in *Iris Chronicles XV*, and include such cultivars as ROMANCE (Murrell 28), COLUMBINE (Murrell 30), ARIEL (Murrell 24), HASSAN (Murrell 30), and LILAS (Murrell 35), as well as many others. Orpington Nursery irises were widely distributed in this country in the 1930's by Schreiners, Sheets and

Salbach. If you have any of the irises listed in *Iris Chronicles XV*, contact Mrs. Mary Tubbs, 9 Lingfield Road, Wimbledon Common, London SW19 4QA, England.

SIBERIAN IRIS IS FIRST NEW ZEALAND DYKES MEDAL WINNER

Frances Love's Siberian iris EMMA RIPEKA was selected to receive the first Dykes Medal awarded in New Zealand. Runner-Up was a tall bearded neglecta iris bred by Eric Braybrook. Color pictures of both of these irises are featured in the June 1995 issue of the New Zealand Iris Society *Bulletin*.

THOSE ENGLISH

I would like to share with AIS readers an amusing but informative article by Mary Richardson of the Wellington Iris Group that appeared in the recent issue of the New Zealand Iris Society *Bulletin* under the heading "Those English!"

"Having reported the varying success/failure of the Wellington Group's project on English irises last year, I felt that a follow-up on this year's effort might be of interest so perhaps an odd corner of the *Bulletin* may be available to record the almost universal failure this year.

"Not being a group to take a reverse lying down we ordered a supply of English irises from a North island source, while writing to our South island supplier advising him of our disappointment at the failure of the bulbs to appear and the amount of virus in those that did. This supplier generously forwarded a replacement order and accordingly with a double quantity of bulbs we confidently anticipated a wealth of bloom in 1994!

"About 50% of members followed a suggestion of a dose of aspirin either at the time of planting or at the emergence of growth to discourage or allay virus attack, but effect, if any, was minimal. About 30% of the bulbs flowered but there was little variety in colour and the quality of the blooms was disappointing. Since the area for planting extends from southern Wellington to Titahi Bay on the west coast and Upper Hutt to the north, with the resultant disparity in weather conditions, rainfall etc, it was surprising that the collation of reports should indicate no preference for conditions in any area. We are forced, however, to concede that the two sources of supply could be suspect—English irises have been flowered successfully in the past in Upper Hutt (although reproduction was low) and the same can be said of Titahi Bay. One Upper Hutt member rubbed salt in the wounds by reporting that a friend in the neighbourhood has a longstanding border of the bulbs which flower profusely year after year.

"Well as far as I was concerned that settled it. I joined the rest of the group in a decision to treat the English iris as it had treated us—with disdain. Our loyalty cannot be questioned. We chose the English iris without even considering the wider range available by embracing the EEC, and the word republic was not even breathed, so off with the shackles of empire and on to our next venture—a rekindled interest in the reticulata irises of the *exotic east!*"

[Note 1: The virus infestations in English irises are well known by many Americans who have tried growing them. Forgive me if I doubt the Upper Hutt member's story about these irises flowering in a friend's garden year after year. I suspect these English iris may turn out to be Dutch or Spanish irises upon close inspection. But, of course, with the EEC, this is perhaps to be expected. Notwithstanding, I suspect if anyone is growing a virus-free strain of English irises, Mary Richardson would welcome this news. Write the editor of the New Zealand Iris Society Bulletin: Gwenda Harris, Otepopo Garden Nursery, Private Bag, Herbert, North Otago, New Zealand.]

[Note 2: For those who would smile at the use of aspirin, I must confess that Dave Silverberg's influence has led me to use birth control pills on my irises. Dave says these pills contain steroids. Dissolve 10 pills in 2 gallons of water, and apply with a sprinkling can. Does this work? I am waiting to see the results. My one hope is that it does not encourage greater promiscuity in my garden.]

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A ROUND ROBIN IS (not necessarily a Fat Feathered Friend!)

Libby Cross (Virginia)

At the National Convention in York, PA this spring, I spent quite a bit of time trying to round up new members for various Robins that have been under my direction for a number of years. I lost count of the number of times new AIS members (and some not-so-new) answered me with, "Oh, I was asked to join a Robin, but I didn't know what it was!" (often said in a suspicious tone, as if a Robin might be some kind of illegal chain letter). I would like to try and dispel some of the confusion.

A Round Robin is more of a "group pen-pal affair." The American Iris Society's Robin program is headed by a National Chairman. Under the chairman are Division Chairmen who oversee all Robins on any specific subject (Reblooming, Hybridizing, Tall Bearded, etc.) The Division Chairman enlists *Directors for each Robin* in the various categories. I hope you are still with me at this point, because this chain of command is just so much background noise and doesn't explain how the Robin itself works.

When you decide to join a Robin, you will be asked to write a brief description of yourself, your family, pets, hobbies, garden, how you first became interested in irises, etc. This goes to a *ROBIN DIRECTOR*, who places your name on a *ROUTE LIST* and puts your letter in a packet with 7-10 other Robin Members' letters. The packet is sent around from member to member in the order their names appear on the Route List. When the packet comes to you, you read all the letters, remove your old letter from the packet, answer the other letters, and send the packet, with your new letter in it, on to the next person on the list. And so the Robin flies 'round and 'round.

Not long ago, a friend sent me several boxes of old AIS *Bulletins*. As I browsed through them, I was fascinated by the progress of the Robin program from its earliest mentions to recent times. The January 1950 issue carried several pages of excerpts, by Mrs. C. W. Vallette, from robin letters that she directed. These were titled "ROBINS' ROOST" and were a forerunner of later "FLIGHT LINES."

Of late we have missed what Mrs. Vallette referred to as "helpful chirps" from the Robins. I am happy to report that we now have a new editor for "FLIGHT LINES," Dana Glaser of Buckholts, TX. If all you Directors out there will send some "meaty" excerpts from your Robins to Dana, we will soon see Flight Lines as a regular feature in the *Bulletin* once more.

But I digress. In 1955 the Board of Directors recognized the advantages of an AIS-sponsored round robin program, and the National Robin Program came into being. By the time its first anniversary as an "official" part of AIS arrived, there were 778 members, and 79 robins in flight, in 16 categories. This grew by 1961 to more than 4,200 members in 24 divisions. Somewhere along the line this rate of growth first levelled out, and then declined to 14 divisions in 1989. I have no information on the number of members then, and

have no idea of the current statistics. I do know that the Robins that I have been directing and the Divisions I chair have lost many members to "old age," ill health, and the Grim Reaper, (not necessarily in that order), in recent years. New members were not replacing the lost ones at the rate they used to. For a while I feared that the advent of the "Information Super Highway" with its array of Faxes, Modems, E-mail, and other assorted electronic technicalities, had totally wiped out the ability to write letters. I hope it is simply a case of faulty public relations on the part of long-time robin members who tend to forget that folks aren't born understanding the Round Robin concept. It needs to be explained every so often.

Explaining things is not my best trick, but I hope my description of the bare-bones mechanics of Round Robins will induce more people to get into at least one Robin. They are fun. They are a great way to make new friends who are interested in the same things you are . . . irises!

IN MEMORIAM JOHN E. GOETT

John E. (Jack) Goett, of Monroe, Connecticut, 82, passed away on April 22, 1995 following a long illness. His iris hybridizing began in 1946 in New York, but a move to Connecticut in 1953 marked the beginning of the spectacular "Old Trees" gardens in Monroe, which housed not only hundreds of irises, but wildflowers and birds galore and was a mecca for visitors at all seasons.

Jack's best known tall bearded iris was *MONEE* (1960), a well branched deep blue. As a seedling, it was the first recipient of Region One's William J. McKee memorial medal; it also received the AIS HM award in 1961 and still grows lustily in many New England gardens. But Jack will best be remembered as one of New England's median pioneers. We owe much to *KNOTTY PINE* (1961), a lovely brown blend which not only won the Cook-Douglas Medal on its own merit, but was the progenitor of nearly all of the earliest SDB plicatas, including his own AM-winning *CIRCLETTE* (1963) and many of the Warburton plicatas and luminatas.

Jack's enthusiasm and knowledge was shared generously; he corresponded voluminously with other breeders, wrote numerous articles for local and national publications, served twice as President of the Connecticut Iris Society and was President of the very young Median Iris Society from 1962 to 1965. We will miss the man, but his work remains as his legacy.

Jack is survived by his wife, Merna B. Goett, of Monroe, and his daughter, Pamela Goett, of New York City, for whom the still popular soft yellow bitone SDB, *PAMELA ANN* (1965), was named.

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE ARTHUR SHOOP

1916 - 1995

George Shoop was born and raised in Nebraska, but moved before college graduation to the Pacific Northwest in order to be near his dream girl, Roberta Dodge. In due course they married and moved to Yreka, CA, then back to Portland, where George worked at the Kaiser shipyards during World War II.

It was while at the shipyards that George met Bennett Jones, and after the war George discovered irises in the form of TIFFANY in Bennett's garden. It was love at first sight, and George was soon hybridizing irises (slowed down by one year, for he first tried pollinating the beards). The crosses continued unabated for 45 years, zeroing in mainly on tall bearded pinks and oranges, tangerine-bearded bicolors and "dark top" reverse bicolors, with a few medians thrown in for good measure.

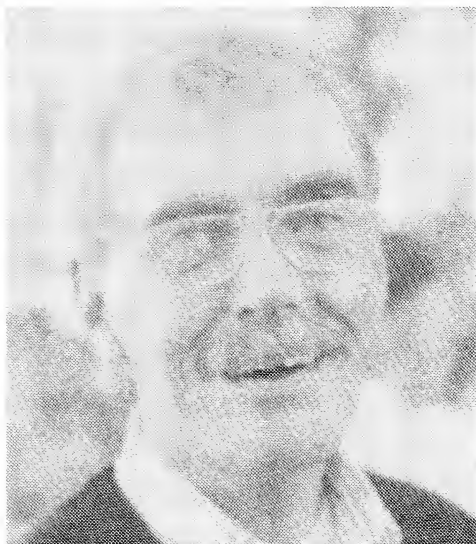
Eden Road Iris Gardens handled his first introduction, LA PARISIENNE, in 1960. That was also the year of the Portland national convention, and the Shoop garden was on tour. The pink ONE DESIRE was in bloom and established George as a hybridizer almost overnight.

Always working in a small space, he nevertheless was able to produce an impressive array of interesting and innovative irises. Some of his best-known varieties are OLE, SPANISH GIFT, CHINA DRAGON, TODAY'S FASHION, BLUSHING DUCHESS, SPRING TIDINGS, PEACH SPOT, DUTCH MAGIC, BLAZING LIGHT, ISLAND DANCER, LATIN LOVER, RINGO, REGAL AFFAIR and FANCY TALES. In 1990 George was awarded the AIS Hybridizer's Medal.

George was known equally well for his cheerful disposition and sense of humor as for his irises. Decades ago he suffered from throat cancer and had to re-learn how to speak; his whispered quips could project across a room to the delight of all. Chronic pulmonary problems contributed to his health woes, and last year cancer was discovered once more. His optimism never suffered for long. On April 22 he was talking about crosses to be made; on April 24 he was gone.

He is survived by his wife Roberta, children Ben Shoop and Lucinda Sisson, and five grandchildren. He is missed by iris lovers worldwide who mourn the passing of a good friend and innovative iris breeder.

IN MEMORIAM



**James P.
McWhirter**



George Shoop

IN MEMORIAM

JAMES P. McWHIRTER

James Perkins McWhirter, former Regional Vice President of Region 14 and a member of The American Iris Society Board of Directors died suddenly on May 28, 1995. He had spent the previous week in York, Pennsylvania, attending the National Convention and had stopped to visit his family in Tennessee when he became ill and died.

During the past bloom season, his Stockton Iris Gardens was toured as part of the Spring Regional in Region 14. At the banquet after the touring day, he was awarded the 1995 Larry Gaulter Lifetime Achievement Award. The plaque noted many of his services to Region 14.

Jim was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on July 12, 1939. His interest in irises went back to his childhood. He was born and reared behind the iris garden of Mrs. R. A. Gotto, a contemporary of Geddes Douglas and Jesse Wills, during the time that Nashville was one of the most important centers of iris interest in America. During his junior and senior high school years, he traveled with Mrs. Gotto to area gardens and received a sound background in appreciating and judging quality irises, not only those hybridized in Tennessee but from around the world.

He attended Vanderbilt University before moving to the San Francisco area in the 1960's. He and his partner, Don Denney, leased some land in Hayward and revived the Cottage Garden name that had been used earlier by Ethel and George Johnson. He immediately began to hybridize and released his first introduction in 1977, TENNESSEE FROST. He had a long list of outstanding introductions, and in 1986 BRANDY won an Award of Merit and AMERICA'S CUP won the same award in 1993.

Jim was very active in Region 14, serving as president of the Sydney B. Mitchell, Mt. Diablo, and Sacramento Iris Societies. He was a frequent visitor to gardens in Oregon, Utah, Washington, and southern California. He had also visited gardens in Louisiana and Texas and had made a trip to Japan to see the irises there.

From 1989-1991 he served as RVP of Region 14 and became the first RVP selected to serve as the RVP representative on the AIS Board of Directors. After completing that one-year term, he was elected to a three-year term and served as chairman of the AIS Membership Contest.

For many years, Jim was active in San Francisco politics and served as the treasurer of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club. During the 1980's, he was board member, secretary, and volunteer coordinator for The Family Link, a non-profit agency providing low cost and/or free housing for friends and family members of persons with AIDS.

Always one to talk about irises, Jim was invited to speak in many areas of the country. His last such trip was to Oklahoma just before he went to Pennsylvania for the convention.

Jim's ashes have been scattered on the farm of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Denney in Tennessee. He will be missed by a multitude of friends, his untimely passing leaving a void that his love for irises once filled.

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BACK TO BASICS: A CULTURAL PROGRAM FOR LOUISIANA IRISES

Ruth Wilder (South Carolina)

Culture that I started with in growing Louisianas was obtained from an article by C. W. Army, Jr. that I clipped from a magazine several years ago. I still use this method with a few variations that I have learned from Frank Chowning or from the Society for Louisiana Irises *Newsletter*.

Many people have the mistaken idea that Louisianas must grow in bogs to perform well, but they will grow and do well in any flower bed that grows perennials well. They are adaptable to most soils but are heavy feeders and like moist conditions. By providing an abundance of organic matter to the beds where these irises are planted, you will have a reward of large beautiful clumps.

To prepare a new bed, I rototill the soil about a foot deep, add a good amount of well rotted manure and oak leaves, pine needles or cottonseed meal, whichever I can obtain at that particular time. I dig this in well. I start my beds in the summer so that I can turn the soil several times before planting. Beds should be placed where they can receive at least a half day of sun.

I have found that late September or early October is best for planting rhizomes. The few Louisianas that I have lost, I believe, have been due to the fact that they were moved in the summer months and then did not receive adequate moisture after transplanting. Rhizomes should be planted around eighteen inches apart to establish nice clumps and not necessitate transplanting each year. Plant the irises so that the terminal shoot faces the direction that you want the clump established. The rhizomes should be set deeply enough to be covered with one and a half inches of soil after it has settled. I cover with about four inches of mulch. This is usually pine straw.

Mulching is of particular importance for it prevents the heaving of rhizomes in our winters of freezing and thawing temperatures.

In beds that are established, I pull mulch back and feed with acid-loving plant food (Azalea-Camellia) and replace the mulch to keep rhizomes from hot sun. Mushroom compost is also an excellent fertilizer. In all beds in early spring, I give liberal feeding of superphosphate. I water well after all fertilizing.

Louisiana irises do not seem to have as many diseases as other irises. A spraying of wettable sulphur usually controls any problems unless it is one with insects or snails and slugs. For insect control I use Sevin under the mulch or spray with Sevin of a higher percentage. Saucers of stale beer at ground level will control slugs and snails.

As I stated earlier, Louisianas grow well with other perennials such as phlox and chrysanthemums with an intermingling of petunias. It adds to the bloom season and beauty in your garden all summer long. Needless to say, when planting with other flowers, go heavy on the fertilizer.

Louisianas begin their bloom season just at the end of the Tall Bearded and Siberian season. They provide a good source of materials for the flower arranger. They are excellent cut flowers and come in a variety of colors, sizes, textures and forms.

In Mr. Arny's article, he states that successful culture will include these precautions:

1. Do not plant too deeply.
2. Do not let rhizomes be exposed to direct sun rays in hot weather.
3. Do not plant in dense shade, provide one-half day of sunshine.
4. Do not let plants dry out during the spring blooming season or after fall planting.
5. Feed well.

Tetraploids are a great addition to Louisiana irises. The increased size of flower, the sturdiness of the plant, the intensity of bloom color are all good factors and do quite well in the area.

With the size of my back yard I like those with an *I. brevicaulis* background. They flower and clump better. They can do with less moisture but need at least a half day of sunlight.

Mine are planted at the edge of a tree, but it is deciduous, giving ample light during the growing season. They bloomed well, so they have found a home.

As an amateur iris gardener, I am constantly trying different ideas but go back to basics and Arny's rule for best results. I appreciate the time and advice he gave me throughout the years.

Reprinted from SLI Newsletter, July 1995

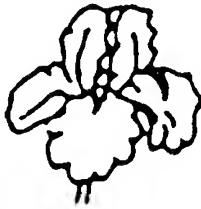


PHOTO CREDITS: Terry Aitken top and bottom 42, center 44; Schmieder center 42; Anna Mae Miller top 43; Lewis Lawyer center 43; Marie Caillet bottom 43; Paul Black center 44; Sterling Innerst bottom 44; Carl Boswell top 45; Howard Shockey center 45; Mike Lowe bottom 45, bottom 58, top 81; George Waters bottom 70; Ron Mullin bottom 81. Other credits are given on pages with photo if the photographer was known.

DESIGN CORNER

Carolyn Hawkins (Georgia)

The beginning of a design is often the most difficult point for someone who is just learning how to handle flowers and use them in a design. The following two designs are traditional, very basic designs done with garden plants available to almost everyone.

The plant materials used in the designs were all gathered early in the morning when they were fresh. They were cut and immediately placed in a bucket of warm water. The oasis used as the support for the designs was presoaked and placed in low containers with water added. Fresh cuts were made as the plant materials were placed in the designs.

The line materials used in Picture No. 1 is the common Sweet Shrub. The branches were placed in the standard north, south, east and west positions with one straight up in the center. Irises were added using the buds and iris foliage as more definition of the line of the design in Picture No. 2.

In Picture No. 3 blooms of daisies and lunaria were added to the design to finish this mass design so the flowers could be viewed from all sides.

Note: This is a small design suitable for a coffee table or standard size dinette table. The forms of the tall bearded irises are somewhat hidden by the additional flowers, and one could stop adding at the point of the second picture and have a pleasing design with more simplicity. What way would you like?

The second design is a line mass design and shows off the form of the tall bearded iris better. Picture No. 4 shows the placement of the trumpet honeysuckle in an "L" shape. This "L" can be turned either way, depending on where the design will be located. It would look nice placed at the end of a mantel or on a dresser to one side but is only to be viewed from 3 sides (it is flat on the back).

In Picture No. 5 the irises are added with the smaller bloom at the top and the larger blooms lower in the design—this is gradation. More blooms from the trumpet honeysuckle were added in Picture No. 6, and the design was finished. Do you want to add more materials? It is hard to stop adding, but the form of the irises shows up much better with less plant materials.

These are easy-to-do designs, and I hope you will try them with things growing in your garden. Yes, it is nice to use exotic materials, and they are spectacular, especially in competition. But, for the home and for our personal enjoyment, consider using the available plants for an equally satisfying result.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Carolyn Hawkins, 7329 Kendel Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236.



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5



Photo 6

AIS 75th ANNIVERSARY PLATE



There is a small number of 1995 AIS 75th Anniversary plates available. These are Pfaltzgraff made, bone china, blue design, gold edge and a limited edition of 500.

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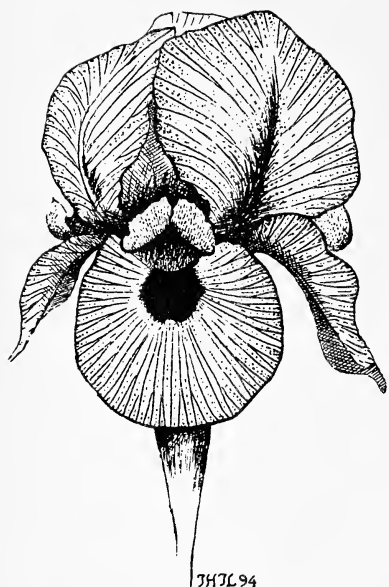
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**Sterling and Barbara Innerst with President's Cup
for BEFORE THE STORM**



**The 1995 Franklin Cook Cup winner was
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Ramada Inn
York, Pennsylvania

May 23 & 24, 1995

President Claire Barr called to order the regular spring meeting of the Board of Directors of The American Iris Society at 1: p.m., May 23, 1995. Present at the various sessions were President Barr; Immediate Past President K. Waite; 1st Vice President Niswonger; 2nd Vice President Mahan; Secretary J. Plank; Treasurer Nichols; Editor Mullin; Membership Secretary Harlow; Publication Sales Director Lack; Directors T. Aitken, Corlew, Gristwood, Harder, McWhirter, Miller, Stahly, Waters, Wilhoit and Witt; RVP Board Representative Moller (20); Foundation Liaison Pettijohn; Committee Chairmen M. Lowe and Jean Morris; RVPs Schmieder (1), Schueler (2), Honkanen (5), Hobbs (6), Smith (13), G. Sutton (14), Rinehart (15), Green (17), Hargrove (18), Mazur (21) and Perkins (23); RVP-elect A. Lowe (4); Assistant RVPs Nutter (3) and Meyer (11); Section Representatives James Morris (M.I.S.), and J. Weiler (R.I.S.); and guests A. Waite (1), Cross, Marley and Stoneburner (4), D. and A. Willott (6), J. Wilhoit (9), B. Aitken (13), M. Sutton and F. Weller (14), L. and R. Conrad and B. Plank (15), Probst (18), V. Wiekhorst and W. Wiekhorst (20), Gossett (22) and Figge, Goodnight and Sluizer (23).

In her opening remarks, President Barr invited and encouraged all present to participate in discussion, with the reminder that only Board members may vote.

Recording Secretary Joanne King was unable to attend the convention. Minutes of the fall 1994 Board meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, printed in AIS *Bulletin* #296, were approved as corrected. The correction: Waters seconded the motion attributed to Harlow. Harlow is not a voting member of the Board and did not second any motion.

Barr reported that interim Board action consisted of the approval of a contract with Publisher's Press of Salt Lake City to reprint *The World of Irises*, and the approval of the purchase of logo decals to be included in the *75th Anniversary Bulletin* mailing envelope.

Waters moved, Gristwood seconded, that the selling price of the reprinted *The World of Irises* be set at \$20 each. Motion carried.

Waters moved, Mahan seconded, that AIS logo decals be sold for \$1 each at convention. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, McWhirter seconded, that extra copies of *75th Anniversary Bulletin* be sold for \$5 each at convention, and for \$7.50 each when purchased through the AIS Publication Sales Office. Motion carried.

At the International Species Symposium in St. Louis in March in a conversation with Philip Oglivie on the question of the publication of scientific articles in the *Bulletin*, Barr had asked Oglivie to look into this matter. In consultation with Jean Witt and Dr. Alan Lievens (Horticultural Taxonomist, Missouri Botanical Gardens), Oglivie formulated and submitted a proposal defining policy regarding types of scientific articles the AIS should publish in the *Bulletin*. This will be taken up at a later session in this meeting.

Barr reported two generous donations to the AIS, one from The Southern California Iris Society (Reg. 15) restricted to the Clarke Cosgrove Youth Award Scholarship Fund, and one from the Tulsa Area Iris Society (Reg. 22) restricted to the Fund for Color in the *Bulletin*.

Secretary Plank gave a brief summary of the activities involving her office.

Treasurer Nichols distributed copies of the interim financial report.

Membership Secretary Harlow reviewed the written report she had mailed to Board members prior to the meeting. The AIS membership stands at 8,316 following the March non-renewal deletions. Region 14, Region 4, and Region 18, in that order, lead the twenty-four regions for members per region. Harlow's report generated the following action:

McWhirter moved, Harder seconded, that color "Invitation to Join" brochures be offered for sale at 5 for \$1. Corlew offered an amendment, Plank seconded, that the bulk sales price be set at 100 for \$10. The amendment carried, and the motion carried as amended.

Mahan moved, Waters seconded, that a notice be placed in the next four issues of the *Bulletin* advertising that AIS color brochures are available for sale from the offices of Secretary Plank and Membership Secretary Harlow, and listing the new prices. Corlew moved, Plank seconded, that the motion be amended to state that the *Bulletin* advertisement be in color. The amendment carried, and the motion carried as amended.

Corlew moved, McWhirter seconded, that a multi-payment plan for life memberships be adopted as proposed by the committee appointed last fall to that purpose. Motion carried.

Stahly moved, Plank seconded, that where dues are specified under life memberships in the *Bulletin*, it will be publicized that a life membership installment plan is available. Motion carried.

Following discussion, action on the issue of providing membership lists to region editors on computer disks rather than in computer printouts was rescheduled for a later session of this meeting.

Secretary Plank read the report from *Bulletin* advertising Editor Erickson, who was unable to attend the convention. Action resulting from this report was a motion made by Mahan, seconded by Witt, that the Board refuse any advertising for irises containing non-registered varietal names or names not in the process of registration. By "in the process" is meant that the names have been cleared by the registrar and the registration fee has been paid. Motion carried.

Secretary Plank read Registrar Keith Keppel's written report in his absence. Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that Keppel continue applying his interpretation of Board policy of record when resolving questions concerning introduction dates of foreign registrations. Following discussion, Barr appointed Wilhoit, Stahly and Niswonger to examine the issue of foreign registration dating and to return at a later session of this meeting with suggestions for clarifying the ambiguity of this problem.

Stahly moved, Mahan seconded, that the motion on the floor be tabled. Motion to table carried.

After a fifteen-minute break, discussion was resumed on procedures and practices relating to iris registrations.

Moller reported the recommendation of the committee appointed to examine the proposal that slides or pictures be submitted with registrations. The committee, composed of Moller, Miller and Barbara Schmieder, recommended that at this time the Board not institute the policy of requiring a picture of an iris to accompany it at the time of registration. McWhirter moved, Witt seconded, that the committee's recommendation be accepted. Motion carried.

Publication Sales Director Lack reported on his department. In keeping with suggestions in Lack's report, Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded that price of a single issue of *Basic Iris Culture* be raised to \$2.50. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Miller seconded, that judges' handbooks be sold only in their entirety (current edition, complete with cover), and that uncovered, loose page copies no longer be sold. Motion carried.

Lack yielded the floor to Paul Gossett, who recommended a price scheduling for surplus copies of the *Bulletin* based on handling costs. Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded, that the AIS sell surplus *Bulletins* on a schedule of 10/\$5.00, 20/\$6.00, 30/\$7.00 40/\$8.00, 50/\$9.00, to anyone wishing to buy them, and that an ad be placed in the *Bulletin* announcing this schedule. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded, that Gossett be allowed to take surplus copies of the *Bulletin* to shows and sales of societies that he might visit, and offer them without charge on such occasions since no packaging or shipping costs are involved. Motion carried.

Niswonger distributed copies of the list of approved affiliates for 1995. Approved affiliates for 1995 number 170. (Three additional affiliates were approved after the list was printed.) Regions 14 and 18 are tied for the highest number of affiliates (18 each). Regions 17 and 22 are tied for the next highest number (15 each).

Wilhoit reported that 799 awards ballots were mailed in March to Garden, Master & Emeritus Judges. She pointed out that ballot expenses have risen because of higher paper and postage costs. Bennett and Evelyn Jones have agreed to take charge of counting the 1995 ballots.

Wilhoit stated that there is concern about the eligibility of 10 irises listed in the 1995 Species HM category. She quoted Keppel's letter to Barr in which he listed reasons for concern and asked for Board clarification. Mahan pointed out that the AIS policy for eligibility has been defined by two recent policy statements and that copies of both of these policy statements should be sent to Keppel to help to simplify eligibility decisions. (Policy references—minutes in *Bulletin* #290—7/93, and #292—1/94). Corlew moved, Mahan seconded, that the previously adopted policy on eligibility be reaffirmed. Motion carried. A letter to this effect is to be sent to the registrar along with a copy of the two board policy statements.

Wilhoit asked that the matter of the replacement of the awards cups be placed on the fall Board meeting agenda for consideration.

Exhibitions Chairman Gristwood reported receiving 189 show approval requests for the year to date. After summarizing the activities of her office, Gristwood requested Board direction regarding the disposition of old show requests and reports.

Mahan moved, Corlew seconded that following their being printed in the *Bulletin*, exhibition reports be discarded after one year and that the schedules be sent to the Historical Committee Chairman for record. Motion carried.

Historical Committee Chairman Harder requested that the Board set policy regarding the inclusion of the registrations and introductions booklets in the AIS historical collection. Plank moved, Mahan seconded, that in the absence of receiving AIS registration materials of

archival value, the chairman is authorized to purchase such materials and to bill the AIS for the costs incurred. Motion carried.

Following a request from Harder to be able to use the title "Historian," Corlew moved, McWhirter seconded, that Harder's position be designated as AIS Historian. Motion carried.

Judges and Judges' Training Chairman Corlew reported briefly on the transfer of the chairmanship.

A letter from Region 4 RVP Dr. Roy Epperson was read requesting the correction of a clerical error at the region level which resulted in the omission of two Region 4 Apprentice Judges from the accredited Garden Judges list. Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded that Region 4 Apprentice Judges Sara Marley, and Dennis Stoneburner be approved as Garden Judges for 1995.

Motion carried.

Corlew requested direction on the length of time to keep judges' training records. McWhirter moved, Corlew seconded, that the Judges' Training Chairman be allowed discretionary judgment regarding the disposal of old files, with the limitation that the records from the current year plus the three previous years be kept. Motion carried.

Membership Contest Chairman McWhirter announced this year's contest winners and displayed the three new plaques, designed by Bryce Williamson, which will be awarded. This year's paper certificate awards are newly designed as well.

Affiliate winners:	1st	Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society	Region 4
	2nd	The Iris Club of South East Michigan	Region 6
	3rd	The Francis Scott Key Iris Society	Region 4
Youth member winner		Kevin Gormley	Region 18
Individual winners:	1st	Kathy Guest	Region 2
	2nd	Kathleen Colburn	Region 2
	3rd	Sara Holk	Region 15

The meeting was recessed at 5:15 PM and re-convened at 8:00 AM the next day, May 23, 1995.

Policy Chairman Mike Lowe stated that all officers, directors and chairmen have been given a copy of the policy-forming action taken at the last Board meeting. These pages, added to the pages compiled following each Board meeting, from the AIS policy record. Lowe requested that Board members and committee chairman collect these policy sheets in a notebook or file and, when leaving office, transfer the notebook or file to the New Board member or committee chairmen along and with other materials of office.

Public Relations Chairman Waters updated the Board on the activities and projects being handled by her office. Waters' report required no Board action. President Barr asked for a round of thanks to Waters for the 75th Anniversary logo decals which were included in the mailing with the Anniversary *Bulletin*.

Youth Chairman Morris announced the Youth Achievement Award Contest winners.

1st	Danika King of St. Claire, Missouri	(Region 18)
2nd	Shilo Gillam, Garden City, Kansas	(Region 18)
3rd	(A three-way tie)	
	Erin Marie Griner—Bordentown, New Jersey	(Region 19)
	Ryan Koch, Pacific, Missouri	(Region 18)
	Kenneth Smith, Holcomb, Kansas	(Region 18)

In addition to the Clarke Cosgrove Memorial Award for Youth Achievement Trophy, this year's winner will receive a check for \$200 contributed by the Southern California Iris Society (Region 15).

Since the AIS Fall Board Meeting, AIS youth membership has increased by 19 to a total of 192 members.

Since Robins Chairman Brookins was not present at the convention and did not send a report, Barr asked Libby Cross (Reg. 4) to give an unofficial report on the status of various robins. Cross reported that while the program is not thriving and is in need of help, there are robins still flying. Cross could account for only 13 robins; however, she felt there were additional robins flying of which she was not aware.

Scientific Committee Chairman Dr. Chandler Fulton was unable to attend the convention. Secretary Plank read his written report, in which the work being done was described and some of the major conclusions to date were summarized.

Scholarship Chairman Witt reported that there were 26 applicants for scholarships this year. The committee's recommendations and the proposed projects of each candidate were announced.

Stahly moved, Waters seconded, that the Board approve the Scholarship Committee's #1 recommendation, David Jobes, PhD candidate at Tulane University, Louisiana. Project: The use of DNA analysis to determine the relationship between species. Motion carried.

Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that the Board approve the Scholarship Committee's #2 recommendation. Following a discussion about available funds, the motion failed.

Slides Chairman Moller reported 40 requests for slides and stated that the slides in some sets were in need of being replaced, notably slides in the Popularity Poll program. An appeal for new slides was made. It was suggested that a program focused on novelty irises would be of interest.

In the absence of AIS Foundation Liaison Pettijohn, Secretary Plank reported the results of the election held the previous evening at the meeting of the Foundation's Board of Directors.

Richard C. Butler—President and Chairman

Donald R. Saxton—Vice President

Richard T. Pettijohn—Secretary-Treasurer

All incumbent Trustees were re-elected: Cathy Gates; Donald Saxton; Dorothy Willott.

The Ackerman Memorial Youth Essay Contest was won by Monica Combrink of Glencoe, OK (Reg. 22).

RVP Counselor Stahly reported on the RVP meeting held the previous night. After first thanking Barbara Schmieder, outgoing RVP president, for her excellent work, Stahly listed the newly elected RVP officers:

RVP Board Member Representative

1996 Personnel Comm. Representatives

RVP President

RVP Secretary

Marky Smith (Reg. 13)

Cathy Boyko (Reg. 16); Bill Rinehart (Reg. 15)

Bill Rinehart (Reg. 15)

Cathy Hagen Reed (Reg. 12)

Acting on the RVPs' recommendation, Stahly moved, Miller seconded, a Board resolution that when reporting the number of votes cast in the Symposium, regions be given credit for the percentage of members casting votes in that region as well as for the total number of votes cast. It is the responsibility of the RVP to tally, compute and report both the number and the percentage for each region. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that the AIS Board formally commend Barbara Schmieder for the work she has done as Chairman of the Regional Vice Presidents. Motion carried.

Convention Liaison Mahan reported the convention locations and dates for future fall and spring meetings. Approval for the following locations and dates was requested and received:

Fall 1995—Colorado Springs, CO

Fall 1997—Austin, TX

Fall 1998—Bedford, MA

Editor Mullin stressed the continuing need to remain conscious of the importance of deadlines. At the conclusion of his report, Mullin submitted his resignation as Editor, effective upon the completion of the April, 1996 *Bulletin* issue. A round of applause from the audience and Board members followed President Barr's call for a show of appreciation for Editor Mullin's seven years of service.

Stahly moved, Niswonger seconded, that the Board express thanks and appreciation to Editor Mullin for the work he has done with the *Bulletin*. Motion carried.

Mahan requested that the Board rethink the policy of not using color pictures of irises in the *Bulletin* and other AIS printed material during that time in which the iris is eligible for awards. Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded that the AIS change the policy regarding printing color photos in the *Bulletin* of irises eligible for awards. Following discussion, Stahly moved, Plank seconded that the motion be tabled until the fall Board meeting. Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Corlew seconded, that RVPs be asked to poll their membership regarding whether or not color photographs of newer irises are wanted and to report back to the fall Board meeting. Motion carried.

Corlew moved, Miller seconded, that color pictures used in AIS publications should be of registered, introduced irises. Motion carried.

Barr called for a twenty-minute break.

Section Liaison Aitken reported that Everette Lineberger has been elected by Section leaders to be their representative on the 1996 Personnel Committee.

Chairman Marky Smith presented the report from the 1995 Personnel Committee, which was composed of Moller, J. Plank, Stahly, J. Weller and herself. Incumbents Harder, Waters and Wilhoit have agreed to serve again if nominated and elected. Four additional names were presented: Glenn Corlew, C. J. Lack, Shirley Pope, and Riley Probst. The move to executive session to determine the nominees was postponed until the final session.

Mullin addressed the subject of "Flight Lines" and stated that the feature would not be appearing in the *Bulletin* soon because no material is being offered to produce a feature column.

Corlew reported that the Handbook Revision Committee has no completion date for the new judges' handbook, although work is in progress. The committee, composed of Corlew, Hilda Crick, Roy Epperson, McWhirter, Mullin, and Phil Williams, is working for the earliest possible target date for the completion of this undertaking.

Niswonger, Chairman of the Committee to Study Awards Guidelines and Policies, reported that the duties of the Awards Chairman had been divided to spread the workload. The awards ballots, prepared and mailed by Wilhoit, will be counted for the next 3 years by Evelyn and Bennett Jones. The counted ballots will be returned to Wilhoit for the record.

Mahan reported on the status of the AIS library, announcing and explaining the reopening of negotiations to locate the AIS library in the city of Silverton, Oregon.

Stahly moved, Miller seconded that authorization be given for the proposed contract with Silverton, Oregon, providing that the wording "a ten-year automatic renewal at Silverton's option" from paragraph 2, Line 1, of the contract be changed to read "a ten-year automatic renewal with mutual approval." Motion carried.

Mahan moved, Miller seconded, that the President inform the Dresden, Tennessee representative that AIS Library materials in their possession are to be shipped to Silverton, Oregon, and authorize payment of the necessary expenses incurred in moving and relocating the material from Dresden to Silverton. Motion carried.

Mike Lowe presented a progress report on the Insurance Committee's efforts toward extending insurance coverage to AIS affiliates and sections through "umbrella" coverage carried by the national organization. Lowe expressed disappointment that coverage could not be arranged before the 1995 spring bloom season but offered the promise that coverage could be in place before this year's sale period, and failing that, with certainty before the fall meeting.

Barr reported that after many attempts by AIS *pro bono* legal advisor Bob Plank to make contact, attorney Glen Spain had finally responded less than a week before convention time by submitting his resignation, citing as the reason a work load increase requiring extensive travel. Following the opening meeting session, the executive committee met with Bob Plank to discuss this very recent development. Bob Plank is contacting attorneys who specialize in the field of non-profit organizations. Barr has asked Bob Plank to spearhead an update of the status of non-profit incorporation and tax exemption of the sections, regions and affiliates, as well as related Bylaws changes and whatever else needs to be done and to report to the fall Board meeting, or sooner if possible. Bob Plank has asked Niswonger, Stahly and Aitken to be on this committee because of their relationship with the affiliates, regions and sections. Barr asked Board approval of this committee. McWhirter moved, Harder seconded, that the Board approve the committee. Motion carried.

Barr noted that there is a need for a new printing of the AIS Bylaws in which the new amendments are incorporated into the previously existing document. Mahan moved, Niswonger seconded, that 500 copies of the complete AIS Bylaws be printed and that they be furnished to Board Members and Chairmen, RVPs, Affiliate Presidents, Section leaders and Region Editors, and that they be available on request. Motion carried.

Niswonger read a letter from Sergey Loktov, President of the Central Iris Society (Russia), promoting the formation of an International Iris Society. Niswonger moved, Mahan seconded, that Niswonger conduct a survey in the name of the AIS of foreign irisarians to determine if there is interest in a World Iris Society. Motion carried.

Barr called a lunch break until 1:30 PM.

After reporting the recommendations of the Foreign Awards Committee, Stahly moved, Wilhoit seconded, that irises originating outside the U.S. and Canada become eligible for AIS awards when the registrant/introducer furnishes the registrar with proof of introduction together with a signed statement that these irises have not been offered for sale under name or number prior to the date of the registrar's receipt of proof of American introduction. Motion carried.

Miller moved, Niswonger seconded, that the AIS allow the seedlings of foreign hybridizers to receive AIS HC and EC awards. Motion carried.

With regard to the 10 irises of questionable eligibility listed in the awards ballot under the HM Species category, Niswonger moved, Mahan seconded that these irises be eliminated from the 1995 ballot and returned to the 1996 ballot after signed certification has been received by the registrar that the irises have not previously been offered for sale. Motion carried.

Barr stated that she had received from Everette Lineberger a proposed, or suggested, set of changes to the current AIS Bylaws, copies of which Barr had sent to members of the Board prior to this meeting. Barr encouraged study of the suggested changes in preparation for future consideration.

The proposal concerning the publication of scientific articles in the *Bulletin*, submitted by Phillip Oglivie and referred to by Barr in the opening session of this meeting, was presented to the Board by Witt.

"A Proposed AIS Policy on the Publication of Scientific Papers (reports of original research at the scientific level) in the *Bulletin*,"

1. Under most circumstances the *Bulletin* is not an appropriate venue for the publication of papers reporting the results of scientific research. (See sections 3 and 4 below.)

a. There are specialized journals much better equipped for the publication of such papers.

b. The distribution of such specialized journals are in communities more likely to critically examine the purported results, thus stimulating the interchange of ideas.

2. This position of AIS, when adopted by the Board, should be made clear to both authors and readers by a statement on the title page of each issue and a statement in the "information for contributors."

a. *Bulletin Title page statement*: Articles appearing in this publication, unless otherwise stated, have not been submitted to scientific review. Statements contained in these articles should be considered opinions of the author or authors. These articles should not be considered to contain final authority of scientific fact or taxonomic priority.

b. *Bulletin information for contributors statement*: Most articles reporting the results of research may more appropriately be reported in specialized journals. If, however, the author wishes to publish such a paper in the *Bulletin*, he must submit with the manuscript a list of competent reviewers. The AIS publication advisory committee in cooperation with the editor of the *Bulletin* reserves the right to select a panel from this list, its own reviewers, or a combination of both.

3. In the rare instances where the *Bulletin* is the correct venue, a three member advisory committee should be established to assist the editor in these decisions and to select a peer review panel for the paper.

4. The AIS should encourage investigators to publish in the *Bulletin* summaries of previously published research related to the genus *Iris*.

Following discussion, it was the consensus that in item 2.B, the phrase "most articles" be changed to "technical articles."

Corlew moved, Niswonger seconded, that the proposed policy be adopted. Motion carried.

Barr recognized Rich Randall, Membership Chairman for Region 4, who had asked for time to speak before the Board on behalf of giving personal recognition to all participants, individuals or affiliates who take part in the Membership Contest. Randall recommended that a certificate of thanks be given to all participants. Barr promised to bring Randall's suggestion to the attention of the Membership Contest Chairman.

In keeping with the AIS custom of electing a new president at the spring meeting to facilitate the change in office following the full election of the remaining officers at the fall meeting, Barr called for nominations for President. Plank nominated Niswonger for President-elect. Waters seconded. Corlew moved, Stahly seconded, that nominations cease. Motion carried.

Niswonger was elected by acclamation.

Barr requested approval for the appointments of Lynda Miller and Bonnie Nichols to serve as the Board representatives on the 1996 Personnel Committee. Stahly moved, Wilhoit seconded, that the appointments be approved. Motion carried.

Barr called for a motion of thanks to all who worked on the 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee with Jim Rasmussen as chairman. Corlew so moved, Waters seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Barr extended the Board's thanks to the York Convention Committee and to Region 3 for their splendid work hosting this Spring 1995 convention.

75th Anniversary *Bulletin* Editor Aitken presented a breakdown of the production costs of the 75th Anniversary *Bulletin*, pointing out some of the reasons why, and ways in which costs exceeded expectations, as well as some of the ways in which technology aided production and reduced costs. Total production costs came to \$20,000 in round numbers, almost half of that cost (\$9,000) went into the production of colored pictures. Barr pointed out that three of the members of the Aiken family were the main participants in the production of this special issue, Terry, his wife Barbara, and their son Scott.

Niswonger raised a point of order regarding the eligibility of Treasurer Bonnie Nichols for appointment to the Personnel Committee, because she is not an "elected director." Nichols is an elected officer of The American Iris Society and thereby an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors with full powers. The AIS Bylaws, Art. VI, § 1-c; § 2-a, and *Robert's Rules of Order*, Art. IV, § 28 footnote, clarified the situation and established that Nichols was indeed eligible for appointment and service on the Personnel Committee.

To establish a clear AIS policy on this question, Mahan moved, Stahly seconded, that ex-officio voting members of the AIS Board of Directors are members with full rights of

appointment to standing committees. In accordance with the AIS Bylaws and *Robert's Rules of Order*. Motion carried.

The issue of providing membership lists to region editors on computer disk rather than in a computer printout raised during the opening session and tabled for later consideration was reopened. Following discussion, it was moved by Miller and seconded by Witt that the Membership Secretary provide the regional editors with addresses on paper or addresses on disk, whichever is preferred, at the same cost, and that when the disk option is chosen, a contract will be drawn with the printer stipulating that the information on the AIS membership label disk will neither be sold nor used for any other purposes. Motion carried.

To express his gratitude to Harlow for the work she did, Mahan moved that the Board commend Harlow for her extensive efforts expended toward the reprinting of *The World of Irises*. The motion, seconded by Waters, carried unanimously.

Barr asked Mahan for a status report on the proposed new AIS book. Mahan recommended that a five-member editorial advisory board should be appointed to review material that is produced for the book and suggested that this be addressed at the fall meeting.

The Board went into executive session in order to consider the recommendations presented by the Personnel Committee during the first session.

After reconvening to regular session, Barr announced that Corlew, Harder, Waters, and Wilhoit are the nominees for election at the fall meeting.

The fall Board meeting, hosted by The Oklahoma Iris Society, will be held in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, on November 3, 4, 5, 1995.

Miller moved, Plank seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried.

Jeanne Clay Plank, Secretary
Marilyn Harlow, Membership Secretary

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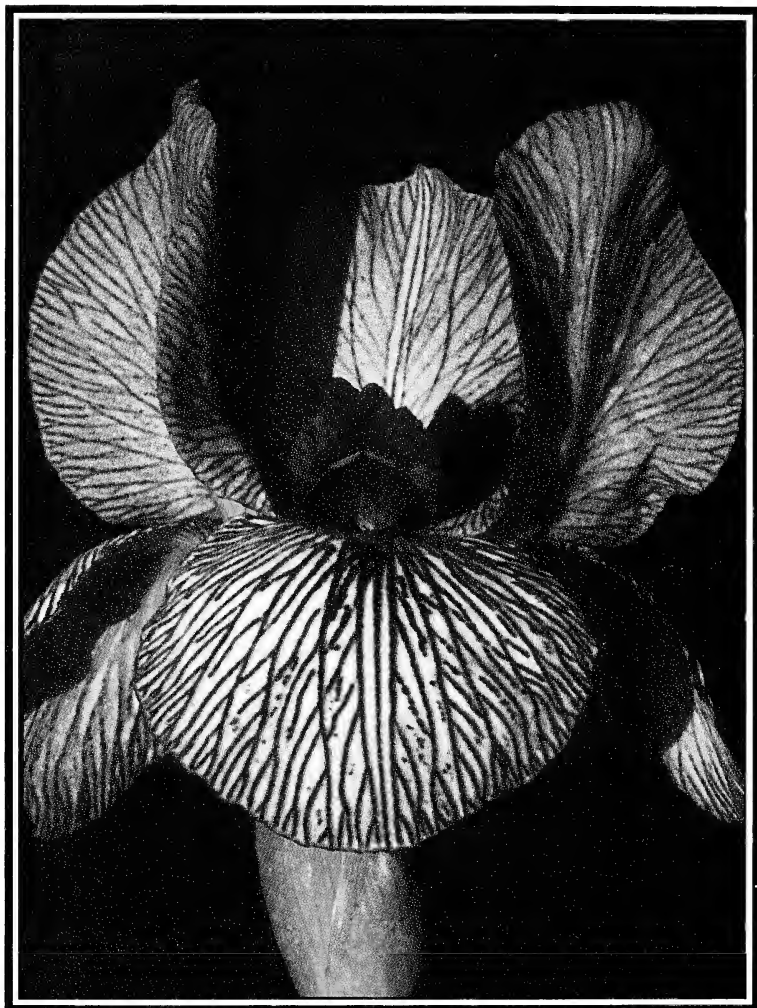
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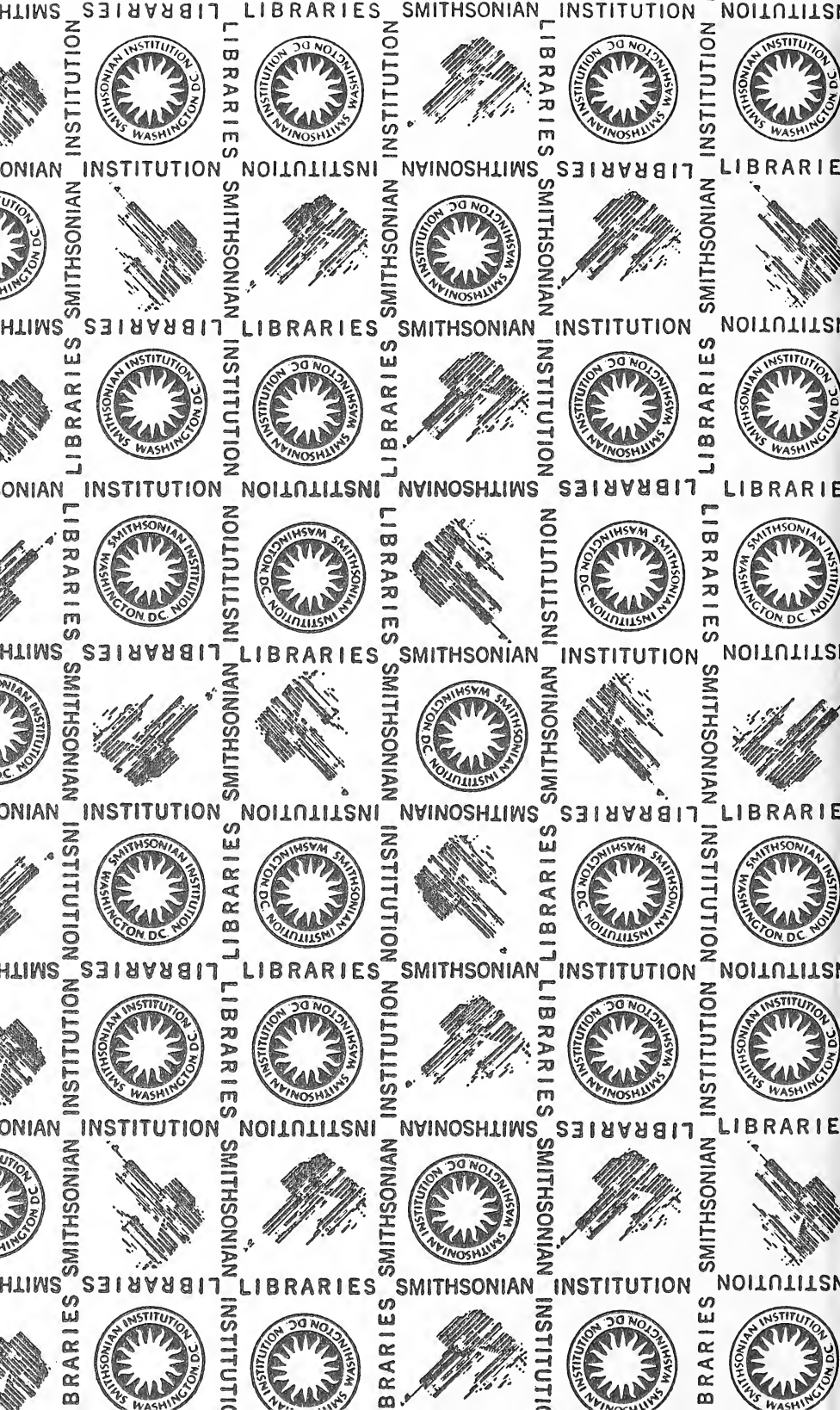
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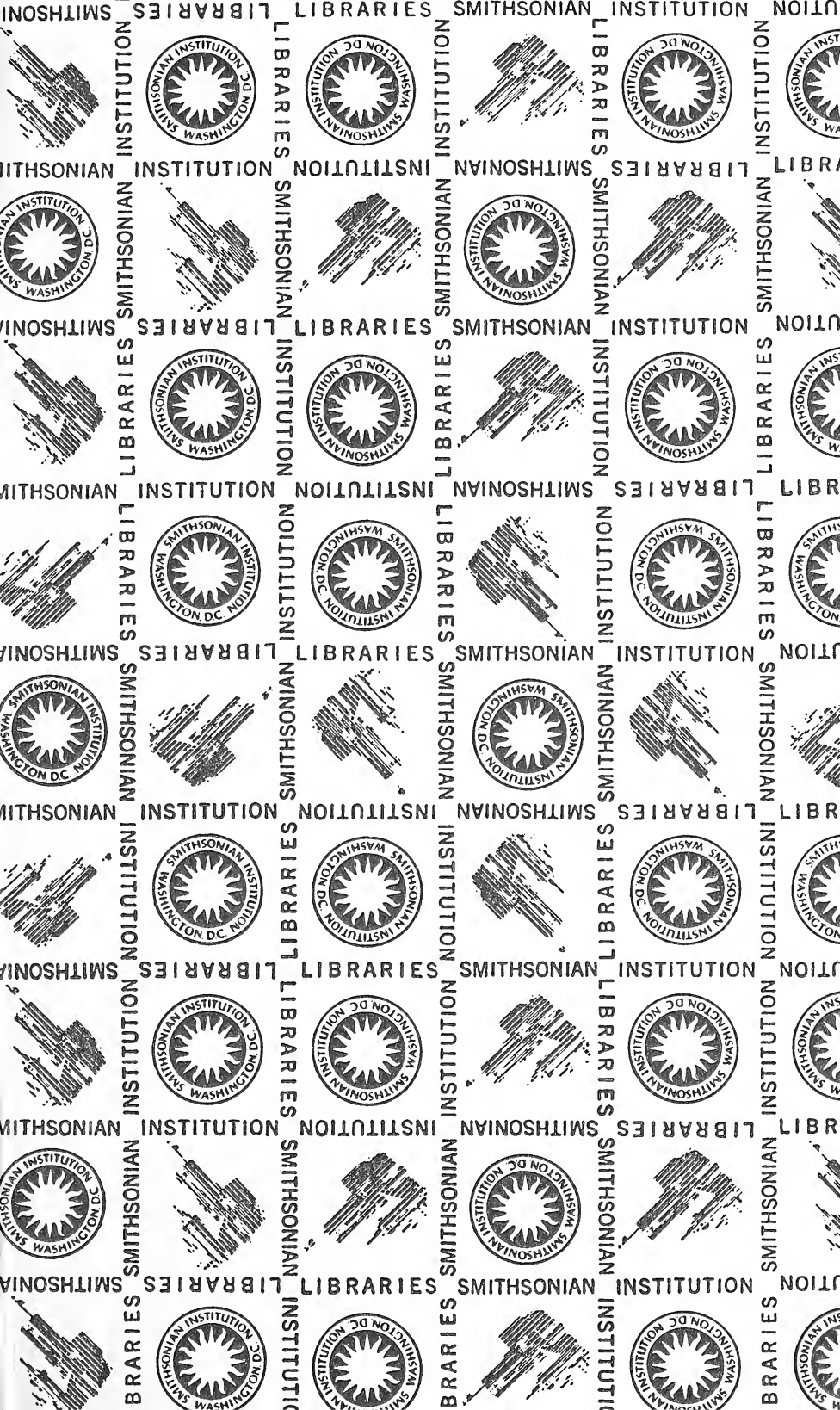
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