

# THE REVIEW

OF THE SOCIETY

FOR

JAPANESE IRISES



VOLUME 31  
NUMBER 2  
FALL 1994

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

**Volume 31    Number 2**

**FALL 1994**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Officers	1
President's Letter - H. Brookins	3
1994 AIS Awards - M. Wilhoit	4
W. A. Payne Medal - J. Coble	5
Japanese Iris Postcards	6
Business Items	7
1995 Convention Plans - C. Warner	9
In Memoriam - <b>Joan Trevithick</b>	11
Future SJI Conventions	12
Notes re: Hybridizing Methods - C. McEwen	13
1994 Convention Reports	17
Honorary Life Membership Awards - C. Mahan	29
1994 JI Popularity Poll - V. Burton	31
1994 Show Reports	34
Minutes of 1994 Board Meetings	38
Preview of 1995 Convention - Bill Smoot	43
Financial Statement	51
Nominating Committee Report	52
Editor's Review - Inside back cover	

## THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES OFFICERS

- President     Howard Brookins, N75 W14257 North Point  
Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
Telephone (414) 251-5292
- Vice Pres.    John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Galesburg, MI 49053  
Telephone (616) 665-7500
- Secretary     Robert Bauer (Address same as John Coble)
- Treasurer     Mrs. Andrew C.(Carol) Warner, 16815 Falls Road,  
Upperco, MD 21155  
Telephone (410) 374-4788
- Immediate  
Past Pres.    Mrs. Maurice (Shirley) Pope, Jr., 39 Highland Ave.  
Gorham, ME 04038  
Telephone (207) 839-3054
- Directors  
at Large      Mrs. James (Jill) Copeland, 78118 M-40  
Lawton, MI 49065  
Telephone (616) 624-1968
- Chad Harris, MPO O1R, Marble Road,  
Washougal, WA 98671  
Telephone (206) 835-1016
- Patricia (Pat) Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane,  
Ladson, SC 29456  
Telephone (803) 871-0239

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Through  
1994          Mrs. Ronald (Anna Mae) Miller, 6065 N. 16th St.,  
Kalamazoo, MI 49004  
Telephone (616) 349-5934

Through 1995 Richard Randall, 524 Windsor Gate Road,  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
Telephone (804) 340-9077

Through 1996 Kathy Guest, 494 North Street, East Aurora, NY  
14052  
Telephone (716) 655-1762

### APPOINTMENTS

Editor THE REVIEW Mrs. John W. (Evelyn) White, RR 2 Box 980,  
Auburn, ME 04210  
Telephone (207) 345-9532

Members. Chairman Mrs. Andrew C. (Carol) Warner  
(See address previous page)

Slides / Librarian John Coble  
(See address previous page)

Robins Chairman Patricia (Pat) Brooks  
(See address previous page)

Publicity Chairman Mrs. Wells E. (Virginia) Burton, 3275 Miller  
Drive, Ladson, SC 29456  
Telephone (803) 873-7388

Display Garden Chairman Rich Randall (See address previous page)

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

---

Cover photo: **CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY** (Marx by D. Rogers) - **1994 Payne Medal winner** - Photo by Horticultural Photography, Cornwallis, Oregon.

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Another growing season is almost gone, so it's time to put together thoughts on two beautiful conventions of 1994. The Portland AIS convention was a great success, with lots of iris in bloom, and once again there were a few Japanese Irises blooming in a few gardens, so we obtained some exposure to some who know iris only as Tall Bearded. Both Bob Schreiner's private garden and the Meek's gardens had JIs in bloom, and I made it a point to drag people to see JIs in both gardens. Many people saw Siberians and PCNs growing ideally for the first time at a convention, so perhaps the beardless irises will eventually receive the attention they deserve.

After a few days at home, I set out for the Japanese Convention in South Carolina, where we were treated to some great Southern Hospitality, and beautiful JIs, just past their peak bloom season. After two "bud" conventions, it was great to see some of the later varieties in bloom. Also, we were able to enjoy many other plants not tolerant of the northern climates found in Wisconsin, Michigan, or Maine. Nice change of scenery! I hadn't planted my tomatoes yet, and they had fruit on their vines already! Not FAIR!

If you missed this JI convention, give serious planning to attend the 1995 JI Convention in Maryland. I understand the trip will be worth it just to see what Rosalie Figge has done to her garden. Seriously, if you have a JI convention in your future plans, don't wait! We will have a convention in 1995 (Maryland) and in 1996 (St. Louis, MO), then no convention until 1999, when the Greater Portland (Oregon) Iris Society will be hosting their second JI Convention, followed by the year 2000 in Michigan. Our convention in California had to be cancelled due to changes in management at the commercial garden sponsor. So let's all get together at the next two JI conventions, and give encouragement to the new hybridizers showing beautiful JI seedlings..

I was particularly happy to see the Japanese Iris Award list come out, as I feel there are some really beautiful iris that should be honored. CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY won the second Payne

Medal, after winning the Payne Award in 1990, so others feel it is a worthy variety to honor. Looks like the people in Region 13 are really coming along with new JIs , as six of the top 13 vote getters came from that region. Keep up the good work!

May you all have a grand Holiday Season, and I look forward to seeing you all in Maryland!

Howard Brookins

---

### 1994 AIS JAPANESE AWARDS

Melody Wilhoit, Awards Chairman

#### VOTES

##### PAYNE MEDAL

- 53 CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY (Marx)  
Runners-up  
48 FRECKLED GEISHA (L. Reid)  
42 JAPANESE PINWHEEL (C. McEwen)

##### 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)

\*\*\*\*\*

W. A. PAYNE MEDAL  
John Coble (Michigan)

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

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

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



## JAPANESE IRIS COLOR PHOTOS

The Society for Japanese Irises has produced two sets of color photos of Japanese iris on hard stock paper for you to collect, amend The Book on JI, or build up your hope chest. Yes, these photos have been printed on postcard stock paper. You don't have to use them as postcards, but if you would buy an extra set, you could help SJI expose more people to the beauty of Japanese iris.

These two sets of photos/postcards were produced last winter for SJI. Sales have been slow, so future sets are on hold until we get more favorable sales. Once people see the cards they like them, and they sell well at club meetings. Please request a set to show at one of your club's winter meetings and take orders. SJI is trying to promote and expand the appreciation of Japanese Iris.

### POSTCARDS NOW FOR SALE

Set #1 16 different W. A. Payne introductions.

Set #2 18 different Payne Award winners.

1 Set of postcards (designate #1 or #2)	\$5.00
2 Sets of postcards (one of each)	\$9.00
4 Sets or more (designate #s)	\$4.00 each

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

Overseas orders need to add \$1.00 per set ordered for airmail.



## BUSINESS ITEMS

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

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

RENEWALS: If your mailing label is marked with the expiration date 9407, this will be the last copy of "The Review" on your present membership. PLEASE RENEW.

ADDRESS CHANGES: Please notify Membership Chairman.

### SALES and RENTAL ITEMS:

THE JAPANESE IRIS by Currier McEwen \$24.95  
Back issues of "The Review", per copy \$1.50  
Volume 1 (1964) consists of 3 issues. All subsequent volumes contain 2 issues each.

SJI Slide Set Rental \$5.00

IRIS LAEVIGATA - book rental \$5.00

All prices include postage. Send your requests for above items to Slides/Librarian Chairman, John Coble, with check made out to the Society for Japanese Irises. Please order slide sets early for scheduling.

**ADVERTISING:** Will be accepted for plants and horticultural related items. Charges are: Full page layout, \$18.00; 1/2 page layout, \$10.00; Short ads, text only, \$2.00 for up to 5 lines and for each additional five lines or fraction thereof. Send ads and check made out to the Society for Japanese Irises to the Editor.

\*\*\*\*\*

### 1992 CHECKLIST AVAILABLE

To order the 1992 Cumulative Checklist for Japanese Irises, send \$5.25 (USA only), or \$6.00 Foreign Surface mail, or \$10.00 Air Mail Foreign to:

Howard L. Brookins  
N75 W14257 North Point Drive  
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

This checklist will be the Last Issue to contain all the obsolete names. By the time the next version comes around, hopefully all the improper names in commerce will be correctly registered.

\*\*\*\*\*

### SJI MEMBERSHIP LIST AVAILABLE

An up-to-date membership list for S.J.I. can be obtained by ordering from Secretary Robert Bauer. It will be produced as a computer printout, listing members alphabetically by states. Price - \$3.00 including postage. Send check made to S.J.I. to Robert Bauer, address in front of this issue.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MEMBERSHIP REMINDER:** Please check your label to see when your dues expire. Renewal bills are not sent out, only overdue notices, so please send in your dues before they expire.

Carol Warner, Membership Chairman



# The Society for Japanese Irises

## Annual Convention June 22-24, 1995 Towson, Maryland

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society eagerly awaits your attendance next Spring for the SJI Convention headquartered in Towson, Maryland. We received 163 different cultivars and a total of 503 guest plants! Our "dress rehearsal tour" this year found a large percentage of the plants bloomed their first year. A write-up of the tour elsewhere in *THE REVIEW* may give you a clue as to what to expect. Further information and descriptions of the gardens will appear in the Spring issue of *THE REVIEW*.

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 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday at 1-800-433-7619 or (410) 321-7400. You must

state your affiliation with the SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES to receive the convention rates. Single or double occupancy is \$65.00 per night plus State and occupancy tax, which is currently 13%. A block of rooms will be held until May 22, 1995. Additional reservations thereafter are on a space and rate available basis.

A tentative schedule of events includes:

Thursday, June 22, 1995

3:00 - 6:00 Registration desk open

7:30 - 9:00 Informal "Show and Tell" by guest hybridizers including slides of new introductions and trends in hybridizing.

Friday, June 23, 1995

8:30 - 10:30 Show entries accepted (lower hotel lobby)

10:30 - 12:00 Society for Japanese Irises Board Meeting

1:00 - 4:30 Bus tour to Ladew Topiary Garden (three beds of guest irises are planted here)

1:00 - 5:30 Show open to the public

6:30 - Dinner

8:00 - 10:00 Judges' Training - Robert Bauer

Saturday, June 24, 1995

8:00 - 4:45 Bus tour to four gardens (Figge, Warner, Hornstein/Huge, and Innerst) and lunch

6:30 - Awards Banquet

8:00 - Auction of guest irises to benefit SJI

Registration fee: \$85.00 per person

Includes both days of tours, Saturday lunch and two dinners at the hotel. Partial registration fees are available on request.

Send reservation, or inquiries to:

Beatrice M. Weitzel, Registrar  
6006 Winthrope Avenue  
Baltimore, MD 21206

## IN MEMORIAM

### JOAN TREVITHICK

To many of you the name "Joan Trevithick" calls to mind the lovely lavender pink Japanese iris that Dr. Currier McEwen named in her honor in 1992. Mrs. Anne Blanco White of England has informed us of the death of Joan Trevithick on July 9, 1994. We extend our sympathy to her family and her friends both in her country and in ours.

Following is an excerpt from the July **NEWSLETTER OF THE SIBERIAN, SPURIA & JAPANESE IRIS GROUP OF THE BRITISH IRIS SOCIETY**. Adrian Whittaker is the Group's Chairman.

## IN MEMORIAM

We very much regret to have to tell you that Joan Trevithick has finally lost her long-running battle with cancer and that she died on the 9th of July.

Adrian Whittaker writes: The sad passing of Joan Trevithick closes a long chapter in the history of the S.S.& J. Group.

Joan came forward to take on the duties of secretary and treasurer in 1978. Through her efforts, despite failing health, the Group steadily increased in stature and viability. Almost every spare moment was spent in fund raising and publicity. Seed and plant sales, correspondence with members in the U.K. and abroad, coupled with the production of the bi-annual newsletter which was entirely hers, occupied a slice of every week.

Aware of rising costs and inflation, her capability for tight budgeting enabled subscriptions to be held at a very low level year after year.

Joan was a natural gardener and lover of plants, her interest

extending much further than the irises into alpines and beyond. She read widely and applied this knowledge thoughtfully. In the years of my association with her, as Group chairman, I have rarely found her short of the correct name for any plant.

Her death has removed the central pillar from the Group and the B.I.S. has lost one of its unsung ambassadors. Her richly deserved Pilkington Award in 1991, for services to the B.I.S., represents a triumph over adversity.

Many iris people have benefited from her dedication and will be much saddened by her departure. Our sympathy goes to her son David and her family.

---

#### FUTURE SJI CONVENTIONS

1995 - Baltimore, MD - June 23 - 24

1996 - Greater St. Louis, MO

1997 - Open

1998 - Open

1999 - Portland, Oregon

2000 - Kalamazoo, MI



## Notes Regarding Hybridizing Methods

Currier McEwen

Hybridizing has become so much taken for granted today that we are apt to think that it has always been practiced by iris breeders. Indeed, the act of putting the pollen of one plant on the stigma of another does go back to very ancient times. In my book on Japanese irises there is an illustration on page 79 of an Assyrian relief from the palace of Ashurnazirpal dated about 880 B.C. depicting a winged genie fertilizing a date tree<sup>1</sup>. Making planned crosses, however, is of relatively recent origin.

Probably all the early breeders of bearded irises relied on the bees to make the crosses, with the result that only the pod parent could be known and that usually was not recorded. Wister<sup>2</sup> speculates that Goos and Koenemann in Germany and Amos Perry and George Reuthe in England may have been the first to make hand crosses in the 1890s, but, of course, without protecting them from bees, which, indeed, customarily is still not done with bearded irises.

Turning to Japanese irises, probably all cultivars up to about the time of Matsudaira Shoo in the mid-seventeen hundreds were merely specimens collected in the wild. Matsudaira Shoo, and perhaps his father before him, advanced the process of collecting seeds set on particular plants, but relied on bees to make the crosses. Shimizu<sup>3</sup> believes that Dr. Bungo Miyazawa, in 1910, may have been the first hybridizer in Japan to make planned crosses on flowers protected from bees. This practice was not continued in Japan by such outstanding breeders as Hiraio, Mitsuda, and Nishida; and has only recently been adopted by such newer hybridizers as Kamo, Ichie, and Shimizu.

Turning to the West, Isabella Preston in Canada made planned, controlled crosses with Siberian irises in the 1930s, surely one of the earliest to do so; and Walter Marx, often, and Arlie Payne, routinely, did so with Japanese irises in the 1950s and 60s. Fred

Cassibeer in the 1950s made planned crosses with tall bearded irises but not with his Siberians because of the erroneous belief, then rather widely held, that Siberian irises were so readily crossed by insects and wind that controlled crosses were impossible. Indeed, he thought that Siberian irises could be self fertilized even before the bud opened. William McGarvey showed clearly that Siberian irises can be protected from such unwanted crosses<sup>4</sup> and today planned, controlled crosses are the rule.

In 1971 Bee Warburton and I<sup>5</sup> carried out some simple experiments to compare results using immature and mature flowers of Siberian irises. The ones defined as immature were buds not expected to open for another 12 to 24 hours. Those selected as mature were, actually, not fully mature but buds in the balloon stage due to open in a few hours. As was expected, pods were more readily set when the "mature" pollen and stigmas were used (72 to 79%) than when the immature flowers were used (14 to 23%). In that same trial, 20 mature buds in Bee Warburton's garden were opened by hand, and falls, standards, and anthers were removed. The remaining styles were left unprotected but no pods were set.

In the years since McGarvey emphasized the need to protect the flowers from marauding bees, many methods have been used, from the early ones of "bagging" the flowers with cheesecloth or other materials, to raising the hand-opened falls up around the fertilized styles and tying them at the top. More recently, Schafer has used a method similar to Bee Warburton's trial mentioned above in which falls, standards, and anthers are removed from the balloon stage buds, the cross is made, and no further protection is used<sup>6</sup>.

To further test the reliability of this method, Sally Ann Sears and I in 1993 carried out an experiment using Japanese irises. Approximately 100 buds were allowed to open in the normal way with no protection being provided. A similar number of buds were opened at the balloon stage or earlier and falls, standards, and anthers were removed. No crosses of any of these were made by us and all were left uncovered. Of the flowers allowed to open naturally with all parts intact, 46% set pods. In contrast, pods



were set on only 2% of the flowers with falls, standards, and anthers removed. Clearly the method is quite safe although not one hundred percent so. Possibly, my earlier method of opening the bud at balloon stage and tying the falls up to keep out bees is safer, but I have not carried out an experiment like the one mentioned above to test it.

Another interesting, although not unexpected, observation in our simple experiment was the marked differences in fertility of various cultivars. Many of the plants used for the experiment were also ones used for planned, controlled crosses. All failures in these planned crosses were in cultivars that, when allowed to open normally in the experiment, had failed to set pods. Conversely, planned crosses tended to be successful in the plants that had set pods in the experiment.

A very useful aspect of Marty Schafer's method is his practice of making a cross at once using a toothpick to get the pollen from the not-yet-dehisced anther and also to lift the not-quite-mature-stigma. I have found this a particular convenience. Formerly, when I opened the buds, removed anthers, tied the flowers up again, and waited to make the cross the next day, I could waste a great deal of time just trying to find the prepared flowers in my large planting of a thousand or more plants. I have not carried out an actual experiment, but counting successful crosses in my record book, I believe success was somewhat greater when the cross was made the next day with stigmas and pollen fully mature than when the cross was made at once using the toothpick. However, Marty Schafer reports excellent results with Siberian irises, and mine with both Siberians and Japanese also appear to be quite satisfactory, and the method is well justified by its greater convenience. I now use it routinely. Thus we seem to have come full circle, for Bungo Miyazawa, mentioned above, prepared his Japanese irises for crossing by removing the anthers, standards, and falls back in 1910!

One more question is why the flowers with falls, standards, and anthers removed remain unfertilized. My first guess was that the

bees ignored them because they did not recognize them as proper flowers. Experience, however, has shown that that is not so. Indeed, the bees go to these dismembered flowers avidly and seem to prefer them to the normal flowers. Certainly it is much easier for them to get to the nectar they want in the flowers with falls removed, without having to force their way down between fall and style as they have to in normal flowers. I believe, however, there must be some attractant at the nectary at the base of the falls which draws them to the flower. I have watched hundreds of bees go directly to the nectary where the falls were broken off without ever coming close to the stigmas. It has long been thought that the signals on the falls were well named as they signal to the bee where it should land. Possibly that is so in the case of intact, normally opened flowers. Surely, however, in the case of the dismembered flowers, there must be some other type of attractant that draws the bees so avidly and directly to the nectary at the base of the falls where the nectar exudes.

- 
1. McEwen, C. The Japanese Iris, Hanover and London, University Press of New England, page 79, 1990.
  2. Wister, J. C. The history of iris development, in B. Warburton and M. Hamblen, The World of Irises, Wichita, Kansas, The American Iris Society, page 47, 1978.
  3. Shimizu, H. Personal communication.
  4. McGarvey, W. Series Sibiricae: diploid species worthy of your attention. The Iris Year Book 1971, pp. 104-110.
  5. McEwen, C. and Bee Warburton. Report of a research project to test various methods of making crosses of Siberian irises, The Siberian Iris 3(4): 19-22, 1971.
  6. Schafer, M. New thoughts on pollination, The Siberian Iris, 6(9):5-6, 1989.

## 1994 CONVENTION REPORTS

June 2, 3, 4

### JUDGES TRAINING IN SUMMERVILLE

Shirley Pope

On June 3rd, after a wonderful buffet-style breakfast, we assembled for a 2 hour Judges' training session with Lorena Reed.

Her training was different from most sessions. We had descriptive hand-out sheets to help us follow along, while she carefully explained Japanese Iris Terminology. For instance, her definition of a Self was: All parts of the bloom (except the signal) are the same color. Slides of BLUE MARLIN, CASCADE STORM, DOUBLE FIRST, MAGIC RUBY, and THE GREAT MOGUL were shown as examples.

Lorena explained the difference between EDGED and RIMMED and again showed slides. EDGED: A narrow dark edging surrounding light falls or standards, or a very light edge surrounding dark falls or standards. It may be a fine line or as wide as 1/8". FRINGED ENCHANTMENT, FRINGED CLOUD, KONTAKI-ON, TOKEN OF FRIENDSHIP, and VINTAGE FESTIVAL were shown. RIMMED: Wide colored rims, often with irregular margins, surrounding white or very light central areas. In some flowers this pattern is reversed, with the rim lighter than the center. Such as: BLUEBERRY RIMMED, CASCADE CREST, CENTER OF ATTENTION, GOSAN-NO-TAKARA, GUSTO, ROYAL CROWN, PICOTEE PRINCESS, and SAKURA-NO-HARU.

The differences between Sanded and Stippled are: SANDED - The falls and quite often the standards, in a single flower, are covered with extremely small darker dots and very short broken lines against a lighter background. This gives the impression of scattered sand. On flowers with 6 falls, sanding tends to be on the outer perimeter and sometimes on the style arms. Lorena showed slides of CONFETTI SHOWER, JACIVA, MIST FALLS, and

ROSE AND SILVER. STIPPLED - A series of small dots or flecks of one color or shade over another. (Particle size a little larger than SANDED.) The example was PICOTEE PRINCESS.

Lorena systematically went through all the descriptive terminology, with slides demonstrating the differences. She told us to be particularly aware of the word DISTINCTION when evaluating seedlings. Seedlings considered for introduction should have something obviously different and unique.

Preceding our test Lorena showed JI slides for us to describe and categorize. This open forum prepared us for the test. Our test consisted of 10 Iris slides. We were to describe them using one or more terms. This was followed by 5 true or false, common sense questions.

Lorena's program was a combination lecture, slide show, and open forum. I thank her for a very good, well prepared, training session.

---

## THE JOHNSON GARDEN

Marie Hazelton (Maine)

The Johnson garden was first on our tour at Summerville. We arrived at the garden in the afternoon on Thursday - greeted by a large snake which had been beheaded earlier.

The walkway in front of the house was framed on either side with colorful combinations of lantana.

We soon saw that nearly everything was growing in pots. Iris, daylilies, ornamental lilies, etc. were grown this way in order to make the best use of water. The garden pathway was edged with lovely JI seedlings, as well as several other types of plants.

A plum tree and two apple trees welcomed us with soon-to-be-

ripened fruit. A small grape arbor was on our left as we proceeded around the walkway. Under a large pecan tree we found chairs, refreshments, and a large variety of potted plants, some of which were for sale. In the same area we found LE CORDON BLEU, REIGN OF GLORY, JACIVA, SPARKLING SAPPHIRE, IPSUS, LEAVE ME SIGHING, and WINGED CHARIOT. These were all in various stages of bloom. A seedling of Lorena Reid's, # 9J28-4D was quite impressive.

Beyond the pecan tree we saw a colorful sea of lovely phlox bordered with daylilies. A truly gorgeous sight was a large blue-blossomed hydrangea bush. A number of Rose of Sharon trees were blooming nicely among the phlox and daylilies. To the right was a large weeping cherry tree. B. C. Johnson said that he had planted the tree four years earlier as a single switch. A second tree, two years old, stood nearby. Beyond the phlox and daylilies we saw hollyhocks, cleome, and a large number of California poppies, which were not yet at peak bloom. MAGIC RUBY stood by itself as we turned the corner, proudly showing us a nearly perfect specimen.

Maggie, B. C., and other members of the family were all very gracious, making our visit to their garden most enjoyable.

---

## THE BEASON GARDEN

Jeanne Grundies (North Carolina)

The Beason garden is located in Black Tom Swamp, in an area called Paradise, and not too far from Summerville. Our bus captain, Geny Morrison, was a most gracious hostess as we travelled along Black Tom's road. She pointed out the sparseness and low height of the Loblolly pines we passed along the way, a part of the devastation caused by Hurricane Hugo that had swept through the area.

We soon reached the Helen and Peggy Beason gardens. Our bus backed into Mockingbird Lane to let us out at Helen's home and garden. Ten years ago this had been a barren 3-acre plot. Today it has been transformed into two one-acre landscaped homesites separated by an acre of natural area. We crossed Peggy's mother's lawn to reach the grassy walkway through the natural area. On each side of the path were wildflowers, numerous blooming and fruited shrubs and plants of ripe huckleberries. Later we were to enjoy their sweet taste combined with chilled melon and pineapple, which Peggy served us. It was truly refreshing on a hot humid day.

It was hard to imagine this charming neat white home, so attractively landscaped, once being devoid of siding and sitting in disrepair on barren land. It is now surrounded by manicured lawn and garden plots neatly lined with stone, bricks, or treated lumber. There were Purple Plum trees with their wine red leaves and blooming Mimosa trees with pink blossoms. My favorite flower bed was beneath a large Sweet Gum tree. At one end was a bird bath and the bed was planted with Japanese irises, vegetable plants, and daylilies. Beyond in the yard was a Purple Martin birdhouse.

Peggy's gardens were not only attractive but practical, for iris weren't the only plants. Iris were planted along with herbs, annuals, perennials, and vegetables. A large squash plant was growing beside a clump of LITTLE PAUL daylily.

Many of the hundred or so Japanese iris she grows are older varieties such as LIGHT AT DAWN, FROSTED PYRAMID, and WORLD'S DELIGHT. The ones I observed in bloom were LE CORDON BLEU (Swearingen '67), ROYAL RAMPARTS (Marx '78), THUNDER AND LIGHTNING (Marx '54), AMETHYST WINGS (Ackerman '89), Chad Harris's '91 JACIVA, John White's DIRIGO DEBUTANTE, John Wood's '88 WILDERNESS SNOWBALL, and Currier McEwen's ORIENTAL CLASSIC (6F white with greenish-yellow signal. Dr. McEwen's goal is to have an all green signal - and, with his great successes, no doubt he will soon achieve it. Chad Harris's seedling # 80JD-9 was voted the best-liked guest iris at the convention.

This was my husband's and my first national Japanese iris convention. We were impressed with meeting iris growers from across the country, listening to their comments, visiting the gardens, seeing the hybridizers and learning of their growing experiences, and enjoying the gracious hospitality of the Summerville Iris Society. I know future conventions in Summerville will be equally as successful for the capable Peggy Beason will be their new president. Thank you, Summerville, for the delightful experience.

---



Above - Currier McEwen's ORIENTAL CLASSIC in the Beason garden (Jeanne Grundies photo) Next page -Scenes in the Beason garden (Top - J. Grundies photo. Bottom photo by Carol Warner).





THE BURTON GARDEN  
Lucille Chicvara (South Carolina)

I attended my first Japanese Iris Convention in Summerville, SC. I've been growing Tall Bearded Iris for five years, but this was my first experience with Japanese Iris.

I was excited and looking forward to meeting a remarkable lady that I'd heard so much about. Imagine my surprise when I was asked to write an article about my visit to her garden - that's right, the lady I refer to is Ginny Burton.

Unfortunately, a lot of Ginny's Japanese irises had finished blooming, but LET ME SEE, a guest iris by Dr. Ackerman was a beautiful purple; TAFFETA AND VELVET, a deep maroon, also a guest iris by Dr. Ackerman. Others in bloom were: BRIDGE OF DREAMS, a white with purple veining; SILVER BAND, a very interesting iris - its leaves are green and white striped, blossom is purple with a gold signal; FUGI'S SNOWCAP, purple with large white lines, was beautiful.

The Burton garden had some lovely companion plants: a beautiful Gardenia bush was in full bloom, Daylilies and Four O'clocks added lovely color here and there in the garden.

I saw my first Popcorn tree there. Ginny said it had come up since Hurricane Hugo. It was at least twenty-five feet tall and had small pods all over. When these pods mature, they look like popcorn on a stick. I was told that these Popcorn pods are used in decorating and in flower arrangements - a very interesting tree!

Dr. McEwen and Rev. Lineberger showed a lot of interest in a small Japanese iris growing in the back area of the garden.

Whatever "lack" of blossoms there was, the wonderful hospitality of Ginny and Wells Burton more than compensated. Visiting this garden and getting to know Ginny Burton was a wonderful experience for me.

## THE BROOKS GARDEN

Doris Shinn (Washington)

The second garden visited on Saturday was the Pat Brooks garden in Ladson. The busses let us off on Jefferson Lane in front of Pat's house, where many of us headed immediately across the front yard to a moist garden at the side corner. Voila....she has made very clever use of the air conditioning drain, which drips into the garden and makes a small green oasis shaded by a big tree. Here *I. laevigata*, Japanese Irises, and other wet area and shade loving plants look healthy and comfortable, on either side of the side yard fence.

There was no access to the back from this side, so we went around the house and garage to the back yard where all the irises were planted. There were shade trees, tall and majestic, making it one of the cooler places we visited. Pat has a greenhouse in the center of the back yard abutting the patio. On each end of the patio she had used landscape logs to make planters, making a very attractive and effective fence to keep her toy Pomerians out of the yard. Hanging at the corner of the greenhouse was a beautiful purple Iris banner - sort of a big windsock with nylon tails. There stood a table set up with iced tea and munchibles.

Pat's garden had the best bloom of any on Saturday's tour, although here, too, you could see where many more JIs had been in bloom. TEA CEREMONY, FLASHING KOI, SHIROTAI (Kamo), ANYTUS (Innerst), and Wood's WILDERNESS SNOWBALL still had bloom. There was a brief wind and thunderstorm which deposited a few quarter-sized drops of rain....and many garden guests helped take the iced tea and other refreshments inside, but the cooling effect, slight though it was, was most welcome.

## THE GOLDSBERRY GARDEN

Ruby Clark (Ohio)

The Goldsberry garden in Summerville, South Carolina is in a lovely neighborhood of ranch-type homes, mostly brick. The drive was bordered with liriop. There was a white rose and a thornless rosebush by the front door. A very large Yucca was also blooming. The Yucca plants in South Carolina are huge. There was also a large bed of mixed flowers.

It was too bad that most of the Japanese irises were bloomed out. It seemed that REIGN OF GLORY was the only one still blooming.

The backyard had a long row of daylilies: DOUBLE PASSION, MOUNTAIN VIOLET, ELIZABETH YANCY, and many unnamed varieties. There were also many hanging baskets with ferns, Impatiens, and other annuals. Lavinia also had a small vegetable garden with squash, zucchini, cucumbers, and peppers.

A Betty Prior rose was in full bloom, along with a Rose of Sharon. Several Bonsai plants made a showing.

The refreshments were delicious, as is usual on garden tours.

After leaving the Goldsberry garden we had some time before lunch, so we were taken on a tour of historical Summerville. We were able to see many beautiful old homes, as well as tour some new developments. The Magnolia and Mimosa trees were in bloom. They were very large, some over twenty feet tall.

The next morning we went to the Magnolia Gardens. There were many Japanese Iris blooming there.

It was so nice to see friends we don't see except at conventions. It was a wonderful trip, and the people at Summerville did everything to show us a wonderful time.

## THE SUMMERVILLE, SC IRIS SHOW

Clarence Mahan (Virginia)

One of the highlights of the Society for Japanese Irises convention at Summerville, SC was the iris show sponsored by the local iris society. Members of the Summerville group put a great deal of effort into making this show a lovely experience. This was evident the moment the building where the iris show was held came into view. The doorway and porch were draped with garlands of flowers and greenery, a charming invitation to come in and see the show.

Anyone who has been chairman of a show, when the iris bloom season comes earlier than planned, knows what it is to agonize over the possibility that there will not be enough entries to have a show. And I know how thrilling it is when wonderful people from hundreds of miles away bring their irises to help make the show a success. This year at Summerville I imagine Leora Moore and Betty Black, who co-chaired the show so expertly, were tempted to give a hug to Walter Hoover from North Carolina, Bill Smoot from Virginia, Don Delmez from Missouri, and others who carried their lovely irises all the way to Summerville.

Best Specimen of the show was Walter Hoover's entry of MAMMOTH MARVEL. Walter also won the AIS Silver Medal for most blue ribbons. There was a three-way tie for the Bronze Medal. Winners were Maggie Johnson, John Wood, and Peggy Beason. Maggie Johnson's entry PINK DACE was especially admired, as were John Wood's stalk of WILDERNESS WARRIOR and Peggy Beason's entry INTREPID INGENUA. Barbara Mitchum won the Sweepstakes in the Design Division.

Don Delmez's seedling VE-B-1 won Best Seedling. In addition to the AIS Rosette, the seedling earned Don the J.B. and Agnes Hale Memorial Plaque.

A lovely entry of ANYTUS, one of the very finest white Japanese

irises with six falls, failed to gain a ribbon for Bill Smoot because of an error in the *1988 Cumulative Checklist of Japanese Irises* which describes this iris as lavender. Please take your copy of the *1988 Cumulative Checklist of Japanese Irises* and make a pen and ink correction to indicate that ANYTUS IS A WHITE IRIS!

One of the most outstanding features of this show was an Educational Exhibit by Kathy Woolsey of Charleston, SC. This exhibit, entitled "Irises for the Low Country, provided pictures and information on Japanese, Siberians, Louisianas, Versicolors, Virginicas, Dutch, and bearded irises, as well as *Iris cristata*.

Another interesting feature of this show was the Division for Companion Plants. The hybrid tea "Proud Land" won the award for best rose; a very nice entry of the daylily "Silver Ice" also took honors. One of the entries that kept catching my eye because of its unique color was the hydrangea "Red Globe" exhibited by Claire Honkanen. Really stunning! In this division, Betty Black won the Sweepstakes Award with 15 blue ribbons. Show Awards of Merit were awarded to entries by Maggie Johnson, Leora Moore, and Frances Thompson.

Many kudos are due to all the members of the show committee who worked so hard to give the convention attendees such a pleasant experience. And special thanks goes to the "show poet", Maggie Johnson. Maggie's poem for the show concludes with the line: "I will simply bid each garden visitor ---WELCOME! And say I'm so glad you came!" I surely was glad I came to the show, and I know that everyone who came had a wonderful time.

---

Following page: Top - Carol Warner and Clarence Mahan - Honorary Life Membership winners (Brookins photo). Bottom - Entrance to Summerville Iris Society Show (C. Warner photo).



## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

Clarence Mahan

The only award authorized by our Society's By-Laws is the Honorary Life Membership Award. This award "may be granted by the Board of Directors to individuals who have rendered distinguished service to the furtherance of the purposes of the society".

Although authorized by our By-Laws, the board did not activate this award until 1990. There have been eight persons honored with this award up to this year. These honorees are:

<u>Year of Award</u>	<u>Honoree</u>
1990	Currier McEwen Lee Welsh, <i>deceased</i> Adolph Vogt, <i>deceased</i>
1991	Virginia Burton
1992	Florence Stout
1993	George C. Bush Ben Hager Lorena Reid

In 1994, the board selected three persons whose services to the Society and to Japanese irises were deemed worthy of special recognition. The award to Bee Warburton was based on a lifetime of service. Bee's hybridizing accomplishments with dwarf, median, and Siberian irises have received international recognition. She has received many high honors and awards from the American Iris Society. Her contributions to the promotion of Japanese irises and to SJI have been truly monumental. In addition to being a charter member of SJI, Bee served as our first Secretary and first Publications Chairman. She served as a Director of our Society for

14 years, longer than any other person. Her work in breeding Japanese irises led to her introduction of **TRANCE**, a magnificent cultivar of breath-taking beauty.

Carol Warner has served as Treasurer of SJI for ten years, longer than any member in history has held elective office. She has worked diligently as both our Treasurer and Membership Chairman, two difficult positions requiring much time and effort. The healthy financial situation of our Society is in good part due to her diligence and stewardship. She has worked tirelessly to popularize Japanese irises in the mid-Atlantic area, giving programs and judges training on Japanese irises, chairing shows and the SJI 1989 convention, and assisting local societies initiate Japanese iris shows. The other members of the board selected Carol for Honorary Life Membership Award in 1994 without her knowledge, and she was truly surprised when the plaque was given to her in Summerville.

The third Honorary Life Membership was also a surprise---A BIG SURPRISE! The board chose to keep the Chairman for Awards and Registrations in the dark until the award was made at Summerville. There are so many other deserving members that I feel more than a little embarrassed, and very, very humble in making this report. The plaque hangs in front of me as I type this article. It says: Honorary Life Membership is hereby bestowed upon Clarence Mahan by the Society for Japanese Irises for his dedication and leadership and for his tireless and selfless devotion to the registration of Japanese irises". Notwithstanding the question as to whether it is truly deserved, it will most certainly be forever treasured.

---



## 1994 JI POPULARITY POLL

Virginia Burton (South Carolina)

Each year members of the Society for Japanese Irises, a section of the American Iris Society, have a chance to vote for the 10 JIs they liked best. This year, 1994, there were 65 voters, 15 more than in 1993. There were 2 voters from British Columbia and 2 voters from Belgium. I had photos of the folks in Belgium in their garden and of some of their JI seedlings. Altogether we had voters from Alabama, Belgium, British Columbia, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin.

### Results:

14 votes JACIVA

13 votes ORIENTAL EYES and SWEET MURMUR

12 votes CASCADE CREST

11 votes FRILLED ENCHANTMENT

10 votes KALAMAZOO

9 votes ELECTRIC RAYS and JAPANESE PINWHEEL

8 votes FRECKLED GEISHA and WILDERNESS SNOWBALL

7 votes FUJI'S SNOWCAP, LE CORDON BLEU, PICOTEE  
PRINCESS and UMI BOTARU

6 votes ANYTUS, CAPRICIAN BUTTERFLY, EXUBERANT  
CHANTEY, INTREPID INGENUA, JOAN TREVITHICK,  
JOCASTA, ROSE ADAGIO, ROSY SUNRISE, SUMMER  
STORM, TAGA SODE, TEA CEREMONY, REIGN OF  
GLORY, and PINK DACE

5 votes BROCADE BLUE, CRYSTAL HALO, FLASHING KOI,  
MAMMOTH MARVEL, ROYAL ONE, WILDERNESS  
WARRIOR

4 votes ACKCOUNTABLE, CAPANEUS, CONTINUING  
PLEASURE, GAY GALLANT, GEISHA OBI, HEGIRA,  
LITTLE SNOWMAN, MAINE CHANCE, MAI OGI,  
MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS, ORIENTAL CLASSIC,  
ROYAL GAME, SOUTHERN SON, SPARKLING

SAPPHIRE, STATELY FLAMINGO, TAFFETA AND  
VELVET, THE GREAT MOGUL, THUNDER AND  
LIGHTNING

3 votes BRIDGE OF DREAMS, BUTTERFLIES IN FLIGHT,  
CENTER OF ATTENTION, ELECTRIC GLOW, FAIRY  
CARILLON, FLAMINGO FROLIC, FRINGED CLOUD,  
IAPETUS, ICY PEAKS, NARIHIRA, PEACOCK DANCE,  
PURPLE PLUS, RUFFLED DIMITY, WINE RUFFLES,  
WILDERNESS RUBIES.

2 votes AMETHYST WINGS, BELLENDER BLUE, BLUE  
MARLIN, DANCING WAVES, ENCHANTING MELODY  
EVENING TIDE, FLYING TIGER, GEISHA GOWN,  
GRAPE FIZZ, GUSTO, HUE AND CRY, IMMACULATE  
WHITE, KING'S COURT, KNIGHT IN ARMOR,  
KONTAKI-ON, LET ME SEE, LIGHT AT DAWN,  
MICHIO, NIKKO, PEACOCK STRUT, PINK SAPPHIRE  
PRAIRIE CHIEF, PRAIRIE NOBLE, PURPLE PARASOL,  
RASPBERRY GLOW, ROSE PRELUDE, ROSE QUEEN,  
RYUKO HIRAO, SAKURA NO SONO, SIMPLE  
ELEGANCE, SPRINGTIME SNOW, SYOKKO, WINGS  
AFLUTTER.

#### Notes from ballots

Lorena Reid ----She put the hybridizer's names after her choice of  
J.I.s. This is handy if one is not able to determine someone's  
handwriting. At least one has a clue.

Donald M. Smith was first to send in a ballot. I honored all that  
had an August 15 postmark.

Keith McNames of Michigan typed his poll and listed them in ABC  
order. THANKS!

Bauer/Coble: We had a bad bloom season due to many days over  
90 degrees. The crosses did not take and the blooms did not  
last. (Sorry, fellows, but you were lucky you did not have the  
convention. About the only thing in bloom was my Popcorn tree.

Willy and his friend from Belgium should have a talk with the two above. Our Belgium friends had a rough time picking 10 JI out of 400, and Bob and John had a time choosing 10 from 350. In Belgium the weather was cold, the bloom time short, and they lost many plants. They especially liked JAPANESE PINWHEEL, RASPBERRY GLOW, and WINDSWEPT BEAUTY. The colors in the photos they sent were beautiful, and the foliage looks "lush".

Alma Burgamy of Georgia says, "The SIS/SJI Convention was well planned and executed. The programs were very informative. All members of your committee deserve a big round of applause.

Pat Brooks, The SJI Round Robin Chairman, is partial to KALAMAZOO. She likes it for its color, as a show specimen, and as a good grower in our South Carolina climate. It does have a tendency to "commit suicide" and end up with all bloom stalks.

Dr McEwen says that DOUBLE FIRST is his favorite white JI; HOWARD D. BROOKS he likes for its unusual color. SOUTHERN SON is closest to true dark blue. MAINE CHANCE is his favorite white single; MIDSUMMER HAPPINESS, the closest to true color blue, and EXUBERANT CHANTEY is his best repeater.

Norma Murphy of North Carolina says, " I want to see more gardens next year. There is nothing more exciting than to see a new JI in one's own garden or in other gardens. Thanks for all of your good work."

Barbara Schmieder of Mass. says, " I visited two wonderful JI gardens in Connecticut this year. They were those of Richard Kiyomoto and Bob Kendall. Richard has some very nice seedlings, especially # ZG154, a real red- violet single with blue stylearms and gold signals edged in blue; #XG153, a single white with orchid splashings, white stylearms, and orchid standards with darker rims; #X113-2, palest pinkish white and very small. Bob Kendall has the best-grown JIs I have ever seen. The clumps are eye level and put on a beautiful show. Our own JI season was not

good, due to hot and dry conditions. Bloom lasted only two days and some had trouble opening.

Phil Cook suggests that we mix in some questions in the poll: perhaps Best Payne Award winner, Best White, etc.

Editor's note: please forgive us if there are errors, spelling or other in this list.

---

## THE 1994 SHOW REPORTS

St. Louis, MO -----June 11-----Don Delmez

The greater St. Louis Iris Society held its annual Beardless Iris show on June 11, 1994 at the Missouri Botanical Garden. One of our most dedicated members, Sheldon Butt, had passed away, making our show smaller than usual. Sheldon grew over 250 named Japanese Iris varieties and had planned to be on tour for the 1996 Japanese Iris Convention. He will certainly be missed. Most of his J. I.s were donated to the guest gardens.

The show had 22 exhibitors with 110 entries in the Horticulture Division and 28 entries in the Design Division, which is a big part of our show. We have some very good designers in our club.

In the Horticulture Division the Queen of Show was the Japanese Iris, STRUT AND FLOURISH, exhibited by Don Delmez. The Silver Medal for most blue ribbons went to Don Delmez. Nyla Hughes won the Bronze Medal. Best seedling was DBV-DK-PUSA by Don Delmez. In the potted class Laura Ferguson, one of our youth members, received Best in Class with STIPPLED RIPPLES.

Louise Bellagama won Best Design with "A Victorian Garden". Rita Kinsella won the Artistic Sweepstakes. Best Design in the youth division was won by Joey Italian.

Virginia Beach, VA.....June 11.....Bill Smoot

The Tidewater Iris Society hosted its 4th Annual Beardless Iris the 11th of June at Pembroke Mall in Virginia Beach. The show had 8 exhibitors, 84 entries (all Japanese) and 78 different varieties being exhibited. The general public and members had an opportunity to see a wide variety of Japanese Irises. TIS members also sold locally grown and potted JI's at the show in an effort to promote and encourage the popularity of Japanese Irises. Several of the varieties being sold were also exhibited at the show.

Best Specimen of Show was won by D. J. Kelly with **JAPANESE PINWHEEL**. This lovely large specimen was striking with two open blooms and a bud starting to open. First Runner-up was **ORIENTAL TRACERY**, also entered by D. J. Kelly. Second runner-up was **ABRACO**, entered by Rich and Caryll Randall. Best seedling was **87J18-6**, hybridized by Lorena Reid, and entered by D. J. Kelly. The AIS Silver Medal was won by D. J. Kelly, and the AIS Bronze Medal was won by Rich and Caryll Randall.

---

Portland, Oregon-----June 18-----John Ludi

The Greater Portland Iris Society "Late Show" was held at the Japanese Gardens in Portland. John Ludi says, "Largest number of seedlings we have ever had at a show, several of which I am sure we will see more of in the future."

Best Specimen of Show: **CASCADE CREST** (Japanese), exhibited by L. R. Walker of Ten Mile, Oregon.

Best Seedling: 90-J-11 (Japanese), originated by Terry Aitken of Vancouver, Washington.

Silver Medal was won by L. R. Walker. There was a tie for the Bronze Medal between Abbey Gardens, Mt. Angel, OR and Mountain View Gardens, Sandy, OR.

Commercial Exhibits were provided by Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, Vancouver, WA and Laurie's Garden, Springfield, OR.

There were 6 exhibitors with 70 entries.

---

Beltsville, Maryland-----June 18-----Sara Marley

The Chesapeake and Potomac and the Francis Scott Key chapters of the American Iris Society hosted a Beardless Iris Show at Behnke's Garden Center in Beltsville, MD on Saturday, June 18. Gloria Fairhead and Carol Warner were co-chairmen .

There were 83 entries from 11 exhibitors. There were 72 different cultivars, of which 12 were seedlings. The extremely hot and humid weather contributed to the smaller number of stalks and also affected the quality of the entries. The judges were somewhat lenient in their decisions because of the vagaries of nature.

Queen of Show was a Japanese iris, VIRGINIA B., exhibited by Clarence Mahan. All 3 runners-up were Japanese irises: 1st runner-up was THE GREAT MOGUL, entered by Don Schlanger; TAGA SODE exhibited by Brian Lazarus was 2nd runner-up; and Dan Schlanger's entry, ROSE QUEEN was 3rd runner-up. A Siberian, SPRINGS BROOK, exhibited by Carol Warner was Best in Section. William Ackerman's seedling #94-5 was judged Best Seedling. The Silver Medal for most blue ribbons went to Carol Warner, and Clarence Mahan won the Bronze Medal.

The following seedlings will receive EC designation, having received 5 or more votes:# 94-5 by William Ackerman; REISYUN, a JI by H. Shimizu, Japan (exhibited by Carol Warner) and #2812-2, a Sterling Innerst seedling entered by Clarence Mahan.

Judges were Mike and Anne Lowe of Blackstone, VA, Elwood Maltman of Wilmington, DE and Apprentice Sara Marley of Hillsboro, VA.

Kalamazoo, Michigan-----July 2-----Bob Bauer

Southwestern Michigan Iris Society held its annual late iris show on Saturday, July 2 in Maple Hill Mall, Kalamazoo, MI. A wide variety of 49 different cultivars of Japanese irises and one Siberian were exhibited. The show coincided with near-peak JI bloom in the area.

Best specimen (Queen) of the 52 that were in the show was SAKURA NO SONO (Ichie by SJI) 1993, a faint pink flaring double with darker pink styles exhibited by Ensata Gardens. First runner-up was a large (3 fall), TRANCE (Warburton, 1979), which is sanded and veined light blue violet on a lighter ground. Others on the court were KYOKUSHO, FRECKLED GEISHA, FRINGED CLOUD, ROSE ADAGIO, and KALEIDOSHOW.

25 Seedlings from 5 hybridizers were displayed. Best seedling of the show was Bauer & Coble's J89F-7, a 9+ fall (peony type) in shades of red- and blue-violet. There were 7 exhibitors and the Silver Medal went to Ensata Gardens (Galesburg, MI, and the Bronze Medal to Carol Kerr (Cedar Springs, MI).

Ikebana floral arrangements were exhibited by invitation: Michi Amemiya (Sogetsu school), Esther Christiansen (Ohara school), and Laura Anderson (Sogetsu school). Bob Bauer served as Show Chairman.

---

Auburn, Maine-----July 16-----Evelyn White

This year it was Maine Iris Society's turn to host a Japanese Iris Show, held in the music room of the Auburn Middle School. Our very hot June and July weather brought some gardens to early bloom, leaving some gardeners with nothing to contribute. We did, however, have a beautiful show --well attended.

In the Horticulture Division there were 9 exhibitors with 104 entries. Of these 53 were named varieties and 51 seedlings.

Warren and Marie Hazelton won the Silver Medal for most blue ribbons, and Earheart Gardens of South Harpswell won the Bronze Medal.

GLITTER & GAIETY, exhibited by Deborah Wheeler of Colrain, Mass., was Queen of Show. 1st runner-up was PRAIRIE CHIEF, shown by the Hazeltons. Earheart Gardens' entry, JOAN TREVITHICK, was 2nd runner-up, and PICOTEE PRINCESS, entered by the Whites was 3rd runner-up.

Best seedling of the show was John White's #91A-15. (This seedling first bloomed @ July 10 and still had a bloom on it on September 20. 2 sister seedlings are also rebloomers)

The show's Design Division had 17 entries. Kathleen Marble of Harvard, Mass. received the plaque for Best Design, as well as the Artistic Sweepstakes award. The Design judges gave Special Awards to teenager Andrew Wheeler of Colrain, MA for 2 of his designs entered in the adult classes. Pamela Elwell of Smithfield was Chairman of the Design Division.

An additional feature of the show was an exhibit of cut-leaf Hostas, sponsored by the Maine Hosta Society. Russ and Joan Moors of Auburn headed this event.

Horticultural Judges were Shirley Pope, Elaine and Chandler Fulton. John and Evelyn White enjoyed chairing the show.

---

## MINUTES OF THE SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, May 21, 1994 - Portland, Oregon

The meeting was called to order by President Howard Brookins at 2:05 pm. Others in attendance were John Coble, Robert Bauer, Jim and Jill Copeland, Chad Harris, Ronald and Anna Mae Miller,



Bill Smoot, Jim Morris, Joan Verwilst, and Sara Marley.

The minutes of the 1993 meetings were approved as published in the Fall issue of *The Review*. Carol Warner submitted her Treasurer's Report and it was unanimously approved.

John Coble reported on the SJI Color Photo Project (see 1993 minutes). Board members had approved the printing of sets of color postcards, each depicting a single Japanese Iris on the front with descriptive material on the back. Coble announced that he had published two sets of postcards. Set #1 (announced in the Fall *Review*) consists of 16 cards picturing W. A. Payne varieties and Set #2 features 18 Payne Award winners. 1000 of each set were printed and to date 241 of Set #1 and 82 of Set #2 have been sold. The price is \$5 per set, \$9 for two sets, postpaid. Coble also reported that he had received 8 slide rental requests since October of last year.

Nominations Chairman Anna Mae Miller offered the following nominations for officers: John Coble, President; Terry Aitken, Vice-President; Carol Warner, Secretary; Robert Bauer, Treasurer and Membership Chairman; Patricia Brooks, Director at Large; Kathy Guest, Nominating Committee (through 1997). If no other nominations are received these nominees will be considered elected to serve offices from January 1, 1995 to December 31, 1996.

Bauer presented the new Payne Medal which will be awarded at this convention. It is made of a crystal slab etched with a Japanese Iris and the words "W.A. Payne Medal/American Iris Society". It is mounted on a walnut base with a metal plate inscribed with the hybridizer, year and name of iris. Each medal winner will receive a copy of the award. This year the medal went to Adolph Vogt for ORIENTAL EYES, and the award will be sent to his granddaughter. 25 copies of the award will be made at a cost of \$80. each.

The previous Payne Award trophy was discussed. It was moved by Warner, seconded by Jill Copeland, and unanimously approved

to retire the trophy to the new AIS Library.

Warner moved, Jill Copeland seconded and it was unanimously approved to have Anna Mae Miller reprint 1000 sets of the official SJI stationery at the Minute Man Printer in Otsego, Michigan.

Future SJI conventions were discussed. Jim Morris reported on the 1996 site in St. Louis. Due to the death of Sheldon Butt, two new guest gardens have been chosen and the guest iris have been replanted. St. Louis would like to have more guest irises. Carol Warner reported that the 1995 Convention in Baltimore will be June 23-24. The 1997 convention site in Sacramento is in doubt and President Brookins will check up on it. A discussion was held about the need for written guidelines for conventions. Nothing was decided.

SJI dues were discussed again, as it was felt that the dues should cover the cost of publication of *The Review* with perhaps the addition of color pages. Nothing was decided.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Robert A. Bauer, Secretary.

---

#### MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Friday, June 3, 1994 - Summerville, South Carolina

The Executive Board meeting of the Society for Japanese Irises was called to order by the President, Howard Brookins, at 9:05 p.m. Officers present were President Brookins, Treasurer Warner, Immediate Past President Shirley Pope, and Directors Harris and Brooks. Other committee members included Evelyn White, Clarence Mahan, and Rich Randall. Also in attendance were: Bill Smoot, Don Delmez, John Wood, Caryll Randall, Currier McEwen and Lorena Reid. Carol Warner was asked to take minutes in the absence of the Secretary.

Howard asked Don Delmez to interpret the bylaws concerning replacement of a member of the Nominating Committee. It was determined that the President does make that appointment and Howard named Kathy Guest as the new member of the committee replacing Joseph Grant. Announcement was also made of the new Director Pat Brooks, who will replace William Barr. The bylaws were previously published in the REVIEW but Howard will see that all directors receive a copy.

Treasurer Warner initiated discussion concerning money collected at the auctions held during SJI conventions. It has been understood that hybridizers donate their irises for the Society for Japanese Irises and therefore any auction proceeds are the property of SJI. Shirley Pope and Clarence Mahan elaborated further that an offer to host the convention is an offer to take responsibility for gain or loss as a result of increased or decreased registration. Most conventions try to break even with registration costs covering expenses of hosting the convention. There has not been a written policy in effect, so Howard asked Don Delmez, Shirley Pope, and Carol Warner to set up a written policy to present at the next meeting.

Discussion was held concerning a Supplier list to be sent to new members and also included in the REVIEW. It is the hope that the list will include only nurseries supplying quality plants. The board has a policy that **suppliers are to sell only registered irises by January 1995. Only registered irises are eligible for ribbons at a show.** Lorena Reid asked about registration of irises where the hybridizer is unknown. Anyone selling these irises must take responsibility for the registration of the irises. After considerable discussion Shirley Pope made the motion that SJI would offer to commercial sellers the opportunity, for an annual fee of \$5.00., to be listed in a source list to be given to new members and those who request it, provided that the sellers sign a certification that they will sell only top quality and **registered** Japanese irises. It was further moved that in the future those taking commercial ads in the REVIEW sign a certificate that they will sell Japanese irises only if they are registered. Chad Harris seconded the motion, and the

motion passed.

Clarence Mahan stated that one of the purposes of the Society is to promote education, growing, etc. of Japanese irises. In accordance with this, he proposed that we donate \$5,000.00 to the AIS Library Project. Shirley Pope made a motion that \$1,000.00 be given to the Library Fund with the possibility of giving more in the future as progress is made on moving and setting up the library in its new location. Chad Harris seconded and the motion was passed.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

Carol Warner, Acting Secretary

---



## SJI CONVENTION 1995 - Baltimore

*A Preview of things to come!*

Bill Smoot (Virginia)

I recently had the pleasure to attend a "Dress Rehearsal" Japanese Iris Garden Tour in Towson, MD. It was for next year's SJI Convention being hosted by the Francis Scott Key Iris Society. Although dubbed as a dress rehearsal and a means of correcting problems before the "Opening Night", every detail was well planned and organized. A brochure of tour gardens and guest irises in each garden had already been printed and was given to all attendees. There was also a ballot printed for choosing your favorite guest & favorite garden iris.

Convention Chairman Carol Warner has left no details to chance. The tour started and ended at next year's convention hotel! Carol was armed with her whistle and stop watch, and the tour bus left promptly on time and returned accordingly. Even the president of the bus company served as our driver in order to personally investigate accessibility of his buses into tour gardens and to identify possible traffic problems enroute.

The tour consists of four private gardens and one public garden. Each garden is unique, and I still haven't decided which one I liked best. There's so much to see! All of the gardens are full of delightful things to see besides the many JI's. Traveling time to the gardens is minimal, so you won't spend most of your time keeping a bus seat warm. Plan to do a lot of walking and a lot of looking. There are over 160 different guest cultivars alone, representing the work of 30 different hybridizers. Add this to the JI's privately owned and the numbers run into four digits. This will be a tour you'll long remember. It was the best JI tour I attended this year.

### THE FIGGE GARDEN

Our first garden on tour belonged to Rosalie Figge. Rosalie's home and garden is only a couple blocks from the Convention Hotel. I

heard that Rosalie's garden was re-landscaped since it was on tour for the AIS Convention in Washington, so don't think that you're returning to familiar territory! Her garden is filled with unusual specimen plants in addition to her irises. She has a bed of Payne Award Winners as part of her JI display. I didn't ask Rosalie if it is a complete bed, but knowing Rosalie, if it isn't complete, it's as close to being complete as you'll ever see. During the tour some of the rare ones were in bloom. PRAIRIE LOVE SONG, PRAIRIE VELVET, and TUPTIM boldly stood out for all to see. Just being able to finally see and photograph "endangered species" like these three was a treat for me. In addition to her JI's, Rosalie has a complete collection of English and American Dyke's Medal tall bearded Winners.

I picked my favorite seedling early and, although frequently tempted, did not change my choice. It was Dr. Bill Ackerman's seedling #A4-4-69. It is a delicate iris with three falls and it stands about two feet tall. The styles are white along the center with dark violet at the margins. The falls are mottled and streaked violet on a white background and lighter lines show faintly underneath. The signal is green and yellow surrounded by a narrow white halo. (NOTE. I apologize if I've described this flower incorrectly. This is my first attempt at writing a description as a graduate of Lorena Reid's class on describing JI's. After reading this description, Lorena will probably withdraw my diploma, and Dr. Ackerman will be insulted by my description. I apologize in advance. The only reason I made an attempt to describe this iris was because it was my first choice for favorite guest.)

Other seedlings in bloom were: Anna Mae Miller seedling 76-2-1, Delmez seedling DT-BVO-WRA-SA-WVO, Bauer/Coble seedling J-89J-2, and Sterling Innerst seedling 3693-1. This last seedling was rather unique because the color of its open bloom was so different from the color of its bud that they looked like two separate cultivars. Closer inspection revealed that this was not the case. The garden effect was quite lovely.

## THE WARNER GARDEN

Draycott is the official name of Carol and Andy Warner's garden. Andy admits that he mows the grass and Carol takes care of everything else.

"Everything else" includes Daylilies, Siberian and species Irises, Peonies, Clematis, Hostas, Roses, and a large beautiful assortment of perennials. All are so well grown that they beg for attention. The house is on a rolling hillside. The beds around the house are mixed beds. Here you will find a vast assortment of different plants all residing together in perfect harmony. Beds of Japanese Irises mixed with Daylilies and other plants provide a beautiful display. Carol grows all of her plants *au naturel*. She waters in her beardless irises initially, but any water they receive afterwards comes from Mother Nature. She does grow several rows of Japanese Irises behind her house close to her vegetable garden. I've seen gardeners with green thumbs, but Carol is the only gardener I know that has a green hand! If you want to see plants grown to perfection, this is the place to see them.

Carol has a small commercial garden and sells Siberian and Japanese Irises. This is located near her mother's home on the other side of the hill. While we were there, Andy and their two sons shuttled visitors over the hill in cars to see these gardens. I didn't make it over there because I was too busy looking at everything around her home. I even got to see "The Tomb of the Unknown Cat". Ask Carol to tell you the touching story.

Everywhere I looked there were flowers in bloom. Some of the JI's I noticed blooming were: GLITTER & GAYETY, MAINE CHANCE, THE GREAT MOGUL, & OSHO KUN, and guests Delmez seedling SLB-WV-WSA-1, Anna Mae Miller seedling 76-2-1 and TOTAL IMAGE (Delmez '94). I'm sure there were many more, but I was too overwhelmed to record them. ROSE ADAGIO was spectacular and drew a crowd.

## THE HORNSTEIN/HUGE GARDEN

The new home of Bruce Hornstein and Dick Huger is nestled between rolling foothills and could be featured in any "Better Homes & Garden" magazine. It overlooks a large pond surrounded by plantings of Louisiana Irises.

The long serpentine driveway leading from the road to the house is lined with Japanese Irises. I especially liked WASE-KATSUME, GRAPE FIZZ, DYNAMIC IMPACT, and NARAHIRA. Many others were also in bloom.

---

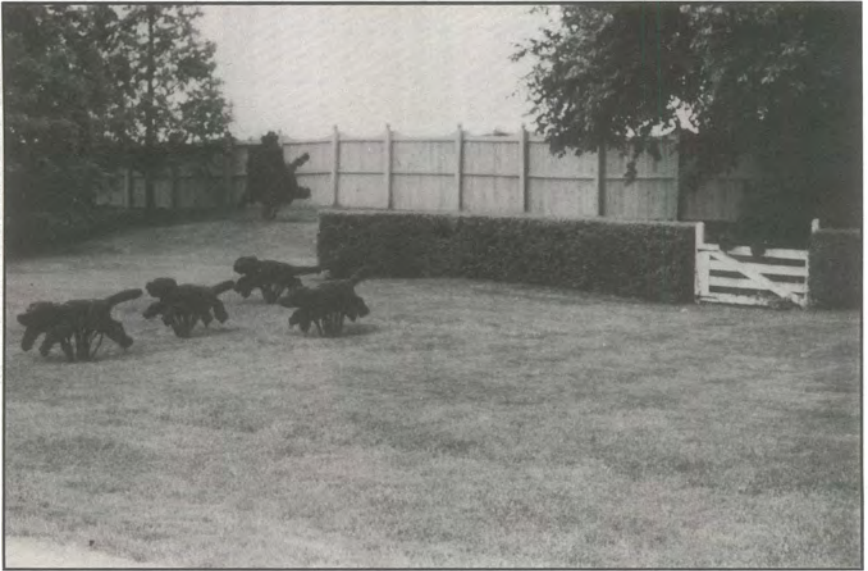
The following photos are by Bill Smoot, in order: 1. Hornstein/Huger garden; 2. ROSE ADAGIO in Warner garden; 3. Bauer/Coble seedling J-89J-2 in Figge Garden; 4. Delmez seedling DT-BVO-WRA-SA-WVO; 5. Topiary - the Fox Hunt - at Ladew Gardens.

\*\*\*\*\*









## THE LADEW TOPIARY GARDENS

We enjoyed lunch at Ladew Topiary Gardens. The Garden Club of America describes Ladew as " the most outstanding Topiary Garden in America". Its owner, Harvey S. Ladew, designed and developed the gardens to provide an array of color, texture, and form for each season. It consists of 15 flower gardens, each with a different theme, ranging from a formal Rose Garden and perennial borders to a Cottage Garden, Water Garden, and Berry Garden. The crowning glory of the 22 acres is the topiary - trees and shrubs trimmed into ornamental shapes. A foxhunt topiary greets you as you enter the garden. It consists of a fox leading the pack, followed by several foxhounds and two fox-hunters on horses jumping over a fence. There's a fifty foot Buddha topiary in the Oriental Garden and birds, animals and other topiary forms to see. My favorite gardens were the White Garden (with white only flowers), the Oriental Garden (with JI's in bloom), and the Fragrance Garden.

The Japanese Display beds consist of guests and named varieties donated by Carol. BLUSHING PRINCESS (Ackerman '91) caught my attention in the guest bed. Other guests in bloom included: DIRIGO SNOWFLAKE (White), MACHI MUSUME (Hirao), PERSEPHONE (Innerst '94), and BELLENDER BLUE (Bauer/Coble '93). Although not guests, ORIENTAL BOUQUET (Ackerman '90) and CRYSTAL HALO (Marx '58) were putting on quite a show.

I could have spent the entire afternoon at Ladew Gardens, but Carol's whistle urged me back on the bus for the last garden on tour. And what a garden it was!

## THE INNERST GARDEN

The bus headed across state lines to the last garden on tour. This was the longest bus ride of the tour and it provided a needed rest for us to recuperate before seeing Sterling Innerst's garden in York, PA. I saw rows upon rows of irises thru the bus window

as we arrived. This garden is overwhelming. I think that Sterling crosses anything that stands still. He plans to have over 7,000 seedlings for you to view next year. If you find any irises with a hard-to-pronounce name, you can bet that Sterling hybridized them. ABRACO, ADMETHUS, DIOMEDES, EPIMETHIUS, ODYSSEUS, and PERSEPHONE are some of his newer introductions that come to mind. You can expect to see them in all of the gardens on tour. Row upon row, upon row, of different cultivars and seedlings is mind boggling.

When you get tired of looking at irises, you can raid Sterling's strawberry patch. That's what some members of the tour did. Also, don't forget to see his greenhouses full of tropical plants and orchids. I was truly amazed I saw hundreds of JI's growing and remember none. All I can say is that my brain circuits were overloaded. Yours will be also...

---

On the ride back to the hotel Carol announced the favorite Guest Iris and the favorite Garden Iris. ROSE ADAGIO took honors as Favorite Garden Iris. The Bauer/Coble seedling J-89J-2 was voted Favorite Guest Iris.

Plan to attend next year's SJI convention if you want to see well cultivated Japanese Irises. The gardens on tour are unique and all different. Expect to be overwhelmed - you will be! I was lucky enough to catch the "Dress Rehearsal". Imagine what "Opening Night" will be like...I can't wait!

**SOCIETY FOR JAPANESE IRISES FINANCIAL  
STATEMENT**

January 1, 1994 - May 21, 1994

**MONEY MARKET SAVINGS**

Balance on Hand 1/1/94	\$15,986.86
Interest	159.45
Book Royalty	329.23
Transfer to Checking	- 2,500.00
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>	<b>13,975.54</b>

Note: \$1750.00 is Life Memberships

**CHECKING ACCOUNT**

Balance on Hand 1/1/94	2,745.21
Income:	
Dues	639.50
Interest	25.23
Librarian (reprints, slides, postcards)	189.00
Book Sales	24.95
Checklist Sales	15.75
Ads in REVIEW	68.00
Transfer from Savings	2,500.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3,462.43</b>
Expenses:	
Register Irises	300.00
Checklist postage	5.24
Spring REVIEW	1,388.39
Honorary Awards	195.74
Post Cards	3,758.63
Returned check & fee	7.50
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>5,655.50</b>

BALANCE ON HAND 5/21/94	552.14
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND 5/21/94</b>	<b>\$14,527.68</b>

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee is happy to offer the names of the following members to serve as Officers of the Society for Japanese Irises, starting January 1, 1995.

- President: John Coble, 9823 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Galesburg, MI 49053. Tel. (616) 665-7500
- Vice Pres: Terry Aitken, 608 NW 119th St., Vancouver, WA  
98685 Tel. (206) 573-4472
- Secretary: Mrs. Andrew C.(Carol) Warner, 16815 Falls Road,  
Upperco, MD 21155 Tel. (410) 374-4788
- Treasurer Robert Bauer, 9823 E. Michigan Ave.,  
Galesburg, MI 49053 Tel. (616) 665-7500
- Immediate Past Pres. Howard Brookins, N75 W 14257 North Point  
Drive, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051  
Tel. (414) 251-5292

### Directors at Large:

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

Chad Harris, MPO O1R, Marble Road,  
Washougal, WA 98671 Tel. (206) 835-1016

Patricia (Pat) Brooks, 102 Jefferson Lane, Ladson,  
SC 29456 Tel. (803) 871-0239

### Nominating Committee Member) (serving through 1997)

Kathy Guest, 494 North Street, East Aurora, NY  
14052 Tel. (716) 655-1762

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Anna Mae Miller, Chairman  
Rich Randall  
Joseph B Grant, II

## THE EDITOR'S REVIEW

My thanks to all the SJI members who have provided material for this issue. Some of them are first-time contributors. Their willing (?) cooperation is truly appreciated.

A big round of applause goes to all the friendly folks of Summerville, SC who, despite the fact that their gardens suffered from weather-related problems, made our visit there a real pleasure.

If any of you are considering hosting an SJI Convention in your area - notice that the years 1997 and 1998 are OPEN. Make an offer!

July and August were warmer than usual in Maine. Luckily, in our area we had enough rain to keep our gardens happy. We have also had almost 4 inches of rain on September 23-24. Last year's renovation of our main JI garden meant sparse bloom there this year. My husband's seedlings compensated by blooming profusely, even some of those planted as small seedlings in 1993. It is exciting to see what appears.

I hope that you have a comfortable winter and happy holidays, and that 1995 may be kind to our gardens. Do keep in mind that THE REVIEW needs news and reports from members. My job is just to put it in order. When the weather prevents you from gardening, put your ideas, experiences, etc. on paper and send to me by February 15.

Best Wishes - - - Evelyn White