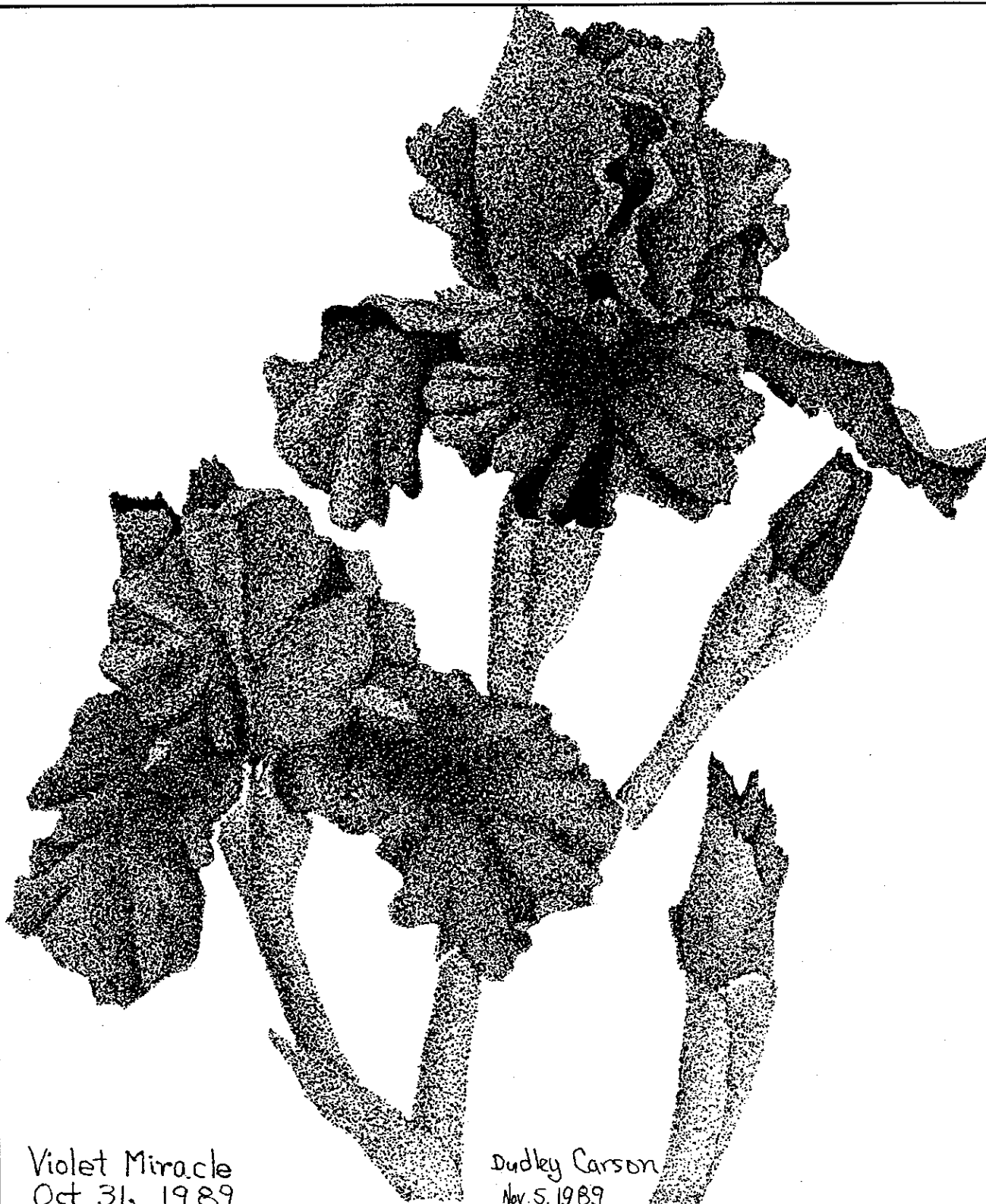


# THE REBLOOMING IRIS RECORDER

SPRING  
1990

VOL  
36



Violet Miracle  
Oct 31, 1989

Dudley Carson  
Nov. 5, 1989

# REBLOOMING IRIS SOCIETY

A Section of the American Iris Society

## Officers

<i>President:</i> Dr. John H. Weiler, 1146 West Rialto, Fresno, CA 93705	Tel:(209) 229-6434	<b>Terms expiring:</b> Spring '91
<i>Vice President:</i> Gary Sides, 405 Pettus St., Lawrenceburg, TN 38464	Tel:(615) 762-0502	Spring '90
<i>Secretary:</i> Howard L. Brookins, N75 W14257 N. Pt. Dr, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051	Tel: (414) 251-5292	Spring '91
<i>Treasurer:</i> Sue Keefe, 2100 Tarleton, Midland, TX 79707	Tel: (915) 697-6320	Spring '90
<i>Publicity Director:</i> Monty Byers, P.O. Box-1019, Clear Lake Oaks, CA 95423	(707)743-1570	Spring '91

## Directors

<i>Midwestern:</i> Jim Ennenga, 1681 North 85th St., Omaha, NE 68114	Tel: (402) 391-6337	<b>Terms expiring:</b> Spring '90
<i>Eastern:</i> Clarence Mahan, 7311 Churchill Rd., McLean, VA 22101	Tel: (703) 893-8526	Spring '93
<i>Southern:</i> Lottie Ogles, 1156 North Main, Joshua, TX 76058	Tel: (817) 295-4074	Spring '92
<i>Western:</i> Bill Maryott, 1073 Bird Ave., San Jose, CA 95125	Tel: (408) 971-0444	Spring '91

## Chairmen

<i>Robins:</i> Mrs Bernice M. Miller, Rt-4 Box-439B, Killen, AL 35645	Tel: (205) 757-1518
<i>Slides:</i> Earl E.Hall, 1495 Enterprise Rd., West Alexandria, OH 45381	Tel: (513) 839-4216
<i>Historian:</i> Larry Harder, 208 First St., Ponca, NE 68870	Tel: (402) 755-2615
<i>Membership:</i> Howard L. Brookins, N75 W14257 N. Pt. Dr, Menomonee Falls, WI 53051	Tel: (see above)

### Test Gardens:

<i>Editor:</i> Mike Lowe, Rt-3 Box-135, Blackstone, VA 23824	Tel: (804) 265-8198
<i>Assistant Ed., Art &amp; Design:</i> Dudley Carson, P.O. Box 556, Willamina, OR 97396	Tel: (503) 876-6463
<i>Past President:</i> Mrs.Virginia Mathews, 315 S. Grandview Ct., Stillwater, OK 74074	Tel: (405) 377-0696
<i>Nominating Committee, '89-'90:</i> Evelyn Hayes, 51 South Bryon Ave, Lemoore, CA 93245	

## Membership And Advertising Rates

Memberships	Single	Family	Advertising Rates		
Annual .....	\$3.00 .....	\$4.00	Full page .....	\$25.00	Qtr.page \$10.00
Triennial ....	\$7.50.....	\$10.00	Half page. ....	\$15.00	1/8 page .....\$7.50
Life.....	\$50.00				

*Back issues: volumes 31 thru 33 , and 35 are available from the Editor*

*Vol 34 zerox® only - check for price    Vols 31 thru 33 and 35 - \$2.50 per volume includes 1st class postage*

*The Reblooming Iris Recorder is published bi-annually in October and April.*

**Deadlines** for receipt of material by the editor of RIR are:

October Issue - Sept. 1

April Issue - March 1

**Advertising** October Issue - Aug. 15

April Issue - Feb. 15

Permission is granted to reprint any article appearing in RIR unless specifically prohibited.  
Proper credit must accompany the reprint.

## Table of Contents

<u>Hybridizers' Outlook</u> .....	Aitken, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Ghio, Keppel, Nearpass, Powell, Schreiner, Slade, Stahly, Thompsons, Williamson, .....	4-8
<u>Border Bearded Iris</u> .....	T. Aitkin .....	8
<u>Open Letter to Friends</u> .....	G. Bare .....	11
<u>1989 Introduction Report</u> .....	G. Bare .....	12
<u>Prairie in Bloom: Guests</u> .....	A. Ensminger .....	15
<u>Notes from the Dish Garden</u> .....	M. Smith .....	16
<u>Omaha Meeting Schedule</u> .....		18
<u>1989 Rebloom in Canada</u> .....	M. Hanson .....	18
<u>Rebloom in California</u> .....	N. Jones, R. Clark, R.C. Richards .....	18-20
<u>Anytime is Iris Time</u> .....	D. Carson .....	24
<u>Minor Garden Miracles</u> .....	R. G. Smith .....	26
<u>Invitation, Region 13</u> .....	M. Smith .....	33
<u>Errata</u> .....		36
<u>Remontants in Colorado</u> .....	D. Miller .....	37

## Regular Features

Officers .....	1
Advertising rates and Deadlines .....	1
Membership rates .....	1
President's Message .....	J. Weiler .....
The Experts Answer .....	J. Weiler .....
Cards and Letters .....	22-23
Region 14 Fall Show .....	G. Hall, J. Weiler, .....
Off the Wall! .....	25
1989 Symposium .....	E. Hall .....

## Advertisements

Slides (RIS) .....	9
Moonshine Gardens (Byers) .....	13-14
Melrose Gardens (Hager-DuBose) .....	21
Nicholls Gardens .....	28
Rialto Gardens (Weiler) .....	38
Carson Notecards .....	Back Cover

### Reminder

In Omaha the RIS will be electing three Officers/Board Members The candidates are listed below:

Vice-President: Rick Tasco  
Treasurer: Evelyn Hayes  
Midwestern Director: Garland Bare  
*Get out and vote!*

Contrary to rumors, Robin notes are not dead. Space did not permit inclusion in this issue. Robin Director, Bernice Miller has done her usual capable job with the Robin notes. Like the iris—they will return in the fall.



# President's Message



Not only is the Nebraska *Prairie in Bloom* this year for the national AIS convention, the prairies afire. Afire because many Iris growers in both Omaha and in Lincoln have begun to discover what a few have long known —

that modern remontants do rebloom in that climate with not just the late-fall-and-caught-by-the-frost syndrome but with several clones in guest beds starting rebloom before the end of July. The skeptics were most easily convinced last summer when Gene and Dorothy Kalkwarf's and several other Nebraska gardens were surprised with abundant summer rebloom on Champagne Elegance, an occurrence also noted by others for the same Iris cultivar in California, Colorado, Missouri, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas and in England. Since then, there has been a flaming desire to plant more remontants in Lincoln gardens. This fire has been fed by the display of remontants at the Alan and Gladys Ensminger gardens which will be one of the tour gardens for the AIS convention this year, and by interest whipped up in the flurry of activity from Dr. Garland Bare, remontant enthusiast and our nominee to become the midwestern Regional Director for RIS. Rumor has it that a fall show is being planned for a couple years hence. Now that the prairie is both in bloom and afire we may look for sparks elsewhere.

Where? Sparks are everywhere irises are growing. Some are advanced beyond the spark stage and have become glowing embers. Region 13 will hold its annual Fall meeting this year in Yakima, east of the Cascades. Those conventioners will view remontant irises featured in the garden of Marky Smith who

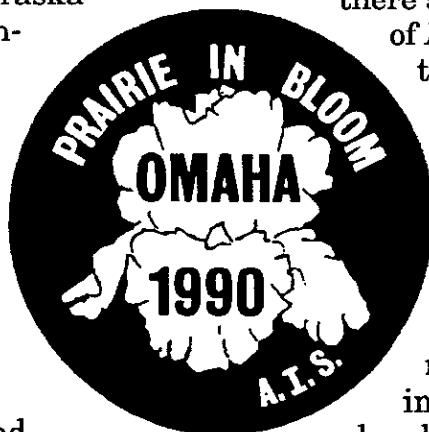
supplied the spark to catalyze the reaction and this year reported rebloom on nearly eighty cultivars, most of which had not previously been known to rebloom there, many of them the newest developments from hybridizers from across the country. In West Jordan, Utah, Candy Thomas has lighted a fire and confounded the experts who claim "They won't rebloom here" by reporting remontancy for more than ninety clones, most of which had not yet been reported to rebloom there. From Denison, Texas come reports of Charlie Brown and from Bandera, Texas those of Dr. Clyde Ikins listing dozens of new reports for rebloom in the Lone Star State. From Oklahoma City comes the report of Paul Black for many new rebloom records in that area. English writers continue to amass and report many rebloom records new for Great Britain. Carl Heinz-Stichling of Wechmar, East Germany has reported several clones of irises remonting

there and, finally, in last autumn's issue of *Remontant News*, a publication of the British Remontant Iris Group (BRIG), Frances Love writes of several clones which rebloom in New Zealand. Both nationally and internationally remontant irises are flaming to front and center.

In the meantime, hybridizers respond by devoting more effort to improving remontants. Our membership continues to grow resulting in more people clamoring for more remontant irises. Our treasury is beginning to grow so that it may be possible to advertise our activities to others in AIS and stimulate even greater increase in membership. Service to you, the members, continues as a top priority of our board of directors so that a vigorous membership remains with us.

With all the activity kindling interest everywhere, we have hope that the prairie afire, the sparks of inquiry, the glowing embers elsewhere will unite in a roaring inferno to sweep the country. Tomorrow we will have eye-blooming irises.

*John Weiler*



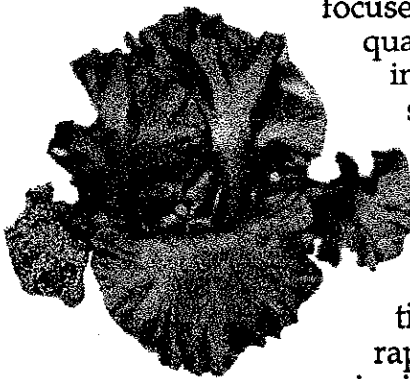
## Hybridizers' Outlook

A number of hybridizers who do not normally write for the Recorder are featured this spring. All were queried as to their views on remontancy and its place in their breeding programs. A baker's dozen of their replies, illustrated with a mug shot of their creations, appears below. No special rationale guided the iris selected other than the available graphics and the editor's bent.

### Terry Aitken

In a crassly commercial sense, I feel that an iris that reblooms has approximately twice the dollar value of that same iris—if it did not rebloom. When everblooming iris become generally available, the commercial market for iris will probably double, possibly treble. In short, it will have an enormous impact on the iris world. General interest in iris (ie, AIS membership) should follow right along with this interest\growth. We are following in the footsteps of the Rose Society but making much more rapid progress!!

Resistance to everblooming iris is generally focused on the poor flower quality of most reblooming plants that are presently available and with late season flowers which are simply not acceptable for northern and eastern climates. This situation is changing very rapidly. We are now beginning to see a few top quality flowers blooming in late July, through August,



ORBITER

and continuing until freeze-up. Examples would be *Champagne Elegance*, *Eternal Bliss* and *Point Made*. The future bodes well for this continuing trend as we see iris from all classes putting up color in the seedling rows in July–August. Of course, those plants present a second annual opportunity for hybridizing and a second crop of seeds, thus an accumulating opportunity for increasing reselections in future years. We sense that major breakthroughs are on the horizon (if not already in the seedling patch) for reblooming iris.

### Carl Boswell

*The future of reblooming iris...* This question was being debated when I first started growing iris in 1954. In those days the goals were iris that looked as good blooming in the fall or winter as those that bloomed in the spring. It would seem that those goals have been reached.

I can't see any iris breeding goals that cannot eventually be reached. There is no class of bearded or beardless iris that (with work) cannot exhibit rebloom. While the first ones produced may look as bad as the early TBs and SDBS, the more that are developed and available to work with, the faster will



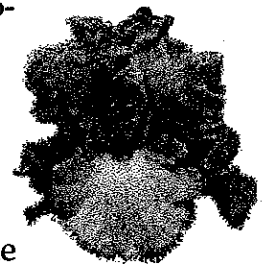
SMOKE WITH WINE

come the day good rebloomers from all classes will be on the market. I hear of hybridizers who are working for rebloom in other than TBs/Medians but will not put them out until they very good irises. Then of course, there are the fundamentalists who resist any change.

I can see the day when iris of all classes will bloom constantly, if the weather allows.

### Opal Brown

According to rebloomers I've grown in the past... they are not for my area. The temperature can be between 94° and 108° in August and even 100° in early September. The humidity may be down to 9 to 15%. The iris tend to bloom out all at once without branching and most blooms crowding the main stalk. I'm sure they are a delight to grow in areas where the temperature isn't so hot and perhaps the very latest, newest varieties will do better here. By mid-September we even have a killing frost some years.



QUEEN OF HEARTS

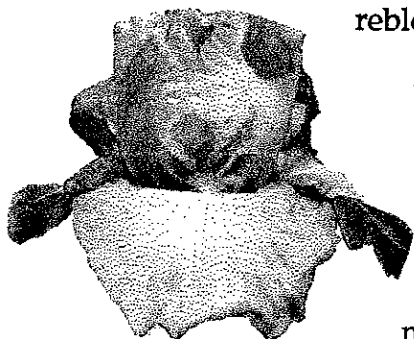
### Franklin Carr

"Irises Are Beautiful But They Do Not Last Long." I have heard this said many times and I am certain other growers have heard it too.

Despite the fact that one tries to have a long

spring blooming season by incorporating early, mid-season and late bloomers, this remark is still heard.

Generally, most garden visitors are familiar only with spring blooming varieties. Upon learning that there are varieties that bloom again, ie, in the late summer and early fall, their interest immediately "perks up." It is quite evident that remontants are appealing to the gardening public. People are "Re-play" conscious and any flower that presents a "re-play" will gain attention. Home gardeners need only to be educated that there are such things as reblooming irises.



Though my iris work deals with spring blooming cultivars, I try to inform the public about the "Wide world of Irises." I do have several remontants for my own pleasure but have never

**QUEEN'S JUBILEE** purposely tried to develop a remontant line. However, this past November a stalk started to develop (quite unexpectedly) on a new seedling. Naturally I was pleased and my hopes started to rise but Mother Nature brought along sudden severe cold weather putting an end to a potential blossom. Will keep a watchful eye on this seedling.

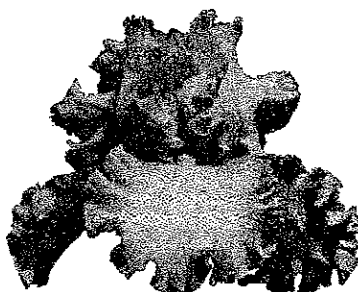
I think as flower quality improves, and it will, remontants will have a progressively bright future.

Anyone interested in gardening can certainly appreciate a plant which can ascend above all natural adversities and bloom again. One can also appreciate the hybridizers who are doing their best to introduce interesting and appealing rebloomers.

I say to them, "All Good Wishes in your Endeavors."

## Joe Ghio

Among the general garden public, each flower has its time and its place. Like it or not, irises are perceived as spring blooming plants by the average gardener. As a cataloger I've



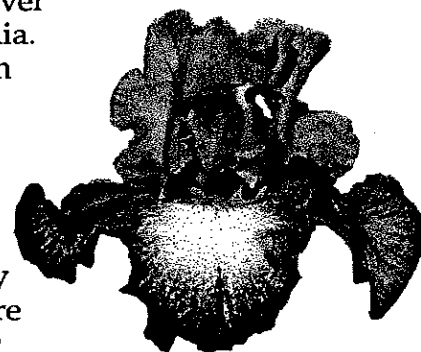
**MARRIAGE VOWS**

perceived no out-of-the-ordinary demand for "reblooming" irises.

A major problem is while spring bloom time is predictable, reblooming time is sporadic and unpredictable, "messing up" the garden scene most gardeners try to plan for. Remember the iris-fancier market is a one-digit segment of the total market.

## Keith Keppel

I have never been AGAINST remontants, just soured against breeding for them ever since the days of being on a reblooming iris robin with Edwin Rundlett, who constantly bad-mouthed any reblooming iris that ever originated in California. Instead, he insisted on promoting the G. Percy Brown stuff (well, Edwin was from Staten Island, so of course the Massachusetts-bred hardy G. Percy varieties were sure fire bloomers for him.) Which is fine with



**FLAMENCO**

me... for those unfortunate enough to be able to bloom anything else off-season, but we in milder climates didn't have to rely on them. I mean, they were UGLY. I didn't want to see them once a year, let alone twice. Edwin could at least have let us enjoy our tender Craig remontants without making us feel like traitors for growing something HE couldn't rebloom.

So I dropped the robin and swore I'd never breed for rebloomers. And haven't yet.

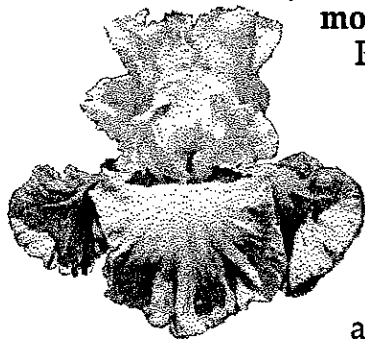
But that doesn't mean I won't make note of things that pop up that DO rebloom for me. I certainly have nothing against irises that rebloom, provided that they are attractive. There-in has been the hitch until fairly recently. Irises bred FOR remontancy tended to be such dogs, whereas those serendipitous rebloomers out of "regulation" breeding lines at least were on a par with the current irises, beauty-wise.

I have enough breeding projects going without taking on more. If something really good pops that reblooms, I'll save it and name it and you fanatics can have access to it. And if the remontant breeders come up with something that reblooms that I want to use in my breeding line for OTHER reasons (pattern, form, or whatever), I'll use it. In the long run, we're all headed for the same goals; we're just taking different routes to get there.

## Dr. D.C. Nearpass

The hybridizers who have been working with reblooming irises have been making continuous progress. Some of the introductions of the past few years have flowers that are comparable in form to that of many recently introduced spring-only bloomers. The cultivar **Im-**

**mortality** is now on the Popularity Poll.



**DOVER BEACH**

My own garden in the country does not have a piped water supply, so whatever supplemental water the irises get is carried out in gallon jugs, and goes only on newly planted recent acquisitions.

To grow reblooming irises in the manner that would assure success would require supplemental watering, in addition to a considered-optimum soil fertility, and good insect, disease and weed control. My interests have thus not turned to rebloomers. I have had some cultivars and seedlings that bloomed in the fall. Some plants, unfortunately, have waited too late and stalks were frozen. Thus, I saw no fall or spring bloom. In this, the upper south, fall bloomers should come into full bloom before Mid-October.

Remontancy requires outstanding plant vigor and near-optimum cultural conditions. However, I believe that in 10 or 20 years, more, and perhaps most, of the new introductions will be plants that, given the right culture, can be counted on to rebloom.

## Loleta Kenan Powell

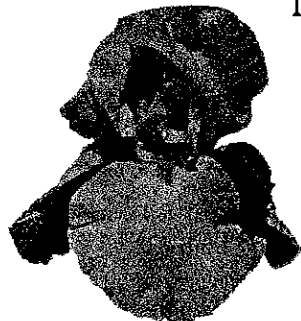
The reblooming trait in bearded iris hybridizing is surely a worthy goal to pursue — especially for those who live where this trait is of use.

For me personally, here 45 miles SE of Raleigh NC—the reblooming trait does not exist—

**Feedback** being the only iris that consistently reblooms for us.

How I'd love to have beautiful fall bloom in my beloved irises—but it does not

**CAROLINA GOLD** come. In Piedmont North Carolina, bloom is jinxed in the fall. I think that



**CAROLINA GOLD**

here we get the cool-night/warm-day too late in fall to instigate the rebloom cycle.

So—I don't work for the rebloom trait at all—just enjoy **Feedback**.

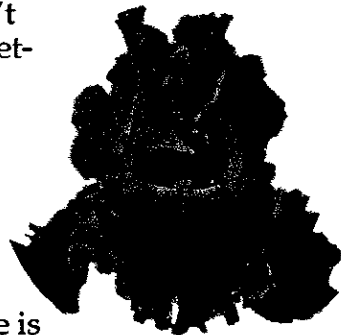
## Ray Schreiner

As far as breeding, we have not been breeding actively for remontancy. We seem to be getting quite a few from our crosses, but that was not our total goal.

I think the idea of having iris bloom twice is great. It is such a thrill to see the blooms when there aren't any others. They seem better than in spring.

(Could be you are not so overwhelmed.) The substance is much stronger in the late summer and bud counts seem to be higher.

The problem we have is that they are erratic. We have **PLAY WITH FIRE Immortality** and it did great. It looks like it will do it every year. **Breakers** and **Invitation** seem to be fairly consistent for us but just so-so for others. **Best Bet** does rebloom but not as well as **Breakers** and **Invitation**.

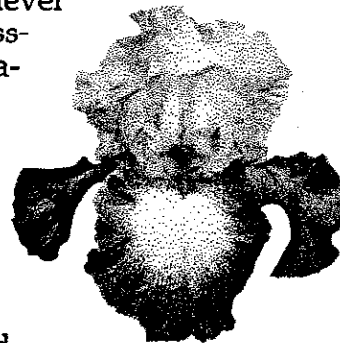


## George Slade

I have been growing iris for thirty years and hybridizing for 20 years. At one time I became interested in remontants and planted several varieties. Though I have never

activity engaged in crossing for rebloomers, occasionally one will show up in our seedling patch. I introduced one of these as **Play-back** which is the most dependable rebloomer that we have grown.

Most varieties listed as rebloomers do not rebloom or are killed by frost in the bud stage. If they do rebloom then insects such as Japanese beetles or June bugs attack them. I have tried watering, shading, etc. to induce rebloom but with little success. In a rare year, when we have ample summer and autumn rains and no hard freezes before November, we may have moderate rebloom.

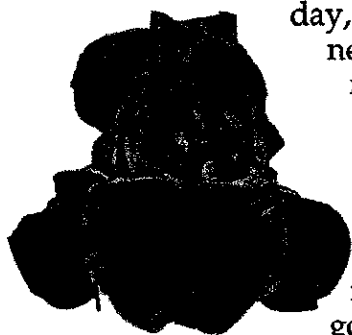


**CON ARTIST**

Most of the reblooming iris that I have seen, I feel, were introduced, not because they were good garden specimens, but simply because they rebloom.

## Hal Stahly

I have long thought that remontancy is a highly desirable trait in irises as well as in other flowers. I'd like to see the day when we could have BBs and TBs in beds showing at least some bloom continuously from (in our climate in Michigan) late May until hard freeze. I expect that this abundance of bloom will come some day, because some of the



new remontants seem already to have more than one period of rebloom. "Continuous" bloom seems to me to be a genetic possibility.

My own luck with rebloom has not been good. The growing season

**BLACK MADONNA** here seems just a little too short, so we often get stalks that are cut down by a freeze before they can open any blooms. But I believe the day will come.

Although I think more cold climate breeders should be working on developing rebloomers, I most confess that I have not done so myself. It turns out incidentally, though, that one of my introductions, **Charger**, seems to have remontant tendencies. **Charger** has rebloomed in Indiana and also in England. Alan Sedgwick, who lives in the West Midlands of England, first planted it in 1987. He reports rebloom in 1988 and 1989. Alan has an interesting article on American irises in the British Iris Society's 1989 *Iris Year Book*.

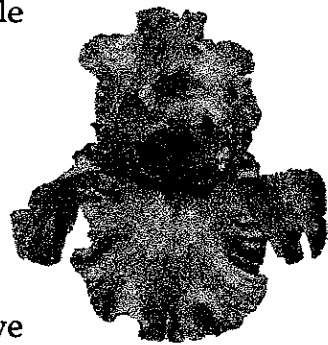
I have great admiration for those breeders who have been working in the field of remontancy. They have produced remarkable improvements in the quality of rebloomers, even those that will rebloom in areas with relatively short growing seasons. It is true that the quality of the best of them now stands up well in comparison with the spring bloomers (are they called 'onc-ers'?). I hope and believe they will keep up the good work.

## Chet Tompkins

My experience with remontants probably goes back further than you would find interesting. In 1932 I became very close to (almost a part

of) the Sass family, knowing, as we called them, both Uncle Jake and Uncle Hans as well as the Sass 'boys', Henry and Bill—the two who were most interested in iris. I first saw **Frost King**, **Frost Queen** and many other remontants there, as well as a great many other remontant seedlings and numbered varieties. At that time they were carrying out a breeding program on rebloomers as well as on other lines. I was given starts of all their remontants and grew them and worked with them, as they did, for some time. My first good (as we termed it) seedling was an icy white tinted greenish yellow which I named **Acadia**. I used this quite a bit and from its lines came a better seedling which led to my first introduced rebloomer, **Guiding Star**, which I found to be the surest of all the rebloomers I had in Iowa. It seemed to bloom almost constantly. Its big fault was that its late winter bloom was almost always on stalks that, like an oriental belly dancer, threw curves in every direction—fine for arrangements but not for show stalks.

My next introduced remontant was **Cloud Baron** which still seems to be the best fall bloomer for us here. As a bonus, it is quite a good blue. Some of our lines do carry remontant blood from the first crosses where we used some Sass rebloomers. We do have a number of varieties that rebloom such as **Velvet Shadows**, **Bittersweet Gold**, **Nice and Bright**, etc. Since I have been working with remontants for a few years I have some interesting things coming along. My interest has been elevated by the increasing number of requests from people who write to me in search of remontants, and by correspondence with Candy Thomas of West Jordan, Utah who seems to have the best collection of remontants that we know of. I have returned to a number of



things introduced by Lloyd **DEFT TOUCH** Zurbrigg and am getting good results now from several combined lines. Certainly no one can be more acclaimed than Lloyd when it comes to remontants. He is foremost in my opinion and has, by continued hard work and surely a lot of will power, kept the heads of the reblooming class above water, so to speak. In the process he has 'beached' some top notch beauties and real winners in his work. I would imagine he is getting

more and more requests for his (and other) rebloomers. It could well be that his variety, **Immortality**, is responsible for the increase we notice in remontant interest, for it is as fine an iris as one could desire...

## Bryce Williamson

It is my suspicion that unless someone finds new patterns and/or colors on the species level, a la Paul Cook and **Progenitor**, we are in for a period of refinement in Tall Bearded iris patterns, colors, and forms. Certainly even on that level, there is much to be done by the enthusiastic hybridizer and there are color patterns, such as yellow and brown bicolors, that should be genetically possible and would be very viable as garden subjects. In this upcoming time of refinement, I strongly suspect that the reblooming trait will become increasingly more important. From



**JESSE'S SONG**

the stand point of a commercial grower, rebloom is a no-win situation: the general gardening public likes, even loves, the idea that irises may rebloom and, therefore, it makes good sense for the commercial grower who has expanded into the general gardening public to grow and to sell rebloomers. However, the grower is faced with the dilemma that good rebloomers—things like **Corn Harvest** and **Earl of Essex**—rebloom so much that it is virtually impossible to find good, large rhizomes during digging season that have not either started to rebloom, or are already reblooming. Nevertheless, I do feel that plants that rebloom in the average gardeners' garden will be the key to making a major leap forward in the popularity of irises. I expect, as a result, to see more and more rebloomers introduced in the next ten years and to see the quality of those rebloomers move rapidly towards the quality of once blooming Tall Bearded irises. I would hope that, along with the development of better rebloomers, we will see increasing attention given in iris hybridizing, not only to flower form and coloring, but also to those equally important traits of good growth, reliability, ease of bloom, and hardy plants. As a hybridizer, I know how easy it is to be seduced by a beautiful and colorful flower and to ignore the reality that the plant beneath the flower is

not so good—my own **Macho** comes immediately to my mind.

Hopefully the next few years of hybridizing will see the production of irises that are beautiful in form and color, grow with ease, and may even rebloom. Like all gardeners, I find it distressing to buy many of the modern hybrids and find that they grow so poorly, or are so prone to disease, that I have to destroy them.



*Terry's piece opened this section—what better than he close it out—even more fitting that it deals with medians. After all... that's where it all started!*

## Border Bearded Iris

*Terry Aitken*

Hybridizers are speculators on a grand scale. As we plan for the upcoming year's activities, it is a good idea to evaluate past achievements, assess where we are now, then project our thoughts to where we are headed. What should our goals be in future hybridizing?

In a recent conversation with Carol Lanckow, we discussed the IB and BB classes. Carol's observation was that the IBs had improved so much in recent years that the BBs were becoming less important as a separate classification. My observation was that iris classifications based on time of bloom were becoming so obscure that they should be abandoned altogether.

While we each approached the subject from substantially different perspectives, experiences and motives, it was apparent that we both felt that a classification change was in the future. Another developing impact is the rebloom factor which will mean that all bearded iris classes will become everblooming. Then, bloomtime classifications will become totally irrelevant.

How far into the future are we looking? I would submit that we have the capabilities, right now, to produce traditional IBs (SDB x TB crosses) which will bloom smack in the middle of TB season. A potential cross would be **Lucky Duck**, an SDB which blooms with the early TBs, combined with **Peach Float**, a very late blooming TB whose seedlings seem to inherit this 'late' characteristic. Now the real question is, will we have a block of seedlings blooming in the middle of TB season that are

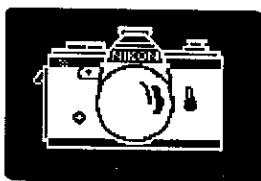
IBs or BBs? The class of '95 or '96 will probably contain such critters, and I challenge any of you to try to hang a traditional label on them.

Let us further muddy the waters by stating that we have BB breeders in our field right now that will bloom every sixty days. If these reblooming (everblooming) BBs are crossed with reblooming SDBs, there is a strong chance that some of these will bloom before and after the traditional TB season. Seedlings from this line of thinking may already be germinating, as this material goes to press. (Crosses made last August)

The time is rapidly approaching when the Judges' Manual and the Median classifications will have to be re-evaluated. And, of course, the first everblooming IB to come out of our garden will have to be named something like **Devil's Advocate**—or **Loony Tunes!** ☞

[Ed: Submitted for publication simultaneously in the *Medianite* and *Rebloomer*.]

**Kodachrome**  
FILM



**Kodalux**  
PROCESSING SERVICES

## Reblooming Iris Slides Available!

Eighty newer reblooming iris slides in one set, mostly 70's and 80's introductions; another set of older introductions. Pay postage and insurance both ways. For more information contact:

Earl E. Hall - Slide Chairman  
1495 Enterprise Road  
West Alexandria, OH 45381

## Reblooming Iris Slides Needed!

for a set of the newest rebloomers. When your iris are in bloom this season take photographs of your best rebloomers and send the slides to Earl.

# THE EXPERTS ANSWER

*A means by which you can query the pros—find the answer to your iris problems—have a resident 'answer man' at your elbow.*



Send questions to: Editor, *Reblooming Iris Recorder*, Rt-3, Box-135, Blackstone, VA 23824

Dear Dr. Weiler,

Nov. 12, 1989

**Q** I am working on a project whose objective is to produce iris as a flowering potted plant for the florist trade. I have talked with David Schreiner about the project, and he gave me your name as someone who might be able to help me.

Currently I am working with Standard Dwarf Bearded iris because the height is about right for a 4 or 5 inch pot. My progress so far is that short days will not permit the plants to flower while long days will stimulate flowering. I have just finished flowering **Little Sapphire** in the greenhouse, and I am interested in getting another flowering cycle. Am I concerned with reblooming or stimulating "normal" blooming?

If you have any ideas about how to stimulate another bloom cycle on plants that just finished blooming in the greenhouse, I would be very appreciative of any information that you can provide me.

I realize that the information that I have provided you is very brief, but I am very willing to provide more information if you have any questions. Thank you for any help that you can provide.

E. Jay Holcomb, Penn State Univ.  
Assoc. Professor of Floriculture

Dear Dr. Holcomb,

**A** Your project to develop bearded irises as a potted plant for the florist trade is an interesting one. Furthermore, I think standard dwarf bearded (SDB) irises are a good choice for pot culture because of their size. The problem of stimulating a second flowering cycle following "normal" spring bloom will likely not be easily done nor is it probable that solutions for producing a second flush of bloom for one cultivar will work without modification for other cultivars since all are complex hybrids of very diverse genetic backgrounds. Working with most SDB cultivars, I would say you are attempting to

stimulate rebloom, generally with plants which have little or no capacity to produce rebloom. On the other hand, if it were economically feasible to "trick" plants into a second growth cycle by giving them a cool, dormant period, I think you may well get a second "normal" bloom cycle from many of them but the second cycle would be separated from the first by a rather long interval of several weeks. This premise is based on an experience with tall bearded (TB) irises several years ago. Since TB irises form half of the genetic background of SDB, it may be possible to use the information here.

A collection of some 700 cultivars of TB irises was donated to California State University, Fresno. Plants were dug in late September and stored dry and bare root in a walk-in refrigerator kept at 40° F. for 5-6 weeks while soil beds were being prepared. Planting was begun in early November and completed by the middle of the month. Virtually all plants flowered outside in January while awe were having light frosts and during some of the shortest days of the year without supplemental lighting. Plants grown outdoors here without pre-planting cool treatment normally flower in April. The plants which bloomed in January did not flower again in the spring. However, I think you may well be able to treat irises as we currently handle strawberries in California to obtain more than one crop a year.

Strawberries have traditionally been planted in the fall and then flower and fruit heavily the following spring. Now, however, after the plants have fruited and completed a bit of growth they are dug and stored moist and cool at 40°F. for six weeks and then replanted. Within a month plants are flowering and setting fruit for the second time in a year. It is now usual to plant cool storage strawberry plants in August for September, October, and November harvests. Then the plants go dormant during the winter and give a fine crop again the following April and May. I think this technique may work for most SDB irises.

Amongst the SDB though, there has been developed, during the past ten years, an increasing number of cultivars over nearly the full color range of flowers which bloom more than once each year without artificial stimulation by chilling or modification of photoperiod. Some of these special cultivars rebloom in the climate of central California more than once. For instance, some bloom at the usual time here in late March and early April. They are vegetative for 2-4 weeks and then have another flush of bloom,

generally less spectacular than the first. These sane plants rebloom again in the fall. Our lowest winter temperatures drop to the mid-20s rather frequently during December and January. Where winters are more prolonged and colder, the second flush of bloom tends to come more rapidly and may produce just one, protracted spring bloom season. Fall rebloom on them has been reported in many areas of the country.

I suspect you would have greater success working with these reblooming (remontant) cultivars. Those that can remont have done so at various times of the year regardless of day length. Although most bloom has come early spring and during fall while temperatures are not so warm, some few cultivars produce occasional bloom even during mid-summer heat. This is not to say that photoperiod does not influence bloom performance but that some plants are apparently day neutral. It may well be that these reblooming clones would also respond repeatedly to a brief chilling period to rebloom following each chilling period during a given growing season.

If you would like to try, I will supply you with rhizomes of some SDB reblooming cultivars for experimentation. I would need to know how many you care to work with and how many rhizomes of each cultivar would be suitable for your work. Plants sent yet this fall might be stored for a while in a refrigerator and then planted and brought into bloom in the greenhouse in late January or February. Others, if planted outside this late would need a mulch following planting to prevent heaving with thaws and freezes. I will try to select, when possible, divisions of uniform size as stock permits hoping to eliminate one of the variables—size of rhizome—in producing flowers for you. From experience growing irises outside, it is known that blooming is, in part, dependent upon size of the rhizome and that most abundant bloom is obtained from well-grown plants with plump rhizomes. If all large rhizomes flower, then I would expect some vegetative growth to be necessary before additional bloom could be produced.

We in the Reblooming Iris Society would be most grateful to hear of your progress and even of failures in attempts to produce a florist crop with reblooming irises. If there is any additional information you would like or some other way I may help in providing plants next summer for further research, please let me know. Good luck on the project.

John Weiler, Prof. Emeritus  
Ornamental Hort., CSUF



December 19, 1989  
1320 Carlos Drive  
Lincoln, NE 68505

## To Our Irisarian Friends:

Another growing season has ended and the irises put to bed for the winter. 1989 was a tough year in some ways. The first six months of 1989 were a continuation of the drought, and the 4th driest in Lincoln history. In July and August when I should have been planting and watering, I was battling an 8 week siege of Lyme Disease. I did not miss any work at the clinics and hospitals, but there was no energy left over for the irises.

Abundant summer rain saved the season. The iris began to perk up and we ended with 231 days of iris bloom as compared with 203 in 1988. The first damaging freeze was the night of October 19-20. That would have been the end of iris bloom had I not chosen to protect some of the plants with wall 'o' water. Rose cones were inverted over them at night. As soon as buds showed color, the stalks were cut to bring indoors for bloom. The last cutting was November 27 and the last flower finished blooming December 3.

Outstanding performance by several reblooming seedlings in Allan Ensminger's guest bed and my garden speak well for the future. In Allan's garden I was especially impressed by Clarence Mahan's Sdlg 85-9 and Hall's 83-147-IN. In our garden Weiler's 82-188-4, Byer's E18-100, and Jensen's SR 6-5 were especially good. All four of the SDB seedlings listed in my seedling report are worthy of introduction.

With Allan Ensminger's encouragement, I registered his seedling 81-74 as **Peach Jam** in January. It gave outstanding performances with 29 days of rebloom in 1988 and another 23 days of bloom this spring. The colors and form are beautiful in cool weather, but flowers tend to be pale and floppy in 100° heat. Several of you have received rhizomes and your reports on how it performs in your area will help determine the decision of whether to introduce it commercially. Because of my illness I did not get it replanted until late August, so had to go without rebloom this fall. It is unique as being the only pink variegated iris with early fall rebloom.

One of the good things about 1989 was that schedule changes have allowed us to become

active in the Lincoln Iris Society. They are a great group of people and have been very tolerant of my rebloomer mania. Alan Ensminger and I cut several flowering stalks and brought them to the October 23, 1989 meeting. I was pleased by the interest in my proposal to plan the first Region 21 Fall Iris Show for 1991. I brought a stalk of **Low Ho Silver** to the November 27th meeting. At that meeting I was able to sign up three new members for the Reblooming Iris Society.

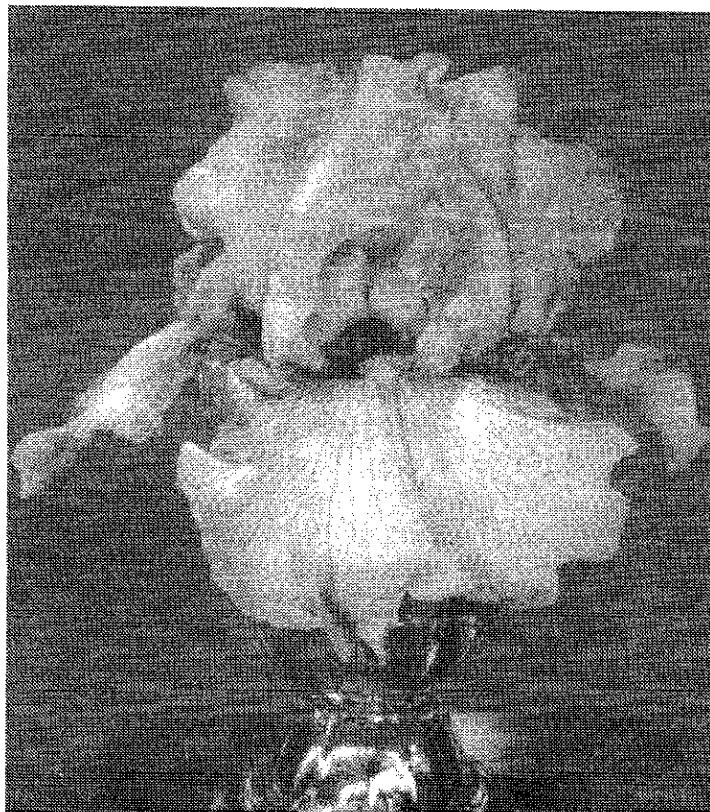
With the large number of new median rebloomers, I would like to suggest that the Reblooming Symposium be expanded to 25 tall bloomers and 25 median rebloomers as follows: 10 SDB, 5 BB, 5 IB, and 5 MTB and MDB combined. My first year of growing rebloomers **Baby Blessed** was the only SDB that could be depended upon to rebloom before freezing weather. Now we have **Refined**, **Artistic License**, **Golden Child**, **Smell the Roses**, **Leprechaun's Delight** and several to be introduced in 1990.

Garland Bare



Our backyard iris patch will not be on tour during the 1990 AIS Convention. However Dorothy and I would like to invite you to take a side trip to our place and see rebloomers in action.

EARL HALL'S SDLG, 86-144-2S  
( VIOLET MIRACLE X BROTHER CARL )



# Report on '89 Introductions

*Garland Bare*

**Banana Cream** (TB) Byers—Rebloomed Nov. 5-10 on 2 short stalks from a single rhizome. Creamy white flowers. 4 increases.

**Blackbeard** (BB) Weiler—Not a rebloomer; hopefully a season extender. 4 increases.

**Buckwheat** (TB) Byers—Beautifully formed yellow flowers well spaced on 34" stalk. Required lots of frost protection to rebloom Nov. 19-21.

**Celestial Happiness** (TB) Miller—Healthy. Arrived too late to evaluate for rebloom. 1 increase.

**Eternal Waltz** (TB) Danielson—Imagine an iris combining the vigor and stalks of **Stepping Proud** with the fragrance and early rebloom of **Immortality**! Picture this iris, combining the best of these two parents, being enjoyed by gardeners across North America two seasons a year! What a tribute to the memory of Henry Danielson, and how grateful we are to Luella for making it available! 34" stalk with 10 buds on 3 branches and terminal. Pale lavender flowers with green veins in falls bloomed Oct. 16-23. Flowers never turned white hers. Vigorous growth with 9 increases and 2 bloom stalks from a single rhizome planted in July.

**Grapelet** (MDB) Aitken—A healthy little MDB with 4 increases.

**Golden Child** (SDB) Byers—What an impact this will have! Stalk after stalk of bright yellow flowers from a large year old clump bloomed Sept. 19-Nov. 5. Surpasses even **Sun Doll** in growth and vigor.

**Gray Poupon** (SDB) Byers—Strong little grower with 6 increases.

**Heavenly Bliss** (TB) Byers—Sent up 3 stalks from a single rhizome which froze the last week in Nov. 4 increases.

**Her Royal Highness** (TB) Byers—Ordinary growth with 3 increases. No rebloom attempt.

**High Ho Silver** (TB) Byers—Beautiful silvery

white spring flowers but no rebloom for me yet. Rebloomed in Ensminger's garden in October.

**Juicy Fruit** (TB) Byers—7 buds on a crooked stalk. Two apricot blossoms survived the freeze to flower Nov. 3-5. 7 increases.

**Jungle Warrior** (SDB) Aitken—From remontant ancestry but not introduced as a rebloomer. 4 increases.

**Lichen** (TB) Byers—Green and gray might not sound like a pretty combination, but this really is a lovely iris. Sent up a bloomstalk in 100° weather 4 weeks after the rhizome was planted. Flowered August 4-9. Vigorous. 8 increases.

**Low Ho Silver** (IB) Byers—This beautiful and floriferous white intermediate has only one fault—buds tend to clump together in cool weather. Branching and lots of buds led to continuous bloom beginning Oct. 14. It closed out the iris season for us when the last flower folded on Dec. 3.

**Marita** (SDB) Zurbrigg—Slow start like its parent **Immortality**. Took off in October with 2 healthy increases per rhizome.

**Mini Busy** (SDB) Weiler—Another vigorous increaser with 12 growths from a single rhizome. Sent up a stalk too late to rebloom.

**Perfume** (MDB) Byers—Sent up a rebloom stalk too late. 2 increases.

**Prince of Earl** (TB) Moores—One of the finest new introductions. Resembles **Earl of Essex** but more vigorous and reblooms earlier. Both rhizomes rebloomed Oct. 10-22 with 6-7 blooms on strong slender stalks. 3 increases per rhizome.

**Stella Marie** (TB) Jensen—Not a rebloomer. 4 increases.

**Then Again** (TB) Byers—Tall stalk with 7 buds froze. Fortunately one bud survived to give us a medium blue flower on Oct. 27. 3 increases.

**Tu Tu Turquoise** (SDB) Black—Husky little plant with 10 increases.

**Twinkle Twinkle** (SDB) Byers—3 increases.

**Wake Up** (SDB) Black—Good growth; 7 increases. Not introduced as a rebloomer.



# Presenting the new batch of 1990 Byers Rebloomers.

For detailed descriptions—of these, our previous intros, and all of the other things we're listing this year—send for our free catalog.

MOONSHINE GARDENS  
P.O. Box 367 Potter Valley, CA 95469

## Reblooming Tall Bearded

- BLATANT** ♦ **SPIRIT OF FIJI** X **BROADWAY** ♦ Bright yellow S.; deep red F. with heavily marked hafts. ♦ Wanted to name this Brazen Hussy—but it was already used. Strong as an ox here and certainly livens up a fall garden party—she is loud! .....\$35.00
- CANTINA** ♦ **WELL ENDOWED** X **VIOLET MIRACLE** ♦ Red-violet S.; violet F. with bright red-violet borders. ♦ The parties start early here, in July or August—and they're hot! Not the best stalks but dandy form and coloring.....\$35.00
- CAROLINE GIBBS** ♦ **FILOLI** X **ANEW** ♦ Light, peachy apricot-orange with red-orange b. ♦ Bill's mother's namesake. Big flaring flowers on tall sturdy stalks. Not wide but so pretty and so strong! Usually starts in July here and just keeps on going. ....\$35.00
- EGGNOG** ♦ **GRACE THOMAS** X **DESIGNER GOWN** ♦ From toasty brown buds come these golden butterscotch flowers, sprinkled with cinnamon over the hafts. ♦ Class! Tremendous vigor and good rebloom—but later. ....\$35.00
- HAND PAINTED** ♦ **CANTINA** sib. ♦ A deep, blended "red" (beetroot/ruby/wine) with a spray of white around big, bushy, electric violet-blue b. ♦ Wild coloring and very strong, early rebloom.....\$35.00
- HAPPY NEW YEAR** ♦ **EARL OF ESSEX** X (**RANCHO ROSE** x **MOON MISTRESS**) ♦ Creamy white, sprinkled overall with tiny violet dots more heavily in the standards, yellow hafts heavily overlaid with violet. ♦ Confetti, drifting through the floodlights... Big flowers of incredible form—overlapping hafts. Low bud count but multitudes of stalks, from early October on makes for an impressive annual fall show! .....\$35.00
- ISTANBUL** ♦ **BROADWAY** X **EARL OF ESSEX** ♦ Clear tuscan yellow S.; red-purple stripes and stitching over white F. with an underlay of yellow at the hafts. ♦ In an exotic bazaar, long ago, some\*here in Aril country... Good and good rebloom, throughout October and November. EC 89 .....\$35.00

- MARQUEE** ♦ **ISTANBUL** sib. ♦ Tuscan yellow S.; creamy white F. bordered rose-red. ♦ Big showy flowers of super form on spectacular show stalks—always here! Late rebloom—November. ....\$35.00
- MIDNIGHT CALLER** ♦ **VIOLET MIRACLE** X **EVENING MIST** ♦ Silky deep purple S.; velvety blackish purple F. ♦ Always calls on us in October, sometimes in September as well. Very good flowers when they first open, but they can become a bit loose as they age. Towering show stalks always! ....\$35.00
- NORTHERN FLAME** ♦ **RETURNING PEACE** X (**STARTLER** x **SKY HOOKS**) ♦ Icy blue-white with bluish based b. heavily tipped tomato red. Shorter with smaller tailored flowers. Form's not great but the coloring is—those big, bright beards! Just keeps flaming on, spring through fall here—a real everbloomer! ....\$35.00
- SAXON** ♦ **SOAP OPERA** X **BROTHER CARL** ♦ creamy light yellow S. and narrow borders around white F. ♦ Superb ruffled flowers, superb stalks, superb vigor and superb rebloom—September or early October on. So crisp, clean and bright! ....\$35.00
- SEA WORLD** ♦ **RIO VISTA** X (**CEASE-FIRE** x **SKY HOOKS**) ♦ Light blue, misted light green with blue b. ♦ Can be a real bluegreen! Very good qualities all the way and gives loads of rebloom starting in September or October. ....\$35.00
- ST. PETERSBURG** ♦ **LEDA'S LOVER** X (**SKY HOOKS** x **CONDOTTIERE**) Silvery violet-white with light blue b. tipped yellow. ♦ So many good rebloomers came from this cross, that was not made with rebloom in mind! Neither **SKY HOOKS** or **CONDOTTIERE** nor **LEDA'S LOVER** has ever attempted a single rebloom stalk here, and we've had them all a decade or so! This usually starts in September or early October, sometimes during the summer. Big, wide, classy flowers on tall dream stalks ....\$35.00
- WELDON GIBBS** ♦ **ST. PETERSBURG** sib. ♦ Medium violet. ♦ Named for Bill's dad, who passed away last year. Was almost as excited about rebloomers as we are! Big, superb ruffled flowers of near horizontal flare. The rebloom comes either very early (July/August), or late (November) ....\$35.00
- WINTERLAND** ♦ **IMMORTALITY** X (**CEASE-FIRE** x **SKY HOOKS**) ♦ greenish white with light violet based b. tipped yellow. ♦ Excellent rebloom, usually starting in September. Super flowers, very heavily ruffled and the stalks can be super too, but they vary. ....\$35.00
- ZURICH** ♦ **WINTERLAND** sib. ♦ White with white based b. tipped bright yellow. ♦ A more ruffled **IMMORTALITY** that has brought to mind coins—scattered on the snow, sparkling in the sunlight! Usually goes all at once, the first of October here, every half-way decent sized increase giving a stalk—makes for quite a show! ....\$35.00

## Reblooming Medians

- PALM SPRINGS** ♦ **IB** ♦ **BABY BLESSED** X **AZURE GEM** ♦ Blended pale, silvery violet-blue, greenish at the sides of medium violet-blue b. ♦ An **IB**! from this cross!—that takes after mother for strength and reblooming talent and father for quality! .....\$15.00
- BABY BOOM** ♦ **SDB** ♦ **BABY TEARS** X **BABY BLESSED** ♦ Pale yellow S. with creamy white edges; medium yellow F. ♦ Incredible vigor and incredible reblooming ability! A carpet of color, for months, every fall here! ....\$10.00

# Prairie in Bloom: Guest Remontant Iris

Alan Ensminger

Until this past summer we haven't been very enthused about Remontant Irises. Seldom have they rebloomed for us here in Nebraska and most always when they do they are victims of either bugs (who consider iris blossoms delicious) or the first frost.

We've assumed that our problem with remontants has been due, in part, to our cultural practices which include no watering during hot, dry summers. It's been our experience that the TBs bloom their best the Spring after a Summer that is the despair of all of the farmers due to lack of rainfall. We have reasoned that this is so because the tetraploid TBs originally came from the Middle East where hot, dry summers are normal.

So the summer of '89 was hot and dry and the guest beds were not watered because we want the irises to bloom prolifically for our AIS convention in 1990. We were amazed that despite the lack of summer rain the beds of Remontant Irises had considerable bloom last summer and fall.

We received about 54 varieties of remontants, 42 in one bed and 12 spilled over into another. This represents one each of all of the guest irises that were identified as remontants. These 54 varieties were sent to us by ten hybridizers.

It is our intent that all of the above irises will be identified as remontants and that all of those that bloomed in the summer or fall of '89 will have a color spot on the name plate so that the convention people can recognize which of the remontants have rebloomed in Nebraska.

These irises were received as Convention guests and planted in the summer of '88. They were planted two feet apart, two rows in beds 36" wide. In many cases growth was so vigorous that it has become evident that they should have been planted 30" apart.

We failed to keep record of those that bloomed the spring of '89, so we are not sure whether some may be only fall bloomers. Several of these large clumps were almost decimated by the amount of the fall bloom. At least two of them were down to two fans when cold and frost stopped them from blooming.

The following is a listing of those that actually bloomed in the summer and fall of '89. There

were others that were starting bloomstalks in late October but we did not see the flower.

Whose...	Did what...	July	Aug	Sep	Oct
Monty Byers	Billionaire			x	
	Blue Moonlight			x	
	Duke of Earl			x	x
	Eternal Bliss	x	x		x
	Golden Child			x	x
	High Ho Silver				x
	Low Ho Silver			x	x
	Misty Twilight			x	
	Smell the Roses		x	x	
Earl Hall	Queen Dorothy		x	x	
	Violet Returns	x	x		
	Sdlg 82-99-135			x	
	Sdlg 83-42-15				x
	Sdlg 83-147IN				x
Frank Jones	Autumn Bugler	x	x	x	
	Grape Adventure			x	
	Lady Emma		x	x	
	Sdlg J82-35			x	
	Sdlg J79-27	x	x		
	Sdlg J79-67		x	x	
Bernice Miller	Glowing Seraphim				x
Clarence Mahan	Sdlg 85-9			x	
Walter Moores	Dime Spot				x
Lloyd Zurbrigg	Immortality		x		x
	Sdlg V103-4-2				x



FRANK JONES SEEDLINGS - LATE JULY IN VIRGINIA  
ALL ARE ON ONE YEAR CLUMPS  
FROM THE LEFT, J86-20 J79-27 J67-23 J82-35





## Notes from the Dish Garden

When you read this, it will be spring; the iris foliage will be green, the stalks ascending, and in the favored parts of the country, there will be bloom. But when I write this, it's December and the season is over. I cut the last stalks the day before Thanksgiving, and wished, as I always do, for a switch that would shut off rebloomer power, "You hear me, you just stop now!" Of course, they never quite do. That thickness in the fan of **Many Happy Returns** will push up some unseasonably warm day in January, and spring bloom is lost for another year. Such are the frustrations of rebloom in the northern states, but oh, my friends, the compensations make up the deficiencies!

I garden in Yakima, Washington, one hundred and fifty miles southeast of Seattle, with the Cascade Range blocking the rain to the west, and the high sagebrush desert stretching away to the east. The climate zone is listed as 5; the soil is alkaline and rather rocky, (old creek stones keep surfacing.) Our growing season ranges from 170 to 180 days. The normal temperature span is -10° to 100°, with rainfall averaging 8-10 inches, most of which comes as snow December through February.

In the fall of 1987, Yakima was asked to host the AIS Region 13 fall meeting in 1990. The following spring, because of a fledgling interest in remontancy, I scratched out beds for a test garden of recent rebloomers under the large satellite dish in our yard (the space was available, and visitors are asked to overlook things towering over the flowers) The patch started informally; a friend in Santa Cruz sent cultivars that rebloom for her. (Real optimism, but not without success.) Next, I asked for contributions from hybridizers. Thanks to their generosity (and it has been astounding—irisarians are astonishingly generous,) we have 138 cultivars in the "Dish" garden, and 86 bloomed or tried this year, (with 20 more in view last season, but resting presently.)

In 1987- 88, I had experimented with a Reemay cover for oranges, pinks, etc., from December 1st to Feb. 15th. That winter was mild and spring bloom was early and terrific. Last year, with the new test patch in place, nothing was covered. The winter was hard. Temperatures never dropped below -5°, but there was no snow cover and strong north winds brought the chill factor to -50°. Cultivars which had bloomed late the previous fall staggered; but most recovered by the end of the following summer. At least 30% of spring TB bloom in general was lost, but the SDBs were in paradise, many producing multiple stalks and blooming over 30 days. During spring cleaning, all irises were fed with 10-10-10 and additional superphosphate—about a tablespoon of each for a one-year TB clump. The garden contains 1,000 irises, (over half are seedlings), with a cross-section of bearded cultivars from MDBs to Talls, some Siberians, a few Japanese (which must be acidified), even Pacificas as tests this year. Rebloomers get water weekly during the hot, dry summer; though next year, a bit less, as two-year clumps showed an increased tendency toward soft rot. Ditch irrigating helps. There is little other disease, just aphids and thrips.

Bloom season for medians began mid April, with peak about Mother's Day. Tall bloom began in early May, peaked Memorial Day and extended to mid-June. Rebloom began in June, with Paul Black's MDB **Garden Gnome**, a neglecta with a red-tipped, white beard, (and no spring bloom due to the cold snap), "repeating" a stalk in June and another in July.

Best performances in the medians included Monty Byers' **Perfume**, a dainty white MDB with a soft blue spot and wonderful fragrance, giving 7 stalks on a two-year clump, beginning in September. Monty's near-black **Darkling** and neglecta **Sparkplug**, each bloomed 6 stalks in October and November. **Golden Child** had a succession of 7, July to October, and his peach amoena BB, **Candyland**, had 5 stalks, August through October. I have high hopes for the future, as Monty takes this wonderful vigor another generation towards elegance. John Weiler's fine dwarfs included plantings this summer of **Refined** and **Leprechaun's Delight**, and both obligingly put up sunny stalks on every rhizome this fall. A large clump of **Plum Wine**, produced 7 stalks in November, a bit late this year; and **Rainbow Sherbet**, a blend of pineapple and orange flavors, gave 5 in July-August. Ben

Hager's maroon amoena Ditto was reliable, as was Lloyd Zurbrigg's yellow Baby Blessed. Jayne Ritchie's pastel blue and chartreuse Cry Baby has produced fine stalks for 3 consecutive years, and this year's 2 year clump was the star performer, with 8 stalks from August to November, most with 3 to 4 buds on 13" stems.

The most exciting new median this fall was Tu Tu Turquoise (Black '89), a real turquoise with a darker fall spot of the same shade. I also liked Weiler's handsome new neglectas 82-29-7 end 85-23-13, and his Leprechaun's Delight showed both form and fine ruffles on its fall bloom.



Marky Smith

GRACE THOMAS ZURBRIGG '80

Among the tall, there were many stylish performers: Bennett Jones' Orange Harvest began in August, with upright 36" stalks and a succession of rich dark orange flowers of very good form. Ben Hager's violet Feedback gave the same fine continuing bloom nearby. Schreiner's Best Bet, which grows well in this cold climate, had 5 stalks from September on. Its tendency to sprawl can be forgiven in view of its magnificent contrasting blues and wide form. Breakers had a breathtaking display of spring stalks with 9 buds each, but refuses to rebloom here, as does its parent Victoria Falls. However, both rebloomed last year for neighbors living 2-5 blocks away, and two of Terry Aitken's Victoria Falls seedlings produced fine blue.violet stalks here this summer.

Corn Harvest was its old faithful self, but much later this season, with 11 stalks on a two-year clump. Earl of Essex bloomed or tried 6 late in a smaller clump, and Immortality bloomed on every mature fan in September and October, but had trouble with rot. Monty Byers has had fine success with many new introductions and seedlings, including the well formed lavender-white Eternal Bliss, with heavily ruffled, smaller flowers, continuously in bloom on 9 stalks from August onward. The soft gold Soap Opera seedling, Buckwheat, another ever-blooming star with fine form, managed 8 successive stalks, beginning in July; its sib, D69-101, produced 5 more. Juicy Fruit, a mix of strawberries, lemons and apricots, gave a succession of 5; Blue Moonlight, with its clear color, produced a display of 6 in October and November. New plants from several breeders include: Dime Spot (2 rhizomes, 2 fine stalks this fall ), Grace Thomas, which performed equally well ; and its seedling, Jennifer Rebecca, which tried on both rhizomes. Ocean Pacific, Pink Attraction, Glowing Seraphim, Heathen, and Light Beam are other new additions to watch next year.

Among seedlings under number, Ben Hager has a sharp violet-blue plicata, RE4889Pr/WhPcSh, and also a nice white, RE4186 Wh5,



Marky Smith

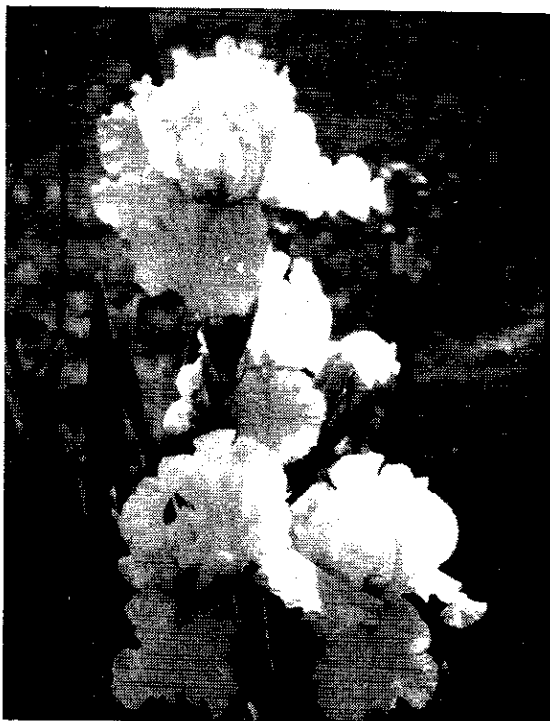
BEN HAGER'S SDLG RE4889Pr/WhPcSh

which gave 4 stalks this year on a 2 year clump. Ben is introducing eight rebloomers in the spring, and these may be included. Monty Byers'

lilac-blue seedlings, D10-112, (5 stalks August through October) and D10-113, are both sibs to **Banana Cream**, a warm white with yellow buds. All three of these Soap Opera children have fine form and rebloom here. John Weiler has several exciting TBs, including 82-178-3, a gold-edged white, with a bushy red beard, and 82-183-1, a seedling from a Satin Satan sib, with wonderful dark color, form and ruffles. These bloomed here last year when fresh from John's garden, but were still pushing stalks this year when cut. I have some crosses from **Breakers**, **Seawolf**, **Victoria Falls**, **Latest Style**, and **Corn Harvest**, among others, all due to bloom next spring for the first time.

One stalk of **Earl of Essex** remains in bloom in the kitchen 10 days after cutting, and after many previous nights with temperatures as low as 25°. There is no truth to the rumor that northern irisarians must suffer without flowers from mid-June until April the following year.

HI HO SILVER MONTY BYERS '89



Marky Smith



## Omaha Meeting Schedule:



Sunday, May 20: Board Meeting -  
JFK-A

Monday, May 21: Rebloomers  
Iris Society Section  
Meeting - JFK-B

## 1989 Rebloom in Canada

November 17, 1989

It appears that the iris are finally sending up the last of their blooms for this season. As we had such a very cold and unusual winter last year with extreme changes in temperature (going from about 53°F to -4°F the next day), and without any snow cover, the results on many of the plants have been unpredictable. Many of my old favorite and very dependable rebloomers have not bloomed at all this year. Of my older varieties, only **Golden Encore** and **Autumn Mist** bloomed in the spring. In the following list, • indicates those that are now in bloom or still trying to bloom:

### Tall Bearded:

Autumn Encore•  
Coral Charmer  
Double Scoop  
English Cottage•  
Glacier King•  
Purple of Tyre•  
Retreat  
Sign of Leo  
Velvet Delight  
Ultra Echo

### Dwarf Varieties:

Joy Bringer  
Khaki Print  
Leprechaun's Delight  
Refined  
Sunstrip  
Third World

As I stated before, last winter was very hard on all the gardens here, and seems to have affected their blooming cycles (at least as far as the irises are concerned), as I have heard the same complaint from others. They either did not bloom or were very short—some TBs were only 10-12 inches high. Many of us lost all or part of our rose gardens, even Butchart's Gardens did. Many nurseries suffered great damage as well, therefore I do not think that this year's blooming times can be considered the normal times one would expect.

Hopefully we will have a more normal winter this year and the next results will be more accurate. We seem to suffer from a severe cold spell every 12-15 years, so we should have a reprieve for a few more years.

Mary Hanson, Victoria, B.C., Canada

## Rebloomers in Northern California

February 9, 1990

You might be interested in my experiences in growing reblooming iris in the Redwood Empire on the coast of northern California.

When it comes to growing iris, I'm a neophyte. After I retired as an electrical engineer, the first iris I planted were some I saw advertised in a garden magazine in 1983. They were beautiful and impressed me so I attended the Redwood Iris Show in May 1984 and again in 1985 when I joined RIS, but I didn't attend my first meeting until January 1986. That summer one of the RIS members wanted to renovate her iris garden, so another member and I helped her. I took samples of rhizomes to plant. Jean Near mentioned some of these iris were rebloomers but her comments didn't really register. I was surprised when **Sky Queen**, **Cayenne Capers**, and **Corn Harvest** bloomed that fall. The next fall (1987) I was really bitten when those 3 bloomed along with **Victoria Falls** which was magnificent. The clump was 30" in diameter and put up blooms from the third week of September until we had killing frost on Thanksgiving morning. My wife used many in bouquets for our church sanctuary, and people were amazed to learn these iris were locally grown.

I joined AIS in January 1987, and in one of the Bulletins I saw an advertisement for a group of reblooming iris which I bought in late summer. They did not rebloom that fall. **Attention Please**, **Rainy Falls**, **Spyglass Hill** and **Sky Fire** rebloomed in 1988, but **Attention Please** and **Rainy Falls** were grotesque; they looked like a 9-fingers baseball glove on the end of a stick. In fairness I should point out, that in July and September when these rebloomed, we had 15 consecutive days of 100° plus with one day in September of 118°. Before you Easterners throw up your hands in horror at such temperatures, let me say that we have very low humidity, and 90° is a nice summer day for us. With temperatures over 100 we have the house cooler on after lunch, but we sleep under blankets at night as our temperatures at dawn will be in the low 50s.

Moonshine Gardens are readily available to visit so I purchased rhizomes from Monty and Bill in the summer of 1988. These were planted in virgin soil which had been rototilled and ridged about 6' high on 4 foot centers with the top of the ridge about 24" wide. Into this I rototilled 4-6" of dry horse manure which I use as a source of humus rather than fertilizer. In the summer I have to water the plants once a week as we don't have rain from mid-April until mid-October. I gave the plants a light application of plant food—fish emulsion or Miracle-Gro every other week.

The summer of 1989 was cool for us with only 3 days in July when temperatures exceeded 100°. With the exception of **Attention Please**, **Beverly Sills**, **Breakers**, **Cayenne Capers**, **Sky Queen**, **Sky Fire**, **Spyglass Hill** and **Victoria Falls**, this was the first summer for those iris listed in the tabulation.

The first two blooms, **Brother Carl** and **Coral Charmer**, on August 10, had the flowers bunched together with poor branching. On August 22, **Coral Charmer** had a second bloom stalk with 7 buds and nice branching. **Billionaire** had huge bloom stalks that wouldn't fit into a wine bottle. Although I planted single rhizomes, most of them put up multiple bloom stalks. On November 9, I was surprised to find bloom on **Spinning Wheel** in another garden.

Although there were November temperatures in the high 20s, my iris did not freeze. In late November the thermometer dipped down to the low 20s and 19° in early December. I brought in a number of bud stalks but they were frozen. The last stalks which bloomed in the house were brought in on November 25th.

Several of the reblooming stalks were misshapen. Several stalks grew out parallel to the ground and then curved up. Two stalks of **Tea Leaves** grew straight up with a Z-kink in the middle.

The miniature blooms last only a day or two in bouquets.

Monty Byers can't get **Victoria Falls** to rebloom in Potter Valley. Mine rebloomed just once and I have not reset my rebloomers. Evidently reblooming iris need to be replanted every year in order to get good rebloom every year. Do the experts know why?

[Ed. *Watch the Experts Answer Column, Fall '90.*]

I note that Earl Hall lives in West Alexandria, Ohio. I was born and lived the first 21 years of my life in Mt. Vernon. Back in the 1920s, the only iris I remember were white, light lavender, pale yellow and one with gold standards and red falls.

*J. Nelson Jones, Redwood Valley, California*

## More From California

**N**ovember 13, 1989:

Yes. I've discovered rebloomers. I've had some all along but didn't know it because I haven't been caring for them as rebloomers. I did more watering and fertilizing this year and

was rewarded with rebloom on several iris.

We are at 250 feet sea level in the upper Sacramento Valley, 200 miles north of San Francisco. We get about 20 inches of rainfall yearly with hardly any during the summer; the first fall rains come mid-October and the last spring showers show up in April. Our first frosts usually hit in November—temperatures hardly ever below 25° It snows 3 or 4 inches maybe once every ten years. As you can see, we have a good climate for rebloomers.

**Hosanna** rebloomed for me in August, and **Victoria Falls** put up a beautiful three-open-bloom stalk in September—perfect timing for our local society fall meeting where Bill Maryott gave a presentation on rebloomers. A friend had two nice stalks of **Violet Classic** in bloom on October 30th. His **Baby Blessed** is also in full splendor. My **Grey Poupon**, SDB, (Byers '89), was planted only three weeks when it burst into bloom the last of October and it has babies! I couldn't believe bloom in such a short time.

In early November I had bloom stalks up on **Curtain Call** and **Hosanna**; **Frivolity** opened a nice show stalk on November 1st, and on November 12th I took **Curtain Call** to our local society meeting with 5 open blooms evenly spaced on the main stalk and two side stalks from one fan—unbelievable. **Smell the Roses**, SDB, (Byers '88) was also out for this meeting.

**Cayenne Capers** bloomed in our Society garden at a local museum and I notice that I also have a stalk up; another **Victoria Falls** is nearly ready to open. Our weather is unseasonably warm for November—no frost yet. The bloom goes on!  
*Rex Clark, Orland, California*

## ...And More From California

January 1990:

**Noteworthy Performers:** In the 1988 report I praised **Radiant Angel**, **Immortality**, **Corn Harvest**, and **Double Praise**. These all continued to be star performers this year. In addition it is necessary to mention several others. **Artistic Gold** appears in both gardens where it was in bloom January, February, during normal spring blooming season, September, October, November, and December, and is in bloom in January 1990. It may not be the latest in form, but it loves this mild climate.

**Cease Fire** occurs in both gardens also, with three different clumps in the Corona garden be-

cause I like it and use it in hybridizing. It bloomed in January, February, during the spring bloom period, and in September through December also. It is presently in bloom in January 1990.

**Autumn Echo** appears as one large clump in La Mesa. It bloomed in January, February, July, October, and magnificently all December and January. It is blooming so heavily it will leave just a few increases, but it has been frequent of bloom and delightful of color.

**Ravenwood** has clumps in both gardens, and, for an eastern-bred iris, it does very well as a transplanted Californian. In one garden or the other it was blooming in January, regular spring season, July, August, September, and December. In December it set three pods from its grandchild, **Midnight Pacific**, which it is dutifully carrying through the rains that finally arrived in January and broke our drought.

**Big Disappointments:** Last year **Symmetry**, **Summer Luxury**, **Designer Gown**, and **White Reprise** made the hall of shame. **Symmetry** had not bloomed in a year at that point. It still hasn't, and this is not a terribly harsh climate. **Summer Luxury** did bloom this spring for the first time, but has not offered to rebloom. **Designer Gown** blooms during the spring most springs. **White Reprise** in two years now has not rebloomed, and is not doing well during the spring either, offering a couple of weak stalks when irises all around it are showing off. One wonders why this happens. It is happening also with **Heather Blush**, which has put on spectacular spring and rebloom shows in this garden, but has been sulking for the last two years after being divided and moved to a different location in the garden. The location probably is not at fault: irises all around **Heather Blush** are blooming well and the rebloomers around it are doing very well. Several of these irises will get one more spring and fall to do their number, and then they get the hook. **Paprika Fono's** is the big disappointment for this year. It is an extremely vigorous grower, and I already have clumps of it in both La Mesa and Corona. I have given rhizomes away also, after just two years of growing it from one rhizome. But it has a reputation as a rebloomer, and despite its vigorous growth, it has not offered to rebloom in either garden in those two years. Since this is not the most difficult climate in the world in which to get rebloom, I have to classify it as a big disappointment, though it is extremely beautiful. Maybe it will rebloom next year.

*R. C. Richards, La Mesa and Corona, California*



Ben R. Hager  
Sidney P. DuBose

309 Best Road South  
Stockton CA 95205  
(209) 465-8578

## MELROSE GARDENS

### REBLOOMING IRIS for 1990

**AUTUMN CLOUDS** (Hager) Tall branched stems, wide, full blossoms: - Blue-white. Spring and early September and October. (White Elephant x Avalon Bay) X Welcome Aboard.----- 35.00

**AUTUMN CIRCUS** (Hager) Blue-violet plicata; Standards stitched, Falls striped. (Space Odyssey x Socialite) X Earl of Essex. Spring and September through October ----- 35.00

**BLUE ANEW** (Hager) Wide petaled, ruffled, mid-blue. Wonderful branching; sister to AUTUMN CLOUDS. Spring and August to frost.----- 35.00

**BONUS MAMA** (Hager) Wide petaled and fluted white; short stem but proving a wonderful parent. (Ice Sculpture x Geometrics) x I Do  
-----BONUS SELECTION-----No Sales

**CHEROKEE TEARS** (Hager) Rich burnt-sienna brown; small orchid-blue areas at tips of beards. Sister to Verismo. ----- 35.00

**HEMSTITCHED** (Hager) Lavender-blue "hemstitched" edges on all petals. Nice form. Sister to AUTUMN CIRCUS. Spring and August to frost.----- 35.00

**RECURRING RUFFLES** (Hager) A parade of blue-violet ruffles. Spring and September to November. (White Elephant blue sib x (Seedling involving *I. balkana* x Shipshape) x Freedom Road) X (Silver Flow x Ruffled Ballet) ----- 35.00

**SUNNY SHOULDERS** (Hager) Pearl-white; prominent deep yellow shoulders. Spring and September to frost. (Dream Affair x (Ice Sculpture x Liz)) x ((Sdg. x Glacier Gold) x Vernal Falls)) X Gold Burst. ----- 35.00

The above varieties were chosen for their EARLY fall bloom primarily. These begin bloom for us in the central valley of California in August and early September, so we hope they will bloom at these times in shorter season gardens. All are improvements in form and vigor. Both Mother Earth (15.00) and Many Happy Returns (20.00) crossed with Bonus Mama gave 100% rebloom in the seedlings this year. **TRY IT!** Bonus Selection is an extra on orders of \$35.00 or more. Color Photos, Full Descriptions, etc. in our 1990 Brochure: \$1.00 on request or order from this ad.





## Cards and Letters

Made the Sunday Edition of the Milwaukee Journal with my rebloomers—although they wouldn't mention Reblooming Iris, as none of the local garden supply sources carry them. At least 600,000+ people were exposed to what an iris looks like. *[although the article ran in May, the photo of Howard amid a forest of reblooming irises was taken on September 18th.]*

Howard Brookins  
Menomonee Falls, WI

I wonder if it would be a welcome service to RIS Life Members to print a list of the names of such members and the dates they became Life Members. I don't recall this ever having been done....I think it would be a good idea to have a printed acknowledgement. *[certificate or letter?]*

Raymond G. Smith  
Bloomington, IN

11-6-89: ...Best year ever on rebloom; some blooms still opening. I don't know how as it was 24°. Of course they look a little weird. I covered a couple and they're okay. Lots of stalks in the house and to the neighbors.

Diana Nicholls  
Gainesville, VA

...I do have a few to add to the list of bearded rebloomers: **Jean Siret DB** (Andre 1926), **Fair Enough TB** although registered as TMB (C.G. White 1935) and **Lalitha Mallette TB** (Edinger 1964)....probably less than helpful because the three are probably not in commerce. One year (1974 or '75) I had lots of fall bloom with no attempt at inducing it; and the interesting point that emerged as I noted what was flowering was that all derived from either **Melitza, Sultan's Robe** or **Lalitha Mallette**. With a minimum of attention, my most reliable TB rebloomers are **Jaunty Texan, Sky Queen** and probably **Fair Enough** (though not with the profusion of the other two).

Phil Edinger

Cloverdale, CA [Note from the 'HIPS side of the family': this letter could have gone in *ROOTS*

equally well, but Mike wouldn't let me have it!]

...Am trying to follow "tips" about dividing, watering and fertilizing! It is exciting to see bloom out of so-called *season* for iris. ...Reblooming Iris people are furnishing a lot of good info and we recognize a lot of work involved. Thanks to you all, including Mike Lowe who says: "They don't bloom in North Dakota." Not so! I gave my mother, who lived in Williston, ND., a whole bunch of older hybrids several years ago—they lived and bloomed. Thanks, Mike, for a good *Recorder*.

Millie Townsend  
Independence, MO

...I am soliciting reblooming iris donations from members and hybridizers. The irises will be planted in historic Lincoln Park on the near north side of downtown Chicago near Lake Michigan. The soil is beautiful black dirt mixed with beach sand. It gets watered and fertilized regularly by the park. The iris are planted along with other garden perennials, and not in sterile looking test garden rows. They all do receive a full day's sun, and are protected from early frost because of the lake. Thousands of people visit Lincoln Park and it is one of the big attractions in Chicago. Plants can be sent by mail or UPS until late September or early October. I would be glad to take photos and make written reports for those who contribute seedlings/introductions. ...This is an excellent opportunity for hybridizers and growers to get test results (and possibly publicity) from the Chicago area. I may even get judges to view them as Lincoln Park is very well known, centrally located and easy to get to.

Brian Clough  
Chicago, IL

...I was completely bowled over by the stalk of **Violet Miracle** that had 8 flowers in bloom at one time...Another stalk had 6 of them out simultaneously. These may not be records but it is an all time high for me....That display in the yard was truly spectacular, for with **Violet Miracle** and **Mable Andrews** blooming on several plants as well as similar bloom on **Corn Harvest, English Cottage** and **Red Revival**, they really caught every eye that went by. ...Next year I will probably use all of these prodigious rebloomers in my hybridizing program. I would be foolish not to.

Dudley Carson  
Willamina, OR



## Letters & Cards; cont.

Here's a letter from Holland. I am writing to you of my experience in the autumn of 1989 with reblooming iris. Most of them I had bought in 1988. All rebloomed for the first time in my garden this fall except **Dentelle Rose** and **Lugano** which rebloom every year. The reblooming started on 10 July with **English Cottage** and finished on 10 November with the first frost. We had a very nice and warm summer and a dry autumn with very much sunshine.

I am a professional grower of botanic lilies, especially European wild alpine lilies (3 acres). I have 1 acre of TB irises of more than 600 varieties and 3 acres in "White Cabbage." Rebloom on established plants in Netherlands:

Al Segno	Earl of Essex	October Sun
Annikins	English Cottage	Orchid Prize
Artistic Gold	Fair Flora	Pharaoh's Dream
Attention Please	Feed Back	Prelude
Autumn Elegance	Garden Grace	Primrose Drift
Autumn Encore	George Specht	Princess
Autumn Memory	Gold Burst	Provencal
Bandolier	Gold of Autumn	Rajah Brooke
Baroque	Granada Gold	Rapunzel's Tower
Belvi Queen	Hallowed Thought	Red Polish
Brown Duet	Immortality	Ringo
Carrillon Bells	Invitation	Scarlet Ribbon
Cayenne Capers	Irish Tune	Second Look
Cherished	Late Lilac	Sign of Leo
Cherry Garden	Latest Style	Siva Siva
Coral Charmer	Lemon Duet	Sky Queen
Cotsgold	Lugano	Spyglass Hill
Crinoline	Lunar Fire	Summer Holidays
Dante's Inferno	Madame F. Debat	Summer Silk
Dawn of Fall	Mariachi	Sunny Delight
Dentelle Rose	Marshmallow World	Sunset Sky
Desiderata	Meggie	Touch of Spring
Disco Music	Needlecraft	Victoria Falls
Dorcas Lives Again	Northland	Violet Miracle
Dualtone	Now and Later	Witch of Endor

Nico de Geus  
Hasselaarsweg 1a  
1704 DW, Heerhugowaard  
Netherlands



## Treasurer's Report

No report received

## REGION 14 FALL SHOW REPORT '89

An accredited show of reblooming irises was staged in conjunction with the Region 14 fall meeting in Concord, California. Surprising to many was the diversity of the irises shown. Seven exhibitors entered a total of 57 cultivars, including seedlings. Named cultivars included 7 SDB, 2 BB and 1 IB; the remaining 24 were TB. There were two beardless entries and 21 seedlings were exhibited.

Best specimen in the show was won by Monty Byers with the IB, **Sixteen Candles** (Byers '89) a light yellow near-amoenia with just a tint of cream in the standards, good branching and form.

The rosette for best tall bearded Iris went to **Lemon Reflection** (R. G. Smith '78) exhibited by Roris Gardens.

Best seedling was judged to be **Istanbul** (Byers '90), a tall bearded iris with creamy, yellowish-white standards and falls but the falls stippled and edged with red-brown plicata marks. Stalk, branching and bud count were all good. This was also exhibited by Monty Byers.

Among the SDB, most spectator interest and comment was on **Little Showoff** (E. Hall '89). It has very broad flower parts of palest blue, almost white, and bushy, darker blue beards tipped cream.

Several outstanding TB seedlings shown were much advanced over existing remountants in petal width, ruffling, and flower form covering a color range from white, blue and violet selfs and white ground plicatas of blue and violet edgings.

Enthusiasm for the fall bloom among those in attendance was obvious and even included some who have expressed doubt about the desirability of remountant irises in the past. *Gigi Hall, John Weiler*

### SIXTEEN CANDLES QUEEN OF SHOW ADMIRER BY PROUD PAPA



# With Reblooming Irises, Anytime is Iris Time

*Dudley Carson*

If the above statement seems like hyperbole (and it obviously will to anyone who lives in a cold winter area), don't be too sure that it is entirely wrong. This can and does happen occasionally in California; and it is happening more and more frequently as increasing numbers of hybridizers are getting into the reblooming iris hybridizing game.

Have you ever thrilled at the sight of your new seedlings as they open up their first florets? If your answer to that question is "No," be assured that you are missing out on one of the most exciting aspects of growing irises. Nothing else quite compares with the excitement of seeing your very own babies as each new crop puts on its first show.

After you've made your cross, or crosses, you will probably spend much time studying the ancestry of these plants you used, trying to decide what your seedlings will look like when they bloom. Or perhaps you made up your mind about these possibilities before you made your crosses. Well friend, you will be in for more surprises than you can imagine.

Now that Reblooming Irises are gaining in "respectability" and have glamour enough to equal the "oncercs," we have an exciting new dimension to work with in our hybridizing plans, goals, and dreams. It has been a long and arduous road the hybridizers have travelled to bring remontancy to its present state. It certainly has not happened overnight. Many have been the rebuffs the reblooming hybridizers and enthusiasts have encountered along the way. Unfortunately, some of the earliest reblooming irises were anything but glamour queens. The comment often heard from irisarians who were not interested in plants that would rebloom was "Why would anyone want an iris to rebloom if it is so ugly that one can't stand to see it once?" And there was some truth in what they said. Fortunately there have been those stalwart visionaries who have seen beyond such blindness and were able to envision what would develop into the beautiful rebloomers we have today.

There have been numbers of hybridizers from colder sections of the country who have been making strides in developing the winter

hardy rebloomers that will rebloom early enough in the season to be enjoyed in almost any of the northern states—and even these cold climate rebloomers are gaining in beauty. Have you noticed that **Immortality** has made it into the 100 favorite list of the AIS Symposium? How do you think it made it? By being beautiful and by being a reblooming iris, that's how! This means it has proven itself to sufficient numbers of people who are accepting - and promoting - the reblooming iris. Keep your eyes on the Symposium and you'll see more and more reblooming irises appearing on that honored list.

So how do you get started on a hybridizing program—a program of developing more and better rebloomers? Find the names and addresses of those in your region, or regions with similar weather patterns, who are growing reblooming irises. Obtain from these people the names and addresses of other reblooming hybridizers, and also get some of the rebloomers from your local people. Select those that are proving to be the most reliable rebloomers for those people. These plants may or may not be the most modern in form. However, study the vigor of these rebloomers. In all probability you will discover that they are the most vigorously growing plants in the garden. That seems to be a characteristic of many rebloomers; and surely that is one of the things we are looking for as parents of more and better future reblooming irises. Vigor and willingness (even determination) to rebloom should be part of the goal one should strive towards. Many of the Queens of the Show, beautiful as they are on the show table, do not have the vitality needed in developing the future Queens the reblooming hybridizers are going to be producing.

Well, now that you've found the reliable rebloomers for your region, you need to be just as selective in your choice of the other irises you want to use as parents. Study with equal care the qualities found in your lovelies at home. What are the characteristics you look for in selecting any iris? Do they have healthy fans that are free of fungus diseases? Do the flower stalks have good branching? Is the branching as good or better than your reblooming parent? Do the plants have great vigor, lots of divisions? Are there double or triple buds at each placement? If all of these best qualities are present, then use it as a parent.

You have now made your crosses and have several nice pods with many seeds resulting.

Plant these seeds using a reliable method suited for your area, and await the growth of your seedlings. It may take two or more years for them to come into bloom for the first time. Be aware that not all of these crosses will produce reblooming seedlings, but you may get some that will be good enough to save and use for future reblooming crosses. Also, you might expect to see some that will rebloom that are not up to the standards you are looking for. But if they do rebloom reliably, and over a wide period of time, these may be the ones you will want to save for future hybridizing purposes.

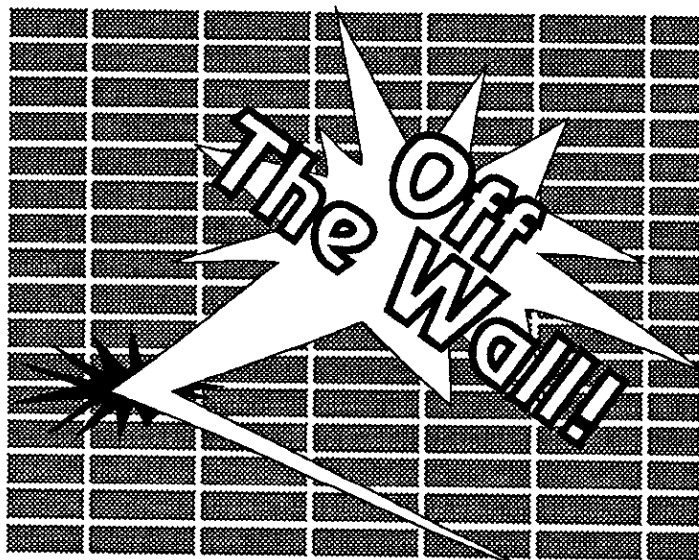
It is not an uncommon complaint among growers of reblooming irises that too many so-called rebloomers don't perform as they should. If you encounter such a rebloomer, don't let this deter you from your goal. Some of the ones that don't rebloom for you may well be the ones that should be used as a parent with your own reliable reblooming seedling. Such a cross has often produced very good reblooming progeny.

One would be foolishly optimistic to expect every seedling to be an award winning iris. A more realistic likelihood will be that none of your first crosses will be of that caliber. But you may be certain that amongst your seedlings you will find many flowers that are far different from anything you had hoped to see. Some will be beautiful beyond your expectations, while others will be real "dogs." Don't expect to save very many of your seedlings. Be very critical in your appraisal of your seedlings, but don't be blind to what you have either. Every hybridizer has destroyed things that later proved to have been something that should have been saved.

Remember, our goal is to develop the ever-bloomer! If your area has a short growing season, then the goal is to develop those that will give the most bloom and rebloom possible within those limiting factors. It may be possible that some of your reliable rebloomers won't rebloom for gardeners in California, e.g., but they will do it for you in your garden and, in all probability, they will rebloom for other gardeners with similar climatic conditions. And in time, even the California growers will take note of your success, and may want to use your everbloomer in their hybridizing programs. This problem of developing the 'everywhere everbloomer' will, in all likelihood, happen by exchanging and combining warm climate everbloomers with the cold climate rebloomers.

So this is where you enter the scene—those of

you who have never thrilled at the sight of your first seedlings. You now have the greatest chance in the history of bearded irisdom to develop the best of reblooming irises. For now we are on the threshold of the era of the Reblooming Iris, when most newly developed irises will be reblooming ones. Now is the time when more and more people are creating this new scene, and with the wide use of warm and cold weather genes, we can truly say "With Reblooming Irises, Anytime is Iris Time."



Hello—

You have just started hybridizing and you want to set the iris world on its ear?

Then walk away! Forget the iris fanatics!

Talk to nurserymen, florists, garden clubbers landscapers and just plain gardeners. Go for: iris that everbloom; iris that require no spraying; iris that will grow crowded in a perennial border; iris that are happy when mulched.

Too ambitious? Undo-able?

Then try a narrower focus:

- Breed for an iris that will thrive in pot culture.
- Develop iris that are reliably forcible.
- Go for an everbloomer!
- Work towards an iris with completely purple foliage.
- Develop an iris that thrives under perennial border conditions.
- Select towards an iris that will reliably perform in the shade.

The first step on this trail is to ignore the iris enthusiasts' purblind insistence on flower form over all.

# Minor Miracles In The Iris Garden

Raymond G. Smith

The following paragraphs chronicle several interesting events that occurred over a period of forty years of growing and hybridizing irises. The annual number of seedlings germinated range from 6,000 to nearly zero, but total about 60,000. These happenings, although not unknown, may be unusual to some readers.

1 When we returned to Indiana from Wisconsin in 1950, our landlord, an iris fancier gave us a bushel basket of rhizomes. These, my first irises, were planted, but a few extra were tossed out by the side of the gravel road that ran by the yard. During the summer the road was blacktopped and the following spring several fans came up through the blacktop. I knew little about horticulture, but decided that this could be a plant that even I could grow.

2 Checking the nursery catalogs, I found several that advertised rebloomers and fall bloomers and during the next half-dozen years collected about 200 of them. Rebloom sounded good and I attempted to hybridize. Most of the pods were empty, but one plant, **Autumn King** (Sass, 1924) would set pods even though pollinated neither by me nor the bees. The mystery was finally solved. **AK** had such a long anther that even a gentle breeze resulted in self pollination. Unfortunately none of its progeny were of good quality.

3 **Martie Everest** (Kirkland, intro. by McDade, 1935) was another old blue rebloomer. It was extremely tall, multiple branched and rebranched and grew as many as 35 flowers on a single bloom stalk. The flowers were of medium size for that day, but lacked substance. In fact, the greater the number of buds, the poorer the substance, obviously a trade-off. I never again saw an iris with that many buds per stalk.

4 Once, during the middle of the summer, **Martie Everest** developed a bee pod. It had to be selfed, as **ME** was the only iris in bloom at the time. When the seeds germinated, one plant had fantastic growth and vigor, with great wide fans with 11 leaves per fan. I dubbed it **Vigoro**. I anticipated a really fine rebloomer. One can see and feel the bud coming in a reblooming seedling long before the first

crooked leaf emerges. The pregnant rhizome got fatter and longer but no stalk started. Finally, after many days, the bud burst through and opened on a stalk only a couple of inches tall. The single flower was huge, but badly crumpled. This suggested a physical barrier that can prevent rebloom and can even result in the bud being resorbed so there will be no Spring bloom.

5 My first registration and introduction was the little yellow border bearded rebloomer **Polar Flame**. (**Polar King** X **Autumn Flame**, 1957). It was apparently a recessive red with the anthocyanin suppressed, for when transplanted, or heavily fertilized and watered, would show a dirty purple through the clean yellow color. But the real surprise came several years later when I dug it to discard. There were three layers of rhizomes, all perfectly sound and viable. There was no apparent rot and even the lowest layer had fan and root sprouts.

6 Disposing of unwanted rhizomes is always a problem. If you want them to rot and disappear, they refuse to cooperate. I had some to dispose of and at the same time had dug a hole for some reason. Why not bury them? They were placed in the bottom of the hole and a good foot of dirt packed over top. Imagine my surprise some months later to see fans emerging. Upon carefully digging the dirt away I found medium sized rhizomes, each with a pencil sized stalk underneath and going down to an old rhizome in the bottom of the hole. Only later did I learn that irises had the ability, if planted too deeply, to send up a stalk to their proper level and create a new rhizome. (Beam me up, Scotty!)

7 I once purchased an iris borer from a well known commercial iris garden. It was back in the days when the **Dave Hall** tangerine bearded pinks were new and all the rage. When my order of six numbered seedlings arrived, I rustled out to plant them. For some reason one big fat rhizome attracted my attention and close examination revealed a small hole. This, when opened, displayed a huge, pink inhabitant. Even borers can be shipped at no extra charge.

8 During my acquisition stage (which most irisarians pass through) I had purchased a substantial number of early diploids, but had discarded all but the extremely attractive little **Pink Ruffles** (K. Smith, 1955) which had not bloomed. It increased like

mad, but produced no stalks. In disgust I dug and discarded most of it, but placed a few rhizomes in a garage over summer. It apparently learned its lesson for, from then on, it was the most floriferous plant in the garden. But the same thing happened with the outstanding white, **Cup Race**, (Buttrick, '62). For six years it sat and pouted. It was discarded in disgust. Perhaps the heat treatment might have worked for it, also.

9 During the decade of the 1960s there were a series of unbelievably hot dry summers. Except for the new seedlings and the new transplants, nothing received extra water. Some entire clones died, some scorched, and a few did quite well. But an occasional clone, or sometimes a seedling, defied all odds and grew beautifully, while its nearest neighbors did well to exist. Curiosity finally got the better of me and I carefully excavated the root system of one of these do-gooders. Surprise! A large root ran from the lush plant horizontally about 3 1/2 inches under ground straight to the center of the shrunk plant and up to its center rhizome. Hydro-cannibalism among irises? Apparently so.

10 On two occasions, once during the years between 1950 and 1966 at our Hillside garden, and once since at our present location a new plant generated up on a bloomstalk. A complete miniature plant with tiny leaves, rhizome, and roots grew at the junction of a main bloomstalk and its branch. I had read about such growths occurring sometimes, but never expected to see one. Apparently some other plants have them much more frequently than do irises.

11 Another type of somatic mutation occurred here in 1985. A bloomstalk appeared on an old clone of a light blue seedling with a terminal flower that was half blue and half white. Not only that, but the flowers on one side of the stalk were blue and were white on the other. This event has been described in the old AIS book *Garden Irises*, p. 351 as occurring in Orville Fay's garden in 1951. Fay named and introduced the two as **Good and Plenty** and sold them only as a pair.

12 Most iris growers are aware of the increased vigor or heterosis produced when two entirely unrelated plants or animals of the same species are intercrossed. My only serious endeavor to produce reblooming SDBs was begun in the

1960s and was discontinued because of too much vigor. The two parent crosses were Jean Siret X Lt. De Chavegnac and Papoose X Sound Money. Except for Sound Money, a cute little yellow sometime rebloomer, the only attribute possessed by the others is that they rebloomed. The F1s from the parent crosses were intercrossed and were unusually fertile. The seedlings grew like weeds but bloomed with large hound dog falls. They were either shades of dark purple, light yellow, or a sad blend of the two. From about two hundred, a dozen fairly presentable ones were selected and lined out. A few rebloomed. By the next Spring, however, the increase was fantastic. Each rhizome had grown into a clump of a couple hundred tightly packed rhizomes so jammed together that only those on the perimeter had any chance of blooming. I gave the lot to a friend who had a ditch with a bad erosion problem.

13 Most of the early rebloomers introduced by the Sass brothers were true hybrids. That is, they were the result of crosses between 40 chromosome dwarfs and 48 chromosome tall. Before discovering that such progeny were sterile, I bought as many as I could find to use as breeders. Hundreds of crosses produced few pods. Most pods had few if any seeds. Only a rare seed would germinate. If a seedling appeared, it would invariably grow poorly. But if it did grow, it usually wouldn't bloom. The few that bloomed were sterile and real dogs. There was, however, one exception among these Sass parents. It was named **Southland** (H. P. Sass, 1934) and was a large, fairly nice, medium yellow—a great healthy plant and a reliable rebloomer. I was unable ever to set a pod on it, but the bees were quite successful. So I planted a 50 foot row and invited the bees in. The resulting several hundred bee pods produced a couple hundred healthy, fast growing seedlings. the majority of which flowered with many being fertile. Eureka! The sterility barrier was broken. In the distance one could visualize countless beautiful, hardy, dependable rebloomers. So, many F1s, F2s, etc. etc. were crossed, with each generation steadily becoming poorer, and none ever producing a flower as good as **Southland**.

14 In 1965 I registered and introduced a tangerine bearded pink named **Pink Duet**. It was from a Paul Cook seedling, 17259 X **Happy Birthday**. It was tailored, fair form, good substance

and a reliable but rather late rebloomer. It would get caught by the early frosts, but, unlike the other late flowers, would not turn to mush. I always wondered if this characteristic could be perpetuated.

**15** In 1975 there appeared in a row of "Black" seedlings, one tall, heavily ruffled, completely devoid of haft markings, and that, in color, reminded me greatly of Schreiner's *Matinata*. Its parentage was somewhat involved, but included *Allegiance*, *Lovely Again*, *Autumn Night*, and a couple of Paul Cook's black seedlings. It re-bloomed well and in 1975 it was registered and introduced as *Al Segno*. Strangely, the nice ruffling gradually disappeared so that within three or four years it was perfectly plain. I have never again seen any ruffling.

**16** During the late 1960s there were several consecutive bloom seasons with almost constant rainfall. During such times, devoted hybridizers can be seen with umbrella in one hand, tweezers in the other, mud over their ankles, and their lips in motion as if saying bad things. Dry pollen from flowers opening in the house could be used, but the bedraggled flower, if successfully pollinated, would usually rot and fall off the next day. Surprisingly, I got a few 'takes' by mixing wet pollen into a paste and applying it with a finger. To keep the stalk from rotting it is necessary to remove all leaves, and especially the little envelope enclosing the ovary.

**17** During the early 1960s there were several consecutive summers with almost no rainfall. The flowers opened with dry stigmatic lips, so there were few 'takes.' During the middle of the summer, one season, both *Gibson Girl* and my *August Gold* bloomed and I got a nice pod from the cross. One seedling was selected from this summer cross and registered, *Replicata* (1964). During the series of wet seasons during the late '60s *Replicata* both grew and performed so poorly that it was a prime candidate for the compost pile. The other plants were flourishing. But then came along another very dry year when most of the irises were behaving badly, and *Replicata* again was the star of the garden in size, vigor and floriferousness.

**18** The final unusual event occurred in the Fall of 1989. Several seedlings which had germinated in the Spring of '89 sent up bloomstalks.

Unfortunately, because of late transplanting, they developed too late and had no branching. They resembled tall straight snakes with a couple of extra heads growing out of the sides of their bodies. The terminal buds of the two most advanced were showing color, so these were cut on the night prior to the first hard freeze and brought inside. I had hoped that at least the terminal bud would open so that the flower could be seen. Instead, these snakes grew branches, and four flowers opened on each stalk. Even though I saw it happen, I still find it difficult to believe.

So it was that forty years of hybridizing provided some some strange and provocative happenings, along with numerous frustrations and more than an adequate amount of exercise. But I am reminded of the rejoinder from the man whose wife said, "I have given you forty of the best years of my life." He replied, "what would you have done with them otherwise?" In order that I not be thought chauvinistic, ladies reading this may reverse the roles. It works just as well.

## Nicholls Gardens



JAPANESE

SDB

TB

IB

MDB

SIBERIAN

Reblooming Irises a specialty

Also Daylilies, Dahlias & Species

Catalog \$1.00;  
Refundable

4724 Angus Drive  
Gainesville, VA 22065

# 1989 Reblooming Symposium Report

Earl E. Hall

**T**hanks to everyone that filled out and sent me their 1989 Reblooming Symposium Ballot. It helped to make our Symposium a big success. We had 113 ballots, representing 133 persons, returned; 4 were from Canada and 1 was from France. There were a total of 2461 votes cast—approximately 18 votes per person. Although several marked only 1 rebloomer, many filled in the 35 votes allowed. The return breakdown by climate areas is as follows:

- 29 from Climatic Area 1
- 56 from Climatic Area 2
- 25 from Climatic Area 3
- 23 from Climatic Area 4

For 1990, I hope we will have over 200 Symposium Ballots returned for more information and enjoyment.

This has been the most enjoyable and satisfying year yet in tabulating the Symposium, with lots more ballots and many nice comments. (I can put some of this information to good use in my hybridizing.) We had a very good year with 225 consecutive days of bloom. Many said this was their best rebloom year ever, while others said they had a poor year due to the weather or because they had replanted all their rebloomers. Some said they were just getting started in rebloomers and were looking forward to next summer and fall to see the rebloomers in flower. Some people named or marked several varieties that they have had 4-5 years that had never rebloomed. That is one of the benefits of the Symposium, for you can see what will rebloom in your region. *The Reblooming Registration and Check List* also gives a good idea where each variety will rebloom; this information can sometimes be found in iris price lists too. Remontants selected for rebloom especially in your area of the country, should give you good fall bloom given good care and water. Good rebloom makes raising these iris lots more enjoyable, so do pick ones that will rebloom in your part of the country.

The Symposium is divided into 5 parts this year. The first chart lists all the rebloomers; the next 4 charts list the top rebloomers in the 4 climatic areas of the country.

In the TB Class, it was a close race, with

Immortality winning with 74 votes, followed by Corn Harvest, Queen Dorothy, and Earl of Essex. Immortality was also listed in the Top 100 of the AIS Symposium—good for a real rebloomer.

Among the BBs, Little Susie took first place, followed by Marmalade Skies.

Blessed Again took first place in the IB Class, with I Bless a close runner-up.

Ditto was the top MDB.

Lady Emma received 16 votes for first (and only) place in the MTB class.

In the SDB class, Baby Blessed (as usual) was far out in front with 48 votes; then came Jewel Baby, Thrice Blessed, Willow Mist, Plum Wine and Smell the Roses.

There were many write-ins, especially in Climatic Area 4. There were a few I could not find in the R and I, and a few I could not read. I am sorry they were left out.

Two names appeared often during tabulation of this Symposium: Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg appeared 13 times in the top 29 TB irises; Dr. John Weiler appeared 13 times in the top 21 SDBs. Who will equal or surpass their records in the future?

One reblooming Louisiana iris, Red Echo, was listed this year. Next year we will have space on the ballot for reblooming beardless iris—JA, LA, Siberian and Spuria. This should make the Symposium even more interesting!

[Ed. Howard Brookins furnished a symposium breakdown listing those iris that were available in commerce. Miss seeing a favorite iris that you know you listed? Don't get mad—get HIPS! The symposium iris that are not commonly available will be listed in fall ROOTS, with, hopefully, a source of supply. Meanwhile forgive me my mistakes—merging two listings is fraught with peril.]

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	BBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	11	Little Susie		Quadros, C.	'70
2	9	Marmalade Skies		Niswonger, D.	'78
3	6	Candyland		Byers, M.	'88
3	6	Miss Scarlett		Moore, W.	'80
5	4	Color Brite		Ensminger, A.	'87
5	4	Whoop 'em Up		Brady, D.	'74
7	3	Double Up		Hager, B.	'84
7	3	Petkin		Zurbrigg, L.	'69
7	3	Ultra Echo		Rich, L.	'72
10	2	Child Star		Ghio, J.	'75
10	2	September Buttercup		Brown, G. P.	'62
12	1	Ain't Nothin		Gibson, J.	'72
12	1	Autumn Orangelite		Brown, G. P.	'62
12	1	Borderline		Ghio, J.	'84

12	1	Copy Cat	Ghio, J.	'74
12	1	Heaven's Bounty	Miller, B.	'83
12	1	Oracle	Ghio, J.	R'71
12	1	Peach Reprise	Moore, W.	'83
12	1	Pink Bubbles	Hager, B.	'80
12	1	Yellow Knife	Dyer, F.	'84

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	IBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	27	Blessed Again		Jones, F. P.	'76
2	24	I Bless		Zurbrigg, L.	'85
3	21	Tawny		Pray, T.	'74
4	16	Honey Glazed		Niswonger, D.	'83
5	13	Eleanor Roosevelt		Sass, HP-McDade	'33
6	6	Low Ho Silver		Byers, M.	'89
7	4	Sixteen Candles		Byers, M.	'89
8	3	Like A Charm		Byers, M.	'89
9	2	Chatterbox		Schreiner's	'78
9	2	On Demand		Nichols, H.	'83
9	2	Peachy Face		Jones, B.	'76
12	1	Az Ap		Ensminger, A.	'80
12	1	Bonus		Dennis, D.	'71
12	1	Crimson King		Barr	1893
12	1	Kontiki		Plough, G.	'66
12	1	Pink Kitten		Wood, V.	'77
12	1	Southland		Sass, H. P.	'34
12	1	Spring Dancer		Shoop, G.	'84

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	MDBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	12	Ditto		Hager, B.	'82
2	6	Perfume		Byers, M.	'89
3	2	Plic Sand		Dalgaard, S.	'78
4	1	Buddha Song		Dunbar, R.	'70
4	1	Libation		Hager, B.	'75
4	1	Puppet Baby		Boswell, Carl H.	'82
4	1	Velvet Toy		Dunbar By Sindt	'72

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	MTBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	16	Lady Emma		Jones, F. P.	'86

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	SDBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	48	Baby Blessed		Zurbrigg, L.	'79
2	25	Jewel Baby		Hall, Earl	'84
3	22	Thrice Blessed		Weiler, J.	'82
4	21	Willowmist		Weiler, J.	'83
5	20	Plum Wine		Weiler, J.	'86
6	19	Smell The Roses		Byers, M.	'88
7	16	Twice Blessed		Dennis, D.	'66

8	14	Third Charm	Weiler, J.	'82
9	9	Little Showoff	Hall, Earl	'89
10	8	Baby Tears	Weiler, J.	'80
11	7	Khaki Print	Weiler, J.	'83
11	7	Refined	Weiler, J.	'87
11	7	Sun Doll	Jones, B. C.	'86
11	7	Third World	Weiler, J.	'82
15	6	Golden Child	Byers, M.	'89
15	6	Leprechaun's Delight	Weiler, J.	'87
15	6	Mini Busy	Weiler, J.	'89
15	6	Rainbow Sherbet	Weiler, J.	'88
15	6	Triplicate	Weiler, J.	'83
20	5	Blitz	Weiler, J.	'88
20	5	Dark Crystal	Byers, M.	'88
22	3	Bright Moment	Hager, B.	'82
22	3	Cry Baby	Ritchie, J.	'84
22	3	Sunstrip	Weiler, J.	'86
26	2	Artistic License	Black, P.	'86
26	2	Azure Gem	Hamblen, M.	'82
26	2	Frankincense	Byers, M.	'89
26	2	Gray Poupon	Byers, M.	'89
26	2	Little Black Belt	Niswonger, D.	'80
26	2	Little Blackfoot	Reinhardt, M.	'67
26	2	Little Eve	Lyons, R.	'82
26	2	Marita	Zurbrigg, L.	'89
26	2	Plum-Plum	Boswell, C.	'80
26	2	Ruby Locket	Niswonger, D.	'88
26	2	Twinkle Twinkle	Byers, M.	'89
37	1	Baby Cakes	Byers, M.	'89
37	1	Cinders	Byers, M.	'89
37	1	Clay's Caper	Hager By Hamblen	'76
37	1	Darkling	Byers, M.	'89
37	1	Flower Child	Byers, M.	'89
37	1	Mary's Lamb	Black, P.	'87
37	1	Michael Paul	Jones, W.	'79
37	1	Pippi Longstockings	Innerst, S.	'85
37	1	Ripe Raspberry	Dunbar, By Sindt	'72
37	1	Small Ritual	Hager, B.	'88
37	1	Star of Erin	Willott, A. & D.	'82
37	1	Tu Tu Turquoise	Black, P.	'88

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results			
		Variety	TBs	Hybridizer	Yr.
1	74	Immortality		Zurbrigg, L.	'82
2	67	Corn Harvest		Wyatt, C.	'77
3	58	Queen Dorothy		Hall, Earl	'84
4	56	Earl Of Essex		Zurbrigg, L.	'80
5	46	I Do		Zurbrigg, L.	'74
6	45	Feed Back		Hager, B.	'83
6	45	Golden Encore		Jones, F. P.	'73
8	31	Jean Guymer		Zurbrigg, L.	'77
9	30	Coral Charmer		Wright, H.	'83
9	30	Jennifer Rebecca		Zurbrigg, L.	'85
11	29	Summer Olympics		Smith, R.G.	'80

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results		
	Variety	TBs cont.	Hybridizer	Yr.
12	27	Belvi Queen	Jensen, C.	'76
12	27	Harvest Of Memories	Zurbrigg, L.	'85
14	24	Breakers	Schreiner's	'86
14	24	Grace Thomas	Zurbrigg, L.	'80
14	24	Spirit Of Memphis	Zurbrigg, L.	'77
17	23	Champagne Elegance	Niswonger, D.	'87
17	23	Late Lilac	Niswonger, D.	'74
19	21	English Cottage	Zurbrigg, L.	'76
19	21	Victoria Falls	Schreiner's	'77
21	20	Autumn Bugler	Jones, F. P.	'86
22	19	Pink Attraction	Hall, Earl	'88
22	19	Red Revival	Preston, F.	'77
24	17	Brother Carl	Zurbrigg, L.	'83
24	17	Lemon Reflection	Smith, R.G.	'78
24	17	Now And Later	Zurbrigg, L.	'72
27	16	Cross Stitch	Zurbrigg, L.	'73
27	16	Sugar Blues	Zurbrigg, L.	'85
27	16	Witch Of Endor	Miller, B.	'78
30	15	Born Again	Miller, B.	'78
30	15	Glacier King	Carson, D.	'86
30	15	Hallowed Thought	Zurbrigg, L.	'77
30	15	Royal Summer	Applegate, C.	'71
30	15	Violet Miracle	Zurbrigg, L.	'79
35	14	Lemon Duet	Smith, R.G.	'78
35	14	Orchid Cloud	Applegate, C.	'74
35	14	Perfume Counter	Zurbrigg, L.	'72
38	13	Eternal Bliss	Byers, M.	'88
38	13	Grape Adventure	Jones, F. P.	'86
40	12	Da Capo	Zurbrigg, L.	'69
40	12	Duke Of Earl	Byers, M.	'87
40	12	Magic Memories	Nichols For T.Clark	'73
40	12	Misty Twilight	Byers, M.	'88
40	12	Pepper Blend	Moore's, W.	'77
40	12	Sign Of Leo	Zurbrigg, L.	'77
40	12	Touch Of Spring	Applegate, C.	'72
47	11	Billionaire	Byers, M.	'87
47	11	Orange Harvest	Jones, B. C.	'88
47	11	Re-treat	Smith, R.G.	'78
47	11	Second Look	Muhlestein, T.	'70
47	11	Violet Returns	Hall, Earl	'88
52	10	Certainly Certainly	Benson, B.	'81
52	10	Illini Repeater	Varnier, S.	'72
52	10	Juicy Fruit	Byers, M.	'89
55	9	Buckwheat	Byers, M.	'89
55	9	Cayenne Capers	Gibson, J.	'59
55	9	Dante's Inferno	Moore's, W.	'79
55	9	Lichen	Byers, M.	'89
55	9	Returning Peace	Smith, R.G.	'74
55	9	Skookumchuck	Gibson, J.	'83
55	9	Stellar Lights	Aitken, J. T.	'86
55	9	Summer Holidays	Zurbrigg, L.	'79
63	8	Autumn Echo	Gibson, J.	'75
63	8	Beverly Sills	Hager, B.	'79
63	8	Brown Duet	Smith, R.G.	'71
63	8	Coral Chalice	Niswonger, D.	'83
63	8	Jaunty Texan	Denman, C.	'73
63	8	Latest Style	Zurbrigg, L.	'79
63	8	Lightly Seasoned	Zurbrigg, L.	'79
63	8	Red Polish	Craig, T.	'67
63	8	Tea Leaves	Byers, M.	'87
72	7	Double Praise	Hamner, B.	'77
72	7	G'day Mate	Maryott's Gdns	'87
72	7	Las Vegas	Byers, M.	'89
72	7	Pacific Tide	Cowdery, L.	'86
72	7	Ravenwood	Lowry, E.	'71
72	7	Remember Spring	Hager, B.	'85
72	7	Violet Classic	Zurbrigg, L.	'76
79	6	Autumn Mists	Jones, F. P.	'70
79	6	Blazing Sunrise	Black, P.	'85
79	6	Blue Moonlight	Byers, M.	'89
79	6	Dime Spot	Moore's, W.	'85
79	6	Mulberry Mist	Burch, J.	'78
79	6	Purple Duet	Smith, R.G.	'66
79	6	Sea Double	Smith, R.G.	'71
79	6	Splash O' Wine	Vogel, R.	'73
87	5	Belvi Cloud	Jensen, Karl	'88
87	5	Cease-fire	Roberts, S.	'80
87	5	High Ho Silver	Byers, M.	'89
87	5	Holy Night	Mohr, Ken	'83
87	5	Inner Vision	Hager, B.	'85
87	5	Maiden	Byers, M.	'88
87	5	October	Byers, M.	'89
87	5	Pepper Lane	Jensen, C.	'76
87	5	Pinkness	Byers, M.	'89
87	5	Rio Vista	Brown, Bob	'77
87	5	Starship	Byers, M.	'89
98	4	Banana Cream	Byers, M.	'89
98	4	Cafe Society	Ghio, J.	'85
98	4	Earl Of Leicester	Zurbrigg, L.	'85
98	4	Fall Majesty	Smith, R.G.	'67
98	4	Her Royal Highness	Byers, M.	'89
98	4	Image Maker	Williamson, B.	'83
98	4	Light Beam	Blyth, L.	'85
98	4	Lovely Again	Smith, R.G.	'66
98	4	Mabel Andrews	Zurbrigg, L.	'83
98	4	Mother Earth	Hager, B.	'88
98	4	Oritam	Hoffmeister, J. P.	'77
98	4	Paprika Fono's	Nelson, Iris	'87
98	4	Purple Of Tyre	Miller, B.	'86
98	4	Rainy Falls	Maryott, B.	'84
98	4	Royal Encore	Applegate, C.	'74
98	4	Sky Queen	Craig, F.	'62
98	4	Varga Girl	Monroe, H.	'86
98	4	White Reprise	Moore's, W.	'86
98	4	Wild Jasmine	Hamner, B.	'83

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results					
	Variety	TBs cont.	Hybridizer	Yr.			
98	4	Windsurfer	Maryott, B.	'83	150 2 Etched Burgundy	Garrison, T.	'71
98	4	Winesap	Byers, M.	'89	150 2 Exhilaration	Ghio, J.	'84
119	3	Anew	Zurbrigg, L.	'83	150 2 Fall Primrose	Brown, G. P.	'56
119	3	Autumn Encore	Mohr, Ken	'77	150 2 Flashing Gem	Gibson, J.	'63
119	3	Autumn Evening	Applegate, C.	'73	150 2 G. Percy Brown	Smith, R.G.	'68
119	3	Best Bet	Schreiner's	'88	150 2 Gingerbread Girl	Gibson, J.	'81
119	3	Cascade Pass	Cooper, Ruby	'72	150 2 Gold Burst	Palmer, D.	'80
119	3	Cloudless Sunrise	Niswonger, D.	'84	150 2 Good Fairy	Byers, M.	'89
119	3	Colorwatch	Innerst, S.	'87	150 2 Hawaiian Surf	Moore, W.	'83
119	3	Curtain Up	Byers, M.	'88	150 2 Heart Of Ice	Byers, M.	'89
119	3	Desiderata	Moore, W.	'80	150 2 Jephthah's Daughter	Miller, B.	'86
119	3	Dorcas Lives Again	Miller, B.	'84	150 2 Johnny G	Zurbrigg, L.	'83
119	3	Emma Louisa	Buckles, Eugene	'69	150 2 Lemon Custard	Weiler, J.	'82
119	3	Eternal Waltz	Danielson, H. By Luella	'89	150 2 Marv	Roach, L.	'76
119	3	Feminine Wiles	Nelson, J.	'86	150 2 Medieval	Maryott, B.	'83
119	3	Fire Siren	Zurbrigg, L.	'75	150 2 Montevideo	Ghio, J.	'87
119	3	Floorshow	Byers, M.	'89	150 2 Morning Shadows	Dunn, R.	'82
119	3	Foxy Lady	Nelson, J.	'87	150 2 Playback	Slade, G.	'81
119	3	His Royal Highness	Byers, M.	'89	150 2 Prince of Earl	Moore, W.	'89
119	3	Inaugural Ball	Ghio, J.	'88	150 2 Raven Rock	Carr, F.	'87
119	3	Liaison	Ghio, J.	'86	150 2 Royal Celebrity	Hamner, B.	'84
119	3	Many Happy Returns	Hager, B.	'89	150 2 Royal Crusader	Schreiner's	'85
119	3	Mountain Violet	Hamner, B.	'84	150 2 Scented Nutmeg	Maryott, B.	'83
119	3	Olympiad	Ghio, J.	'84	150 2 Second Show	Byers, M.	'87
119	3	Orchid Lane	Jeffries, R.	'88	150 2 Second Wind	Byers, M.	'89
119	3	Perfect Couple	Ghio, J.	'84	150 2 Sheba's Queen	Miller, B.	'88
119	3	Pink Sachet	Moore, W.	'79	150 2 Spirit Of Fiji	Zurbrigg, L.	'85
119	3	Shoot The Moon	Byers, M.	'87	150 2 Summer Magic	McWhirter, J.	'88
119	3	Soap Opera	Ghio, J.	'82	150 2 Summer Whitewings	Brown, G. P.	'61
119	3	Soft Halo	Moore, W.	'83	150 2 Sun Snap	Gibson, J.	'75
119	3	Swiss Majesty	Zurbrigg, L.	'69	150 2 Sunny And Warm	Gatty, J.	'87
119	3	Tennison Ridge	Begley By McWhirter	'89	150 2 Sweet Summer	Applegate, C.	'72
119	3	Trick Or Treat	Osborne, M.	'84	150 2 Then Again	Byers, M.	'89
150	2	All That Jazz	Denney, D.	'82	150 2 Waltzing Widow	Roach, L.	'73
150	2	Amain	Zurbrigg, L.	'83	202 1 Actress	Keppel, K.	'76
150	2	Amanda Erin	Zurbrigg, L.	'85	202 1 Artistic Gold	Denman, C.	'72
150	2	Autumn Twilight	Brown, G. P.	'71	202 1 Attention Please	Mohr, H. C.	'74
150	2	Bess Bergin	Denman, C.	'72	202 1 Autumn Elegance	Smith, R.G.	'68
150	2	Bethany Claire	Zurbrigg, L.	'85	202 1 Avalon Bay	Hamner, B.	'74
150	2	Bridal Fashion	Weiler, J.	'86	202 1 Avenging Angel	Williamson, B.	'84
150	2	Buffy	Brown, O.	'69	202 1 Bathsheba Comes	Miller, B.	'89
150	2	Change Of Heart	Keppel, K.	'86	202 1 Blackout	Luihn, W.	'86
150	2	Charger	Stahly, H.	'85	202 1 Broadway	Keppel, K.	'90
150	2	Chico Maid	Luihn, W.	'85	202 1 Burgundy Brown	Gibson, J.	'79
150	2	Chuckles	Ghio, J.	'87	202 1 Burnt Offering	Moore, W.	'78
150	2	Dawn Of Fall	Jensen, C.	'76	202 1 Centre Court	Williamson, B.	'82
150	2	Delia's Child	Varmette, S.	'83	202 1 Cinderella's Coach	Hager, B.	'86
150	2	Designer Gown	Ghio, J.	'85	202 1 Circus Jewel	Nichols, H.	'88
150	2	Double Scoop	Ghio, Joe	'81	202 1 Condottiere	Cayeux, J. (France)	'78
150	2	Doublemint	Byers, M.	'87	202 1 Dark Vintage	Applegate, C.	'71
150	2	Edith Wolford	Hager, B.	'86	202 1 Darkside	Schreiner's	'85
					202 1 Doodle Strudel	Ensminger, A.	'77
					202 1 Eternal Prince	Nelson, John	'86
					202 1 Ever After	Keppel, Keith	'86

Ranking # of Votes		1989 Symposium Results		
	Variety	TBs cont.	Hybridizer	Yr.
202 1	Faithfulness		Waltermire, C.	'83
202 1	Fame		Weiler, J.	'86
202 1	Fifth Dimension		Maryott's Gdns	'86
202 1	First Snowfall		Austin, L.	'62
202 1	French Provencial		Moore, W.	'85
202 1	Fresno Flash		Weiler, J.	'83
202 1	Garden Grace		Zurbrigg, L.	'81
202 1	Gibson Girl		Gibson, J.	'46
202 1	Gideon Victorious		Miller, B.	'85
202 1	Gilded		Byers, M.	'89
202 1	Gladys Austin		Osborne, M.	'85
202 1	Glowing Seraphim		Miller, B.	'87
202 1	Gold Reprise		Moore, W.	'88
202 1	Goliath's Mate		Zurbrigg, L.	'71
202 1	Halloween Party		Gibson, J.	'70
202 1	Halloween Pumpkin		Byers, M.	'86
202 1	Howdy Do		Byers, M.	'86
202 1	Ice Ballerina		Wyatt, Carl	'73
202 1	Indiscreet		Ghio, J.	'88
202 1	Invitation		Schreiner's	'82
202 1	Jesse's Song		Williamson, B.	'83
202 1	Jolly Fall		Zurbrigg, L.	'77
202 1	Koala		Mohr, David	'75
202 1	Latin Hideaway		Nichols, H.	'86
202 1	Lemon Mist		Rudolph, N.	'72
202 1	Lullaby of Spring		Schreiners	'87
202 1	Lunchtime Lover		Blyth, B.	'87

## Invitation

Region 13 extends a warm invitation to come see what may bloom for us in this demanding climate, and to join in good fellowship. Our Fall meeting will be October 13 - 14 in Yakima. Please send your name and address to me or to our Regional Vice-President, Barbara Aitken, if you'd like more information. We hope to see you all then.

Marky D. Smith  
1014 Crest Acres Place  
Yakima, Washington 98908  
(509) 965- 1005

202 1	Malaguena	Ghio, J.	'85
202 1	Marriage Vows	Ghio, J.	'87
202 1	Mary Ann Wildebeest	Durrance, J.	'82
202 1	Midnight Pacific	Foster, Frank	'86
202 1	Mixed Doubles	Ghio, By Maryott's	'86
202 1	Mystique	Ghio, J.	'75
202 1	Navajo Jewel	Weiler, J.	'84
202 1	Neon Violet	Jensen, C.	'76
202 1	October Sun	Niswonger, D.	'77
202 1	Opium	Anfosso, P.	'84
202 1	Orange Plume	Gibson, J.	'79
202 1	Pass the Wine	Blyth, B.	'86
202 1	Patina	Keppel, K.	'78
202 1	Pharaoh's Dream	Miller, B.	'79
202 1	Pink Encore	Smith, E. By Mueller	'83
202 1	Polar King	Donahue, T.	'39
202 1	Radiant Angel	Miller, B.	'88
202 1	Rancho Grande	Ghio, J.	'88
202 1	Red Grapes	Zurbrigg, L.	'76
202 1	Reminisce	Zurbrigg, L.	'75
202 1	Replay	Ghio, J.	'80
202 1	Resurrection Story	Miller, B.	'75
202 1	Rumba Ruffle	Weiler, J.	'84
202 1	Scented Bubbles	Byers, M.	'88
202 1	Showman	Corlew, G.	'83
202 1	Speculator	Ghio, J.	'83
202 1	Star Master	Dunn, R.	'87
202 1	Summer Sunshine	Gibson, J.	'72
202 1	Superstition	Schreiner's	'77
202 1	The Blue Boy	Foote, S.	'72
202 1	Thick And Creamy	Weiler, J.	'78
202 1	Tiger Shark	Maryott, B.	'86
202 1	Tomorrow's Child	Blyth, B.	'84
202 1	Twice Thrilling	Osborne, M.	'84
202 1	Vanity	Hager, B.	'75
202 1	Waltz Across Texas	Moore, W.	'88
202 1	Yellow Reprise	Moore, W.	'81
202 1	Youth Dew	Zurbrigg, L.	'80

## What a Waste!

Jim Gibson, now 88 and no longer gardening, was recently reminiscing about his early iris hybridizing. Gibson Girl lines threw many rebloomers, but when Rholin Cooley would come from Oregon to choose plants for testing and possible introduction, he did not want to bother with anything that off-season bloomed.

As a result, Jim spent several years carefully discarding any seedlings that exhibited remontant tendencies.....

[Ed. Many thanks to Keith Keppel for sharing this with us.]

# SYMPOSIUM BREAKDOWN BY CLIMATE AREA

Climate Area 1 175 or less Frost-free days BBs		Climate Area 2 176 to 220 Frost-free days BBs		Climate Area 3 221 to 275 Frost-free days BBs		Climate Area 4 Over 276 Frost-free days BBs	
Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes	
1 3	Color Brite	none		1 4	Miss Scarlett	1 4	Marmalade Skies
2 2	September Buttercup			2 3	Little Susie	2 3	Candyland
3 1	Ultra Echo			3 2	Petkin	3 2	Child Star
3 1	Whoop 'em Up			1 5	Blessed Again	3 2	Double Up
				2 4	Eleanor Roosevelt	3 2	Little Susie
				2 4	Tawny	3 2	Ultra Echo
				4 3	I Bless	3 2	Whoop 'em Up
				5 2	Chatterbox		
				5 2	Honey Glazed		
				5 2	Peachy Face		
IBs		IBs		IBs		IBs	
1 6	Blessed Again	1 16	Blessed Again	none		1 4	Honey Glazed
2 5	I Bless	2 15	I Bless			2 3	Like A Charm
3 4	Sangreal	3 13	Tawny			2 3	Low Ho Silver
4 3	Honey Glazed	4 7	Honey Glazed			4 2	Sixteen Candles
5 2	Eleanor Roosevelt	5 5	Eleanor Roosevelt			4 2	Tawny
5 2	Tawny	6 3	Low Ho Silver				
		6 3	Sangreal				
		9 2	On Demand				
		9 2	Sixteen Candles				
MDBs		MDBs		MDBs		MDBs	
1 2	Ditto	1 7	Ditto	1 3	Ditto	1 2	Perfume
2 1	Velvet Toy	2 2	Plie Sand	2 2	Perfume		
MTBs		MTB		MTBs		MTBs	
1 6	Lady Emma	1 10	Lady Emma	1 1	Lady Emma	none	
SDBs		SDBs		SDBs		SDBs	
1 13	Baby Blessed	1 25	Baby Blessed	1 10	Baby Blessed	1 6	Plum Wine
2 8	Jewel Baby	2 10	Jewel Baby	2 7	Thrice Blessed	2 5	Smell The Roses
3 4	Thrice Blessed	2 10	Thrice Blessed	2 7	Willowmist	2 5	Triplicate
3 4	Twice Blessed	4 9	Twice Blessed	4 6	Plum Wine	4 4	Jewel Baby
5 3	Little Showoff	4 9	Willowmist	5 5	Smell The Roses	4 4	Third Charm
6 2	Khaki Print	6 7	Plum Wine	6 4	Mini Busy	4 4	Willowmist
6 2	Little Eve	6 7	Third Charm	6 4	Sun Doll	7 3	Baby Blessed
6 2	Plum Wine	8 6	Refined	6 4	Third Charm	7 3	Dark Crystal
6 2	Willowmist	9 5	Smell The Roses	6 4	Third World	8 2	Gray Poupon
10 1	Refined	10 4	Baby Tears	10 3	Jewel Baby	8 2	Leprechaun's Delight
10 1	Smell The Roses	10 4	Little Showoff	10 3	Khaki Print	8 2	Little Blackfoot
10 1	Third Charm	10 4	Marita	12 2	Baby Tears	8 2	Rainbow Sherbet
		13 3	Cry Baby	12 2	Little Black Belt	8 2	Third World
		13 3	Leprechaun's Delight	12 2	Little Showoff		
		13 3	Sun Doll	12 2	Rainbow Sherbet		
		16 2	Blitz	12 2	Twice Blessed		
		16 2	Bright Moment				
		16 2	Dark Crystal				
		16 2	Frankincense				
		16 2	Golden Child				
		16 2	Ruby Locket				
		16 2	Twinkle Twinkle				
TBs		TBs		TBs		TBs	
1 18	Queen Dorothy	1 37	Corn Harvest	1 14	Corn Harvest	1 9	Earl Of Essex
2 17	I Do	2 34	Immortality	2 12	Earl Of Essex	2 8	Breakers
3 16	Immortality	3 26	Earl Of Essex	2 12	Feed Back	2 8	Champagne Elegance
4 12	Coral Charmer	3 26	Golden Encore	2 12	Immortality	2 8	Feed Back
4 12	Golden Encore	5 25	Queen Dorothy	5 9	Queen Dorothy	2 8	Immortality
6 10	Belvi Queen	6 18	I Do	6 7	Breakers	6 7	Victoria Falls
7 9	Corn Harvest	6 18	Jennifer Rebecca	6 7	Jennifer Rebecca	7 5	G'day Mate
7 9	Jean Guymer	8 17	Feed Back	6 7	Orange Harvest	7 5	Pacific Tide
8 8	Royal Summer	9 15	Harvest Of Memories	6 7	Pepper Blend	7 5	Pepper Blend

Climate Area 1 175 or less Frost-free days		Climate Area 2 176 to 220 Frost-free days		Climate Area 3 221 to 275 Frost-free days		Climate Area 4 Over 276 Frost-free days	
Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes		Ranking # of Votes	
9 7	Autumn Bugler	11 14	English Cottage	6 7	Summer Olympics	7 5	Spirit Of Memphis
9 7	Feed Back	11 14	Jean Guymier	11 6	Harvest Of Memories	11 4	Billionaire
9 7	Now And Later	13 13	Late Lilac	11 6	Lemon Duet	11 4	Coral Chalice
9 7	Pink Attraction	14 12	Grace Thomas	11 6	Victoria Falls	11 4	Corn Harvest
9 7	Summer Olympics	14 12	Red Revival	11 6	Violet Miracle	11 4	Double Praise
9 7	Touch Of Spring	16 11	Autumn Bugler	15 5	Billionaire	11 4	Duke Of Earl
15 6	Earl Of Essex	16 11	Belvi Queen	15 5	Cayenne Capers	11 4	I Do
15 6	Grace Thomas	16 11	Cross Stitch	15 5	Dante's Inferno	11 4	Inner Vision
15 6	Violet Returns	20 9	Hallowed Thought	15 5	English Cottage	11 4	Misty Twilight
18 5	Brother Carl	20 9	Pink Attraction	15 5	Glacier King	11 4	Oritam
18 5	Late Lilac	20 9	Re-treat	15 5	Stellar Lights	11 4	Rainy Falls
18 5	Lemon Reflection	23 8	Champagne Elegance	22 4	Autumn Echo	11 4	Splash O' Wine
18 5	Sugar Blues	23 8	Grape Adventure	22 4	Belvi Queen	11 4	Tea Leaves
22 4	Born Again	23 8	Lemon Reflection	22 4	Born Again	23 3	Best Bet
22 4	Certainly Certainly	23 8	Spirit Of Memphis	22 4	Coral Charmer	23 3	Beverly Sills
22 4	Champagne Elegance	27 7	Brother Carl	22 4	Second Look	23 3	Buckwheat
22 4	Fall Majesty	27 7	Eternal Bliss	22 4	Sign Of Leo	23 3	Cafe Society
22 4	Harvest Of Memories	27 7	Latest Style	22 4	Skookumchuck	23 3	Cascade Pass
22 4	Orchid Cloud	27 7	Magic Memories	22 4	Witch Of Endor	23 3	Cayenne Capers
22 4	Ravenwood	27 7	Now And Later	30 3	Blazing Sunrise	23 3	Cease-fire
22 4	Spirit Of Memphis	27 7	Sugar Blues	30 3	Champagne Elegance	23 3	Eternal Bliss
30 3	Brown Duet	27 7	Victoria Falls	30 3	Double Praise	23 3	Golden Encore
30 3	Cross Stitch	34 6	Born Again	30 3	Grace Thomas	23 3	Harvest Of Memories
30 3	Glacier King	34 6	Da Capo	30 3	I Do	23 3	High Ho Silver
30 3	Grape Adventure	34 6	Illini Repeater	30 3	Lemon Reflection	23 3	Jennifer Rebecca
30 3	Hallowed Thought	34 6	Lemon Duet	30 3	Lichen	23 3	Las Vegas
30 3	Jennifer Rebecca	34 6	Orchid Cloud	30 3	Orchid Cloud	23 3	Lichen
30 3	Purple Duet	34 6	Perfume Counter	30 3	Paprika Fono's	23 3	Magic Memories
30 3	Red Revival	34 6	Returning Peace	30 3	Perfume Counter	23 3	Perfect Couple
30 3	Remember Spring	34 6	Violet Miracle	30 3	Pink Attraction	23 3	Queen Dorothy
30 3	Witch Of Endor	42 5	Breakers	30 3	Purple Of Tyre	23 3	Ravenwood
40 2	Autumn Encore	42 5	Duke Of Earl	30 3	White Reprise	23 3	Rio Vista
40 2	Charger	42 5	Glacier King	43 2	Beverly Sills	23 3	Skookumchuck
40 2	Colorwatch	42 5	Misty Twilight	43 2	Cease-fire	23 3	Sky Queen
40 2	Da Capo	42 5	Royal Summer	43 2	Certainly Certainly	23 3	Sugar Blues
40 2	Duke Of Earl	42 5	Summer Holidays	43 2	Coral Chalice	23 3	Varga Girl
40 2	English Cottage	42 5	Violet Returns	43 2	Cross Stitch	23 3	Wild Jasmine
40 2	Image Maker	42 5	Witch Of Endor	43 2	Da Capo	47 2	Autumn Echo
40 2	Lovely Again	50 4	Blue Moonlight	43 2	Desiderata	47 2	Bess Bergin
40 2	Pepper Lane	50 4	Certainly Certainly	43 2	Dime Spot	47 2	Blue Moonlight
40 2	Perfume Counter	50 4	Dime Spot	43 2	Golden Encore	47 2	Bridal Fashion
40 2	Playback	50 4	Jaunty Texan	43 2	Hallowed Thought	47 2	Brother Carl
40 2	Returning Peace	50 4	Lightly Seasoned	43 12	Illini Repeater	47 2	Buffy
40 2	Sea Double	50 4	Red Polish	43 2	Jaunty Texan	47 2	Change Of Heart
40 2	Second Look	50 4	Remember Spring	43 2	Jean Guymier	47 2	Chico Maid
40 2	Sign Of Leo	50 4	Sign Of Leo	43 2	Late Lilac	47 2	Curtain Up
40 2	Stellar Lights	58 3	Autumn Evening	43 2	Magic Memories	47 2	Double Scoop
40 2	Summer Holidays	58 3	Autumn Mists	43 2	Maiden	47 2	Edith Wolford
		58 3	Brown Duet	43 2	Mother Earth	47 2	Exhilaration
		58 3	Buckwheat	43 2	Mulberry Mist	47 2	Feminine Wiles
		58 3	Earl Of Leicester	43 2	Olympiad	47 2	Floorshow
		58 3	High Ho Silver	43 2	Re-treat	47 2	Good Fairy
		58 3	Holy Night	43 2	Red Polish	47 2	Grace Thomas
		58 3	Juicy Fruit	43 2	Red Revival	47 2	Her Royal Highness
		58 3	Lichen	43 2	Royal Encore	47 2	His Royal Highness
		58 3	Mabel Andrews	43 2	Soft Halo	47 2	Inaugural Ball
		58 3	Pepper Lane	43 2	Spirit Of Memphis	47 2	Jaunty Texan
		58 3	Pinkness	43 2	Sugar Blues	47 2	Jean Guymier
		58 3	Sea Double	43 2	Tennison Ridge	47 2	Juicy Fruit
		58 3	Starship			47 2	Late Lilac
		58 3	Tea Leaves			47 2	Lemon Custard

Climate Area 1 175 or less Frost-free days	Climate Area 2 176 to 220 Frost-free days	Climate Area 3 221 to 275 Frost-free days	Climate Area 4 Over 276 Frost-free days
Ranking # of Votes	Ranking # of Votes	Ranking # of Votes	Ranking # of Votes
	58 3 Touch Of Spring		47 2 Light Beam
	74 2 Amanda Erin		47 2 Many Happy Returns
	74 2 Banana Cream		47 2 Marv
	74 2 Bethany Claire		47 2 Mother Earth
	74 2 Beverly Sills		47 2 Mountain Violet
	74 2 Billionaire		47 2 Mulberry Mist
	74 2 Blazing Sunrise		47 2 October
	74 2 Chuckles		47 2 Orchid Lane
	74 2 Cloudless Sunrise		47 2 Pinkness
	74 2 Coral Chalice		47 2 Royal Celebrity
	74 2 Delia's Child		47 2 Royal Crusader
	74 2 Doublemint		47 2 Royal Summer
	74 2 Etched Burgundy		47 2 Shoot The Moon
	74 2 Fall Primrose		47 2 Starship
	74 2 Flashing Gem		47 2 Stellar Lights
	74 2 G'day Mate		47 2 Summer Magic
	74 2 Gold Burst		47 2 Sun Snap
	74 2 Heart Of Ice		47 2 Sunny And Warm
	74 2 Her Royal Highness		47 2 Trick Or Treat
	74 2 Jephthah's Daughter		47 2 Waltzing Widow
	74 2 Lovely Again		47 2 Windsurfer
	74 2 Maiden		47 2 Winesap
	74 2 Medieval		
	74 2 Mulberry Mist		
	74 2 Purple Duet		
	74 2 Royal Encore		
	74 2 Second Look		
	74 2 Second Wind		
	74 2 Sheba's Queen		
	74 2 Soap Opera		
	74 2 Sweet Summer		
	74 2 Violet Classic		
	74 2 Winesap		



JENNIFER REBECCA (ZURBRIGG '85) TAKEN IN OCTOBER, THIS WAS MOONSHINE GARDEN'S 1989 CHRISTMAS CARD



Moonshine Gardens

## ERRATA

In the article "Origins of Remontancy" Clarence Mahan, fall '89 *Recorder*; on page 8, seventeen lines down, the closing quotation marks were left off the Bee Warburton quote:

...Does anybody know of one?" Unfortunately, the article was reprinted in two other iris publications, complete with the editor's omission.

In the fall *Recorder*, some sort of record may have been set for goofs dealing with one person. Hal Stahly's article, "The AIS Honorary Awards," omitted mention that Bee Warburton was awarded the AIS Gold Medal.

As long as I am up to speed in making apologies, I may as well mention that I left the author's by-line, *Marky Smith*, off the Dish Garden article. As that section has already gone to the printer, it is too late to correct. MBL

# Remontants In Colorado

Dave Miller

This is an article that I've wanted to write for about two years, but I've always been somewhat of a skeptic. It's an article about remontants or rebloomers in Colorado. I can hear the laughs and howls now: "Rebloomers in Colorado? (Ha! Ha!) No way!" or "Who is this dumb bell anyway?"—but,—hear me out.

In 1986, I placed an order to Joe Ghio of Bay-view Gardens. In the middle of that order was **Malaguena** (Ghio '84). I received the order about the 4th of July and I immediately planted. In August, about six weeks after planting, **Malaguena** sent up a scrawny little bloomstalk. Boy, was I excited! A rebloomer in my yard!

I started checking with some of the people that raise a lot of iris and found that sometimes iris that come from California (or other mild weather areas) may bloom for you that first fall. But will it bloom thereafter?

**Malaguena** really started me thinking seriously about rebloomers in Colorado. I decided that we may not have a long enough growing season for TBs but how about SDBs? In 1987, I placed an order to John Weiler of Rialto Gardens (also the President of the Reblooming Iris Society) for "an assortment of SDB rebloomers likely to rebloom in your area." I also joined the RIS in exchange of a 1987 introduction, **Quietly** (Weiler '87). Well, **Malaguena** didn't bloom for me, but for the second year in a row, I had fall bloom within a few months of planting. **Baby Blessed** bloomed in September, **Plum Wine** started to form a sheath but never followed on through, and **Quietly** bloomed October 31st. Trick—or Treat?

1988 rolled on through a normal spring bloom and I anxiously waited for the fall to roll through. I kept checking for any signs of bloom and finally it came. **Quietly** bloomed on October 25th—no Tricks, just a Treat. Fall bloom of the same iris 2 years in a row! After having some sort of iris bloom 3 falls in a row, I really enjoy them and crave more. I'll be the first to admit that quality is not great but a poor bloom is better than no bloom at all.

The whole point of this article is to enlighten and encourage cold climate iris lovers about rebloomers. I'm no expert on the subject, but I've become convinced that rebloomers can bloom in the coldest of areas. Not all will, mind you, and

there are some things that we'll have to provide in order for them to have a chance. First, we'll have to plant them in the mildest of areas with a maximum of sun. A full day of sun is probably the only way to go, at least for now. Next, they require extra water, but be careful as they seem to be a little more susceptible to rot. They also are going to need extra fertilizer. This is going to be hard for me to adjust to, as I'm not big on adding fertilizer. However, if an iris is to bloom twice a year in our generally poor soils, it'll need a good boost. It may also be advisable to get iris that are bred in colder areas. For example, Lloyd



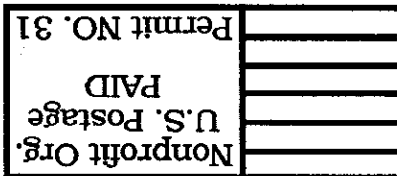
Diana Nicholls

**BELVI QUEEN JENSEN '76** TAKEN IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA IN OCTOBER. THIS IRIS CAN PERFORM WELL IN THE SHORTEST SEASON AREA

Zurbrigg lives in Virginia and seems to be having some success with rebloomers. Maybe his rebloomers would be more successful here in Colorado compared with others from Texas.

I know that I'm going to try some more rebloomers and encourage everyone in our area to try them. I think they are our future, and more and more top hybridizers are committing efforts to improving quality and reliability. I wish I could make some recommendations as to what varieties to try: **Quietly** is the only one I can recommend for now. I have a limited supply if anyone would like to try it.

[Reprinted from *Region 20 Bulletin*, Spring '89]



Address Correction Requested

American Iris Society  
H.T.P.S.  
Rt 3, Box 135  
Blackstone, VA 23824

## Dudley Carson's Northwest Scenes

Note Cards, are 4 1/2" by 5 1/4" when folded. They come eight to the package according to the category. A package of eight individual items may be ordered. Each package contains 8 envelopes.

Categories are: Mountains, Coastal Scenes, Flowers, IRISES, Animals, Horse family, Cat family, Dogs, Butterflies and Moths, Birds, Owls, Water Fowl, Mushrooms, Farm Animals, Sea Creatures, Dinosaurs, Fishes.

For an illustrated brochure listing individual drawings in above categories, and other items; please send stamped, self-addressed envelope, or order from this ad.

The price of each package of note cards is \$3.00 - Please add 15% for postage and handling - 10% if order is over \$15.00

Make check payable, and send order to:  
Dudley Carson  
P.O. Box 556, Willamina, OR 97396

