

THE

REBLOOMING IRIS RECORDER

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Rosalie Figge
McKnew '93



Winterberry Gardens
Don and Ginny Spoon
1225 Reynolds Road
Cross Junction, VA 22625



Jane McKnew

Jane McKnew died on April 25, 1998, after a short illness. She had been a member of FSK for many years, although not many of her fellow members knew her well. She is better known nationally and internationally through her irises than she is locally. She was an outstanding hybridizer and surprised everyone with her eye-catching show entries in the seedling classes. One of her registered irises (Io) has been lost, but the other was introduced by Dr. John Weiler of Rialto Gardens in California. She named it after FSK's Rosalie Figge, and it is available through many commercial catalogues.

Jane's irises were her hobby, but she also had a 20-plus year career as a social worker. A very intelligent person with several degrees in her chosen field, she dealt with people in all walks of life and was highly respected by her clients, even though she was involved in such difficult areas as child protection.

At times Jane seemed exuberant and impetuous, but those who knew her well realized that this was a defense used by those who are shy. A very kindhearted and sensitive person, she was extremely loyal toward her friends, and those of us who were her friends will have fond memories of her. Her life was much too short, she was only in her mid 50's and the world has lost a talented hybridizer. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Bacon.

The following poem on the card given at her funeral expresses Jane's attitude very well:

Do Not Stand By My Grave and Weep

I am not there, I do not sleep.
I am a thousand winds that blow;
I am the diamond glint on snow.
I am the gentle autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning
hush, I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds encircling flight.
I am the soft star that shines at night.
Do not stand at my grave and cry,
I am not there;
I did not die.

Anonymous

Reprinted from the FSK Iris Society Newsletter

THE REBLOOMING IRIS SOCIETY

A Section of the American Iris Society

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Membership Information

	Single	Family
Annual:	\$5.00	\$6.00
Triennial:	\$13.00	\$15.00
Life:	\$100.00	\$120.00

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The President's Message

Dear Fellow-Rebloomer-Enthusiasts:

The BEST piece of news announced at the annual meeting in Denver was that the new *REBLOOMING CHECKLIST* was available at the meeting and we sold 100 copies there. By mail it will cost \$13 for the U.S., and \$16 for overseas (and that includes priority mail which is just as economical for this weight as regular mail). The *CHECKLIST* HAS EXPANDED FROM JUST OVER 1900 NAMES TO OVER 2250 CULTIVARS. Not only are the states (and countries) given where rebloom occurs, but also the USDA zones. This means you can use your knowledge of your climate to assist in ordering irises that will have the greatest potential to really rebloom for you. EVERYONE will find it useful, whether you are a hybridizer or a backyard grower. For this reason, all who order irises and expect them to rebloom in their area should FIRST check the list to ascertain that they have been reported to rebloom in that area.

ALSO all hybridizers who sell irises as rebloomers should indicate in what areas the rebloom has been reported. Our former president, Dr. Weiler, was most particular to indicate this in his catalog. Not to do so is a disservice to the hybridizer, the seller, and the buyer. If the iris does not rebloom, then it reflects unfavorably on the seller and also on those of us who are trying to promote rebloomers. Irises that rebloom on the West Coast do not necessarily rebloom in all other parts of the country. (In fact, not even all "oncres" do that - I have a collection of Dykes and it is discouraging and expensive to keep re-ordering certain Dykes that do not survive here in the East - that is why *Vanity* is my favorite.) But that is another soapbox issue: that the Dykes should be able to grow just about everywhere.

Let me confess what happened to me 40 some years ago in my ignorance and enthusiasm! I remembered how excited my mother had been when she came home from her garden club with a YELLOW iris - and I had received a colorful catalogue with pictures of irises that rebloomed in January. I thought how wonderful that would be, after all, why not enjoy them the year around! That January (don't forget I was very ignorant, and very unscientific, but also very enthusiastic) well, my husband, who was a scientist, found me digging in the SNOW! He asked what I was doing, and I was very embarrassed but admitted I was looking for irises. He, the dear man,

sensitive to my embarrassment and knowing my love for irises, gently explained that the catalogue came from California where everything could grow all year - and I, in my enthusiasm, had not read it thoroughly and, wanting to surprise him, had not revealed my hopes when ordering! Now that I have bared my soul, you see why it is so important that anyone ordering irises should have at least a smidgeon of faith that what they are ordering may possibly rebloom for them. No one can give an unqualified guarantee. A lot depends on the soil, the care given, where planted, etc. Rebloomers do take extra care. They need to be fertilized and watered more than the oncres, after all they give you more bloom and need more nourishment for the stamina required. That is just logical. It is also logical that there needs to be genes there to help along. So the message here is: Be sure to order The *CHECKLIST* - and order it from Charlie Brown, please. He is Membership Chairman and is handling the *CHECKLIST*.

We accomplished many things together at the annual meeting in Denver. We divided the Eastern Region into the Northeast and the East, in order to coordinate the climates more equitably. The Northeast Director will receive input from Regions: 1 (all New England); 2 (New York state); and 16 (Canada). We need to encourage more people to grow and hybridize the rebloomers in this area. After all, our Lloyd Zurbrigg began his reblooming interest in Canada, and one of our outstanding pioneer rebloomer hybridizers, G. Percy Brown, was from Region 1.

Also, at the Denver meeting Larry Doucette was unanimously voted to be the Northeast Director. At the Spring meeting in Oklahoma (May 1999), we will need to change the "four" to "five" in the bylaws, Article V, Section 3, so it will read, "There shall be five Directors to represent five geographic areas..."

The terms of both the Northeast and the Eastern Directors will coincide. Mike Lowe finishes his term as Eastern Director in May, and Joan Roberts' nomination for that post will be voted on in May. The Eastern Director will now be able to operate more efficiently, because that territory, including Regions 3, 4, 7, & 19, is more homogenous.

Thanks go to the Nominating Committee – Jim Ennenga (Chairman), Florence Wheat, and Mike Lowe – for an excellent job, and I am particularly grateful to Ginny Spoon for her very efficient editing and publishing of four issues of the *RECORDER*. Because Ginny said she would not be available for the next issue, the Spring issue, I have enlisted the help of Kathy Guest, who ably edited one issue in 1996. Please send all contributions for the Spring issue to Kathy Guest, 494 North St., East Aurora, NY 14052 (e-mail: Irisborer@aol.com).

I hope to see you all in Oklahoma in May of '99.

Rosalie Yerkes Figg

President, '96-'99

**REBLOOMING IRIS SOCIETY
TREASURER'S REPORT
as of 5-13-98**

CHECKING ACCOUNT
\$4,477.95

MONEY MARKET SAVINGS ACCOUNT
\$5,194.40

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT
\$5,358.69

TOTAL ASSETS:
\$15,031.04

Got a question? Send your rebloom questions to Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg c/o *Ask the expert* Box 52444, Durham, NC 27717

Membership Chairman's Message

Membership renewal notices will be going out in January. Please check your mailing label for the expiration date. If it says 99/01 it will expire at the end of this December.

Some of you have sent letters saying you have not received your *Recorder*, and in several cases it was because you did not send me a change of address. If your address has changed, please send me your new address.

Back issues of the *Recorder* are available while they last for: \$3.50 each, or 3 for \$10 including postage.

I also have the *Reblooming Checklist* available for \$13 U.S. and \$16 overseas. Make checks out to the RIS.

Charlie Brown

Editor's Message
Ginny Spoon

It has been a pleasure to serve you as editor for the past two years. Don't forget to send Kathy Guest, 494 North St., East Aurora, NY 14052 (e-mail: Irisborer@aol.com) your show reports and articles for the Spring '99 issue. Remember, the *Recorder* needs your input.

I hope everyone will keep on enjoying the reblooming irises as much as we have, and please don't forget to promote our favorite society, the American Iris Society, and it's Reblooming Iris Section.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my husband, Don, who has helped me proof read the *RIR*, for his lovely artwork, and his patience. I appreciate his help very much.

Thanks to all who sent in articles, questions, and rebloom reports; you made it informative for everyone else.

Hope to see you in Oklahoma!

**Board Meeting of the Reblooming Iris Society
June 2, 1998, Denver, CO**

RIS President, Rosalie Figge called our board meeting to order on June 2, 1998 in Denver, Colorado.

Board Members attending introduced themselves: Charlie Brown, Florence Wheat, Ginny Spoon, Barbara Aitken, Dr. John Weiler, and Claire Honkanen. Mary Brown, parliamentarian, a friend, was also introduced.

Since the minutes had been recorded in the fall (1997) Recorder, a motion was made to dispense with their reading at this time.

Treasurer, Florence Wheat, presented a complete report announcing account balance of \$4,477.95. A complete report is on file.

Rosalie then presented her yearly report. She expressed extreme regret in losing two faithful directors who have resigned: Judith Earp and Opal Wulf. Rosalie appointed the following to fill the unexpired terms until an election: Everett Lineberger as Southern Director, and Larry Harder as Midwest Director. She mentioned a need for a director in the northeastern part of the U.S. to encourage the growth of rebloomers in this area. With this in mind she appointed Lawrence L. Douchette as Northeastern Director. She then asked for the approval of the board, motion made and carried with unanimous vote.

Jim Ennenga has been appointed to serve as chairman of the nominating committee. Two members will be elected at the general meeting to serve with him.

The Distinguished Service Award will be given to Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg and Dr. John Weiler at the general meeting.

Rosalie announced improved changes had been made in the new *Judges Handbook* and will be available at the convention.

The *REBLOOMING CHECKLIST* is now available and will be sold for \$10. The *REBLOOMING CHECKLIST* will also be available later from Membership Chairman, Charlie Brown for \$13 U.S. and \$16 overseas.

Barbara Aitken, Western Director, reported that she had not received any reports from her region regarding rebloom, or shows, etc.

John Weiler announced he has been active reporting growth in his region and encouraging reblooming shows. He suggested those having spring shows may consider having a special section for rebloomers in their schedule. This would call attention to rebloom and would help in educating the general public to this factor. It would certainly attract more to growing and enjoying rebloom.

Charlie Brown advised that membership was down somewhat at this time. In discussion it was felt that it could be attributed to the AIS dues change and this is perhaps a temporary situation.

Rosalie announced that we will be needing a new *Recorder* editor and artist. She commended Bill Ackerman and Ginny Spoon for their hard work and excellent *Recorder*. Ginny will be doing the fall (1998) *Recorder* and would be glad to help her successor get used to the routine of preparing the *Recorder*. Bill Ackerman has been loyal in doing the beautiful art work for the *Recorder* and also did the cover for the *REBLOOMING CHECKLIST* and we are very grateful to him.

A web page on the internet is needed and Bill Smoot was appointed to set up a web page for the Reblooming Iris Society.

It was announced that the awards committee consists of board members and those who have received the award. Names suggested as future recipients were: Earl Hall, Frank Jones, and Ben Hager. A motion was made and seconded to accept these nominees as new recipients.

Under new business John Weiler suggested we should consider an award for rebloomer supporters in a foreign country, a certificate to honor their contribution. Rosalie asked for a motion and it was moved to present an award this year. Giovanni Edoardo Nogaro will be this year's recipient.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and the general meeting and program will be on June 3, 1998.

Claire Honkanen, Secretary

**General Meeting of the Reblooming Iris Society
June 3, 1998, Denver, CO**

Our President, Rosalie Figge, called the annual general meeting of the Reblooming Iris Society to order June 3, 1998, in Denver, Colorado.

She welcomed all those attending, approximately seventy, from sixteen regions. Board members attending were introduced, Florence Wheat, Claire Honkanen, Charlie Brown, Ginny Spoon, Barbara Aitken, and Dr. John Weiler.

Since the minutes of the meeting in Dearborn, Michigan were published in the *Recorder*, a motion was made and approved to dispense with the reading of the minutes.

Our Treasurer, Florence Wheat, gave a brief report which will be filed for audit.

Rosalie then announced appointments which had been approved by the board: As directors, Larry Harder, Everett Lineberger, and Larry Doucette. Motion was made, seconded and approved by the membership. Jim Ennenga has been appointed to serve as chairman of the nomination committee. Florence Wheat and Mike Lowe were elected by the membership to serve with the chairman.

Rosalie announced that the new *Judges Handbook*, with approved changes is now available at the convention. The new *REBLOOMING CHECKLIST* is also available and may be obtained from Charlie Brown, Membership Chairman for \$10. Postage is \$3 in the U.S. and \$6 overseas.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Drs. Lloyd Zurbrigg and John Weiler.

Our program, "How Irises Behave", was then presented by Dr. John Weiler to an interested, enthusiastic, and attentive audience. Dr. Weiler discussed cultural practices, acclimation of varieties, and suggested transplant after spring bloom rather than fall bloom. The iris cultivars shown in his slides were selected because they have wide distribution and rebloom in many states and regions.

An invitation was extended to all to meet again in Oklahoma in 1999, and the meeting was adjourned.

Claire Honkanen, Secretary

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE
James L. Ennenga, Chairman

The nominating committee, consisting of Florence Wheat, Mike Lowe, and Jim Ennenga present the following slate and recommendations:

By going through the past several Reblooming Iris Recorders, the following facts were discovered:

The terms of all four officers end in the year 1999.
The Southern Director's term expired in 1998.
The Eastern Director's term expires in 1999.
The Western Director's term expires in 2000.
The Midwestern Director's term expires in 2001.

Judith Earp, Southern Director, resigned prior to the 1998 meeting, and Rev. Everette Lineberger was appointed to take her place. No nominating committee was elected in 1997, so Everette has continued in an appointed position. Reverend Lineberger has agreed to a three year election in 1999 to bring the director's election in line so that one regional director is elected every year, in accordance with the by-laws.

Mike Lowe's term as Eastern Director expires in 1999, and Joan Roberts, from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania has accepted the nomination to that position.

In accordance with the by-laws, both the secretary and the treasurer can serve two consecutive terms in office. Both Florence Wheat and Claire Honkanen have accepted nominations for the second term.

Our current Vice-president, Leslie Jobe', has accepted the nomination for President, and Dennis Connell, from Roswell, New Mexico has accepted the nomination for Vice-president.

Therefore, our proposed slate of officers is as follows:

President: Leslie Jobe'
Vice-president: Dennis Connell
Secretary: Claire Honkanen
Treasurer: Florence Wheat
Southern Director: Everette Lineberger
Eastern Director: Joan Roberts

THE GREAT CLARENCE MYSTERY

By Don Spoon

Many, including myself, consider **Clarence** (Zurbrigg 91) HM '95 and AM '97 to be the most beautiful rebloomer ever introduced. **Clarence** is a multiple rebloomer in zone 9, and reblooms reliably in late summer and fall in zones 4 through 8. Each flower is a dreamy confection that seems to glow from its lighter center like a luminous break in the sky. Its true color is somewhere between the 1998 catalog photograph by Schreiner's (p. 68, described as a "light blue amoena") that is too blue, and Cooley's (p. 30) that is too purple. (The new Kodak Gold ® film gives nearly true blue as well as good purple reproduction.) Like other irises, its color can vary with time of year, soil conditions, and climate. I like Cooley's accurate description, "Bright, shining and gentle describe this noble flower with its bluish white standards crowned violet-blue at the tip. The falls are a light blue-violet with white centers and hafts. Creamy white beards. A moderate sweet fragrance and dependable fall rebloom." (**Clarence** was one of the ten irises in Cooley's 1998 rebloomer collection that sold out early.) The plant is exceptionally vigorous with rapid increase and healthy blue-green foliage. It is proving to be an excellent pod parent, though as a pollen parent it may be somewhat challenging. Members of our C & P Iris Society have gotten seven or more blooms with double sockets on stalks that reach 35 to 36 inches tall. But **Clarence**, the iris, faces two unanswered questions that I will try to clarify: What is it and what are its parents? Like a few other great bearded irises, such as **Stepping Out** and **Dusky Challenger**, the parentage of **Clarence** was given by its hybridizer, Dr. Lloyd Zurbrigg, as unknown. Answering the first question may help answer the second.

Genetics Review: The plicata locus only affects the water soluble anthocyanin pigment distribution and not the lipid soluble yellow xanthophylls and yellow (carotenes) and pink (lycopene) carotenoid pigments. (White is the absence of pigments created by the defraction of light by the living cytoplasm in the tiny conical cuticle surfaces similar to the whiteness of diamonds that is a combination of many rainbow, prismatic spectrums. A dead, frozen flower loses its whiteness created by the cuticle surface cones when its internal, cellular structure is destroyed.) In their anthocyanin pigment distribution plicata and luminata, like a negative and its print, are the reverse of one another. Plicatas, such as **Stepping Out**, have pigment around the edge of the petals that are unpigmented in the center; in the hafts and style arms; and stitching or dotting lying over the veins. Luminatas, such as **Mind Reader**, have no pigment around the edge of the petals that are pigmented in the center, yet unpigmented around the beard, in the hafts, and the veins. Interestingly, luminatas can have anthocyanin pigmentation in the style arms. The dominant PI pattern has full anthocyanin pigmentation with no pattern, basically a self like **Dusky Challenger**. Glaciatas (formerly called ices) lack all anthocyanin pigment and can be white, yellow, golden, orange or pink as in **Answered Prayers**. The color of the beards is determined by interactions with these alleles at the plicata locus, yet mainly by other genes and gene modifiers.

To my eye **Clarence** looked somewhat like a luminata so I crossed it on several of Keith Keppel's beautiful luminatas. Only with **Clarence X Mind Reader** did I get seedlings with very vigorous rebloomer-like growth and tall (some up to 38 inches) early May stalks with nice flowers. Most were various luminata amoenas, but one seedling was a perfect glaciata with no purple, blue, maroon or red anthocyanin pigments and faint yellow at the base of the falls. To yield such a glaciata, both parents must have two glaciata alleles (unique trait doses) at the plicata locus (gene's linear position on a specific chromosome). Then, to my great surprise, the best seedling was very dark violet with white beards, and when back lighted, was obviously a luminata and only slightly bitone. The morning Ginny and I saw its first flower open we were overjoyed! This fall, three of

the largest rhizomes, reset only two months earlier, began to develop rebloom stalks, though too late to beat an early hard freeze. We registered this seedling (96-252A) as **Daughter of Stars**. This means that both parents of **Daughter of Stars** also had to have two luminata alleles at the plicata locus. So **Clarence** and **Mind Reader** at the plicata locus are all recessive and **pl lu pl lu pl gl pl gl** and both are luminata-glaciata. (The World of Irises uses **pl a** - all white - for the glaciata allele, but I prefer **pl gl**) Keith Keppel in a recent letter relates that he has obtained luminatas and a glaciata from crosses of **Flights of Fancy** X **Fancy Women**. I believe this means that both of them are luminata-glaciatas like **Clarence** and **Mind Reader**. Possibly the two luminata alleles and the two glaciata alleles were introduced from different species and still always pair as in amphidiploids instead of randomly assorting during meiosis. (The **Pl** dominant allele at the plicata locus produces no plicata pattern. It needs to be present in only one allele of the four to obliterate and hide the expression of the plicata and luminata as well as the glaciata recessive alleles at the plicata locus. The plicata and the luminata alleles override the expression of the glaciata allele, however when plicata and luminata occur together they are both expressed creating fancies.)

An amoena can be recessive (all four alleles in tetraploids with four sets of chromosomes must be recessive to be expressed) or dominant as in Paul Cook's **Whole Cloth** or Charlie Nearpass's **Dover Beach**. The dominant amoena pattern designated **Is** can have a dosage effect: **Is is is** is a slight bitone, **Is Is is** is a medium bitone, **Is Is Is is** with lightly pigmented standards and darker falls, and **Is Is Is Is** white standards and pigmented falls. (Modifier genes can also influence the amoena pattern that can occur as a narrow pigmented band around the falls as in **Emma Cook**.) Probably three alleles dominant for the amoena pattern are required to have the light blue violet pigment in the standards as in **Clarence**. This is like superimposing the luminata pattern modified by the glaciata influence on a high dosage dominant amoena like **Proud Tradition**. So, what is **Clarence**? I believe **Clarence** is a luminata-glaciata high dosage amoena!

Of all of Lloyd's introductions, **Latest Style** looks most like **Clarence**, as suggested to Lloyd and me by Clarence Mahan. As I wrote this, **Latest Style** was reblooming in our garden. It has lavender-white standards with some light violet at the bases, the lavender-white style arms have light violet bands down their centers, falls light violet with considerable darkening to violet in the center and in the veins, and light violet around the creamy white beards that are light yellow in the throat. **Latest Style**, 34" tall and sibling to **Lightly Seasoned**, is (((**Crinkled Ivory** X **Autumn Sensation**) X **Grand Baroque**) X **Goliath's Mate**) X **Dawn Violet**. It is ruffled, flaring, and of modern form. **Autumn Sensation** is a recessive amoena and **Crinkled Ivory** is a light creamy yellow self while the other three parents are all dominant amoenas. During a recent phone conversation Lloyd told me that the reason he registered **Clarence** as 'parentage unknown' was that several of the crosses that year had their identifying tags become unreadable.

If **Latest Style** was one of the parents, could we deduce what the other parent was. I crossed two off-white siblings out of **I Do** X **Laced Cotton**, (As related by Keith Keppel, **Laced Cotton** is a 'minimalist' plicata with barely visible plicata markings at the base of the petals. It has been shown by test crosses with plicatas to produce plicatas showing it has at least two plicata alleles, maybe four, or various possible assortments of luminata and glaciata alleles at the plicata locus). All six seedlings from this cross were fancies (luminata-plicatas) implying that **I Do** has two - or more - luminata alleles at the plicata locus. I also have a clean light yellow ground luminata amoena seedling with yellow standards and style arms and darker yellow beards with lavender, plum, and purple coloring between the yellow veins and edges of the falls. It is registered as **Dreaming Rainbows**. This yellow ground luminata amoena came out of a cross of two reblooming yellow selfs **Corn Harvest** X **Delia's Child** ((**Lemon Mist** X **Fall Primrose**)X

Corn Harvest), making its chromosomes 3/4ths from **Corn Harvest**. The dominant 'white' pattern designated the **I** locus that makes irises solid white, yellow, orange or pink does not completely eliminate the anthocyanin that can be seen expressed at the bases of the falls. (The **I** locus is a different locus from the amoena pattern **Is**.) In **Glaciatas**, no such purple, blue, maroon or red markings occur. This means that a yellow iris like **Corn Harvest** could be carrying unexpressed *plicata*, *luminata*, or *glaciata* alleles. Even with four different alleles at the *plicata* locus **PI** (dominant, no pattern) **pl** (recessive, *plicata*) **pl lu** (*luminata*) **pl gl** (*glaciata*), just one dominant 'white' allele (one dose of a possible four, **IIII**) would prevent all anthocyanin expression except at the bases of the falls. Likewise, **I Do** could have two unexpressed *luminata* alleles at the *plicata* locus as indicated by my test crosses. This could also be true for the offspring of **I Do** including **Immortality**. **Immortality**, that can reach 35" tall, is a more likely parent of **Clarence** at 35" tall, than the shorter **I Do** at 32" tall. Also, the rebloom characteristics of **Clarence** are more like **Immortality**. However, Lloyd has no record of such a cross of **Latest Style** and **Immortality**. Lloyd was so kind to search his records for me of all the pertinent **Latest Style** crosses. In all these nine crosses except one, **Latest Style** was used as the pollen parent, once on **Brook Flower** or on seedlings no longer available. The exception is the cross, Q 194 - **Latest Style** X unknown, 52 seeds. Thus, the parentage of **Clarence** still remains a mystery.

Even though we only have a candidate for one of its two parents, we do know that **Clarence** is a truly gorgeous reblooming iris that could have the potential to create *luminatas*, *fancies* (*luminata-plicatas*), and *glaciatas* that are reliable rebloomers like the reblooming *plicatas* (such as **Autumn Circus** and **Earl of Essex**) we have learned to love. Hybridizers, young and older, novices and experts, "Start your tweezers!"



Daughter of Stars (Clarence X Mind Reader)

1998 Reblooming Symposium

USDA ZONE _____ STATE _____ COUNTY _____
SIGNATURE(S) _____

Vote only for varieties that have rebloomed for you at least once in the last 3 years or that you have seen reblooming in your area. Place an X in front of each of your selections. Vote for no more than 30 Tall Bearded varieties, including write-ins. Vote for no more than 15 Medians including write-ins. Beardless varieties are limited to 6 votes, including write-ins. The second member of family membership should use an O to designate votes, third and so on should use a number (1,2,3etc.) All voters should sign the ballot. Please list your USDA Hardiness Zone. If you are not familiar with your zone, list county and state you live in.

RETURN BY ~~FEB. 1, 1999~~ *Extended to February 20th!*

TALL BEARDED

AARON'S DREAM
ALL AMERICAN
ALL LIT UP
AMAIN
AMANDA ERIN
AMERICA'S TEAM
ANGELIC WINGS
ANXIOUS
AUTUMN BUGLER
AUTUMN CIRCUS
AUTUMN CLOUDS
AUTUMN ECHO
AUTUMN ENCORE
AUTUMN GRANDEUR
AUTUMN HARBOR
AUTUMN MISTS
AUTUMN TRYST
BARN DANCE
BELVICLOUD
BELVIQUEEN
BEST BET
BILLIONAIRE
BLATANT
BLAZING SUNRISE
BLUE ANEW
BLUE CANDLE
BLUE FIN
BLUE MOONLIGHT
BLUE REVIEW
BLUE SUEDE SHOES
BONUS LITE
BONUS MAMA
BOOMERANG
BOUNTIFUL HARVEST
BRASS HORN

BRIDGE IN TIME
BROTHER CARL
BROWN DUET
BUCKWHEAT
CANTINA
CARIBBEAN DREAM
CAROLINE GIBBS
CAYENNE CAPERS
CEASE-FIRE
CEE CEE
CELESTIAL HAPPINESS
CELESTIAL SUNSHINE
CERTAINLY CERTAINLY
CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE
CHASTE WHITE
CHEROKEE TEARS
CHINESE EMPRESS
CHRISTOPHER
COLUMBUS
CIRCUS JEWEL
CLARENCE
CLOUD CAP GALILEE
CLOUDLESS SUNRISE
COLORWATCH
COME WHAT MAY
COMPETITION
CORAL CHALICE
CORAL CHARMER
CORN HARVEST
CREATION TWILIGHT
DANCE FOR JOY
DANTE'S INFERNO
DARK PASSAGE
DASHING
DAWN OF FALL
DESTROY RIDES AGAIN

DIAMOND BLUSH
DORCAS LIVES AGAIN
DOUBLE CHARM
DOUBLE SCOOP
DUKE OF EARL
EARL OF ESSEX
EGGNOG
ELAINEALOPE
ENGLISH COTTAGE
ETERNAL BLISS
ETERNAL WALTZ
EVELYN WARLICK
EXTRA INNINGS
FAITHFUL AND TRUE
FALL PRIMROSE
FALL SPOTLIGHT
FEED BACK
FIRE ON ICE
FLOORSHOW
FOREVER GOLD
FOREVER IN LOVE
FOREVER YOURS
FORT BRAGG
FRAPPE
FREQUENT FLYER
FROST ECHO
FROSTICO
GARDEN CLUB DELIGHT
GENTEEL
GIBSON GIRL
GILDED
GLACIER KING
GOLD BURST
GOLDEN ECSTASY
GOLDEN ENCORE
GOLDEN IMMORTAL

GOLDEN GALAXY
GOLDEN ROAD
GOOD FAIRY
GRACE THOMAS
GRAPE ADVENTURE
GRAPE REPRISE
GREEN AND GIFTED
HALLOWED THOUGHT
HALLOWEEN HALO
HAND PAINTED
HAPPY NEW YEAR
HARVEST OF MEMORIES
HEART OF ICE
HEAVENLY BLISS
HEMSTITCHED
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
HIGH HO SILVER
HIGH IMPACT
HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS
HOLY NIGHT
I DO
ICELAND
ILLINI REPEATER
IMMORTALITY
IN RETROSPECT
INVITATION
I REPEAT
ISTANBUL
JEAN GUYMER
JENNIFER REBECCA
JOAN'S PLEASURE
JUICY FRUIT
JULY SUNSHINE
JUNGLE CAT
KISS OF KISSES
LADY ESSEX
LADY JEAN
LAKE REPRISE
LAS VEGAS
LATE LILAC
LEMON DUET
LEMON REFLECTION
LICHEN
LIGHTNING STRIKE
LIGHT REBUFF
LILLA'S GLOVES
LILLA'S STRIPES
LILTING
LUMINOSITY
MAGIC MEMORIES
MANY HAPPY RETURNS
MARIPOSA SKIES
MATRIX
MIDNIGHT CALLER
MIL BYERS
MISS PORTERVILLE
MISTY LADY

MISTY TWILIGHT
MOTHER EARTH
MOTHER EVE SMILES
MT. SINAI AFLAME
MY FRIEND JOHNATHAN
NORTHERN FLAME
NORTHWARD HO
NOW AND LATER
OCEAN PACIFIC
OCTOBER
OFF BROADWAY
OKLAHOMA CRUDE
OLYMPIC RINGS
ONCE AGAIN
ORANGE HARVEST
ORCHID CLOUD
PAGAN GODDESS
PAPRIKA FONO'S
PEACH JAM
PEARLS OF AUTUMN
PEPPER BLEND
PERFUME COUNTER
PINK ATTRACTION
PINKNESS
PLATINUM
PORCELAIN FRILLS
PRECIOUS HARVEST
PRICILLA OF CORINTH
PRINCESS PITY PAT
PROGRESSIVE ATTITUDE
PURE AS GOLD
PURPLE MAGIC
QUEEN DOROTHY
RAVEN'S RETURN
RAVENWOOD
REBOUND
RECURRING DREAM
RECURRING RUFFLES
REDELTA
RED REVIVAL
REINCARNATION
REMARKABLE
REMEMBER SPRING
RENOWN
RETURNING CHAMELEON
ROCK STAR
ROMANTIC EVENING
RONEY'S ENCORE
ROSALIE FIGGE
ROSE TEALL
ROTUNDA
ROYAL SUMMER
SAXON
SCANDIA DELIGHT
SCORPIO STAR
SEA DOUBLE
SEA FLUFF

SEA WORLD
SEASONS
SECOND ACT
SECOND LOOK
SECOND WIND
SEPTEMBER FROST
SEPTEMBER REPLAY
SIGN OF LEO
SIGN OF VIRGO
SILVER DIVIDENDS
SILVER SCREEN
SISTER MIRIAM SINGS
SKOOKUMCHUCK
SNOW IN SUMMER
SOAP OPERA
SOLSTICE
SONATA IN BLUE
SPACE PIRATE
SPEEDING AGAIN
SPEED LIMIT
SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS
ST. PETERSBURG
STARSHIP
STELLAR LIGHTS
STINGRAY
STONEWASHED
SUGAR BLUES
SUKY
SUMMER FROST
SUMMER HOLIDAYS
SUMMER OLYMPICS
SUMMER SURF
SUNMASTER
SUNNY DISPOSITION
SUNNY SHOULDERS
SUNRISE IN EDEN
SWEETHEART RING
SYLVAN
TANG FIZZ
TEA LEAVES
TEMPERANCE
TENNISON RIDGE
TEST PATTERN
THEN AGAIN
THREE SEASONS
THUNDER MOUNTAIN
TIME AND AGAIN
TOTAL RECALL
TOUCH OF SPRING
TRICK OR TREAT
TWICE DELIGHTFUL
TWICE TOLD
UNBELIEVABLE LOVE
VICTORIA FALLS
VIOLET CLASSIC
VIOLET MIRACLE
VIOLET MUSIC

VIOLET REPRISE
VIOLET RETURNS
WALTZ ACROSS TEXAS
WAVES OF GRAIN
WELCOME HOME
WHITE REPRISE
WINDS OF CHANGE
WINESAP
WINTERLAND
WINTER QUEEN
WITCH OF ENDOR
WRIGHT FLYER
ZURICH

TB WRITE-INS

BORDER BEARDED

ALTAR FIRES
APRICOT FROSTY
AUTUMN ORANGELITE
BABY BENGAL
BROADWAY DOLL
CAMEO BLUSH
CHAMPAGNE JUNIOR
COLOR BRITE
DOUBLE UP
FAUX PAS
FLAVOURS
JAZZ STAR
LATE MAGIC
LEAH TRADED
LENORA PEARL
LITTLE SUSIE
LUCIE ANDRY
MARMALADE SKIES
MINI CHAMPAGNE
MISS SCARLET
MOUSE
OCTOBER SPLENDOR
PEACH PARASOL
PET KIN
PINK REPRISE
SONJA'S SELAH
SPITFIRE
STANZA
ULTRA ECHO
WATERS OF MIRABA
WHOOPEM UP

BB WRITE-INS

**INTERMEDIATE
BEARDED**

ABBEEY CHANT
ANGEL HEART
BLACK MAGIC
BLESSED AGAIN
BLESSED ASSURANCE
BRIGHT EYES
CANDY FLOSS
CHAMPAGNE ENCORE
CHERRY SUPREME
CONCOCTION
CONSTANT COMPANION
ELEANOR ROOSEVELT
ERECT
FOND REMEMBRANCE
GLORIOUS DAY
GOODAY SUNSHINE
HALLOWEEN RAINBOW
HI
HISSY-FIT
HONEY GLAZED
I BLESS
LIKE A CHARM
LOW HO SILVER
PALM SPRINGS
PINK KITTEN
PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK
PROMISES PROMISES
RIDDLE
SANGREAL
SEASON TICKET
SIXTEEN CANDLES
SOUTHLAND
TAWNY
TIE DYED TYKE
ULTRA

IB WRITE-INS

**MINIATURE TALL
BEARDED**

LADY EMMA
MERIT
OZARK EVENING
MTB WRITE-INS

**MINIATURE DWARF
BEARDED**

DITTO
GNUZ SPREAD
GRAPELET
VELVET TOY

MDB WRITE-INS

**STANDARD DWARF
BEARDED**

ALENE'S OTHER LOVE
AURORALITA
AUTUMN EMBERS
AUTUMN MAPLE
BABY BELLE
BABY BLESSED
BABY BOOM
BABY CAKES
BABY PRINCE
BABY TEARS
BE HAPPY
BLISSSED OUT
BLITZ
CIMARRON ROSE
CAUTION SIGN
CINDERS
COMEBACK TRAIL
CORNHUSKER AUTUMN
CRY BABY
DARK CRYSTAL
DARKLING
DOUBLE BYTE
EVER READY
EXTRA CHARM
FLOWER SHOWER
FOREVER BLUE
FRANKINCENSE
GLITTER BIT
GOLDEN CHILD
GOLDEN VIOLET
GRAY POUPON
HAVEN
HOT

INDIAN BEAUTY
 INDIAN JEWEL
 INKLING
 JEWEL BABY
 KIWI SLICES
 LITTLE BISHOP
 LITTLE BLUETS
 LITTLE BLUE-EYES
 LITTLE SAPPHIRE
 LITTLE SHOWOFF
 LITTLE VIOLET CHARM
 MARITA
 MILANO
 MINI BUSY
 MINI MIGHT
 PINK FAWN
 PLUM WINE
 PRETTY AGAIN
 PRINCESS BLUE EYES
 RAINBOW SHERBET
 REFINED
 REHASH
 SERENITY PRAYER
 SILK AND VELVET
 SLICK TRICK
 SMELL THE ROSES
 SPARK PLUG
 SUNDOLL
 SUNSTRIP
 TART
 THIRD CHARM
 THIRD WORLD
 THRICE BLESSED
 TU TU TURQUOISE
 TWICE BLESSED
 TWINKLE TWINKLE
 WHAT AGAIN
 WEE BONNIE LASSIE
 WILLOWMIST

SDB WRITE-INS

JAPANESE
 EXUBERANT CHANTEY
 PRAIRIE MANTLE
 PURPLE PLUS
 ROYAL CROWN
 SAKURAGAI
 SOUTHERN SON
 TAFFETA AND VELVET
 TRIPLE TREAT

JP WRITE-INS

LOUISIANA
 BLUE DUKE
 FOR DAD
 RED ECHO

LA WRITE-INS

**SPECIES/
 CALIFORNIAE**
 ARCTIC REBLOOMER
 CHIEF SEQUOIA
 COOK'S BROTH
 GAMBLIN BLUE
 KING CLOVIS
 LINDA WEST

SPEC/CAL WRITE-INS

SIBERIANS
 CARELESS SALLY
 CHARTREUSE BOUNTY
 CREME CHANTILLY
 EARLY BLUEBIRD
 HARBOR MIST
 HARPSWELL PRELUDE
 HELICOPTER
 HELIOTROPE BOUQUET
 LUCKY LILAC
 MY LOVE
 OTEPOPO HONEY
 PINK HAZE
 PURPLE SAND
 REPRISE
 SPRING BROOK
 WHITE PRELUDE

SIB WRITE-INS

Return to:

Tim Stanek
23329 Ellington Ave.
Glenwood, IA 51534-5093

THE LURE OF THE SPACE AGE

By Lloyd Zurbrigg

For years I have devoted my hybridizing to the search for reblooming irises for the Eastern half of the nation. The search had overtones of almost religious severity.

Since coming to North Carolina, it has been harder to get rebloom, and my goal has shifted to trying for Space Age irises that rebloom, a sort of double jeopardy. But I have been much more light-hearted about it. I realize that not everyone will want irises with added spoons or flounces, yet I find them fascinating, and doubt that we have yet seen all that they may offer.

The originator of these so-called Space Age irises was the late Lloyd Austin of Placerville, California. He noted little "bumps" at the end of the beards of some plicatas in the Sydney Mitchell garden, and by selective breeding, managed to magnify these into horns, spoons and flounces. These were introduced to commerce, but found little favor with AIS judges.

The late Monty Byers of Potter Valley, California, with his friend, Bill Gibbs, grew up to 35,000 seedlings a year, many of them Space Agers. **Sky Hooks** (RE-9), from Manley Osborne, was the primal parent for these lines. Monty wrote an annual catalogue that fascinated many readers, and turned some of them into ardent fans. As a result, both the Space Age and the remontant irises became much more popular. (Note that the last two Dykes Medals for 1997 and 1998 went to Space Age irises, *Thornbird* and *Conjuration*, hybridized by Monty Byers.)

In 1989, I tried **Hands Up**, **Mauvelous** and **Potion** in my crosses up in Virginia. In 1990, I used **Conjuration**, **Good Fairy** (RE-7&8), and **Godsend**. In 1992, in the new garden here in Durham, NC I used **Mesmerizer** (RE-7&8) and **Rock Star** (RE-8&9). The cross of **Renown** (RE-4-9) and **Mesmerizer** has been the most successful to date, in respect to getting fully hardy seedlings with Space Ager appendages, even though remontancy has not yet appeared. 00 26, **Northward Ho** (RE-4-9) X **Rock Star**, has been especially exciting for color, though I have found that when crossed to other varieties descended by **Gigolo** (RE-Australia), the next generation has always had poor growth quality accompanying the vivid color.

Pinkness (RE-5-9) X **Godsend** has not shown as much quality, but has given some good color in fairly good flowers. I am anxious to see how these will do when crossed to the **Renown** X **Mesmerizer** cross. The NN 32 cross, KK 130 "Flying" X **Godsend**, has given some wonderful things, with two scheduled for introduction. The KK 130 seedling is interesting in that **Anne Boleyn** appears as a grandparent twice. (**Anne Boleyn** is a creamy yellow with huge, spreading flounces close to each fall). The two NN 32 seedlings for introduction are NN 32-9-2, an orchid-pink with red beards that turn bright purple at the end, and NN 32 "Last", a border bearded apricot with big self-colored flounces that turn upward gracefully. "Last", is indeed, one of the last irises to bloom.

When Region 4 came to visit in the fall of 1996, the judges waxed enthusiastic over seedling PP 98, a border bearded, violet with a much deeper heart and beard and horn. The pod parent was a violet-blue with brown beards, and the pollen parent a pale blue with deep blue beards, having **Howdy Do** (RE-9) twice in its parentage. PP 98 did not bloom this spring, but is growing nicely. I am hoping that it will hold its border bearded character on its second blooming. The judges called me over to comment on it, but they saw it before I did, as it had just opened!

Fewer crosses have been made among the medians, but I do have a white SDB with blue hearts, that has long white spoons. It comes from my TB Space Age introduction **Margaret Helen**, pictured on the inside cover of the January 1997 *AIS Bulletin*. The pollen used came from Lynda and Roger Miller of Indiana, being their seedling #1687. Like almost all from this cross, OO 70-2-3 has no pollen, but it sets pods every year. Its "cousin", OO 82 Blue, has lots of pollen and derives from the same Miller seedling #1687.

Some fairly recent seedlings of interest may be mentioned here, for the sake of those who are enthusiastic about the Space Agers.

OO 32B-EEE is a pink that blooms with the SDB's, but on rather tall well-branched stalks. (**Pinkness X Godsend**).

OO 32C-1 is an apricot-orange with good form and short horns.

OO 74A-7-2 is a white with self-colored flounces, red beards, and a row of little blue markings across the very top of the haft! (KK 130 "Flying" X **Godsend**).

QQ 43 VIVID, has vivid red-violet markings on a yellow background, and very dark-colored stalks. (OO 26-3-4 X OO 26-5-2). OO 26 is (**Northward Ho X Rock Star**).

OO 33C-6-1 lovely neglecta with beautiful big spoons.

OO 33-4-1 a tall, well-formed pinky-violet amoena with horns. Both seedlings, this amoena and the above neglecta, are from **Renown X Mesmerizer**.

MM 6 flounced amoena with great color. (KK 14-8-3 X **Conjuration**).

Caribbean Ahoy is a great yellow with bright violet appendages. The branching and number of buds is particularly impressive. This came from a seedling of Fred Stephenson in Roanoke, which had the distinction of winning Best Seedling twice in the Blue Ridge shows. It is derived from **Song of Norway X Miss Jupiter**. Pollen parent of **Caribbean Ahoy** is unknown.

A few further comments on the seedlings of this spring, 1998.

RR 55-4-3 is a lavender-violet with huge flounces, blooming on tall, well-branched stalks. At the end of each flounce there is a flat "plate" or "dish", and this is orange! Parentage: yellow seedling of **Spoon Time X NN 32-10-3**.

PP 57 was a very good pink with long horns. (NN 32-6-2 X **Pink Attraction RE-4-10**).

PP 56 was dubbed "White Perfection", and was the very last bearded iris to bloom. From NN 32-2-3 X **Mesmerizer**, it resembles its pollen parent, but the red beards are quite visible.

RR 44-1-1 perhaps should not be included as it bore no branches, but the lovely yellow flowers with huge yellow flounces were very memorable. Hopefully it will branch next year.

(NN 32-10-3 X OO 23-1-4, a **Mesmerizer** seedling).

RR 28 R O was a deep, rich orange with no markings. The solid haft seemed the more remarkable, coming from a plicata. (LL 89D-1-2 X **Rock Star RE-8&9**). The pod parent is an apricot-pink from (**Lady Friend RE-7&9 X Beverly Sills RE-7-9**) X (**Fresno Frolic RE-9 X Mabel Andrews RE-6-9**).

QQ 248 Amoena had only a dwarfed stalk on its first-year plant, but set two good pods, and had fertile pollen. It is an orchid amoena with very long beards that are orange at the haft, but blue-tinted down the fall. (MM 24-2-3 X OO 33-4-1).

1998 was a good spring season here, without a serious frost, and with sufficient rain, but not too much. We look forward to having Region 4 here again in late October of 1999, although the Space Agers will not be in bloom, unless some decide to favor you with a curtain call.

AIS AWARDS TO REBLOOMING IRISES, 1998

by John Weiler

Below are listed award winning cultivars for the year which have been reported to rebloom. Except where noted, the rebloom reports are taken directly from the *1998 Cumulative Checklist of Reblooming Iris*. USDA hardiness zones where rebloom has occurred are reported. Irises which have been in commerce for a short period or those with limited geographic distribution may eventually accumulate a more extensive rebloom record. Some, however, may continue to rebloom only in areas where the growing season is longest. If you are adding reblooming cultivars with a known performance record to your garden next year, these will be good choices for your climate zone.

DYKES MEMORIAL MEDAL

RUNNERS UP

Acoma (Magee) (8,9)

City Lights (M. Dunn) (8,9) *

JOHN C. WISTER MEDAL (TB)

RUNNERS UP

Mesmerizer (Byers) (7,8,9)

City Lights (M. Dunn) (8,9) *

HANS & JACOB SASS MEDAL (IB)

RUNNER UP

Low Ho Silver (Byers) (4,5,6,7,8,9,10)

COOK DOUGLAS MEDAL (SDB)

Little Showoff (E. Hall) (5,6,7,8,9,10)

RUNNERS UP

What Again (Ensminger) (5,6,7,8,9,)

Cimarron Rose (H. Nicholls) (6,7,)

SYDNEY B. MITCHELL MEDAL (CA)

RUNNER UP

Chief Sequoia (Weiler) (8,9)

AWARD OF MERIT

SDB

Little Blue-eyes (Weiler) (5,6,7,8,8)

TB

Handshake (Ghio) (6)

RUNNER UP

Rock Star (Byers) (8,9)

* Several reports of rebloom now in for this cultivar were not in time to be included in the *Reblooming Checklist*.

Rebloom Reports

Everette Lineberger from South Carolina (zone 7) sent a rebloom report which was very impressive. His rebloom for 1997 was:

Autumn Encore, Belvi Queen, Best Bet, Blue Moonlight, Brother Carl, Buckwheat, Certainly Certainly, City Lights, Clarence, Colorwatch, Corn Harvest, Dorcas Lives Again, Earl of Essex, Eternal Bliss, Eternal Waltz, Feedback, Halloween Halo, Harvest of Memories, Hemstitched, Holy Night, I Do, Immortality, Maiden, Misty Twilight, Northward Ho, Orange Harvest, Orchid Cloud, Pink Attraction, Queen Dorothy (July, August, September, and October), Reincarnation, Rosalie Figge, Second Show, Spirit of Memphis, Starship, Suky, Sunny Disposition, Victoria Falls, Violet Music, Witch of Endor, and Yesterday. Everette said that most of these rebloom every year but **Clarence** is the most prolific, reblooming off and on from July or August to the first freeze (usually in November).

Lucy Chicvara from Anderson, SC (zone 7) reported the following rebloomed for her in 1997 (Month in parenthesis with number for month:

I Do (9,10), Immortality (8,9,10,11), MTB Lady Emma (6,9), Red Revival (10), Rock Star (11), Stingray (11), Summer Olympics (10,11), IB Tawny (10), Tea Leaves (10,11), Tennessee Gentleman (7), SDB Third Charm (6), Violet Music (9,10), Winesap (11), IB Low Ho Silver (9,10), SDB Baby Blessed (10,11), Belvi Queen (8), Brother Carl (10), Buckwheat (6,10), Bountiful Harvest (10), BB Color Brite (10,11), Corn Harvest (9,10,11), Curtain Up (10), Destry Rides Again (11), Duke of Earl (9,10), Earl of Essex (9,10), IB Eleanor Roosevelt (8,9,10), English Cottage (9), Frequent Flyer (12), Glacier King (10,11), Glowing Seraphim (10), IB Golden Gusto (6,7), Happy New Year (10), Harvest of Memories (9,10), Istanbul (10), and Queen Dorothy (7,8,9,10).

COMPLETE 1998 AIS AWARDS LISTING

Dykes Medal

CONJURATION - 105 votes

ACOMA - 77 votes (runner-up)

Wister Medal - TB (3 awarded)

HELLO DARKNESS - 133 votes

CONJURATION - 116 votes

YAQUINA BLUE - 82 votes

MESMERIZER - 67 votes (runner-up)

Knowlton Medal - BB

RED ROOSTER - 72 votes

MAID OF ORANGE - 71 votes (runner-up)

Sass Medal - IB

CEE JAY - 89 votes

JOHN - 75 votes (runner-up)

Cook-Douglas Medal - SDB

LITTLE SHOWOFF - 57 votes

WHAT AGAIN - 44 votes (runner-up)

Caparne-Welch Medal - MDB

SNUGGLES - 51 votes

STRAWBERRY CREAM - 46 votes (runner-up)

Morgan-Wood Medal - SIB

FROSTED CRANBERRY - 68 votes

CONTRAST IN STYLES - 56 votes (runner-up)

M. S. Debaillon Medal - LA

BAYOU MYSTIQUE - 43 votes

COUP D'ETAT - 32 votes (runner-up)

Williamson-White Medal - MTB

STRIPED PANTS - 57 votes

CHERRY - 51 votes (runner-up)

C. G. White Medal - AR, AB 1/2+

KALIFA'S ROBE - 54 votes

SERAPH'S JEWEL - 27 votes

William Mohr Medal - AB 1/4 to 1/2

BOZRAH - 28 votes (tie)

PRAIRIE THUNDER - 28 votes (tie)

Eric Nies Medal - SPU

MISSOURI RIVERS - 53 votes

IN DEPTH - 30 votes (runner-up)

S. B. Mitchell Medal - CA

PACIFIC RIM - 72 votes

CHIEF SEQUOIA - 17 votes (runner-up)

Payne Medal - JA

(to be awarded later)

Walther Cup - most HM votes in all categories

PROTOCOL (IB) - 131 votes

REMINISCENCE (MTB) - 125 votes (1st Runner-up)

AURA LIGHT (TB) - 120 votes (2nd Runner-up)

Here is the list of TB's that received the Honorable Mention award from the AIS in 1998. Cultivars are listed in order by the number of votes received.

Aura Light, Blue Suede Shoes, Swingtoun, Night Game, Gnu's Flash, Spiced Tiger, Tom Johnson, Skywalker, Debbie Reynolds, Wishful Thinking, Local Color, American Classic, Romantic Evening, Old Black Magic, Elainealope, Thai Orange, Vintner, Arctic Express, Giraffe Kneehiz, Anne Murray, Battle Royal, Lady Bird Johnson, Continuity, Cajun Queen, Thunder Spirit, Fatal Attraction, Pink Quartz, Tintinnabulation, Halfway to Heaven, Saturday Night Live, Haute Couture, Lemon Chess, Skylark's Song, Black Falls, Change Your Ways, Hippo'z Tutu, Sneezy, Cee Cee, Dodge City, Razzleberry, Mallow Dramatic, Skipalong, Brave New World, La Mer, Lark Ascending, Somersault, Wild Thing, Credit Line, Opal Brown, Rite of Spring, Waterworld, Graphique, Joy Joy Joy, Splash of Raspberry, Ain't Misbehaven, Ascent of Angels, Colorodoan, It's Magic, No Bikini Atoll, Nothing But Net, So Fine, Betty Dunn, Long's Peak, Marcy Michelle, Mariposa Skies, Mother's Little Helper, Yes, Alpine Twilight, Wini Conklin, Cajun Rhythm, Blue Montana Skies, Close Shave, Frozen Blue, Al' Orange, Debrenee, Dirty Devil Canyon, Viva Mexico, Zandria.

Below is a list of TB's that received the Award of Merit (AM) listed in order of the number of votes received.

Tiger Honey (150), Spirit World (147), Feature Attraction (145), Gypsy Romance (133), Champagne Waltz (106), Delta Blues (104), Mind Reader (103), Gnu (88), Overjoyed (87), Cuss a Blue Streak (79), Cheating Heart (76), Baltic Star (76), Gnu Again (71), Nordica (70), Aplomb (67), Epicenter (66), Abbey Road (64), Boss Tweed (64), Degas Dancer (63), Navy Blues (60), Flights of Fancy (59), Gnu Blues (59), Lion's Share (56), Handshake (56)

Runners Up

Cascade Springs (55), Rock Star (55)

*While this is a complete listing of the TB's which have received 1998 AIS awards, there are more irises such as MDB's, medians, species, Japanese, etc. which have received awards. These can be found on pages 57 through 63 of the October 1998 AIS Bulletin.

More Rebloom Reports from Across the Nation

James Ennenga from Nebraska (zone 4) wrote that the first hard frost was on November 6, 1998. He was able to save stalks to take to their Greater Omaha Iris Society's final meeting of the year (a pot luck supper). He missed cutting **Colorwatch**, but took **Harvest of Memories**, **Summer Holidays**, **Autumn Mists**, and **Certainly Certainly**, plus two of his own seedlings to the meeting.

Kitty Ackerman from Ashton, MD (zone 6) sent me a copy of her rebloom report for 1998. Among her best performers were: **Autumn Bugler** (June, October and November), **SDB Baby Blessed** (September, October, November), **Belvi Cloud** (August, September, October), **Eternal Bliss** (July, September, October, November), **Immortality** (August, September, October, November), **BB Peach Reprise** (July, August, September, October), **Grape Adventure** (September, October, November), and **Purple Duet** (August, September, October). Other rebloomers in her garden were: **Autumn Encore**, **Autumn Princess**, **Autumn Tryst**, **Belvi Princess**, **Belvi Queen**, **IB Blessed Assurance**, **Colorwatch**, **IB Concoction**, **Cross Stitch**, **SDB Dark Crystal**, **Dawn of Fall**, **SDB Door Prize**, **Dorcas Lives Again**, **Duke of Earl**, **Garden Grace**, **Gilded**, **IB I Bless**, **I Do**, **Illini Repeater** (October), **Jean Guymer**, **Lady Essex**, **SDB Low Ho Silver**, **Midnight Caller**, **Misty Twilight**, **Now and Later**, **Peach Jam**, **Pinkness**, **SDB Plum Wine**, **Queen Dorothy**, **Remember Spring**, **Reprise** (siberian- on June 26), **Retreat**, **Royal Summer**, **Silver Dividends**, **Silver Illusion**, **Sugar Blues**, **Summer Olympics**, **Touch of Spring**, **Violet Returns**, **MTB Lady Emma**, and **SDB Baby Prince**.

Jane McKnew's Great Reblooming Tall Bearded Iris, **Rosalie Figge** (1993)

It was a true stroke of genius when Jane McKnew placed pollen from **Violet Miracle** on a flower of **Titan's Glory**. **Titan's Glory** is one of the most deserving and vigorous of all the Dykes medal winners. It is a deep violet self, totally of one color, with impeccable form and exceptionally well branched, sturdy stalks. **Titan's Glory** has never been known to rebloom, but has many of the best traits of rebloomers, such as rapid increase and resistance to rot. Jane used one of the best deep violet rebloomers, **Violet Miracle**, as the pollen parent. It reblooms reliably from zones 5 to 9, though usually reblooming later in the fall. Surprisingly, this cross produced **Rosalie Figge** with even better rebloom traits (zones 4-10), being a nearly continuous rebloomer in frost free zones. Growing in our garden (zone 6b) without extra summer watering and fertilizer, a clump not only started reblooming in late summer and continued into fall but put up a magnificent 39" stalk with eleven buds and four perfect blossoms open at once. We have a slide of that lovely stalk. Jane listed **Rosalie Figge** as M, for mid-season, but in our garden it is one of the first TBs to bloom in the spring.

Jane describes **Rosalie Figge** as a slight bitone with the standards (RHS 86B, violet) and the falls (86A). She recognized the styles as even lighter (86C) but with a dark (86A) midline streak. The beard hairs are white at the bases yet tipped violet (86C) becoming yellow in the throat. There is a beautiful white spray around the beard that adds a sense of majesty like a queen's lace collar. The fragrance is pleasantly sweet. With Jane's excellent description this very distinctive iris can be readily identified for decades to come. When the flower first opens the falls are flared and arched and the ruffling is dynamic. The standards are closed with grand French curves in the midribs. By the second day the ruffled falls spread and unfurl like a Victorian gown to display a maximum of its violet color. The drawing on the cover of this issue was taken from a photograph of such a two day old flower. It shows a form that is impressively wide and modern in every respect. The texture is like exquisite velvet with light diamond dusting. The violet color has vibrant undertones of rose. I am deeply grateful to Jane McKnew for her gift to Irisdom. When I met Jane several years ago I had the pleasure of personally thanking her for hybridizing this beautiful iris. And what a wonderful and fitting tribute Jane made to her FSK friend and its namesake, our President.

Sweet Autumn Fragrance

In repose she sat,
Gazing at the top blossom
Of her lovely autumn iris stalk
That peaceful Indian summer day
Downwind from the gentle breeze.
Golden sunrays sparkling through fall leaves
She lifted forward on her knees
To catch the sweet fragrance.
The regal flower greeted her senses.
Its violet petals like gentle hands
Rested her body, mind and soul
In a special moment to cherish.

Don Spoon

Rebloom Highlights for '98
by Ginny Spoon, VA zone 6

Since our collection is large, and listing all of the rebloomers that rebloomed would be extensive, I thought that touching upon the highlights of the year would be more interesting. Our season in northern Virginia was unusually dry after a very wet spring. We had about 35 inches of rainfall for the year but unfortunately, most of it fell before mid-May. Our drought was so severe that several areas of Virginia are asking for disaster relief. Finally, we are getting some rainfall now in December.

We were amazed at the number of irises that rebloomed in spite of the dry weather, about 200 from our collection of 700 plus about 50 seedlings. Don did a great job of irrigating considering that we depend upon our well for water. When it got close to rebloom season he decided to concentrate his watering on a few of the warmer zone rebloomers. Since he loves **SDB TuTu Turquoise** (by Paul Black) so much, he started giving it some extra water (almost daily) about mid-August. It rewarded us with massive rebloom on both clumps in the yard just before our first freeze in the first week of November. **Forever Blue** (Chuck Chapman 97), a delightful little vibrant blue SDB, rebloomed numerous times for us throughout the summer. A big surprise was **Canary Delight** (Roberts 97) which sent up an impressive rebloom stalk, and would have opened but for our two days of 21 degrees in early November. Joan Roberts was delighted with the news since its siblings had rebloomed, and **Canary Delight** had not yet rebloomed for anyone. **Sweet Solitude** (Nearpass R. 96) was another rebloomer that did not beat the freeze. It will probably be best enjoyed in a slightly warmer zone than ours (zone 7 and warmer), but the spring bloom is so beautiful that we would grow it even if it didn't rebloom. This wonderful white flower with the violet-blue rim around the falls and tangerine beards was hybridized by the late Dr. Charlie Nearpass. We are all looking forward to its introduction by Friendship Gardens.

The late summer top performers were **Champagne Elegance** (Niswonger 87) and **Silver Dividends** (Zurbrigg 91). BB **Leah Traded** (Bernice Miller 90) produced a glorious clump which rebloomed for almost three months. Other irises that put on a real show were **Violet Music** (Mahan 90) and **Autumn Tryst**

(Weiler 93). Another favorite for its beautiful glowing orange color was **SDB Autumn Maple** (Weiler 92).

Our first reblooming show of the year was the Region IV meeting in Charlotte, NC held on Saturday, October 10th. The Queen of Show was **Harvest of Memories** (Zurbrigg 85) exhibited by Phyllis Soine. Our next reblooming show was our own C&P show held at Behnke's Garden Center in Beltsville, MD on the next Saturday, October 17th. I won the Queen of Show with George Sutton's beautifully ruffled **Golden Immortal** (97) which had well-branched stalks with two open flowers and another just opening. The first runner-up was Don's **Faithful and True** (Spoon 97). The next Saturday had yet another reblooming show to attend, the FSK Iris Society Show in Towson, MD. I won Queen of Show with the most beautiful stalk that I have ever exhibited. It had four open flowers, but I had to cut off the bottom branch to make it in proportion to the vase, and it still had three newly opened flowers. It was **Forever Yours** (Hager 92). A great stalk of **Violet Music** (Mahan 91) was the first runner-up.

Frances Iva (Zurbrigg 90) sent up a rebloom stalk the first time for us in November, but was frozen just before it opened. **Autumn Clouds** (Hager 90) was another one that rebloomed for us for the first time (late October). It was so lovely that we could hardly take our eyes off the tall commanding stalk graced full of pale blue flowers with exquisite ruffling when we were outside. **Forever Gold** (Sutton 97) is now trying to rebloom since we have had a short return of mild weather extending into December. SDB's **Baby Blessed** (Zurbrigg 79) and **Mini Might** (Weiler 92) are also reblooming now.

If you are on the internet, you might want to check out a most interesting reblooming article in the *Richmond Dispatch* featuring the reblooming iris garden of Phyllis Soine, President of the Central Virginia Iris Society. The internet access code is: <http://www.gatewayva.com/rtd/Saturday/home/eart05.shtml>

Don't forget to send in your rebloom reports to your local area director (addresses on page 20). Hope your holiday season is one of joy and peace.

HOW TO BE A PART OF THE 1998 SYMPOSIUM!

Symposium results are very important to the Reblooming Iris Society. Thank you Tim for doing an excellent job of compiling these results for us. Your rebloom reports from your garden are also very helpful. The information gives us a history of iris rebloom performance across the country. It is also a good recommendation to advise newer members which irises are likely to perform in their area. Please send your **completed 1997 Symposium (inserted in this issue) to Tim Stanek, 23329 Ellington Ave., Glenwood, IA 51534 -by February 1. (EXTENDED TO FEB. 20TH).** Send the rebloom results from your garden (as soon as your rebloom is finished) to your **AREA DIRECTOR**, as follows:

AREA	REGIONS INCLUDED	AREA DIRECTOR
Northeastern	1,2,16	Larry Douchette, 482 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, MA 01887
Eastern	3,4,7,19	Joan Roberts, 341 Schwartz Rd., Gettysburg, PA 17325-8622
Southern	5,10,17,22,23,24	Everette Lineberger, 2460 Compton Bridge Rd., Inman, SC 29349-8489
Midwestern	6,8,9,18,21 & overseas	Larry Harder, Box 547, Ponca, NE 68870-0547
Western	11,12,13,14,15 & 20	Barbara Aitken, 608 NW 119 th St., Vancouver, WA 98685-3802

Thank you in advance for your participation! We can't do it without you.

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