

THE REBLOOMING IRIS RECORDER

Spring 2000 - Vol 55



CLARENCE
Reblooming Tall Bearded Iris
Zurbrigg '91

Reblooming Iris Society

A Section of the American Iris Society

Reblooming Iris Recorder

Spring 2000 - Vol 55

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President's Message

Another six months have passed and the end of my first year as president is approaching. I look forward to meeting you at DESTINY DALLAS.

Not a lot has happened this year, but I have received some information from several members. It seems that it is a policy of AIS not to use photos of new introductions on the cover of publications since it might influence voting or give an edge to the hybridizer. I apologize for the error, but it was such a good picture and it is hard to get photos from you, our readers and members. We hope in the future to include as many of the hybridizers on the cover as possible. We can only accommodate two per year, so please bear with us. If you have good photos, please send a 4 X 6 to either the co-editors or me so we can have a more diverse choice. I am sure that we would like to have everyone send photos of recent reblooming irises. Modern printing makes it cheaper to do color now, so look for more in the future.

As this year progresses, we shall continue to try to get a web-site. It takes time, and most of our workers do this in their spare time. I shall be attending several meetings at the National Convention to learn more of the requirements for AIS and the incorporation of our society.

I want to thank Steve and Lana Barotta for the great job on the last Recorder and for this one also. It is getting to be very hard to get articles for publication. PLEASE, if you have anything going on in your area, club or garden that would be of interest to the Reblooming Society, write it up and send it. We take e-mail or regular mail, just please contribute. We cannot publish the Recorder without articles and these articles come from you, our readers.

I have taken the liberty of adding a reblooming irises source page to the Recorder, which lists the gardens, in alphabetic order, that pay for a portion of the publication costs. If any other garden or individual would like to be added to the list, there is a listing fee of \$10.00. We do get inquiries about where to purchase rebloomers. The list we mail to our members are the same as those on the source list this time.

That is all my rambling for now. Again, I hope to see most of you at DESTINY DALLAS.

Charlie Brown

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We realize the Sections and Cooperating Societies face the constant problem of funding. You are expected by your membership to put out your various newsletters filled with specialized iris information, in a timely manner, always battling the increasing cost of paper and rising postage fees. Added to these hurdles is the fact that much of your membership fits into the "fixed-income" category because of retirement -- so balancing your dues schedule with your escalating expenses can be like walking a tightrope.

In spite of these challenges, there are still possible youth membership incentives to be offered. A reduced dues rate, even a slight one, for youth members would be appreciated. Other attractions might include a free collection of your special iris rhizomes, a basic culture booklet or sheet, the opportunity to test seedlings, youth recognition in your publication and a list of hybridizing goals that might be taken on by a young person.

THINKING ABOUT YOUTH

By: Jean E. Morris

Chairman, AIS Youth Committee

I know, I know. Some of you may be saying to yourselves, "When you're as old as I am, thinking about youth is all I can muster." Perhaps our title should read, "Think About Youth Membership," because the purpose of this article is to encourage AIS Sections and Cooperating Societies to provide incentives for youth membership in their groups.

Perhaps you are saying, "I don't know of a single youth member who is interested in arils, or Siberians, or Japanese, or species or whatever your favorite iris type may be."

Actually, there are quite a few youths interested in specific iris types and some are even dues-paying members of Sections and/or Cooperating Societies. Kevin Gormley, the 1996 Clarke Cosgrove winner, belongs to the Median, Aril, Pacific Coast, and Reblooming groups and is a licensed commercial

grower in the state of Missouri. Stephanie Rust, also of Region 18 belongs to the Dwarf, Median, Japanese, Historic and Species Sections and is beginning to hybridize. These two were encouraged by a visit from Luella Danielson, who not only taught us about arils but also brought along dozens of blooms from her garden.

Andrew Wheeler, of Region 1, 1994 Clarke Cosgrove winner, graduated to AIS adult membership in 1997. He was, and still is a member of the Siberian, Japanese and Species Sections. Andy completed an iris internship under Kevin Vaughn in 1996 and collects *I. setosa* clones because of their cold-hardiness.

The International Symposium on Iris Species, held in St. Louis in 1995, was attended by Kevin Gormley and Andy Wheeler. This event was an educational experience and also allowed youth members to meet some of the "stars" of irisdom. Calista and Laura Grinstead of Region 9 visited portions of the Symposium. They also participated in the Society for Japanese Irises Convention held in St. Louis in 1996, as did Kevin Gormley, Jessica Braeuner and Nikki Tanksley. All of these events bolster youth interest in Sections and Cooperating Societies.

Joe Shott of Region 9 lives in an isolated area and has no support from a local iris club. Even so, he looks for and has found iris species in the wild. Does he belong to SIGNA? We aren't sure. Another Region 9 youth, Shannon Melliore, brought four of her BB seedlings to an iris show last

year. Shannon is the great granddaughter of Myrtle Wolff (who introduced the BB, SHANNON in 1975). Perhaps BB hybridizers from the Median Society should be offering some advice here.

Monica Combrink of Region 22 helped host a garden at the "Median Spree in 93." She won the Youth Essay Contest in 1995 with her outstanding essay titled, "What is so Great About an Iris?" She explains how there is an iris for every garden area and climate, and how great it is to stretch the season with the various types. Isn't it nice that our favorite flower comes in so many different forms?

If you are wondering whether or not attracting youth members would be beneficial, the answer is a resounding "Yes!" There are many AIS members today who started out in the youth ranks and now belong to, and hybridize irises of, the various AIS Sections and/or Cooperating Societies. If asked, youth members are able to do more than you might imagine. Many, exchange iris information and ideas on the Internet and think of computers as a fascinating tool rather than a nebulous mystery as do some of us. Think about fostering a young irisarian in your favorite AIS Section or Cooperating Society.

THINK ABOUT YOUTH!

Editor's Note - This article was originally written in 1998, but is still pertinent today. Thanks Jean for all your work with our youth.

Seedling Report
By Alan McMurtrie

94-AT-1 opened last night for the first time. It's the last F2 sopphenensis x danfordiae hybrid that I'm expecting will bloom this year. It's from 89-Q-4 x 89-AC-4 (medium blue x dark blue with marked yellow influence). It's interesting that three of four F2 s x d hybrids, all from different crosses, are cream with blue style arms.

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Distinguished Service Award

Over 30 years ago *Rosalie Yerkes Figge* began her third career -- irises. At age 58, she had raised two daughters. And for her husband (Frank H. J. Figge, a cancer researcher and anatomy professor) she had been research assistant, editor, and guardian to a colony of 10,000 laboratory mice plus assorted salamanders -- and had even developed a new strain of mice. All of this required enormous enthusiasm and great attention to detail, and she now channeled her energy into her garden and into the American Iris Society. In 1967, when the Francis Scott Key chapter spun off from the Chesapeake & Potomac chapter, Rosalie and Frank were charter members.

So instead of meticulously tracking the ancestry of mice, she now charted the blooming -- and reblooming -- of irises. Rosalie was, indeed, one of the first in Maryland to grow rebloomers, before they became fashionable. After Frank died in 1973, she redoubled her efforts to help iris causes and was known for encouraging new members and fostering such new programs as establishing a scholarship at a community college and sponsoring the chapter's participation in community events. She has held every FSK chapter office except treasurer, has served on the Region 4 board as recording secretary, has been Region 4 parliamentarian for many years, and has been appointed parliamentarian for the national AIS. She was editor of the RECORDER for the Reblooming Iris Society for seven years. As president from 1996-1999, she saw to it that the Rebloomer Checklist was republished and set up the national and international Distinguished Service Awards -- the award that she was honored to receive last year. She has been active as a judge for many years and was elevated to the highest rank, that of Emeritus Judge, in 1997.

An avid traveler, despite her dislike of flying, Rosalie has been to almost every national convention since the late '60s and has gone on several of the Society's international tours, including visits to Australia and Japan. In fact, she has been to every continent except Antarctica, often accompanied by one of her seven grandchildren when they were, as she says, "old enough to look after themselves and help me, and not so old as to be interested in the opposite sex."

She has encouraged many young and/or new iris gardeners and growers, and one of them, the late Jane McKnew, introduced the lovely purple iris ROSALIE FIGGE, which has been an outstanding rebloomer everywhere. "Grows like a weed," as they say. This iris won an Award of Merit in 1999.

Born in North Carolina and raised just outside of Philadelphia, she went to Goucher College and has lived in the Baltimore area all her married life -- and in her modest home in Towson for 50 years. Though her yard is less than an acre, it has many rare specimen trees and shrubs and typically holds more than a thousand different iris cultivars. In addition to her specialty --rebloomers -- she has a complete set of English, French, and American Dykes and also some Australian Dykes. "Rosalie's Secret Garden" was on tour for the national AIS in 1991, and for the Japanese Iris Society tour in 1995, and numerous times for regional tours and garden clubs.

At age 90 -- and now with 11 great grandchildren -- Rosalie needs help tending her garden and is considering cutting back, but says she will always keep her favorites -- the rebloomers. She has also started on a new adventure, the world of the Internet. Now all the iris enthusiasts in cyberspace know what Suky Mahan said years ago: "Rosalie was a liberated woman when she was born." A gracious lady, a free spirit, and treasured by her family and friends -- that's Rosalie Figge!



Rosalie Yerkes Figge
September, 1998

Hi... I'm Dennis

Greetings and salutations! Hi...I'm Dennis Connell and I have been asked to be your vice president... This is scary since I know that most of you (probably all of you) are excellent irisarians and better gardeners than I am. I'm fairly new to iris gardening, five years to be exact. I started in Roswell, New Mexico after I met Leslie Jobé who was, at that time, the president of the Pecos Valley Iris Society (PVIS). She is one fantastic lady! The irony of this is that I had recently moved back to New Mexico after spending ten years in Oregon as a college student and schoolteacher. I had never grown iris in Oregon even though I had always had a garden.

When I recently returned to Oregon, this time to be the 4-H Agent for Marion County (Salem and vicinity), I brought with me around 600 plants of 340+ named iris varieties. Somehow there appears to be more irony in all this. Most of these plants had been given to me through the generosity of members of PVIS. I had a reputation of "have back - will travel". I was always willing to help anyone dig, plant and yes, even weed as my schedule would allow. I learned many excellent things from the masters. Some of my closest friendships were formed with members of the society.

When I moved to Oregon I intentionally bought a large home so that my friends would have a place to stay when they came. My move to Oregon was not

completely sorrowful with the parting from my iris friends in New Mexico because the year before I moved here I sent ahead Bill and Bettie Harris. They moved to Eugene to be closer to their children. And, I'd like to think to keep me in line too! They actively garden year around and are know throughout the neighborhood for raising organic vegetables which they sell to support their iris habit. It was Bill and Bettie who sparked my interest in reblooming iris. In fact when they moved here they mostly brought back reblooming iris. They push reblooming iris to all they meet, and encourage hybridizers they know to go this route.

Bettie's cousin is Will Plotner who is a hybridizer himself along with his wife Tracy. Will is the treasurer for the Greater Portland Iris Society (GPIS). One thing that was a real surprise was that Oregon had only one iris society. Albeit an extremely wonderful one with the likes of Barbara and Terry Aitken, Dave Schreiner, Keith Keppel, Bennett Jones and many others who are familiar to you. Recently we were able to start another one farther down the Willamette Valley in the Salem area, the Oregon Trail Iris Society. And while many of us continue to be members of GPIS it will also provide opportunities for individuals who either cannot or do not want to travel so far and battle the traffic of Portland to be involved. This is what we are all about - "encouraging people to grow iris".

One of the things that 4-H is starting is a Junior Master Gardener Program in

Marion County. This summer we (4-H) will have a JMG Camp at the Oregon Garden. The kids will have an opportunity to learn how to dig, divide and replant irises. What better way to continue a great passion for gardening but to get down and get dirty in the garden!

Since moving here in June and planting my entire iris collection late in September (I was looking for a house) I have had only one rebloom, FLOWER SHOWER (Weiler 90), in November. I look forward to my plants becoming established and providing years of enjoyment. By the way, I recommend two new Iris that I saw at Keith Keppel's Thanksgiving, DAUGHTER OF STARS (Spoon 2001) and SWEET SOLITUDE (Nearpass not yet introduced). Keith also has some other great iris in his garden. Be looking for some great introductions of his and others in the future. It is great to see where Iris have come from and where they are going. I'm sure I will fall in love with many more as the years go on. Happy Gardening. ~ Dennis

leaves which is what I did the first year! I use the spoons when planting - then the following spring use a more prominent marker or your garden will look like a mouse graveyard! I don't like the straight wooden garden markers -- they eventually rot and break off -- also it is more difficult to read up and down .

Membership Report

Submitted by Charlie Brown
Membership Chairman

Counting renewals, we are just at 700 members. We had 56 new members join during the last 12 months, but I had to delete at least that many who had not renewed since January 98. We have had about 90 orders for the Reblooming Checklist. Again the Checklist is available for \$13.00 US and \$16.00 Foreign.

A Tip from Rosalie

The most economical markers are plastic spoons, marked on the bowl of the spoon and also on the other side. Get those that do not have a smooth handle, so there is a swelling or something in the handle so there is a little resistance to heaving. Also don't make the mistake of marking across the

Dues

	Single	Family
Annual	\$7.00	\$8.00
Triennial	\$18.00	\$21.00
Life	\$120.00	\$150.00

***Waiting For The Upcoming Bloom Season
(And The Uninvited Guests)
By Michael Gullo***

As spring approaches, my thoughts turn toward the upcoming iris bloom season and I know that I am not the only one waiting in anticipation. There are uninvited guests waiting in their eggs, waiting for the right climatic clues to tell them that breakfast awaits (lunch and dinner as well). Just what those clues are remain a mystery and defy prediction. Those of us who live in their native habitat don't know exactly when they will appear, only, that they will appear. To this inevitability we try to prepare, so that we catch them before they catch us. I refer of course to the iris borer that bearer of disaster to the unprepared iris gardener. To be able to read the seasonal clues to predict when the hatching of eggs will occur would be a huge advantage. Unfortunately I don't believe this will ever be possible. Just what those clues might be has been one of the topics of conversation recently on iris-talk the online iris e-mail list.

To my thinking temperature, moisture and perhaps day length or even possibly some sort of chemical clue from the iris themselves (unintentionally of course) must play some role. An idea floating on the list suggested that the borers hatch on the first day with a temperature over 72 degrees Fahrenheit. From a survival standpoint that would make little sense as here in northern climes a 70 degree temperature can be followed by temperatures in the teens, or even lower. Incidentally this has just occurred here in Western NY as I write this (73 degrees 3/09/2000, 19 degrees 3/10/2000). I can't imagine the young larvae could survive in temperatures this cold. Temperature obviously plays an important part, but in what way? Is it nighttime minimums or some sort of degree

day calculation (some number of days over freezing before the hatch occurs). What role does moisture play? I've read some suggestions that arid conditions are not conducive to borers. If so that would suggest that moisture is important, but in what way? Does day length have any influence? How about the possibility of some sort of chemical signal from the irises. Are there other factors, which have not been even guessed at? Who knows? I mention these possibilities more to highlight the lack of concrete knowledge in this area. Wouldn't it be nice to have some sort of formula to calculate the precise timing of the hatch exactly, but I don't know if that will ever be possible (probably just too many variables). Sorry I don't have one to offer.

So how can one plan an effective iris borer control strategy? For starters, I have made a habit of tracking the appearance of the little [your expletive here] in my garden so I have a general time frame as to when to expect them. Depending on how early or late the spring is progressing alters when I begin spraying for them.

Here is a listing of the first borer sightings for the past 6 years.

5/09/94
5/07/95
5/16/96
5/10/97
4/23/98 (very warm & early spring)
4/28/99

Almost a full month's swing in the hatch dates in these parts. For best results spraying should begin before the borers hatch, though even late spraying is helpful to catch later hatching eggs.

Knowing when the borers will arrive is only the start. One needs to have a method of

control. Crucial to any method is removal of old dried foliage. Some run a quick fire through their iris beds burning off leaves and borer eggs alike. I've never tried this (some beds are too close the house to risk doing this), but I know someone who uses this technique. I remove the foliage by hand either very late in the fall (by cutting it) or very early in the spring. Removal of the old leaves eliminates many of the eggs.

After clearing up the beds, then one needs to chose some sort of control method to kill any remaining eggs. I personally use Murphy's Oil Soap (1/2 cup to 1 gallon of water sprayed weekly or after a rain) because it is effective, safe and environmentally friendly. Certain strains of beneficial Nematodes have been found to be quite effective for the iris borer, while not harming other beneficial insects. I have had varying success with nematodes, likely because different strains have been found to have differing levels of effectiveness for the borer. Many people resort to chemical pesticides to control the borer, most popular for this purpose is Cygon 2E. I can't speak from personal experience on its application or it's effectiveness. I have only been around it once and found it to be quite noxious.

Whatever your choice or combination of choices remember to stick with your program throughout the bloom season. If any borers get through the treatments take care of them the old fashioned way by squishing them. Keeping the plants free of borers and any resulting damage directly related from their wounds to the plants can help insure a wonderful bloom season and healthier plants. Healthy plants are better prepared for fall bloom.

In the interest of growing irises for the pleasure of seeing them bloom, as opposed to growing them to feed the iris borers, one

needs to find an effective strategy for the control of this pest. I have been trying to piece together a growing strategy that is easy, effective and environmentally friendly, which allows the irises to thrive and bloom to their potential. An understanding of the borer and how to control them is crucial in those areas where borers pose a serious impediment to the enjoyment of our irises.

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Hybridizer - Dr. G. Percy Brown
By Rosalie Yerkes Figge

Now that I am no longer president of the RIS, I occasionally have spurts of energy to clear away the chaos which reigns in my house after gardening season. I came upon a box that had a few Region I Bulletins from the time my daughter and family lived in Rhode Island where her husband was stationed at the naval base. Their two daughters (my granddaughters(!), who had already been inoculated with the iris germ!) belonged to their Youth Group. They visited the tour gardens and especially enjoyed the iris picnics at Bea Warburton's where they played with Bea's grandchildren.

As gardeners of rebloomers, I thought you might be interested in the following article about one of the earliest hybridizers of rebloomers who lived in Massachusetts. This should give an impetus to the folks in the colder climates to start hybridizing for rebloomers. And we need more rebloomers to satisfy the demand. I'm Sorry that I never met Dr. Brown, but I grew a number of his irises many years ago and the name "G. Percy Brown" was well known. Some time ago, Dr. Weiler said at one of our local meetings that rebloomers would eventually replace the once-ers, and the trend has started.

The following is from Region 1, Winter Issue of their Semi-annual Bulletin, 1972, Vol.24:2:

"Region I extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Dr. G. Percy Brown who

died late last year. Dr. Brown, before his retirement in 1946, was the Director of Elm Hill, a private school for mentally retarded children located in Barre, Mass. His interest in irises began in 1928 when he purchased some plants from Miss Grace Sturtevant after viewing her garden. He began hybridizing right away and in 1930 produced his first reblooming iris, a border named AUTUMN ELF which was duly registered and introduced a year later. This was the beginning of a long list of remontant irises to come from Dr. Brown's gardens in Barre and in Westport, Mass. They include AUGUST WAVES, his second introduction, and the more recent SUMMER SPRITE(1961), AUTUMN JANE (1962), AUTUMN ORANGELITE (1962), SUMMER TABLETINE (1963), in the median classes, and SUMMER BLUETINTS (1964), SEPTEMBER SERENADE (1963), AUTUMN SENSATION (1962), SUMMER WHITEWINGS (1961), FALL BEACH PLUM (1965) and many more. At the November 1971 Board Meeting of AIS, Dr. Brown was awarded the Hybridizers' Medal, an honor he richly deserved. "No hybridizer in Region I was ever more willing to help when called upon. He will be sorely missed."

Another Gem from the Past
By Rosalie Yerkes Figge

The following is from Region I's Summer Issue, 1972, p 24. (Semi-annual Bulletin Vol 24, #2):

"Troubled with aphids this year? Here is a recipe for an aphid repellent which appeared in the excellent Australian magazine 'Your Garden':

Take one pound of onions, cut into small pieces, pour boiling water on them and allow to stand for about 10 hours. Add cold water to make two gallons of solution. Water around plants and then apply the onion water, a jam tin (1 lb.) full to each plant.

They say it's not the smell of the onions that drives away the aphids but some property in the onions that gives the plants their own resistance to the pest. In any case ---- it works"

enthusiasts grow enough reblooming irises to make that claim a reality.

What makes Southern California the potential reblooming capitol is the almost ideal climate present in the coastal or ocean-influenced regions. The Pacific Ocean's influence spreads in some cases for over seventy miles inland, making summer temperatures bearable and winters mild. This means winter temperatures rarely go down to freezing, and then not much below. This means that summer temperatures do not exceed one hundred degrees very often, and then for only a few days. Even then evenings are generally cooler than day time temperatures by at least ten degrees. The climate has been called "Mediterranean." Reblooming irises love it.

<u>Dues</u>		
	Single	Family
Annual	\$7.00	\$8.00
Triennial	\$18.00	\$21.00
Life	\$120.00	\$150.00

The bulk of population lives in the coastal and ocean-influenced regions. Thus most gardens in which irises are grown seriously are in this favored climate. Even as far inland as Phoenix, Arizona, hundreds of miles from the coast and well into the desert, a mild winter climate allows for ample rebloom. One grower reported over eight months of bloom in that area each year, with only the very hot summer months lacking in bloom.

***Report from Southern California
By Richard Richards***

Southern California in Region 15 could easily be the Reblooming Iris Capitol of the Universe. "Could," should be emphasized. At present not enough iris

I note that people in Virginia and all along the east coast have iris shows in the autumn. In Southern California we try to crowd the shows of six iris societies into three weeks in April or early May. Could we have some fall shows? Sure. But we do not.

Southern California is an ideal area for becoming the Reblooming Capitol of the World. It has not happened. Why?

One of the problems is that iris enthusiasts do not grow many reblooming irises. There seem to be a number of reasons for that. Let me take them one by one.

1. "Reblooming irises cannot match the quality of bloom of once-blooming irises." True in some cases. Not true in others. The best of the once-bloomers are slightly superior to most of the best of the rebloomers. The gap is narrowing rapidly, and will soon be nonexistent, I predict. But old ideas die a hard death. Many rebloomers grown today are older rebloomers, and like older once-blooming irises, cannot match the quality of more recently introduced varieties. The prejudice remains against rebloomers.

2. "The quality of bloom at times other than spring is lower." Also true in some cases. Some reblooming irises send up off season stalks that are twisted, have fewer blooms, poor form, are shorter, and in other ways fall short of spring bloom. Some reblooming irises produce spring-quality stalks year around. It is up to the hybridizers of reblooming irises to produce reblooming irises that put up good stalks all year round. That goal is being achieved.

3. The various commercial gardens outside the region push their once-bloomers, and give garden advice based on growing irises in Broken Elbow,

Idaho, where irises are grown pretty much as potatoes, which is to say, as a seasonal crop. Being from Idaho, if my previous remark is interpreted as anything but an effort at humor, I will direct the remark at myself. People in Idaho are now getting good rebloom, which is more than you can say for many gardeners in Southern California.

Getting rebloom here in Southern California is relatively simple. For years I have had bloom every day of the year. It was not always the greatest bloom, and it might have been mangled by our very occasional rains, but it was bloom. I did it with 150 selected varieties of rebloomers. I believe it could be done with thirty carefully selected ever blooming varieties, but I have not tried it. I believe it would take two clumps of each variety, replanted on an every-other-year basis, with each clump of the same variety on an opposed transplanting schedule.

Because of the climate, and with good soil preparation, if an iris has any potential for rebloom, it will rebloom here. I have been surprised in the past when irises that I purchased as once-bloomers, with no record of rebloom, sent up an off-season stalk. I am surprised no more.

The implication of this is that Southern California could have an iris show any day of the year. We do not. There are not enough people seriously growing rebloomers to make this possible...yet.

There are some problems to be overcome that I have not yet mentioned. Rebloomers, as enthusiasts know, take much more water and fertilizer than once-bloomers. Out of curiosity I spent several years applying Miracle-gro to my iris beds every two weeks, year round. I got preposterously good results, and had no more rot than normal, which is very little in this climate. When I dropped this force-feeding schedule to once a month, the results were still excellent. I now use Miracle-gro on a schedule of once every four weeks most of the year, but change that to every six weeks during the winter when it is cooler and growth is slower. Recent experience leads me to believe that Miracle-gro can correct a problem of inadequately prepared soil, for a while.

I have come to believe that soil preparation is crucial. I have grown irises in the same soil for over 20 years, and of course the quality diminished since I was not revitalizing my soil. The Miracle-gro partly made up for that. But recent experiences lead me to believe that the real answer is soil preparation. Here is what I do.

There seem to be two kinds of soil in Southern California, if I may over generalize a bit. One kind is very sandy and rocky, occurring in areas in which there is considerable runoff from hills and mountains when it rains. But most of the soil is adobe or near adobe, which as clay is hard as a rock in the summer and gooey when wet. It is also alkaline.

My soil is adobe clay. I have talked with numerous successful iris growers from various parts of the country, and I believe I have gotten some good ideas. First, the soil must come closer to neutral. And it must have nutrients. So I use large amounts of peat moss, both for its acidifying effect and for its value as nutrition. I supplement this with quantities of alfalfa pellets, the smallest I can get since I want them to break down rapidly. Finally I use large amounts of gypsum, which lightens the soil and acidifies slightly also.

When I talk large volumes, I am saying something like this. I use at least a pound of gypsum for every square foot of garden every time I reset a bed, which is every other year. I may use more if I do not like the feel of the soil after it is rototilled in. I am not very scientific, but I am developing the ability to feel soil. Since I have been using this much gypsum, I have had even less rot than before, and most areas where rot has shown up in the past have not had rot since I started the heavy gypsum treatment.

I use at least a pound of alfalfa pellets for each square foot, and usually more. I often go half a pound per square foot over this unless I did not plan well and buy enough alfalfa. I hate to leave the garden to go out for more ingredients, and sometimes don't follow my own recommendations.

I use at least half a cubic foot of peat moss for each ten square feet of garden, and often more. I place one handful of

whatever granular fertilizer is cheap at the local gardening store, one handful of super phosphate, and one handful of bone meal mixed about ten inches below each rhizome as it is planted.

After all this has been spread over the surface of the soil and rototilled in, I may add more of any ingredient if the soil still seems a little heavy, or if I noted that growth in that bed has not been as good as I expected the past season.

Soil treated this way tends to be very light for months afterward. The bed will also be several inches higher. This is not just the result of rototilling since I got the same results using an old fashioned shovel, with the additional bonus of a very tired back. Hence the rototiller.

Using large quantities of gypsum tends to make the soil gritty for a while, but that does not seem to bother the irises, and just may be to their liking. It drains well. By the time I dig the bed again in two years, the gypsum seems less evident. One commercial garden has used gypsum in this way for decades, and the soil, though quite gritty by now, is still growing fine irises.

The peat additionally seems to help the soil retain moisture without being too wet. The gypsum and peat seem to work well together in draining off standing water but keeping the soil beneath the surface moist. Since I have been using this ratio of amendments I have cut my summer watering from once every week to once every other week. I water with an overhead sprinkler. In a dry

Mediterranean climate you can get away with a lot.

Most of us here are not lucky enough to have river bottom soils. There are few rivers in Southern California that flow all year around, and building near a river bed is an open invitation to flooding on those rare days in which rain falls. So we have to make our own river bottom soil. I am learning how to do that.

It took me years to learn all this. The information was there. I just did not learn it very rapidly. Many gardeners in Southern California do not seem to have learned it either. Soils here are rarely good. If a rebloomer is going to really perform it needs good soils. In poor soils rebloomers often fail to live up to expectations. It is not the fault of the iris. It is the fault of the soil in many cases, which is the fault of the gardener.

If anything, I now tend to force the reblooming irises to their limits. They do have limits, but the limits are very high.

When will Southern California recognize its natural heritage and become the Reblooming Capitol of the World? When prejudices against rebloomers diminish. When rebloomers are identical or superior in quality to the best once-bloomers. When soil preparation and general garden techniques are raised to the level of fanaticism. Then there will be an iris show in Southern California on Christmas Day, on the Fourth of July, on Valentine's Day, and on any day of the year you wish.

Surviving The Storms ***By Lloyd Zurbrigg***

Three hurricanes and a tropical storm provided tons of water here in Durham, NC. The poor irises were suffering from drought when this began, and had to change their outlook on life in a hurry. Many did not make it. The combination of water, water-laden air, and heat, kills many iris here. This may be the reason why my introductions still dominate the fall shows. Fully 70% of those on the table will be either my introductions or first-generation from one of them. Since I have brought out few remontants in the last number of years, this is remarkable.

Here in Durham I have had to fight poor, poor soil, and deathly hot summers. This has shifted my hybridizing efforts from remontants to certain color patterns, particularly blue-bearded pastels, - - and to the Space-Age irises. I am attempting to get these to rebloom, of course, but perhaps with more emphasis on the coloring than on the rebloom. I did get a nice pink bicolor with some brown tones in the falls, exciting form, but not too great a stalk, in the fall of last year, (1999). I like the flounces best of all, spoons second, and horns not nearly as much.

The rules governing the appendages in the Space-Agers quite eludes me. They do not seem to follow any simple

expression of dominant and recessive. Those with flounces seem more apt to throw appendages in the seedlings than those with mere horns. I have probably used MESMERIZER, from the late Monty Byers, more than any other iris, and have several flounced seedlings under consideration. I also found ROCK STAR to have more hardiness here than most of the derivatives of GIGOLO, and it gives bright color to many of its offspring. Few of these, however, have large appendages. I have also found a seedling with a very long pedigree, nicknamed "Flying", to be very useful. This light pink with short flounces is doubly derived from my introduction ANNE BOLEYN.

The current interest in purple-based foliage prompts me to mention a light blue seedling with deeper blue beards that are detached at the end. The foliage on this is a delight any time of the year. The stalks are excellent, as are the blossoms and number of buds. Still, I think of it mainly as a hybridizer's iris. There were no bad effects from the hurricanes whatsoever. Because the parentage is Mary Estelle X Sea World, it has been given the name MARRY AT SEA. The splendid growth appears also in its seedlings. I would greatly appreciate suggestions from the readers about irises in this color area that rebloom in the East.

Another of my favorite seedlings is an amoena, a color class in which I have been active for most of my fifty years of hybridizing. This derivative of RENOWN and MESMERIZER has a tangerine beard,

and short horns. Its greatest forte is the ability to prolong its season amazingly. Perhaps many readers would dislike a variety that waits a day or two between blooms, but I like the very long season. Tall, well-branched stalks show off the large, wide blooms to perfection. I have used the pollen from this in many, many crosses. Should it prove not to be a worthwhile parent, I will have a lot of discarding to do!

Yet another seedling with appendages is a white with white flounces, red beards, and a little row of blue-violet marks across the top of the haft. This has always had tall, well-branched stalks, with excellent bud count, and a distinct personality. While fertile, it is much less so than the amoena described above.

Hybridizing for Space-Age remontants is a wide-open field. There are virtually none that are reliable in the East. Blame our outrageous climate. Yet, they can be produced, and the seedlings are perhaps more interesting than those produced from "regular" remontant crosses. There are also color patterns that have few or no representatives among the remontants. Why not try your hand to producing them? Hope to see some of you at the Convention in Dallas.

God lives in every garden
He loves each growing thing
Forget your ills
Get out and dig and sing

Garden Sign Quotation

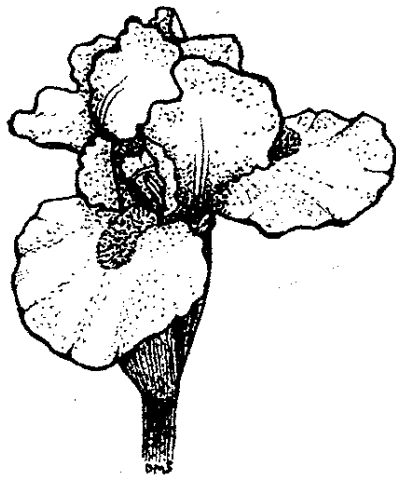
Earl Hall's Rebloomers and Their Offspring By Don Spoon

After many years of ordering rebloomers from Earl Hall, I finally got to meet him at the Detroit, Michigan AIS National Convention in 1997. I told him how much I appreciated the iris shipments, especially all the extras, and how valuable his introduced rebloomers were as parents in our breeding program. He jokingly said, "It started as a hobby that got out of control." He and his wife Dorothy grew and sold over 1,000 varieties of bearded irises, and in 1996, filled over 800 orders. In the fall of 1993, he planted over 1,000 iris seeds. The popularity and distribution of reblooming irises was greatly advanced by the Halls.

Earl introduced six bearded irises, and each one of them is a dependable rebloomer and a winner. They rank high in the reblooming iris symposia. In 1998, his SDB LITTLE SHOWOFF won the coveted Cook-Douglas Medal. His TB QUEEN DOROTHY and SDB JEWEL BABY won HMs in 1987, with JEWEL BABY receiving an AM in 1989. The Halls live in West Alexandria, Ohio where the USDA zones 5 and 6 meet, a great place to hybridize for cold climate rebloomers.

His SDB JEWEL BABY ('84) RE zone 5-10 (SAPPHIRE JEWEL X BABY BLESSED) -- dark purple self with mid-violet beards and slight spicy fragrance -- is a fantastic jewel of a parent, its offspring include the following SDBs by Monty Byers: CINDERS, DARK CRYSTAL, DARKLING,

GRAY POUPON, and SPARKPLUG. Monty loved it, and he wrote in his 1988 catalog, "From BABY BLESSED" and it sure shows it! In the same class as far as vigor, floriferousness and strength of remontancy are concerned and it has very WIDE, round flaring falls with clean hafts and great depth of color to boot!"



LITTLE SHOWOFF
Line Drawing By Don Spoon

LITTLE SHOWOFF (Earl E. Hall, '89) RE z-5-10, is also out of (SAPPHIRE JEWEL X BABY BLESSED). This name came to mind when told by John Weiler that a rhizome planted the year before produced 9 fall stalks! We love the way it produces large rhizomes with rows of increase down both sides and even reblooms reliably with only morning sun. Earl's descriptions in his catalog says it best, "Pale icy blue self with bright fuzzy lavender blue beards. From a distance, the flowers appear white. The broad compact flowers have almost

horizontally flaring falls that are slightly wavy and ruffled. The standards are tightly domed and closed. Substance is excellent, 2 flowers per stalk, good grower and fertile in both ways." We made the cross TU TU TURQUOISE X LITTLE SHOWOFF and produced a reblooming seedling that looks like LITTLE SHOWOFF, except it has light green pumila spots! Melba Hamblen's SAPPHIRE JEWEL is a rebloomer and a light blue-violet with dark blue-violet beards and darker toning at the base and hafts of the falls. LITTLE SHOWOFF seems a likely offspring from crossing SAPPHIRE JEWEL and BABY BLESSED, yet the deep purple JEWEL BABY may seem a surprise. Our black BB BLACK TEDDY BEAR ('97) came out of the cross BABY BLESSED X LITTLE BLACKFOOT, showing how the bright yellow BABY BLESSED can enhance the depth of anthocyanin coloration in its offspring. Another example is Lloyd Zurbrigg's dark violet BABY PRINCE from PLUM WINE X BABY BLESSED. Paul Black got a white SDB with pale violet-blue beard (MARY'S LAMB, RE z-5-9) out of an inbred "cousin" cross with SAPPHIRE JEWEL as both pollen grandparents.

MATRIX (E. Hall by L. Zurbrigg'91) RE z-4-9 (VIOLET MIRACLE X BROTHER CARL) can be 36" tall and is a very reliable rebloomer for us in zone 6. Its subtle coloration changes throughout the day. The standards are pale cinnamon with cream veining, falls are nearly white with cinnamon hafts and creamy yellow rim having pale violet texture veining and a violet midrib line, with the white beards tipped cream. The

form is very modern, wide and ruffled. BROTHER CARL, a white self with pale yellow beards tipped blue, is SISTER HELEN X I DO which explains in part the lighter coloration of MATRIX, but its other parent the purple VIOLET MIRACLE also contains some lighter parents including two doses of plicata, as it can produce plicatas if crossed on a plicata. Generally, you need four doses of recessive plicata allele, two from each parent to produce a plicata. Lloyd Zurbrigg obtained a reblooming white grounded violet plicata (GARDEN CLUB DELIGHT '97) out of MATRIX X SUKY, that is VIOLET MIRACLE X VICTORIA FALLS, showing that SUKY also carries two doses of plicata. Lloyd also produced RENOWN 36" TB RE z-4-9, a oyster white self with light yellow beard from MATRIX X SUKY. Lloyd truly loves RENOWN, and its parent MATRIX, and finds RENOWN produces nice space agers when crossed on MESMERIZER. I took Lloyd's advice and crossed the siblings MATRIX X RENOWN and got a yellowish reblooming plicata.

From the cross PERFUME COUNTER X RE-TREAT, Earl obtained two very reliable TB rebloomers, QUEEN DOROTHY and VIOLET RETURNS, both RE z-4-9. PERFUME COUNTER is PURPLE DUET X SUNSET BLUES, that is MELODRAMA X Paul Cook's dominant amoena WHOLE CLOTH. PURPLE DUET has the plicata pollen parent GIBSON GIRL, that partly explains that QUEEN DOROTHY is a plicata. However, Raymond Smith's RE-TREAT is inbred with the yellow bearded lavender LOVELY AGAIN recurring three times

and numbered seedlings, presenting no obvious plicata parentage, but RE-TREAT must carry two doses of plicata. At my former garden on the Georgetown University campus in the micro climate zone 7b QUEEN DOROTHY was nearly a continuous rebloomer only skipping the month of June, similar to its performance for George Sutton in California as a multiple rebloomer in zone S. In Ginny's former garden in Leesburg, in zone 7a, it also performed as a great rebloomer. QUEEN DOROTHY is a mid-violet white ground plicata with 1/2" stitching on the standards, and 3/8" on the falls. Its falls are moderately wide but when crossed with irises with wide falls the offspring have wide falls. Examples are: our LITTLE JOHN (DAMSEL X QUEEN DOROTHY), a rebloom carrier, and RAFA (HONKY TONK BLUES X QUEEN DOROTHY), a zone 7 rebloomer. Earl describes VIOLET RETURNS as a yellow bearded violet of average form, closed standards and semi-flaring falls with 7 buds, "but a very strong, dependable rebloomer in Ohio," as it is for us. (PERFUME COUNTER, as the pollen parent on CLOUD BARON, also produced Ben Hager's very reliable rebloomer FEED BACK, RE z-4-10, that reblooms even in zones 7 and 8 with warm, muggy summer nights, implying that PERFUME COUNTER may be, as a rebloom parent, somewhat stronger than RE-TREAT.)

PINK ATTRACTION (E. Hall, '81), RE z-4-10 is considered by many to be the best reblooming pink TB iris ever introduced. It grows rapidly into a sizable clump that puts up many stalks

in spring and again in late summer, sometimes even in July, through fall until a hard freeze. Its shorter stalks, 30" with 7 buds, make it a superior landscape and garden iris needing minimal attention and no staking. Its flowers have modem ruffled form and are semi-flaring. It is a light pink (RHS 36C) with a very light streak of violet (RHS 84C) below the orange beards and is an excellent parent, fertile both ways. Like PINK ATTRACTION, many of our outstanding pink irises, such as JENNIFER REBECCA, BEVERLY SILLS, and PINK BUBBLES, have as their pollen parent the 36" tall occasional rebloomer, and Dykes Medal winner VANITY. PINK ATTRACTION's pod parent is the 36" tall JEAN GUYMER (RE z-4-9), a lightly ruffled, apricot-pink self with tangerine beards. Ben Hager obtained both the 36" tall Dykes Medal winner BEVERLY SILLS, and the 20" BB Knowlton Medal winner PINK BUBBLES from the same cross, PINK PIROUETTE X VANITY. If one wanted to produce a taller, 36" or more, pink reblooming TB, it might be accomplished by just repeating several times the cross for PINK ATTRACTION, that is JEAN GUYMER X VANITY, and planting a hundred seeds or more. As they say, emulation is the best form of praise; and also, a tetraploid iris cross has the potential to produce over a trillion different offspring.

Over the past five years, we have crossed both ways, many spring only and reblooming pinks on PINK ATTRACTION. Our only reblooming pink so far, from these crosses, was the 28" TB DIAMOND BLUSH ('98) RE-z-6, PINK ATTRACTION

X a sibling of MY JODIE (CATALDO X INFINITE GRACE). DIAMOND BLUSH is a blend of salmon and orient pink (RHS 36A) with falls overlaid brick red (35B) with prominent venation throughout, and nasturtium red beards (32B). Gary Sides and others have suggested we should use PINK ATTRACTION more in our crosses, but what should we cross on it to obtain continuous reblooming pink TB's?

Who would ever guess that the answer may be that the dream cross is IMMORTALITY X PINK ATTRACTION? (We might obtain taller seedlings if we made the cross IMMORTALITY X VANITY.) Everyone finds it hard to believe, including Lloyd Zurbrigg who hybridized IMMORTALITY, that we obtained a nearly continuous reblooming pink with orange beards, the BB MIDSUMMER'S EVE ('99) RE z-6, from IMMORTALITY X Schreiner's rose-pink ENCHANTED WORLD. This means that two (tt) of the four (tM) recessive doses for lycopene (t for tangerine) came from IMMORTALITY. It is somewhat supportive that ETERNAL WALTZ (Henry Danielson's by Luella Danielson '88, RE z-5-9) (IMMORTALITY X STEPPING PROUD) has orange color in the beard, deep in the throat; but the clincher is Betty Wilkerson's RETURNING CHAMELEON ('95) (RE z-6) (PINK SLEIGH X IMMORTALITY) a grayed white with palest pink in the standards, pale pink in the falls, and pale orange in the beards, deep in the throat. The expression of the pink lycopene is possible only if both parents supply two doses of the recessive allele t. When we

look at the two parents of IMMORTALITY, I DO and ENGLISH COTTAGE, it is clear that crosses of pinks on I DO, produce offspring such as AMAIN (I DO X JEAN GLTYMER), a white with some gold in the standards and falls and yellow beards, that have no pink lycopene expression. In contrast, ENGLISH COTTAGE produces offspring such as Bernice Miller's ANGELIC WINGS (RADIANT ANGEL X ENGLISH COTTAGE), a pale blue fading to white with white beard becoming yellow, and then red in the throat, only possible with expression of lycopene by having 4 t alleles. The two doses of lycopene from ENGLISH COTTAGE could have been brought in from its grandparent, CRINKLED IVORY. Presumably, ENGLISH COTTAGE passed these two t alleles to its offspring IMMORTALITY.

We owe Earl Hall an enormous debt of thanks for his marvelously dependable rebloomers that give us so much pleasure and great beauty in our gardens. We are glad his hobby "got out of control."

*A Tip from Michael
By Michael Gullo*

I snap off my spring stalks usually, but for my rebloom stalks I cut them off. My reason for doing this is that when you snap a stalk you sometimes end up with a flat break, which doesn't seem to be a problem in the spring. On the fall stalks, which may not have as much time to dry if broken off, I like to make an angled cut to help water run off. It

helps protect the plants from rot. Judy's suggestion of using comet or bleach should accomplish the same thing. That is the key issue here, getting the stalk removed in such a way as to minimize the possibility of rot.

*Rebloomer??
By Rosalie Yerkes Figge*

Hi, guess you have found out that the CHECKLIST for RIS has both zones and states - and country(!) listed for rebloom of any iris that has ever rebloomed, whether "supposed" to rebloom or not! Supposedly that is to help anyone doing hybridizing to choose that iris for a parent even though it has not the supposed genes to actually produce future rebloomers - they might "discover" something (!?) -- but just to have it in your garden and hope for a rebloom is a poor reason for buying it unless you like to experiment and "buying a pig in a poke".

Before I'm accused of opening a "can of worms" --- there is a better, more clearly written article in THE REBLOOMER RECORDER (Vol 53: 17, Spring\1999) by Mike Lowe. IF you don't possess this copy of the RECORDER [I shudder to think that you are deprived of possessing such a beautiful, different, outstanding, etc., etc. publication with actually a reblooming Louisiana on the cover in COLOR (courtesy of Bill Smoot, the acknowledgment of his expertise was unfortunately omitted). If you do not have a copy, I'm sure one can be obtained from Charlie Brown for a small

sum!]) (Hope you have a sense of humor for the above!)

Mike's article states one side of the problem very clearly. I have tried to bungle through with an explanation of the other side of the question when I presented his view to some hybridizers, who in turn loudly protested against omitting these once-rebloomers.

I suggested that perhaps they could be printed in a separate section. Again the howls of protest overwhelmed me. They did not want to have to look through two lists (Guess they were worn out with checking through the annual RBI's for whatever information they needed).

SO-o-o- the burden rests with the buyer beware - a caveat emptor sort of thing. That means we have come to a full circle - and, therefore, you really need the REBLOOMING CHECKLIST (again to be ordered from Charlie Brown), so you can use your eagle eye to find the irises you need for whatever purpose!

Have I clarified the issue or confused everyone? Or have I just made you more aware ; which is what this is all about! Anyhow, the main idea is to enjoy this beautiful flower, which is even more beautiful when it reblooms -- and to learn from each other as to where and how it does rebloom! Rosalie near Baltimore zone 7 which is as confusing as the above! After freezing our toenails yesterday we are going to pant in the heat tomorrow! Maybe there is hope for my last iris of the year!

Correction to Published Minutes of Last Years Board Meeting

It was incorrectly reported that Mike Lowe was Eastern Director. Left out of the minutes of the board meeting was the election of Joan Roberts to be Eastern Director.

There was also a misspelling of Rosalie's last name. It should read Rosalie Yerkes Figge. We apologize for these errors and the records will stand as corrected.

Reblooming Iris Society Treasurer's Report 12-31-99

Checking Account	\$4,143.38
Money Market Account	\$3,506.35
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,065.32
Total Assets	\$12,715.05

Rebloom Report 1999 By Richard C. Richards La Mesa and Corona, California

As 1999 has just about become history, my annual rebloom report is ready. This annual report covers the off-season bloom in this land of perpetual iris bloom, in what could be the reblooming capitol of the cosmos. Iris shows could be held here any day of the year: Christmas, Independence Day, St. Elmo's Fire Drill--you name it. There is bloom

every day of the year in either, and usually both, of my two small gardens.

The USDA zone is either high 9 or 10, with almost no frost usually, and in some years no temperatures below 33 degrees at all during the winter. Coastal influences keep summer temperatures from rarely reaching the 100 degree level, and then not staying in that range for more than a few days. The gardens are watered whenever dry, which means twice a week most of the year. During the so-called rainy season, from late November to the end of March, maybe 15 inches will fall in a good year. Watering proceeds between storms, which may be several weeks apart, and may not drop more than a percentage of an inch. Fertilization by means of Miracle-Gro occurs at least once every five weeks all year round, with summer and autumn seeing fertilization every three weeks or so.

Lists of irises that bloom at times other than spring are useful for hybridizers. Those of us in this climate who hybridize for rebloom depend on such reports from the colder climates in the selection of parent plants which rebloom dependably in those climates. Reports from this climate can help hybridizers select irises that have some potential for rebloom, though this potential only shows up in a mild climate such as this. A tendency to rebloom in this climate may mean the offspring will have a stronger tendency to rebloom in the colder climates if the proper matching occurs with a cold weather rebloomer. Pimping for irises is an inexact science,

but one utilizes what information there is available. As growers and hybridizers report what reblooms for them, we can all be benefited.

The listing here is alphabetical, and by month. Two or three times a month I observe what is in bloom in the garden and write it down. That is as scientific as I get. The other observations are based on memory. Varieties that are especially vigorous or beautiful usually impress themselves on my mind.

January: Amethyst Winter, Artistic Gold, Buckwheat, Cease-Fire, Double Agent, Feed Back, Heavenly Bliss, Lichen, Low Ho Silver, Mariposa Skies, My Friend Jonathan, Porcelain Frills, Quite Quaint, Second Act, Skookumchuck, Splash O' Wine, Tea Leaves, Winterland.

February: Buckwheat, Double Agent, Duke of Earl, Floor Show, Heavenly Bliss, Lichen, Low Ho Silver, My Friend Jonathan, Pearls of Autumn, Porcelain Frills, Pure As Gold, Quite Quaint, Splash O' Wine, Tea Leaves.

March 1-15: Bonus Mama, Curtain Up, Floor Show, Low Ho Silver, Pearls of Autumn, Pure As Gold, Sea World, Skookumchuck.

June 15-30: About Town, Double Praise, Duke of Earl, Earl of Essex, Feed Back, Light Beam, Red Ryder, Renown, Reiterate, Song of Erin,

July: About Town, Autumn Circus, Dante's Inferno, Duke of Earl, Feed Back, Fluted Lime, Mariposa Skies, Pure As

Gold, Red Ryder, Renown, Song of Erin, St. Petersburg, Total Recall.

August: About Town, Cantina, Celestial Sunshine, Chimera, Dante's Inferno, Double Praise, Duke of Earl, Hand Painted, Lichen, Low Ho Silver, Mariposa Skies, My Friend Jonathan, Pure As Gold, Remember Spring, Renown, Total Recall, Victoria Falls.

September: Cantina, Cease-Fire, Celestial Sunshine, Chimera, Dante's Inferno, Fire on Ice, Lichen, Low Ho Silver, Mariposa Skies, My Friend Jonathan, Pure As Gold, Remember Spring, Renown, Silver Dividends, St. Petersburg, Total Recall, Victoria Falls, Winterland.

October: Cayenne Capers, Cease-Fire, Chimera, Fire on Ice, Hand Painted, Jurassic Park, Lichen, Mariposa Skies, My Friend Jonathan, Olive Reflection, Pearls of Autumn, Pure As Gold, Reiterate, Remember Spring, Renown, Sea World, Silver Dividends, Sister Miriam Sings, Splash O' Wine, St. Petersburg, Total Recall, Victoria Falls, Winterland, Zurich.

November: Artistic Gold, Blatant, Cayenne Capers, Cease-Fire, Chimera, Double Praise, Eggnog, Fire on Ice, Hand Painted, Heather Blush, Lichen, My Friend Jonathan, My Valentine, Olive Reflection, Pearls of Autumn, Pure As Gold, Radiant Angel, Reiterate, Remember Spring, Renown, Sea World, Sister Miriam Sings, Splash O' Wine, St. Petersburg, Sunny Disposition, Total Recall, Winterland, Zurich.

December: Artistic Gold, Autumn Clouds, Blatant, Buckwheat, Calm Sea, Cayenne Capers, Cease-Fire, Chimera, Curtain Up, Dance Hall Dolly, Double Praise, Feminine Wiles, Fire on Ice, Genteel, Hand Painted, Heart of Ice, I Repeat, Key Lime, Lichen, Luminosity, Misty Twilight, My Friend Jonathan, My Valentine, Olive Reflection, Pure As Gold, Reiterate, Remember Spring, Renown, Sea World, Sister Miriam Sings, Solstice, St. Petersburg, Total Recall, Whoop 'Em Up, Winterland, Zurich.

Noteworthy Performers: There are some surprises here. I had heard Jurassic Park would rebloom, but this is the first time it has done so for me. I did not know Dance Hall Dolly reblooms. It is, right now, on Christmas Day. Feminine Wiles is listed as reblooming occasionally. It did so for the first time at the beginning of December, and is still in bloom on Christmas Day.

Old dependables continue to be old dependables. Lichen virtually never stops. Neither, it seems, does Low Ho Silver. The most noteworthy performer for this year is **Renown** in my judgment. It started right after spring bloom and is still in bloom on my one big clump. Huge, ruffled flowers the color of mica, strong stalks with multiple branching all the way through the year. Very impressive.

The other delight was **Hand Painted**. I recently acquired it, and it bloomed October through mid-December. It is the coloring that won me, dark red with a blue beard; incredible, and on good

stalks in the off season too. I have two new irises to add to my rather long list of favorites.

As the year, decade, and century gradually stagger to a close, I am going back outside to start watering the garden. Once more, as usual, we are going into a dry winter, and the dreaded "D" word is soon to be spoken. So let me be the first. "Drought." Those of you across the country who can send a rainstorm or two, please do. We have had less than an inch since June first, with no rain in the forecast through New Year's Day 2000. Send your storms any time of the year. They will be greatly appreciated. Gardening in the Southern California coastal desert does have its problems.

***Bloom Report from Owensboro, KY
Zone 6, Region 7
By Leslie and Wayne Jobé***

We had our best rebloom season ever, last year (1999) I guess the iris wanted to "go out with a bang" for this millennium!! I have listed the iris that rebloomed for us, at the end of the article. I don't think it was any one thing that we can credit for all the wonderful bloom. But because of it we were able to generate lots of interest in iris in the area!

I took large vases of iris to every meeting we went to. I gave a program in October, to a local garden club, on reblooming iris and of course everyone had to feel them to see if they were real.

Wayne and I also started a new iris society in the fall and it sure didn't hurt to have lots of iris in bloom in the yard the night we had the organizational meeting at our house. Our iris started reblooming in July and did not quit until the first hard freeze in November. We did cover them on three nights when we were afraid of a frost.

But can we expect to have the same wonderful experience with so many blooming for so long, this year? Only time will tell. We had such a long fall season and that may not happen again for a couple years. We had an extremely dry summer although we did water the flower beds some. Is it the fact that we have acidic soil? Even though we did apply lime, it is still on the acidic side. Or is it because, when we moved here in 1998, the iris were really stressed? They were out of the ground for four months and some were really shriveled when they were finally planted! Or was it a combination of all of the above?? It will be interesting to see what this year brings. Of course, if it is a lean year for bloom, will it be because of so much bloom last year?

Some say that the rebloomers should be dug and replanted every year. (like we have the time to do that!). But, I guess as often as we have moved, we have been digging and replanting every couple of years, anyway. Maybe my test is to see how they do if we leave them in the ground for more than 2 years!! (haha). When the big freeze finally came, We had bloomstalks on iris we had not seen bloom before, so I dug and potted two

of them. They have been in the greenhouse and are still putting up bloomstalks. They are Christopher Columbus and Say O'kay.

We had one Louisiana (Kelly's Choice) put up a bloomstalk, but it was discovered too late to bring inside. Golden Encore started blooming in July and still had a bloomstalk on it in Nov. when it got zapped. Clarence, Beleek Pastel and Autumn Circus also had a long bloom period. (Sept- Nov). I might add that we did not have very many iris bloom for us in the spring. Maybe 25-30 and only a few of these were rebloomers (non of which rebloomed for us in the fall).

The iris listed below all bloomed unless there is an * by the name and that means that there were bloomstalks up but did not get to open before they got zapped by the late Nov. freeze. Many of them were showing color and we did cut them and bring the bloomstalks in.

AL SEGNO *
AMAIN *
AUTUMN BUGLER
AUTUMN CIRCUS
BABY BLESSED
BABY TEARS
BARN DANCE
BELEEK PASTEL
BELVI CLOUD
BELVI QUEEN
BLACK MAGIC
BLESSED AGAIN
BONUS MAMA *
CAYENNE CAPERS
CERTAINLY CERTAINLY

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS
CIRCUS JEWEL
CLARENCE
CLOUDLESS SUNRISE
COME BACK TRAIL
CONSTANT COMPANION
CORN HARVEST
COSETTE
CRY BABY
DELIA'S CHILD
DOUBLE AGENT *
DOUBLE DUTY
DUSKY SUNSET
ETERNAL WALTZ *
FALL PRIMROSE
FEEDBACK
GOLDEN ENCORE
GOLDEN GALAXY
GRAY POUPON
HARVEST OF MEMORIES
HI HO SILVER *
HONEY GLAZED *
I BLESS
ILLINI REPEATER *
IMMORTALITY
JEAN GUYMER *
KELLY'S CHOICE * LA
LADY EMMA
LADY ESSEX
LATE LILAC *
LATEST STYLE *
LEPRECHAUN'S DELIGHT
LOW HO SILVER
MAGIC MEMORIES *
MARK ALLEN *
MATRIX
NOW AND LATER
PEACH JAM
PEPPER LANE
PERFUME COUNTER
PINK SACHET *
PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK

PRINCE OF EARL
PURE AS GOLD *
PURPLE DUET
PURPLE OF TYRS
QUEEN DOROTHY
REFINED
RETREAT
RETURNING ROSE
SAY O'KAY
SAXON *
SILVER DIVIDENDS
SMELL THE ROSES
STEPPING PROUD *
SUGAR BLUES
SUKY
SUMMER BLUETINTS
SUMMER FANTASY
SUMMER OLYMPICS
THIRD CHARM
TOTAL RECALL
TOUCH OF SPRING
VIOLET MUSIC
VIOLET RETURNS
WATERS OF MIRABA
WHAT AGAIN
WITCH OF ENDOR
ZURICH

***Water Water Everywhere But
Not a Drop...
By Joan Roberts
Eastern Regional Director***

WATER WATER EVERYWHERE BUT NOT A DROP to water our irises, at least not most of them. Our home in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania has been drought ridden for three summers. One day I was on my way back from a nursery about 10 miles away and it was pouring down rain. As I

approached my exit the rain disappeared. We didn't get any. Our property (22 acres) has a stream on two sides leading into a pond. We couldn't take water from there because of the fish, they barely had enough as it was. We don't have a watering system and dragging hoses around is no easy task. For smaller gardens (such as the one we had at the other house - we had 2 1/2 acres) we believe in the use of soaker hoses placed permanently or semi-permanently, taking them up for winter, in each garden. We used the long feeder hoses from the outside faucet with quick connections on the ends of all soaker hoses. This made the process a lot easier. There were numerous bans here on the use of water which didn't apply to us since we are a certified nursery. We did, however, try to keep our water usage to a minimum. We are on a well which seems to have enough water, but we really didn't want to push our luck by watering too much. We have a little over 6 1/2 acres of inventory planted at the top of our property. We have divided this plot into 12 beds. One bed was dug in early summer, trimmed and replanted. That bed did get watered the day they were planted. The other beds were not watered.

There are also several display beds, one of which is a reblooming bed. We did water the reblooming bed three to four times over the summer. It was soaked each time we watered. What effect did all of this have on the irises? We didn't lose any of our un-watered irises, but they didn't make their normal increase, nor did the majority of them rebloom.

An exception to this was AUTUMN TRYST which didn't know it was supposed to be on strike for better working conditions. The bed we reset did very well and actually had VIOLET MUSIC rebloom, despite the fact that the fans were trimmed to 6-8" and the roots cut to about 3" long.

Our hard work dragging the hoses around paid off with the best show of reblooming irises that we ever had! The garden just came alive in October with stalk after stalk of beautiful irises. It was like spring. If I ever had any doubts about the importance of water for the reblooming irises, they have been dispelled. I really believe that WATER IS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN GETTING THE IRISES TO REBLOOM.

For those interested in knowing what irises rebloomed in the display bed, we actually kept a record.

Tall Bearded & Border Bearded:

AGAIN AND AGAIN, ANXIOUS, AUTUMN CIRCUS, AUTUMN TRYST, AUTUMN ECHO, BARN DANCE, BELVI CLOUD, BILLIONAIRE, BLUE MOONLIGHT, BLUE REVIEW, BOUNTIFUL HARVEST, BUCKWHEAT, CAMEO BLUSH, CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE, CHAMPAGNE JUNIOR, CLARENCE, COMPETITION, CORN HARVEST, EARL OF ESSEX, ETERNAL BLISS, FEED BACK, GOLDEN IMMORTAL, GRAPE REPRISE, HALLOWED THOUGHT, HI HO SILVER, I REPEAT, ISTANBUL, JOAN'S PLEASURE, LADY ESSEX, LIGHT REBUFF, MATRIX, OCTOBER SPLENDOR, ONCE AGAIN, PINK ATTRACTION, PINK REPRISE,

PORCELAIN FRILLS, PRICILLA OF CORINTH, PURE AS GOLD, QUEEN DOROTHY, REDELTA, REMARKABLE, RENOWN, ROSALIE FIGGE, SEA FLUFF, SIGN OF VIRGO, SILVER DIVIDENDS, SPEED LIMIT, SUMMER OLYMPICS, SUMMER FANTASY, SUMMER OLYMPICS, SUNNY SHOULDERS, SUNNY DISPOSITION, VIOLET MUSIC.

Standard Dwarfs & Medians:

AUTUMN MAPLE, ARTISTIC LICENSE, AURORALITA, PLUM WINE, BABY BLESSED, BABY BOOM, BABY CAKES, BABY PRINCE, BLESSED AGAIN, BLESSED ASSURANCE, CHAMPAGNE ENCORE, CORNHUSKER AUTUMN, DOUBLE BYTE, EXTRA CHARM, FLOWER SHOWER, GLITTER BIT, HI, LITTLE SHOWOFF, LO HO SILVER, PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK, SMELL THE ROSES, THRICE BLESSED.

Editor's Note

Thanks a million to all those who sent articles, constructive comments, corrections and, yes, compliments. A special thanks to the proof reader who did a fantastic job.

Lana & Steve

Reblooming Iris Society

2000 Source List

Reblooming Iris Recorder

Spring 2000 - Vol 55

AMBERWAY GARDENS

(Ken & Susan Kremer)
5803 Amberway
St. Louis, MO 63128

MARYOTT'S GARDENS

1073 Bird Ave.
San Jose, CA 95125

BLOOMING FIELDS FARM

(Jim Puckett)
P. O. Box 8416
Riverside, CA 92515

SUPERSTITION IRIS GARDENS

(Rick Tasco)
2536 Old Highway
Cathey's Valley, CA 952306
(Catalog \$1.50, Refunded with Order)

BLUE IRIS GARDENS

(Rob & Molly Cromwell)
20791 Woodbury Drive
Grass Valley, CA 95949

SUTTON'S GREEN THUMBER

(George & Margaret Sutton)
16592 Road 208
Porterville, CA 93257
209-784-9011

COLLIER'S GARDEN

(Tom Collier)
P. O. Box 32
Lawson, MO 64062-0032
913-764-0586

WALTER A. MOORES

Rt. 5 Box 189B
Starkville, MS 39759

FRIENDSHIP GARDENS

(Joan & Ken Roberts)
341 Schwartz Rd.
Gettysburg, PA 17325-8622

WINTERBERRY GARDENS

(Don & Ginny Spoon)
1225 Reynolds Rd.
Cross Junction, VA 22625
540-888-4447
(\$2.00 for Catalog)

HILLCREST GARDENS

(Hooker & Bonnie Nichols)
3365 Northaven Blvd.
Dallas, TX 75229

I hope that this list will be of some help. Remember that you need to order reblooming irises early due to demand and they need to be planted during the summer to try to get fall rebloom.

Charlie Brown
Membership Secretary

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VOTES	CULTIVAR NAME	HYBRIDIZER	YEAR	Z 4	Z 5	Z 6	Z 7	Z 8	Z 9
<u>TALL BEARDED IRIS</u>									
58	IMMORTALITY	ZURBRIGG, L.	82	3	5	18	13	11	9
55	FEEDBACK	HAGER, B.	83	2	6	15	12	3	17
53	CLARENCE	ZURBRIGG, L.	91	2	4	15	13	8	11
49	BUCKWHEAT	BYERS, M.	90	2	4	10	13	5	15
46	AUTUMN CIRCUS	HAGER, B.	90	1		13	11	5	16
45	ROSALIE FIGGE	MCKNEW	93	2	2	10	9	8	12
44	BOUNTIFUL HARVEST	HAGER, B.	91	2	4	9	8	4	17
44	PINK ATTRACTION	HALL, E.	88	2	8	13	12	4	5
44	TOTAL RECALL	HAGER, B.	92	2	3	9	8	4	18
43	HARVEST OF MEMORIES	ZURBRIGG, L.	85	2	4	8	14	6	9
43	QUEEN DOROTHY	HALL, E.	84	3	7	16	8	2	7
40	EARL OF ESSEX	ZURBRIGG, L.	80	1	3	8	12	6	10
39	CHAMPAGNE ELEGANCE	NISWONGER	87	4	9	11	6	4	6
38	CORN HARVEST	WYATT	77	4	4	8	11	7	4
37	ZURICH	BYERS, M.	89		4	10	6	4	13
35	JENNIFER REBECCA	ZURBRIGG, L.	85	3	5	13	9	1	9
30	DUKE OF EARL	BYERS, M.	87	1	1	5	8	3	12
29	AUTUMN TRYST	WEILER	93	2	2	10	5	1	9
29	BELVI QUEEN	JENSEN	76	2	6	10	8	1	2
29	MATRIX	HALL, E.	91	2	2	11	6	4	4
28	WINESAP	BYERS, M.	89	1	1	6	5	4	11
26	ETERNAL BLISS	BYERS, M.	88	1	1	10	9	1	4
26	I DO	ZURBRIGG, L.	74	2	1	8	10	5	
25	VIOLET MUSIC	MAHAN	91			10	6	7	2
24	HIGH HO SILVER	BYERS, M.	89	2	3	5	2	5	7
23	ANXIOUS	HAGER, B.	92	2	1	4	7	2	7
23	BROTHER CARL	ZURBRIGG, L.	83		2	10	5	5	1
23	NORTHWARD HO	ZURBRIGG, L.	91	2	3	10	7	1	
23	SPEED LIMIT	LAUER	92			1	2	3	17
22	RENOWN	ZURBRIGG, L.	92	1	1	7	5	3	5
22	SUGAR BLUES	ZURBRIGG, L.	85	1	5	7	2	1	6
21	AUTUMN BUGLER	JONES, F.	86	2	2	10	3	2	2
21	PURE AS GOLD	MARYOTT	89			1	3	5	12
20	ENGLISH COTTAGE	ZURBRIGG, L.	76	2	2	4	9	3	
20	HEMSTITCHED	HAGER, B.	88		1	5	4	2	8
20	SUNNY DISPOSITION	ZURBRIGG, L.	91			8	7	2	3
20	TEA LEAVES	BYERS, M.	87	1	3	3	5	2	6
19	BEST BET	SCHREINERS	88	3	5	2	3	1	5
19	BONUS MAMA	HAGER, B.	90	3		3	4	5	4
19	CAYENNE CAPERS	GIBSON, J.M.	59			4	4	2	8
18	ISTANBUL	BYERS, M.	89			2	3	4	9
18	MOTHER EARTH	HAGER, B.	88	1	2	4	2		9
18	SUKY	MAHAN	88	1		5	7	1	4
18	WINTERLAND	BYERS, M.	89	1		6	4	3	4
17	HAPPY NEW YEAR	BYERS, M.	90		1	6	4	2	3

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17	JUICY FRUIT	BYERS, M.	89	1		4	3	1	8
17	VIOLET RETURNS	HALL, E.	88	2	2	8	3		2
16	BILLIONAIRE	BYERS, M.	87		1		7	1	7
16	BLATANT	BYERS, M.	90			4	4	1	7
16	ST. PETERSBURG	BYERS, M.	90	1	1	4		2	8
16	VICTORIA FALLS	SCHREINERS	77	2		4	4	2	4
15	HOLY NIGHT	MOHR, K.	83			2	4	2	7
15	lichen	BYERS, M.	89	2	4	4			5
15	MISTY TWILIGHT	BYERS, M.	88	1	1	1	4	1	7
15	PINKNESS	BYERS, M.	89			1	3	2	9
15	ROCK STAR	BYERS, M.	91			3	3	2	7
15	WITCH OF ENDOR	MILLER	78			2	9	4	
14	DOUBLE SCOOP	GHIO	81	1		1	2		10
14	PEACH JAM	ENSMINGER	89	3	3	3	2	1	2
14	SILVER DIVIDENDS	ZURBRIGG, L.	91			7	5	1	1
14	SUMMER OLYMPICS	SMITH, R.	80	1	1	5	3	1	3
13	CORAL CHARMER	WRIGHT	83	1	2	6			4
13	FRAPPE	BYERS, M.	91			3	4		6
13	SIGN OF LEO	ZURBRIGG, L.	77	2	1	3	4	3	
13	SPIRIT OF MEMPHIS	ZURBRIGG, L.	77		1	4	6	2	
12	BELVI CLOUD	JENSEN	88	1	2	5	1	1	2
12	BLAZING SUNRISE	BLACK	85	1		1	3		7
12	BLUE MOONLIGHT	BYERS, M.	89		2	2	3		5
12	COLORWATCH	INNEREST	87		1	4	4	1	2
12	STELLAR LIGHTS	AITKEN	86	1		4			7
11	BARN DANCE	BYERS, M.	91		1	2	2	1	5
11	GIBSON GIRL	GIBSON, J.M.	46	1	1	1	3	2	3
11	GOLDEN IMMORTAL	SUTTON, G.	97			4			7
11	HER ROYAL HIGHNESS	BYERS, M.	89		1	4	3		3
11	LADY ESSEX	ZURBRIGG, L.	91	1	1	6	1	1	1
11	MARAPOSA SKIES	TASCO	96			1		2	8
11	PERFUME COUNTER	ZURBRIGG, L.	72	1		5	4	1	
11	REINCARNATION	BYERS, M.	89		1	5	1	1	3
11	TENNISON RIDGE	BEGLEY	89		1	2	2	1	5
11	WAVES OF GRAIN	BYERS, M.	94			2	2	1	6
10	DASHING	BYERS, M.	91			1	1	1	7
10	FLOORSHOW	BYERS, M.	89			3		1	6
10	ORCHID CLOUD	APPLEGATE	74		1	4	2	3	
10	PLATINIUM	BYERS, M.	94			1		2	7
10	REMEMBER SPRING	HAGER, B.	85		1	2	1	2	4
10	SOLSTICE	WEILER	92				3		7
10	STINGRAY	BYERS, M.	89			2	3	1	4
10	SUMMER HOLIDAYS	ZURBRIGG, L.	79		2		1	3	4
9	DORCUS LIVES AGAIN	MILLER	84		2	4	1		2
9	ETERNAL WALTZ	DANIELSON	89			3	4	2	

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9	GRAPE ADVENTURE	JONES, F.	86		2	3	3		1
9	HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS	BYERS, M.	88		1	4	3		3
9	OCTOBER	BYERS, M.	89		1	2		4	2
9	SONATA IN BLUE	SMITH, R.	94			4	2		3
9	SUNNY SHOULDERS	HAGER, B.	90			1	1	2	5
9	VIOLET MIRACLE	ZURBRIGG, L.	79	1	1	2	2	2	1
<u>BORDER BEARDED</u>									
12	COLOR BRITE	ENSMINGER	86	1		1	4	3	3
10	BABY BENGAL	SUTTON	90				2	1	6
9	WHOOPE 'EM UP	BRADY	74			1	3	1	4
8	LENORA PEARL	NICHOLS	90		1	2	1	2	2
7	MISS SCARLET	MOORES	80		1			2	4
6	PINK REPRISE	MOORES	91	1		2	2		1
<u>INTERMEDIATE BEARDED</u>									
43	LO HO SILVER	BYERS, M.	89	3	4	13	6	6	11
25	I BLESS	ZURBRIGG, L.	85	1	1	12	6	3	2
20	ELEANOR ROOSEVELT	SASS, H.P.	33	1	1	5	5	1	7
19	BLESSED AGAIN	JONES, F.	76		2	5	6	4	2
15	HONEY GLAZED	NISWONGER O.D.	83		1	4	3	1	6
12	CHAMPAGNE ENCORE	AITKEN	97			5	4	1	2
11	PRECIOUS LITTLE PINK	BYERS, M.	95			7		2	2
11	SEASON TICKET	GATTY, J.	95			3			8
10	HI	BYERS, M.	90		1	3	2	1	3
8	CONSTANT COMPANION	MARSH, C.	95	2	2	1			2
<u>MINIATURE TALL BEARDED</u>									
35	LADY EMMA	JONES, F.	86		10	10	8	5	2
4	EMMA DOODLE	NEARPASS	99		1	2	1		
2	OZARK EVENING	FISHER	91				2		
2	CONCORD CAFE	BOSWELL, C	83						2
<u>MINIATURE DWARF BEARDED</u>									
17	DITTO	HAGER, B.	82			6	5	2	4
4	GNUZ SPREAD	KASPEREK	96		2		2		
4	GRAPELET	AITKEN, T.	89			1	1		2
4	VELVET TOY	DUNBAR/SINDT	74		1	2			1
2	PIXIE KISS	WILLOT	98			2			
<u>STANDARD DWARF BEARDED</u>									
59	BABY BLESSED	ZURBRIGG	79	1	7	21	13	7	10
30	PLUM WINE	WEILER	86	1	2	5	7	4	11
29	DARK CRYSTAL	BYERS	88	2	1	5	6	2	12
29	LITTLE SHOWOFF	HALL	89		1	14	4	3	7
26	SMELL THE ROSES	BYERS	88	1	2	10	5	1	7

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25	WHAT AGAIN	ENSMINGER	91	2	3	4	6		10
24	FLOWER SHOWER	WEILER	90		3	2	6	1	2
24	JEWEL BABY	HALL	84	2	2	7	5	2	6
20	AUTUMN MAPLE	WEILER	92	2		7	4	1	6
16	DARKLING	BYERS	89	1		3	4	1	7
14	BABY PRINCE	ZURBRIGG	95	1		7	5	1	
12	BABY BOOM	BYERS	90		2	5	3		2
12	BLITZ	WEILER	88		1	6	1	1	3
12	THIRD CHARM	WEILER	90		1	3	4	1	3
11	GOLDEN VIOLET	WEILER	93	1	1	1	2		6
11	HOT	BYERS	91			5		1	5
10	GLITTER BIT	WEILER	97			4	2	2	2
9	AURORALITA	WEILER	90			3		2	4
9	GOLDEN CHILD	BYERS	89	1		2	2		4
9	LITTLE BISHOP	WEILER	84			3	1	2	2
9	SUNDOLL	JONES, B.	86		2	1	3		3
9	SUNSTRIP	WEILER	86			1	1	3	4
<u>SIBERIAN</u>									
6	PINK HAZE	MCGARVEY	80			3	2		1
4	CORONATION ANTHEM	HOLLINGWORTH	90		2	2			
3	MY LOVE	SCHEFFY	48			1	2		
2	CHARTRUSE BOUNTY	MCEWEN	83			1			1
2	CREME CHANTILLY	MCEWEN	81			1			1
<u>JAPANESE</u>									
3	CRYSTAL HALO	MARX	59			2	1		
3	SOUTHERN SON	MCEWEN	90				3		
<u>LOUISIANA</u>									
4	RED ECHO	ROWAN	84			1	2		
2	FOR DAD	PRYOR	97			2			
<u>SPEC / CALIFORNIAE</u>									
3	CHIEF SEQUOIA	WEILER	91						3

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2000 INTRODUCTIONS

BRIGHT AND SUNNY (Roberts '00) BB 24-26" EM & re. Sdlg. #Mix 9. This seedling was from the batch of seeds that tipped over in the greenhouse so the parentage is not certain. Most likely possibility is **CORAL CHALICE X 317RE**: (Brother Carl x Coral Chalice).

Forming a lovely clump this ruffled white has bright sunny yellow hafts. Excellent branching, seven buds and border bearded proportions (has never grown out of class). Rebloomed once when we lived in Maryland and once in Pennsylvania but it has not been consistent with its remontancy (at least not for us). Should be a good parent for rebloomers. Best Seedling in a spring show. \$35.00

DURHAM DREAM (Zurbrigg '00) Sdlg. #LL 206-4-1. 40" ML. Moonlit X Anew.

Standards are violet blended yellow and red. Falls blended violet with hafts and heart flushed bright yellow. Yellow beards end in 3/4" blended violet horns. Stalks and branching are superb. The flower appears to be under a spotlight. The plant is fertile both ways. It is a super-hardy variety, seemingly immune to heat waves and hurricanes. \$35.00

MUSKOKA SUNSET (Zurbrigg '00) Sdlg. #LL89DLast. 38" M. HH15-1-1: (Lady Friend x Beverly Sills) X HH 9-1-2: (Fresno Frolic x Mabel Andrews).

Orange to orange-apricot self, a bright, smooth and pleasing color. Large flowers on good stalks really make a show in the garden. This was seen in Denver, but under the incorrect name of **LADIES' NIGHT**, which was most unfortunate. Many orange irises have trouble here, but not this one. It is fertile both ways. \$35.00

RE-PLEAT (Weiler '00) SDB 10" ML & RE. Sdlg. 90-10-6RE: Pink Fawn X 88-13-5RE: (Rainbow Sherbet x (((Ruby Contrast x Little Blackfoot) x ((70-95: (Brighteyes x Grace Note x Bronze Babe) x (Cartwheel x 70-95))) x Pink Amber) x (Melon Honey x ((Bloodspot x 70-95-1) x Satin Lustre)))).

Off white standards are accented by light blue violet stippling. The lightly ruffled off-white falls are trimmed with a light blue-violet plicata border. To complete the picture there are light blue beards with tangerine orange in the throat. Best Seedling in a fall show. RE: CA (9). \$15.00

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