

THE W. A. PAYNE AWARD			
DANCING WAVES		W. A. Payne	10
<i>Runner-up</i>			
STAR AT MIDNIGHT		R. A. Rich	8
HONORABLE MENTION			
ENCHANTING MELODY		R. A. Rich	13
ORIENTAL TRACERY		C. A. Swearngen	9
PURPLE PEACOCK		C. A. Swearngen	6
BLUE NOCTURNE		W. A. Pavne	5
HIGH COMMENDATION			
K 63-1B		Jonnye Rich	5

Exhibition Committee Report, 1968

CLARKE COSGROVE, Chairman

A greater number of shows were reported this year than for any previous season. One hundred and sixteen show reports were received to increase by approximately ten percent the number reported for 1967. The season generally was good throughout all regions with few shows canceled because of bloom failure or adverse weather conditions. The shortness of the season in some areas resulted in conflicts of dates and a few shows were not held to permit participation in nearby shows scheduled for the same date. The earliest show was held in November and the latest in July.

The Nelson Award (given to the iris selected the greatest number of times as Best of Show) goes to STEPPING OUT. This is the first time an iris has won both the Dykes Medal and the Nelson Award in the same year and it is doubtful that the feat will be repeated, although the runner-up was last year's Dykes Medal winner WINTER OLYMPICS. STEPPING OUT reigned as Queen in seven shows, WINTER OLYMPICS in four, while VIOLET HARMONY, the all-time winner on the show bench, came in third as Best of Show in three shows.

The count of shows reported by regions is as follows:

<i>Region</i>	<i>Shows</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Shows</i>
1	2	13	10
2	2	14	7
3	1	15	15
4	1	16	0
5	3	17	10
6	9	18	9
7	3	19	1
8	4	20	2
9	2	21	4
10	1	22	13
11	3	23	3
12	3	24	8

TOTAL 116

As in 1967, Region 15 (Southern California and Arizona) led the list with the greatest number of shows under the guidance of its very able regional exhibition chairman, August Phillips. Region 22 (Arkansas and Oklahoma) was a close second. Region 17 (Texas) doubled its 1967 number of shows to lead all regions in percentage of increase.