



AWARD WINNERS

Larry Gaulter, left, accepts the Dykes Medal for MARY FRANCES. Below, WHITELADIES and its creator John Taylor of England, who presented the Dykes and received our reciprocal Hybridizer's Medal for Britain.



President Leon Wolford (left) presented the AIS Hybridizer's Medal to Joseph Ghio.



Award Recipients

Among the awards presented at the Tulsa Awards Banquet was the Dykes Memorial Medal to Larry Gaulter for his outstanding winner MARY FRANCES. Mr. Gaulter, a former musician and proprietor of a decorating firm, is known not only for his irises, but also for his humor. After accepting the medal from John Taylor of the British Iris Society, Mr. Gaulter took the microphone and spoke briefly. He related a friend's comment to him, "May the Lord hold you in the palm of His hand . . . and clap."

John Taylor accepted the Hybridizer's medal from the AIS awarded to the hybridizer selected as most outstanding in the BIS. Mr. Taylor has created a long list of award-winning irises, especially in the median classes.

Joseph Ghio has produced a series of award-winners in such classifications as tall bearded, medians, spurias and Californicae. From his first introduction, NINA'S DELIGHT, to the popular MYSTIQUE and to many scheduled future introductions, Ghio irises have merited the reputation that earned him the Hybridizer's Medal. He is also the Mayor of Santa Cruz, California.

The Board of Directors voted Distinguished Service Medals to two outstanding irisarians. Bennett Jones of Oregon is a noted hybridizer, chaired a national convention, served as AIS First Vice President and Test Garden Chairman. Richard Pettijohn of Nebraska retired recently after years of untiring efforts, humor and dedication to the organization as AIS Treasurer.

Left, Richard, temporarily wearing a neck brace, and Bennett (far right) accept Distinguished Service Medals.

