

YOUTH-VIEWS

Thomas Ford, Editor

Articles, features and photographs for, by or about irisarians under 19 will be published in this section. Please send your contribution to Youth Views Editor, Mr. Thomas Ford, 12627 Oxon Road, Herndon, Virginia 22070.



Perry Dyer and
Mrs. H. R. Hensel

PERRY DYER

"At age 16 Perry Dyer of Blanchard is considered somewhat of an iris authority. . . ." Such is the leadoff sentence in a half-page article in the Norman (Okla.) *Transcript*. Perry grows some 500 irises. In addition, he is a straight-A student and a pianist and a teacher of piano.

He often visits Mrs. Hensel's garden, of which he says, "I don't believe I know of a better one."

A junior, his plans still are indefinite, but he thinks he will enter the field of music, and possibly teaching.

JOHN STAHLY

ALLAN ENSMINGER

We don't know much in the way of statistics about this young man. Maybe he's 10 years old. Perhaps he's twelve and, if so, he'll probably be disappointed that we would consider him just a kid.

We don't know what grade he is in at school. We don't know whether he has brothers or sisters. We only talked with him for a few minutes, just long enough to find out that his name is John Stahly and he lives in Grand Blanc, Michigan.

But we do know some important things about John. We know that he is different from most young people because he's the kind of boy who can have a wonderful time at an American Iris Society Convention, even though the majority of those who attend these conventions are four to five times his age.

We know that he loves irises and is enthusiastic about them. Even when our own feet were dragging after visiting many gardens in Wichita last year, we saw him run from the bus to be first in the iris patch.

We know that John has good judgment in evaluating an iris. After all, didn't he make the decision that Ensminger's 66-14 was the best iris at the Convention?

Now there were many who wouldn't have agreed with John. Seedling 66-14 actually didn't fit very well into any class. The blossom is really too big for a border iris and it grows at most only 26", so it's too short for a TB.

But as far as John was concerned it was tops, and in garden after garden he hurried to where it was growing and then stood and looked at it and loved it.

And John's enthusiasm for this little dark violet iris must have caught on because it received 17 votes for HC.

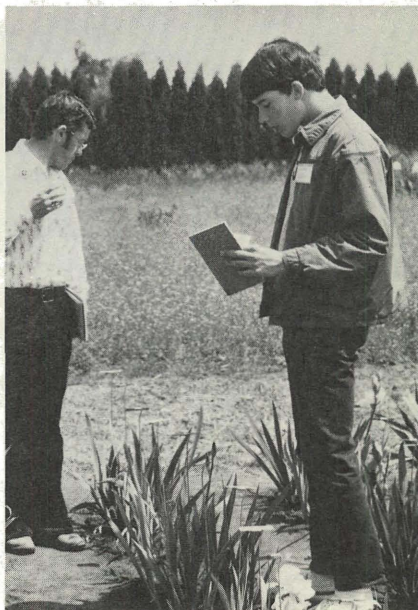
It just had to be that this iris would be named for John because he liked it more than anyone else. We thought of naming it John's Favorite, but that name was taken. Remembering how John enjoyed it we decided on "John's Joy."

As we've said, we really don't know very much about John, but we know this, John is a fortunate lad. He has developed an interest in flowers at an early age and his life will be enriched by the many beautiful irises that he will enjoy throughout the years.

"John's Joy" is just his first love. There will be many more.



JOHN'S JOY



Glenn and Alan Corlew