



***THE SIBERIAN IRIS***

***SPRING 1998***

Property of The Society for Siberian Irises

— THE SIBERIAN IRIS —

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**Front Cover:**

Siberian Irises in the Japanese Tea Garden,  
Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, California. April 1998.  
Photo: Bob Hollingworth

## **THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

The Society for Siberian Irises has a well-deserved reputation for excellence. For this we may thank the members and officers who, over the years, have worked so hard on our behalf. As Bob Hollingworth stated in his last President's Letter, our Society is in excellent condition, a testament to his tenure as President the past three years. Thank you Bob! On a personal note, I also wish to thank Bob for volunteering to take on the Chairmanship of our Slides Committee.

Without sounding like an acceptance speech on Oscar night, I do want to stress that keeping our society running on such a high level is the result of the hard work and sacrifices of a team of outstanding individuals. Thanks to Ada Godfrey and Jim Holmes, for their continuing work as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Thanks to Carol Warner and Barrett Stoll, Vice-Presidents, and to all the members of our Board of Directors. Knowing that I'm surrounded by such a quality team gives me confidence that the next three years will be both productive and enjoyable.

Our publications set the standard for excellence. Judy Hollingworth has crafted *The Siberian Iris* into a beautifully laid-out, informative publication, in my opinion, the best within the AIS. Please continue to support Judy with the high quality articles and photographs to which we've become accustomed. Howard Brookins has diligently and constantly upgraded our Checklist, and we now have a beautiful four-color "Invitation to Join" brochure. The immediate future promises excitement, with the development of our own web page. I know Jim Wilson will produce one that will make us proud.

It wasn't that long ago that the idea of a Siberian Convention

was just a twinkle in someone's eye. Now, we have two very successful ones under our belt and are anticipating our third (Iowa, in 2000). We will be shortly considering a proposal for 2003 and, of course, looking ahead to 2006 (any volunteers?). It seems that we have quickly established a tradition, one so successful that we are now considering our own awards system for these conventions.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible this spring in Denver. Our Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, from 3:00 –5:00 p.m. Our General meeting will be held at 11: 00 a.m., Wednesday, June 3. Please join us and share your ideas. Also, please feel free to write or call me with any ideas or comments you may have.

**Tom Abrego**

## **GOING WILD**

By Marty Schafer \_\_\_\_\_

In 1986, I started making crosses aimed at producing large, ruffled, yellow Siberians, and my seedlings have progressed in this direction with increasing momentum. In 1992, after visiting Barbara and David Schmieder's garden and seeing **Snow Prince** ('90), Sarah Tiffney's creamy white *I. sibirica* with its yellow buds, I added smallness to my ideas of what would make a nice yellow Siberian. The potential of the yellow buds grabbed my attention. Here was a source of yellow that was not related to **Butter and Sugar**. In addition Snow Prince had many other outstanding qualities including delicate, attractive, tailored, small flowers; short, symmetrical double branches; and the unusual combination of tall stalks and short foliage. With pollen that Shirley Pope sent from Maine, I crossed **Snow Prince** onto every yellow flower in my garden and one blue-flowered plant with a yellow parent.

After that peculiar things began to happen.

All of the crosses of **Snow Prince** to yellow flowers produced only blue flowers - the lighter the yellow of the parent, the lighter the blue of the children. I had expected yellow or white flowered children in the first generation. Yellow by yellow ought to give yellow flowers, right? Then as I thought about it, I remembered many years ago Sarah Tiffney telling me that sibirica white and sanguinea white are different from each other. Sibirica white is a milky white and sanguinea white is a crystal white. Sibirica white by sibirica white gives all white seedlings. The same is true for sanguinea white by sanguinea white. She also told me, however, that she had crossed *I. sibirica alba* with *I. sanguinea alba* and gotten 100% blue flowered seedlings. She said the reason for this was that the albino forms of the two species have complementary genes that make blue pigment. Another way to put it is that each species has a different recessive gene that prevents the production of blue and produces white. But where each species has its recessive gene, the other species has a dominant one. When they are brought together in a hybrid, blue is the result. Therefore, the color of **Butter and Sugar** and its yellow descendants must come from sanguinea white. When I crossed them with **Snow Prince**, a sibirica white, I got all blue flowers. It made sense.

More importantly, Sarah also said that when she crossed these blue children together she got both whites and blues. So the little yellow Siberians I dreamed of would require at least one more generation. By making sibling and half-sibling crosses between various (yellow x **Snow Prince**) seedlings, I hope to see those little yellow butterflies appearing in the next generation. I will see a few of these crosses this season and more next year.

Though my blue children of yellow x **Snow Prince** were the “wrong” color, they had other interesting characteristics. They were very vigorous and produced great numbers of flowers slightly larger than **Snow Prince** on tall, slender, straight, branched stalks. A few fell over in wind and rain because they had such tall stalks and so many flowers open at one time. But most of them were weatherproof, and I liked them enough to scatter them throughout our garden. Two of them, S92-79-11 and S92-85-12, are likely introductions. They come from crosses of **Snow Prince** on two seedlings of the family S89-23: (**Isabelle**, Bee Warburton’s lovely ruffled light yellow amoena ‘89, x ‘Gold Shoulders’, the garden name for a seedling with a bright yellow signal that spreads out a little onto the falls). S92-79-11 has beautifully shaped medium blue-violet sibirica-like flowers with glowing signals. It is a good, somewhat short plant with good separation like **Snow Prince** between leaves and flowers, and great bud placement. S92-85-12 is taller with an abundance of flowers and a massive, but airy display. True to its sibirica heritage its flowers flutter in the breeze and its stems sway and dance, but they have never fallen over. Its flowers have medium blue-violet veining, a little softer than most *sibiricas*, and instead of the background color being white, it is soft yellow. I was not sure how Siberian lovers would react to this “throwback”, however S92-85-12 was a huge hit on our spring tour last year.

As I mentioned earlier, I made only one cross of **Snow Prince** on a blue flower and the results of this cross were even more interesting and peculiar than the others. The blue parent was S89-9-2, which comes from a cross of **Isabelle** and **Silver Illusion**, (Dale Johnson’s somewhat balky but lovely large flowered pinkish bitone, ‘87). S89-9-2 is a good looking near amoena with easy opening flowers that remind me of SDBs in size and shape. As a parent, it has produced a

wide range of wonderful results. The first seedling from this cross, S92-65-1, opened in 1994, a year ahead of most of its siblings and half-siblings. It captivated me completely, even before it opened. The buds were the most bizarre and indescribable color. We waited half a day for it to open and when it did, I immediately called Barbara and David to come see it. The falls were brown. Now brown flowers are not high on my list of priorities, but it is a brand new color for Siberians. The standards had a violet shading on a clean pale lavender background, the signal was large and yellow, and the style arms were light brown on pearl. On close examination it seemed clear that the brown on the falls was created by a layer of yellow pigment which appeared clear in the signal area and a layer of violet (similar to the color of the standards) which was overlaid on the yellow. The combination of these two was brown. This color faded dramatically in an afternoon and by evening the flower was a rather drab-looking thing with messy form. I used as much of its pollen and as many of its pods as I could, crossing it with as many light colored flowers as possible.

In 1995 all of the 65's bloomed - the whole cross of S89-9-2 X **Snow Prince** - and among the seedlings there were three distinct colors instead of just one. Many were the familiar blue sibirica-like flowers, but there were also light pink ones and more yellow ones with a lavender overlay like S92-65-1, but better! I don't know why these different colors, especially yellow, appeared in (**Isabelle x Silver Illusion**) X **Snow Prince** but not in **Isabelle X Snow Prince**. Clearly, **Silver Illusion** contributes something special to this outcome. The blue seedlings in this cross were ordinary. Two of the pinks (S92-65-13 and S92-65-20) were tall and vigorous. In bloom they were solid columns of color, unlike anything I've seen. Though their flowers were small, there were so many of them they tended to bump into each other. The lavender over

yellow ones were stunning, and I will probably introduce two of them. The first (S92-65-14) will be named in honor of Sarah Tiffney. It has attractive dark gold buds and small, bright flowers with clean standards of the palest lavender edged with a touch of yellow. The falls can again only be described in two parts. Underneath is a soft warm yellow (RHS 16 C-D) which is uncovered at the signal area and in a 1/8" band around the edge. Over the yellow is a soft reddish lavender (RHS 84A) with a bit of speckling and darker veining (RHS 83 A-D). The signal is gold with red-violet veining and a hint of orange. The style arms are buff yellow with bits of lavender on the side-ribs.

The combination of colors reminds me of sunset. The form of this flower was the best of the whole cross, combining fine qualities of the old and the new. The second seedling to be named is a little taller with bigger flowers. Its buds are a medium reddish-purple. The falls open with heavy violet speckling over yellow with a tiny yellow edge. The standards are heavily speckled light purple over a white background. It's an interesting mixture of yellow amoena and violet self-patterns working together. On the hafts and spilling out onto the falls is dark gold with violet veining. The colors fade during the heat of the day but pleasantly. It also has a light sweet fragrance, which is a bonus. Its number is S92-65-15 and because its speckling reminds us of our local salamanders, we're calling it **Salamander Crossing** (which is also the name of a fine Celtic band).

Both of these seedlings are different from anything else I know, and I'm breeding with them like mad. It will take a few years before I see the results. However, I have seen a few seedlings from S92-65-1, the homely "brown" one that bloomed a year before the others. The unusual continues to appear. A cross of S92-65-1 with a well-formed yellowish



white seedling from **Creme Chantilly** X Warburton 84-25-4: (**Butter and Sugar** x (**Atoll** x **Ruffled Velvet**)) produced a tall plant with dark gray (like slate) falls and pure blue standards. It was similar to some of the “weird” blue-violet over yellow flowers I’ve had before, but two things set it apart—the colors worked together instead of fighting each other, and the standards were much closer to true blue than any Siberian I’ve seen before. I’m excited about this combination of colors. The standards give me hope that we will have true blue Siberians someday.

I also made crosses with S92-65-1 and S89-16-1. The latter is a large flower with light pink standards and dark pink falls with a wide light pink rim. It has four terminal buds that open in a well-timed sequence making it a desirable parent for that quality alone. Its parents are **Reprise** and **Mad Magenta**. When I crossed it with S92-65-1 I got an array of light to medium pink seedlings (the S94-10s). There is a chocolate quality to these pinks which is difficult to describe. It’s too early to tell where these seedlings might be leading, but I like the color.

I also crossed S92-65-1 with S90-53-3, a short, pink child of **Pleasures of May** by one of its siblings. There wasn’t a lot to recommend S90-53-3, but it was very early, short, small flowered, and its color was smoother, pinker, and a little darker than its parents and siblings. What I got were the S94-42s, which were mostly light pinks, mixed with yellow. One of the main features of this cross was that in place of veining and speckling that were typical of the S92-65s, the colors in all the seedlings were exquisitely smooth. One seedling had medium pink below the signals and wide yellow fall rims, all topped with pure white standards. Three areas of unrelated color! This was one of the most exciting and different patterns of color that I’ve seen so far. The flower is

a little bigger than its parents but still small by modern standards, which is ok with me. I like small flowers just fine. The signal of this seedling is a little noisier than I like with pink veins running across the gold and cream, but so many of its other qualities are good that I've been breeding with it and it may be introduced. It has a pretty sibling with a perfect blending of pink and yellow that looks like apricot, a color absent from the vocabulary of 28 chromosome Siberians. It's a color with exciting prospects and I bred it with every robust yellow and pink in the seedling patch last year because, predictably perhaps, the plant is not vigorous. It had two bloomstalks last year while its siblings had twelve. Why is the combination of breakthrough flower and weak plant so common?

This year we should see a lot more grandchildren of **Snow Prince**. What are they going to look like? It's impossible to predict but I'm hoping that **Sarah Tiffney** and **Salamander Crossing**, being more extreme and attractive representatives of their color pattern, will produce even better seedlings.

What a world! Hybridizing is a ball, and there is so much to accomplish. Every spring I feel a new rush of wonder and excitement when I go out to the garden and see what the flowers and I have created together. It's awesome. I'm really glad that I "went back" to the "wild". It has been a great experience and I thank Barbara and David Schmieder, Shirley Pope and especially Sarah Tiffney for making it possible.

*(Some of Sarah's work on differences in color inheritance in sibirica and sanguinea can be found in TSI, vol. 3 no. 4 (Fall '71), and TSI vol. 3 no.9 (Spring '74) Ed.)*

## **THINKING ABOUT YOUTH**

**By Jean 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, “Thinking 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.

The younger members would benefit from a reduced dues rate; even a slight one would be appreciated, and recognition in your publication. Other attractions might include a free collection of your special irises, a basic culture sheet, and, perhaps, a list of hybridizing goals. Another idea might be the opportunity for younger members to test seedlings.

Perhaps you are saying, “I don’t know a single youth member who is interested in Arils or Japanese or Siberians.” Actually, there are quite a few young members interested in specific iris types. Here are just a few examples, there are many more. Kevin Gormley, the 1996 Clarke Cosgrove Award winner belongs to several sections and is a licensed commercial grower in the state of Missouri. Stephanie Rust, also of Region 18 belongs to the Dwarf, Median, Japanese, Historic, Siberian, and Species sections, and is beginning to hybridize.

Andrew Wheeler of Region 1, the 1994 Clarke Cosgrove Award winner, has now graduated to adult membership. He was, and still is, a member of the Siberian, Japanese and species sections and collects *I. setosa* clones, because of their cold-hardiness.

So if you are wondering if attracting youth members would

be beneficial, the answer is a resounding “Yes!” Many of today’s active AIS members started off in the youth ranks, and if asked, youth members are able to contribute more than you might imagine.

Think about fostering a young irisarian in the Siberian section. **THINK ABOUT YOUTH!**

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## **IN SIBERSPACE**

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The following notes were taken from the Siberian E-mail robin between April 6 to 8 of this year.

Rima wrote:

I don't know if anyone saw my posting to the iris-l but I thought it would be worth addressing you sib lovers. My very old established clumps of sibs are showing a bit of emergence but absolutely nothing from the several new ones I put in last year? Am I being too impatient? Also when should I start fertilizing? Many of my sib clumps are off by themselves, but the news ones are in a bed with spring bulbs, JI's and day lilies. I'm not sure what to fertilize with. Can anyone help?

Rima , Upstate NY, Zone 4

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Hi Rima,

About the only thing I would put on your Sibs at this time would be some triple super-phosphate. Just sprinkle it around each clump.

Your new Sibs will probably come along a little later than the established clumps.

Libby Cross

Southwestern Virginia (where spring can't quite make up its mind)

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Hello Rima,

The established clumps will be ahead because they have much more energy to draw on. Your new plants are more than likely putting much of their energy into pushing roots right now. Root growth can occur at low soil temperatures, around 9 deg. C.

Give them a little more time, the other older plants have a head start. Someone just asked me a similar question about lily bulbs.

I don't recommend nitrogenous fertilizers for new plantings until after they show some good growth. This may sound backwards. The new growth is relying on stored energy (in existing plant tissues) to reproduce and re-establish itself. So the best thing for new plants is to treat them well before they are dug and handled. When you give them early fertilizer it actually takes and diverts energy from the plant processes to assimilate and convert the elements into the forms the plants use.

Actually we never or very seldom fertilize at the nursery and we have a "Jungle of Siberians". I concentrate on organic matter enrichment prior to planting. I do use a slow release, Nutricote, for potted stock and occasional liquid feeds after blossoming (10-40-15). A lot of people use Mor-bloom, 0-10-10, I have never tried it.

I remember a few years ago planting a Siberian where I had dumped a lot of well-rotted pig manure. That plant grew like crazy, but it never flowered that year, it went vegetative.

Leroy Kriese/Ambrosia Gardens, Vernon, BC, Canada. Z5

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My established plants here in zone 5-ish are up about 3-4 inches, but the ones I put in last fall are only about 2" tall, so maybe they do come up a little later.

As for fertilizer, I've taken to tossing a palm-full of super-phosphate early in the season. I did this to my roses late last summer and the plants went into a frenzy of fat cane production. I'm hoping that the stuff will promote sturdier spikes and flowers on the sibs. Bone meal supplies similar nutrients (00-big#-00) and is probably 'safer', but I think it needs the warmth and moisture that comes later to start breaking down. Super-phosphate is quicker acting. I'm going easier on the nitrogen for a while; my soil seems very rich generally. Maybe it was too much nitrogen that made my **Caesar's Brother** be totally blind last season.

Bob Dickow, Idaho

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Rima,

Siberians are notoriously slow to establish and may be slow to emerge after transplant. When they are planted, they are often (and should be) planted deeper than they were originally. This keeps the plant from heaving before it has established an extensive root system. Over a few years, the plant will correct its depth to its preference--so just chill out.

I fertilize one of several ways. If I have time (what's that?), I pull back the mulch and give each one a handful of Hollytone (high acid azalea food). When I'm feeling extravagant, I use Osmocote, the

time-release fertilizer that commercial growers often use. At other times, I mix a concentrated solution of Miracid, preferably just before a big rain, and give each plant a VERY small dose. If the rain doesn't come, it's time to pull out the sprinklers. Sometimes, I don't fertilize at all, especially established plants that should be divided.

I think one of the biggest mistakes that gardeners make is over-feeding their plants, especially in making the transition from growing annuals to perennials. Overfeeding can cause more problems than not feeding at all, so always take it in small doses. Hope this helps.

R. Dennis Hager, MD -Z7a

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Hi Rima -

Kathy Guest here. I don't think you should panic yet about your no-show irises. There are a bazillion variables in the garden and any one of them can cause a plant to remain dormant a tad longer. In fact... maybe your OTHER irises are premature.

As for fertilizing... it's a wee bit early since the last frost date in THIS part of the world is Memorial Day. But El Niño has transported us to a better zone this year so we just might be OK. At this point, if you're really itching to do something, I'd go get some of those alfalfa pellets and either sprinkle them, or make a tea.

You very definitely don't want to boost your plants with a chemical Fertilizer now, making them more vulnerable if we're slapped back to reality with some typical NY spring weather.

Kathy Guest - her considered opinion - in East Aurora, NY

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Yes Rima, very few Siberians up here and I am close to your zone. High altitude, it does not need to be an Alp, slows emergence in the spring. Then the plants grow faster than flatland. I have only some species up and showing so you need not worry yet. The previous information offered on "notoriously slow to establish" is good info, you may find only a few shoots the first year.

Claire Peplowski, East Nassau, NY. Zone 4

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Hi Rima,

The question you asked is interesting for me to tell you how Siberian irises live. Some years ago, while on a visit to Dr. Rodionenko, who is very good expert especially for Siberians, he told me that Siberians, having tiny rhizomes, accumulate little energy. However, when they are growing in the wild in moist places they have the possibility all season to grow without stop, and they make photosynthesis and accumulate nitrogen. As the rhizome is tiny and there is little storage room, the plant sends excess nitrogen to the soil! Next year when it starts to grow it uses self-made nitrogen fertilizer. This is the reason why it is easy to over-fertilize Siberians. I never use nitrogen fertilizer for Siberians, only limited over-rotted manure or compost. Keeping the Siberian plant growing area moist helps it to make better energy and put it in the soil.

With young plants, this is what I do: in the bottom of the planting hole I put the same compost or manure (here we have available bio-humus, a very rich compost) and cover with about 5 cm of soil, then plant the division. That is the way I planted my new Siberians. They started to grow ahead of the old clumps and I am very satisfied by the results of wintering, despite a very moist winter, which young Siberians do not like. My advice is to be patient and do not use fertilizer early, and later, only moderately, when plants have reached several inches in height. Keep them moist all season if



the rainfall isn't enough.

Edmundas Kondratas, Kaunas, Lithuania.

**ADDENDUM:**

The Siberian E-mail robin's roster now numbers 47 Siberian enthusiasts. We tend to be cyclical, like all E-mail discussion groups or mailing lists, with some weeks being extremely busy. The immediacy of the information still startles me. The feeling of being connected (literally) with the other 46 people in the group and having E-mail vehicles to 'speak' with one or all of the "Sibrobbbers" is, simply, a gift. We make it work and have fun doing it. Interestingly, we are very topical and rarely, if ever, stray from the discussion of Siberians irises or plants in general.

Ellen Gallagher, Director of SIBROB  
Lancaster, New Hampshire, USA

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## AN UPDATE ON SIBERIAN IRISES IN JAPAN

By Bob Hollingworth \_\_\_\_\_

*(Editor's note: This article follows up on one on Siberian irises in Japan that was printed in TSI in Spring 1992)*

Last May I was invited to travel to Japan for a scientific meeting on pesticides. Since this meeting was scheduled in the Tokyo area around the bloom time for Siberians, it was irresistible to try to combine irises with science and make some visits to Siberian iris breeders in Japan. This proved to be remarkably simple in one way. Mr. Hiroshi Shimizu acted as my initial contact, and he informed me that he had stopped working on Siberians a couple of years ago to concentrate on Japanese iris breeding -- understandable in view of the great interest in hanoshobu in Japan, but a loss to the Siberian effort nonetheless. As described in his article in TSI in 1992, he has collected six-fall forms of Siberians from different sources and developed some seedlings of his own. He kindly sent me two of these, Roku Oji ("Six Princes") and Ama-no-hane ("Wings of Heaven"), last spring, and we are looking forward to seeing these flower for us this year.

He told me that the only Siberian iris breeder now active in Japan is Mr. Ho Shidara. Some of you may have met Mr. Shidara when he visited the 1993 Siberian Convention in Michigan. Others will be familiar with two of his irises, **Helicopter** and **Rikugi Sakura**, that were introduced in the U.S. in 1988 through Melrose Gardens. Several others such as Kita-no-seiza, Nagareboshi, Uzio and Ranman have been passed around after the 1993 Convention. A couple of these were pictured in the Fall 1993 TSI. These cultivars have created interest since they have either a six-fall or a multi-petal form that is quite novel in Siberians. Since visiting Mr. Shidara

was my main iris goal in Japan, it was good to learn that he was still active, but a significant barrier remained. Mr. Shidara speaks and reads English as well as I speak and read Japanese, which is to say, not at all. Fortunately I have a Japanese-speaking colleague at Michigan State University, Dr. Satoru Miyazaki, who was also going to the meeting in Japan, and he agreed to take an extra day or two to go along with me to act as an interpreter.

The arrangements were all made and we set off from Tokyo on the remarkably efficient Japanese train system to Kawagoe, about 30 miles out of Tokyo, where Mr. Shidara lives. As luck would have it, it was raining hard; the only wet day of the whole trip! We debated rearranging the visit until after the scientific meeting ended, but we were already near the end of the Siberian bloom season and it seemed better to see flowers and get wet than stay dry and look at seed pods a week later.

A bowl of soba noodles and a quick taxi ride later we arrived at Mr. Shidara's modern house and were greeted by him and his daughter. We spent about an hour and a half talking about Siberian irises with him. He showed us many photographs of his creations and gave us a copy of a recent article<sup>1</sup> on hybridizing Siberians that he has written which gave some additional background on his efforts. The story is fascinating.

As translated by Satoru, Mr. Shidara started breeding Siberian irises almost 50 years ago. He is now 88 years old and still remarkably active. He spent his career as a teacher of agriculture and retired about 25 years ago, at which time he increased his hybridizing activity. What led him to work with "ayame" -- the Japanese name for Siberian irises (and, it seems, also the generic name for "iris" in Japan)? He said that he felt sorry for ayame because they were so neglected in

Japan and wanted to make them as beautiful as the hanoshobu (Japanese irises).

Finding a pinkish form of *I. sanguinea* while visiting a farm got him excited enough to begin a breeding program. He also confirmed that he is the only active Siberian iris breeder in Japan, although he told us that he leads an ayame discussion group of about 25 people and was trying to persuade some of them to get started as hybridizers so that his advances would not be lost.

And he has made some remarkable advances. Working more or less alone in Japan he has developed six-fall and multipetal forms of great interest and also, in an effort parallel to that of Currier McEwen, has obtained some yellow amoenas with quite strong color by line breeding from creamy whites. Examples include Shin Meigetsu ("New Bright Moon") and Subaru ("The Pleiades"). From these amoenas he has recently developed some interesting color combinations of yellow with lavender (near apricot) and with wine red colors that are only just beginning to appear in the lines of U.S. breeders. These developments of form and color have come primarily from selections of varieties of *I. sanguinea* found in Japan.

The multi-petal forms have a large but indefinite number of petals and petaloids (for an example, see the dissected version of a flower of this type in the Spring 1997 TSI). This form has been known for a long time in Japan. According to Mr. Shidara, about 200 years ago Matsudaira Sakiugo wrote a book (Hanashou Baiyouroku) on the cultivation of hanoshobu in which he mentioned that he had seen a multi-petaled Siberian iris and this inspired him to work for this trait in the hanoshobu, which was then unknown. This form apparently was not followed up in the Siberians then, but a

blue multi-petal Siberian was rediscovered on a farm near Nagoya a few years ago, and Mr. Shidara got some seeds from which he has developed a range of cultivars. I was particularly impressed by pictures of the clear lavender-pink Shukuen (“Festivity”), and Manju (“Long Life”), a mid-blue with a small clear signal area.

The six-fall trait is one that Mr. Shidara said he has not seen in the wild in Japan, although examples of previously known six-fall forms are described in the 1992 TSI series on Siberians irises in Japan. Mr. Shidara obtained his own forms when he first noticed a tendency for standards to become falls in a white seedling about 25 years ago. This tendency was variable and incomplete, but on selfing this iris, regular six-fall cultivars were produced e.g. Shirosagi (“White Heron”). He has developed many lovely six-fall irises from this start. My favorite was Sakura Bijin (“Cherry Blossom Beauty”), a light violet self that fades to a white center and has lovely form and fullness. This is one of three of his six-fall seedlings that have received seedling registration status from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, a fact that gave Mr. Shidara much satisfaction. The others are Edo Bijin (“Edo Beauty”) and Kita Bijin (“Northern Beauty”). Another lovely example in this series is Shihoushou (Purple Phoenix), a dark purple with a large blaze pattern.

Almost all of Mr. Shidara’s six-fall irises have a fairly flat form. However he did have one example (“Golden Dragon”) where the six petals are pendant. Although this had a rather stiff and open form, it does demonstrate another range of possibilities for Siberian forms. An interesting aspect of Mr. Shidara’s work is that around 1980 he had some seed irradiated at the Isotope Institute in Tokyo through the assistance of Dr. Hirao. He felt that this had increased the rate of appearance of six-fall forms.

After getting this background on Mr. Shidara's long work with Siberians, we headed out into the rain armed with umbrellas and, in my case, a pair of rubber boots borrowed from Mr. Shidara that were at least two sizes too small. The Kawagoe Ayame Garden seemed to consist of about 0.5 acre under cultivation with maybe a third or half devoted to Siberians. The soil is reddish, of volcanic origin and with a high clay content. It was pretty sticky in the rain. Mr. Shidara has been using the same plot of land for many years and has been running into problems with poor growth on his Siberians because of continuous culture. This was evident in some stunting of cultivars in places. The bloom was well past peak, but we were able to see some of his plants still in flower. Several multipetal cultivars were in bloom. They can be very attractive when a degree of symmetry is present, and they develop a rose-like appearance. In other cases (particularly some older seedlings such as the one collected in the field), the number of petals is quite variable and the flowers can look untidy and somewhat formless. According to Mr. Shidara, his multipetal forms generally have a pleasant fragrance, which is noticeable on warm days. Interestingly, this fragrance is limited to the multipetal types.

Only a few six-fall forms were still in flower, but one (Shin Kitabijin; "New Northern Beauty") caught my attention because of a strong clump effect. It is a bright mid wine-red with a white signal and rather open form. Mr. Shidara's yellow amoenas had a typical three-petal, sanguinea form and were comparable to **Butter and Sugar** in color intensity. Branching was not too evident, reflecting their sanguinea origins. The most interesting seedlings were coming from crosses of these yellow amoenas with pinks and wine reds. The result was some shades new to Siberians -- amoenas with complex orchid/peach shades approaching apricot. These show great promise for the future.



**The Author with Mr. Shidara and his Daughter**  
**Photo: Dr. Satoru Miyazaki**

Among Mr. Shidara's current breeding goals are the development of crosses between *I. tectorum* and *I. sanguinea*, and the development of a pure red Siberian. He travels regularly to several locations in China to help establish show gardens of Siberian and Japanese irises, which are not currently well known there. We should all hope for such energy and ambitious goals at age 88!

On returning to the house, we had a warming cup of tea and made arrangements to exchange irises and for us to register his cultivars already being distributed in the US. As a side

note, it has been exciting to see that all but one of the cultivars he subsequently sent us made it through this winter. Mr. Shidara also agreed to send them to Iowa for the 2000 Siberian Convention. I hope they have survived there too.

We returned to Tokyo wet but satisfied and stimulated. In typical Japanese fashion Mr. Shidara insisted on driving us to the train station and paying our train fares back to Tokyo.

Mr. Shidara told us that his irises are on display at several well-known iris gardens in Japan, and that he has sent some of his best Siberians to two major plant nurseries in Japan. They are now selling well, so perhaps we may hope for a rise in the appreciation of Siberian irises in their own country.

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<sup>1</sup> Ho Shidara, *Aiming at Hybridization and Interspecific Crossing* Nogyo Gijutsu Taikai, Kaki Hen, Vol. 5 (Agricultural Technology Review, Flower Section) p.177-184, 1995. Nobunkyo. (In Japanese).

*(we still have the video, taped by Bill and Ada Godfrey, from the 1993 Siberian Convention in Michigan, which covers Mr. Shidara's talk. If anyone is interested in taking a look, please contact the editor)*

### **SOME ADDITIONAL NOTES ABOUT SIX-FALL SIBERIANS**

Mr. Shidara's observation of the occurrence of plants with variable (but usually incomplete) conversion of standards to falls is something I have seen among our seedlings several times. Often the conversion is incomplete, not just in terms of the number of standards that appear as "falls", but also in that only a portion of the ex-standard has the fall patterning



and the rest retains the coloring of the original standard. In one seedling that first bloomed for me in 1983, six-falled flowers were common, but at that time I was not looking for this trait, thought it was an “aberration”, and eventually discarded the plant! Mr. Shidara’s six-fall forms at the 1993 Convention interested me enough to begin a belated effort to get back to what we had thrown away 15 years before by using some of his cultivars in a breeding program.

I assumed that, as in the Japanese irises, the six-fall trait would be recessive, so in crosses between the three-fall and six-fall forms, the progeny will be entirely three-fall. This turned out to be correct in several crosses involving Nagareboshi or Kita-no-seiza with typical three-fall Siberians. However a cross of the six-fall Haresugata with another three-fall seedling of mine gave all sorts of combinations and partial conversions including some seedlings with six-falls. Obviously the situation is not so simple as a single recessive gene giving an all or nothing six-fall form. This agrees with the observation of occasional spontaneous partial conversions among seedlings. Second generation crosses of the 3 fall x six-fall progeny with their sibs or with six-fall irises began to flower in 1997 and showed a number of six-fall types, as expected, but too few flowered to get a good idea of the relative numbers -- that’s for this next bloom season.

One of the objectives here is to try for a yellow six-fall form working from yellow amoenas. Since this would have all falls and no standards, it should give the first all-yellow Siberian (at least in the 28 chromosome group). Another goal is to get large signal areas and color contrasts between styles and falls. The former type should be spectacular because of having six rather than three of the strongly patterned falls, and the stylearm contrast also is revealed very prominently in

the six-fall types.

Success in meeting these objectives may go some way to diverting the inevitable criticism that in exploring the six-fall form, we are simply making mini-Japanese iris (although even if this were all that was achieved, a “Japanese” iris with the habits of a Siberian would be worth having). Although the multiplication of petals is also a characteristic of many Japanese irises, the same trends in Siberians will produce flowers that are quite different in appearance and in landscape value. The next few years will tell if they provide an attractive addition to the range of Siberians for the garden or are just a passing curiosity.

A LISTING OF SIX-FALL AND MULTI-PETAL FORMS\*  
FROM JAPAN

<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Translation</u> (by Dr.Miyazaki)	<u>Form</u>
-----------------	--	-------------

Shidara cultivars present in the U.S. since 1993 or earlier

Haresugata	“Dressed as a Debutante”	Six-fall
Helicopter	----	Six-fall
Kita-no-seiza	“Northern Constellation”	Six-fall
Kokuu	“Emptiness”	Multi
Nagareboshi	“Shooting Star”	Six-fall
Ranman	“Full Blossom”	Multi
Rikugi Sakura	”Elegant Cherry Blossom”	Six-fall
Uzushio	“Eddy (in a stream)”	Multi

### Shimizu cultivars received in 1997

Ama-no-hane	“Wings of Heaven”	Six-fall
Roku Oji	“Six Princes”	Six-fall

### Shidara cultivars received in 1997

Ginrei	“Silver Peak”	Multi
Kooro	“Red Dew”	?
Shihoushou	“Purple Phoenix”	Six-fall
Shin Kitabijin	“New Northern Beauty”	Six-fall
Shukuen	“Banquet”	Multi

The terminology for these forms is tricky. To a botanist, the falls of an iris are sepals, not petals. The standards are the petals. To call the “six-fall” type “six-petal” is technically incorrect, although it is done frequently and I expect that everyone knows what it means. They are really “six-sepal” forms. The possibility of confusion would really increase if you started referring to the conventional iris form of three standards and three falls as the three-petal form – generally inferring that they have three falls compared to six, but actually saying they have three standards. Of course, that’s not incorrect, but I doubt if most readers understand it that way. So I have called this form “six-fall” here. The “multi-petal” form has to be a compromise in terminology since strange things have happened to all the parts of the flower so that it probably would be difficult to decide what is a standard, what is a fall, and what is a reproductive part converted to a petaloid form. Simplicity suggests that we just call them all “petals”, hence the use of “multi-petal” here. I hope this makes sense. It has the advantage of being in accord with the nomenclature used for similar forms of Japanese irises.

## PROLIFERATIONS ON SIBERIAN BLOOM STALKS

*(By the Editor, from written and verbal communication with Barbara Nicodemus)*

Last winter, Barbara Nicodemus of Buffalo, Missouri, wrote to tell us about an unusual occurrence in her Siberian garden last fall.

Barbara has 500+ clumps of Siberians, and when she was running behind on gardening chores, after the 1997 bloom season, she asked her husband to go through the irises and cut off the spent flower heads to prevent them from going to seed.

When Barbara started to replant some of the cultivars in September of that year, she happened to notice a bloom stalk on the ground that had two small plantlets on the stem. These plantlets, (proliferations, botanically speaking), had leaves about half an inch tall, and one or two roots. She found one on a stem of **Moon Silk**, one on two different stems of **Devil's Dream** and two on one stalk of **Roaring Jelly**.

They were potted up, still attached to the stem, and because of the lateness of the year, brought indoors. Unfortunately, Barbara says indoor gardening is not her thing, and she lost the plantlets to rot.

I talked to Jean Witt, and asked her if proliferations had been noted in irises before. Jean said that they were not unusual occurrences in many plants, and that she thought someone had once reported finding them on a Tall Bearded iris. She added that their appearance on Barbara's Siberians could have been due to unusual climatic conditions, (the fall weather apparently was very cloudy and foggy), but that

many other factors could be involved.

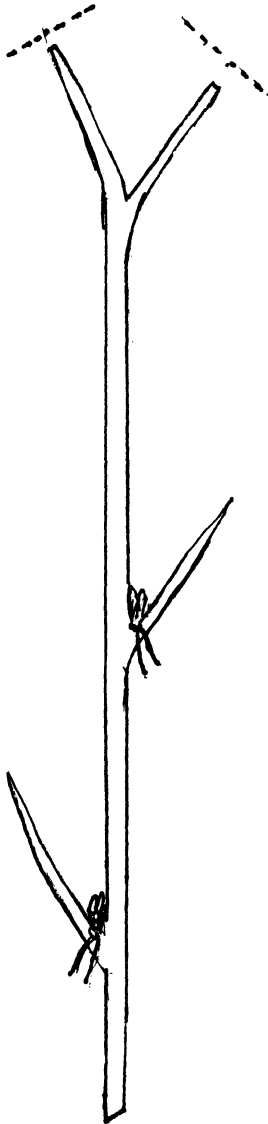
Jean thought that the plantlets, if grown to blooming size, would be identical to the parent plant, but that this was not certain and that it would be valuable to grow them up. She suggested that if anyone else finds this interesting growth form on their Siberians that they plant the proliferations directly in the ground and care for them as they would any new plant. Once they have formed roots they should be self-sufficient.

Whilst it appears that this is a rare occurrence, it is certainly a very interesting one, and should encourage some of you to leave bloom stalks in place this year. Congratulations to Barbara for being so observant.

If anyone else has found these proliferations on Siberians, please write and let me know. If anyone finds them in the future, be sure to take a photograph, my drawing skills are very limited!



**SIBERIAN BLOOM STALK SHOWING POSITION OF THE PROLIFERATIONS**



**Flowers cut off**

**Plantlet in axil of bract**

## 1997 REGISTRATIONS AND INTRODUCTIONS

**BERLIN-CAPE CONNECTION** (O.D. Niswonger, R. 1997). Sdlg. CS 1-93. SPEC-X, 36" (91 cm), M. S. medium blue: style arms light blue: F. light blue, small yellow signal, venation spreading from signal. (Starting Calsibe x converted yellowish calsibe seedling, parentage unknown) X unknown. Cape Iris 1997.

**BLACKBERRY JUBILEE** (Marty Schafer/ Jan Sacks, R. 1997). Sdlg. S90-38-2. SIB, 36" (91 cm), ML. S. dappled red violet, veined darker: style arms pearly blue, red violet flush and crest edge, aqua midrib, semi-upright: F. color of S., small signal white, yellow green at center, blue violet veining; ruffled. Trim the Velvet X S87-10-1: (Mad Magenta x Percheron). Joe Pye Weed 1997.

**BLAUMACHER** (Tomas Tamberg, R. 1997). Sdlg. SSTT259. SIB (tet.), 30" (76 cm), M. Light medium blue: falls wide. Lady of Quality X converted seedling.: (SSTT152 x Berlin Delft). Schoepfinger 1997.

**BLUEBERRY FAIR** (Robert Hollingworth, SIB, R. 1996). Windwood Gardens 1997.

**CARL REBERT** (J. Owings Rebert, R. 1997). Sdlg. FY-C1. SIB, 36" (91 cm), M. Solid purple self, F. with greenish tan throat and ivory signal. Pansy Purple X unknown.

**CHARTREUSE ENCORE** (Currier McEwen, R. 1997). Sdlg. T(1)84/80. SIB (tet.), 26" (65 cm), EML & RE. S. white, veined pale chartreuse green (RHS 1C): style arms wide, white midribs and tufts greenish yellow (1B): F. pale chartreuse green (1C) ground veined deeper (1A), hafts and

blaze Dresden yellow (5A) with yellow green (154A) veining; ruffled. Butter and Sugar X Ruffled Velvet .. colchicine treated.

**COUNTESS CATHLEEN** (Marty Schafer/Jan Sacks, R. 1997). Sdlg. S91-9-1. SIB, 30" (76 cm), M. S. very pale blue violet (lighter than RHS 91D), pale blue violet veining; style arms same, with yellow heart, tiny ruffles; F. pale violet blue (91C/D) with darker (93B/C) shoulder edge and veining; signals clean white, light green center, yellow at haft edges, veined blue violet (93B). S89-9-2: (Isabelle x Silver Illusion) X S88-6-2: (Isabelle x Sailor's Fancy). Joe Pye Weed 1997.

**DREAMING LATE** (Tomas Tamberg, R. 1997). SIB (tet.), 35" (89 cm), M. Large white, F. flared. SSTT177: (white McEwen tet. Sdlg. X white Tamberg tet. sdlg.) X Dreaming Green. Schoeppinger 1997.

**ENID BURGOYNE** (Enid Burgoyne, deceased, by Jennifer Hewitt, R. 1997). Sdlg. BUR/1. SIB, 36" (91 cm), M. S. white; style arms pale cream, flecked faint violet; F. Naples yellow (RHS 11C), deep yellow hafts veined light violet and turquoise, signal absent; small flowers, S. upright, F. long-hafted, blade rounded. Parentage unknown.

**FLOSSIE BOBBSEY** (Elaine Hulbert, R. 1997). SPEC (sanguinea), 5" (13 cm), M. Ruffled blue violet, F. with large round white signal with sharp blue veins; flat form. Seed from Florence Stout. Parentage unknown.

**HARPSWELL'S PRINCESS KAREN** (Currier McEwen, SIB, R. 1996). Eartheart Gardens 1997.

**HEAVENLY POND** (Daniel Thruman, R. 1997). Sdlg. 97-384. SIB, 37" (94 cm), M. S. violet blue (RHS 94A), darker



veining; style arms hyacinth to wisteria blue (91B to 92B), turquoise midrib; F. cornflower blue (95A), brownish on outer haft, white signal speckled and veined violet blue. Halcyon Seas X Swank.

**HELLBLAUER RIESE** (Tomas Tamberg, R. 1997). SIB (tet.), 40" (102 cm), M. Large light blue. Light blue sdlg. X medium blue sdlg. Schoeppinger 1997.

**JATINWANE** (Calvin Helsley, SIB, R. 1993). Helsley 1997.

**LICHTERFELDIUS** (Tomas Tamberg, R. 1997). SIB, 50-60" (125-150 cm), M. S. and style arms medium blue; F. white, blue line pattern. *I. sibirica* x unidentified blue. Joe Pye Weed 1997.

**MARCUS PERRY** (Amos Perry, deceased, by Jennifer Hewitt, R. 1997). SIB, 30" (76 cm), EM. S. blue violet (RHS 94A), short, upright; style arms blue violet: F. slightly deeper blue violet, darker veins, signal white veined blue violet. Parentage unknown. Perry's Hardy Plant Farm, ca. 1930.

**MELTON RED FLARE** (Thompson & Morgan by Keith Sangster, R. 1997). Seed strain. SIB, 36-43" (91-110 cm), M. S. wine red: F. lighter wine red, pale wine red signal with darker veins; Slight fragrance. Selection from seedling lines. Thompson & Morgan 1989 as "Red Flare".

**MICHAEL FREDERICK STEVENS** (J. Owings Rebert, R. 1997). Sdlg. UG-F1. SIB, 28" (71 cm), M. S. violet blue; F. slightly deeper, maroon brown to ivory hafts and signal. Parentage unknown.

**NEAT TRICK** (John White, SIB, R. 1994). Pope's Perennials 1997.

**PATTY KAY HALL** (Jack Norrick, R. 1997). Sdlg. 91S-1A. SIB, 30" (76 cm), L. S. blue violet; style arms aqua; F. blue violet, small white signal. Grand Junction X unknown.

**RAGTIME DANCE** (Robert Hollingworth, SIB, R. 1992). Windwood Gardens 1997.

**RIVERDANCE** (Marty Schafer/ Jan Sacks, R. 1997). Sdlg. S90-13-1, SIB, 40-45" (102-114 cm), M. S. cornflower blue (RHS 95A/B); style arms cornflower blue, white wire edge; F. brighter cornflower blue, shoulders flecked white, white wire edge, white signal yellow in center and veined cornflower blue; rolled ruffling. Forest McCord X Jaybird. Joe Pye Weed 1997.

**ROMANTIC DREAM** (Daniel Thruman, R. 1997). SIB, 28" (71 cm), E. S. lavender pink (RHS 76B); style arms white, feathered; F. deeper lavender pink (76A), white signal veined lavender pink, white edge, golden brown haft veining. Summer Sky X Lavender Bounty.

**ROSY OUTLOOK** (Calvin Helsley, SIB, R. 1993). Helsley 1997.

**ROVNINY** (Zdenek Seidl, R. 1997). Sdlg. 88-MRx/1. SIB, 27" (70 cm), M. S. pale pinkish lilac; F. light lilac. Mrs. Rowe X unknown.

**SANDY DARLENE** (J. Owings Rebert, R. 1997). SIB, 30" (76 cm), M. S. blue violet, very erect; style arms slightly lighter; F. blue violet, gold and cream signal. Super Ego X unknown.

**SEA VOYAGE** (Calvin Helsley, SIB, R. 1990). Helsley 1997.

**SILENT DREAMS** (O.D. Niswonger, R. 1997). Sdlg. 2-94. SPEC-X, 32" (81 cm), M. Pale yellow self, F. with gold signal veined brown. Seed from Tomas Tamberg. Starting Calsibe X converted yellowish calsibe, parentage unknown. Cape Iris 1997.

**SORAK BLUE** (Jean Witt, R. 1997). SPEC (sanguinea), 24-30" (61-76 cm), M. S. and style arms medium blue; F. slightly deeper medium blue, inconspicuous white signal, hafts veined brown; spathes green. Collected 1982 near Sorak National Park, Korea. Unnamed but in commerce since 1985. Northwest Hybridizers.

**SPACE FILLED** (Tomas Tamberg, R. 1997). Sdlg. SSTT279. SIB (tet.), 32" (81 cm), M. S. light blue; style arms medium blue; F. light to medium blue; large, standards upright. Blue Reverie X 8421 medium blue: (Zweites Hundert x Dear Dianne). Joe Pye Weed 1997.

**TARA PAIGE** (J. Owings Rebert, R. 1997). Sdlg. NP-E1. SIB, 24" (61 cm), M. Blue violet self, brown haft markings and ivory signal. Parentage unknown.

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## NEW MEMBERS - Compiled By Howard Brookins

### A hearty welcome to the following new members:

*Carneal, Violet M.* 206 Jett Dr. Fredericksburg VA 22405  
*Connolly, Marcia D.* 6 Green Way, Chelmsford MA 01824  
*Dietrich, George E.* R2, Box 212, Walla Walla WA 99362  
*Gee, Gail* 12141 Nicholar Dr, Fulton MD 20759  
*Greene, Timothy L.* 3054 Spencer Trail, Lenoir NC 28654  
*Horvath, Roberta L.* 2717 Belmont Ave, Ardmore PA 19003  
*Jones, Samuel E.* PO Box 184, Limestone TN 37681  
*Judy, Audrey A.* 7300 N Bell Rd, Columbia MO 65202  
*Kriese, M/M Leroy,* Ambrosia Gardens PO Box 1135,  
Vernon British Columbia V1T 6N4 CANADA  
*Kuykendall, William R.* R2, Box 232, Keyser WV 26726  
*Lee, Patti,* 7635 Alden Way Fridley MN 55432  
*Leonardo, M/M Steve V. Jr.* 1128 Blanchard St,  
Downers Grove IL 60516  
*Lewis, Laura J.* 4465 S 1750 W, Spanish Fork UT 84660  
*Moll, Mike* PO Box 67, Manitowish Waters WI 54545  
*North, Melanie* 1505 Villa Real, Gilroy CA 95020  
*Oldaker, Guy B.* 1734 Oldaker Ln, Culpepper VA 22701  
*Peplowski, Claire* 6951 NY Rt 66, East Nassau NY 12062  
*Pfarr, Marlene* 3833 Blenheim Rd, Phoenix MD 21131  
*Pinder, Mary* 1467 S Ward St, Lakewood CO 80228  
*Samotis, Ruth E.* 2618 Hebron Rd, Hendersonville NC 28739  
*Smith, Jeaniene* 202 1<sup>st</sup> St, E., Saskatoon SK S7H 1R9 CANADA  
*Sulpizio, Virginia L.* 85 Rancheria Rd, Kentfield CA 94094  
*Tams, Mrs. Merlin* 37 N 200 East, Box 157, Wellsville UT 84339  
*Traylor, David L.* 7724 Hickory Rd, Petersburg VA 23803  
*Van Landuyt, Dennis C. & Merritt R.* R3 Box 359, Versailles  
MO 65084  
*Wells, Olga* 24 Westwood Rd, Maidstone Kent ME15 6BE  
UNITED KINGDOM

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## LAST WORD

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First, I owe an apology to our overseas members. It has always been our policy to mail copies of TSI travelling abroad by airmail. However, with the Fall 1997 issue, I heard from the UK, Belgium, and Russia that copies had traveled by "sl-o-o-o-w" boat. One copy arrived in March!! As they are mailed by the printer, I will be sure to stress to him the necessity for airmail.

Our cover this spring was to have been another print from Curtis Botanical Magazine, this time of *Iris sanguinea*. Unfortunately, when the photo arrived from the Hunt Institute, it was colored a beautiful true bright blue!! Not wishing to create a problem, I decided not to use it. I'm sure, had its blooms been that color when the drawing was done at Messrs. Whitley and Brame's nursery in King's Road, Fulham, England, in 1813, it would have caused a sensation. I suspect the hand coloring was not done from life.

Fortunately, on a trip to San Francisco in April of this year, we made our usual pilgrimage to Golden Gate Park and found a clump of Siberians starting to bloom in the Japanese Garden. An expensive slide film, purchased at the gift shop, a willing husband, and a pair of dirty pants' knees later, I had my cover photograph! Actually, it wasn't quite so amazing as it sounds. We had seen the planting there before and were on the look out for this shot.

Please remember that this is your magazine. Let me know if there is any particular subject you would like covered. All suggestions will be cheerfully received, and all criticism stoically tolerated.

Finally, after searching for references for this issue, it occurred to me that someone might like a winter computer project: that of indexing all the past issues of TSI. Any offers? I can loan the back issues.

## REQUEST FOR BEARDLESS GUEST IRISES FOR 2001

The Susquehanna Iris Society will host the 2001 Convention of the American Iris Society. The Guest Iris Committee invites hybridizers to send guest rhizomes of recent introductions and seedlings of beardless irises under consideration for introduction. Please observe the following guidelines when sending guest irises:

1. Up to three rhizomes of each variety may be shipped.
  2. Guest irises will be accepted from Sept. 1 – Oct. 15, 1998
  3. All official guest irises must be shipped to:

Patricia A. Leader, Iris Guest Chair  
9328 Forest Road  
Glen Rock, PA 17327
  4. The name of the variety, or seedling number, must be clearly marked on each rhizome. In addition, the following information must be *clearly marked* for each plant on a **SEPARATE PACKING LIST**.
    - A. Hybridizer's name and address
    - B. Name or seedling number of the variety
    - C. Type of iris (SIB, SPU, LA).
    - D. Height, color, and bloom season (E,M,L).
    - E. Year of introduction (if introduced).
  5. If a guest seedling is named, it is the responsibility of the hybridizer to notify the Guest Iris Chairwoman not later than December 1, 2000.
  6. A receipt will be mailed to all contributors. Shortly before the convention, contributors will be asked for instructions regarding the distribution of the plants. Failure to reply by June 15, 2001, will be interpreted as permission to destroy all stock. All official guest plants which are to be returned will be shipped postpaid, except to foreign addresses.
  7. The Convention Committee and owners of tour gardens will follow the Code of Ethics as printed in the AIS Convention Handbook.
  8. The Guest Iris Committee will not be responsible for losses beyond its control, and only irises received through the Guest Iris Chairwoman will be listed in the convention booklet.
-

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1:00 - 5:00 P.M.*

### McEwen Siberian Iris Introduction

**HARPSWELL LOVE** (T<sub>6</sub> S83/206): Tetraploid Siberian iris, 30", blooms mid season to late. Magnificent 5" flowers open light green-yellow (RHS 1D) becoming white by day two. Excellent form and branching with round, ruffled 2½" falls and wide tufted styles. A photo appears in McEwen's book, *The Siberian Iris.*, plate#17.....\$35.00

For a descriptive price list of previous introductions  
please send **two 32 cent stamps and your address**

## SIBERIAN CHECK LIST

The check list is again available, updated to include Siberian registrations through 1996. To order, please send a check for \$6.50 per copy (\$10.00 for overseas orders)

to:

*Howard Brookins  
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Menomonee Falls WI 53051*

Please make checks payable to SSI

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*JEWELLED CROWN, OVER IN GLORYLAND @ \$5.00 each  
SILVER ILLUSION, SNOWY MOUNTAIN @ \$15.00 each  
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**CHEHALEM GARDENS, Tom & Ellen Abrego**  
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**DRAYCOTT GARDENS, Carol Warner**  
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**EARTHART GARDENS, Sharon Hayes Whitney**  
R.R. #1, Box 847, South Harpswell, ME 04079  
(see ad pg. 38)

**ENSATA GARDENS, Bob Bauer & John Coble**  
9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053

**FIELDSTONE GARDENS INC., Steve Jones**  
620 Quaker Lane, Vassalboro, ME 04989 phone/fax: 207-  
923-3836. E-mail: fsgarden@pivot.net. Specializing in  
McEwen Siberian irises.

*Commercial Directory continued...*

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