

# The Siberian Iris



Fall 2007





# THE SIBERIAN IRIS

Volume 11 Number 4

Fall 2007

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## **Photos:**

### **Front Cover:**

**Ships Are Sailing** (Schafer/Sacks '98)

Morgan-Wood Medal winner for 2007 (photo courtesy of Schafer/Sacks)

### **Inside Front Cover:**

**Top: Ruffles and Flourishes** (Hollingworth '02)

AM winner in 2007 (photo courtesy of Bob Hollingworth)

**Bottom: China Spring** (Bauer/Coble '99)

AM winner in 2007 (photo courtesy of Bauer/Coble)

## Presidents Letter:



The most exciting thing happening at the moment is that we have formed a committee to explore how we should celebrate our society's fiftieth birthday in 2010. The members are Harold Griffie (chairman), Roy Epperson, Susan Grigg, Rita Gormley, Bob Hollingworth and Anna Mae Miller.

They will present their ideas next spring at the SSI Board meeting in Austin. This is a wonderful reason for a celebration – if you have any ideas please let the committee know – we want it to be as participatory as possible. A little background on how and when SSI was formed is provided in an archives article on page four.

Congratulations to Jan Sacks and Marty Shafer for producing **Ships are Sailing**, the Morgan-Wood Medal Winner for 2007. It has all the attributes for this award - beautiful and vigorous with a fine clump effect. They describe how it was bred and selected on page five. The other Siberian award winners are listed on page five.

At the AIS Convention in Oklahoma City several people mentioned that they had lost plants bought at the Siberian and Species Convention auction in Portland last year because of early shipping. The board discussed the matter and decided that they should try to replace the lost plants since SSI's treasury benefited hugely from the auction. Jim Copeland and Harold Griffie have already replaced some of the plants and we will try to do the same for anyone else who had major losses. Write and let me know at 124 E. Sherwood Rd., Williamston, MI 48895 or e-mail me at [cyberiris@cablespeed.com](mailto:cyberiris@cablespeed.com).

As you will see in the minutes of the SSI Board meeting on page 19, Jill Copeland focused on the fact that Siberian irises

are being routinely mis-labeled in catalogs and botanic and public gardens. As a mixture of *I. sibirica* and *I. sanguinea* (and sometimes *I. typhifolia*), most of today's hybrids are not representatives of a single species. It is incorrect therefore, to label them as *I. sibirica* -- and even worse as *I. siberica*!! I hope that all of you, if you see this mis-labeling in a garden (or catalog) will tactfully suggest that the plants be correctly labeled "Siberian Iris".

I am very happy to report that our publicity position has been filled by Reggie Millette. Reggie is from Quebec, has an extensive background in garden writing and also hosts a weekly radio show; we feel very fortunate to have him as part of our organization. As you read his introduction on page 11 you will surely be infected with his enthusiasm!

We are also in the process of upgrading our web site run by Jim Wilson. If you have any news or good digital photos of Siberians, please send them to Jim and do check out the website at <http://www.socsib.org>.

There is still one position vacant - the biggie – TSI editor. I know there's someone out there who would enjoy this position. We will offer lots of help in locating articles and Ellen Gallagher has agreed to take care of the advertising pages – some familiarity with photo shop and of Siberians would be a help. If you are interested, or can suggest someone who might be, we'd love to hear from you.

Judy

### ***Correction***

*In the Spring 2007 issue of TSI, Howard Brookins was listed as being from Minnesota. As many of you know, Howard was from Wisconsin.*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### The birth of the Society for Siberian Irises as remembered by:

**Sarah Tiffney (TSI, Volume 6, no. 10, pg.7 (1989))**

In 1958 Peg Edwards contacted me about an article she had promised to write for the American Iris Society Bulletin about Siberian Irises. I sent her all the botanical and garden information I had, as did other people, and in the ensuing correspondence we rather encouraged each other in the idea of starting a Siberian Society. There had been a suggestion some years earlier by Geddes Douglas in the AIS Bulletin but apparently nothing came of it.

Peggy's excellent article appeared in the July 1959 Bulletin: in October 1959 Wesley and I had a more specific article about Siberians in New England. The bulletins also carried invitations for persons interested in forming a society to contact Peg or me, to which there was an enthusiastic response.

After a twenty year period in which introductions were scarce, interest in the Siberians was rising. There were two new Siberian robins in flight and another was planned and the members of the robins formed a willing group of volunteers for such an organization.

The Society for Siberian Irises was accepted as a section of the American Iris Society at the Portland Convention in May 1960.

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## 2007 AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AWARDS TO SIBERIANS

### MORGAN-WOOD MEDAL (295 total votes cast)

93 SHIPS ARE SAILING (Marty Schafer & Jan  
Sacks)

*Runners-up:*

58 SOMEBODY LOVES ME (Robert Hollingworth)

50 CARMEN JEANNE (Calvin Helsley)

### AWARD OF MERIT

68 RUFFLES AND FLOURISHES (Robert  
Hollingworth)

64 BANISH MISFORTUNE (Marty Schafer & Jan  
Sacks)

44 CHINA SPRING (Robert Bauer and John Coble)

*Runners-up:*

42 EMILY ANNE (Robert Hollingworth)

40 LAVENDER FAIR (Robert Hollingworth)

### HONORABLE MENTION

48 ON HER TOES (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

37 CHARMING BILLY (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

35 NAVY TRIM (Calvin Helsley)

31 KISS THE GIRL (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

29 GOSSAMER BREEZE (Chandler Fulton)

*Runners-up:*

28 NOT QUITE WHITE (Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks)

26 PINK PEPPER (Robert Bauer & John Coble)

## THE BACKGROUND OF SHIPS ARE SAILING: Morgan-Wood Medal Winner for 2007

By Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer

**Ships Are Sailing** had two seedlings for parents, each of which had some great features as well as serious flaws. The pod parent, S86-8-1, was from **Forrest McCord x Springs Brook**. It had gorgeous, large, velvety deep blue falls, but on its second day of bloom its form drooped terribly. Luckily its purple sibling **Trim the Velvet** '95 did not have this fault. The pollen parent, S89-23-4, was from yellow breeding – a gold-shouldered cream-colored seedling crossed with **Isabelle**. This seedling and its siblings have parented several of our introductions including **In Full Sail** '99, **Summer Revels** '99, **Pennywhistle** '00, and **Banish Misfortune** '99. S89-23-4 was a very intense yellow on day 1, but paled significantly by day 2 or 3. Marty crossed the faulty blue and faulty yellow seedlings to pursue his idea that blue crossed with yellow would produce truer blues. While this did not happen in **Ships Are Sailing**, it did show that two faulty but interesting seedlings could produce a fine iris – even if just blue-violet.

While making crosses is the foundation of any hybridizing effort, selection can be a very tricky part of the process. **Ships Are Sailing** was born in a breakthrough year for our young hybridizing program and it almost didn't get introduced because it was too "ordinary". In 1994 we had 123 new crosses bloom. This was twice as many as we ever had before, and they were full of unusual colors and patterns – our first really good yellows, lots of blue over yellows, preliminary pinks, and **Snow Prince** (Tiffney '90) children including **Sarah Tiffney** '99 and **Salamander Crossing** '99. So a pretty blue-violet face like **Ships Are Sailing** didn't receive much attention. The next year we discussed its fate: "Just another nice blue-violet?" or "Too pretty to get rid of?" We kept it for another year. By the next year it had grown into a substantial clump, still being ignored, and I remember we kept noticing it from a distance and saying



“What’s that beautiful thing?” and then we’d say – “Oh yeah, that’s that old 19-1.” By the middle of that summer the clump had to be moved out to make way for new seedlings. We couldn’t bear to compost it and we lined it out for possible introduction. Over time it developed new qualities including repeat bloom and very nice ruffling, and showed superior vigor, and we received rave reviews from around the country.

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## NEW MEMBERS

We are delighted to welcome the following new members:

Carolyn & Bob Ash  
9313 Alden  
Lenexa, KS 66215

Loreli Bouffard  
2219 Colorado  
Boise, ID 83706

Joan N. Cooper  
212 County Rd. C West  
Roseville, MN 55113

John Fox  
43624 Emerald Dunes Pl.  
Leesburg, VA 20176

Gertrude Hauck  
16611 Banner Beach  
Kendall, NY 14476

Ernie & Ann Henson  
6401 Cedar Rd.  
Luka, IL 62849

Christine Prevost  
12 Winston Ave.  
Buzzard’s Bay, MA 02532

James Russell  
PO Box 236  
West Memphis, AR 72303

Kimberlee Smithton  
3921 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
Woodward, OK 73801

## **SSI DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO ELLEN GALLAGHER**

The Siberian Society Board voted the Distinguished Service Award to Ellen Gallagher for her many hours of service to the society, as editor of *The Siberian Iris* for six years, as organizer and monitor of the Sibrob (the online robin) and for promoting Siberians at the AIS National Conventions by manning the membership tables. Great job, Ellen!



**Ellen receives her award at the Siberian Section  
meeting in Oklahoma City**

# A SIBERIAN REBLOOM THEORY

By Terry Aitken

For many years, we have enjoyed an extended bloom season on our Siberian irises. Probably the latest bloom we had was a year when we were moving an acre of plants and some stray pieces got left behind. They were not watered, fertilized or weeded but they remained in bloom well into August. At the time, I thought this was “normal”. It was not until we started growing Marky Smith’s Siberians that we became aware of this unique feature. In the second year of growth in our yard, **Haleakala** (Smith ‘06) remained in bloom from mid May until early August. When we told Marky, she said she had never seen extended bloom on **Haleakala** in her yard. We began to speculate on what environmental conditions could be responsible for this variation in behavior.

Marky lives on the eastern slopes of the Cascade mountain range in Washington state, maybe 100 miles east of us as the crow flies. Their temperatures run much hotter in summer and much colder in winter. Our garden lies between the Cascade Mountains and the Coast range with much Pacific Ocean influence (cool nights), a coastal marine climate? Our soils are subject to leaching from heavy rains, whereas Marky’s soils are much drier. Our soils are on the wet side and are pH 5.6 whereas Marky’s soils are on the dry side and are pH 7.0.

I tried to come up with a theory as to why a Siberian iris would rebloom in one climate (the wet side of the mountains) and not another (the dry side of the mountains). I obtained a soil (or compost) thermometer and stuck it in the middle of our Siberian field. It penetrated about 12” deep into the root zone of the Siberian clumps. During bloom season in May, the soil temperature was constant at 60 degrees. Rebloom continued through June and on into late July. Our soil temp remained at 60 degrees. Then in late July, we had a heat wave with air temps

near 100 degrees. Soil temperature rose to 68 degrees. Rebloom stopped. Could soil temperature be the key?

Only a few specific clones seem to rebloom or respond to these environmental conditions. **Coronation Anthem** is the grand champion with **Majestic Overture** (from **Coronation Anthem**) right behind. **Haleakala** runs neck and neck, **Devil's Dream**, **Careless Sally**, and **Reddy Or Not** all put on a reliable display. Most of these will bloom for 2 to 3 months until the soil heats up.

This may be useful information for people trying to grow Siberians in warmer climates. To keep soils cool, several inches of mulch are effective. Wood shavings are good because they stay loose. Applications of irrigation water that is cool might be helpful. Evaporation of water in the wood shavings would also have a cooling influence. Half day shade is a cooling influence, and avoiding solar heat by utilizing north facing slopes helps.

Not far away, Chad Harris has had excellent luck keeping Japanese irises in bloom almost all summer. In his case, he is watering heavily with mountain spring water (cool) which may be keeping the soil temperature down. He also mulches heavily with compost which would prevent solar heating of the soil.

It is fortunate that we happen to live in a climate that allows rebloom to occur naturally. A byproduct of this phenomenon is that we can work on breeding Siberians in the more relaxed days following Bearded iris bloom season using, exclusively, those Siberian varieties that grace our fields during June and July. Of course, we are then selecting seedlings which also exhibit extended bloom. Perhaps, someday, this feature will become strong enough to delight gardeners in more diverse climates.

(You can view Siberian irises enjoying the cool Pacific Coast climate at Terry's place (Salmon Creek Garden) on the back cover in a photo taken at the 2006 Portland AIS convention)

## **MY GOAL IS TO HEAR MORE ABOUT SIBERIAN IRISES!**

**By Reggie Millette**

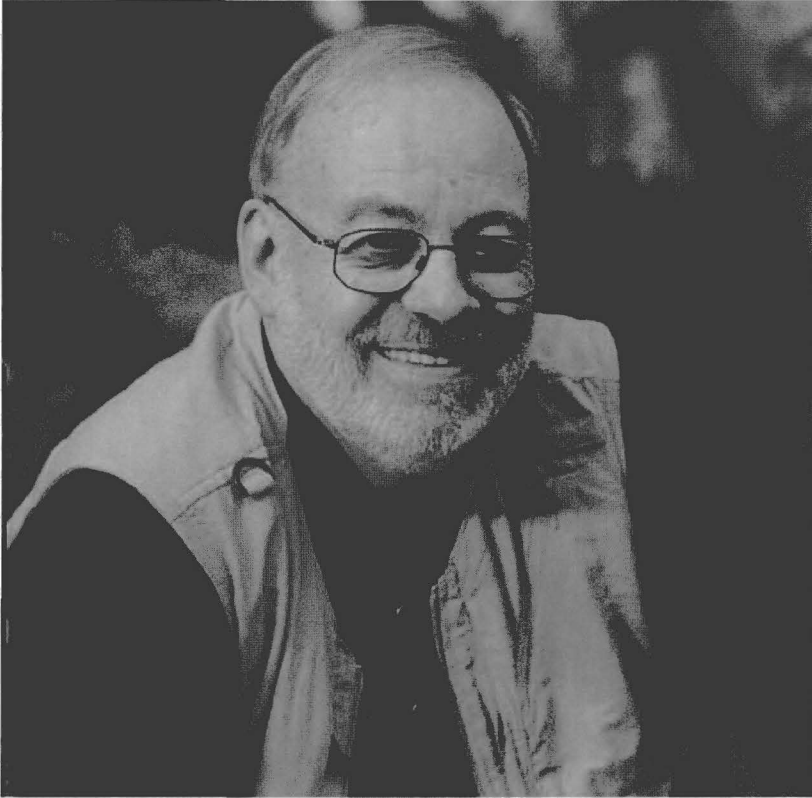


Photo : © Josée Lambert

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Today I would like to introduce myself to the Siberian group.

My career in gardening started only twelve years ago. I was working as a real estate broker and that type of work resulted in a severe burnout. For many years my only pastime was golfing.



I never made a garden and I had no intention of doing so. But the doctor told me: 'If you want to relieve stress, have fun in your garden'.

So for a few months I did nothing, not believing the doctor. One day I said to myself: 'It's time to try what the doctor told me'.

The property where my wife and I was less than 9000 square feet including the house and there was only a yellow lawn and no flowers. After talking to the nurseryman I tried to make a first flower bed: roses and salvias. As I also had lots of shade my neighbor gave me a green plant (sorry, but at that time I didn't know it was a hosta). That plant did so well in my shaded area that someone gave me another common one and this confirmed me that I had a green thumb. I didn't know then that hostas were easy plants for any garden.

Everyday I was in the garden and few weeks later my health had improved immensely without any trace of that burnout. The doctor was right, I was now paying attention to nature and taking the time to relax.

One day a television broadcaster asked me to appear on his show to let the viewers know how my health changed just by having fun in the garden. With this 30 minutes interview I became an important symbol, and recognized on the street. Soon every garden magazine and newspaper had an interview with me. Even the HGTV channel 'Gardeners Diary' came to visit me from Atlanta.

I founded the Quebec Hosta and Hemerocallis Society affiliated to the Montreal Botanical Garden. I am still the president after seven years and the Club has around 300 members.

My passion was for hostas and nothing was written on the subject in French. I went to hear every garden speaker, watched every garden television show and even took different courses at the Montreal Botanical Garden. Invited to a book launching I met with an Editor and mentioned to him that there was nothing written in French on hostas. He promptly assigned me to write

this book. Two years later it was written, printed and sold everywhere. The first printing was sold out in a month, then a second and third run.

With this success he asked me to write more books and the subjects chosen were daylilies, followed by irises, and now I am writing my fourth book on dwarf conifers.

I traveled a lot to learn about these plants because I didn't know enough about gardening. I can tell you that after two years of research, travel, visits in gardens and meeting with growers, I know a lot more than many regular gardeners. Meeting with the big stars (David Schreiner agreed to write the foreword of my book on irises) gave me a chance to learn directly from experienced people. You learn a lot faster that way.

I joined the American Hosta, American Hemerocallis, American Iris and American Conifer societies. I wrote articles on hostas and daylilies for the society newsletters. I participated in many of their conventions and I took thousands of pictures for my books. With the help of many growers and club members I increased the number of cultivars in the Montreal Botanical Garden. It is now recognized as a display garden by both the Hosta and the Daylily societies. Now I am attacking the iris garden and I will need your help. If you have extra cultivars of Siberian irises feel free to send them to me. I will make sure that visitors can see them.

After ten years I ran out of room in my garden so we sold the property, bought another one with more than 1½ acres and moved most of the 700 plants we had. This new garden had no flowerbeds and was open for me to exercise my creativity.

Two years later, more than 65 flowerbeds had been built, a water feature with cascade created, more trees planted, and a vegetable garden was also initiated. My garden is now listed as a display garden for different groups. The garden is visited by garden clubs, garden magazines, and gardening fans.

My experience in gardening and the way it happened is a dream for everyone. Now I am a well-known speaker giving around 50 talks a year. I write gardening articles in different magazines and my pictures are seen on plant tags at nurseries. Every week I host a radio show on gardening and we will soon reach my 100<sup>th</sup> program.

I like to promote things especially when they are garden-related. This is why I accepted the challenge of helping the Siberian group publicize their favorite flower and I will do my best. With your help, help from the nurseries and my knowledge in promotion, we should make a good team. If you have any little talent, please send me a small article. If you have some good pictures, send them to me. Share your experience with others.

I know that bearded irises are very strong, but Siberians will always be part of any good garden. As a member of The Garden Writers Association I will try to enlist other writers on the subject of Siberian irises. Feel free to contact me:

*Reggie D. Millette 62-7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, St-Ambroise, QC,  
J0K 1C0, Canada. E-mail: [bomil@ca.inter.net](mailto:bomil@ca.inter.net)*

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## JOIN THE SIBROB

The Sibrob is an internet discussion group centered on Siberian irises. It is free and open to all from novices to more experienced growers. It also functions as part of the Round Robin program of the American Iris Society.

If you have any questions please contact Ellen Gallagher,  
**[ellengalla@yahoo.com](mailto:ellengalla@yahoo.com)**

Subscribe: [sibrob-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:sibrob-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Siberian list archives: <http://www.hort.net/lists/sibrob>

## A GRUBBY BUSINESS!

By Bob Hollingworth

In over 30 years of growing Siberians in some quantity I thought we had seen or heard of every significant pest in the eastern USA. This year we had the misfortune to discover another one – white grubs. Other growers may have had problems with these insects before, but I don't recollect ever seeing anyone record the fact. These large, fat and ugly creatures (picture below) have shown up occasionally in small numbers in the past without much obvious evidence of damage, but this year they have destroyed a considerable number of established Siberian clumps and seedlings under evaluation.



### White grubs fat from feasting on a Siberian seedling

They are the larvae of May and June beetles in the genus *Phyllophaga*. There are many species in this family and only a real expert can distinguish between them at the grub stage. No

matter; you know them well enough when you see them – about one and a half inches long, curled in a “C”-shape, with quite impressive jaws at one end and large fat white abdomen at the other. They don’t start this way of course, and our infestation began last year, which was year one in their 3-year life cycle. The adult beetles lay eggs in the soil in the summer of year 1 and the small larvae hatch and feed until the fall when they burrow down in the soil and over-winter. The next year (this year in our case) they spend feeding on roots, growing to a large size, and this is when most of the damage occurs. Again they over-winter in the soil. In the third year they feed briefly early in the year, then pupate and become adults staying in the soil over the third winter and emerging in May and June of the following year to produce another generation. It is somewhat reassuring that generally only one brood is present in any numbers rather than having new populations each year, so significant feeding injury occurs only in one year out of three.(i.e the second year of the life cycle). This seems to be true in our case judging by the uniform size of the grubs we have found.

We knew we had a problem when quite a few sturdy plants started to lose condition after flowering decently this spring. By late summer they looked to be in bad shape with browning fans and loss of vigor, but no signs of foliar disease were evident. The reason for the decline was obvious on digging these plants up – four or five large grubs were present under each plant and virtually no roots were left. No doubt the damage was made worse by the drought we experienced this summer, so the lack of roots was particularly injurious. This was not just an isolated situation. We had dead and dying plants all over the garden and lost quite a few seedlings, some lined out for possible future introduction, and quite a bit of stock being grown for future sale.

What to do? We tried to save critical stock by drenching the soil with a commercial grub killer (active ingredient Dylox) that acts immediately by contact. Probably this helped to some degree, but it’s difficult to kill these big insects hidden deep



under the established clump. Fortunately, many treated plants that survived the initial onslaught are showing signs of good regrowth this fall, but they have had a serious setback. Many less critical things were just abandoned and lost. To prevent this happening again (and we should have a mass of adults appearing the year after next) we plan to shift from using Cygon to Merit for borer control. The active ingredient of Merit is also excellent for grub control, and, after absorption into the plant, has a long residual life so that it should handle the young beetle grubs as they hatch in the summer and start to feed on the roots. So, with any luck, we will kill two insects with one stone.

Why the unprecedented level of beetle grub attack this last year? I really don't know. Maybe the population had been building up over the years or maybe the climatic factors were especially favorable over the last couple of years. Entomologists have speculated that the increase in reports of white grub injury to crops in the Midwest in recent years may have at least in part been the result of milder winters. Also, these white grubs are generally found in turf but they are not picky feeders. They happily dine on corn and, to a lesser degree, soybeans, and we grow the irises within a couple of yards of a part of the field that was in corn for the last two years and is in soybeans now. So they have plenty of places to feed and flourish. It also is an interesting question whether they may have taken a toll, although a lesser one, that went unnoticed in previous, wetter years. And, could they explain the occasional loss of a plant under mysterious circumstances that you see from time to time?

Anyway, if you see your irises start to lose condition for no obvious reason as the summer progresses, don't hesitate to take spade and look underneath. It may not be pretty sight. Perhaps the ultimate revenge is to remember that in some societies beetle grubs are regarded as cheap, nutritious and low in cholesterol, so heat up the frying pan.

## SOME NOTES ON SIBERIANS AT THE OKLAHOMA CITY CONVENTION

The 2007 AIS Convention in Oklahoma was not expected to be a major showplace for Siberians and it was not. Only a few cultivars were submitted as guests and some of these were not yet in bloom at Convention time. In arranging the Convention's master planting, the fact that there were Siberian guests as well as bearded irises seems to have been overlooked. However there were a couple of gardens which do deserve congratulations on growing these irises well under challenging conditions toward the southern edge of their range.

### **The McVicker Garden – Anna Mae Miller**

As we arrived at this windy spot on the prairie, the home of Bill and Elizabeth McVicker, there was a row of Siberians which were doing well for Oklahoma which does not have the best climate for growing them. Particularly notable were: **Active Duty** (Stahly '99), a deep wine color with lighter style arms, strutting its stuff along with **Plum Frolic** (Schafer/ Sacks '01), shades of blue with dappling of red-violet, Bob Hollingworth's seedling 97B1B27, a medium blue tetraploid with a large clear white sunburst spot, and **Ever Again** (McEwen '92) still in bud.

### **The Stout Garden – Jim and Jill Copeland**

All the beardless irises in this garden were well grown but it was too early for bloom except for one of Bob Hollingworth's seedlings, 97B1B27, a tetraploid Siberian with large blue-purple flowers, a white spray signal and light style arms. The clump had 26 stalks and wonderful foliage.

**Rita Gormley** also noted:

The convention gardens in Oklahoma City escaped much of the early devastating heat/freeze damage that most of the Midwest suffered. Two outstanding Siberians we saw there were Calvin Helsley's red-violet Louison ('98) and Bob Hollingworth's tetraploid seedling, 97B1B27.

# MINUTES OF THE SSI BOARD MEETING OKLAHOMA CITY, 5/1/07

The meeting was brought to order at 7 pm by the president, Judy Hollingworth.

**Board members in attendance:**

President Judy Hollingworth, Immediate Past President Dr. E. Roy Epperson, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Harold Griffie, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Chuck Simon, Treasurer Jim Copeland, Membership Secretary Susan Grigg, Director Dave Niswonger.

**Guests:** Past Presidents Anna Mae Miller and Bob Hollingworth, Jill Copeland, Gayle Griffie, Becky Simon, Glen Grigg, Irv and Nancy Pocklington, and Gary White.

In the absence of Secretary Lynda Love, Judy Hollingworth took the minutes.

**Minutes** of the 2006 board meeting were approved as printed in the Fall 2006 issue of TSI.

**Section Meeting:** Hal Griffie informed us that the section meeting on 5/2/07 will be a program by Dave Niswonger on his *I. typhifolia* breeding followed by a round table discussion with questions and answers on hybridizing, culture and pesticides etc. led by Jill Copeland and Terry Aitken.

**Treasurer** Jim Copeland presented the annual financial statement (see page 22). The Society is in sound financial shape for 2007 due to the generous donation of \$2872.00 by the Greater Portland Iris Society Siberian/Species convention.

## Committee Reports

**Membership:** Susan Grigg reported a decline in membership of 53. Since the dues were increased significantly, she sent out a prepaid postcard asking for the reason for non-renewal. Of the cards received to date, several reasons – advancing age, ill health etc. were cited, but to date no one mentioned the dues

increase. Susan will tabulate the results when more cards have been returned and supply the information to the board.

**Robins:** In future TSI's, the leaders of the two active robins will be listed in the committee listing.

**Research/Slides:** Bob Hollingworth reported that the slides were rented an average of six times per year. Also, slides are becoming obsolete and that we will eventually transfer to digital presentations. He is working to develop such a slide show in the near future.

**Nominating Committee:** Harold Griffie reported that the three Directors whose terms expire on December 31 2007 were eligible for a further term and that all agreed to serve. Roy Epperson, proposed and Jim Copeland seconded that Chad Harris, Dave Niswonger and Peter Weixlman be nominated to serve further three year terms. Motion passed. Roy Epperson mentioned that the nominating committee as presently constituted does not conform to the by-laws. The President agreed to rectify the situation.

**Web Page:** After some discussion, the opinion was expressed by several people that we need to be more pro-active with the website. The president will discuss with web master Jim Wilson (not present) ways in which we can contribute to the site to make it more up-to-date and user friendly.

## **Old Business:**

**Popularity Poll:** By consensus it was determined that a popularity poll be sent to members every three years.

**Distinguished Service Award:** Judy Hollingworth proposed, and Roy Epperson seconded a motion to present the award to Ellen Gallagher in appreciation of her 61/2 years as editor of the Siberian Iris. Motion unanimously approved.

**Registrations and Introductions:** Roy Epperson reported that the current paper and CD copies of the R and I's are almost sold out. He intends to reprint in 2008 and include the '06 and '07 listings. There was discussion about eventually placing the information on the website in a searchable form.

## **New Business:**

**Display Board:** There was discussion about having more information on Siberians available to the membership for use at iris shows, horticultural shows etc. Susan Grigg presented brochures and information on a display board to meet this need. After considering shipping costs it was decided that the cost would be prohibitive and that we should consider developing color posters as an alternative approach.

**Advertising rates in TSI:** Dave Niswonger expressed the opinion that advertising rates should cover the printing costs. It was decided that the subject be revisited when the new editor can supply the actual cost per page of color printing.

**Correct labeling of Siberian Irises:** Jill Copeland cited several catalogs in which hybrid Siberians are listed incorrectly as *I siberica* or *I. sibirica*. This even occurs regularly in botanic gardens, which should know better. Judy Hollingworth agreed to write on behalf of the Society to request that they be labeled differently. Jill presented the board with some labeling suggestions including the simple designation "Siberian Iris" e.g. Siberian Iris "Pink Haze".

**Article for the AIS Bulletin:** Jim Morris, as guest editor, has requested a basic article on Siberian irises for a future issue of the AIS Bulletin. Bob Hollingworth agreed to write one.

**A Chicago Botanic Garden planting of Siberian irises:** Dr. Epperson was not able to report on this subject as he had to attend the AIS board meeting but Chuck Simon said that he thought that they had decided to feature Spurias.



**AIS Insurance Fund:** Jim Copeland stated that several sections of AIS contributed to the AIS insurance fund and that he thought it appropriate that SSI should do so. Harold Griffie proposed, Dave Niswonger seconded, a motion that SSI donate \$100.00 yearly to the fund. Motion approved.

Bob Hollingworth invited everyone to the Region 6 Spring meeting in Lansing, Michigan June 8-10 2007 where many Siberians are featured and should be in bloom. The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

## TREASURER'S REPORT SOCIETY FOR SIBERIAN IRISES

### 2006 Treasurer's statement by James Copeland

#### Income

Membership dues _____	\$2654.20
Ads _____	400.00
Interest income _____	397.71
Sale back issues of TSI _____	160.00
Gifts: Greater Portland Iris Society	
(Siberian/Species Conv. _____)	2872.00
Imgard Thiele (Convention Registration) _____	89.00
Checklists: Hard Copies _____	551.00
Compact Discs _____	161.00
Slides _____	16.25
<b>Total Income _____</b>	<b>\$7301.16</b>

#### Expenses

Membership Chairperson expenses _____	\$240.13
Checklist Printing: Hard Copies _____	400.00
Compact Discs _____	64.15
Checklist Mailing: To Portland Convention _____	68.50
Back issues _____	8.50
Other _____	31.15
Total _____	\$812.43
TSI Publication	
Spring 2005 Smith & Towne Printing _____	\$1650.00
Editor Mailing _____	199.50

Envelopes (2 issues) _____	233.00
Total	\$2082.50
Fall 2005 Smith & Towne Printing _____	\$1720.00
Editor Mailing _____	194.80
Bulk Mailing Permit _____	160.00
Total	\$2074.80
Total TSI _____	\$4157.30
<b>Total Expenses _____</b>	<b>\$4969.73</b>
<b>Net Income _____</b>	<b>\$2331.43</b>

## Balance Sheet as of 12-31-2006

Checking account _____	\$3274.38
Investments: Certificate of deposit 5.02% APR due 8-18-07 _____	4401.83
Certificate of deposit 5.35% APR due 3-18-08 _____	4405.45
Certificate of deposit 3.92% APR due 10-18-08 _____	3317.62
Balance of advancement for TSI mailing _____	5.70
<b>Total Assets _____</b>	<b>\$15,404.98</b>

## Nominating Committee – Election of Directors

### Harold Griffie

The nominating committee submits the following slate of candidates for the three open positions as Director of SSI.

**Chad Harris**  
**Dave Niswonger**  
**Peter Weixlman**

The SSI by-laws require that these nominations be sent to all voting members of SSI by November 15<sup>th</sup> (publication in this issue of TSI fulfils this requirement). If no additional nominations are made by Dec, 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007, the slate is to be considered elected.

Additional nominations must be made in writing, signed by eight members of the Society, and sent to the Chair of the Nominating Committee (Harold Griffie), together with a letter of consent from each nominee. If additional nominations are received, a mail ballot of the membership will be conducted according to the provisions of the by-laws.

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## TSI ADVERTISING RATES

*A source list for Siberians is printed in the spring issue of TSI and on the society's webpage at a cost of \$10.00 per listing. Please send your check made payable to the society for Siberian Irises to Ellen Gallagher1689 Riverside Drive, Berlin, NH 03570*

### OTHER ADVERTISING RATES:

<b>FULL PAGE COLOR (4" X 7")</b>	<b>\$60.00</b>
<b>½ PAGE COLOR (4" X 3 ½)</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>FULL PAGE B &amp; W (4" X 7")</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>
<b>HALF PAGE B &amp; W (4" X 3 ½)</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>¼ PAGE B &amp; W (4" X 1 ½")</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>

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## SIBERIAN IRIS SLIDE SETS

Slide sets suitable for a club program, including  
an historical set, are  
available at \$10.00 per rental plus the cost of  
return postage from:

Bob Hollingworth  
124 E. Sherwood Rd.  
Williamston, MI 48895

Please make check payable to RM Hollingworth

E-mail: [cyberiris@cablespeed.com](mailto:cyberiris@cablespeed.com)

# THE SOCIETY FOR SIBERIAN IRISES

*A Section of the American Iris Society*

## OFFICERS

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## ***COMMITTEES***

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### ***Membership:***

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### ***Webmaster Society for Siberian Irises web page:***

**Jim Wilson**, **socsib@socsib.org**

### ***Robins:***

Sibrob: **Ellen Gallagher** (address above)  
Hybridizers' Robin: **Anna Mae Miller** (address above)

### ***Research/Slides:***

**Bob Hollingworth** (same address as Judy Hollingworth)

## **THE SOCIETY FOR SIBERIAN IRISES**

*We welcome new members. Please send your dues to the Membership Secretary:*

*Susan Grigg, 105 Trotters Ridge Drive, Raleigh, NC 27614:  
(919) 870-8345: smgrigg@bellsouth.net*

### *Dues - North America*

<i>Single Annual</i>	<i>\$10.00</i>	<i>Family Annual</i>	<i>\$12.00</i>
<i>Single Triennial</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>	<i>Family Triennial</i>	<i>\$30.00</i>

### *Dues – Overseas*

<i>Annual</i>	<i>\$15.00</i>	<i>Triennial</i>	<i>\$40.00</i>
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*The Siberian Iris is published twice yearly by the Society for Siberian Irises, a section of the American Iris Society. Until a new editor is appointed please send copy to the president Judy Hollingworth, siberiris@cablespeed.com. Deadlines for submitting copy are February 15 and September 1. Reprinting is by permission of the author and editor, with due acknowledgment.*

*Society for Siberian Irises web page: <http://www.socsib.org/>*

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*Photos (all by Bob Hollingworth):*

### *Back Cover:*

*Part of the Siberian iris planting at the Salmon Creek Garden of Barbara and Terry Aitken, Vancouver, Washington.*

### *Inside Back Cover:*

*Top: Somebody Loves Me (Hollingworth '98) runner-up for the Morgan-Wood Medal 2007*

*Bottom: Banish Misfortune (Schafer/Sacks '99) AM winner for 2007*





