The American Iris Society awards have been announced and you will recognize many of the names. MIS members grow many of these flowers and have shown them at our shows. The highest award, the Dykes medal, belongs to Keith Keppel’s “Haunted Heart.” A Keppel iris won last year, too. For those of you with internet access, the awards list is here: http://wiki.irises.org/pub/Main/PrintableList2018/AISawards2018.pdf

Marty Schaffer and Jan Sacks from Massachusetts hybridized a Dykes runner up, the Siberian iris “Strawberry Shake”.

Three Wister medals for tall bearded were awarded to “Notta Lemon”, “Bottle Rocket” and “Black is Black”. The Knowlton medal for Border Bearded went to “Sheer Excitement”. The intermediate bearded “Cat in the Hat” won the Sass medal. The Williamson-White medal for miniature tall bearded went to “Holiday in Mexico”.

“My Cher”, a standard dwarf bearded, won the Cook-Douglas medal while “Kayla’s Song”, a miniature dwarf bearded, won the Caparne-Welich medal. “Oragami”, an inter-species hybrid, won the Perry medal while the best species “Wildwood Willie” won the Founders of the Signa medal.

The best Siberian winning the Morgan Wood is Schafer & Sack’s “Miss Apple”. Their “Cape Cod Boys” was second followed by Hollingworth’s (our speaker in October) “How Audacious” and “Encore Performance.” The Payne medal for Japanese was won by “Kimono Silk.”

Ted’s father’s, (John White) “Evelyn White” (named for his now deceased wife, also a MIS member) was a runner up again this year. “Black Lipstick”, a Keppel TB, won the Walther cup for the most honorable mention votes.

Maine Iris Society member Dean Cole was a runner up for a Siberian Award of Merit for “My Girl Emily”. Jeff Dunlop was a runner up for a Siberian Honorable Mention with “Crimson Fireworks.”
Some of our friends in Massachusetts are in the awards list: including Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks (runner-up for Siberian Awards of Merit for “Cream of Tomato” and Sweeter Still”; Siberian Honorable mention for “Solar Energy” and “Carnivalito”; and runners up for Siberian Award of merit for “Colonel Mustard” and “Wynne Magnolia”. For Interspecies, “Happy Traveler” by Schafer & Sacks won honorable mention. Their “East Meets West” was a runner-up.)

Stephanie Markham received a Miniature Tall Bearded award of merit for “Speckled Spring” and runner-up for an honorable mention with “Fairy Sprinkles.” Barbara and David Schmeider won a Miniature Tall Bearded award of merit for “Pixel Packin’ Mama” and a species iris honorable mention for “Precious Pearl.” Lucy Burton, an ISM member, was a runner-up for Border bearded with “Hi Buddy.”

Those of you who are members of AIS can read all about these in the recent issue of *Irises*.