



# The Newscast

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given.



## **The Region 4 Vice President Message**

Here it is July, like most of you I have been out in my garden surveying the increase (or Is sometimes the case) the lack thereof. It's time to dig, divide, and share, and that is always the greatest pleasure that comes with growing iris.

My time as R.V.P. is drawing to its close. It has been a good time, which has brought me many opportunities to meet new people, visit new gardens, and travel to exciting venues in California and Texas and I am grateful the Iris Society, for giving me these opportunities and bringing me into contact with so many truly wonderful people and beautiful flowers.

We all had a wonderful time in Baltimore. The members of FSK Iris Society outshone themselves in offering a spring meeting that was spectacular in every way. The presence of out of state visitors and exceptionally beautiful gardens made this an experience to remember in the years to come. The hospitality was wonderful. It was especially pleasing to see so many national awards coming our way. Well done!

I am looking forward to travelling to Raleigh in the fall for the last regional meeting of my tenure as R.V.P. I know that ENCIS will also be offering beautiful gardens, fine hospitality, and opportunity to renew our love of flowers. That is what makes us a wonderful organization.

See you soon.

Don Rude, RVP

## **The Region 4 Assistant Vice President**

Currently we have the following Regionals kind of locked in

### **Fall 2014**

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society  
Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina

### **Spring 2015**

Central Virginia Iris Society  
Richmond, Virginia

### **Fall 2015**

Tentative  
Charlotte Iris Society  
Charlotte, NC

### **Spring 2016**

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

### **Spring 2017**

Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society  
Winchester,. Virginia

### **Spring 2018**

Tentative  
FSK in conjunction with Siberian Species Mini Convention.

Need Volunteers for :

Fall 2016

Fall 2017

Fall 2018

With advance planning it is much easier to manage the tasks required to put on even a Fall Regions (Hotel, Speakers, Meetings). For the next two years our regional s are set. Affiliate presidents please consider tackling one of the Fall Regionals.



## Passing Friends

Clouds move whether by storm or  
air  
Out of site in an instant  
We complain it is not fair  
Going on their way steady as an ant

Touch or word, smile or frown  
Each precious as we go  
The missing, a rose that is brown  
Waiting for spring to flow

Each moment we mourn  
Each day it eases  
Till May brings the bloom  
And we see missing faces



Mike and I in the garden of Roy Epperson

## FROM THE EDITOR

Another hole has developed in the fabric of Region 4 and the American Iris Society, on April 30th of this year we lost Mike Lowe.

There are more that know so much more than I about Mike, but I can tell you about my time with him. We both loved photography and I still smile seeing Mike turn his cap backwards as he heads out into an iris garden. This is how I first met Mike as he gave me hints and tips every time we ended up in an Iris garden together. Mike was not shy about sharing his knowledge with anyone. His work with historic iris expanded my knowledge each time we talked. He offered praise when it was deserved and help when it was needed. As a prior editor of the Newscast he understood the many challenges I faced but always had a snippet that brought a smile or a chuckle. Those moments when something was going wrong and I was falling behind or something was not working out, brought me sanity when I needed it most.

When we were at Winterberry Mike suggested that I get a monopod for my camera. Mike was all about the shot while I was still about getting as many photographs as possible in the small space of time we were allowed in gardens. I tried it at home first, well not even with the time allowed in my own garden I was a flop. It was cool until I took a header into the iris bed. It is still sitting in my closet. Perhaps I

will take it out again and focus more on the shot and less on the volume.

We will miss Mike in so many different little ways but he gave so much of himself that we all surely have great memories to tide us over until we see him again. Thank you Mike for all you gave to us.

As sad as it is losing Mike Region 4 is coming off an excellent Spring regional that has been discussed even on Facebook. The garden owners did a marvelous job in preparing their gardens and Carol had the added pressure of dealing with the Baltimore County Agricultural center, being the Guest Chair and keeping us all on target. I want to thank all those who attended making it a time of sharing as often occurs in Region 4, which I am very proud to be a small part. We have a new writer this time and I want to thank Robert W. Hartge for writing up my garden.

I welcome anyone who wants to write something about their gardens so please send a snippet.



Mike and Ann Lowe and Bill Smoot in Winterberry Garden

## The Miller Garden

By Anita Moran

Located in northern Baltimore County near where Harford County, Baltimore County and Pennsylvania meet, The Miller Garden, home to Bob and Joan Miller, combines two loves Daylilies and Irises. The sloping property has wood surrounding the garden and house allowing for a wide variety of rhododendron and azaleas both evergreen and deciduous. One of my favorite trees is the Fringe tree (*Chionanthus* spp) was in full bloom during the region its white fringes a perfect accent.

Although thought the day was not overly warm the pool was surely inviting as we passed by. Looking out over the garden is the perfect setting a deck that one can relax and enjoy the view from Spring to Fall. Up the hill to the display garden it was easy to pick out those bright standouts. “Liger” (Spoon 2005) and Mike Lockett’s seedling “Under The Sun” Drew you eye as yellow was apt to do. As you walked through the garden it was apparent that the irises loved the rocky soil they were growing in.

Of course Anna Cadd was especially Pleased to see “Polish Princess” (Cadd 2000) in bloom and had to have a picture to take home to show David. Montmartre” (Keppel 2008) put on a show with several stalks and lots of bloom. First Frost (Bauer/Coble 2013 ) and Chinese Rose Bauble (Niswonger 2009) were both spectacular. Hidden in an out of the way pond iris pseudacorus was also putting on a show for visitors.

If the walk through the woods, hostas, ferns and of course iris did not keep your attention there was always Bob’s taxidermy business. With walls and floors filled with his work is was amazing to see the various animals contained in such a small place. Unfortunately time was short and it was back to the buses and on to the next garden.



▲ Rhododendron and Azaleas at Miller Garden



◀ Fringe Tree



Miller deck and looking out from deck to iris garden



Anna Cadd standing next to “Polish Princess” (Cadd 2000)

“Liger” (Spoon 2005)



“Montmartre” (Keppel 2008)

Bob Miller’s sanctuary and worksite



## Thank You

I want to thank all the affiliates that have already volunteered to host regional and I am excited to be able to see many of your gardens.

Many Thanks!

I went to school this weekend – even rode a school bus. And I learned about irises: spurias, tall bearded, and Siberians. Have you ever been to an AIS National Convention? Me neither. But I just got a taste of what one must be like and find myself eager for the first time our family is able to attend one.

For the past couple of days we gorged our eyes on irises, and our stomachs on delightful food, as we traveled by school bus from one beautiful garden to another in Northern Maryland. Almost 100 people attended from 10 states making this one of the largest gatherings for a Region 4 Spring Meeting. We were able to renew old friendships, strengthen existing ones, and forge new ones as we wandered together through the many gardens the members of Region 4's Francis Scott Key affiliate had prepared for us so lovingly over the past few years.

The work to prepare for so many people must have been daunting yet the meeting, garden, training, and show planners carried it off brilliantly. Thank you so much for all the work you put into making this such a memorable weekend!

Sheryl Campbell

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### REPORT OF THE REGION 4 NOMINATING COMMITTEE, MAY 2014

The members of my Committee were Debbie Campbell and Doug Chyz. The nominees for Region 4 officers to assume office after the Fall Board Meeting are:

Regional Vice President: Anita Moran  
Assistant Regional Vice President: Doug Chyz  
Secretary: Frances Thrash  
Treasurer: Carol Warner

Susan Grigg, Chairman

## Region 4 Membership Report, May 2014

Congratulations to the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society that won \$100 as the affiliate bringing in the most new members, 27! Congratulations also to Pat NcNeal of the Bayshore Iris Society who won 2 new iris introductions for bringing in 17 new members. New members receive a \$25 voucher redeemable for irises from participating growers when joining AIS. To find out more visit the AIS website at <[www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)> . Also, may clubs give new members some free irises at their sales for joining AIS so recruit those new members and grow more irises. Region 4 has 354 total members, the third largest memberships in the AIS regions. Region 14 is first with 488 members and Region 18 is second with 375 members.

With the good news also has come sad news. We have lost some of our members this year including Mike Lowe who passed away on April 30th. I know all of us have such great memories of Mike. One of my fondest memories of Mike was when he was in our garden at one of our spring regional meetings and he ate 14 of my brownies. I love it when someone likes my cooking. You could always find Mike photographing the irises. I think he loved the historic irises the best.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Spoon  
Region 4 Membership Co Chairman

## Newsfeed and Website Reports

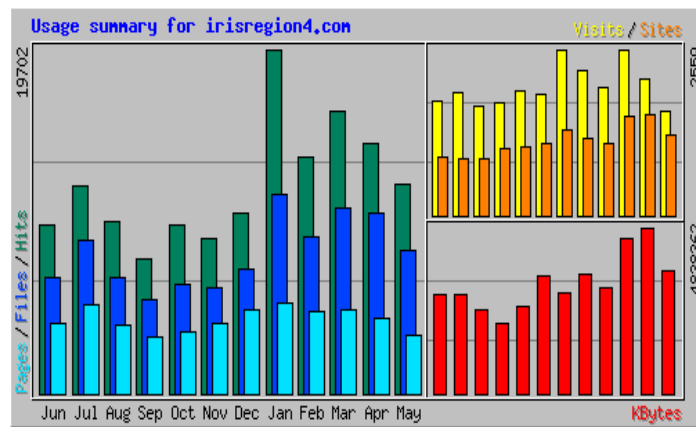
### Newsfeed Report Spring 2014

Since November of last year, even after the upgrades made to the website the top 10 pages visited and downloaded from continues to be the Newsfeed. I will publish just about everything that I get from members, though I might tweak it a little and I enjoy receiving articles, notes and news and I hope more will continue to send me pictures and notes about their gardens. From March to May the March 2014 Newsfeed was viewed and/or downloaded 931 times which is three times the number of Region 4 members that got an email announcing its availability. Nearly identical is the March 2008 Newsfeed which was viewed and/or downloaded 932 Since November 2013. The Newsfeed continues to be Region 4's touch to the rest of the AIS and the world. The suggestion by several about a need to know about the website came from member's email. I need ideas and contributions to continue to make Region 4's Newsfeed the best regional Newsletter that is informative as well as fun. Keep sending me articles, suggestions, and I will see if I can get your idea in print.

Respectfully

Anita Moran

### Website Report Spring 2014



In January 2014 The Region 4 website was completely reworked, which accounts for the spike in activity seen in the graph. Since this upgrades the use of the website has increased over the average visits seen prior to the prior to the upgrade. More people are staying longer on the site and searching out more pages. Most people still get to the website from direct action either saved as a favorite or using a link in an email. Visits from sites like Facebook account for about 20% of the activity which is an increase from previous 12% .

Each president needs to appoint a web liaison so that I can work with one person in the affiliate to upgrade and correct the affiliate webpages. These are also the people I will send emails to instead of blast email for I cannot keep up with correct email for the entire region. The affiliates need to maintain this list. Lastly but not least is the wonderful work by Colin Campbell in tabulating the rebloom data which allowed for creation of the rebloom page which is directly connected to the Wiki for photos.

Respectfully  
Anita Moran



## Region 4 Award Winners

### **ALICE BOULDIN AWARD**

Given By Eastern North Carolina Iris Society for the best seedling growing and blooming in tour gardens.



Mike Locatell Seedling “Under The Sun”  
Winner Spring 2014

### **B.Y. MORRISON AWARD**

Given by Region 4 for the best Out of Region introduced variety growing and blooming in a tour garden.



“China In Springtime” (Niswonger 2008)  
Winner Spring 2014

### **NEARPASS AWARD**

Given By Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society For the best In region introduced variety growing and blooming in tour gardens.



“Courtney Rucker” (Lockatell 2012)  
Winner Spring 2014

## The Five Top Favorite Guest Irises at the 2014 Regional Meeting ,Timonium Maryland :

by Felicitas Goethals

Here they are:

# 1. CHINA IN SPRINGTIME 19 VOTES

# 2. TUSCAN SUMMER 12 VOTES

# 3. NOTTA LEMON 11 VOTES

# 3. WHO'S ON FIRST 11 VOTES

# 4. MONTMARTRE 7 VOTES

# 4. CHINESE ROSE BAUBLE 7 VOTES



CHINA IN SPRINGTIME



NOTTA LEMON



WHO'S ON FIRST



TUSCAN SUMMER



MONTMARTRE



CHINESE ROSE BAUBLE

## The Five Top Favorite Guest Irises at the 2014 Regional

- |      |                  |         |
|------|------------------|---------|
| # 5. | SARI'S DANCE     | 5 VOTES |
| # 5. | SHEER EXCITEMENT | 5 VOTES |
| # 5. | FIRST FROST      | 5 VOTES |



SARI'S DANCE



SHEER EXCITEMENT



FIRST FROST

### **REMAINING RESULTS:**

- |      |                  |         |
|------|------------------|---------|
| # 6. | LINDA LAING      | 3 VOTES |
| # 6. | HAUNTED HEART    | 3 VOTES |
| # 6. | OH CAROL         | 3 VOTES |
| # 6. | COURTNEY RUCKER  | 3 VOTES |
| # 6. | ALEXANDRA'S GIFT | 3 VOTES |

# 7. MEERKAT MANOR, HEAD START, SHUSHI, BLACK BEARD'S DAUGHTER, FLYING FIDDLES, UNDER THE SUN. = 2 VOTES EACH



## Lloyd Zurbrigg -- Clarence Mahan Award

### Hybridizer Alton R. Pyburn

Alton Pyburn is a graduate of Texas A & M University, class of 1953. Upon graduation he was a commissioned 2nd Lt. and served his two years of active duty in the U.S.A.F. He then began working for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and had 36 years of service behind him when he retired in 1990.

His interest in Irises began in the early 1970s when his wife was given some Irises from one of her friends. Up to that time he had not shown much interest in flowers. But he became enamored with the beauty and delicacy of the flowers and thought it might be interesting to see if he could cross them. At that time our town of Sweetwater, Texas had an active garden club and the president lived only one block from our house. He approached her about collecting pollen from her blooms and of course she said he could have some. That led to helping his Irises make seed. Soon the garden club wanted to see the first blooms on the new Iris babies and Alton was a "goner". We lived in a house on a city block and soon all the flower beds were full. We found some acreage on the north edge of town and Alton began growing his Irises out there, but he was never at home during his hours off. He was always out at the new place working with his Irises. In 1977 his wife, Lou Ann, suggested that a new house out there would be a good thing. Then we could all be together again.

In 1997 Vada Day, a member of the Abilene Iris club encouraged the registration of our first, Southwest Vada Likes. A visit to Mountain View Iris Gardens in Lawton, Oklahoma in 1999 brought us in contact with Lacy Hagood and he requested seedlings for his garden. They bloomed and in conjunction with Mountain View we started to register and Mountain View began to introduce. Our last registration, Southwest Ritz, was on September 1, 2009. Since that date seedling growing has been mostly for pleasure. Being too "chicken hearted", we keep way too many seedlings.

We have been furnishing rhizomes to the Abilene Iris and Daylily Society, an unaffiliated club, for their annual sale each year in August. Proceeds from this sale go into a fund for helping with a college scholarship to a graduating high school senior each year.

Our first requirement for a "keeper" is that it can take our harsh Rolling Plains weather of high winds and hot sun. This requires sturdy bloom stalks and thick petals. If it meets this test, then comes other nice features.

Our seedling Southwest 08-6-10 at the National convention was a cross of Stand In Awe X Dance Recital. Both of these parents have grown quite well here.

Seedlings: Seedling #08-6-10 (shown at the right) hybridized by Alton R. Pyburn of Region 17, Sweetwater, Texas has won the Zurbrigg-Mahan Seedling Cup at the Dallas 2014 spring convention.



**Pyburn Seedling 08-6-10**

# Bus Ride to a Magical Garden

By Colin Campbell

Traveling on a school bus for the first time in my life, it was rather exciting as the bus careened down the long wooded driveway leading to Carol Warner's Draycott Gardens. Mrs. Warner has two main garden areas: a large elliptical garden where irises are tastefully planted among trees, shrubs and perennials, and a production field. In addition there are beautiful smaller plantings all around the property. My first impression after getting off the bus was that I would have to get busy if I was to see everything that I wanted to.

I started taking photos in the landscaped garden, where there were many lovely peonies. One named 'Chocolate Soldier' especially caught my attention. In a number of places in Mrs. Warner's gardens, azaleas and rhododendrons were bursts of pink blossoms, while false indigo and columbine provided a more subdued background of blue. The iris in this bed that drew you in from far away was Melted Butter (C. Fan 1994). There is something incredibly pleasing and delicious about the pure white standards and sunny yellow falls of this tall bearded iris. Mrs. Warner's gardens are immaculate. Her use of pine straw as a mulch adds a really nice touch. I want to try this in my garden. One of the things that made this regional meeting special for me was getting to meet so many hybridizers. It was delightful to see an iris and have just met the hybridizer. The first of these irises that I came across at the regional was Foxcroft Full Moon (K. Steele 2002), a cream-colored iris pseudacorus hybrid.



"Melted Butter" Fan 1994

The guest irises were housed in the production field. Here is a smattering of what caught my eye: 'Who's on First' formed a massive clump of vivid purple. Another Hollingworth introduction, Nothing But the Blues (R. Hollingworth 2008) was an elegant, mid-size Siberian. Last year I went to a judge's training session taught by Mrs. Warner and got to see this iris sending up a second flush of bloom in July. After everyone had finished viewing the gardens we had a wonderful dinner in Mrs. Warner's barn. A number of people including myself got to try a yummy new dish, cottage cheese with apple butter on top. I would not have thought of mixing the two together.



"Nothing But the Blues" Hollingworth 2008

I had a delightful experience visiting Draycott gardens. The gardens are definitely a labor of love.

Back onto the bus, and exhausted irisarians head to the hotel for the night to prepare for another exciting day of the regional .

# Bus Ride to a Magical Garden

By Colin Campbell

Moving over into the tall bearded section of guest irises, I looked for branching, form, vigor, etc., trying not to let an iris with a pretty flower but which was a bad plant catch my eye. I still have a lot to learn in this regard. Here are some of the TB's that I thought were performing well in the garden. Linda Laing (D. Spoon 2011) shone in rich, rosy-cranberry tones. This is a very beautiful iris. Subtle Beauty (R. Tasco 2011), was looking very nice too. Griff Crump's Deep Purple Dream (J.G. Crump 2010) delighted me with its deep, velvety purple hues. Mike Lockatell's seedling Under the Sun (M. Lockatell 2015) brought lots of sunshine wherever it was planted. Tuscan Summer (K. Keppel 2010) had such bright, distinctive patterning that I found myself taking lots of photos of it. Something about the color of reblooming Metro Blue (M. Lockatell R. 2013) really caught my eye.

Back into the beardless section, Angel of the Pond (A. Moran R. 2009) was really fun. Shaker's Prayer (C. Warner 1990) was amazing. It was hard to take a photo that captured the mood of this iris. Growing en masse this iris had a quiet, understated beauty and a certain violet hue that were quite appealing. A large swath of the historic Siberian Tropic Night (F.C. Morgan 1937) was looking nice. Richard's Joyous Love (K. Steele 2009) was refreshingly blue. Twelfth Knight (C. Warner 2002) stood out with its bright white rims. At the tail end of my time in the gardens, two shorter Siberians caught my notice that had different and beautiful coloring, Echo the Wind (Schaefer/Sacks 1999) and Salamander Crossing (Schaefer/Sacks 1999).

After everyone had finished viewing the gardens we had a wonderful dinner in Mrs. Warner's barn. A number of people including myself got to try a yummy new dish, cottage cheese with apple butter on top. I would not have thought of mixing the two together.

I had a delightful experience visiting Draycott Gardens. The gardens are definitely a labor of love.

Back onto the bus, and exhausted irisarians head to the hotel for the night to prepare for another exciting day of the regional .



View Of Warner Garden



Azaleas at Draycott Gardens



"Twelfth Knight" Warner 2002



## Bus Ride to a Magical Garden (Cont.)



"Shaker's Prayer" Warner 1990



"Richard's Joyous Love" Steele 2009



"Subtle Beauty" Tasco 2011



Lockatell Seedling "Under The Sun"



"Linda Laing" Spoon 2011



"Tuscan Summer" Keppel 2010



"Angel of the Pond" Moran 2012



"Salamander Crossing"  
Schaefer/Sacks 1999



"Echo the Wind" Schaefer/Sacks 1999



# The Poplar Hill Mansion – Timed Iris

By Anita Moran



Poplar Hill Mansion, Salisbury Maryland

The Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia is filled with historical sites and homes. Many of these homes have caught the eyes of historical societies and private investors as a site to restore and preserve. That is the case of the Poplar Hill Mansion. Construction began in 1795 as a manor house on a farm outside the small eighteenth century town of Salisbury. It was not completed by the original owners as it was ordered sold for debts unfinished in 1803. It was not completed until between 1805 and 1828 by Dr. John Hudson. It was first restored in 1945 by Fred Adkins who thought to turn it into a local Masonic Lodge but it failed and eventually the property was sold to Wicomico County in 1970. Since 1974 the City of Salisbury has owned it as a house museum in the public trust.

While visiting the home and hearing the history, the then president of the Eastern Shore Iris Society, Gail Reilly Cross, who had a love of historic iris, contacted the curator with the idea of placing an age related iris garden on the property. Thrilled with the idea it was approved and a site chosen along the walk way that edged the boxwood serpentine garden. With the help of members, dirt was brought in and amended and the ladies visited Doris Rebert to match historic irises to the site. Planting their irises with care, the Eastern Shore Iris Society is still maintaining the site and I was able to see it for the first time on my visit to the area.



Poplar Hill Mansion, Salisbury Maryland  
Rear Entrance



Members planting Poplar Hill Mansion Iris Bed: Ann Dumler, Janice Harrington, Gail Riley Cross and Aaron Hupke all of ESIS





## Poplar Hill Mansion (cont.)



Poplar Hill Mansion Iris Garden Bench

Although the walk around the garden is not long there is still a bench next to the iris garden to entice a visitor to sit and stay awhile. Although you can see the irises you also have a picturesque view of the garden which included a three tiered bird bath fountain with an evergreen garden planted around it and several dogwoods with shade plants. The expanse of lawn beneath the oaks and other trees on the property make for a quiet retreat despite the traffic which is muffled by the house.

I was very pleased that despite the ferocity of the storm many of the irises were still standing.

“Gracchus” (Ware 1984) was beautiful even if it was a little flatter than normal but “MME Chereau” (Lemon 1944 ) looked as if a gently sprinkle had moved through instead of a tempest.

With a fairly large gravel parking area, The Poplar Hill Mansion is worth the small amount of time needed to pay a visit. I cannot wait to see the next house the members of Eastern Shore Iris Society are planning a historic iris planting.



Poplar Hill Mansion Fountain



“Gracchus” (Ware 1984)



Poplar Hill Mansion Iris Garden



“MME Chereau” (Lemon 1944 )



## The Baltimore County Agricultural Center

by Anita Moran

For all the work that Carol Warner put into establishing a iris garden at the Baltimore County Agricultural Center it was a shame that time did not allow us to make a longer stop to allow for pictures. Built on a hill inform of a barn painted with multiple patterns there was a lot of bloom. Although none of the guests were planted here in this garden there was still plenty to see. To make sure that people who passed the area had information, Carol kept iris information and AIS information in the mailbox for anyone interested.

The MTBs “Maslon” (Spoon 2002) and “Bumblebee Deelite” (Norricks 1986) were in full bloom and putting on a great show. The reblooming “Bolder Boulder” (Magee 2000 ) and “Waiting for October” (Lauer 2003 ) were great contrasts for “Melted Butter” (Fan 1994), which tried to tackle over the bed, and “Royal Sterling” (Keppel 2005). For such a young planting this bed proved to be exceptional and well worth the effort.



The Baltimore County Agricultural Center

“Maslon” (Spoon 2002)



“Bumblebee Deelite”  
(Norricks 1986)

“Bolder Boulder” (Magee 2000 )



“Melted Butter” (Fan 1994),

“Royal Sterling”  
(Keppel 2005)



# The Inaugural Iris Show for Bayshore Iris Society

By Anita Moran

It is always great to see people enjoying their first iris show that they helped put together. Bayshore Iris Society (BIS), Region 4's newest affiliate had their inaugural show on May third of this year and I was lucky enough along with Dennis Hager and Joyce Corrin to judge the show. The weather was abysmal with a torrential down pour you would have thought a hurricane was coming. When I arrived at the Talbot County Free Library a woman drove up behind me who was clearly upset, and obviously one of those setting up the Iris Show. Offering my help to get the supplies inside so she would not have to make multiple trips we managed to get everything in with just a single trip. Setting the items where they needed to be I introduced myself to Mary Beth Web the Secretary/Treasurer of the BIS. After introducing myself to Cindy Outen, the President of BIS, and Pat McNeal, the Vice President of BIS, I left the room as they were just getting things set up.

Spending the time I had in the library trying to decide what Irises were going to end up in my garden this year, I kept a look at the clock and just before the time I was needed I made my way to the foyer of the library where Dennis and Joyce were waiting. I have a dilemma when judging an iris show especially in this situation. I love the rule that clerks remain quiet but I also love inquisitive clerks who nearly vibrate with the need to ask questions. For the amount of rain, wind and general nasty weather Maryland had endured this Spring I was amazed at the number of stalks that were displayed. Median, beardless and of course Tall Bearded were on displayed.





## The Inaugural Iris Show for Bayshore Iris Society (cont.)

As this was their first show and the weather was horrible, there is a lot of leeway for a judge. Many stalks came within one small item a pair of scissors or flip of a knife would correct to receive a blue ribbon and many of those could have easily been on the show bench an possible won Best Specimen in Show. For their first show this was a fabulous showing since there were no glaring faults in how the irises were displayed. As it was “Chatter” (Ghio 1993) shown by Pat McNeal was Queen of Show and it was well deserved.

After judging was completed Dennis gave a quick how to training to show how some of these stalks could have easily gone to the Queen’s Table. The attentiveness of those listening to him was a testament to the club members really wanted not only to learn but to succeed. I think the Officers and Show committee deserves a big hand for a job well done.



BIS Officers Pat McNeal Vice President, Cindy Outen President Mary Beth Web Secretary/Treasurer



Judges panel Joyce Corrin, Dennis Hager, Anita Moran



“Chatter” (Ghio 1993) shown by Pat McNeal was Queen of Show



Dennis Hager conducting training with show stalks



## A Visit to Ann Dumler's Garden

By Anita Moran

A trip to the eastern shore of Maryland almost always means a stop at Ann Dumler's garden. Ann and I spent many hours of buses at the Fresno and Portland National meetings but I seldom visit the eastern shore. The last time I visited Ann's garden I was amazed that she was able to grow such wonderful plants in what looked like pure sand, all without falling over.

Located on the corner of a quiet street and a main thoroughfare in Salisbury Maryland, Ann's little house gives you little clue about the treasure hidden behind the garden fence. Earlier in the day, prior to my arrival, Salisbury was hit with torrential down pours, high winds and even some hail. Not something you want to happen before visiting an iris garden but what the heck it was on my way. Ann, her son and daughter-in-law met me before I even got to the door and we had a nice visit before entering into the garden. Through the gate as you are struck with the sheer volume of blooms that remained standing despite the storm that just passed through. I had to laugh because I do not know anyone who can make a tall sprinkler look like garden art. Since I first got into irises I was told they only do well in full sun, well you have to visit Ann's garden for 60% of her garden in in shade and I really could not tell the difference other than the irises directly under the trees had a little less damage.

Stones are artfully placed and there is a variety of plant hangers just in case, but in the middle of the garden is a shovel ready for any need. Although the iris dominates the garden there are loads of various plants the fill the ground with cover except for a few paths. Heucheras, and hosta lines and infiltrated one side of the garden while on the other sections columbine of various colors and sizes seem to fill any available space. There is a mixture of old and new in the bearded but there are also siberians among the mix especially near the gate but they too bloomed in shade.

I wish I had more time to spend in Ann's garden but I still had more to accomplish before I headed back to my side of the Chesapeake Bay.



Ann Dumler in her garden



Ann's Garden after severe storms

## **Beardless and Species Iris Report**

by Carol Warner

This year the Society for Japanese Irises will have their mini convention in Victoria, Canada during the Fourth of July weekend. This should be an excellent growing area for Japanese irises and the new pseudata irises that bloom at a similar time. Due to the distance and the need to cross the border, I think it will be one of the smaller mini conventions.

The Society for Siberian Irises and SIGNA will hold their convention immediately following the AIS National Convention in Portland, Oregon in May of next year. This always attracts a much larger attendance since many irisarians are already there.

Francis Scott Key Iris Society has put in a bid to host the 2018 Siberian/Species Convention, but we will not know for sure until a definite location and date has been set for the AIS Convention which must take precedence. If the FSK IS bid is accepted, the Region 4 Spring Meeting will be held in conjunction with this convention. Guest irises for the 2018 Siberian/Species Convention will begin to arrive in August of 2015.

## JT Chair Region 4

The region has again lost an emeritus judge with the loss of Mike Lowe. This leaves a conspicuous void since Mike had quite a history of teaching various JT topics, judging iris shows, producing beautiful iris photographs and serving generally as a resource for ID information.

Again I want to point out that there are forms on the Region 4 web site for all the various steps involved in becoming and remaining a judge in good standing. It would be helpful if each affiliate designated one person (and it could be the president) to serve as a JT Chair to encourage members to become a student and to assist them in their pursuit of training and maintenance of their status as a judge. Judges need to remember that it is time to complete their annual activity report (see the web site for the form). This applies to everyone in the program from student to master judges. The Emeritus Judges are not required to do so, but a number of them do.

Recommendations will be made in August to the AIS JT Chair for approval at the fall meeting of the AIS Board. It appears that we may lose some at the apprentice due to lack of compliance in completing the requirements for promotion to the next step, that of Garden/Exhibition Judge.

We need to encourage the development of more judges for the region. Reports indicate that it is often difficult to secure show judges due to the small numbers of judges available during the brief window that shows are scheduled. Having more judges would also increase our influence in voting the ballot. Recruit a student for your affiliate.

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### Charlotte Iris Society, May 23, 2014

January marked the beginning of a new year for the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS). The new slate of officers included a new president, first vice president and secretary with repeat terms for the second vice president and treasurer. Our first meeting included a discussion on cultural conditions, diseases and pests for the various types of irises. While still exploring options for meeting time to improve attendance at meetings, a decision was made to schedule 2 of our regular meetings for Saturday morning and 2 for Sunday afternoon with times for various events to be determined on an individual basis. There was strong commitment expressed that “We will have a SHOW this year”. At our regular April meeting there was a session on “Preparing Irises for Exhibition” which was followed by our popular Spring Plant Exchange. Due to unusual weather conditions, our show which was held April 26 was quite small. We did, however, have more exhibitors than usual. We had a large collection of named irises not entered for competition, most of which were brought by one member that received the People’s Choice Award. Our tradition of Crystal Awards for the winners of the various categories continues. Future plans include our Annual Rhizome Sale, regular September meeting, our Harvest Luncheon in November and some summer events – all of which will be reported at the Fall Board Meeting for Region 4.



## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### C&P President's Report, May 2013



Our youth member, Colin Campbell was the Cosgrove Award winner this year and also won the Ackerman essay contest. Congratulations Collin. Collin and some of our other youth members have bloomed their first seedlings this spring. Our spring show was held at the State Arboretum at Blandy on May 4th. It was a bit early for tall bearded bloom but there were plenty of medians on display. Our youth member, Sarah Mercer won Best Specimen in the Youth Division with 'Amas' and also a silver medal for the most blue ribbons in the youth division. Griff Crump won best seedling and Ginny Spoon won Best of Show with 'Ampersand', a miniature dwarf bearded. We had a great turnout of our members and the public. We are excited about having our shows there every spring. Next year we are planning to have our show on May 17th and in 2016 We will have it on the 22nd of May. In 2017 we will have it in conjunction with our Regional meeting in Winchester.

Our summer sale will be at the annual Shenandoah Valley TasteFest in Winchester, at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley on August 23rd from 10 until 4. Thanks to Sheryl Campbell who got us this great place to hold our iris sale.

Our members have agreed to host the 2017 Spring Regional in Winchester. We are thinking of the dates of May 19th and 20th. That is the Friday and Saturday before the national convention. We may have it in our usual hotel, The Courtyard Marriott across from the Winchester Hospital, or perhaps a new hotel located just outside of Winchester which may have larger rooms for our show. More details later.

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Spoon

### EASTERN NC IRIS SOCIETY REPORT – MAY 2014

Our first meeting of 2014 was held on Sunday, February 23rd at 2 p.m. at the J. C. Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh. Our guest speaker was Colin Campbell, youth member from Virginia, whose presentation was on iris culture, hybridizing, and establishing an iris business. An informative question and answer period followed Colin's program.

The March 23rd meeting highlighted future regional and national conventions. Bonita Masteller presented, "Let's Go to the Convention!" She offered helpful tips for the first time convention goer, as well as suggestions for veteran attendees about how to make the most of the convention experience.

On April 27th we elected officers to begin terms in August 2014. New officers are President, Bonita Masteller; Vice President, Diana Richards; Secretary, Glenn Grigg; and Treasurer, Kat Causey. Our program was "Median Irises" from the Median Iris Society.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our annual Iris Show scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd. The long winter left us with few blooms to enter from our home gardens.

We are looking forward to having the Regional Board Meeting in Raleigh this fall on Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11. We have scheduled a Saturday afternoon tour of Tony Avent's Plant Delights garden and nursery. Tony will give us a personal guided tour of his gardens, and the shopping area will be open just for us. There will be a Reblooming Iris Show, two classes for judges' training, and the Regional Auction. Bring reblooming stalks, walking shoes, and donations for the Regional Auction.

Susan Grigg  
ENCIS President

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### Francis Scott Key Iris Society Report

Carol Warner

The members of F.S.K. have been very busy getting ready to host the Spring Region 4 Meeting this year. We are glad that so many from Region 4 and also from other regions are attending. Welcome!

Our spring meeting was a luncheon in Union Bridge, MD and one of our newer members who was the proprietor Carroll Gardens in Westminster, Maryland and who hosts two garden radio shows on WCBM-AM, 680 KHz in Baltimore from 7 to 8 AM on Saturday and Sunday mornings gave an exciting talk called “Fifty Plus Years of Gardening – Lessons Learned.” Alan Summers’ presentation on gardening trends, best plant choices and other gardening wisdom is gleaned from a lifetime of curiosity and hands-on experience in the world of horticulture.

We are looking forward to having two July rhizome sales this year, as usual, where we will be selling the guest irises sent for the convention. Hopefully, many of our members as well as regional members will take advantage of purchasing these newer irises at bargain prices.

Our Summer Picnic will be at Anita Moran’s on August 9th where we will set the date for our fall meeting.

It’s a big year in Maryland as we celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the writing of the Star Spangled Banner by Francis Scott Key.

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### **Fredericksburg Area Iris Society Report—May 2014**

We had our annual harvest dinner in November 2013 to wrap up the year where everyone brought a dish and we all enjoyed the food and fellowship. We also elected a new slate of officers for the next two year term.

Our club was dormant for December, January and February. Our March 2014 meeting was a dinner meeting with the popular radio host, Mike McGrath who conducted a lively question and answer session.

In April our program was presented by C&P member, Colin Campbell, this year's AIS Cosgrove Award winner for Youth Achievement. Our program chairman publicized the meeting well and reached out to area Scout groups and Four Agers. We had eight youth in attendance. We passed out coupons to them to encourage them to come to our sale in July and made connections that we hope to explore in the future.

In May we had a very successful show that netted 126 entries from 13 exhibitors and it also included an artistic division. On Sunday, Mother's Day, we held our annual open gardens with several club members opening their gardens to the public. One member garden was featured in the Home & Garden section of the local newspaper and had a record 98 people visit the garden. Visitors topped 200 in total for all gardens. We took pre sale orders at both the show and several member gardens that totaled 174 rhizomes.

In June our local County Extension Agent will present a program on "Soils", how to amend and improve, problems and diseases and remedies. In July, we will hold our annual sale which is our biggest fundraiser of the year.

FAIS will be hosting the 2016 Region 4 Spring meeting and our members have been busy planning a special weekend in historic Fredericksburg. Please plan to join us.

Sue Shackelford

FAIS President



## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### *Central Virginia Iris Society*

*An affiliate of the American Iris Society*

#### CVIS AFFILIATE REPORT

The present membership of CVIS is 44 people and 15 are also members of the American Iris Society.

Our Spring show was successful and we had around 85 Iris stalks shown. The show was held at Strange's Garden Center in Richmond and was well attended by the public.


Last Fall's rhizome sale was again held at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens and again the sale increased our treasury plus adding a few new members to our club's roster.

Our 2014 picnic is to be held at Paula and Bill Blaylock's on June 7<sup>th</sup>. They have a great setting for the picnic and they might even have a stray Iris bloom or two for us to see.

We plan to have our rhizome sale again in September at Lewis Ginter and to also follow our tradition of the Harvest Dinner in November in our meeting room at Strange's Nursery.

Our goal for 2014 and 2015 is to increase our membership and hopefully attract some younger members. We are also busy planning for the Regional Spring meeting to be held in Richmond May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in 2015.

Respectfully submitted,



James O. Diggs  
President

## Rebloom Chair Report

Colin Campbell

I received an incredible response to my request for rebloom reports from Region 4 gardeners! Members sent me data from 31 different gardens! Many of the gardens had quite a long list of rebloomers. Thank you all so much!

Rebloom was also abundant in my own garden last year. Two varieties however, performed above and beyond normal reliable rebloomers. Last summer I transplanted Margaret Wilson Thomas (D. Spoon 2009) and Gate of Heaven (Zurbrigg 2004). Both plants sent up stalks almost as soon as they were planted! I was blessed with beautiful blossoms in early September!

Many of the varieties reported rebloomed in a number of different gardens. I noticed that iris introduced by Region 4 hybridizers dominated the reports. The reports included a goodly number of median irises as well. Reblooming SDB's are a wonderful garden option as they are often less effected by frosts.

Griff Crump, Anita Moran and Don Spoon all told me about seedlings that rebloomed for them last year. It will be exciting if some of them will get to be introduced! Also exciting is Mike Lockett's 2013 registration Metro Blue that rebloomed in Maryland.

Please jot down which irises rebloom for you this year and send the list to me. Thank you so much for letting me be Rebloom Chair! It provides so much joy to me to marvel at God's wondrous creation when I see irises rebloom! I hope that I can spread interest in rebloomers to others this year!



◀ “Margaret Wilson Thomas” (Photo by Lyn Wilson)

◀ “Gate OF Heaven” (Photo by Winterberry Gardens)



◀ Lockett Seedling “Metro Blue” (Photo by Anita Moran)

## 2015 Proposed Budget

### PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET FOR AIS REGION 4

(to be approved at fall meeting)

Expenditures	Dollars
Printing & mailing two (2) issues of Newscast	\$2,000.00
RVP travel expenses	\$600.00
Membership Committee-Ginny Spoon	\$100.00
Memorials	\$300.00
Zurbrigg-Mahan Award	\$200.00
Epperson Service Award	\$100.00
Sunshine Fund	\$100.00
AIS Youth Program	\$100.00
Web Page	\$150.00
Misc. Expense	\$300.00
Total	\$3,950.00

Submitted by

Jack Loving



## TREASURER'S REPORT A.I.S. REGION 4

**October 18, 2013 to May 23, 2014**

Checking Account Balance on October 18, 2013: \$15,960.82

**Receipts:**

Fall 2013 Regional Meeting Registrations:	\$1,910.00
Fall 2013 Regional Meeting Auction:	\$717.00
Donations:	
Eastern North Carolina Iris Society:	\$300.00
C&P Iris Society:	\$250.00
Checking Account Interest:	\$0.89
<b>Total Receipts:</b>	<b>\$3,177.89</b>

**Expenditures:**

Fall 2013 Regional - Richmond, VA:	\$1,359.17
WEB Hosting:	\$95.40
Frances Thrash - Sunshine	\$6.65
Printer Ink - Anita Moran:	\$264.92
Bowl & Engraving - Sue Sawyer	\$162.00
March 2014 Newscast Printing & Mailing:	\$619.66
RVP Reimbursement:	\$600.00
Spring Regional Meeting Registration - Mac Shawe:	\$125.00
E. Roy Epperson Award	\$90.75
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$3,323.55</b>

Checking Account Balance on May 23, 2014: \$15,815.16

Carol S. Warner, Region 4 Treasurer

# The Oktavec Garden

By Anita Moran

One of two new gardens to join the display gardens in the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, the Garden of Dave and Darla Oktavec is an acre of wonder. Located in Northern Harford County, Dave used his yard to jumped into irises with the force of a hurricane and as his collection grew so did the number of beds.

Dave's extensive Iris collection began with historic and a couple newer irises, but Dave has yet to see an iris he did not like and so being a guest garden was perfect for him. New at this he needed guidance but he took the job on as he does everything else with great gusto.

The Oktavec garden is guarded by their attack bunny which hops around the iris beds but seems to leave the planting alone. Along both sides of the property are beds of irises, one of which are the guest irises for the Spring 2014 Regional. Along a strip between his drive and the neighbors is the guest bed with plenty of sunshine and exposure to passersby. The other side is a collection of garden planters filled with irises. This collection continues the entire length of the property where it joins a hand built stone wall where Dave plants his vegetables including many types of heirloom tomatoes. Surrounded by daylilies, peonies and succulents that grow from the various crags in the wall, there is something for every taste and a reminder to other gardeners that help is always welcome. Even here irises sneak into this area as well. The shade garden in the back is dominated by hostas from miniatures to giants. Jack-in-the-pulpits, ferns, and a variety of other plants

During our visit "Dr. Who" (Sutton 2009 ) was blooming well as was "Notta Lemon" (Burseen 2010). For his first attempt as a display garden, despite the nerves and stress that comes with it, Dave and Darla did a wonderful job and deserve great credit.



◀ Guard Bunny



▼ Guest Bed



▲ Rock Walled Garden

Plea For HELP! ▶



▲ Notta Lemon  
(Burseen 2010)

Doctor Who (Sutton  
2009 ▶



## Youth Gardens of Region 4

By Colin Campbell

Region 4 has a number of youth members, ranging from ones who have been part of AIS long enough to no longer be youth members, to ones who just joined this spring. Of the youth members in Region 4, five agreed to an interview about why they like to grow irises and what they have going on in their gardens. Four of the five are currently hybridizing irises and the fifth is planning to learn. One of the youth is an AIS apprentice judge and another started judge's training this year. Two brand new youth members (not interviewed) will be planting their first irises this summer. Youth members carry the love of irises forward to the next generation, bringing fresh joy and enthusiasm to iris societies and irisarians alike. Let's get introduced to these young people and learn about what's happening in the



**Devin's Garden**

Devin joined the American Iris Society this spring and has been tending some irises that he planted last year. He enjoys gardening and is taking care of an orchid and a cactus in addition to his irises. Devin likes irises because they are beautiful and “grow really cool.” He enjoys the responsibility of caring for the needs of living things. He takes pleasure in watering his plants. He likes irises that are red and pink. Devin would like to encourage others to start growing irises.

ir gardens.



## Youth Gardens of Region 4 (Cont.)



### Katie's Iris Island

Katie enjoys growing irises because they give her ties back to her family history. Her great-grandma grew irises, her mom grows irises and now Katie is continuing the legacy. She says “when you’re sad, irises make you feel happy”. Katie tends about twenty varieties of iris, including the ones her mom had in their garden. She like irises that are white and purple in the same flower. Katie has learned to hybridize and has a goal of hybridizing an iris that has yellow standards, blue falls and a white edge. One of the reasons that she likes growing irises is that she has fun getting dirty. Katie also is interested in peonies and edible flowers, which are growing in her garden. Two things Katie really enjoys about being a member of AIS are getting her own mail and visiting gardens to see all the different kinds of iris. She would eventually like to sell irises and did sell her first ones this year.

## Youth Gardens of Region 4 (Cont.)



### Gabrielle's Garden

Gabby and her sister Rachel tend their own garden with about fifteen different varieties of iris. Gabby also takes delight in the irises that were in her family's flower beds before she joined AIS, including some beardless iris. Gabby wanted to start growing her own irises because of their vast variety of beautiful colors and shapes. Hello Darkness (Schreiner's 1992), Season of Mists (L. Zurbrigg 2002) and Silverado (Schreiner's 1987) are some of her favorite varieties. She has learned to hybridize and would like to hybridize truly red and black varieties. Gabby likes deeply colored irises, white varieties and irises with grape fragrances. She loves to garden, growing edible flowers as well as other plants. She would like to grow some more irises, become familiar with varietal names and learn from hybridizing so that she can hybridize an iris that she really likes.



## Youth Gardens of Region 4 (Cont.)



### **Sarah's Bird Sanctuary**

Sarah has most of her irises planted in her Bird Sanctuary, her garden where she attracts many different kinds of birds, including gold finches, robins and mourning doves. She really enjoys gardening, growing vegetables, fruit trees and a wide variety of flowers. Her garden includes irises, daffodils, chrysanthemums, tiger lilies, roses and zinnias. Sarah has always had a few irises, and became even more interested in them when she saw the wide variety of colors and types that were available. She enjoys growing irises for fun. Sarah especially likes tall bearded irises that are purple, bright yellow, pale blue and burgundy. She enjoys seeing gardens in the iris society, and has started judge's training because she would like to become an AIS judge. Sarah has learned how to hybridize and would like to hybridize irises worthy of introduction. Once she rescued an iris from a foreclosed lot, which now blooms in a special spot in her garden.



## Youth Gardens of Region 4 (Cont.)



### Colin's Iris Hills Farm

Colin is the owner of Iris Hills Farm, a commercial iris garden with a little over 300 varieties of iris, divided between two terraced bed areas and smaller flower gardens. Colin likes the beauty of nature and enjoys growing a variety of plants, but decided to focus on irises. This year brought a miracle to his gardens –blooms from his first seedlings that he planted three years ago. Colin has been the recipient of many hours of mentoring from a number of hybridizers in Region 4, and has been learning iris genetics from Dr. Don Spoon in order to make better crosses. Colin is very excited about rebloom, focusing much of his hybridizing on reblooming TB's and SDB's. He is an apprentice judge and would like to become an AIS accredited judge in the near future. Colin hopes to have a seedling worthy of introduction while he is still in his teens.



## Youth Gardens of Region 4 (Cont.)



**Katie with prize at her local iris show**



**Sarah with prize at her local iris show**



**Gabby and Rachel hybridizing**



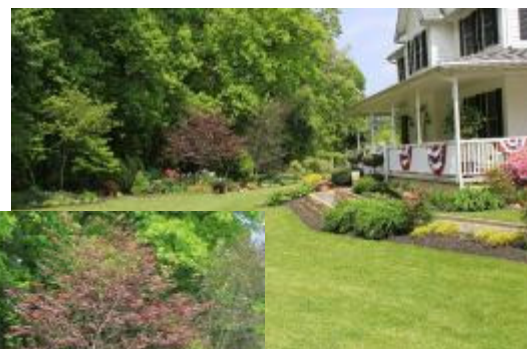
**Rooftop view of Colin's primary gardens**

# The Piasecki Garden

By Anita Moran

Dave Piasecki's and Vicki Stewart's home and gardens are a testament to the care and work of years that is readily apparent from the first moment you travel through the wooded tunnel to their home. With woods edging one side and a golf course on the other, Dave and Vickie have fashioned a garden haven in this unusual housing development all the while dealing with severe health issues. This was also the first time the Piasecki's garden was a display garden, but their attention to the garden every day after work showed in the beds that abutted the wood line and the various beds that dotted the rest of the property.

Dave's passion is daylilies while Vickie's is irises the beds show a harmony of the blending that they accomplished in several of the gardens. Around the house, behind the house there is no where you could not put down a seat and enjoy a peaceful view listening to the birds chatter and sing and the warmth of the sun on your face. It was a perfect place for our lunch break. Placing the guest beds in the center of the property with a pathway with in the bearded area and a strip of grass to separate the beardless area it allowed easy viewing of all the guests. "China In Springtime" (Niswonger 2008) the eventual B.Y. Morrison Award winner was filled with blooms as it was in every garden it was placed. Griff Crump's seedling (064A17), a pretty bi-tone pink with a long thick beard put on a great show. "Notta Lemon" (Burseen 2010) a huge lemon and white with a pinky finger sized yellow beard drew you to its location with its bright coloring, but "Tuscan Summer" (Keppel 2010) was an iris that finally drew me into loving plicata iris.



Piasecki Garden



◀ "China In Springtime" (Niswonger 2008)

Crump Seedling 064A17



"Tuscan Summer" (Keppel 2010)



## An Avid Irisarian on Pilmore Gardens

Robert W. Hartge

About a month ago, on May 23 and 24, the Francis Scott Key Chapter of Region 4 of the American Iris Society was the host of a Regional Spring Iris meeting complete with several gardens on tour. At this time, I wish to write about one of them, which really impressed me. This was Pilmore Gardens, located in Pylesville, Maryland, very near the Pennsylvania line. The time of our visit was a beautiful Saturday in late May, May 24 to be exact and here is what I would like to report is as an avid irisarian and member of the Francis Scott Key Iris Society.

Pilmore Gardens is a work in progress between the full time job and work with the various societies, Anita Moran and her husband, Ben Pilcher, are building a couple of beds a year to fill with seedlings and additions to their wonderful collections of plants. Anita Moran grows and hybridizes both bearded and beardless iris, but arils and arilbred iris are her passion. Upon a tour of her garden with several other people from different regions on the Saturday garden bus tour, one could see all the beauty of her gardens and her hybridization.

Among things I saw growing were of course, seedlings, aril iris, tall bearded, daylilies, sundry other plants, spurias iris, and the highlight at this point in the growing season (late May), being the iris.

Some of the plants that really struck me in Anita's garden included "Remarkable" (1994, Smith) This is a gorgeous brown and yellow tall bearded. Unusual coloring, I have not seen many with this unique color combination and it was robust, a good grower, good increase, and doing well on that pleasant Saturday. It was "Volcanic Glow" that stole the show for me. This is a 2012 Keith Keppel introduction, with golden brown standards and maroon-brown falls, with a food edge was doing well, it also had nice ruffling.

I saw "Holiday in Mexico" (2012, Probst), a miniature tall bearded, with yellow standards and purple-streaked yellow falls. It was most impressive and really stood out in one of Anita's beds. "Latin Rock" (1984, Schreiner), a shorter tall bearded was a true standout for me. Anita had several of these in bloom and the plants were very healthy and growing well, I was bedazzled by this one despite its height. It is an iris with pink standards and plum-purple falls.



Pilmore Bearded Guest Garden



"Remarkable" (1994, Smith)



Ben's 1948 Ford



"Volcanic Glow"  
(Keppel 2012)



"Powderpuff Girl"  
(2008/09, Blyth)

## An Avid Irisarian on Pilmore Gardens (cont.)

The thing that is distinctive about this iris is that the standards are an unusual shade of mallow or hot pink, and other than the old ones I used to grow from Walter Marx Gardens. There are really not that many irises (tall bearded) with the hot pink shade. This one has got it in the standards. I stood transfixed, looking at this one.

The other standout iris for me was “Powderpuff Girl” (2008/09, Blyth), which is sort of a pink and white combination of colors, another beautiful iris with robust growth. One of the best reds in all of the gardens we toured was one growing in Anita’s garden, called “Rio Rojo” (2009, Schreiner). A Schreiner’s introduction that from a distance is very red, up close, more of a purple-red.

By May 24, and 2014 had another late spring, so bloom period was delayed a bit, as in 2013. But, by late May, the spurias were setting bloom, as were day-lilies, most of the Arils were about finishing up their show. Anita had many more gorgeous iris in a whole array of color along with other companion plants, and a beautiful forested backdrop and property, that I believe everyone enjoyed.

The weather for the tours was perfect.

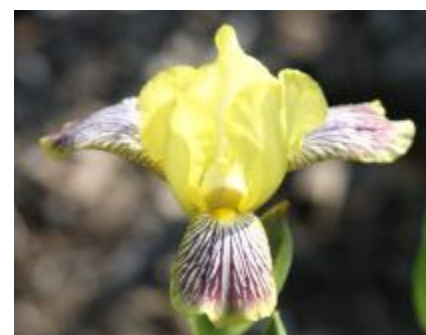
I would recommend a visit to Pilmore Gardens, and the wonderful people of Anita Moran, and her husband, Ben, for a garden visit to see their beautiful plants and expanding gardens. The spurias I got from Anita last year were outstanding this June in my garden. There is one wonderful thing about iris, they are deer-resistant. Not a lot of plants are. Many also re-bloom, and there are so many different kinds, Anita grows several bearded and beardless of different variety and origin.

For me, this was a wonderful visit, and I would highly recommend Pilmore Gardens to anyone with an avid interest in raising quality iris.



“Rio Rojo”  
(2009, Schreiner).

“Holiday in Mexico”  
(2012, Probst)



“Latin Rock”  
(1984, Schreiner)

Moran Spuria  
Seedling  
05SPU01d



## **Minutes Spring 2014**

**AIS Region 4 Spring 2014 Board Meeting May 23, 2014**

**Crown Plaza- Baltimore**

**2004 Greenspring Dr. Lutherville/Timonium, Md. 21093**

The meeting was called to order by RVP Don Rude at 10:10 AM with a welcome to everyone attending.

Secretary's Report- Sue Shackelford

The 2013 Fall Secretary's Report was published in the Spring 2014 issue of Newscast. RVP, Don Rude asked for a motion to accept the Fall 2013 minutes as they were printed in the Newscast. Anita Moran moved the minutes be accepted as printed, it was seconded by Carrie Winter and RVP, Don Rude stated minutes stood as approved as printed.

### **Treasure's Report – Carol Warner**

Checkbook balance \$15,815.16

### **Assistant RVP's Report- Anita Moran**

RVP, Don Rude, called for the following Committee Reports:

#### **Historian- Lois Rose- No Report**

#### **Beardless & Species- Carol Warner-No Report**

#### **Budget- Jack Loving**

Anita Moran motioned that we add \$100 to the budget for a Sunshine Fund to send cards and/or flowers to members as needed. Carol Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Carrie Winter motioned that we add \$200 to the budget to fund the Zurbrig-Mahan award annually. Anita Moran seconded the motion. Motion carried. Susan Grigg motioned that we add \$100 to the budget for the Epperson Service Award annually. Carol Warner seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **Judges Training Chair – Carrie Winter**

#### **Medium Iris Chair - Ginny Spoon**

Boiled Sunshine won the Presidents Cup in region and Bahama Blues won for out of region.

#### **Membership Chair – Ginny Spoon**

#### **Re-blooming Chair – Colin Campbell**

#### **Beardless Iris Chair - Carol Warner - No report**

#### **Iris Program Resource- Bill Smoot-No Report**

#### **Youth Chairman- Ray Jones-No Report**



## Minutes Spring 2014 (cont.)

**Newscast Editor & Webmaster- Anita Moran**

**Nominating Committee- Susan Grigg**

Susan moved that the slate of officers as listed in the Newscast be accepted at the general meeting and voted on to take office at the end of the Fall meeting.

**Epperson Award Committee-Carrie Winter-** 2nd annual award to be presented at general meeting on Saturday.

Public Relations-Bob Pries-Not present-no report

**Affiliate Reports:**

Charlotte – report given by Carrie Winter

Central Virginia – report given by Jim Diggs

Eastern North Carolina-report given by Susan Grigg

Chesapeake & Potomac –report given by Ginny Spoon

Francis Scott Key -

Fredericksburg Area – report given by Sue Shackelford

### **Old Business**

Anita Moran moved that we send \$150 to AIS for the Library Fund in memory of Clarence Mahan. Sue Shackelford seconded the motion. Motion carried. At the fall meeting there was a motion to amend the by-laws to delete the final sentence in Article IV. The proposed change was printed in the Spring 2014 issue of the Newscast. Anita Moran made the motion to amend the by-laws as stated. Felicitas Goethals seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **New Business**

At the board meeting, Ginny Spoon moved that we send \$150 to AIS for the Encyclopedia Fund in memory of Mike Lowe. Anita Moran seconded the motion. Motion carried. At the dinner on Saturday evening, Susan Grigg presented the new slate of officers. Anita Moran, RVP Doug Chyz, Assistant RPV Frances Thrash, Secretary Carol Warner, Treasurer Sylvia Deck made the motion to accept the slate of officers as presented. Felicitas Goethals seconded the motion. Motion carried. The new officers will take office at the end of the Fall meeting.

### **Announcements**

Don Rude announced that Region 4 youth member Colin Campbell, of the C&P affiliate, was recognized at the National Convention in Dallas, Texas earlier in April as the Cosgrove Award and Ackerman essay contest winner. Don will present the check and certificate to Colin at the banquet tonight.

Don Spoon won the Caparne-Welsh Award for his “Trimmed Velvet”.

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society won the contest for most new members in 2013 in Region 4. Don will also present that check at the banquet meeting.

Anita Moran made a motion to adjourn the meeting . RVP, Dun Rude adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM.

# Minutes General Meeting

**Saturday, May 24, 2014**

Plant auction on Friday evening netted \$706 for AIS.

An after dinner roll call was taken before moving on to the program. The affiliate roll count at that time was as follows:

Affiliate	Number Present
At Large	2
Central Virginia Iris Society	8
Charlotte	2
Chesapeake & Potomac	10 + 2 guests
Eastern North Carolina	5
Francis Scott Key	15
Fredericksburg Area Iris Society	6
Out of Region	24

A vote was taken on the new slate of officers. Slate passed unanimously.

## **Presentations at the banquet:**

Carrie Winter presented the 2nd Annual Epperson Service Award to Carol Warner for outstanding service.

Susan Grigg presented the Zurbrigg-Mahan Award to Alton Pyburn for best new seedling. Mr Pyburn was not present. Award will be mailed. She noted that Region 4 is the only affiliate to give a national AIS award.

Alice Baldwin Award presented to Mike Lockatell.

Nearpass Award presented to Mike Lockatell for Courtney Rucker

Susan Grigg gave a short presentation inviting us to the Fall Regional in Raleigh, NC.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sue Shackelford, Secretary

# **LOOKING FOR FALL COLOR?**

## **REBLOOMING IRISES IN NORTH CAROLINA!**

### **OCTOBER 10 – 11, 2014**

Our location in the DoubleTree by Hilton Raleigh-Cary, 500 Caitboo Avenue, Cary, NC will offer you warm hospitality and food in the hotel or close by in the Crossroads Shopping Center area. The DoubleTree received in 2013 the TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence Award for outstanding traveler reviews on the world's largest travel site.

Enjoy a King bed or two Queen beds in rooms equipped with complimentary wired and wireless high speed internet, two telephones with 2 lines, data port and voice mail, coffee/tea maker, HI-Def TVs, iron and ironing board. All rooms are accessible and some feature a roll in shower. Several suites are available. All rooms are non-smoking, as is the entire hotel.

The indoor pool and the fitness room are available to keep you in shape, even after a cooked-to-order breakfast or full American breakfast buffet each morning. In the Park Bar and Grill you can enjoy a delicious meal for breakfast or dinner or have after-dinner drinks at the bar. The 24-hour Grab-n-Go shop has sandwiches, salads, or snacks if you're in a hurry.

Please make your hotel reservation before September 15 by calling the hotel directly at (919) 239-4777 and mention Eastern NC Iris Society group code IRI or go online to [www.raleighcary.doubletree.com](http://www.raleighcary.doubletree.com) to book using the group code IRI to receive the group rate of \$99. + tax. The same rate will be available on Thursday, October 9 if you'd like to arrive early.

On Saturday afternoon we'll be treated to a tour of Plant Delights Nursery by the noted nurseryman and owner, Tony Avent. The sales area will be open only for us that day, so come prepared to shop for that special plant – or two.

Don't forget to bring your stalks for the rebloom show and your donations for the Regional Auction that benefits Region 4.

We look forward to fall color in North Carolina and your visit!



# “LOOKING FOR FALL COLOR” Show Schedule



AN ACCREDITED IRIS SHOW  
presented by the  
EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY  
AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, REGION 4

DOUBLETREE BY HILTON RALEIGH-CARY  
500 CAITBOO AVENUE, CARY, NC  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - NO ADMISSION CHARGE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2014  
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## RULES - GENERAL

1. This accredited show is being held and judged under the rules and regulations of The American Iris Society as set forth in the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials, 7th Edition, 2007*, and subsequent rules and regulations approved by the American Iris Society Board of Directors. These rules and regulations may not be violated.
2. Entries will be received from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. on October 11, 2014 in the DoubleTree Raleigh-Cary, 500 Caitboo Ave., Cary, NC.
3. Accredited Judges of the American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Divisions. Judges' decisions will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion.
4. Judging will begin at 9 a.m. Show will open to the public at 10 a.m.
5. Only specifically authorized personnel will be allowed in the show area during judging.
6. The Classification Committee may divide, sub-divide, combine or create groups as necessary.
7. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care but is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.
8. Show judges are not permitted to exhibit in this show.
9. Youth exhibitors (persons under 19 years of age) who enter specimens or seedlings will compete with adults.
10. Exhibits will remain in place until 5:30 p.m. on October 11. All exhibits Must be removed by 6 p.m.

## SPECIAL RULES - HORTICULTURE DIVISION

1. This is a VARIETY/CULTIVAR show, staged according to type and in alphabetical order within the various sections and groups. Each variety constitutes a separate group and must be correctly named. No unnamed variety may be exhibited except seedlings which may be entered under number. Division, Section, and Group numbers and name of variety (number or name in Seedling Division) must appear on the entry card. The entry card is to be prepared by the exhibitor.
2. The horticulture and seedling divisions are open to any grower.

3. Exhibitors may enter **only one stalk of a variety** in single specimen and seedling sections, but may enter any number of varieties. Containers will be furnished for all single specimens. Containers appropriate for the exhibit must be furnished by the exhibitors of collections. The only stipulation is that the containers must be made of transparent materials.
4. Paper toweling will be furnished by the Show Committee for bracing stalks at the necks of containers. **No other material is allowed for this purpose without permission from the show chairman.**
5. Single specimens will be placed by the Placement Committee. Exhibitors will be allowed to place collections.
6. Entries **must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag.** Members of a family may exhibit from the same garden. An exhibitor may enter a seedling originated by another person but the hybridizer's name and the seedling name or number must appear on the entry card.
7. Unnamed stalks (except seedlings), potted exhibits or labeled iris grown by another person **are not eligible** for AIS ribbons and awards, but may be displayed on the table marked "FOR DISPLAY ONLY."

### **DIVISION I: HORTICULTURE**

SECTION A. Tall Bearded Iris (TB)

SECTION B. Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB)

SECTION C. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)

SECTION D. Intermediate Bearded (IB)

SECTION E. Border Bearded (BB)

SECTION F. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB) SECTION G. Space Age Iris (horns, spoons, flounces)

SECTION H. Any other Bearded

SECTION I. Siberian (SIB)

SECTION J. Louisiana (LA)

SECTION K. Any other beardless

SECTION L. Historic Iris (introduced in 1984 or before)

SECTION M. Species (SPEC) and Inter-species (SPEC-X)

SECTION N. Bulbous Irises (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

SECTION O. Collections (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

Group 1. 3 stalks/one variety

Group 2. 3 stalks/all different

Group 3. 5 or more stalks/one variety

Group 4. 5 or more stalks/all different

### **DIVISION II: SEEDLINGS**

Any unintroducted iris of any type: seedlings must be entered under seedling number or registered name and must be made in the name of the owner or originator of the clone.

### **DIVISION III: EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS**

Any educational exhibit must fit on a table top 6' X 3'. Contact the Show Chairman to reserve space at least a week before the Show is held.

### **AWARDS -- Horticulture All are American Iris Society Awards**

1. All exhibitors are eligible for ribbons and awards.

2. Ribbons: One First (Blue), one Second (Red), and one Third (White) place ribbon may be given to each cultivar in each section except in the Seedling Division. As many Honorable Mention (Pink) ribbons may be awarded as the panel of Judges deems worthy. Each specimen can be awarded only one ribbon.
3. **Best Specimen of Show** - (Seedlings, Bulbous and Collection Sections excepted): Large purple rosette and Certificate.
4. **Two runners-up to Best Specimen of Show**: Small purple rosette. (Each runner-up must have earned a first place ribbon.)
5. **Horticultural Sweepstakes** (most blue ribbons): Silver Medal and Certificate. [There must be at least five (5) exhibitors and at least twenty (20) cultivars.]
6. **Horticultural Sweepstakes Runner-up** (second most blue ribbons): Bronze Medal and Certificate. [There must be at least five (5) exhibitors and at least twenty (20) cultivars.]
7. **Best Seedling**: Purple rosette and Exhibition Certificate. Exhibition Certificate will also be awarded to any seedling receiving 5 or more votes from fully accredited AIS judges attending the show. Ballots and envelopes are available at Seedling Division. Judges will please seal ballots and give to the Show Chairman.
8. **A Section Medal Certificate and Rosette** may be awarded in each Section where there are at least three (3) exhibitors and at least five (5) cultivars in the Section. The Rosette is awarded to the Best Specimen of the Section. The Certificate is awarded to the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons in the Section.
9. **Educational Exhibit** may receive the Bronze Medal Certificate for outstanding Educational Exhibit.
10. **Best Design of Show**: Large purple rosette and certificate.
11. **Artistic Sweepstakes**: Large purple rosette and certificate.

### “LOOKING FOR FALL COLOR”

#### DIVISION IV – ARTISTIC

#### DESIGN RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. An exhibitor may enter only one exhibit per class, but may enter as many classes as desired.
2. Exhibitors under age 19 may enter adult classes.
3. One or more iris bloom(s) must be used in each design and should be the dominant flower(s) in the design. The use of iris foliage in a design is the choice of the designer.
4. The design must be made by one exhibitor, but plant material used in a design does NOT have to have been grown by the designer.
5. Accessories are permitted in all classes unless prohibited by the Schedule.
6. A minimum of dried, treated and/or weathered plant material is permitted. Fresh plant material may not be treated in any manner.
7. No artificial flowers, foliage, fruit or vegetables are permitted. Fresh cut fruits and vegetables, and any other non-perishable food products are allowed, but must be sealed if the possibility exists for attracting insects or producing undesirable odors.
8. The use of any part(s) of plants on the appropriate state conservation list is strictly prohibited.
9. The use of the American Flag or any international flag is prohibited. The use of the colors or bunting is permitted and encouraged if it helps interpret the theme.
10. Each design must be accompanied by a 3” X 5” card listing all plant material used. Include iris cultivar name, if possible.



**Notes:**

1. Table space with niches approx. 27" tall X 22" wide X 15" deep with solid color backgrounds will be provided, if needed. Exhibitor may bring your own background. An appropriate accessory may be used with any design exhibit.
2. Experienced, qualified judges will judge this Division. Judges of the National Garden Clubs and/or The American Iris Society will judge the artistic/design exhibits.
3. Judges are requested to write comments for each design on a 3" X 5" card provided by the Show Committee. This will encourage and educate the exhibitor. Comments should include a positive comment and any errors should be based on the principles of design in a constructive manner.

**"LOOKING FOR FALL COLOR"**

Class 1. "Backyard Pond" – Feature a suggestion of water in this design staged on a table with a background, either provided by the Show organizers or one of your own.

Class 2. "Sunny Border" – Use bright colors and at least two irises staged on a table with a background, see above.

Class 3. "Rock Garden" – Use a rock or rocks in or with this design and small irises staged on a table with a background, see above.

**SHOW PERSONNEL**

Show Chairmen	Bob Pries (336) 597-8805, Susan Grigg (919) 870-8345
Staging	Ray Quinn, Glenn Grigg, Dean Richards
Clerks	Kat Causey, Kay Faust, Diana Richards
Schedule	Susan Grigg
Classification & Publicity	Bob Pries
Entries & Placement	Diana Richards, Kay Faust, Kat Causey
Judges	Susan Grigg
ENCIS Officers	Bonita Masteller, Pres. Diana Richards, Vice Pres. Glenn Grigg, Sec. Kat Causey, Treas.

**JOIN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY**

You will receive four valuable color Bulletins each year containing information on iris culture, suggestions to hybridizers, planning of your garden, and many other helps. Make new friends and enjoy learning more about irises.

Single Annual DUES are \$25.00 per year. :Single Triennial DUES are \$60.00.

Dual Annual DUES are \$30.00 per year. :Dual Triennial DUES are \$75.00 per year.

E-Membership DUES are \$15.00 per year. (Bulletin online only, Iris Registration, online copies of past Bulletins)

Youth Membership (under 19 with printed Bulletin) \$9. per year, (under 19 without printed Bulletin) \$5. per year.

**Mail check or money order to:**

**The American Iris Society, PO Box 177 DeLeon Springs, FL 32130-0177**

**See the AIS website [www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org) for more information or to join by credit card or PayPal.**

Join the American Iris Society and receive a free iris from the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society. The ENCIS is a non-profit affiliate of the American Iris Society and was formed in the early 1960s. Meetings are held 4 times during the year and are usually in the Triangle area.

## Schedule of Events

### Schedule for Region 4 Fall Meeting Hosted by the Eastern NC Iris Society

Friday, October 10, 2014

10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	Registration
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.	Open Gardens
Noon – 1 p.m.	Lunch on your own
2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Judges Training on Species Irises
4 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	Region 4 Board Meeting
6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.	Dinner on your own
8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Plant Auction

Saturday, October 11, 2014

8 a.m. – Noon	Registration
8 a.m. – 9 a.m.	Receive entries for Iris Show
9 a.m. – 10 a.m.	Judging the Show/ Closed to public
9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Judges Training on Dwarf Irises
10 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Show open for viewing
11:15 a.m.	Leave for lunch – carpooling
Noon – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch at Golden Corral
2 p.m. – 4 p.m.	Visit to Plant Delights Garden
4 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.	Carpool back to hotel
5:30 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Social gathering/Take down Iris Show
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.	Banquet
8:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Plant Auction (if needed)

## Registration Form

### REGISTRATION for REGION 4 FALL MEETING

OCTOBER 10 – 11, 2014

NAME 1 \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME 2 \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT) \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL (IF DIFFERENT) \_\_\_\_\_

FRIDAY JUDGES' TRAINING: ONE PERSON \_\_\_\_\_ TWO PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_

SATURDAY JUDGES' TRAINING: ONE PERSON \_\_\_\_\_ TWO PERSONS \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee -- \$75. per person (includes dinner buffet Saturday night)

Payment enclosed: \$75. x number of persons = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: ENCIS

Mail this reservation form and check to: Kay Causey, ENCIS Treasurer

8216 Bromley Rd.

Hillsborough, NC 27278

\*\*\*Make hotel reservations before **September 15** directly with the hotel, DoubleTree by Hilton Raleigh-Cary, 500 Caitboo Ave., Cary, NC 27518

Phone: 1-919-239-4777

Mention **Eastern NC Iris Society group code IRI** to get the special rate of \$99. + tax. The same rate will be available for Thursday, October 9 if you'd like to arrive early.



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Anita Moran  
Newscast Editor  
5351 Rocks Rd  
Pylesville, MD 21132