



The Newscast



Sunsets on Friends From Region 4

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does a gardener wear?

A. Garden hose.

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Sunshine

Kathy Huneycutt
See ARVP



Asadim Images.com

They all fall
For the Siren's call.

In the early spring
She does her thing,

Takes your money;
never calls you honey.

She's a temptress,
a lovely mistress.

It's a raging virus;
her name is Iris.

Ginny Spoon
May 2023



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Gardening is a Wonder

Wonder where that new iris I bought is?
Wonder where I left my shovel?
Wonder is that the right marker for that iris?
Wonder if that's a rain drop? Where is my umbrella?
Wonder if that is a weed or a flower?
Wonder if there is such a thing as an invasive iris?

AM/SG 2023

NEWSCAST is the publication of Region 4, American Iris Society (AIS).

Region 4 is comprised of the States of Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

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March Issue—31 JANUARY August Issue—30 JUNE

Notes From The Region 4 Vice President

It is with a heavy heart that I write this message. In December 2022 we lost Bill Kuykendall of West Virginia and then in March of 2023, we lost two active members of Region 4. On March 4, we lost previous Past RVP Don Rude of Blacksburg Virginia, then on March 17, we lost Glenna Witter of the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society. Finally, in a horrible act of violence on July 1, we lost a vital member to the Francis Scott Key Iris Society. David Oktavec was brutally murdered going to the rescue of his brother-in-law Tim Witherite who died protecting his family. I have received calls from all over the nation from those who could not believe we lost Dave in such a manner. With these losses it is difficult to concentrate on the irises we all love.

For those who were not lucky enough to join us for the spring regional hosted by the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society, you missed a wonderful time. We revisited the Opequon Memorial Garden at the Opequon Presbyterian Church, Colin Campbell's Iris Hills Farm, and the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Garden. We also got to visit Patti Meagher's Garden in Middleburg, Virginia, which was a new garden to us. Of course, we also visited Winterberry Gardens, perhaps for the last time; and even with the rain it did not disappoint. Also attending our Spring Regional were Tim Brennan, Dave Nitka, Rebecca Wong, and Bruce and Ruthy Bennet from AIS Region. We were also visited by Delane Langton and Jane Tibbs of Montana (Region 11) who gave us a preview of the 2025 AIS National Convention in Montana.

There are many gardens throughout the Region 4 area and not just those seen on tours. I love nothing better than to arrive early to regionals to see other gardens which might not be on tour. This Spring I went to the Eastern Shore of Maryland to see gardens from the Bayshore Iris Society who will be hosting the Fall 2024 Regional Meeting. Like most gardens I visit, there are many ideas that I hope to eventually incorporate into my garden.

I am closing this letter by asking all of you to stay in contact with your older members who might not get out into the gardens as much, maybe offer some help, or just go to visit and spend an afternoon. For the others in your groups, keep in touch, go to lunch, visit their gardens, hug them because it might be the last time. I received a text message from Dave Oktavec days before he was killed. That message will remain on my phone because it was so typically Dave. I will forever regret not calling Don and Glenna more often to keep in touch. Don't be like me, call, write, text, or contact on Facebook or other media to say "hi".

Please pray for the families of our lost members. It would be very much appreciated.

Anita Moran



Garden of John Iwanski in
Hebron, Maryland

***Iris aphylla*:** (Synonyms: *I. hungarica*, *I. polonica*, *I. bohémica*)

Eupogon, MTB, SDB or IB
Chromosome Count: $4n=48$
(tetraploid). A few diploid forms have been reported

Description: 6"-12" (15-30 cm) tall, with pale to dark purple or violet-blue flowers

Distinguishing Features: Flower stalks have many branches. *I. aphylla* is the only known European species of iris with bearded flowers and stems that branch well below the middle often near the base of the stem.

Preferred Habitat: Forest-steppes. On sands and limestone in the North

Hardiness: Estimated Zone 3-8
Native Range: Central and Eastern Europe

Iris aphylla, is one of the steppe plant species classified as extremely rare and endangered. *Iris aphylla* has been used extensively in hybridizing programs with tall bearded varieties to reduce the flower and plant size and to increase the branching and bud count. Many of the resulting hybrids are tetraploid MTB varieties. Used by Ben Hager to produce Tetraploid MTBs, Hager's Pinks. *Iris aphylla* is a most variable species.

References:

1. <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?Iris-aphylla>
2. <https://wiki.irises.org/Spec/SpecAphylla>

From The Editor

I want to thank all those who wrote and submitted articles for this edition of the *Newscast*. I hope you enjoy reading about the Spring Regional gardens and other topics. This is a new pattern for the *Newscast* based on recommendations from the *Newscast* Board and from comments I received from other members.

This is my 46th Edition of the Region 4 newsletter; and because working on it was hard at times, it has been a real labor of love. You have all helped to make this one of the finest regional publications online. Because it is distributed online, it is available to anyone interested in irises. We have irisarians in war torn areas of the world, who thanks to technology are able to find us and enjoy learning about what is happening in our gardens. As long as we are able to continue to provide interesting content, I can see our newsletter leading the pack, even nationally. I have always believed that knowledge is never something to be hoarded.

Region 4 lost four very valued members during the last eight months. The loss of loved ones is hard on all involved, especially if they are taken from us by violent means. Please send cards and notes to the families and keep them in your prayers.

I am continuing to include information about the various species that do well in Region 4. If you would like information on irises that might be better suited as house plants in our area, please let me know and I will be glad to print the information and supply you with references. For species, the best source of information is the Species Iris Group of North America database (<http://www.signa.org/index.pl?Database>) I can spend as much time there as I do on the Wiki, especially when seeds are for sale.

Please remember this is your newsletter. I want to put in it all the information you would like to know about. You can contact me, Susan Grigg, or Alleah Haley to suggest topics of interest.

Anita Moran



Iris aphylla Photo J. Pirogov



Iris aphylla Photo J. Pirogov



Iris aphylla 'Ostry White' (Tankesley-Clarke, R. 1994) Photo Lowell Baumunk

**TREASURER'S REPORT
A.I.S. REGION 4
October 15, 2022 to May 12, 2023**

Checking Account Balance on October 15, 2022: **\$18,317.96**

Receipts:

Fall Region 4 Auction:	\$1,493.00
Donations:	
ENC IS:	\$700.00
Checking Account Interest:	\$1.14

Total Receipts:	\$2,194.14
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Expenditures:

WEB Hosting - Anita:	\$71.40
3 MS Office Pro Licenses:	\$247.59
Computer Upgrade - Alleah:	\$329.51
March NEWSCAST:	\$696.00
Zurbrigg/Mahan Cup & Engraving:	\$205.86
Zurbrigg/Mahan Cup Shipping:	\$25.61
Ordering New Checks:	\$91.42

Total Expenditures:	\$1,667.39
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Checking Account Balance on May 12, 2023: **\$18,844.71**

Iris Laws continued from March 2023 *Newscast* pp. 3, 17

Law number 16: There are three ways you ex tell an irisarian is getting senile. One, he starts repeating himself. Two, he starts forgetting things. And three, he.... (I can't seem to remember the third way!)

Law Number 17: More potential queens of the show have lost out to car doors than to iris borers or unusual judging. Car doors, otherwise, inanimate objects actually attack any iris that looks like it will take top price.

Law Number 18: All iris robins arrive only in bloom season, vacation time, or during the Christmas Holiday or at least it seems so.

Law Number 19: one man's antique iris is another man's dog.

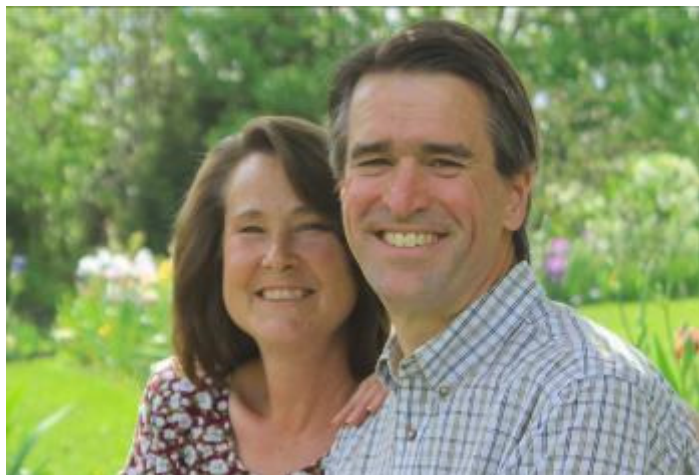
(Excerpt from Jan. 1986, beginning Vol 28-1 Clarence Mahan)

2023 Budget

Expenditure	Contact	Description	Dollars	Actual	Sub Total
Printing and Mailing	Anita Moran	Two issues of Newscast per year	\$1,500.00		
		March 2023		\$696.00	\$696.00
		August 2023		\$0.00	
	Anita Moran	Instant Ink		\$0.00	
RVP Travel Expenses	Anita Moran	\$600/yr for AIS Conventions stipend	\$800.00	\$200.00	
				\$0.00	\$200.00
				\$0.00	
Membership Committee	Ginny Spoon		\$100.00		
				\$0.00	
Memorials	Board	In Memory donations	\$300.00		
				\$0.00	
Zurbrigg-Mahan Award	Susan Grigg	Engraved Cup (\$300)	\$300.00	\$205.86	\$231.47
	Awarded to:	Ava Toth for IB Seedling 19A116i			
	Shipping:			\$25.61	
Judges	Sue Shackelford	Supplies postage, etc.	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Epperson Award	Sue Shackelford	Engraved Silver Bowl	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Awarded to:				
Sunshine Fund	Kathy Huneycutt	Get well and sympathy cards	\$100.00	\$0.00	
		Flowers for Phillip Bray			
AIS Youth Program			\$100.00	\$0.00	
Region 4 Website	Anita Moran	Costs associated with website	\$100.00	\$71.40	
		Web Hosting			
Zoom Account		Annual Pro Subscription	\$170.00	\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses		New Checks	\$300.00	\$91.42	\$668.52
	Board	Equipment and programs for <i>Newscast</i>	\$600.00	\$577.10	
Total			\$4,810.00	\$1,867.39	
Difference		Budget Amount minus Expenses	\$2,942.61		

Submitted by Anita Moran

A Grateful Farewell



Twelve years ago AIS Region 4 adopted our son, Colin, and you all poured out your knowledge of irises and your love for him. We are so grateful to each and every one of you for the positive impact you have made, and will continue to make, on Colin's life.

You made a permanent place in our hearts back then. We joined the iris society a decade ago since we were always at the gatherings locally and regionally even without being members. Colin still needed a ride back then J.

He's now 24, hasn't needed a ride in many years, and it's time for us to move on while he continues with you. While involved primarily because of our love for our son, and then for each of you, we've tried to be positive contributors to the success of the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society (S&P) and Region 4. And we have come to thoroughly enjoy irises! Our lives just need to head in other directions now. We will be helping S&P to host the 2023 Fall Regional here in the Winchester, Virginia area, and will join you all one last time at the 2024 Spring Regional in Charlotte, North Carolina. We look forward to being with you for both of those events!

Thank you all! May God bless you and keep you, may He make His face to shine upon you, and may He give you peace!

With grateful hearts,
Rob and Sheryl Campbell



2023 Region 4 Spring Iris Convention A Different Take on an Old Theme

by Sheryl Campbell

Inflation taking a bite out of your budget? Ours too! That's why we organized things a bit differently for the 2023 Spring Regional here in Winchester, Virginia.

In concert with Anita Moran, our RVP, we started looking at ways to cut costs for everyone while still providing a full banquet evening, a beautiful iris show, judges' training, meetings, and many iris gardens. We hope you all had a wonderful time and felt like you got your money's worth!

We did change some things though. For starters, we didn't pick one venue for the show, the banquet, and overnight stays. Instead we negotiated individual deals where we could.

Rather than commit ourselves to a block of rooms and risk being liable for them if we didn't get enough attendees, the Marriott Courtyard offered to make us their "Hotel of Choice," giving us a deep room discount for 15 rooms that would go away one month before the event. I'm not sure if other hotels do this, but it took a lot of the strain off our organizers and ensured that we weren't scrambling to fill rooms. It also had the effect of causing many of you to register and book a room early.

In our area there is only one hotel with banquet rooms large enough for our region's gathering and it is one of the most expensive hotels in town. Our banquet was there, but by locking in the room well over a year in advance, we were able to get a 40% discount. We combined the banquet, awards, general meeting, presentations, and plant auction into a single evening in a single large room, which also kept room rental costs down.

Without a single location where everything occurred, we didn't have a spot for the Silent Auction. This event is what clubs use to help defray the unexpected costs of hosting a Regional Convention. But by cutting costs elsewhere, we were able to divide our 'sunk costs' (money already spent and cannot be recovered) between all attendees and still have a very low registration fee, while covering all our expenses.

We limited the viewing time for the show to a couple of hours. Rooms large enough for regional iris shows tend to be pricey and club members are needed to keep them manned for the duration. More of our new members attended because of our local show and sale instead of a large regional show. We have a small enough active

club membership that we wanted everyone to be able to enjoy all the events.

While we did pay for the MSV rooms for the show, lunch, and meetings on Friday, they gave us a 50% discount because we are a nonprofit. They also provided the guided garden tours for free (usually \$15 per person) since we were staying there most of the day.

Our lunch venue on Saturday (the church of one of our members) only has a small flower garden and a larger vegetable garden, but it was free, had restrooms, and was in-between the morning and afternoon tour gardens. This cut down on the need for port-a-johns at the gardens.



A Different Take on an Old Theme (cont.)

It is no longer possible to rent large passenger vans in our area, and most of our gardens didn't have room for parking buses. Anita recommended carpooling, since the private gardens only had a small number of parking spots. You all responded so graciously! We had multiple offers of drivers for car pools and were able to use only 12 vehicles while having 50 attendees.

We eliminated the unnecessary (in my mind) hassle of having each tour garden provide food and drinks. This kept costs down and freed the garden hosts to be with attendees rather than setting up, serving, and tearing down food. We'd noticed that more clubs had been eliminating this recently and decided to copy a good idea.

Some of the things we did may work in your area and some won't. But sharing what worked and keeping costs down each year will make it easier for clubs who've not hosted regional meetings in a long time to tailor one to their unique area.

Did it all work out? We covered our costs and had a wonderful time with all of you. So our club says, "yes, it worked out well"! It helped that the weather cooperated beautifully!

Were there glitches? Absolutely! I almost forgot to get the gathering place hotel's permission to leave extra cars there. Not everyone liked the idea of carpooling (it helped that it was our RVP's idea!). We had such an overwhelming early response that we had to cut off registrations a month before the event. Then I got three more fully paid registrations before people got the word, but the hotel worked them in after I offered for my family to eat in the hallway. The staff even made room for us to eat with all of you.

One of the best things from an organizer's point of view, is how early all the registrations came in. I think this was due in part to the hotel room discount closing so early. That led to almost full capacity for our banquet evening already in April. My e-mails letting everyone know how few slots were left generated a final quick inflow of registrations.

As all of you who've organized these regional events before know, it can be like pulling teeth to get registrations in on time to meet your caterer and hotel deadlines. That creates final weeks of e-mailing, phone

calls, and worry about being able to cover costs that the club has to pay, regardless of how many people attend. I'd recommend that the Region establish a hard cut-off time for our spring and fall event registrations. Surely we can all be gracious with each other and help out with this. The easier it is to plan a Regional Convention, the more clubs will be willing to take on the organizing. It's really not hard if we all work to help out.

Thank you for joining us for Mother's Day weekend here in the Winchester area! It was a delight to be able to host the 2023 Spring Convention.



Iris Hills Farm



Meagher Garden



Winterberry Gardens

Donald Warren Rude December 1, 1936 - March 4, 2023

Donald Warren Rude loved his family and friends, Shakespeare, opera, and anything that bloomed, especially irises, throughout his life until his death March 4, 2023.

His father read Lamb's *Tales of Shakespeare* to him when he was 6, and his mother read to him constantly. He bought his first opera recording at age 12, which he paid for by selling flower seeds door to door. He enjoyed opera performances throughout the United States and Europe—New York, Santa Fe, London, and more. At 12, he also planted his first iris rhizome and had about 400 different varieties in his Blacksburg garden. He served a term as president of the Region 4 Iris Society and was a certified judge of irises.

For most of his distinguished career, Don served as a professor of English at Texas Tech University, where he taught Shakespeare and other authors, served as Director of Graduate Studies in English, and directed a number of dissertations. He edited the international journal *Conradiana* for 12 years. Don joined the faculty at Virginia Tech in 2004. He shared his love for Shakespeare beyond the university classroom through the courses he taught for seniors at the Blacksburg Community Center—a 17-year commitment faithfully upheld through Fall 2022.

Don met his wife of 54 years, Carolyn, when they were graduate students at the University of Illinois. They shared a love of music, travel, teaching, and their children. Their older son, Benjamin, was killed in a skiing accident in 1987. Grief from that loss prompted an outpouring of poetry writing, some published in various journals and in a self-published collection, *Legacy*. Their precious younger son, Jonathan, is husband to Leah Lambert, and father to Sydney, Avery, and Ryan. Don shared a love of mystery novels with Leah and loved to read to or watch classic movies with the children.

Friends and family described Don as generous in mentoring, kind, and able to uplift the spirits of a room. They remarked on his sense of humor and commitment to social justice. They praised his teaching and scholarship and were awed by his deep knowledge of opera and irises.

Don was born on December 1, 1936, to Robert Maurice Rude and Nellie Jackson Rude in Great Bend, Kansas. He is a graduate of Wichita State University (B.A., M.A.), where he edited both the yearbook and the newspaper, and the University of Illinois (Ph.D.). He is survived by Carolyn; Jonathan and his family; his sister,

Roberta, with whom he shared his love of Shakespeare, theatre, and gardening; his sister-in-law, Martha Sue Moll and brother-in-law, Charles Kettell and their families; and by cousins and their families.

Don was generous in supporting educational and community groups. Scholarships in his name and in Benjamin's are endowed at Texas Tech University; funds in his name are also endowed at the Moss Arts Center and at the Community Foundation of the New River Valley. He was also a contributor to the endowment fund of the Lifelong Learning Institute at Virginia Tech. Memorial contributions to any of these funds would be welcome. Or plant a flower, take a walk, listen to some favorite music, or read a book, and reflect on the life of a gentle man who loved beauty.

Reprinted from McCoy Funeral Home, Blacksburg, Virginia

<https://www.mccoyfuneralhome.com/obituaries/Donald-Rude-2/#!/TributeWall>



Ginny Spoon, Don Spoon, John Rosini and Don Rude

Donald Warren Rude December 1, 1936 - March 4, 2023 (Cont.)

Remembering Don Rude by Anita Moran

I first met Don as we attended American Iris Society National Conventions and Regionals together. Don was a very private person to the point he hid an injury on his arm at one of the conventions. I saw the large black bruise and asked a friend, Rose Kinnard, a nurse, to check it out and she was finally able to convince him to go to the hospital with my sister and Rose. However, despite this, Don took it on himself to put on not one but two Regional Meetings. He first spread his wings in the Fall of 2007. Although he used the resources of the Region, Don was the driving force. After recovering from his first successful attempt, Don sponsored the 2011 Spring Regional, again in Blacksburg, Virginia. The Price House allowed for an impromptu in garden training on iris borers. Then we were invited to his home and we were treated to a wonderful lunch and a variety of gardens. As Regional Vice President for Region 4, Don worked very hard to learn the job.

The last time I saw Don was at the Ladew topiary gardens. I wish we could have spent more time together. I will miss our discussions on so many topics when we were together. Don will be missed by many.



This recipe, is from Don's wife, Carolyn Rude.

Bean & Barley Salad

INGREDIENTS:

1 cup quick-cooking barley
2 cups canned rinsed navy beans
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
2 diced tomatoes
2 thinly sliced green onions
1 11oz can rinsed corn (or frozen equivalent)
1 diced avocado
1/2 cup thinly sliced celery
1/3 cup coarsely chopped toasted walnuts

Dressing:

1/4 cup lemon juice
1/4 cup olive oil
2 minced cloves of garlic
1/2 tsp Dijon mustard
1 1/2 tsp dried dill
1 tsp salt
black pepper

DIRECTIONS:

Cook barley according to directions. Drain and rinse under cold water and allow to cool. In large bowl, combine barley, beans, cilantro, tomatoes, onions, corn, avocado, celery, and walnuts.

In a small bowl, whisk together the dressing ingredients; pour over salad. Toss to coat.



Assistant RVP's Report and Conventions Report Spring 2023

We are covered for the next two years, as far as regionals are concerned. Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society (SPIS) will host both in spring and fall 2023 in Winchester, Virginia. They are using it to train new members how to put on a regional meeting, so be nice. In spring 2024 Charlotte Iris Society will be hosting the regional meeting and welcoming us to their gardens. For the fall 2024 we have our newest affiliate hosting a regional for the first time. Bayshore Iris Society is working hard to make this a good time for all, including purchasing reblooming irises to fill the gardens we will be visiting. Please make plans to attend and show your appreciation.

As of this fall, the new Assistant RVP will begin the work of getting others to host the regionals from 2025 and beyond.

If Affiliates would like to see how often they have hosted spring and fall meeting, here is a list for the last 19 years.

Anita Moran, Assistant RVP

	Spring	Fall
FSK	4	1
FAIS	3	1
SPIS	4	3
CVIS	1	5
ENCIS	3	3
CIS	2	1
CMIS	1	0
BIS	0	1
Rude R4	1	1
Lockett	0	1
Smoot/ Thrash	0	1
R3/R4 Joined	0	1

New Iris Species Found

Geissorhiza seracina (Iridaceae: Crocoideae), a new high-altitude species from the Langeberg in southwestern Western Cape, South Africa.

G. seracina is restricted to high altitude seepages in peaty soils. It has corms with hard, often woody tunics, and moderately large, deep pink flowers.

Reference:

1. *South African Journal of Botany*
Volume 150, November 2022, Pages 1022-1025
2. <https://www.sci.news/biology/geissorhiza-seracina-11254.html>
3. <https://www.sun.ac.za/english/Lists/news/DispForm.aspx?ID=9497>



(Left) South African botanist Brian du Preez

(Right) *Geissorhiza seracina* (common name: Cherry Satin flower)

Photos: Wiida Fourie-Basson (Faculty of Science)

Spring	Affiliate Host	Fall	Appiliate Host
2024	CIS	2024	BIS
2023	SPIS	2023	SPIS
2022	FSK	2022	FAIS
2021	ENCIS	2021	FSK
2020	COVID	COVID	COVID
2019	FAIS	2019	CVIS
2018	FSK	2018	SPIS
2017	SPIS	2017	ENCIS
2016	FAIS	2016	CIS
2015	CVIS	2015	ENCIS
2014	FSK	2014	ENCIS
2013	CMIS	2013	Lockett
2012	SPIS	2012	Thrash/Smoot
2011	Don Rude	2011	SPIS
2010	ENCIS	2010	CVIS
2009	FAIS	2009	CVIS
2008	SPIS	2008	CVIS
2007	FSK	2007	Don Rude
2006	CIS	2006	R3/R4
2005	ENCIS	2005	CVIS

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Gardens

by Amy Fletcher

Whichever route you travel to arrive in Winchester, Virginia, you will soon find yourself driving a very respectful 25 MPH on Amherst Street. Amherst Street can take you into and out of Winchester's Historic District, as well as, get you to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV for short). MSV is where Region 4 of the American Iris Society met for, not only its stupendous iris show and board meeting, but the tour of the first of five gardens set for the weekend of May 13-14, 2023.



The formal "allée" to the Glen Burnie House which opens to the surrounding garden areas.

Walled off from the traffic of Amherst Street, the MSV and its surrounding lush, rolling green hills of Rose Hill Farm is like a gem hidden in plain view. Another gem is the Glen Burnie Gardens, which were created in the latter half of the 20th century by Julian Wood Glass, Jr. and his talented partner R. Lee Taylor. The two were extremely passionate about the renovation of the Glen Burnie House and, by extension, the garden, turning them both into the showplace that we all enjoy now. Neither of the men were formally trained, but definitely knew what they liked!

According to our guide the gardens were mainly created between the 1960s and 1970s out of necessity, meaning, there may have been a grand occasion happening or a party planned. Garden space needed to be added for entertaining in a manner that was far from pedestrian and harkened back to a different time. Dis-jointed garden rooms were created, one after another, which over the years, become more cohesive and eventually led to six acres of formal gardens.

We entered the gardens from the left of the gate, first passing the formal allée that led us into the first room, now the family cemetery. Lee had stumbled across the small family plot and set about restoring it, and repair-



Outside of the Pink Pavilion

ing and repositioning many of the broken headstones that remained there. Lee's ashes are interred in a wall in the cemetery (Julian rests in the family home in Oklahoma).

Upon exiting the cemetery room, we entered the kitchen/vegetable garden which faces the Carriage House. The large greenhouse where the staff start the

vegetables, annuals and tender perennials, is also visible. The two men created a beautiful, formally designed and functional kitchen garden that is still in use today. The food grown there is never wasted and much of it is given to local food pantries.

The tour continued through the sunken garden that led to the famous Pink Pavilion, where one could sit inside and gaze out onto the Fountain Courtyard. It appeared to me that the pink was natural stucco and I admired its lovely texture and subtle variations in color. Inside was cool marble and the feeling of formality. Julian had a penchant for collecting, including classical art (starting from childhood), glass, antique furniture and miniatures.



MSV Greenhouse

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Gardens (cont.)

The Pink Palace was a place where he could show off both some of his antique furniture and his skill and love of Renaissance architecture, as he designed the fountain, pool area and the Pink Pavilion, which was based on the work of the great Venetian architect, Andrea Palladio

As we entered the different areas, I imagined their beautiful, wealthy friends dressed in Halston and Yves St. Laurent, mulling about, laughing, gossiping, smoking. With cocktails in hand, likely they were enjoying Grasshoppers or Tom Collins served in martini glasses. I bet they had some parties that would have broken Instagram. As we continued, we found ourselves passing under the Carolina Jasmine Allée, which was not yet in bloom, the Carriage House, now to our right, then to the front lawn of the main house.

Following our guide, we passed over a footbridge to Headwaters, stocked with golden trout every year and open into the ponds below. I leaned over and saw trout swimming happily within the stone holding. There are 12 natural springs which feed the ponds and other water features throughout the garden. The lush green walkway with the Event Lawn just beyond, is known as Kathie's Spring Garden, named after the woman who funded its creation. The natural springs were discovered while the Spring Garden was being created in 2014-15.

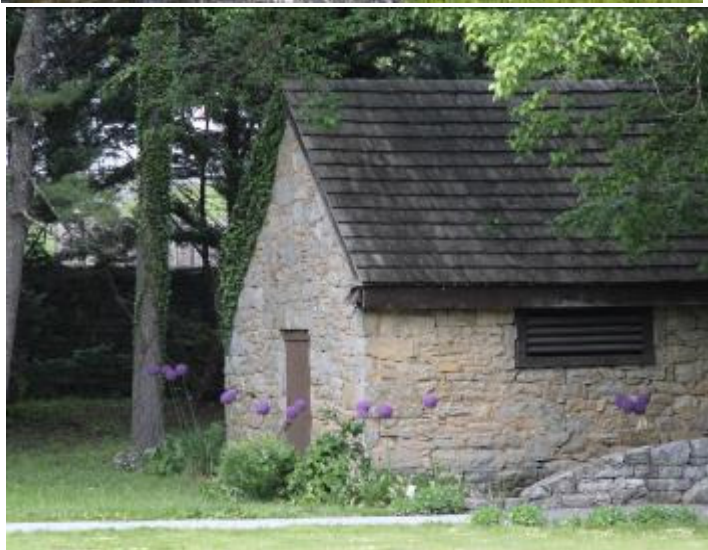
Tall bearded irises in mixed plantings along these pathways were in peak bloom. You can also see sculptures mixed into the plantings, which added more interest to the borders.

Eventually the water becomes a more dominant feature. We passed the Ram and then the Springhouse, which is the oldest building on the property. A limestone outcropping helped to form their designs here and Julian and Lee once again had entertaining in mind as they finished this area, which would supply guests with plenty of shade and a cool respite from afternoon heat.

A small foot bridge greets us we are about to enter the Japanese Garden with the Tea House from which cocktails were served. The red Moon Gate led into the Bamboo Garden - again another calm, more contemplative area, quiet and serene.



▲ Along "Kathie's Spring Garden" ▼



MSV Spring House

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley Gardens (cont.)

From there the magnificent man-made waterfall was created from the ‘Mud Hole,’ as Lee had called it.

The two had separated in the 1970s but Lee stayed on in an apartment within the Glen Burnie House. He continued working the gardens while Julian split his time between his home in Oklahoma, New York City, and Glen Burnie, returning there from time to time to entertain, relax, and continue helping Lee with the gardens.

As we left, we traversed The Knoll, following the path adjacent to the South Lawn, which brought us back to the south side of the house. From there, we walked through the Parterre Garden, the Statue Garden, the Perennial Garden and Rose Garden, which is being reimagined, and the Green Garden. The Knot Garden lies in front of the Glen Burnie House. At this point you are back to the Grand Allée.

While both men were imaginaries in the creation of the gardens, Lee seemed to have an insatiable passion for this great house and gardens. Lee was really the driving force in its renovation and restoration. Lee spent the remainder of his years living in the house, overseeing the care of the property, even after the death of Julian in 1992. Lee passed away in 2000. Thanks to the lasting and productive friendship of these two men and now the staff who currently work the gardens, we are all beneficiaries.



Japanese Garden

The Tea House

Reports

Region 4 Membership Report for May 2023 Regional Meeting

Last year's Membership Drive was a definite success. It provided new members for Affiliates, Sections, and Cooperating Societies.

Region 4 is number one in membership again this year with 423 Members, 29 judges and eight affiliates. Region 14 is second with 413 members and 54 judges. It will be interesting to see how many of the members who got free one year memberships will renew.

This year we have something different promoting Sections and Cooperating Societies. We've paired becoming full (print + E-membership) AIS members with a free Section or Cooperating Society membership. Either new AIS members joining with a full AIS membership or current AIS members who upgrade from a print or E-membership to a full membership qualify.

Our membership chairman, Pam Messer will be ending her three year term in June. Pam has been such a help to me these past three years and handing over the baton to Jean Richter who can be reached at the address below: Jean Richer 1226 High Street, Alameda, CA 94501, Phone: (510) 864-7962
memsec@irises.org.

Ginny Spoon
Region 4, Membership Chairman

Newscast Report for Fall 2023

I purchased the three licenses of MS Office 2021 approved by the board, and installed them for all the *Newscast* staff. Once some equipment issues were addressed, all were installed and working well. It was wonderful for everyone worked on the same programs, since all edits were done with the pages looking exactly the same. The speed of edits allows for two people to edit and one to make the corrections almost at the same time. This made large corrections, requiring movement of elements and addition of text, easier. Then we split, and Susan and Alleah were able to make the smaller corrections which did not require movement of components. Working with the same program also allowed us to make plans, so that editing can begin as soon as I get articles and reports. We had a great time getting this issue together and we are

looking forward to next issue. Total time: approximately 88-man hours between three people, not counting writing, driving, and begging for submissions. December – Total 35-manhours by one person in Maryland,

February – six manhours were spent in Maryland by one person. Thirty-four-manhours in were spent in North Carolina for three people. Then about 10 man-hours by three people after one returning to Maryland.

March – Three manhours in Maryland were spent to correct pages, page design, and font and formats for next two years, based on corrections and movements of text and pictures required in this past issue.

Anita Moran, Editor

Website Report Spring 2023 for Fall 2023

I added a total of 45 garden photo pages requiring double the entries for each photo added. I also added links to the photo pages of each affiliate this led to uploading 2,240 photos. I decided to note time I spent on the website as a point of curiosity and was astounded by the amount of time I spent. It will not take so much time in the future to update existing garden photo pages or to add new pages. Thanks to Joni Truscott, the Vice President of the Central Virginia Iris Society, I discovered the Wiki was moved to a secure server requiring that all links to the Wiki be reestablished. I also deleted about 100 pages of outdated or unneeded information. I updated and corrected the judges' pages and made some changes to the page with the judges' forms. I removed Word pages, leaving only the pdf documents which cannot be changed. I also added the following statement which appears on the In Garden Training form for Apprentice Judges: "Apprentice judges are responsible to bring this form and a stamped envelope addressed to the Judges' Training Chair for the Judge to give the training."

Any changes needed for the rest of the year will be relegated to the August 2023 *Newscast* posting. Pictures of gardens not listed are easily remedied by inviting me to your garden.

Anita Moran, Web Manager

Reports

Judges' Training Report, Spring Regional Meeting Winchester, Virginia May 12, 2023

Region 4 currently has two Emeritus judges, 10 Master Judges, six Garden/Exhibition judges, five Apprentice judges and three Student Judges. Frances Thrash, a long time Master Judge, was grandfathered in as an Artistic Design Judge. If you are interested in earning an Artistic Design Certificate in addition to your judgeship, refer to the AIS Handbook for the requirements. Our newest Student Judge is Sharon Beerman-Curtain. I am saddened to report that Don Rude, a Master Judge for many years and A former Region 4 RVP, passed away recently. Please welcome Dean Richards as a new Apprentice Judge. I encourage all judges to get the new AIS Revised Handbook. It can now be revised once a year online and you can print out the new pages.

The Region 4 website has been updated. Please go there to find the forms you may need for Judges' Training reporting. Please refer to AIS News & Notes for any upcoming judges' training webinars. These are a good way for Judges and Student Judges to get in-classroom training. Not all of the webinars offer Judges' Training credit, but they are all very informative. Please remember to print out the test from the online invitation, complete it and send it to me for your file. I know you are told you can complete the test online, but in the past I did not get that information from them in a timely manner. If you want to be sure to get credit, just send me your tests.

Remember to keep track of all of your training so that you can easily fill out the Annual Judges' Training Report that is due to me August 10.

Sue Shackelford, Region 4 Judges' Training Chair

Spring 2023 Iris Program Resource Report

I continue to work on the online repository for recent iris programs and those created by members in our region. I met with Anita Moran during her visit to Raleigh this spring and was able to download a large number of files, including many programs, from her computer.

If you would be willing, and able to present future programs please let me know what topics you are comfortable presenting.

If you are looking for help with programs, please contact me by e-mail or text message.

Heather.Haley@gmail.com or 707-315-0866.

Heather Haley

Sunshine Committee Report

From January 1 to May 12, 2023 I sent out the following:

- Thinking of you cards to 5 members
- Sympathy cards for Don Rude and Glenna Witter
- Get Well card to 6 members

Please notify me if there is a need in the Region. A card can brighten a day.

Kathy Huneycutt, Sunshine Chair

Spring 2023 Region 4 Auction Report

Nothing for today. I'll compose and submit a report for the *Newscast* after tomorrow's auction. -Heather

Supplement: With over 65 plants donated, Region 4 struck a new high by bringing in \$2,317.00

Heather Haley, Auction Chair

RVP Report Spring 2023

Thank you to all the affiliate presidents for getting me all the paperwork and checks for affiliate renewal. All affiliate paperwork was sent to Jodi Nolin the 4th of March. Expect an earlier notice to get the paperwork to me next year by the middle of February 2024.

I have heard from several people that the new *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials* is cumbersome to carry in the garden. Lois Rose and I have been working on single page for each of the sections from Chapter 7 Tall Bearded to Chapter 21 Rebloomers. I have several copies of the inserts since I want all Region 4 judges, apprentice judges, and students to have them. Those who do not get a hard copy let me know and I will send you an electronic copy for you to print out.

During rebloom season please send Colin you list of rebloomers and when they rebloom. This is very important since it tells others in Region 4 which irises rebloom and where they do.

Sadly, we lost Don Rude the 4th of March of this year. Please send me some of your memories of him and any pictures you might have for the next *Newscast*. If you are having any problems, please let me know how I can help.

Thank You
Anita Moran

Reports

Median Iris Report

The Median Iris Society Symposium Result for 2022 was posted in the Spring 2023 *Medianite*.

Border Bearded:

Winner - 'Crow's Feet' (Black 2006)

Runner up - 'My Cher of Happiness' (Black 2013)

Intermediate Bearded:

Winner - 'Starwoman' (Smith 1998)

Runner Up - 'Star In The Night' (Black 2009)

Miniature Tall Bearded:

Winner - 'Dividing Line' (Bunnell 2005)

Runner Up - 'Moose Tracks' (Miller 2015)

Standard Dwarf Bearded:

Winner - 'Cat's Eye' (Black 2002)

Runner Up - 'Bluebeard's Ghost' (Black 2006)

If you are interested the membership for the Median Iris Society is:

\$12.00 Individual Annual \$30.00 Individual Triennial

\$13.50 Dual \$34.50 Dual Triennial

Rebloom Chair Report Spring 2023

Sixteen Region 4 members sent rebloom reports listing the varieties that rebloomed in their gardens during the summer and fall of 2022. Several members sent me their very first rebloom report this year. It is exciting to see the number of people tracking rebloom in their gardens growing within our Region! The Region 4 rebloom report was published in the March 2023 *Newscast*.

One of the varieties on the report might prove to be groundbreaking in hybridizing black reblooming irises. 'Dressed In Black' (L. Painter 2018) rebloomed for Heather Haley in North Carolina. This is the first time that this variety has been reported reblooming in Region 4. This certainly sounds like an exciting iris to use as a parent for hybridizing black cold-hardy rebloomers!

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS) hosted the fall regional in 2022 and held a spectacular reblooming iris show with an exceptional number of entries. It felt like a spring show in the fall. Congratulations

to Lois Rose for organizing this show and encouraging members to bring entries!

We are fortunate to have multiple hybridizers in our region introducing reblooming irises. There are at least five new reblooming iris introduced by our Region 4 hybridizers this year.

Colin Campbell,
Region 4 Rebloom Chair

Epperson Committee Report Spring Regional Meeting Winchester, VA. May 12, 2023

The Epperson Service Award is presented at the Region 4 Fall Meeting. It has not been given since the fall meeting in 2019. I am only the administrative committee chair who takes the nominations from any Region 4 member and presents the candidates to the entire committee of all Region 4 affiliate presidents or affiliate representatives:

BIS-John Iwanski
CIS-Ingrid Bray
CVIS-Wayne Bryant
ENCIS-Heather Haley
FAIS-Beth Orndorff
FSK-Carol Warner
SPIS-Patti Meagher

The criteria for the Epperson Service Award are: unselfish use of time, talents and resources to further promote Region 4 activities, regular attendance at regional meetings, active recruitment of new members for AIS, election to office in the region and locally, commitment to Regional responsibilities, such as chairman of meetings or conventions, committee chairman and/or judges' training presenter.

Sue Shackelford, Epperson Award Chair



Rebloom Report Spring 2023 (cont.)

You can find the fillable 2023 rebloom report at:

<https://www.irisregion4.com/publications/RebloomReport.pdf>

Please fill out a rebloom report and send it to Colin Campbell at irishillsfarm@outlook.com and Anita Moran at pilmore22@gmail.com. You can also print this page, fill it out, and send to Colin (See Page 2).

Name:	City, State:	Plant Zone:	Page:				
Email:	E (1-10 of the month)/M (11-20)/L (21-31 of the month)						
All TBs unless noted	1st Frost	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
All are rebloomers.	Hybridizer Year	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L	E M L
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Reports

Nominating Committee Report Spring 2023

The committee of Trisha Taylor (Chair), Ingrid Bray and David Bollinger report the following slate of officers for Region 4: From Fall 2023 to Fall 2026.

RVP	Anita Moran
ARVP	Kathy Huneycutt
Secretary	Alleah Haley
Treasurer	Carol Warner

Voting will occur at the General Membership Meeting
May 13 2023

Trisha Taylor

Beardless and Species Report May 12, 2023

The winter of 2022-2023 was a winter for the record books. I didn't get any snow and the warm temperatures allowed me to work in my gardens several days in January and February. We will see how the Siberians and other beardless adapt to the warmer conditions.

The 2024 AIS Convention will be in the Portland area and will be held June 26th through the 29th and will coincide with Japanese iris bloom. I can hardly wait to attend that convention. This is the first time an AIS convention has been planned at a time other than tall bearded bloom season. Hopefully we will have more people interested in growing these oriental beauties that were once reserved for only royalty.

Carol Warner, Beardless Chair

Paying It Forward By Sheryl Campbell

"Don Spoon taught me how to hybridize, and mentored me through the years," Colin Campbell told us during the Region 4 Hybridizers Presentation at the 2023 Spring Regional Convention.

"Don Spoon taught me how to hybridize," was how Ross Eagles also began his portion of the presentation where he talked about his newest introductions.

"Don Spoon taught me to hybridize and always took an interest in my hybridizing work," said Anita Moran, who was next up in the presentation.

"Don Spoon showed me how to hybridize on our first date," was how Ginny Spoon regaled us with a humorous anecdote of her beginnings in hybridizing.

It is amazing to realize that so many of the active hybridizers in Region 4 were taught and mentored by Don Spoon. Our Region owes much to Don!

As a child, Don Spoon was mentored by his mother, Lilla. Then Charlie Nearpass took over as his mentor years later. These two wonderful irisarians made a huge impact on Don's life, as Don has made an enormous impact in the lives of our other hybridizers and our growers. His love of irises and his interest in people has always led him to get involved in lives of those that come to learn from him about the flowers.

Our challenge is to follow Don's lead and share what we've learned from him with others. Whether you learned to hybridize from Don, or simply learned a lot about iris culture from him, it's your turn to pay it forward. Make a point to find someone in your circle, or a young person in your neighborhood, and open their eyes to the amazing world of irises! If you hybridize, teach them how to create new varieties. Even if you don't, get someone else to teach them and offer to grow their seedlings for them if they don't have room in their own gardens. Don graciously made that offer to a number of our members over the years.

Our Region is better because of Don Spoon. We've more irises being created and introduced from our Region because Don Spoon so readily shares his knowledge. Thank you, Don!



Brittany and Kim Stoll hybridizing at Winterberry Gardens with Don Spoon

Reports

Report from the Secret Parliamentarian

ROBERTS RULES CHEAT SHEET

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Adjourn	"I move that we adjourn"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
Recess	"I move that we recess until..."	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
Complain about noise, room temp., etc.	"Point of privilege"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair Decides
Suspend further consideration of something	"I move that we table it"	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
End debate	"I move the previous question"	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Postpone consideration of something	"I move we postpone this matter until..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Amend a motion	"I move that this motion be amended by..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Introduce business (a primary motion)	"I move that..."	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

The above listed motions and points are listed in established order of precedence. When any one of them is pending, you may not introduce another that is listed below, but you may introduce another that is listed above it.

To:	You say:	Interrupt Speaker	Second Needed	Debatable	Amendable	Vote Needed
Object to procedure or personal affront	"Point of order"	Yes	No	No	No	Chair decides
Request information	"Point of information"	Yes	No	No	No	None
Ask for vote by actual count to verify voice vote	"I call for a division of the house"	Must be done before new motion	No	No	No	None unless someone objects
Object to considering some undiplomatic or improper matter	"I object to consideration of this question"	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
Take up matter previously tabled	"I move we take from the table..."	Yes	Yes	No	No	Majority
Reconsider something already disposed of	"I move we now (or later) reconsider our action relative to..."	Yes	Yes	Only if original motion was debatable	No	Majority
Consider something out of its scheduled order	"I move we suspend the rules and consider..."	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Vote on a ruling by the Chair	"I appeal the Chair's decision"	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Majority

The motions, points and proposals listed above have no established order of preference; any of them may be introduced at any time except when meeting is considering one of the top three matters listed from the first chart (Motion to Adjourn, Recess or Point of Privilege).

Glenna Witter December 7, 1944 to March 17, 2023

Glenna Marie (Reed) Witter, 78, of Fredericksburg passed away on Friday, March 17, 2023. She was born in Arlington, Virginia on December 7, 1944 to the late Joseph H. and Mattie E. Reed.

Glenna retired to Fredericksburg after working more than 30 years for the Department of Defense. She was a Master Gardener, member of the American Iris Society, amateur genealogist, and an avid crocheter, making more than 100 blankets for Project Linus, a favorite charity for traumatized children. She supported many animal welfare organizations. Glenna was kind and generous and always there to help anybody in need. She had a fabulous sense of humor and always tried to find humor in even the worst situations. Her greatest pleasure was hosting family and friends to share her wonderful cooking and many laughs. She was the quintessential Southern gal, a firecracker and a real peach. She will be missed.

Glenna is survived by her loving husband of 59 years, William J. Witter; two children Darren (Rachel) and Dawn; four grandchildren Jessica (Tyler), Kristin Paulsen (Sean), Clayton (Liz), and Jacob (Savannah); ten beautiful great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her three brothers, Lewis (Jean), Russell (Rosemary), and Earl (Bea); and two sisters Gladys Reed (Lynn) and Frances Breeden (Bill).

Reprint from Covenant Funeral Service

Remembering Glenna Witter by Anita Moran

Glenna was an active member in the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS) and the Region 4 of the American Iris Society. Whether it was going on garden tours, helping with iris shows or helping in other ways, Glenna was a part.

I first met Glenna on a regional tour then we were often were part of the same tours groups for regionals. I went to the FAIS show in May of 2016 and invited myself to as many gardens as I could go to in the two days I was in the area. I had not previously seen Glenna's garden and was excited to see it. Each area was tended with care with a single central item whether a piece of garden art or a special plant or flower, then that part of the garden was built around it. As you

walked through an arched entry, there were tiny, pink English roses lining the sidewalk. I had never seen roses like them before and took lots of pictures. As Glenna was giving me a tour of her back gardens, her husband was digging and potting an extra piece of one of the roses. Every time I see that rose which blooms from late April to July, I think of the generosity and humor I associate with Glenna. She will be missed by so many. Rest in peace, my friend.



Top - Glenna Witter

Middle and bottom - Witter Garden

William Robert “Bill” Kuykendall November 19, 1955 to December 9, 2022

KEYSER, WV - William Robert “Bill” Kuykendall, a life-long resident of Mineral County, died Friday, December 9th 2022 at Sunnyside Farm, his home on Patterson Creek, of complications from cancer at the age of 67 years.

Bill was born November 19th 1955 in Cumberland, Maryland, the youngest of three children of John Michael and Anne Elizabeth (née Cook) Kuykendall. The Kuykendall and Johnson families have farmed Sunnyside Farm since the 1740s, granted to their family by Lord Fairfax and surveyed by James Genn and George Washington in 1748.

After graduating from Keyser High School, Bill began undergraduate studies in plant science, culminating in a bachelor's degree and then a Master's degree in plant pathology from West Virginia University. With a view to returning to Sunnyside Farm, Bill pursued and attained a law degree from West Virginia University College of Law. He was admitted to the West Virginia bar in 1984 and began a general practice of law in Keyser while working simultaneously with his parents on their dairy farm. In 2008, Bill wrapped up his general practice and continued his career as an attorney with the State of West Virginia. Upon his parents' retirement and death, Bill continued to manage the family farm, transitioning to, first, custom silage and, later, a cow-calf operation.

Bill was active in his community, including as a member of Springfield Presbyterian Church, serving as an elder and as Clerk of Session. He also served as a Trustee of the Eusebia Foundation managing the Eusebia Presbyterian Church site and cemetery, and also served as a trustee of the Greenwell Cemetery. Bill was well known as a flower gardener with a particular affinity for irises and roses. An avid reader of political and historical biography as well as accounts of agrarian life, Bill's house was filled to overflowing with books. In later years, Bill enjoyed playing his keyboard and travelling with his mother and with friends.

For the past several years, Bill battled cancer, coming in and out of partial remission. But he also made a point of carrying on with his parents' practice of hosting extended family reunions at Sunnyside on Labor Day weekends. Bill was well thought of and well loved by family, friends and neighbors for a lively sense of humor, his intentional neighborliness and for

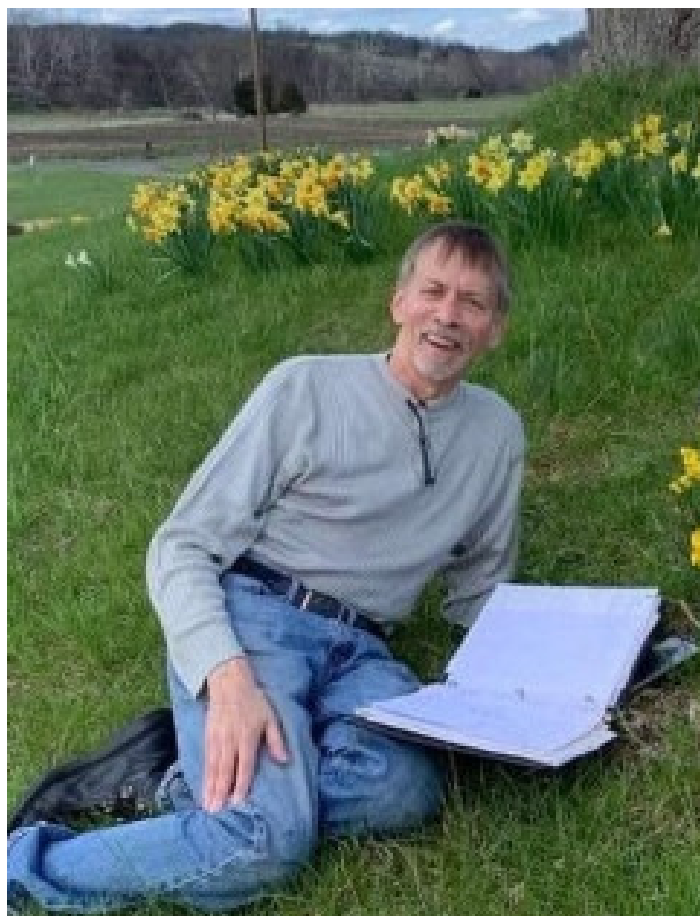
lending a hand without being asked.

Predeceased by his brother, Mike Jr., as well as his parents, Bill is survived by his sister, Carole Anne Junkins (William), his nephew, William Franklin Junkins (Karen), and many beloved cousins.

Reprinted from Markwood Funeral Home

Memories From Rob, Sheryl, and Colin Campbell

Bill was always so gentle and kind, giving generously of himself and interested in others. We knew him through the iris society which he was active in for years. One of his last acts of generosity to our club was to offer all the irises he bought in 2022 (but couldn't plant) to our members. That kind of thinking of others so epitomizes Bill for us. We will miss him!



Reference: <https://www.markwoodfuneralhome.com/obituary/WilliamBill-Kuykendall>

Affiliate Reports

The Bay Shore Iris Society Spring

The Bay Shore Iris Society has been busy promoting its agenda and programs. Unfortunately, we continue to be challenged with finding new membership and hanging on to the members who signed up for the one year "freebee". Follow up contact, additional training and info programs on irises at our meetings are some of the approaches we are trying. The new members we have been able to retain have added support and enthusiasm to our club. The latest Membership Support program launched by AIS is a great follow up in supporting membership at the Society level.

Flower bed clean ups, at garden sites that we maintain, Prescott School and the Wicomico War Memorial in Salisbury, were completed by club members. We will be thinning these beds later this summer to help support our Society sale to be held in mid-August. We haven't picked a date yet, but it will be held in the Easton Farmers Market. Lisa Calloway, a member of our club and daylily hybridizer, was gracious enough to offer our members six different varieties of daylily seeds. My seeds had a 90% germination rate and are doing very well in the ground. I hope to see them in bloom two years from now.

Our club's secretary and treasurer have set up a great file to keep track of rebloomers we purchased to support the Fall 2024 Regional Meeting we will be hosting. Beside keeping track of the rhizome, this file allows us to follow up with grower and see how they are doing with the plant. The Regional Meeting Committee is staying busy putting together places and activities for Region 4 members to enjoy when they come to the meeting in the fall of 2024.

A member Garden Tour took place on Saturday, April 29. Our tour wasn't as long as usual but the gardens and the iris looked great. While we were in Salisbury we stopped at American Legion Post#64 for the BBQ Chicken Dinner we enjoy so much. The tour was a prelude to our annual show, this year titled "The Beauty of Irises", to be held Saturday, May 6 at the Easton Public Library. The Show team has done a great job putting it together with some great new ideas. We know it will be a success. Looking forward to see you at the Region 4 Meeting in Winchester, Virginia.

John Iwanski, BIS President

Charlotte Iris Society Spring Report

I have the results for our 2023 Iris Show. It was raining three days before the show. We were quite concerned that not many members would participate. However, we had 95 entries and 13 participants.

The winner of The Best Specimen of Show was Sarah Sue Miller - TB NESTUCCA RAPIDS. Sarah Sue spent three weeks prior to the show in Norway, returned home the night before, chose irises in early dawn, drove to Charlotte for one and a half hours. What a champion!

1st Runner up - Jessica Smith - TB CHINOOK WINDS
 2nd Runner up - Matt Liner - TB DUSKY CHALLENGER
 3rd Runner up - Greg Schaffer - TB STARRING
 4th Runner up - Tamara Hinson - TB STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN
 People's Choice Award - Ingrid Bray - TB GISELLE

AIS Silver Medal for Most Blue Ribbons - Sarah Sue Miller with 5, AIS Bronze Medal for second Most Blue Ribbons - Mat Liner with 4

Our next event will be our Iris Rhizome sale at the Charlotte Regional Farmers Market on Saturday, August 19th from 8 am to 2 pm.

Charlotte Iris Society is looking forward to hosting the Region 4 Spring 2024 Meeting and Iris Show next April 26th and 27th. We hope to see many attendees from Region 4 members, Charlotte has not hosted a Spring Regional Meeting for quite a while, so there will be new gardens and new faces.

Ingrid Bray, President



2024 Guest Iris
 Blooming in
 Bray Garden

Affiliate Reports

Central Virginia Iris Society

Spring 2023 Report

The Central Virginia Iris Society began 2023 with a new slate of officers, who were elected during our November 2022 Harvest Dinner meeting. The current officers are Wayne Bryant, President; Joni Truscott, Vice President; Rob Sandford, Secretary; and Van Ferguson, Treasurer. We would like to thank Kathy Huneycutt for her leadership over the past many years and wish her well with her new Region 4 ARVP responsibilities. In addition, we welcome Rob Sandford to the CVIS leadership team.

Member Susan Auman volunteered to update our CVIS Facebook page in February and worked diligently to add interesting pictures and information about activities, speakers, and reference materials. This resulted in increased awareness of our group, with a 200% increase in March 2023 over the same time last year.

An effort has been made to boost interest in meetings by utilizing more speakers and AIS informational videos. In January our group enjoyed the AIS video, "Rebloomers: How to Grow Them To Bloom Successfully in Most Locations," presented by Riley Probst. There was also a discussion on taking better pictures, using an iPhone Photography School YouTube video. In March, member Judy Durant spoke to our group about median irises. Judy has one of only two Median Iris Society Display Gardens in Virginia, along with many other irises in her garden. Her talk was followed by an AIS video, "Dwarf Bearded Irises." In April member Lois Rose gave an informative demonstration on "Grooming Irises for the Show," to teach everyone techniques to better present their iris entries in our show, scheduled for May.

Members pulled together to have a successful show on May 6 at the Atlee Branch Library in Mechanicsville. We had nine adult exhibitors and one youth exhibitor. Despite a cool spring that delayed some blooms from opening in time, 75 irises were entered, amounting to 23 more this year compared to last year's show. "Best Specimen of Show" was awarded to 'Violet Classic,' entered by Lois Rose. After the judging, the show was opened to the public to promote interest in growing irises.

There were several Open Gardens this spring, giving members opportunities to see and learn about different types of irises. Judy Durant, Rob Sandford, and Lois Rose were generous in issuing invitations to view their gardens. In addition, we were invited to view the gardens of some members of nearby Fredericksburg Area Iris Society.

CVIS is looking forward to having Shana Gammon from Stormy Weather Iris Gardens in Lynchburg, Virginia, speak with us about experiences with her home garden and rhizome business at our July meeting. Other upcoming events include our CVIS Iris Sale on September 14-16, 2023, at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden. This is a part of Lewis Ginter's Fall PlantFest, and is our sole fundraising event of the year. We appreciate iris donations from our members, and their enthusiasm and willingness to share the joy of growing irises with the public. In addition, CVIS is partnering with Hanover Master Gardeners Association to plant and maintain a raised-bed iris display in HMGA's new Horticultural Learning Center, located at the Hanover County Extension Office in Ashland, Virginia. The bed has been designated and is awaiting the planting of different types of bearded irises in September.

Wayne Bryant
President, CVIS

Fredericksburg Area iris Society Spring 2023

FAIS started the year with a very informative program called "Virginia's Native Irises," presented by Nicole Greenwood. Different species of irises and their significance to the region's flora and fauna were discussed, as well as the history of these irises and much more.

At the April meeting Lois Rose did a grooming demo to help prepare some of our newer members to be able to present their irises optimally at our May Iris Show. To make it possible for FAIS to have an artistic division at our show, Jana Stickdorn did a Floral Design demonstration, showing us how to do four different arrangements. In addition to showing us how to do the arrangements, she discussed the influence of irises in the world and their place in history. The demo was enjoyable and informative.

An Open Garden Day was held April 30 and the annual Spring Show was held on May 20. Due to an early spring we were able to enjoy many beardless irises at the show.

Beth Orndorff, President

Affiliate Reports

Spring 2023

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society Report

Members of the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society (ENCIS) experienced an extended winter and wet spring. Conditions have definitely made controlling leaf spot difficult; thankfully, we are seeing less rot than in years past.

Club activities kicked off in March. ENCIS Secretary Don Myers gave another lovely demonstration on flower arrangement and led us through a work session with plant material so members could hone our skills. The venue choice - the Mebane Arts and Community Center - is new for us, and delightfully spacious. For club members in Greensboro, it is also a shorter drive than the Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh.

Our April meeting took place in the garden of Vice President Susan Miller in Cary. We had several newer members join us and we learned about iris hybridizing from Past ENCIS President Bonnie Masteller. Susan Miller also provided potted irises as door prizes, and we held our annual election for club officers. In August, Susan Miller will take over as President, and Susan Grigg and Alleah Haley will serve as Co-Vice Presidents. Amy Fletcher will be our new Secretary and Chris Broberg the Treasurer.

Before we realized, it was time for our annual iris show and we found ourselves back in Mebane. Several members prepared the first iris entries of their lives, and we were blessed to have Ingrid Bray and Gabe Rivera join us from the nearby Charlotte Iris Society. Amy Fletcher borrowed A-frames from Dean Richard's and Diana Dudley's farm and created lovely signage which brought more foot traffic than expected. We sold 36 potted irises from the covered patio outside, but still have many more that need new homes.

Membership Secretary Glenn Grigg says we have 70 current ENCIS members, still up from 43 at the beginning of 2022. This year, Dean Richards, Diana Dudley, Bonnie Masteller, and I have supported recruitment efforts by presenting educational programs about irises for garden clubs and public libraries throughout the Piedmont. On Facebook, we get to enjoy frequent posts from Lisa Geist, Cathy Price, Leslie Tevebaugh, and Kim Traub. Chris Broberg provides commentary about our family's adventure growing irises as a row crop at North Carolina Cooperative Extension events. At the national level, a press release composed by Alleah Haley and distributed by Bob Pries led to a nice blurb about the 2023 Iris of the Year in the March/April issue of the *American Gardener*.

It warms my heart each time I encounter someone who is falling in love with irises because they made contact with someone who loves them too. There are lots of opportunities for connections and iris fun in the coming months. I love this time of year. Until next time...

Heather Haley, ENCIS President

Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society President's Report Spring 2023

The Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society (SPIS) is pleased to report having a positive and productive 2022. The SPIS held its annual sale as part of the Peach Festival at West Oaks Farm Market in Winchester. This scenic venue boasts a large farm market and has graciously hosted our sale for no charge for several years now. Hundreds of people enter the festival through our sale on their front porch! We raised \$1,659.00 at the sale this year from rhizomes donated by many of our members. In addition, we signed on several new members during the sale.

Our board meeting in the fall brought us new leadership after many years of Don and Ginny Spoon serving as both President and VP for our club. Ray Jones, our treasurer for many years, and Sheryl Campbell our VP and Secretary the past few years, have retired from the board. We thank them all for their faithful service. They are still very involved but have passed the baton of leadership to other hands. Our new board includes: • Patti Meagher, President • Ginny Spoon, VP and Mentor • Colin Campbell, Treasurer • Marilyn Naylor, Secretary.

Our new President, Patti Meagher, completed the training requirements and was approved as a Certified Garden/Show Judge.

To our sadness, SPIS had to say goodbye to two long time members. SPIS (and C&P) member Bill Kuykendall lost his battle with cancer this winter. He is sorely missed. We donated to the AIS Foundation Library Fund in memory of his love of irises and his long service. Don Rude, past Region 4 RVP and member of S&P died at home while under hospice care this spring. In memory of his enthusiastic support of our youth members, we donated in his name to the AIS General Youth Fund.

Finally, S&P Iris Society is delighted to host both the Spring and Fall Regional meetings and garden tours again this year. We hope you all have a wonderful time and enjoy the many irises growing in our gardens!

Patti Meagher PresidentP

Affiliate Reports

Francis Scott Key Iris Society Report

Our Spring FSK Luncheon Meeting was held on Saturday, March 18 at the Silver Spring Mining Company in Perry Hall. The board members gathered at 11:00 a.m. for a short board/planning meeting and then luncheon followed for all our members. Our Vice President, Joan Miller, gave an excellent program showing how she began planning her garden, how she chose her plants, and the gorgeous garden it has become for all seasons. This was a particularly great program for some of our newer members.

We were pleased this year to increase our donation to \$2,000.00 to the American Landscape Institute to support the students in their horticulture programs.

Our FSK Spring Iris Show, scheduled for Saturday, May 20, will now be an exhibit of blooming irises at the Hampstead Days Celebration in Hampstead, Maryland. We hope to be able to introduce a lot more people to the beauty of our favorite flower.

We also look forward to an open garden day on Sunday May 21 with three gardens open for viewing.

FSK will also have an exhibit of beardless irises at Richardson Farms on June 17. This was very well received last year, and it is an opportunity to publicize our July sale.

Our two sales in July are our biggest events, so we look forward to working together to supply some beautiful rhizomes to lucky buyers.

Our summer picnic will be hosted by one of our new members, Debbie Maeder. She specializes in daylilies but grows lots of other perennials and quite a few irises. The picnic is also our summer board meeting so we will be planning for another exciting year filled with iris activities.

Carol Warner, President

A Garden Can Be

A garden can be a place of peace for me
Watching nature and flowers be
The gentle breeze that blows around
Can be such a gentle sound.

A garden can be a place to work
With weeds attacking in the lurk
While we dig them out of the dirt
The weeds our flowers will not hurt.

A garden can be a place of beauty
Filled with flowers that are so groovy
A tiny seed planted, and then it blooms
The fragrance can soon consume.

The garden - a place for all to enjoy
Even for the little girls and boys.
It is a place to see nature in action
Gardening can be such a passion!

Catherine Pulsifer



Taken in the garden of Ruth Holbrook by Anita Moran

Opequon Memorial Garden at the Opequon Presbyterian Church

The Opequon Memorial Scatter Garden is a tiny plot of beauty where people can relax and enjoy a moment of peace while they think of their loved ones. The garden is divided into sections for each of the gospels Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, with nice wide paths separating the sections. At the end of each path is a bench to sit and enjoy the area. At one end there is a brass sundial on a carved platform and in the center of each section a cross is placed to remind visitors where their loved ones reside. There were golden junipers, pink dianthus, daylilies, and a bright large, red poppy among the plants with a corner devoted to irises. Although only the Siberian iris 'Pirate Prince' (S. Varner, 1977) was in bloom, the reblooming tall bearded iris 'Harvest Of Memories' (L. Zurbrigg, 1985) was on the precipice of exploding with blooms.

By Anita Moran



'Pirate Prince' (S. Varner, 1977)



'Harvest Of Memories' (L. Zurbrigg, 1985)



David Joseph Oktavec December 18, 1952-July 1, 2023

David Joseph Oktavec, age 70, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, July 1, 2023 in Harford County, Maryland.

He was born to the late Albert John Oktavec and Theresa Mary Oktavec on December 18, 1952 in Baltimore, Maryland. Dave -- along with his brother-in-law Tim -- died a hero, protecting his family from tragedy. Dave was married to his wife Darla for 50 years. Together, they have three daughters and eight grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents and brothers, Anthony and Christopher.

Dave enjoyed studying Scripture and regularly met with a small body of believers in their home. Dave was so passionate about life. He loved gardening, flowers and national parks and sharing these passions with his family and friends. Those left to cherish the memories of Dave include his wife, Darla; daughters, Lauren, Sarah and Elizabeth; sons-in-law, Alan and Adam; grandchildren, Andrew, Anna, Audrey, Ava, Macey, Virginia and Caroline; lifetime best friend, Gary Zimmer; niece and nephew, Peter and Mary, and many special friends.

Oktavec Family



Sarah Oktavec, Dave Oktaves and Lenore Nii

Thoughts of Dave Oktavec by Anita Moran

John 15:12-13 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."

David Joseph Oktavec, born December 18, 1952, was



brutally murdered July 1, 2023 going to the rescue of his brother-in-law, Tim Witherite, who died protecting his family.

Dave was a giver of not only his time but there was seldom a time Dave did not hear of a need that he was not there to lend a helping hand. A vital member of the Francis Scott Key Iris Society, Dave tried to buy and grow every iris available, especially if it displayed a blue or purple flash on the fall. Yet his favorite was 'Doctor Who' (G. Sutton, 2010). Among his other garden loves were his heirloom tomatoes, (I think he tried to grow every variety), hostas, and daylilies. Growing and gathering food from the wild was also another passion of Dave, which he indulged in often. Dave's greatest loves were his wife of fifty years, Darla, and their three daughters Lauren, Sarah and Elizabeth.

Dave's garden was filled with his various loves including the blueberry bushes on the edge of his property line he shared with his brother-in-law. From the first time I saw Dave's garden, there was plenty of grass to be seen, but year by year the areas in grass gradually reduced. An avid reader, Dave called many friends when he discovered something he did not understand. Dave continued to learn every day and often included them in his search for more information.

For the FSK Iris Society there is a raw wound in their hearts. Many of us are going to miss his phone calls at any time, day or night, as he made his way through the Wiki, wondering what we thought of each new find he made. Although we did not agree on everything, talking with Dave was an adventure, as the subjects could change from one second to the next. I will also miss the knock at the door and learning he came over after hearing I was in the hospital and he wanted to do some weeding. It was not just me; he helped many people in Region 4, including the Spoons at Winterberry Gardens. Every time I see a flash of purple on a fall, I will think of Dave and know he is trying to convince me to get that for his garden. Rest In Peace, My Friend.

Iris Hills Farm by Ross Eagles

We visited Iris Hills Farm, run by Colin Campbell, on Friday, May 12 as part of our garden tours for the Region 4 Spring Meeting in Winchester, Virginia. He started his business around 2012 and has done very well with it while expanding into other interests. Over the years things have changed with the business and the garden, though you would never know from his endless enthusiasm for his work with irises. Incidentally, I started my own iris operation shortly after his in 2015 and while his growing area has shrunk to less than or equal to mine, he is doing quite a lot on very little growing space. This is a testament to his focused hybridizing efforts measuring success by results rather than volume.

For all those youth and future hybridizers out there who are interested in pursuing something similar, note that you do not have to be a big operation to make an impact. Drive and focus with targeted goals will serve you just fine in the absence of acres of production fields. Colin's garden is a great example of this. He has figured out what is important to pursue between irises and his other interests and made it all work together. Both of us were mentored by the same hybridizer, Don Spoon, and likely follow similar philosophies in making our crosses. When you first see his hybridizing stock beds and then his seedling beds you may be surprised and wonder where are all the rows upon rows of breeding stock and seedlings to choose from. There aren't any, which is by design.

Selection is not a onetime thing in any hybridizing effort. It is a continuous process of getting rid of what you do not need or want along the way and keeping only what works and is in line with your goals. The end results can be concentrated beds of those few seedlings which make the grade rather than wasted spaced on endless dead ends. Colin's introductions and promising seedlings are indicative of a similar philosophy which we both acquired from Don Spoon: It is better to focus on success in as few crosses as possible rather than dragging things out by random efforts. His garden is a great example of what can result from goal driven hybridizing efforts!

Colins efforts were on full display in his beds. His growing space, being downsized as it was, did not detract from the display in any way. His current intros number eleven thus far and include irises such as 'Debra's Melody' (Colin Campbell, 2020) and Listening For Lions (Colin Campbell, 2022). Future intros on display included 'Be Funny Daddy', the Alice Bouldin Award winner, given for Region 4 seedlings, and seedling 2F18.



Iris Hills Farm



'Debra's Melody' (Colin Campbell, 2020)



'Be Funny Daddy' Alice Bouldin Award winner

Iris Hills Farm (cont.)

Seedling 2F18 is a nice peachy/orange plicata presents the typical fruity/floral iris fragrance, good branching and a bud count beyond that required, giving it the potential for standing out in any garden. It is unique for the fact we do not see this color in plicatas very often and is made more striking by the slight pink infusion up the midrib of its standards. With consistency in its color pattern from bloom to bloom, 2F18 appeared well-proportioned with regard to stalk height, bud count, bloom size, and branching. These qualities, along with its many other positive attributes, suggest it maybe an outstanding garden plant if it produces good growth and increase.

Colin's future introduction, 'Be Funny Daddy', named for the antics of Colin's father, is a pattern we have seen before, but this one is unique due to the enhanced central glow from its bright orange zone around the beard, which recedes away into the blooms and the yellow/orange infusion running up the mid-rib of its standards away from the center of the blooms. This attribute, along with the falls exhibiting a slight lavender edging, only adds to the "let's look at that again" factor of this iris. In the truest sense of its name this iris is indeed funny, which makes its garden presence all that more enjoyable and in keeping with the circumstances surrounding its name.

Another wonderful introduction from Colin, named for his mother and the Nearpass Award-winning iris, was 'Mama's Music' (C. Campbell, 2022). It was putting on quite the show. With soft peach standards and lavender falls, 'Mama's Music' was a spot of soft color in a sea of bold colors. This iris had great substance and form and was displaying several show stalks.

His past introduction 'Debra's Melody' is a knockout, in my opinion, with its clamshell ivory and pink coloration. It glows when the light catches it from any angle and it lives up to Colin's description of it on his website. Any garden would be greatly enhanced with this iris. Yet another stand out in his past introductions is 'Listening For Lions'. Just like his peachy/orange plicata seedling 2F18, we do not often see the brassy yellow, green/bronze color pattern mixture in irises. This unusual color brings you back to it time and again. Colin obviously felt the same way, since he decided to introduce it last year. With its laced blooms and classy appearance this iris has excellent garden presence and is worth keeping around for the color pattern alone.



'Mama's Music' (C. Campbell, 2022)



Campbell Seedling 2F18



Campbell seedling bed

Winterberry Gardens 2023

by Anita Moran



Dawn At Winterberry Gardens

As the sun rises over Winterberry Gardens, I am met with the sight of thousands of blooms of every hue. The domain of Dr. Don and Ginny Spoon, of Region 4 of the American Iris Society, has spoiled me since I first became a member of AIS in 2003.

Don and Ginny invited me into their garden at least once a year. Each taught me different things and each instilled the passion for irises. I was not the only one who benefited. On Don's walks I learned to hybridize, as he tried to pass his knowledge of genetics and possible outcome to me. Ginny taught me how to grade seedlings and other irises, so I could choose the best parents. Both instilled the need for becoming a judge of the American Iris Society so that I could learn from others.

Exactly twenty years after my first visit to Winterberry Gardens with my mother, I was allowed to spend a quiet day in the garden, including sights like their newest introduction and Nearpass Award winner, 'Mosby's Lady' (G, Spoon, 2023). There were other sights like 'High Desert' (Keith Keppel, 2015), 'Durham Dream' (Zurbrigg, 2000), 'First Pick' (Schreiner, 2011), and 'Cause for Pause' (Tom Burseen, 2007).



Nearpass Award winner
'Mosby's Lady' (G, Spoon, 2023).



'Durham Dream' (Zurbrigg, 2000),



'Cause for Pause' (Tom Burseen, 2007)

Winterberry Gardens 2023 (cont.)

Winterberry Gardens is a garden with many companion plantings among the irises. The peony 'Ludovica' in its many forms and colors gave ample opportunities for wonderful pictures, especially when 'Sugar Manolia' (Schreiner, 1998) was blooming nearby. Among the irises were also fritillaria, California poppies, and a wide variety of colors of columbines. As you entered Winterberry, you were greeted with an accidental bonsai. Helpers tried to bring the climbing hydrangea that was out-of-control bush, into some type of order. Instead, they exposed and did artistic weaving of branches through the gate. As always, the metal horse ruled and watched over the various gardens.

Tall bearded seedlings were exciting. The most dramatic seedling was 'Butterfly Effect'. The year 2017 must have been a great year for crosses for there were some outstanding seedlings for that year, including



Peony 'Ludovica' with 'Sugar Manolia' (Schreiner, 1998)

2017-D12, 2017-D15, and a yellow seedling 2017-yel-2 that Ginny liked and was still evaluating. Also outstanding were two wonderful reds, my favorite 2014-64-TB-RD-60, and 2012-76-TB-RD.

One standout BB seedling that Ginny hopes to name 'Perry's Butterfly,' was first identified during a visit by Perry Dyer to the garden as a wonderful seedling; but it was nearly lost. Now it was once again in a wonderful clump. The black seedling 2014-77A lights up like dark fire in the bright sun but in shade it is dark as night. The funniest seedling award has to go to 2014-150. Although the iris looked as if it was poisoned with Round-up®, that is its natural form. With

Winterberry Seedlings



2017-D12



2017-D15



2017-yel-2



2014-64-TB-RD-60



2012-76-TB-RD



'Perry's Butterfly'



2014-77A

tulips all around you have to wonder if it is trying to camouflage itself.

Winterberry Gardens 2023 (cont.)



Seedling 2014-150

During the Regional tour almost 50 people were spread out over the 2 1/2 acres to find those irises that drew them to the area. Judges, visitors and spectators braved the raindrops to take this opportunity to see all the gems. Taking breaks on the porch when the rain became too much did not last long before visitors were back out among the irises again.

There was so much to see and around every corner were even more irises. It was lucky that we were allowed so much time in the garden. As head of the car-pool brigade, I did not want to call a halt to the tour until everyone had their fill. As cars slowly left to head for lunch, there were stragglers still taking those final pictures, and who could blame them.



Master Judge evaluating irises in Winterberry Gardens



Climbing hydrangea



Ingrid with Phillip Bray and Lois Rose evaluating irises



Glenn Grigg and Ray Jones in Winterberry Gardens

Developing The Meagher Garden, Middleburg, Virginia

by Patti Meagher

My iris addiction began when I purchased 12 irises from the Warrenton (Virginia) Farmers Market in 1997. I asked the vendor to pick out 10, as I had no preference for color, she gave me two more as a bonus. At the time, I'm sure she had them labeled, but I didn't know any better so did not keep track of their names. I have since been able to identify most of them as they were quite distinctive, including 'Stairway to Heaven' (L. Lauer, 1993), 'Beverly Sills' (B. Hager, 1979), 'Huckleberry Fudge' (J. Gibson by Cooley's Gardens, 1997), 'Tennison Ridge' (J. Begley by J. McWhirter, 1989), and 'Gala Madrid' (L. Peterson, 1968).

These 12 irises continued to increase, as they do, so they spread from my perennial beds in front of the house to new beds created around the fence line. From 1997 to 2017 I added about 10 more irises to my collection from Pleasants Valley Iris Farm and Schreiner's. In early 2017 I discovered the online iris community through Facebook groups Iris Lovers and Iris Addicts Anonymous. Through their posts, the members of these groups introduced me to the many iris farms across the country. I ordered approximately 300 irises from 14 growers. One of the growers, Aitken's Salmon Creek Garden, had AIS membership as part of their online catalogue, so I purchased a membership as part of my order.

I came to the shocking realization that all my beds were full and I did not have anywhere to plant my new irises when they would start arriving in July.

Our home is on a one-acre corner lot, currently shared with my husband, John, two children and four dogs, as well as my 88-year-old mother. The house sits in the center and the backyard is fenced for the dogs. I decided to build an iris garden on the other side of the garage on the east side yard, which gets full sun and has a very slight slope toward the road. It was just a grass lawn at the time.



Meagher Garden 2023



'Beverly Sills' (B. Hager, 1979)



'Stairway to Heaven' (L. Lauer, 1993)



'Tennison Ridge' (J. Begley 1989)

Developing The Meagher Garden, Middleburg, Virginia (cont.)

I had seen many photos of the Schreiner' display gardens, so I designed a smaller version for myself. During the spring and summer of 2017 I put in a 60' X 40' iris garden with 60 beds for irises and room for companion plants between the beds. The companion plants include Agastache, Allium, Baptisia, cat mint, Clematis, peonies and poppies. We have a large deer population, so all the plants needed to be deer resistant. The planting has a cottage garden design with meandering paths, decorative benches, wind spinners, and other garden décor. I did all the work myself with the assistance of my trusty Ford F150 pick-up truck. (I didn't ask my husband for help so he wouldn't ask why I was putting in such a big flower garden . . . it worked.)

But wait, there's more. During the winter of 2017, I ordered approximately 250 irises from 16 growers. This time I decided on a more formal garden design. During the spring of 2018 I put in a 40' x 30' garden, approximately 12' from the 2017 garden on the same side yard between our driveway and the road. The 2018 garden has 52 beds in a proportional rectangle with a "reblooming" iris bed located in the center of the rectangle. A reblooming lilac bush, Allium, and annuals are planted in the center of the reblooming bed.

From 2018 to the present I have ordered a "few" iris each year and put in several new beds. I have approximately 600 different varieties of irises in my collection, including TBs, medians, arilbreds, Siberians and species. I would like to add a few Japanese irises to my collection in the future.

All of the irises are planted so the colors complement each other. Prior to planting a bed, I create a template on my computer using photos of the irises to see how they look together. I used the same template to create my iris bed labels for the 2023 Region 4 Spring Conference Garden Tour. I painted bathroom tiles and plates the same colors as the irises in the bed and then affixed the printed photo template. The templates can then be easily changed as I make changes or additions to each bed.

Since joining AIS in 2017 with the order from Aitken's, I have become an active member of my local iris community. I am the current President of the Shenandoah & Potomac Iris Society (SPIS) and an Accredited AIS Garden/Exhibition Judge. SPIS was proud to host the 2023 Region 4 Spring Conference and looks forward to hosting the upcoming 2023 Region 4 Fall Conference.



Bench and 'Gala Madrid' (L. Peterson, 1968)



Peonies and 'Starship Enterprise' (Schreiner, 1999)



Meagher Garden

The Meagher Garden

by Alleah Haley

Except as noted, all photos are by Heather Haley.

We concluded our garden tour at the 2023 Region 4 Spring Meeting after a box lunch at the Opequon Presbyterian Church in Winchester, Virginia. The church was established in 1736 before the Revolutionary War, and named for nearby Opequon Creek. The congregation is still going strong! SPIS member and Region 4 Master Judge Ramon “Ray” Jones is a member of that church and helps maintain the “Memorial Scatter Garden,” which includes irises. Many of us visited this garden on the church grounds where folks are memorialized and their ashes can be scattered.

Transportation during the convention and tours was provided by an ingenious carpool set-up organized by the meeting chairman Sheryl Campbell. Ably chauffeured by Ross Eagles, owner of Diversity Acres, a relatively new iris nursery in Woodbridge, Virginia, our group arrived at the beautiful garden of Patti Meagher and her family in Middlebury, Virginia. At the Meagher Garden I concentrated on taking notes on the vast array of irises in bloom, while my daughter Heather snapped a zillion photos, and RVP Anita Moran gave garden judges’ training on tall bearded irises.

Because they were so well-grown, it was well-nigh impossible to narrow down the irises in bloom to comment on only a few. The following tall bearded irises were putting on a real show. (RE means reblooms; SA means “Space Age” (has horns or spoons)).

‘Softly Waiting’ (Barry Blyth, 2009) – The standards were creamy pink with serrated edges giving a pink-shear effect. The fall were horizontal and a pale lavender, edged in tan. I’ve noticed that bud count in the garden very rarely equals that touted in catalogs, but bloom stalks on this clump had 9 buds. Stunning!



Patti Meagher in her Middleburg Garden

‘Joy Returns’ (Robin Shadlow, 2016, RE, Hon-

orable Mention 2019) – Standards were white, edged in blue. The falls were blue-violet with large white luminata patches below white beards. All pedals were very ruffled and had thin white wire rims. Most of the stalks displayed 6 buds.

‘Autumn Circus’ (Ben Hager, 1990, RE, Honorable Mention 1994) – White ground plicata lined and dotted deep blue-violet. This is an oldie and only had 5 buds; but with the increased interest in lined patterns and its reliable rebloom out of ‘Earl of Essex’, this is certainly worth growing.



‘Autumn Circus’ (. Hager, 1990)



‘Softly Waiting’ (B. Blyth, 2009)

The Meagher Garden (cont.)

'Belle Fille' (Marky Smith, 2015, Wister Medal 2021) – this is one of my favorite modern irises and a candidate for the Dykes Medal this year. Standards are violet with wide white edges with rims touched yellow. Falls are purple with gold around yellow-gold beards and a white luminata patch. Heavily ruffled.



'Belle Fille' (M. Smith, 2015)



'Inky Icon' (T. Burseen, 2004)

'Inky Icon' (Tom Burseen, 2004, SA) – This is a wonderful space age garden iris. Standards are dark purple; falls are even darker with a white area around the purple beards. It has very long white spoons at the ends of purple beards.

Saturn (Tom Johnson, 2005, Award of Merit 2010) – A red-purple bitone with very velvety falls and deep red beards. Heavily ruffled!



Saturn (T. Johnson, 2005)

Samba Queen (Barry Blyth, 2009/10) – displays voluptuous lacy pink-white standards. Falls are burgundy red edged white with white sunburst lines around tangerine beards.



Samba Queen (B. Blyth, 2009/10)

Patti had a large variety of peonies, rhododendrons, and other perennial companion plants and wonderful garden art. Take a look!

The Meagher Garden (cont.)



Peonies and rhododendron in Meagher Garden



John Iwanski relaxing in Meagher front yard garden with fire pit



Buggy with 'Absolute Treasure', 'Autumn Circus', and 'That's All Folks'



Patti Meagher's iris rescue garden



Iris lovers invasion of the Meagher Garden



Susan Grigg, Kathy Huneycutt and Ray Jones in Meagher Garden

Region 4 – Spring 2023 Board Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2023

Museum of the Shenandoah Valley - Winchester, Virginia

In attendance were the following officers and members: Acting RVP Anita Moran, Kathy Huneycutt, ARVP; Carol Warner, Treasurer, Beardless Chair, President FSK; Diana Dudley, Secretary; Lois Rose, Historian; Heather Haley, Iris Program Resource, President ENCIS; Colin Campbell, Rebloom Chair; Susan Grigg, *Newscast*; John Iwanski, President BIS; Beth Orndorff, President FAIS; Patti Meagher, President SPIS. Members present were: Amy Fletcher, Rochelle Felsburg, David Bollinger, Debbie Maeder, Elaine Epperly, Brian Zartman, Dawn Zartman, Ray Jones, and Glenn Grigg. Charlotte Bosch-Iwanski was present as a guest.

Amy Fletcher and Patti Meagher agreed to take minutes for the meeting due to Secretary Diana Dudley being injured,

Welcome & Call to Order: Anita Moran called the meeting to order at 11 a.m. and confirmed that a quorum was present.

Minutes: Anita requested the Fall 2022 Board Minutes be approved as presented in the March 2023 *Newscast*. The minutes were approved unanimously.

RVP Report: Anita provided the RVP report. She noted that the annual paperwork to approve Region 4 affiliates has been submitted to AIS. Anita reminded attendees that the Tall Bearded Symposium Ballot is available online for all AIS members to complete and submit to her by August 1.

Anita reviewed the Region 4 Convention Schedule and Affiliate Hosts: Fall 2023 – SPIS; Spring 2024 – CIS; Fall 2024 – BSIS; Spring 2025 – ENCIS. She distributed a chart identifying how often each affiliate has hosted a convention.

ARVP Report: Kathy Huneycutt provided a report on the 2023 AIS Spring Convention in Dallas, Texas. She summarized the Board Meeting and noted there was discussion on the safety for the 2024 Spring Convention in Portland, Oregon. Kathy informed the attendees that the Region 4 basket was the second highest earning basket during the auction. The 2023 Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup winner was Ava Toth, youth member, accomplished hybridizer and daughter of Indian Creek Iris Garden's David Toth.

[Note: The Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup, provided by Region 4, is given for the best seedling seen blooming at the AIS National Convention each year and is a keeper cup presented by Region 4 in honor of two of its distinguished members, who were both hybridizers and served as RVPs of Region 4. Explanation, not part of the minutes.]

Treasurer's Report: Carol Warner presented the Treasurer's Report. The current checking account balance is \$18,844.17.

Budget Report: Anita Moran provided the Budget Report. She requested \$200 be approved to reimburse Kathy Huneycutt for expenses she incurred while attending the 2023 National Convention and representing Region 4. The motion was made by Susan Grigg and seconded by Colin Campbell. The motion passed unanimously.

Anita identified the possible need to increase the *Newscast* budget to purchase ink. After general discussion, it was determined to postpone the topic until the 2023 Fall meeting.

Anita proposed raising the budget for attending the National Convention from \$600 to \$800. The motion was made by Heather Haley and seconded by Carol Warner. The motion passed unanimously.

Region 4 – Spring 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Membership Report: Anita Moran provided the membership report. Region 4 has the highest number of new members. She noted that the current AIS membership drive is confusing for renewals for e-memberships to full memberships and vice versa. There was general discussion regarding retention of new members after the initial free membership expires.

Anita informed the membership of the loss of Don Rude, a long time Region 4 member and former RVP.

Website Report: Anita Moran provided a report on the recent updates to the Region 4 website, including: each affiliate's page and garden information, over 2000 photos, the reblooming page and the happenings page.

Newscast Editor Report: Anita Moran informed the Board that the software has been updated which has improved the process for creating the newsletter. She noted that there were 362 hits to the website after the Spring *Newscast* was uploaded.

Judges' Training: Anita Moran informed the Board that she and Lois Rose have been working on a summary of the Judges' Handbook that will be user friendly in the garden. It is currently available for apprentice judges and will be available on the Region 4 website soon. She questioned if the current Judges and Apprentice Judges have received the Annual Ballot. It was confirmed that the Ballots had been received. Anita reminded all the Judges, Apprentices and Students that AIS offers online Judges' training videos. After watching the videos, take the test and send the completed test to Sue Shackelford. The annual Judges' Training Report is due to Sue Shackelford in August.

Iris Program Resource: Heather Haley reported that she is working with Anita to develop programs.

Sunshine Report: Kathy Huneycutt informed the Board that she sends cards expressing concern for members in the event of illness or bereavement. Currently, she completes the sunshine committee duties at no cost to Region 4 as she already has the supplies. Carol Warner reminded the Board that there are funds available in the Sunshine budget for postage and supplies.

Auction Report: Heather Haley reported that the 2022 Region 4 Fall Auction earned \$1400. There have been 77 donations for the 2023 Spring Auction.

Beardless and Species Report: Carol Warner informed the Board that the 2024 National Convention will be held in combination with the Japanese Iris Convention in Portland, Oregon. She stressed the uniqueness of having beardless irises showcased in the National Convention garden tours and noted there were not any beardless iris in the 2023 National Convention gardens.

Median Report: Anita Moran expressed the need for a new Median chairperson. Lois Rose recommended Judy Durant. Anita affirmed she would follow up with Judy on her willingness to serve as Median chair. There was general discussion about the results of the 2022 Median convention.

Rebloom Report: Colin Campbell reported that he received Reblooming Reports from 16 members for the 2022 growing season. He noted that there were four new reblooming introductions by regional hybridizers. Anita encouraged members to submit the report to Colin each year so the Region can continue to learn which cultivars rebloom in the Region 4 climate.

Region 4 – Spring 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Affiliate Reports: The Affiliate Reports were submitted in writing to Anita Moran.

The Unfinished Business was postponed until the Fall Board Meeting. Motion made by Diana Dudley and seconded by Heather Haley. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business: Anita informed the Board that the AIS Annual Photo Contest is accepting photos and encouraged members to participate. Photos are due by August 1, 2023. Information is available on the AIS website.

Patti Meagher
Interim Secretary

Minutes of the AIS Region 4 Spring 2023 Membership Meeting May 13, 2023

The membership meeting was held in the conference room at the Hilton Garden Inn in Winchester, Virginia. It was called to order by Acting RVP Anita Moran at 6:15 p.m. Anita called the roll of Region 4 societies and the following number of members were present:

Bayshore Iris Society – 2
Charlotte Iris Society – 7
Central Virginia Iris Society – 2
Eastern North Carolina Iris Society – 7
Fredericksburg Area Iris Society – 3
Francis Scott Key Iris Society – 6
Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society – 11
Guests – 7

Anita asked for additional nominations from the floor for Region 4 officers and there were none. Election of Region 4 officers was held and the following were elected by unanimous vote: RVP Anita Moran, Assistant RVP Kathy Honeycutt, Treasurer Carol Warner, Secretary Alleah Haley.

The following awards were announced based on ballots voted by meeting attendees:

Alice Bouldin Award for the best iris seedling by a Region 4 hybridizer – Colin Campbell for ‘Be Funny Daddy’

D. C. Nearpass Award for most popular iris introduced by a Region 4 hybridizer (need not be an official guest iris) – tie to Colin Campbell for ‘Mama’s Music’ and Ginny Spoon for ‘Mosby’s Lady’

B. Y. Morrison Award for the most popular iris by an out-of-region hybridizer seen blooming in a tour garden (need not be an official guest iris) – Tom Burseen for ‘Inky Icon’

An AIS-accredited iris show was held on Friday, May 12 at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester, Virginia and the winners were:

Best of Show – Carol Warner for ‘That’s All Folks’

Best Seedling – Pat McNeal for 12-03-D

Silver Medal for most blue ribbons – Carol Warner

Bronze Medal for 2nd most blue ribbons – Dave Piasecki

Minutes of the AIS Region 4 Spring 2023 Membership Meeting (cont.)

Anita introduced Delane Langton from Billings, Montana (AIS Region 11) who with his wife Jane Tibbs and Tina Muller is co-chair of the 2025 AIS National Convention in Montana. It will be Montana's first AIS national convention. See Bigskyirisclub.com website and the brochure distributed at this meeting for information on the June 2-7, 2025 convention. Delane outlined features of the convention:

There will be an optional tour on Tuesday of that week of the Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument, site of Custer's Last Stand. The tour will include lunch at the Custer Battlefield Trading Post Café with maximum attendance of 100 for the Indian tour.

One-hour programs by all AIS Sections on Wednesday
Iris garden tours on Thursday and Friday
A buffalo barbecue in Billings
Only 2 hours north of Yellowstone National Park
Charles Kuralt Memorial Highway over 11,000-foot Beartooth pass
Near Glacier National Park and the Grand Tetons

A sensory garden with a guest planting of 300 iris varieties
DanWalt Gardens, a private garden and wedding venue
Cynthia St. Charles private residence garden
Muriel's iris garden – she's 80 years old with 1000 iris varieties and 300 guest varieties
Tina and Daughters Iris Garden – a commercial garden with over 2000 iris varieties
Longest bus ride is 26 minutes to the Langston/Tibbs garden which has 7000 varieties

Ingrid Bray, president of the Charlotte Iris Society (CIS), invited us to attend the April 26-28, 2024 AIS Region 4 spring meeting in Charlotte. Longtime member Ruth Holbrook's garden was rescued last year and Ingrid said that Sarah Sue Miller has done a wonderful job of establishing a Ruth Holbrook Memorial Garden. Other gardens on the tour are new. The society has a new hybridizer specializing in Louisianas, Gabriel Rivera. CIS member Grey Drum has a collection of irises and other plants.

Patti Meagher, president of the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society, announced that the 2023 Fall Regional will be one day, October 14, at the Virginia State Arboretum at Blandy Farm. The meeting will include a re-blooming iris show, judges' training given by Anita Moran, garden tours, and a plant auction.

Anita then announced the active Region 4 hybridizers:
Colin Campbell, who's been hybridizing for 10 years. His first introduction was in 2018.
Ross Eagles, who hybridizes irises and daylilies and has been hybridizing for eight years.
Anita Moran, who's been hybridizing for 21 years, with first introduction 17 years ago with 36 introductions so far in bearded and beardless irises.
Ginny Spoon, who's been hybridizing for 28 years.
Don Spoon who's been hybridizing since he was a child helping his mother in the garden and has over 300 introductions and many awards including two Wister medal winners.

The hybridizers then spoke briefly about their work.

Minutes of the AIS Region 4 Spring 2023 Membership Meeting (cont.)

Mentored by Don Spoon, Colin Campbell said after his first introduction, his next was in 2020, then four in 2022 and three in 2023. Most are TBs with one SDB and one IB. He focuses on cold-hardy rebloomers, candelabra branching, reblooming bicolors, TBs with speckles and stripes, and triple-socketed terminals. He has been using Burseen's 'Tobacco Chew' for its wide beards. Next year's 'Be Funny Daddy' has up to 11 buds and a pencil-thin gold rim around the standards.

Another of Don Spoon's mentees, Ross Eagles had four introductions in 2022 – all are from 2016 SDB crosses. He is continuing hybridizing work with TBs. Ross' goals are green-toned irises, rebloomers of any class (primarily SDBs and TBs), and he is beginning work with Louisianas and Siberians. To breed Louisianas, you must collect the pollen before the flower opens. Thus, all his Louisiana seedlings are bee crosses.

Anita Moran was taught by Don Spoon, Keith Keppel, and other hybridizers. She's produced arilbreds, species from the influence of Roy Epperson, Louisiana and Japanese iris seedlings, and she makes a couple of TB crosses every two years. She makes a lot of SDB crosses and has found SDB 'Orb Weaver' to be a great parent.

Carol Warner didn't speak as she had left earlier.

Ginny Spoon spoke for herself and her husband, Don Spoon, who was in the hospital. Ginny spoke of a number of Don's relatively recently introduced irises by name, especially SDBs and rebloomers

Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Alleah Haley, Secretary-elect

Succession of Bloom Joan Miller FSK

The following is a list and time of bloom in my garden to give you a peek at possible companion plants for your gardens.

February— March

Hellebores, Pulmonaria, Violas, Bulbs: Snowdrops, Snow Crocus, Glory of the Snow, Large Crocus, Pushkinia, Early Daffodils, 'Tete-a-Tete', 'Jet Fire', 'Jack Snipe'. Early Tulips (species, Emperors) Trumpet Daffodils, Violas

April

Mid Blooming Daffodils, Hyacinths, Grape Hyacinths, Early Blooming Tulips. Best Perennial Tulips - Darwin Hybrids, Triumph Tulips, Narcissus, Bleeding Hearts, Violas

May

May Flowering Tulips, Late Double Tulips, Parrot Tulips, Lily Flowering Tulips. Dwarf and Intermediate irises, Tall Bearded Irises, Peonies, Siberian Irises, Poppies (Pink - 'Victoria Louise', Red - 'Brilliant') Allium, Oenothera (Sundrops), Larkspur, Dame's Rocket (Wild Phlox), Columbines, Geraniums, Dianthus (pinks), Digitalis (foxgloves), Tradescantia spiderwort, Clematis

June

Japanese Irises, Peonies, Asiatic Lilies, Early Daylilies, Garden Phlox, Shasta Daisies, Lamb's Ears, Artemisia, Rose Campion, Coreopsis, Salvia, Veronica, Astilbe, Hosta

July

Mid-Late Daylilies, Oriental, Tree, and Turk's Cap lilies, Garden Phlox, Echinacea, Globe Thistle, Rudbeckia, Yarrow, Monarda, Salvia, Veronica, Rose Campion, Cleome, Verbena bonariensis, Asclepius (Butterfly Weed), Astilbe, Cosmos- orange – reseeds, Hosta

August

Late-very late Daylilies, Dahlias, Cannas, Reblooming Irises, Tithonia, Early Chrysanthemums, Rudbeckia 'Goldsturm' (can be invasive) Physostegia (Obedient Plant), Hosta- 'Royal Standard' - tall fragrant white flowers, Cosmos- Orange Sedum- 'Autumn Joy', Japanese Anemones, Magic Lilies

September- October

Reblooming Iris, Very Late and Reblooming Daylilies, Dahlias, Chrysanthemum - 'Sheffield Pink' Aster - 'Purple Dome', Cosmos-Orange

Region 4 Fall Regional Meeting Saturday, October 14, 2023

State Arboretum at Blandy Farm, Boyce, Virginia

Hosted by Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society

Bloom, Rest, Repeat!

Did you know that reblooming irises typically put out their most wonderful flowers in the re-bloom season, when compared to the same plants in the spring? Come let them strut their stuff on Saturday, October 14 at Blandy Farm, the State Arboretum of Virginia, in Boyce, Virginia. A Reblooming Iris Show is the perfect place to showcase your lovely reblooming stalks! Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society is excited to be hosting the 2023 Fall Regional Show and meetings for Region 4. It will be a one-day event (9-5) replete with a judged show of repeat bloomers, judges training, and a plant auction. Tours of the newly revamped Memorial Iris Gardens on the grounds happen throughout the morning, and you can also explore the huge arboretum acreage on your own. Lunch will be provided.

We hope you can join us! Registration forms are in this issue of the *Newscast*, as well as online at www.irisregion4.com. For more information feel free to contact Sheryl Campbell at Campbells@IrisHillsFarm.com.



State Arboretum at Blandy Farm, Boyce, Virginia



The Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society
An affiliate of the American Iris Society

PRESENTS

2023

Rebloomirg Iris Show



Saturday, October 14, 2023

**State Arboretum of Virginia
At Blandy Farm**

In the Library of The Quarters

**400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce, VA 22620**

All iris growers are invited to exhibit named varieties

No entry fee or admission charge to the show

Horticultural Divisions

Entries accepted from 9:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Judging from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Open to the public 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Admission is free to the show

Tours of the Memorial Iris Gardens are free

General Exhibition Rules

1. Anyone who grows irises may enter this show. There is no entry fee. All entries must have been grown and ENTERED IN PERSON by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag. Only named varieties of iris may be entered. If judges are entered in the show then they should not to judge their own entries.
2. Accredited judges of the American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Divisions, according to the AIS rules and regulations. Judges' decisions will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion.
3. Entries will be received between 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. on Saturday, October 14, 2023. Exhibits and ribbons must remain in place until 2:00 p.m. Exhibitors are encouraged to remove their entries promptly. Any entries that remain after 2:00 p.m. will be disposed of, at the discretion of the show committee.
4. Entry tags and containers for entries will be furnished by the show committee. Both halves of the entry tag must be filled out with the correct name of the cultivar before it can be entered. Incorrectly named entries will not be judged.
5. The Classification Committee must pass each entry. The Show Committee will assist exhibitors in classifying irises. All seedlings must be named or numbered seedlings and entered in the name of the hybridizer.
6. Sections will be divided into groups by cultivar. Exhibitors are allowed only one entry of each variety. The Show Committee reserves the right to combine or subdivide sections as the number of entries warrant.
7. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care in safeguarding exhibits, but cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.
8. Judging will be held from (10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.). Show open to the public from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
9. 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, 8th edition, 2021, and subsequent rules and regulations approved by the American Iris Society Board of Directors.

AWARDS

The following awards will be presented, if merited:

RIBBONS - Only one first, one second or one third place ribbon will be awarded to each cultivar. As many Honorable Mention ribbons as quality merits will be awarded to each cultivar. No entry may receive more than one ribbon.

MEDALS - The **AIS Silver Medal/Certificate** will be awarded to the exhibitor winning the largest number of blue ribbons. In case of a tie, the second, then third place ribbons will be counted. The **AIS Bronze Medal/Certificate** will be awarded to the exhibitor winning the second largest number of blue ribbons.

BEST SPECIMEN - QUEEN OF SHOW - will receive the **AIS Purple Rosette** imprinted "*Best Specimen*" and Best Specimen of Show certificate.

SPECIAL MERIT - AIS Purple Rosettes will be awarded to the two runners-up to the Best Specimen.

BEST IN SECTION - The Best Specimen of each section will receive an **AIS Section Rosette**, provided there are 3 exhibitors and 5 cultivars in the section.

BEST SEEDLING - AIS "Best Seedling" Rosette will be awarded to the best seedling, if merited.

CERTIFICATES - An **Exhibition Certificate** will be awarded to the best seedling. Additional EC's will be awarded to any seedling receiving five or more votes from AIS Judges attending the show.

Entries

DIVISION I ----- Horticulture

Section A. Tall Bearded

Section B. Other Bearded

Group 1 Miniature Dwarf Bearded

Group 2 Standard Dwarf Bearded

Group 3 Intermediate Bearded

Group 4 Border Bearded

Group 5 Miniature Tall Bearded

Section C. Beardless Irises

Section E. Any other,

DIVISION II -----Seedlings

Single stalks entered by or for originator under number or registered name.

Section A -- Bearded Iris Seedlings

Section B -- All Other Iris Seedlings

The S&P Iris Society is an affiliate of the American Iris Society

The official rules and regulations of the American Iris Society cannot be violated.

SHOW COMMITTEE

Show Chairman And Awards	Patti Meagher	(703) 999-3169
Schedule	Sheryl Campbell	(540) 868-2123
Judges	Ray Jones Sue Shackelford Linda Laing	
Apprentice Judge	Beth Orndorff	
Clerks	Kathy Holl Dean Richards	
Classification and Placement	Colin Campbell	
Membership	Ginny Spoon	
Properties/Staging	Campbells	
Registration/Reception	Sheryl Campbell	(540) 868-2123

Join the American Iris Society

Full Membership print and electronic	
Annual, single	\$45.00 per year
Dual:	\$50.00 per year
E-membership	\$15 per year
Print only	\$30 single/\$35 dual
Youth	\$12.00 with Bulletin

Quarterly Bulletins, local clubs, shows, tours, meetings.
Send dues and membership information to :
AIS Membership Secretary P.O. Box 6, Huxley, IA 50124
or pay online at <irises.org>

Region 4 Fall Regional Meeting Saturday, October 14, 2023

**State Arboretum at Blandy Farm
400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce, VA 22620**

Hosted by Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society

Friday, October 13th Set up

6:30 pm: Campbells set up tables and show furniture

*take large outdoor trashcan with bags for lunch trash removal

Saturday, October 14th

8:30 am (Library)	Final setup and prep	Active S&P members
9:00-10:30 am (Library)	Show entries	Members and public
10:30-12:00 pm (Library)	Show Judging	Show Team
10:30-12:00 pm (Dining Rm)	Board/General Meeting	All members
10:30 and 11:30 am (garden)	Iris Garden Tours	Members and public
12:00-2:00 pm (Library)	Show open to the public	All members
1:00-2:00 pm (Dining Rm)	Box Lunch	All members
2:00 pm (Library)	Tear down show/set up JT	All members
2:30 pm (Library)	Judges Training (Anita Moran – Ethics)	All members
3:30 pm (Library)	Plant Auction (Anita Moran)	All members
4:30 pm (Library)	Closing thanks (Patti)	All members



State Arboretum at Blandy Farm

400 Blandy Farm Lane

Boyce, VA 22620

Site of Fall 2023 Region 4 regional meeting.

AIS Region 4 Fall 2023 Meeting
Saturday, October 14th
State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Farm
400 Blandy Farm Lane
Boyce, VA 22620

Registration Form

Name (1): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name (2): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Full Registration: \$35.00 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

(Registration includes lunch)

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Send completed Registration Form with a Check made payable to S&P Iris Society and mail by September 15th to:

S&P Iris Society
c/o Sheryl Campbell
465 Chapel Road, Middletown, VA 22645
540-868-2123
Campbells@IrisHillsFarm.com

As this is a one day event at the State Arboretum no specific hotel accommodations have been arranged. Below is a list of nearby hotels you might consider if you live outside of day-trip driving distance. Closest hotels are 9 miles away and about a 15 minute drive.

There are many guest rooms for rent in the Boyce, Virginia area on both Airbnb and VRBO.

<https://www.wyndhamhotels.com/laquinta/winchester-virginia/la-quinta-winchester/overview>

<https://www.choicehotels.com/virginia/winchester/sleep-inn-hotels/va345>

<https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/wgovaru-tru-winchester/>

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Anita V Moran
630 Third St
Aberdeen MD 21001

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