



The Newscast

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Region 4 Spring Award Winners



'Sky And Sun' (D. Spoon 1999, TB)

2022 Nearpass Award Winner (Best Iris from Region 4 Hybridizer) at the Spring Meeting

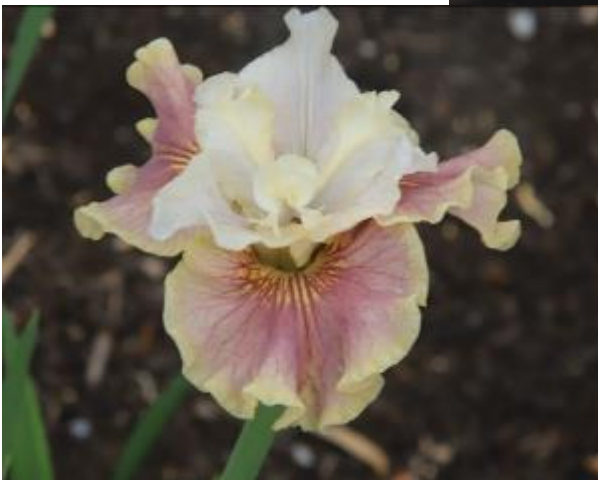
Photo: Carol Warner

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'Wings For Anna' (Moran R. 2022, MTB) Seedling #17AAop02

Best Seedling from Region 4 Hybridizer

Photo: Anita Moran



'Wynne Magnolia' (Schafer/Sacks 2015, SIB)

Winner B.Y. Morrison Award (Best Out of Region Iris)

Photo: Anita Moran

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(Continued from Mar 2022 *Newscast* pg. 4)

Iris Law 9: Iris hybridizers have very special eyes---they frequently, when looking at their own seedlings, see beauty no one else can.



McPherson Seedling 11BBEob01

Iris Law 10: Iris lovers are like squirrels: they chatter about things only their own kind understands, like to sleep a lot in winter and are always digging in the ground to bury their treasures.

Iris Law 11: Irises come in very common colors. Everyone knows what aureolin rhodenite pink and etruscan rose look like, don't they? Why almost everyday I hear someone say, "Look at that lovely aureolin dress".



'White Amber' (Schafer/Sacks 2001, SIB)
Photo: Jeanette Graham

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

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I couldn't tell the difference between a rose and a dandelion. So when it came time to fix up my garden, I had no clue which plants to keep and which ones to remove. Until, that is, my mother gave me this handy tip: "Pull them all up. If it comes back, it's a weed!" From: californiagardenclubs.com newsletter Nov. 2018.

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Iris latifolia

Iris latifolia, also known as English Iris, *Xiphium latifolia*, *Iris anglica*, *Iris xiphoides*. It is a bulbous plant with a Chromosome Count $2n=42$. In nature deep blue flower with yellow mark, 60 cm tall with 2-3 flowers per stalk which flowers in June to July. Different from *Iris xiphium* by having a winged haft, and the lower part of the falls have a broad edge. This is the only iris with a bulb that needs a wet ground. No hybrids with other *Xiphiums* are known. Color is never yellow, but an alba (white) form does exist. *Iris latifolia*'s preferred habitats are wet meadows. Hardiness range is USDA 6-9. but with mulch can be extended.

Iris latifolia is native to the Pyrenees of Southwestern France and Northwestern Spain. It is widely cultivated in temperate regions. Some selections are in trade

I. latifolia can be propagated by seed sown in cold frame in spring or autumn. This iris is susceptible to slugs and snails and grey molds and ink disease. See iris diseases

REFERENCES

<http://www.signa.org/index.pl?Iris-latifolia>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Iris_latifolia

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/78750/iris-xiphoides/details>



Iris latifolia,
Photo by Ken Walker



Iris latifolia, in Spanish Pyrenees Mountains Photo by Sigfrido Gonzalez

From The Editor

August 2022

I am sorry for the delay in the getting out the *Newscast* but health problems needed to be addressed first. I can report I am doing well and took my first trip in many months to Winchester, Virginia to the SPIS rhizome sale. I want to thank those who wrote articles and I hope you all enjoy them. I did not buy any irises there but did pick up my order from Ginny Spoon. With offerings like the SDB 'Lemon Kitty' (D. Spoon 2022), TB rebloomers 'Mother of Dragons' (D. Spoon 2021) and 'Short Stitched' (D. Spoon 2022), I expect wonderful things happening in my garden in the next years.

When you get to the *Newscast* Report you will see that *Newscast* is still read around the world. In this issue I will also introduce you to the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification (KGCC). The KGCC is an addendum to the USDA Hardiness Zone Map which only takes temperature into consideration. We here in the Mid-Atlantic deal with a variety of microclimates to grow a wide assortment of irises. Adding to that, we get some of our irises from areas distinctly different from our own, and I think the KGCC will help us develop plans on what our new irises need to do well in our changeable region.

Today we are waiting for the ever-present chance of thunderstorms to see if rain develops. Also with the storms is the inevitable chance of losing power, so I will make this short. Please make plans to attend the regional meetings. This fall the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society is hosting the meeting in Fredericksburg, Virginia. They managed to snag Chad Harris for the speaker. For those interested in laevigatas and Japanese iris this is one talk you do not want to miss. In the spring of 2023 the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society will be hosting and have five gardens on the agenda to visit and a sixth garden to visit on Sunday. I cannot wait to visit Winterberry again. I have missed my yearly infusion of beauty. Fall 2023 is in the air, but I have hope we will get a volunteer. In 2024 Charlotte Iris Society will be hosting the spring meeting and I am eager to visit North Carolina again.

The America Iris Society 2023 spring meeting will be in Dallas, Texas and in 2024 it will be in Portland, Oregon and highlight Japanese iris. Plans are already in the works to visit both these locations.

I want to thank those who wrote articles and I hope you all enjoy them. We always need volunteers to help fill these pages with reports of garden visits and observations on your own gardening experiences.

Be careful in the heat and look at the weeds as another path to beauty in our gardens. Then we don't have to weed as much.

Extending the Zone: Part 1 Local

by Anita Moran

As a hybridizer, taught by other hybridizers, there are certain criteria that should be at the top of our characteristics for choosing a seedling for further evaluation: form, function, health, unique qualities and the ability for our chosen seedlings to withstand the rigors of other zones. Looking at the USDA Hardiness Zone Map, while rebloom occurs consistently among zones 8-10, the USDA map shows its zones in a roughly linear pattern but fails to identify specific, unique weather micro- and macro-environments.

Here in Maryland I have lived in Zones 6a to 7b and all within five miles between the various zones. The USDA hardiness map only deals with temperatures of -10°F to 100°F , the range of temperature for Maryland; but in just my 10 miles the difference in a single snowfall can be up to 12 inches. The temperature range does not tell the whole story either. In my research for this article the 'a' and 'b' distinctions are not needed, since they only represent a 5°F deviation. Yes, we get below that -10°F identifier, but here in the Mid-Atlantic -5°F and 75°F might be separated by a mere 12 hours, making it difficult for new growth to survive. This year (2022) was particularly egregious since we had several weeks of 50 to 65°F during which I did extensive MDB and SDB crosses. This was closely followed by three days of 20°F and below. Of 79 crosses only three produced seed pods and only one of those had viable seeds. That cross was 'Teagan' (Spoon 2009) selfed.

To better understand microclimates, I looked for other means to measure environments in various areas. That is when I found the Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification (KGCC) Map. This map is divided into only five major weather categories: A (tropical), B (arid), C (temperate), D (continental), and E (polar). These categories (Cat.) are further divided into micro-divisions depending on moisture from rain, snow, fog or lack of rain. Cat. A has three sub-categories, Cat. B four, Cat. C eight, Cat. D twelve, and Cat. E only two.

If you look at the KGCC map, the Mid-Atlantic area, in fact, most of the area from the mid to lower plains to the Atlantic appears to be in Cat. C. Looking closer you find the differences. My first home was in Pylesville, Maryland (USDA Zone 6b (-5°F to 0°F)) and



USDA Plant Hardiness Map
<https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>⁴



Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification Map
<https://www.plantmaps.com/koppen-climate-classification-map-united-states.php>²

my second home Aberdeen, Maryland (USDA Zone 7a (0°F to 5°F)) a difference of 5 degrees. KGCC shows Aberdeen at C- Temperate (Mesothermal) + sub Cat fa - Humid Continental Hot Summers with year-round precipitation and Pylesville, near Fawn Grove, Pennsylvania at D - Continental + fa - Humid Continental Hot Summers.

Here in Maryland we order extensively from Mid-America Garden in Oregon. Salem is USDA Zone 8 (10 to 20°F) and KGCC Zone C - Temperate (Mesothermal), which is similar to many areas in Maryland, except near the Pennsylvania line where they have a sub Cat. + sa - Hot-Summer Mediterranean. We have also purchased from gardens in the Central Valley, using Fresno, California as a norm for the valley, USDA Zone 9 (20 to 30°F) and KGCC zone B - Dry (Arid and Semiarid) + sk (Cold Semi-Arid). Purchasing irises from gardens out of the KGCC zone has a greater effect on their hardiness in Maryland than matching the USDA map.

Extending the Zone: Part 1 Local (cont.)

KGCC not only takes temperature into account but also moisture in rain, snow, fog and sea effects or lack of precipitation. The eastern portion of the continental US from the Rockies and lower slopes east, show a very even zone with few deviations, while the westward shows a great deal of variations. Phoenix (USDA Zone 10 (30-40° F) KGCC - B Dry (Arid and Semiarid) + wh - Hot Desert and Flagstaff at USDA Zone 6 (-10 to 0° F) KGCC -D Continental (Microthermal) + sb Dry cool summer, but in the center of Flagstaff it is also KGCC D - Continental (Microthermal) + sa Humid Continental Climate - Dry Warm Summer.

Locally in our own gardens we develop microclimates, sometimes without meaning to develop them. Adding excessive sand, high compost percentages, the introduction of lime, or the addition of pea gravel or 'Chick Grit'TM can all change the climate of your natural top soil. Here in Maryland restricting water in certain conditions can help with some situations as with growing arils or arilbreds. Making artificial ponds using kiddie pools for Japanese and Louisiana irises is also a method for developing microclimates. These types of changes can result in extending the zones for bloom and rebloom.

In the next installment I will explore more of the many regional variations between USDA and KGCC.

References:

1. <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>
2. <https://www.plantmaps.com/koppen-climate-classification-map-united-states.php>
3. <https://www.plantmaps.com/index.php>
4. <https://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/>



'Tiger On The Green' (Moran 2021) SDB, reblooming in Montana

Siberian Species Report by Carol Warner

Siberian and species iris enthusiasts enjoyed a full two days of garden tours in Seattle hosted by the King County Iris Society, May 27th through the 29th. The Saturday tour took us to the Highline SeaTac Botanical Garden close to the Seattle airport. This garden was the farthest south and had the most bloom. A well-tended guest bed sported lots of outstanding varieties with colors that were much brighter and darker than usual due to the lack of sunshine in that part of the country. In the drizzling rain these four-year clumps were outstanding. Rhododendrons were gorgeous in their home territory and a beautiful Japanese garden drew many of us in for a closer look.

After lunch we headed to the Bellevue Botanical Garden and the next display bed of guest plants. This 53-acre urban refuge was amazing and contained the best use of Siberian irises in mixed perennial plantings that I have ever seen. Huge clumps of Siberians growing along curved walkways were in full bloom as our cameras clicked and clicked.

Day two was spent at Cascadia Iris Gardens owned and operated by Patrick and Margaret Spence. Over 1000 named varieties of irises of all types were well grown. Since this garden was farther north, there was less bloom on the guest plants, but many of the earlier cultivars had their first flush of blooms. Patrick led a tour around the garden to point out a tremendous number of species irises. In-garden judges' training on Siberians was held.

The favorite introduced Siberian iris was 'Art in Bloom' by Schafer/Sacks, and Dwayne Booth had the favorite Siberian seedling.

We are looking forward to the next convention in Iowa in 2025.



'Art In Bloom' (Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks 2016)
favorite introduced Siberian iris

Reports

Spring Regional Membership Report 2022

Many of our affiliates have added new members with the free one-year membership drive. I just received several more forms this week that I haven't had a minute to put into the database (21 more from ENCIS and some other late entries). I only hope the new members, at least some of them, will continue their membership after their year is up. You can encourage your new members by getting them involved in your activities. Your sales and shows are good venues to recruit their help.

We have 317 (plus the 21 members from ENCIS and 10 from Bayshore and several more I haven't entered into the database) currently in Region 4. These are from the one-year free membership drive. Hopefully, I will get the database updated this weekend in between the garden visitors and the mowing and weeding.

Ginny Spoon, Region 4 Membership Chairman

Spring 2022 Iris Program Resource Report

Although I took over this role last fall, I don't have much to report. I have access to the existing Region 4 program resource CD and would like to create an online repository for these and populate it with recent programs made by regional members.

If you have created programs, please share them with me. If you would be willing to present programs outside your affiliate group, please let me know what topics you are comfortable presenting.

We have many groups in the region trying to cultivate and retain membership. It would be wonderful to draw on the vast knowledge and experience in Region 4 so we continue to grow and thrive .

Heather Haley

Sunshine Report

I sent a dish garden to Sue Shackelford in sympathy for the loss of her husband and cards went to her too. Cards were sent to several people who were identified to me as being in need. Some of those cards sent were multiples and some were so they knew Region 4 misses them. If you all know anyone who needs a card for any situation, please contact me.

Kathy Huneycutt, Sunshine Chair
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American Iris Society 2022 Award Winners From Region 4

Founders of SIGNA Medal (SPEC):
Runner-Up: 'Cloud of Dragons' (Moran)

Randolph Perry Medal (SPEC-X):
Winner: 'Yasha' (Shimizu by Warner)

Award of Merit IB:
Runner-Up: 'Courtney Rucker' (Lockatell)

Award of Merit MDB:
Winner: 'Sapphire Jubilee' (G. Spoon)

Honorable Mention SDB:
Winner: 'Volcanic Sprite' (Moran)
Runner Up: 'Orange Arc' (G. Spoon)
Runner Up: 'Botta Bing' (G. Spoon)



'Yasha' (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner 2010)
SPEC-X (Pseudata)



'Sapphire Jubilee' (Ginny Spoon 2013, TB)



'Volcanic Sprite' (Anita Moran 2017)

Coming in the Spring of 2023

Gardens in Transition

2023 Region 4 Spring Iris Show, Meetings, and Tours of Five Gardens

Friday May 12 and Saturday May 13

Optional Sunday Garden Tour in the Winchester, Virginia area

The prolific bloom of iris in the Shenandoah Valley is waiting for you to share in the joy! Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society is hosting the Region 4 Spring Regional Meetings and Garden Tours in and around Winchester, Virginia on May 12 and 13, 2023. Won't you join us?!

Over the years our club has donated many historic and



Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) in Winchester, Virginia

modern irises to the Glen Burnie Gardens at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) in Winchester. We're celebrating our decade long relationship with the MSV gardens by hosting our regional iris show and meetings there on May 12th. Lunch on the patio before a guided tour of the gardens by the garden director will round out our time there.

The irises are spread throughout the garden plantings so that a walk along the paths will bring you to beds of bearded irises both new and historic. Older irises dot the landscape in plantings around the historic Glen Burnie House, which sits in the center of the gardens. Saunter down the lane past the old cistern and stream to see the Siberian irises; or wander into the Asian gardens to see the Japanese irises around the pagoda. Scattered among the hostas, you'll find *Iris cristata*. A formal alleé and rose garden are countered with kitchen gardens and the casual profusion of various blooms around the water features. The seven acres of gardens are ever-changing and the newest addition is a pleasantly shaded bamboo walk with secluded benches along the pathway.

Next, join Colin Campbell in his newly expanded seedling beds at Iris Hills Farm for training on how to judge seedlings in the garden. His collection of irises introduced by

others has downsized, but still covers a large swath of the front slope and driveway. Walk the farm afterwards to visit the lambs, chickens, and guinea fowl. Roam the two large vegetable gardens and several mixed plantings surrounding the house. Visit Colin's piano studio where he works wonders with students young and old. We might even talk him into an impromptu piano concert!

Winterberry Gardens, hosted by Don and Ginny Spoon, will be open to us all morning on our second day. This is the last time that Ginny anticipates being able to open their gardens to tours. You'll not want to miss this opportunity to visit the incredible plantings of thousands of irises, including many Dykes winners and all of Don, Ginny, and Bryan Spoon's introductions. Ginny will be on hand to show us seedlings that are currently being evaluated and to answer any questions you may have. This is probably the most extensive planting of irises anywhere in Region 4. Don would delight in seeing each of you.



Front beds at Iris Hills Farm



Winterberry Gardens

Coming in the Spring of 2023 (cont.)

Join Ray Jones at the Memorial Scatter Garden at Opequon Presbyterian Church where he plants and cares for irises and other perennials. We'll be having lunch in the Fellowship Hall, and there will be time to visit the Roots and Shoots Vegetable Garden where church members grow produce for a local food pantry.



**Memorial Scatter Garden at
Opequon Presbyterian Church**

The Meagher Gardens will show us the most amazing transition of the entire weekend. Just a few short years ago this property was a simple suburban homestead. Then Patti Meagher caught the iris virus! Today her home is surrounded by irises. Over 550 varieties now live where grass once reigned supreme. Patti gra-



Meagher Gardens

ciously stepped into the role as VP of our club this year. She just completed her apprentice judges training this year and will be a full garden judge by the time we visit her gardens. Anita Moran will be giving tall bearded iris judges' training in the Meagher Gardens, so it will be interesting to see where they agree or disagree on the amazing collection of mostly newer introductions that Patti has amassed.

Our time together will end with an evening of fun, food, and fellowship in the Hilton Garden Inn banquet room. Dinner will be followed by a special Hybridizers' Presentation where all of Region 4's active hybridizers will show you their recent introductions, talk about their hybridizing goals and how they hope to achieve them, and give you a peek at some of the seedlings they are currently evaluating for introduction. We'll close the evening with Award Presentations and a rousing plant auction.

Consider staying over until Sunday to visit one final garden: The Walter Flores Memorial Iris Gardens which our club helped to plant at The State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Farm in Boyce, Virginia. A grant was recently awarded to Blandy to renew the iris beds adding more reblooming irises, structural features, and additional perennial plantings along the back. Sunday, May 14th is Blandy's annual Mother's Day Garden Fair sale with hundreds of vendors and a multitude of plants for sale. Fill up your car for the drive home!



Blandy Farm in Boyce, Virginia

Affiliate Reports

Bayshore Iris Society Report

The Club has been busy with the flurry of new members, flower show, and prep, along with a member garden tour.

Members did a garden tour in the Easton area and Salisbury, Maryland on Saturday April 30. Eight gardens were visited, including some the Club is responsible to maintain. Beside “spying” on the competition for the upcoming show, the members enjoyed a BBQ chicken dinner at the American Legion Post in Salisbury.

Our flower show was held on Saturday May 7 at the Easton Public Library. It was a very successful show with 10 exhibitor participants with 85 flowers shown. We only had one judge, but his co-operation with the members and visitors was outstanding and we had no issues. The show committee did a great job with publicity and the public interest was the best we’ve seen in a long time. Using the AIS Free Membership Promotion, we were successful in signing 11 new members. The surprise of the show was a miniature tall bearded getting Best Specimen of the Show award.

Our June 15th meeting was a lengthy one with a full agenda. We reviewed the iris show, going over the good and bad along with suggestions on how to improve next year’s show. Six of the newly enrolled members were in attendance, and we spent sometime reviewing their interest in joining the club. We voted not to hold any meeting in the months of July and August with our next meeting scheduled for September 21. We tentatively scheduled digs in Easton and Salisbury for August 20 with a sale to be held at the Easton Farmers Market on September 10.

The topic of BIS hosting the Fall 2023 Region 4 meeting was brought to the floor. Members that attended the recent Region 4 Meeting at Hunt Valley walked through the mechanics of it and what was involved. No decision was made and no committee formed. Members were asked to consider ideas and gather information to help develop a program. The Hyatt Regency in Cambridge was suggested as a destination property that might help attract interest for the fall regional meeting. Members did vote to spend \$400.00 on TB rebloomers as part of our possibly hosting a Fall 2023 meeting. We have a limited number of members with any rebloomers and this club purchase would improve those numbers and interest.

Our major emphasis for the remainder of the year is to try and generate meetings and information that the new members are interested in and hopefully we can maintain their membership.

Anthony “John” Iwanski, President

Charlotte Iris Society Affiliate Report

On April 8, 2021 the Board members met and made several crucial decisions:

- 1) To conduct a virtual iris show in April.
- 2) Winner: Tamara Hinson - TB ‘Twist of Sheree’
- 3) To open four gardens for members to enjoy irises in bloom: Ingrid Bray, Charisse Miller, Lewis Bozard and Grey Drum kept their gardens open at different times throughout April and May.
- 4) To attend Region 4 meeting in Raleigh. Five members attended.
- 5) To create a CIS website, CIS business card, and conduct the iris sale July 24 at the Farmers’ Market. We have an ongoing website: charlotteirissociety.com and beautiful business cards. The July sale was the most successful ever, as we were able to accept credit cards. At the sale we enrolled five new AIS members.
- 6) Held our annual picnic lunch on August 28 to get together and to thank the generous donors and volunteers who helped with the sale.

Sadly, Ruth Holbrook died July 11. She was a long-time member of the CIS and AIS where she made many dear friends. Ruth was always kind, willing to help and share knowledge and experience. She will be missed.

Ingrid Bray, President



‘Twist Of Sheree’ (Schreiner 2012, TB)

Affiliate Reports

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society Report

Members of the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society (ENCIS) enjoyed a mild winter as 2021 turned to 2022. We kicked off the year with a virtual iris show planning session and ambitiously planned to conduct a potted iris sale at the event. Club Secretary Don Myers, Vice President Susan Miller, and my mother Alleah Haley took home a large quantity of unsold rhizomes from the bearded iris sale last year, and were eager to find the potted orphans new gardens to call home. Our decision to conduct a plant sale and iris show simultaneously stretched us rather thin, but we wanted to make a strategic effort to recruit new members and support the 2022 American Iris Society (AIS) membership drive.

Bonnie Masteller began our recruitment efforts in February by presenting an educational program about irises to a ladies' garden group in High Point. I followed suit by giving presentations in Randolph County through connections with the cooperative extension Master Gardener program. It was very helpful to have ENCIS members Alleah Haley and Chris Broberg with me for these programs because we can engage with the public one-on-one and sing the praises of belonging to the iris society. Recruitment efforts continued during April at our iris show/sale in Raleigh, and at other plant sales in Greensboro and Cary. Treasurer Glenn Grigg also serves as our membership secretary and reports 86 ENCIS members, up from 43 at the beginning of the year. Yep, our membership has doubled in the past few months.

Vice President Susan Miller and I have been discussing ideas for engaging and retaining these new members. I am supremely thankful for her organization skills and ongoing efforts to schedule and coordinate ENCIS events and plant sales this year. I draw on her talents regularly, as well as those of Susan Grigg. Susan helped Alleah as co-chairperson for our iris show, and serves as an Admin with me for our group's Facebook page. We entered all club meetings and events for this year on the Facebook page. Members Rebecca Pow, Cathy Price, and Nadia Pysemma regularly post iris pictures from their gardens and our club events. Nadia also accepted a role as Admin for the AIS Iris Lover's group on Facebook. Meanwhile, I joined Bob Pries as a member of the AIS Public Relations and Marketing Committee. In the next few months, we are looking for-

ward to a group garden visit with opportunity for judges training, and at least two more iris sales.

Little by little we are trying new things, making new connections, and finding new ways to share the love of irises in Eastern North Carolina and beyond. It has been an exciting year for ENCIS so far and it brings joy to my heart whenever we write, call, post, chat, or text with each other. Until next time...

Heather Haley, ENCIS President

Francis Scott Key Iris Society Report

We are pleased to be hosting the Spring Region 4 Meeting in Hunt Valley, Maryland. We hope everyone is enjoying the garden tours, meetings, food and, most of all, friendships.

We plan to hold an exhibition of beardless irises in June at Richardson Farms and our two sales in July. Our annual picnic and fall meeting will complete the 2022 year's activities. Hopefully we can gain some new members using the AIS offer of free one-year memberships. One of our new members is attending the regional meeting and we hope more will become active in our group.

Frederickburg Area Iris Society Report

FAIS started the busy year by attending a Seed Swap in January and we were able to recruit many new members. In the spring we were very fortunate to have a program called "Iris Pandemonium", a floral design demo given by Barbara Backus. This enabled us to have an Artistic Division at our May Mother's Day show, which both designers and attendees enjoyed very much. We also had an Open Garden Day in May at the gardens of Suzan Koch in Fredericksburg and Ross Eagles' garden, Diversity Acres in Woodbridge Virginia. In June, Abby Glasgow gave a program on Iris and Companion Plants in the Garden: Planning, Mapping & Tracking, Which and Where. Our annual iris sale was held August 6 in Fredericksburg. It was delightful to see seasoned volunteers as well as newbie members working together on the sale. Experiences members shared information about how to have a successful sale.

Beth Orndorff, President

Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society

The Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society held their spring iris show at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley on May 15th. The weather was kind to us and the thunderstorms held off until after our show was over and we were packed up to go home. The results of our show were as follows:

Best Specimen of Show: ‘Glacier Fire’ exhibited by Colin Campbell

Best Seedling: 31K12 hybridized by Colin Campbell

First Runner-Up: ‘My Lady's Manor’ exhibited by Rob Campbell

Best in Beardless Section: ‘China in Springtime’ exhibited by Colin Campbell

Best in Median Section: ‘Pink Puppy’ exhibited by Colin Campbell

Silver Medal for most blue ribbons: Colin Campbell

Bronze Medal for second most blue ribbons: Patti Meagher



‘China in Springtime’ (Niswonger 2008, SPEC-X)

ECs (other than best seedling)

1F14 Colin Campbell

2E18 Colin Campbell

2015-22 Don Spoon

There were 66 entries and 13 exhibitors.

Anita Moran and Lois Rose were judges

Patti Meagher was apprentice judge

Mary Elko and Kathy Holl were clerks

We also gained four new members courtesy of the free one-year membership offer from AIS.

Our next event will be our iris sale at the West Oaks Farm Market in Winchester on Saturday, August 6th from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m.

We are looking forward to hosting the spring regional next May 12th and 13th in Winchester.

Ginny Spoon, President

Central Virginia Iris Society Report

Our first meeting of the year was January 15, 2022. We had no meetings during February or March, but we met again on April 2, 2022.

Our flower show was May 7, 2022 at the Mechanicsville Public Library, which is located at 7461 Sherwood Crossing Place, Mechanicsville VA 23116. Judges were Francis Thrash, Bonita Masteller, and Ray Jones. Queen of Show, ‘Starring’, was exhibited by Judy Durant. 1st Runner-up, ‘Night Bird’, was exhibited by Lois Rose. 2nd Runner-up, ‘Luxor Gold’, was exhibited by Rob Sandford. Best Seedling of Show, an *Iris laevigata*, was exhibited by Dan Fetty. Best of Section, ‘Red Velvet Elvis’, was exhibited by Pat Cash. Best of Section, ‘Nickel’, was exhibited by Judy Durant.

Our future plans are for the iris rhizome sale on September 16th -17th, hours 9-3 pm both days and a picnic sometime in October. We will let the members know the date by e-mail or on Facebook under Central Virginia Iris Society. In November or December we have a holiday meeting.

Kathy Huneycutt, President



Queen's Table and our judges Ray Jones, Francis Thrash, and Bonita Masteller,

Seed Germination

by David Toth, Indian Creek Iris

SEED GERMINATION: PART 1

Without getting too technical with fancy words I'm going to share my technique for starting my seeds and a brief explanation of why these steps are necessary for seeds to germinate. The pictures show the steps as I go through the process.

Iris seeds need to experience a cool, moist period to germinate properly.

Iris seeds contain a natural embryo inhibitor; this natural chemical aids with the prevention of early or premature germination during the fall months, thus preventing winter kill of young seedlings. I begin to remove the inhibitor by soaking the seeds in water for 72 hours. I do rinse and drain the seeds daily to keep them clean and prevent the water from becoming foul.

At the end of the third day, a final rinse is done. I then mix the seeds with a small amount of well-moistened potting soil and place the seeds and soil back in their container.

At this point I place them in the refrigerator for a period of 60 days. This time in the refrigerator for the moistened seeds will mimic the natural cold stratification that the seeds would experience in the wild.

In the pictures you will notice that the breeding tag remains with the seeds through all the steps and that each container is numbered and all breeding information is kept in a notebook and also on the computer. Keeping good records of your crosses is important if you plan to develop a breeding program.

I invite everyone to ask questions or to add any tips of their own to make this post helpful to anyone who is new to hybridizing or looking for different methods for starting their own seeds.

I will post part two in roughly 60 days, where I will show the planting of the seeds and placement in the greenhouse. Be sure to like and follow the Indian Creek Iris page so you don't miss part two.

(Continued on page 14.)



Washing and Soaking seeds

Photo: D. Toth



Soil Introduction and record Keeping

Photo: D. Toth



Seed Germination (cont.)

NEW LIFE SEED GERMINATION PART 2

This is the follow up to part 1 posted on November 30th. At this point I am removing the seeds from the refrigerator for planting, roughly at the 100 day mark of chilling. Please see part 1 for the steps up to this point.



Picture 1 is a closeup of the first sign of life, the emergence of a root.



Picture 2 shows the containers of seed and soil mix as they were in the refrigerator for chilling.



Picture 3 shows the pots filled about an inch and a quarter from the top.



Picture 4 shows the seed containers placed with the pots and the corresponding parental information labeled on the side.



Picture 5 shows the pots with seeds planted and ready to go to the greenhouse. At this point I water daily for three days and then go to an as-needed basis for watering, allowing them to slightly dry between waterings. Based on past years the first seedlings will break surface in about 21 days. I'll post an update when they do. Drop me a note if you have any question and I'll be happy to help you.

(Continued on page 18)

Carol Warner and her Draycott Gardens

by Alleah and Heather Haley

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society member Alleah Haley, Society President Heather Haley, and Society Vice President Susan Miller travelled together to northern Maryland, the most distant reach of Region 4, for the Spring 2022 Regional Meeting. This was our first visit to Siberian and Japanese iris enthusiast Carol Warner's fabulous Draycott Gardens, a mecca for iris and gardening-in-general enthusiasts, which has been justly featured in such publications as *Arrive* magazine (the Amtrac business travelers' magazine) April 2010, *Baltimore Magazine* May 2001, *The Baltimore Sun Home Magazine* Spring 2017, and *Style Magazine* March 2017.

Draycott Gardens is located in Upperco, an unincorporated community in far northern Baltimore County, Maryland, about 10 miles from the Pennsylvania line. Draycott means "peaceful retreat" or "secluded spot" and is the name of a village in central-southwest England, the

the irises grew and the next spring they bloomed in a beautiful array of modern patterns and colors, including pink. PINK! Carol was hooked. Carol belonged to a garden club and her club went to visit the nearby Harp iris garden which was in bloom. Maynard and Retta Harp had founded the Francis Scott Key Iris Society. They told her about the FSK iris sale and Carol went to buy irises. She had seen Siberian irises at the Harps' and returned to buy some in the fall. They invited her to join the Francis Scott Key Iris Society; she did and the rest is history.

Carol was Judges' Training Chairman of Region 4 in 1986-1988, RVP of Region 4 in 1989-1991, president of the Society for Siberian Irises twice and president of the Society for Japanese Irises once.

The display beds at Draycott Gardens include both bearded and beardless irises, amid a vast array of companion



Garden overview

ancestral home of the Warner family. This 10 acres was part of the farm Carol grew up on. When Carol married Andrew Warner in 1968, her parents gave her this property and the couple built their home there in 1970. Carol has lived here ever since, 52 years. She taught home economics for five years. After her children were in school, Carol returned to the classroom as a long-term substitute teacher of home economics. Carol opened Draycott Gardens by offering irises in her first pricelist about 1991.

Carol's mother grew irises – the old purple, yellow, and red, but not inspiring, ones. After Carol built her house, a lady gave Carol a box of irises. She had to use a pick to break up the soil along the driveway to plant them, and she thought that they'd never amount to anything. Well,



After lunch, Carol, an AIS Emeritus Judge, gave garden judges' training on Siberian irises, which prompted lively discussion.

plants, trees, and shrubs. Striking were the peonies, rhododendrons, and a huge collection of flowering plants that these California girls couldn't identify. Carol prefers the beardless irises because they're more carefree. In her climate, bearded irises have to be sprayed to control leaf spot, and mulching for weed control needs to be limited. Carol's garden faces the southeast, has sun all day, and has good drainage. With an average of 42 inches of rain and 19 inches of snow each year, she doesn't have to irrigate.

Carol, widowed for nearly five years, married David Bolinger. Although not passionate about gardening, David

Carol Warner and her Draycott Gardens (cont.)

happily took over mowing all the grass on the property with his zero-turn mower. He plies his considerable computer skills helping Carol in her various activities.

During the Saturday garden tours, we arrived at Draycott late, just in time for lunch. We parked in a large grassy area just off the driveway, but got waylaid on our gentle climb towards the house, lured by the gorgeous landscape of established trees, shrubs, and well-tended beds of both bearded and beardless irises, all growing together in perfect harmony. Tables and chairs were set up in the barn to house a buffet style lunch, build-your-own sandwiches of local Jake’s Grill pit roasted beef, turkey, and ham, assorted condiments, coleslaw, chips, and freshly baked cookies.



‘Loreley’ (Goos & Koenemann, about 1909, TB)



‘Skating Party’ (Gaulter 1983, TB) Dykes Medal 1989

‘Dividing Line’ (Bunnell 1995, MTB) Dykes Medal 2014



‘Little John’ (D. Spoon 1996, TB) HM 1999

One of the highlights of our visit was the cast iron gazebo, now nearly hidden by large trees .



Gazebo

Although our visit was too early for Japanese iris bloom, we were thrilled by both the bearded irises and the Siberians, both older and newer introductions:

Carol Warner and her Draycott Gardens (cont.)



'Roaring Jelly' (Schafer/Sacks 1992, SIB)



'Ships are Sailing'
(Schafer/Sacks 1998, SIB)



'Beespeckled' (Cole 2021, SIB)

The Siberian irises were the big attraction for us, beardless iris newbies; and Carol's collection is extensive and varied. Among the Siberians we oohed and aahed over were 'Roaring Jelly' (Schafer/Sacks 1992), 1999 winner of the highest award for Siberian irises, the Morgan-Wood Medal. Standards are lavender grey with red purple veining; falls are greyish, heavily shaded red purple with a white signal, veined near-black.



'Great Falls Love' (Cole 2007, SIB)
with conservatory in background

Marty Schafer and Jan Sacks of Massachusetts are also the hybridizers of 'Ships are Sailing' (1998, SIB), which won the Morgan-Wood Medal in 2007. With very large blue bitone flowers and veined yellow-gold signals, 'Ships are Sailing' is stunning and especially vigorous.

And then we saw the Siberians hybridized by Dean Cole:

'Great Falls Love' (Dean Cole 2007) is a tetraploid Siberian, a medium blue near self with white signal on the falls; very ruffled and curled. But Dean Cole's 2021 introduction through Draycott Gardens, 'Beespeckled', absolutely took

the cake! This ruffled Siberian is also tetraploid: standards mottled rose-wine with lavender edges; turquoise style arms; falls mottled blue-violet with golden yellow signals veined dark purple. A real standout!

Carol hybridizes Siberians and introduces irises for Hiroshi Shimizu of Japan and Dean Cole of Gorham, Maine. Shimizu attended a convention in Carol's garden several years ago, and they worked out an arrangement for him to ship seedlings (primarily pseudatas – *I. pseudacorus* X Japanese iris hybrid) to her for evaluation, registration, and introduction. Dean Cole hybridizes Siberian irises that Carol now introduces.

Draycott Gardens does not list bearded irises in its online catalog: draycott-gardens.com. Rather, they offer about 249 varieties of beardless irises for sale: 143 Siberians including a couple hybridized and introduced by Carol Warner herself, 56 Japanese, 38 pseudatas mostly by Shimizu of Japan, and 12 species and species-hybrid irises. Seven of these are 2021 or 2022 introductions.

The week of the Regional was especially hectic for Carol. On Tuesday, despite oppressive heat and humidity, she hosted a garden club show at Draycott Gardens. On Wednesday Carol hosted a garden club for a garden tour and one on Thursday evening before the Regional Meeting. On Friday she hosted our lunch, gave judges' training, and had Region 4 iris trek attendees tour her garden. On Saturday, she entered a slew of exhibits in the Region 4 iris show and took minutes at the business meeting in the absence of the Region 4 secretary.

We were so taken with our visit to Carol's garden on Friday that we returned on Sunday morning after the close of the Regional Meeting to absorb more of her garden's beauty.

Carol Warner and her Draycott Gardens (cont.)

She greeted us from her golf cart as she was checking out the garden. Then she played handbells at her church’s Sunday service before hosting her annual “Open Garden” for friends, church members, members of a horticultural society, and folks invited by the garden announcer on the local radio station. Seventy to 75 people attended. Whew! It was a busy week.

Thank you, Carol, for inviting us to visit your lovely garden and for your hospitality



Authors Heather Haley (left) and Alleah Haley (right), relaxing under the pergola on Friday.



Eastern North Carolina Iris Society Vice President Susan Miller (left) and Alleah Haley view the garden bed near the barn on Sunday.

Photo Credit: All photos by Heather Haley

With many thanks to Carol Warner for providing information about her life and her garden.

Seed Germination (cont. from pg 14)

Seed germination part 3.....

Up, up, and away !!!

On March 4th I posted part 2 showing the planting process and now, just 13 days later, we have emerged seedlings, about a week earlier than expected; but we won't complain one bit. Now that they have started, it's time to back off on the water, letting them approach dryness so that they don't rot. Keeping them too wet will kill them quickly. This applies to bearded iris only, as Louisiana iris prefer to stay on the wet side. All the blue pots behind Ava belong to her. The seedlings shown are a cross between the SDB 'True Grit' and my 2017 intro 'Shattered Dreams', a space-aged broken-colored TB. If the cross goes as planned, it should produce SA BC intermediates. Ava has big dreams with all those crosses potted behind her.



Dave Piasecki and Vicki Stewart Garden

by Anita Moran

Dave and Vicki's garden is definitely a labor of love and well thought-out. The rolling vistas and the shaded garden paths that are squirrelled away in the tree lines are just some of the reasons why I fell in love with this garden. The selections and collections of companion plantings in the gardens were spectacular. We were all treated to the irises and peony bloom season in the garden. Really, what a beautiful time of year to have a garden tour!

Dave and Vicki have a hands-on garden. They planned it that way. They have a circular bed of irises with pavers that dissect the bed so that you can walk through to admire and even smell the irises. You can also get up close and personal in order to write down the names of those "must-have" irises. Believe me, I did that a lot! I met a lot of people on those pavers as well.

Then they had their guest iris beds not too far away. All lined up, labeled, and for the most part blooming. You know, Mother Nature is a fickle female. She didn't care that we had guests coming just to see irises and gardens. What was blooming, was blooming. What wasn't, well maybe next year. You might see it on another garden tour or even in your own garden. Nearby, there was another bed of irises and peonies that were blooming their hearts out. I found their color selections in this bed very pleasing and complimentary.

One of the treats of touring gardens that have been in existence for a number of years is that they have great foundation plantings that lend themselves to various gardens, paths, hardscapes and places just to sit back and enjoy the garden itself. I found this to be the case in Dave and Vicki's garden. They had open grassy areas and yet plenty of flower beds that give my creative designer's eye the beauty that it craves with colors and textures.

I made new friends while exploring the secret garden paths. The shade and a seat was enjoyed while admiring Vicki's eye for color in her container gardening. There were plenty of places to sit and admire the vibrancy of colors, the lushness of textures, and the garden views – whether shade or sun.

I loved the trees with the fabulous hostas underneath. I simply could not get enough of those. I know I am supposed to be writing about the iris tour, but this is a well-rounded garden with something to enjoy, admire and appreciate in every corner. Dave and Vicki, thank you for opening your garden and your passion to us, your garden guests.



Garden of Anita Moran

by Beth Orndorff, Fredericksburg Area Iris Society

Visiting the garden of an award-winning hybridizer is indeed a treat; if you have an opportunity to do it, I highly advise it. I was able to visit Anita's garden this past spring during the Region 4 Meeting.



Moran Siberian seedlings 14SCop01 and 14SCop02

You will see many of Anita's hybrids, as well as flowers from other hybridizers that she often uses in her crosses. Anita has been hybridizing since 2002 when she collected bee pods, planted them and got her first shipment from SIGNA (Species Iris Group of North America). This first planting resulted in several species introductions like 'Angel of the Pond' (Moran 2009) and 'Forest Haimati' (Moran 2010). She has tried many crosses from medians to Siberians like seedlings 14Scop01 and 14SCop02, to Louisianas (as yet unbloomed) to even more. Also blooming was her species seedling 'Pixie Path' (Moran R. 2020), an *Iris variegata*. Having had to stay home during the pandemic, she was able to hybridize even more, including irises new to her like 'Don't Doubt Dalton' X 'Royston Rubies'.

It should be exciting to see the results of these crosses over the next years. Apparently, she even had the opportunity to cross TB's, which she has not done much before because she is often traveling to iris functions when their bloom season is at peak. She also hybridizes arilbreds.



'Angel of the Pond' (2009 Moran, SPEC)



Moran TB Seedling 20DDDr01 ('Don't Doubt Dalton' X 'Royston Rubies')



Registered Seedling 'Pixie Path'

Garden of Anita Moran (cont.)

Besides her talent for hybridizing, you will see a sculpture of a frog made out of tires in her garden that she made. Anita might even give you a hybridizing lesson if you ask. She is happy to share her knowledge with you.

Anita has won the following awards for hybridizing versicolors:

‘Cloud Of Dragons’, HM 2014, AM 2017, **‘Forest Haimati’**, HM 2015, **‘Angel of the Pond’** won the Alice Bouldin Award in 2007. She also won the Alice Bouldin Award at this year’s Region 4 spring meeting for MTB **‘Wings for Anna’**.

Just a note on the angels in the garden. ‘Angel of the Pond’ (Moran 2009) was named because it looked like tiny angel wings, as noted by Dr. Roy Epperson when he visited her garden. The MTBs ‘Wings For Anna’ (Moran R. 2022) and her sibling ‘Sky Angel’ (Moran 2020) were named because the SIGNA seeds came from MTB, ‘Anna’s Angels’ (Rumbaugh 2006).



Tire Sculptures



Registered Seedling ‘Wings For Anna’ (Moran R. 2022, MTB)



‘Forest Haimati’ (Moran 2010, SPEC)

“REBLOOM ACROSS REGION 4”

AN ACCREDITED IRIS SHOW

presented by the

FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY

Affiliate of

THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, REGION 4

Holiday Inn & Conference Center

20 Sanford Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22406

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - NO ADMISSION CHARGE SATURDAY,

OCTOBER 15, 2022

11:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Show chairman: Lois Rose (540) 582-5799; Lowy222@aol.com

GENERAL RULES

1. This accredited show is being held and judged under the rules and regulations of The American Iris Society as set forth in the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials, 8th Edition, 2021*, and subsequent rules and regulations approved by the American Iris Society Board of Directors. These rules and regulations may not be violated.
2. Entries will be received from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on October 15, 2022 in the Stafford Room.
3. Accredited Judges of the American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Divisions. Judges' decisions will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion.
4. Judging will begin at 9:45 a.m. Show will open to the public at 11:00 a.m.
5. Only specifically authorized personnel will be allowed in the show area during judging.
6. The Classification Committee may divide, sub-divide, combine or create groups as necessary.
7. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care but is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.
8. Show judges are not permitted to exhibit in this show except under extenuating circumstances as determined by the show chairman.
9. Youth exhibitors (persons under 19 years of age) who enter specimens or seedlings will compete with adults.
10. Exhibits will remain in place until 5:30 p.m. on October 15. Exhibits must be removed by 6 p.m.

SPECIAL RULES - HORTICULTURE DIVISION

1. This is a VARIETY/CULTIVAR show, staged according to type and in alphabetical order within the various sections and groups. Each variety constitutes a separate group and must be correctly named. No unnamed variety may be exhibited except seedlings which may be entered under number. Division, Section, and Group numbers and name of variety (number or name in Seedling Division) must appear on the entry card. The entry card is to be prepared by the exhibitor.
2. The horticulture and seedling divisions are open to any grower.
3. Exhibitors may enter **only one stalk of a variety** in single specimen and seedling sections, but may enter any number of varieties. Containers will be furnished for all single specimens.
4. Unobtrusive material (paper toweling, Styrofoam peanuts, foam insulation, etc.) may be used for bracing stalks at the necks of containers.
5. Single specimens will be placed by the Placement Committee.
6. Entries **must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag**. Members of a family may exhibit from the same garden. An exhibitor may enter a seedling originated by another person but the hybridizer's name and the seedling name or number must appear on the entry card.

7. Seedlings that have been registered but not introduced may be entered in the Open Horticulture Division or in the Seedling Division, but not both, and will receive awards appropriate to the division in which they are entered.
8. Unnamed stalks (except seedlings), potted exhibits or labeled iris grown by another person **are not eligible** for AIS ribbons and awards, but may be displayed on the table marked "FOR DISPLAY ONLY."

DIVISION I – OPEN 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

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

AWARDS - All are American Iris Society Awards

1. All exhibitors are eligible for ribbons and awards.
2. **Ribbons:** One First (Blue), one Second (Red), and one Third (White) place ribbon may be given to each cultivar in each section **except** in the Seedling Division. As many Honorable Mention (Pink) ribbons may be awarded as the panel of Judges deems worthy. Each specimen can be awarded **only** one ribbon.
3. **Best Specimen of Show** - (Seedlings excepted): Large purple rosette and Certificate.
4. **One runner-up to Best Specimen of Show:** Small purple rosette. (Runner-up must have earned a first place ribbon.)
5. **Horticultural Sweepstakes** (most blue ribbons): Silver Medal and Certificate. [There must be at least five (3) exhibitors and at least twenty (10) cultivars.]
6. **Horticultural Sweepstakes Runner-up** (second most blue ribbons): Bronze Medal and Certificate. [There must be at least five (3) exhibitors and at least twenty (10) cultivars.]
7. **Best Seedling:** Purple rosette and Exhibition Certificate. Exhibition Certificate will also be awarded to any seedling receiving 5 or more votes from fully accredited AIS judges attending the show. Ballots are available at Seedling Division. Judges will please place ballots in ballot box.

JOIN THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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

Single Annual DUES are \$30.00 per year.

Single Triennial DUES are \$70.00.

Dual Annual DUES are \$35.00 per year.

Dual Triennial DUES are \$85.00 per year.

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

Youth Membership (under 19 with printed Bulletin) \$12. per year.

(under 19 without printed Bulletin) \$8. per year.

Mail check or money order to:

The American Iris Society

PO Box 177

DeLeon Springs, FL 32130-0177

See the AIS website www.irises.org for more information or to join by credit card or PayPal.

Spring 2022 Newscast Report

The March *Newscast* was a difficult issue so I am looking forward to articles about spring iris bloom in everyone's gardens. I have received information on hybridizing and seed planting from David Toth of Indian Creek Iris. Any information you would like, please email me your ideas and I will try to accommodate. *Newscast* continues to be a source of information for Region 4 and the world, and well as locally.

Downloads: 186	Hits	Bandwidth	Average size
/SPR2022SCH.pdf	17	224.55 KB	13.21 KB
/publications/Mar2022.pdf	17	66.42 MB	3.91 MB
/publications/MAR05.pdf	12	53.00 MB	4.42 MB
/SPR2022REG.pdf	12	1.52 MB	129.31 KB
/publications/AUG2013.pdf	11	32.35 MB	2.94 MB
/SPR2022_SHOW.pdf	11	1.19 MB	111.05 KB
/publications/MAR2016.pdf			

Download of Region 4's *Newscast* continues to be the number one viewed and downloaded articles month to month besides Regional Paperwork.

Spring 2022 Website Report

The Happening page is now split into four categories. Meetings, Shows, Sales and Region 4 Auction. Any changes let me know. This spring was crazy so I did not make changes; give me until end of June and email me and we can schedule a time to talk. I did not shut out Russian activity on the site because there are too many Russian gardeners who have no say in their government's actions and there is little information they can get compared to the last report. Israel suddenly surged with interest, as did Sweden.

Locales	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth	
United States	us	709	2,466	303.61 MB
Israel	il	266	2,337	854.39 MB
Russian Federation	ru	144	156	10.53 MB
Sweden	se	92	92	238.05 KB
China	cn	38	66	2.86 MB
Germany	de	32	53	26.71 MB
India	in	18	18	38.07 KB
Turkey	tr	13	13	54.02 KB
Canada	ca	13	38	3.26 MB
Chile	cl	10	10	33.67 KB

List of countries who visit the Region 4 Website since August 2021

Region 4 2022 Spring Board Meeting Minutes

Region 4 Board Minutes – Hunt Valley, MD May 21, 2022

Assistant RVP, Anita Moran, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and established that a quorum of officers was present. The RVP, Dan Fetty, was not in attendance.

Since our secretary, Diana Dudley, could not be present, Carol Warner was designated to take the minutes for this meeting.

The minutes of the Fall 2021 Meeting were approved as printed in *Newscast*.

The Region 4 Meeting Schedule is planned as follows:

Fall 2022 FAIS

Spring 2023 S&P

Fall 2023 Open and Anita is asking Bayshore to host.

Spring 2024 Charlotte Iris Society

Treasurer's Report – Carol Warner presented the treasurer's report from October 9, 2021 to May 21, 2022 noting receipts of \$1,603.07 and expenses of \$811.43 and a final balance of \$18,004.15. She noted that two checks had never cleared from the previous year. The report was filed for audit.

Budget Report – Doug Chyz took the previous year's expenses and put that information into a spreadsheet. The budget will be based on the last budget submitted.

As past RVP and a member of the AIS Board Doug announced that Region 4 now has the highest membership of any region in AIS, approximately 388. AIS is trying to advertise the shows on Facebook, since they have the information when shows are approved. They would like to also advertise sales but clubs would have to submit that information.

Membership Report - Anita read Ginny Spoon's report which will be printed in *Newscast*. It was noted that some clubs are making use of the one-year free memberships being offered by AIS from March through the end of June.

Judges' Training Report – Sue Shackelford did not submit a report.

Webmaster – Anita stated that the "Happenings" area is now split into four sections. Please send schedules for shows, sales, meetings, etc., to philmore22@gmail.com and put "Website" in the subject line. She has not blocked Russian visitors to the site. There are lots of foreign visitors to our website and *Newscast* gets the most hits. Our site is free and open to the public. People want to see pictures and articles about our gardens. We have lots of space available as we are only using 1 and ½% of our space.

Doug Chyz is now taking webmaster classes and now has access to our site.

Programs – Heather Haley asked that the clubs share programs with her. Also let her know if you are able to give programs outside of your affiliate. AIS has a lot of programs on line.

Historian – Lois Rose had no report but noted that she has all the old records in her possession.

Sunshine - Kathy Huneycutt sent a dish garden to Sue Shackelford. She also passed around a booklet to be signed for Don and Ginny Spoon.

Region 4 2022 Spring Board Meeting Minutes

Auction – We have a nice selection of items for the auction including many beardless irises. Doug has passed this chairmanship off to Heather Haley since he may not be attending all meetings.

Beardless and Species Report – Carol reported that she will be attending the Siberian/ Species Convention in Seattle next weekend and she will write a report on that.

Reblooming – Colin Campbell wished everyone a good bloom season. Reports of rebloom should now be sent to Anita.

Society Reports – All written reports will be printed in *Newscast*.

Highlights include: John Iwanski is president of Bayshore. They had a garden tour day and a show and picked up 11 new members. They are responsible for iris displays at a couple schools and at the War Memorial in Salisbury. Charlotte has a new venue at a large church and signed up 21 new members. They allowed everyone to dig from Ruth Holbrook's garden and they will be hosting the 2024 Spring Region 4 meeting. Heather reported that ENCIS doubled their membership from 43 to 86. All of their events are on Facebook and they also did educational programs for garden clubs and the Master Gardeners. Beth Orndorff reported for FAIS on a successful show and open garden day. Their sale will be early August and they fund two scholarships. S and P had their show on May 15th and Colin swept the show. They are looking forward to hosting the Spring meeting in 2023.

Unfinished Business – We are to read over the new bylaw proposals. The board will approve the changes first and then they will be submitted to the general membership. A copy of the current bylaws with proposed changes were handed out at the meeting and at the fall board meeting the Assistant RVP will make note of all requested changes.

New Business – The AIS Board has a committee looking into regional realignment. It seems that Delaware should be included in Region 4. Also West Virginia might be best divided with Region 4 having the panhandle and then the state be divided taking Route 66 straight down. Bonnie Nichols will need input from all regions and Doug will speak to her concerning possible changes to Region 4.

Lois Rose will be the chairman for all fall shows and will serve as a consultant for spring shows.

Anita said that all that is needed for a regional meeting is Judges' Training, a Board Meeting, and a Plant Auction.

A system was offered that will allow recording of Board Meetings, General Meetings, Guest Speakers and Judges' training, so those who for emergency reasons cannot attend the regional meeting may attend remotely. More discussion is needed; the estimated cost would be about \$4,000.00

Anita made a motion to adjourn the meeting and there was no objection.

Carol Warner, Acting Secretary

Region 4 2022 Spring General Meeting Minutes

Assistant RVP Anita Moran called the Region 4 General Membership Meeting to order after dinner at the Hunt Valley Delta Hotel on Saturday, May 21, 2022. The roll call of the meeting attendees is as follows:

Bay Shore Iris Society 3
Charlotte Iris Society 2
Central Virginia Iris Society 2
Eastern North Carolina Iris Society 4
Fredericksburg Area Iris Society 2
Francis Scott Key Iris Society 9
Shenandoah & Potomac Iris Society 4
Guests 1

The Alice Bouldin Award winner was ‘Wings for Anna’ by Anita Moran.

The Nearpass Award went to ‘Sky and Sun’ by Don Spoon.

The B.Y Morrison Award went to ‘Wynne Magnolia’ by Schafer/Sacks.

Best of Show was ‘Crimson Fireworks’ exhibited by Carol Warner.

Best seedling was T6-12-235-3 by Dean Cole.

Our guest speaker, Doug Chyz gave a presentation on “Growing Irises in Containers”.

The Fall meeting will be held in Fredericksburg on October 15th.

Sheryl Campbell gave a presentation on what to expect at the Spring 2023 meeting hosted by the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society.

Carol Warner, Acting Secretary

‘Crimson Fireworks’ (Dunlop 2014)



Cole Seedling T6-12-235-3



Region 4 Fall Meeting and Rebloom Show

An Invitation

Saturday, October 15, 2022 Fredericksburg, VA

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society cordially invites you to join us for the Region 4 Fall Meeting and Rebloom Show to be held October 15th, 2022, in Fredericksburg, just off US 17 and I-95. We have a full schedule of activities planned, with rebloom show, plant auction, silent auction, and special guest Chad Harris of Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm who will give judge's training, and more.

Our location, the Holiday Inn & Conference Center (20 Sanford Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22406), offers you the amenities of a newer hotel, including breakfast, in-room WiFi, heated indoor pool, fitness center, and 24-hour business center. Rooms include minifridges, microwaves, and tea and coffeemakers. There's a casual cocktail lounge and an eatery.

This unassuming hotel is 4 miles from historic downtown Fredericksburg with all its quaint shops and eateries. It's 6 miles from Fredericksburg Expo and Conference Center and 18 miles from the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

We have a reserved block of rooms at a special group rate through Sept. 30th of \$136/night. So please make your reservation directly with the hotel before September 30, 2022 by calling the hotel at 1-540-368-8000 and mentioning Fredericksburg Area Iris Society/AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting. The same rate will be available on Friday October 14, 2019, for those arriving early.

Please, please, bring your stalks for the Reblooming Show. We need three exhibitors and ten cultivars for a sanctioned show. No stalk is perfect (often more true in the fall), so bring whatever you have to help us meet the minimum requirements. Also, please bring anything you would like to donate to the silent auction (proceeds help defray meeting costs) and donations for the plant auction that benefits Region 4. If you are bringing plants for the plant auction, send a list of what you are bringing to Anita Moran at this address:

pilmore22@gmail.com (pictures appreciated). Then she can have a picture ready to show at the auction. (It helps to know what you are bidding on.)

We are looking forward to your visit and having you celebrate rebloom in Virginia with us.

AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting – Hosted by FAIS

Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 15, 2022

<u>Friday, October 14th</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
5 pm – 6pm	Registration Open	Hotel Lobby
<u>Saturday, October 15th</u>		
7 am – 8am	Breakfast (On your own)	Hotel or nearby restaurants*
7 am – 12 pm	Registration Open	Hotel Lobby
8 am – 9:30am	Rebloom Show Entries	Stafford Room
9:45 – 11 am	Judging Rebloom Show	Stafford Room
9:30am – 11 am	Region 4 Meeting	Fredericksburg Room
11 am	Rebloom Show Open	Stafford Room
11 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch on Your Own	Hotel or nearby restaurants*
12:45 pm – 2:45 pm	Japanese Iris Judges Training By Chad Harris	Fredericksburg Room
3 pm – 4pm	Region 4 Plant Auction	Fredericksburg Room
3 pm – 5:30 pm	Silent Auction	Fredericksburg Room
5:30 pm – 6 pm	Social Time	Madison Room
6 pm – 7 pm	Dinner Buffet	Hotel Lobby
7 pm – 8:30 pm	Chad Harris, Guest Speaker	Fredericksburg Room

***Nearby Restaurants:**

- Panera Bread
- IHOP
- New York Grill
- Waffle House
- Paradise Diner
- Pancho Villa
- Bojangles
- Chick-fil-A

‘Mist Falls’
(Marx 1967, JI)



REGISTRATION for REGION 4 FALL MEETING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022

(1st)NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

(2nd)NAME _____

ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT) _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL (IF DIFFERENT) _____

Full Registration -- \$65/person before **Sept. 30** (includes all activities on Sat., Oct. 15)

Full Registration -- \$75/person after **Sept. 30**

Youth Registration fee -- \$35/person (includes all activities on Sat., Oct. 5)

Buffet Dinner Saturday night **only** -- \$47 per person, number of persons _____

Special meal needed? Check one: Vegetarian _____ Gluten free _____. Other _____

Payment enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: FAIS

Mail this reservation form and check to: Abby Glasgow, FAIS Treasurer
10302 Lexington CT
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

***Make hotel reservations before **September 30th** directly with the hotel to get discounted rate of \$136/night + tax for king or 2 queens. Holiday Inn & Conference Center, 20 Sanford Drive, Fredericksburg, VA 22406. Phone: 540-368-8000 and tell them you are with the FAIS Iris Society/AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting. Or go online to: <https://www.holidayinn.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=HI&localeCode=en®ionCode=1&hotelCode=MNZFB&PMID=99801505&GPC=FAI&cn=no&viewfullsite=true>

[\(/Discount is already built into reservation form using this link.\)](#) The same rate will be available for Friday, October 14th if you'd like to arrive early.

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Anita V Moran
630 Third St
Aberdeen MD 21001

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