



American Iris Society Region 4

NEWSCAST

Latest News and Information from around the Region

August 2026
Volume 69
Number 2



The Gutierrez Garden Spring 2026

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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.

NEWSCAST is published twice a year.

NEWSCAST is free to AIS members in Region 4.

Permission is granted to reprint any material appearing in *NEWSCAST* provided that proper credit is given.

DEADLINES for receipt of *NEWSCAST* materials by the Editor are:

March Issue—31 JANUARY August Issue—30 JUNE

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Meeting on the 2031 National Convention.

On Friday, October 16th at 8:00 p.m. at the Regional Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina we will discuss Region 4 potentially hosting the 2031 AIS National Convention. It will be centered in Richmond, Virginia. We will have gardens in the Richmond and Fredericksburg, Virginia areas as well as near Raleigh, North Carolina. In order for this to run smoothly, we will need many volunteers. Below is a taste of some of the positions we need to fill. We will also especially need guest iris chairmen, garden helpers, and garden owners.

Jobs for the 2031 National Convention

Co-chairs from Region 4

ENCIS Chair
CVIS Chair
FAIS Chair

Treasurer

Registrar

Transportation Chair

Bus Captain Chair
Porta-potties

Hospitality

Hotel
Banquets
Tour Lunches
Garden Treats

Guest Iris Chair Region 4

ENCIS Iris Guest Chair
CVIS Iris Guest Chair
FAIS Iris Guest Chair

Guest Iris Chair ENCIS

Master Planting South
Assistants 1-3
2nd South Garden
Assistants 1-2

Guest Iris Chair CVIS

Garden 1
Assistant 1
Garden 2
Assistant 1
Garden 3
Assistant 1

Guest Iris Chair FAIS

Master Planting North
Assistants 1-3
2nd Garden
Assistants 1-2

RVP Message Summer 2026

This winter, I had the privilege of analyzing data from the AIS Popularity poll. Thanks to Heather Haley's work on the entry program, we received more than 8,269 votes on a total of 4115 irises. 390 people participated in the first edition of the popularity poll, and we received so much information that I am still working on that data. Below is the regional and state information indicating that I need to increase advertising in West Virginia for the poll. The complete report (To date) will be available on the AIS Website.

I want to thank Heather for her work on the data-gathering program, which worked so brilliantly. I would also like to thank those who participated. I hope more will take part in the new Popularity Poll later this year.

Region 4 H-Historic Iris			
Participants: 31 Entries: 622 Average Votes: 20.06			
1 Immortality TB RE (Zurbrigg 1982) H	8	AB – 2 = 0.32%	MTB – 21 = 3.38%
2 Daughter of Stars TB RE (D. Spoon 2001)	7	BB – 15 = 2.41%	PCN – 1 = 0.16%
2 <i>Iris tectorum</i> SPC	7	IB – 30 = 4.82%	SIB – 25 = 4.02%
4 Champion Bloodlines TB (McNeal 2018)	6	JI – 20 = 3.22%	SPC – 27 = 4.34%
4 Dusky Challenger TB (Schreiner 1986) H	6	LA – 21 = 3.38%	SPX – 10 = 1.61%
5 Harvest of Memories TB RE (Zurbrigg 1985) H		MDB – 11 = 1.77%	SDB – 48 = 7.72%
6 Again and Again			TB – 391 = 62.86%
6 Dangerous Mood			
6 Thornbird TB (Byers, 1989) H			
3 Votes = 48 2 Votes = 128, 1 vote = 395			

Maryland Region 4			
Participants: 10 Entries: 161 Average Votes: 16.10 39.13%/TB 60.87%			
1 Champion Bloodlines TB (McNeal 2018)	4	AB – 1	MTB – 6
1 Immortality TB RE (Zurbrigg 1982) H	4	BB – 2	PCI – 1
		IB – 5	SIB – 10
2 Votes = 22, 1 Vote = 131		JI – 9	SPC – 4
		LA – 2	SPX – 5
		MDB – 3	SDB – 15
			TB - 98
North Carolina Region 4			
Participants: 13 Entries: 267 Average Votes: 20.54 37.22%/TB 62.78%			
1 <i>Iris tectorum</i> SPC	5	BB – 3	SIB – 6
		IB – 13	SPC – 18
3 Votes = 24, 2 Votes = 34, 1 Vote = 203		JI – 6	SPX – 5
		LA – 15	SDB – 20
		MDB – 6	TB - 167
		MTB – 7	

Virginia Region 4			
Participants: 8 Entries: 194 Average Votes: 24.25 36.08%/TB 63.92%			
1 Daughter Of Stars TB RE (D. Spoon 2001)	3	AB - 1	MTB - 8
1 Jungle Shadow BB (Sass 1960) H	3	BB - 10	SIB - 9
		IB - 12	SPC - 5
2 Votes = 18, 1 Vote = 170		JI - 5	SDB - 13
		LA - 4	TB - 123
		MDB - 3	

No Votes Received from West Virginia.

There is a rumbling that Region 4 will host the 2031 National Convention. We need gardens and a vast number of volunteers throughout the region to pull this off. If you have a garden in the Richmond, Fredericksburg, Virginia, or Raleigh, North Carolina, area and wish to include it, please contact Leisa Mullen or me. We are the Acting Convention Co-chairs.

I know the affiliation process was new this year, a hybrid of electronic and snail mail, but the AIS and RVPs are working to correct some of the bugs. Please bear with us.

From The Editor

It is getting closer to fall, and reblooming irises are already popping. I hope that everyone is writing down which beauties begin reblooming on what date.

It was decided at the last meeting that the Region 4 *Newscast* will no longer be printed, but will be 100% digital. For those who have no computer, we hope that others in your affiliate will print you a copy. If you have email but have trouble getting to the website, I can email you a copy of the file. Please understand that the file will take up a lot of memory on your email server until it is downloaded and the email is deleted.

In the spring of 2027, I will need volunteers to write up the gardens at the Spring Meeting and at the National Meeting in Oklahoma. I would welcome any articles about any garden you visited, your own garden, any poems, or small notes about your irises or gardens.

Please think about whether you would like to take over the editorship of the *Newscast*. It can be fun and rewarding.

Thanks,
Anita

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Bayshore Iris Society Spring 2026 Spring Report

Greetings from Bayshore Iris Society. We apologize that we were not able to secure representation for the Region 4 meeting. It sounded grand!

We have been very busy since last spring:

- We had our annual Iris Dig Party in August followed by our Iris Rhizome Prep Party with 12 members assisting in both events
- Our annual Iris Fundraiser was held on September 6, 2025 at the Easton, Maryland Farmer's Market with good success
- We held a catered Holiday Party in December complete with games and a fun gift exchange
- We have purchased our very first trophy for "Best in Show". It is a perpetual trophy featuring the exhibitor's name, iris cultivar, and the iris show theme/year
- New officers were elected in December for the year 2026
- We reduced the number of meetings from 12 down to nine per year
- We reviewed our past budget and created/voted on the budget for 2026
- A complete inventory of all BIS-owned materials was created, including an up-to-date count of all ribbons with photos of larger items such as banners and staging materials
- Our Display Gardens at Preston Elementary School in Preston, Maryland and VFW Iris Memorial Gardens were weeded, Preened, fertilized and mulched in April
- We are excited to be one of the 104 AIS approved iris shows on May 8, 2026, with the theme "Happy Birthday America!" to celebrate our 250th anniversary, complete with floral designs, single blossom exhibits and container-grown exhibits along with cut flowering stalks.
- Membership: We currently have 26 active members which includes two youth members
- We are exploring outreach opportunities with local garden clubs and the public
- April 29, 2026: Pat McNeal presentation on how to exhibit iris in our iris show which is for current members and the public at the Talbot County Free Library at 2:30 p.m.
- August 14, 2026: Iris Presentation to Dorchester Garden Club in Cambridge, Maryland with accompanying Iris Rhizome Sale
- August 22, 2026: Iris Rhizome Annual Fundraiser at the Farmers' Market in Easton, Maryland



Preston Elementary School Iris Display Garden Work Party, April 15, 2026



New BIS Best in Show Trophy with 2024 and 2025 Winners, Pat and Ed McNeal in 2024 and Becky Riti in 2025



Our 2025 Holiday Catered Party during the gift exchange led by Norma Lynch

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Charlotte Iris Society (CIS) Spring 2026 Report

During our October 2025 General Meeting, Lewis Bozard presented an Iris Learning Lab on “Growing Irises in Containers”. Lewis has had success with growing some of his irises in large pots. He shared great recommendations/suggestions. We also held our annual Plant Exchange (anything goes!).

During the Fall Region 4 Meeting, our very own Katharine Steele was awarded the E. Roy Epperson Service Award. Way to go, Katharine!

At our November General Meeting, the Carrie Winter Mentoring Award was presented to Charisse Miller. Michael Luther presented an Iris Learning Lab on the “Life Cycle of Bearded Iris” and a panel of CIS members who have grown award-winning irises was asked to provide their “secrets” on getting irises ready for a show.

The Piedmont Daylily Club and CIS held a joint holiday luncheon to end 2025.

February 21, 2026 was our first general meeting of the new year. Elected officers are: President - Charisse Miller - Vice President - Lewis Bozard, Secretary - Iris Grieswell, Treasurer - Charles Simon, and Past President Advisor - Katharine Steele. Rich Crider of Three Shovels Farm in South Carolina presented a program “Not Your Grandma’s Iris . . . But She’d Approve: Beardless Iris for the South”. He presented a wonderful program on Japanese, Louisiana, Pseudata, Siberian, Spuria and Species irises. Lewis Bozard led an educational game of Iris Trivia.

March 21, 2026 was our second general meeting of the year. We covered basic color patterns of irises in our Learning Lab. Sarah Sue Miller’s program “Preparing Your Irises for Show” assisted CIS members in gearing up for our 2026 Charlotte Iris Show “Red, White and Carolina Blue: A 250th Tribute to the Old North State”.

Our Spring Show was held on April 18, 2026. Sarah Sue Miller did a spectacular job, once again, as Show Chair. Despite a current drought and temperatures that soared to 90 and dropped below freezing (all in the same week), we had a surprising number of exhibitors (10) and exhibits (54). Thank you to all who participated, volunteered and judged!

Charisse Miller, President

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS)

We held our annual iris sale in early August to help raise funds for a scholarship to be given to a horticulture student for use at Virginia Tech. The week following the sale an Iris Basics program was given by Lois Rose. Many thanks to our gardeners and members that contributed their iris and time to make our sale a success.

In September we enjoyed our annual picnic, graciously hosted by Lois Rose at her home.

In November we had our annual harvest dinner and voted in three new board members for 26-27.

In February we participated in the Master Gardeners Seed Swap event and the following week we had our Board Meeting of the year.

Our first program for 2026 was held in March, “Finalizing Details for Spring Regional Meeting”, which was open to all FAIS members interested in participating or helping behind the scenes .

We postponed our April program so that we could spend more time in our gardens preparing them for the Spring Meeting.

Our gardens for Open Garden Day for the general public will be held on May 3rd. We will not have an Iris Show in 2026.

Leisa Mullen
FAIS President
540-847-1236

AFFILIATE REPORTS

Central Virginia Iris Society - Spring 2026 Report

CVIS hosted the 2025 Fall Region 4 Meeting in October, and we were pleased with the attendance and overall success of the event. Our speaker, Hugh Stout, presented an entertaining talk about his hybridizing program and shared quite a few of his introductions, which found new homes during the auctions. The meeting included a Fall Iris Show, with Ed and Pat McNeal winning Best Specimen of Show with their lovely red violet intermediate bearded iris, 'Constant Companion.'

Our Facebook page continues to be popular, drawing increased interest and new members. It is a great tool for sharing pictures and advice, as well as advertising upcoming AIS/CVIS meetings and events.

Lois Rose was the featured speaker at our April 4 meeting. She gave an informative talk about "Grooming Your Stalks for the Show – a Judge's Perspective", where she enlightened us on what judges are looking for in a ribbon-winning stalk. She also explained the training and education requirements for becoming an AIS Accredited Judge.

Lois's information was timely, as our CVIS Show and Sale is scheduled for Sunday, April 26, at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Inc. This is our third year of having a sale associated with the show, so that visitors can expand their iris collections immediately after being inspired by the beauty of the show entries! The sale irises were potted last fall, and are actively growing and ready for their new homes.

The CVIS raised iris bed at Hanover Master Gardeners Association's Horticultural Learning Center was amended with more soil, compost, and fertilizers last fall, prior to the rhizomes being divided and replanted. We hope the plants will sufficiently recover from the brutal late winter cold to put on a colorful display this year. We are cautiously optimistic!

Members are looking forward to upcoming iris garden tours, including those associated with the 2026 Spring Regional Meeting in Fredericksburg! It's great when growers open their gardens so everyone can enjoy them!

Wayne Bryant
President, CVIS

2026 AIS Awards for Region 4

Full listing of all awards can be found at <https://new.irises.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/2026-Awards-Complete-List-wo-HC.pdf>

Tall Bearded Honorable Mentions

'Mosby's Lady' (G. Spoon 2023)



'Snappy Lady' (D. Spoon 2022)



Standard Dwarf Bearded Honorable Mentions

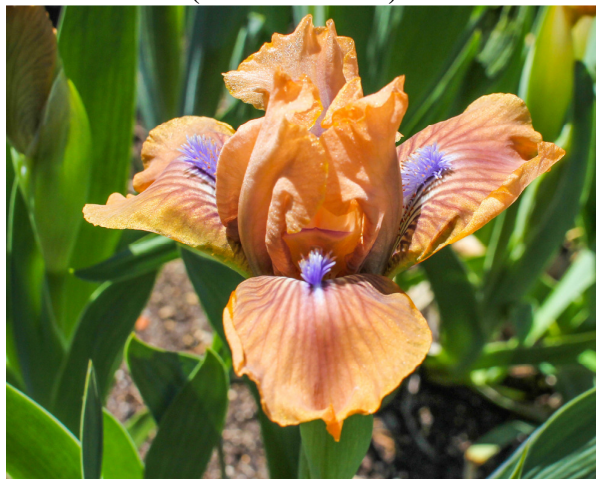
‘Elron’s Cloak’ (A. Moran 2022)



‘Aragog’s Web’ (A. Moran 2023)



‘Bee Monster’ (A. Moran 2024)



‘Dancing With the Dawn’ (A. Moran 2023)



Species-Hybrid Honorable Mention

‘Shimo Murasaki’ (H Shimizu/C. Warner 2021)



AFFILIATE REPORTS

FSK Iris Society 2026 Update

The 2026 season is shaping up to be another wonderful year for the Francis Scott Key Iris Society. Now we only need the weather to cooperate for the iris bloom season and spending time together in the garden. We're excited to share a few highlights and plans for the months ahead.

*Spring Meeting Luncheon with Program: April 11, 2026 at the Glyndon Grill.

* Region 4 Spring regional in Fredricksburg, VA: May 1- 2, 2026. The information for the Spring regional is now online at:
<https://www.irisregion4.com/happenings1>.

* Star Spangled Spring Iris Exhibition - named in commemoration of the 250th Anniversary of the USA at the AG Center: May 16, 2026. Details to follow.

* FSK's Open Gardens and Tour: May 17, 2026

* American Iris Society (AIS) National Convention in New Jersey/ New York: May 18-23, 2026

* In Full Bloom: Beardless Iris Exhibit at the AG Center: June 20, 2026 at 9AM- 1PM

* Rhizome Sale Events:

July 11 at Richardson Farms 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

July 18 at Dutch Plant Farm 9a.m. – 1 p.m

*Daylily Sale: Saturday August 1 and Sunday August 2, 2026.

* America 250 Summer Picnic and Spring Meeting: August 8, 2026.

* Hypertufa Project: Led by Anita Moran: September 19, 2026.

* Fall Region 4 Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina: October 16-17, 2026.

*Fall Luncheon with Program and Plant Swap: October 24, 2026.

This year's gatherings will continue to blend education, hands-on activities, and the chance to reconnect with fellow iris enthusiasts. Members can look forward to seasonal programs, opportunities to exchange plants, and the always-popular time spent sharing garden stories and advice.

Of course, the highlight of the iris calendar will be the spring bloom season, when gardens across our region begin to show the beautiful colors and forms that make irises such a treasured plant. Members are encouraged to visit one another's gardens, share photos, and celebrate the results of their hard work in the garden.

Behind the scenes, planning also continues for our future events, including the exciting preparations for the society's 60th anniversary celebration in 2027, which will welcome guests from across Region 4. It will be a special opportunity to reflect on six decades of iris growing, friendship, and dedication within our society.

As always, thank you to our members who volunteer their time, share their knowledge, and help keep the Francis Scott Key Iris Society thriving. We look forward to a colorful season ahead!

Carol Gitter, President FSK

Committee Reports

9:24 AM

04/09/26

Accrual Basis

AIS Region 4 Profit & Loss April 2025 through March 2026

Apr '25 - Mar 26

Ordinary Income/Expense
Income
Annual Affiliate Contributions
Interest Income
Plant Sales
Total Income

100.00

211.20

3,067.00

3,378.20

Expense
Donations
Epperson Cup Expense
Guest Irises/ Regional meeting
Newscast Expense
Office Supplies
RVP Convention Expenses
Website fees
Total Expense

300.00

520.83

344.14

511.44

113.48

800.00

410.43

3,000.32

Net Ordinary Income

377.88

Net Income

377.88

2026 Budget For Region 4 of the American Iris Society

Expenditure	Contact	Description	Dollars	Actual	Sub Total
Printing and Mailing	Newscast Editor	Two issues of Newscast per year	\$1,500.00		
		March 2026		\$0.00	
		August 2026		\$0.00	\$0.00
	Newscast Editor	Instant Ink		\$0.00	
RVP Travel Expenses	RVP	\$800/yr for AIS Conventions stipend	\$800.00		
		New York, NY		\$0.00	
		In Person Meeting,		\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Committee	Membership Sec.		\$100.00		
				\$0.00	
Memorials	RVP/Board	In Memory donations	\$300.00		
				\$0.00	
Zurbrigg-Mahan Award	Award Chair	Engraved Cup (\$300)	\$300.00		
		Awarded to:		\$0.00	
		Shipping:		\$0.00	\$0.00
Epperson Service Award	Award Chair	Engraved Silver Bowl	\$140.00		
		Awarded to:		\$0.00	
Sunshine Fund	Sunshine Chair	Get well and sympathy cards	\$100.00		
				\$0.00	
AIS Youth Program	Board		\$100.00		
				\$0.00	
Region 4 Website	Website Manager	Costs associated with website	\$100.00		
		Web Hosting		\$0.00	
Zoom Account	Board	Annual Pro Subscription	\$170.00		
				\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	RVP/Board		\$300.00		
Total			\$3,910.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Budget Spent/Remain		\$3,910.00			
Submitted by	Anita Moran				

Committee Reports

2026 Spring Regional Meeting, Membership Report

Some current stats for Region 4 sent by Jean Richter, AIS Membership Chairman

387 active members (not including 7 affiliates), 4 members in their grace period (up to 90 days after expiration).

25 e-members (19 one year, 1 two year (2026 special), 4 three year, one courtesy life)

264 full members (225 single, 37 dual, 2 single from the 2026 special)

31 life members (17 single, 14 dual)

59 print members (35 single, 24 dual)

8 youth members (2 no bulletin, 6 print, including one 2026 special)

Breakdown by state:

DC: 4

MD: 64

NC: 90

VA: 213

WV: 16

Here is a breakdown of populations by region (includes affiliates):

1: 85	13: 179
2: 86	14: 367
3: 105	15: 229
4: 394	17: 267
5: 110	18: 214
6: 187	20: 85
7: 226 (now combined with Region 24)	21: 116
8: 71	22: 209
9: 79	23: 83
10: 32	30: 113
11: 81	
12: 82	

So, Region 4 now has the most members, with Region 14 in second place, Region 17 in third, Region 15 in fourth, Region 7 in fifth, Region 18 in sixth, and Region 22 in seventh.

The 2026 Membership incentive this year is:

Available to FIRST-TIME purchasers only, buy a one-year membership and receive a second year free!

Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Spoon, Membership Chairman, Region 4

Committee Reports

Spring 2026 Website Report

In February, AcornHost migrated its data to a new server, which prevented me from making corrections for several weeks. It was not back online, so I could not make corrections until March 18th. This move also included new programming for the control center, which took a while for me to figure out how to work in order to edit the site.

Currently, AcornHost has instituted two additional protections. The first is a website quality monitor, which I will check out as I have time. This monitor will automatically check the websites for errors and broken links. I added two errors and will see what the program does with them. They also uploaded new virus/spam/bot software to protect the sites. I will let you know how they work.

Three years ago, Microsoft discontinued the Web Expression suite, but the region had already purchased a standalone version. Of the four programs in the set, three no longer work. I have been testing HTML and CSS editors since November and have not yet found an easy-to-learn, easy-to-use replacement that does not require using their service to host the site. I have been working on the website for 20+ years, but I cannot hand it off to someone else without a solid site editor for them to manage the many pages we now have, and without a working knowledge of HTML and CSS. It looks like Canva might be the best option, but there is a steep learning curve. Canva has a free option for non-profits, with premium tools, which I have applied for, but I have not heard back from them.

I do not know when, or if, MS will worm the program Web Expression as they did the others, making them unusable, but I would like to have a working standby in place in case that happens. It may come to taking classes for Canva, but as a non-profit, they may offer free classes. Once approved, I will determine how many can take the classes. If that is the solution, I would want someone also to learn the program and eventually take over the website.

Webmaster
Anita Moran

Spring 2026 Median Report

For those who are members of the Median Iris Society (MIS), it is time to vote for the best of the various median irises. This is a member-only poll, so think about which SDB, IB, BB, and MTB are your favorite. The MIS Seed Sale is open year-round, and you can see what is available at:
https://medianiris.com/mis_seedsale.html

Make a list of the seeds that interest you, and contact the Seed Exchange Chair, Dr. Kim Rieniets, at KimRieniets@gmail.com.

Please consider joining the MIS and learn more about the little bearded iris.
Anita Moran

EPPERSON SERVICE AWARD

Spring Regional Report
Fredericksburg, Va.
May 1-2, 2026

It is time again to look around us and remember the one person who has worked tirelessly to promote the Region 4 American Iris Society and its activities. Think of all those times that you have seen this person at meetings, at Regionals and at plant sales—always working and supporting our group—always sharing both plants and knowledge, many times working behind the scenes to keep the structure in place. Take the time to nominate this person so we can show our appreciation and keep the spirit of our group going. Please send me your nominations by August 15th.

Sue Shackelford

IRIS GARDEN ETIQUETTE by Dr. Anne Lee, Norfolk, Virginia
Reprinted from *Newscast* 1964 APRIL V. 6 No. 2

Etiquette is defined in your dictionary as the form required by good breeding, a code of rules respecting what is right and fitting. Well, you probably wonder what this has to do with iris gardens. . . . Soon, iris time will be upon us, and visitors will descend on your garden. It is a strange fact that a lot of people whose etiquette is above reproach in any other social contact will behave miserably in an iris garden. So here are a few tips which should help the owners of the garden as well as the visitors:

- (1) Let your friend know you are coming. Most people love to show you around and point out their newest things.
- (2) Pick a good time to visit. Maybe your friend is in church Sunday morning.
- (3) Don't stay all day—you want to come back another time.
- (4) Treat the garden as you would the owner's home. Likely as not he thinks more of his garden than his home.
- (5) Leave your children at home. They may be angels, but you certainly will spare the owner's nerves.
- (6) Leave the dogs at home, too. A dog is an unwelcome guest, and besides, he really is no iris connoisseur, and a cat or bird may tempt him to take a short cut straight through the choicest bed.
- (7) Ladies, beware of those huge purses that swing from your arms. A swift swing, and that one and only stalk of the newest introduction has bitten the dust!
- (8) Don't pinch, and I mean the iris blooms. You don't have to feel to determine if it has the right texture, your eyes will tell you.
- (9) Don't go to a garden if the owner is away unless he is a good friend of yours.
- (10) Don't walk into beds, and please, ladies, don't wear those spike heels when you walk through the garden. Those little holes you leave are not very ornamental.

The owner has some obligation, too. Maybe the visitor is just beginning to grow irises and does not know that there is a difference between Blue Shimmer and Miss Alameda. So be patient and take a little time to answer his questions. In conclusion: May only well-bred people descend on your iris garden come bloom time!

Chairman Judge's Training Report May 1, 2026

The number of judges in Region 4 has not changed since I submitted my report at the fall Board Meeting. The AIS Board of Directors accepted my recommendations, so for 2026 we have 10 G/E judges, 7 Master judges, and 2 Emeritus judges, for a total of 19 active judges. There are currently no apprentice judges in Region 4, but we have a lot of student judges working toward that goal.

We do, however, have one new part-time judge in Region 4. Stephanie Myers is currently a relatively new G/E judge in Region 17, Texas. Some of you may remember when she apprenticed at the CVIS show a couple of years ago. Stephanie has a daughter in Charlottesville. She also maintains a garden in Charlottesville and grows many of her seedlings there, so she spends most of May in Charlottesville visiting her daughter, hybridizing, and working in her garden. She tells me she would usually be available to judge any of our May shows. I would recommend that we add her to the Region 4 roster of judges at our Region 4 web site so her contact information is available for those who might want to have her judge one of our shows.

There are a number of our Region 4 judges who are not in attendance at this Region 4 meeting. That is because this same weekend the South Carolina Iris Society in Region 5 is holding what must be a relatively large show with two panels of judges, most of whom are apparently Region 4 judges. In Region 4 we have a standing rule that Region 4 Affiliates are not allowed to hold their local show on a date that conflicts with the Regional Meeting for the very reason that our judges need to attend the Regionals. However, we can't control when other Regions hold their shows, so this was an unfortunate conflict. Several months ago one of those judges recognized the conflict and asked me for guidance, since this judge wanted to attend this Region 4 Spring Meeting, but was also aware that the Judges Handbook said that whenever possible, a judge should accept an invitation to judge a show. My advice was, and still is, that wanting to attend one's own Regional Meeting was a legitimate reason for turning down an invitation to judge a show that conflicted with it. The Handbook doesn't delineate what constitutes legitimate reasons for turning down an invitation, but we all have lives, and common sense should prevail. Medical issues, family obligations, financial considerations, and prior commitments are all legitimate reasons, as, in my opinion, is a conflict with one's own Regional Meeting. In-garden training is often hard to get but is almost always offered at Spring Regionals. Especially if you need JT credits, you can, and should, turn down an invitation to judge an out-of-region show that conflicts with our Spring Regional.

Speaking of in-garden judge's training credits, if you are in need of in-garden credits, or just want to bank some extra credits, please note that Ginny Spoon will be conducting two separate in-garden JT sessions for 2 hours credit. The first is on Friday, May 15 at 2:00 pm.; the second is on Sunday May 17, time to be determined. Check with Ginny. I also tentatively plan to offer a one-hour in-garden JT session on judging beardless irises in my garden on June 13 at 2:00 p.m. if I have any beardless bloom left. Check with me later. I will also try to send out a notice about this training if it is going to happen. Please note that in addition to the AIS requirements for apprentices outlined in the Judges Handbook, Region 4 requires 2 additional hours of beardless training, at least one of which must be in-garden.

Please remember to keep a log of all shows you judge, all gardens you visit, training you give, etc., to help you in completing your annual Activity Report due at the end of July.

Lois Rose
AIS Region 4 JT Chair

2025 Epperson Service Award

EPPERSON AWARD RECIPIENTS

2011 Clarence Mahan
 2012 not given
 2013 Carol Warner
 2014 Lois Rose
 2015 Carrie Winter
 2016 Susan Grigg
 2017 Ginnie & Don Spoon
 2018 Anita Moran
 2019 Doug Chyz: Award given at the Spring 2020 meeting
 2020 not given
 2021 not given
 2022 not given
 2023 Heather Haley & Sheryl Campbell
 2024 Bob Pries: Award given at the Spring 2025 meeting
 2025 Katherine Steele



Gardens of the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society

by Anita Moran

Many of you in the Region 4 area have visited the gardens of Sue Shackelford, Jim Schroetter, and Lois Rose, but this spring we were allowed to visit two additional gardens. The first was Leisa Mullen's garden, followed by the garden of Oscar and Maritza Gutierrez. I will get to these new gardens later; but as a reminder, let's revisit Lois Rose's garden.

Lois's garden is on a sprawling ranch, but the iris beds are around her house. I love the garden names assigned to certain areas, and I know many of us could name our own gardens the same way. Like many in Region 4, Lois had peonies blooming among the irises. Besides 'Winterberry' (D. Spoon 2007), there



◀
'Winterberry'
(D. Spoon
2007)

were a couple of oldies I had not seen before that I really liked. 'Halfway To Heaven' (Niswonger 1996)

was a beautiful pink with a deep violet beard whose color extended down the falls. The second one that surprised me was 'Marsh Light' (Donnell 1983) a yellow with a slight green tinge. Although it has old gold beards, it has a dark violet line that runs the length of the fall. At first, I thought it was a border bearded, but it turns out to be a tall bearded iris at 32 inches.



◀ 'Halfway to Heaven' (Niswonger 1996))

'Marsh Light' (Donnell 1983) ▶



Shackelford Peony Plot



Iris pallida

Sue Shackelford's garden, as always, is a collection of gardens from the Dykes Winners bed, a peony bed, a shade bed, and others. All the beds have seating, which I imagine would be wonderful for camping on and watching the wildlife going to and from the pond. I am always astounded by the large *Iris pallida* clump, but this year the clump of 'Carrie Winter' (D. Spoon 2011) was catching up. Also blooming well was 'Jungle Shadows' (Sass-Graham 1960), which was the highest scoring border bearded in the 2025 AIS Popularity Poll, and of course her dad's favorite iris, 'Indian Chief' (Ayres 1929).



‘Carrie Winter’ (D. Spoon 2011)



‘Jungle Shadows’ (Sass-Graham 1960)



‘Indian Chief’ (Ayers 1929)

Jim Schroetter’s garden hosted many of the seedlings rescued after Mike Lockett’s death. Everyone who arrived on the property loved touring the seedlings; my favorite was a lovely brown one, 21325. The main iris bed overlooked a pond at the bottom of the hill, filled with Japanese and Louisiana irises. The circular driveway also surrounded another iris bed with a birdhouse castle in the shaded area with ‘Shaker’s Prayer’ (Warner 1990) blooming. Even more exciting was Jim’s ode to the “Blues Brothers” in his upstairs growing museum.



Schroetter’s Main Iris Bed ▲

Birdhouse Castle ►



Lockett Seedling 21325



◀ ‘Shaker’s Prayer’
(Warner 1990)

Driveway Iris Bed ►



The garden of Oscar and Maritza Gutierrez was a mixture of modern and historic in landscaping and irises. Entering through matching stone pillars, the front drive greets you with historic irises along with a few newer irises including ‘Achy Breaky Heart’ (G. Sutton 2006). The irises were joined by a variety of large potted plants, including an olive tree – yes, an olive tree. Around the side of the house is a stairway leading to the first of many small garden areas. Walking past two small grassy areas separated by a stone wall, there are several types of fences separating the gardens. There was a shaded area separated by a three-tier split-rail fence. Behind the fence are irises I am sure were being punished for being bad. Next was a tree with a peony beneath it, surrounded by irises. Separating one side of the back yard from the other is a stone stream bed that was dry at the time of our visit; but to make it interesting, two bronze fish were placed just above the bridge crossing the creek.



Driveway Garden



‘Achy Breaky Heart’ (G. Sutton 2006)



Arbequina Olive



View of Gutierrez back gardens



Peony bed and creek bridge

Across the creek, you had three choices: go through a gate area to the rear garden, continue on to see the iris patch, or follow the stream to the front of the house. Behind the gate were Siberians and other beardless varieties, which, unfortunately, were in bloom at the time of our visit. In the iris patch across the stream, the bearded irises were blooming. ‘Notta Lemon’ (Burseen 2010) was beautiful as always, with its bright yellow to contrast with other irises like ‘Metro Blue’ (Lockatell 2015), ‘Dreamwalker’ (Schick 1997), ‘Gypsy Romance’ (Schreiner 1994), and another Burseen introduction,

‘Seal A Deal’ (2015). Following the stream bed up the side of the house, it looked as if they were trying to protect the house from the irises with a wrought iron fence surrounding the lower windows.



Dry Creek



Bronze Fish



Gutierrez side garden



‘Notta Lemon’ (Burseen 2010)



‘Gypsy Romance’ (Schreiner 1994)



‘Metro Blue’ (Lockatell 2015)

At the top of the hill was a bed with a weeping pine, a Japanese maple, peonies, irises, and other bulbs and perennials. Next to this was a lovely ‘Sister Redhead’ broom plant that looked to be behaving itself. Further down the front of the house was a ‘Sparkling Sapphires’ *Baptisia*, one of my new favorite plants. By the time we arrived back at the driveway, it was time to go to the next garden.

The garden of Leisa Mullen became visible as you drove up the driveway to Leisa’s garden. You first were greeted by the upper garden, where early tall bearded irises were blooming, even those in shaded areas. Irises such as ‘Adobe Campfire’ (H. Nichols 2001), ‘Bright and Shining Star’ (P. Black 2020), ‘Cowboy Boots’ (M. Sutton 2021), ‘Westpointer’ (G. Sutton 2001, a space-ager), and ‘Spice Trader’ (J. Painter 2010) were among the standouts. Deeper into the shade, this upper garden was edged with a long row of peonies.

As we moved down the hill toward the house, deep in the shade were pots of hellebores, and behind the tree line was a large patch of daylilies. The first part of the lower garden, even though it had more shade,



'Cowboy Boots' (M. Sutton 2021)



'Westpointer' (G. Sutton 2001)



'Mind Blowing' (T. Johnson 2020)



Mullen upper garden



'Adobe Campfire' (H. Nichols 2001)

was
also

blooming well with tall bearded irises such as 'Never Ending Story' (T. Johnson 2025) and . Behind this iris patch in deep shade was a great bench made of tractor parts, but instead I went to the second lower iris patch where Leisa had two seedlings blooming. Mullen seedling 21LDM1 was a light brown-violet plicata with an area of violet at the end of the fall and reddish shoulder plicata markings. The sibling seedling 21LDM2 was a peachy-brown with bright yellow beards and shoulders.



'Spice Trader' (J. Painter 2010)



Mullen Peony Garden



◀ Mullen seedling
21LDM1

Mullen seedling ▶
21LDM2



Tractor Bench



Lower Mullen Garden

Many were invited to visit Leisa's doll room, but I wanted to continue wandering around the gardens. It was soon time to return to the hotel.



'Bright and Shining Star' (Black 2020)

"I have had more than half a century of such happiness. A great deal of worry and sorrow, too, but never a worry or a sorrow that was not offset by a purple iris, a lark, a bluebird, or a dewy morning glory." Mary McLeod Bethune



'Plicata' aka 'Swerti'

Collected or garden Hybrid,
Jean-Baptiste de Lamarck,
1789)

In cultivation since at least
1590

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Spring Region 4 Board Meeting Minutes, May 1, 2026
Country Inn and Suites, Fredericksburg, Virginia

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by RVP Anita Moran. Ten board members were present; thus, a quorum was present with the minimum of nine board members.

It was moved and seconded that we accept the minutes of the Fall 2025 Region 4 meeting as printed in the *Newscast*. This was approved by voice vote.

RVP Report: Anita thanked Heather Haley for her work on last fall's Iris Popularity Poll. You did not have to be an AIS-member to vote. [See the results tables in this issue.] No votes from West Virginia were received. It took Anita less than ½ hour to tabulate the data from Region 4.

Anita reminded AIS affiliate clubs that their affiliation paperwork should be submitted to Affiliate Chairman Jody Nolan.

Anita reported that Assistant RVP Kathy Huneycutt fell, broke bones, and is experiencing an illness.

Treasurer's Report: Sue Shackelford submitted a report. As of March 31, 2026 the Region has \$21,736.40. As previously authorized by the board, Sue will transfer \$20,000 into a money market account to earn more interest.

Budget Report: Budget Report: Budget Chairman Diana Dudley Richards was judging in South Carolina and did not submit a budget report. Anita gave the budget report. The budget for 2026-27 is \$3919.00.

Membership Report: Ginny Spoon submitted a written report. Region 4 is now first in number of AIS members with 394 (including seven affiliates). Region 14 [Northern California, Nevada, Hawaii] is second with 267, and Region 17 [Texas] is third with 267. The 2026 AIS Membership Incentive will give folks who join AIS for the first time with a one-year membership a second year free.

Webmaster Report: Anita stated that eventually someone else must assume responsibility for the website and the Newscast editor position.

In February, Acorn Host migrated its data to a new server, which prevented Anita from making corrections to the Region 4 website until March 18th; and even, then, she had to learn to use their new programming.

Since November Anita has been trying out different website programs but has yet to find one that is easy to learn and does not require using Microsoft to host the site. Perhaps Canva may be the best option. To Region 4, which is a non-profit, Canva may offer free classes to one or more members of the Region to learn this program and eventually take over as webmaster of our site. See printed report.

Newscast Editor Report: Editor Anita Moran stated that three years ago Microsoft announced that it was discontinuing MS Publisher in the fall of 2026. Anita has been exploring several other programs,

but most limit the number of pages to five and we have 30 or more pages per issue. Anita may need to attend one or more tech shows to learn what is available.

The *Newscast* is Region 4's biggest expense. About 90% of Region 4 members receive the *Newscast* electronically and Anita usually mails hard copies only to those members without email plus affiliate presidents and those requesting hard copies. Some folks think we spend too much on the *Newscast*, so Anita did not print any copies of the last issue. She asked: should she print 125 copies of each of two issues/year? Lois Rose said that some members don't have email but they may have a computer [so they can go to the Region 4 website and read the *Newscast* online]. Sue Shackelford commented that members should pay if they want a printed copy. Heather Haley suggested we send a postcard and ask if the recipient **needs** a printed copy of the *Newscast*. A motion was made that the *Newscast* be strictly in electronic form and that affiliate presidents update the email list and notify the AIS Membership Secretary. Motion carried

Judges Training Report: Lois Rose stated that the number of judges in the Region has not changed since her report of last fall: ten Garden/Exhibition, seven Master, and two Emeritus. We now have one part-time judge: Stephanie Myers lives part-time in Texas and has a garden in Charlottesville, Virginia.

South Carolina in Region 5 is holding a large show today and a number of Region 4 judges were asked to judge that show. One contacted Lois asking if attending one's own regional meeting was justification for turning down an invitation to judge. The Judges Handbook says that, whenever possible, a judge should accept an invitation to judge a show. However, medical issues, family obligations, financial considerations, and prior commitments are legitimate reasons for turning down an invitation to judge. Lois expressed the opinion that attending one's own regional meeting is also a legitimate reason, especially if the judge needs garden training which is often given at Regionals. Note also that Apprentices need two hours of beardless judges training, one of which must be in-garden.

Iris Program Resource Report: Heather Haley has 17 presentations available for affiliates to use for programs at meetings and has developed a hands-on program titled "Discovering Your Soil" that she can travel to give or train presenters to give. AIS also has a Speaker Resource Program intended to support affiliates that may not have the budget to cover speaker travel expenses. [See Spring 2026 Iris Program Resource Report in this issue.]

Sunshine Report: Kathy Huneycutt provided information to Anita – Kathy sent four get well, four sympathy, and six "thinking of you" cards. Kathy sends her love.

Beardless and Species Report: Carol Warner provided a written report, which see. There is a new beardless species Irid, *Ferraria*, from South Africa. It's tropical so we'll have to grow it in pots. It has a smoky fragrance.

Median Report: Acting Median Chair Anita Moran gave the report. The Median Iris Society has a member-only poll for the favorites among these irises. Members send in their votes which are counted by Kimberly Rienerts [from Constant Gardener Farm Iris].

Reblooming Report: This report from Colin Campbell will appear in the August *Newscast*. Delane Langton [from Eagle Ridge Iris Garden] is entering reblooming data in the Iris Wiki.

Epperson Award Report: [This is an award for outstanding, long-term service to Region 4.] Sue Shackelford submitted a report and requested nominations be sent to her by August 15th.

Anita stated that Gary Slagle won the Zurbrigg-Mahan Seedling Award at the 2025 AIS National convention.

Nominating Committee Report: Chairman Heather Haley stated that the committee which includes Leisa Mullen, Lewis Bozard, Lois Rose, and Diana Dudley must have a proposed slate of officers including RVP and Assistant RVP for publication in the August 2026 *Newscast*. We will vote in spring 2027 for new officers to take over in fall 2027. Heather stated that she can set up a Zoom meeting for members of the committee to confer.

Awards Chairman: RVP Anita Moran stated that she wants to appoint an Awards Chairman. The B. Y. Morrison Award for the most popular iris by an out-of-region hybridizer seen blooming in a Region 4 tour garden is acrylic. Region 4 gives the B. Y. Morrison Award (never given out but Anita wants us to), the Epperson Service Award for outstanding, long-term service to Region 4, and the Zurbrigg-Mahan Seedling Cup (given to the best seedling at the AIS annual convention). The Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society pays for the D.C. Nearpass Award for the most popular iris introduced by a Region 4 hybridizer and Ginny Spoon makes arrangements for its production.

The RVP stated that we don't have to change the bylaws to add an Awards Chairman. Susan Grigg cannot order and manage the Region 4 awards anymore due to her health issues. Alleah Haley volunteered to be the Awards Chairman except for the Nearpass Award. Alleah will contact Susan Grigg for information and guidance.

Popularity Poll: -last year's was three months long. AIS is considering limiting the polling period of this year's Iris Popularity Poll to two months. It would be better not to extend it into the winter holiday season. Folks should vote for irises that grow well in their area.

Historian or Auction Reports were not presented.

Affiliate Reports: Written Affiliate Reports [printed in this issue] were provided by Bayshore Iris Society (Terry Holman), Charlotte Iris Society (Charisse Miller), Central Virginia Iris Society (Wayne Bryant), Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (Leisa Mullen), and Francis Scott Kay Iris Society (Carol Gitter). Notable highlights were:

- Bayshore IS [report given orally by Anita Moran]: Bayshore has had a very busy year and currently has 26 active members including two youth.

- Charlotte IS [report given orally by Iris Grieswell]: During their October 2025 meeting Lewis Bozard presented an Iris Learning Lab on “Growing Irises in Containers”. The Piedmont Daylily Club and the Charlotte Iris Society held a joint holiday luncheon to end 2025.
- Central Virginia IS [report given orally by Joni Truscott]: Their Facebook page is getting a lot of traffic. Lois Rose gave a talk “Grooming Your Stalks for the Show” at their April meeting. The club renovated their iris bed at the Hanover Master Gardeners’ Learning Center and replanted it.
- Fredericksburg Area IS [report read by President Leisa Mullen]: Their annual iris sale in August raised money to fund a scholarship given to a horticulture student at Virginia Tech.
- Francis Scott Key IS [report given by Anita Moran]: Anita outlined various events that the club held and has planned for 2026 including a daylily sale. They are hosting the Region 4 meeting next spring on May 21 and 22, 2027 in Baltimore.

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society and Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society – no reports.

Announcements: Future Region 4 meetings:

Fall 2026 – Charlotte IS will host in Charlotte, North Carolina

Spring 2027 – Francis Scott Key IS will host in Baltimore

Fall 2027 – Shenandoah and Potomac IS will host in West Virginia at the Exline Iris Garden

Spring 2028 - Shenandoah and Potomac IS will host

Unfinished Business:

Anita stated that Region 4 bylaws [Article VIII, Section 1] state that affiliates shall send funds to support the region. \$5 per member is suggested.

Anita also emphasized that Region 4 needs to host an AIS national convention. The 2026 New-York – New Jersey national now has 200 registrants. For Region 4’s consideration, school buses hold 44 people and at least one bus with a lift is needed to accommodate handicapped folks. Vans can also be used. Gardens are needed that can accommodate 400 guest iris varieties. A four-year lead time is needed. The first available date is 2030. See the Feasibility Study which can be downloaded from the AIS website.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.

Alleah Haley, Secretary

Spring 2026 Region 4 General Meeting, May 2, 2026

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by RVP Anita Moran at 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call:

Bayshore Iris Society – 0

Charlotte Iris Society – 4

Central Virginia Iris Society – 4

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society – 6

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society – 20

Francis Scott Key Iris Society – 5

Shenandoah & Potomac Iris Society – 1

Guests – 2

Anita announced that the Auction brought in \$2260 (a new record), thanked the 21 bidders, and stated we had 107 lots for bid.

Awards:

- The Alice Bouldin Award for best seedling bred by a Region 4 hybridizer seen growing and blooming in a tour garden went to the border bearded seedling 21529 by Mike Lockatell.
- The D. C. Nearpass Award for the most popular iris [previous winners are not eligible] introduced by a Region 4 hybridizer went to ‘Carrie Winter’ by Don Spoon [(2001, TB)]. Runner up was ‘Metro Blue’ by Mike Lockatell [(2015, TB)].
- The B.Y. Morrison Award for the best iris introduced by an out-of-Region 4 hybridizer went to ‘Royston Rubies’ by Adam Cordes [(2017, TB)], the 2025 American Dykes Medal winner. Runner up was ‘Jungle Shadows’ by the Sass brothers and Helen Graham Reynolds [(1960, BB)].

Grey Drum announced that the 2026 Region 4 Fall Meeting will be held Friday through Sunday October 16-18. It will have a reblooming iris theme including a reblooming iris show, a silent auction, and a talk by Dr. Jeff Gilman, Director of the University of North Carolina - Charlotte Botanical Garden.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Alleah Haley, Secretary

Room Reservation Information
DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Charlotte-SouthPark
6300 Carnegie Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28211

CIS has reserved a small courtesy block of rooms at a special rate of \$169.00 per night plus tax. One breakfast coupon per room is included in this rate. To get the discounted rate, book as early as possible, as availability is limited and the hotel will likely sell out that weekend. The rate is available Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights.

Book online at this address:

<https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/cltdtdt-90m-d04f03ad-2058-4fec-886d-388c01527f01/>

Or you may call the hotel at 704-364-2400 and request the Charlotte Iris Society rate.

To donate Plant Auction items:

Contact Anita Moran at pilmore22@gmail.com or call 410-937-3388. (E-mailed pictures are required for each submission, 2 weeks prior to the meeting.)

To donate Silent Auction items:

Contact Grey Drum at gldrum@icloud.com or 704-626-0527.

REGION 4 Help Wanted: Region 4 needs the following positions filled:

Median Iris Chair: Collect data on median irises in the region and from the Median Iris Society.

Youth Chair: Contact and guide youth members in Region 4 to include judges training, garden help with irises

Website Manager: Able to make changes to the current Region 4 website with working knowledge of Microsoft Expression. Able to create and add new pages as needed

Rebloom Chair: Collect reblooming information throughout the region and report findings to the board and the Reblooming Iris Society twice a year.

Newscast Editor: The editor of the Newscast is a voting member of the board, shall write, gather, edit, and publish articles for the publication, which shall be published twice a year in Spring and Fall. Publish reports from board members given during the twice-yearly board meetings to include all officers and committee chairs. Must provide a report twice a year at board meetings. Work to improve the Newscast by adding sections. Report on gardens visited. Learn new technologies to improve publication and distribution, such as a working knowledge of current publishing software. Work with the board and Affiliate Presidents to receive and publish their twice-yearly reports.

2026 AIS REGION 4 FALL MEETING TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (8/14/26)

Carmel Presbyterian Church, 2048 Carmel Road, Charlotte, NC

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026

10:00-3:00 Registration, Plant & Silent Auction Drop-off	Ligon Hall
10:30-11:45 Show Entries Accepted	Ligon Hall
Lunch on Your Own—Suggestions Provided	
1:00-3:00 Show Open to Public	Ligon Hall
3:15-5:00 Region Board Meeting	Cathcart Hall
5:15-6:15 Classroom Judges Training—Lewis Bozard	Cathcart Hall
Dinner on Your Own—Suggestions Provided	
8:00-9:00 AIS 2031 Convention Planning Committee	Cathcart Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

9:00-1:00 Registration/Info Desk Open	Ligon Hall
10:00-12:00 Plant Auction	Ligon Hall
12:00-1:00 Lunch	Ligon Hall
12:00 Silent Auction Opens	Ligon Hall
1:15-3:00 MapleWalk Garden Guided Tour, 4255 Kingswood Road, Charlotte https://www.maplewalkgarden.com/ -Located 5 minutes from the church -No Restroom at garden—restroom available at Carmel Presbyterian Church -MapleWalk includes some stairs and uneven terrain -Travel on your own or carpool	
3:00-4:00 The White House Gardens—Elaine Cobb, 7507 Folger Drive, Charlotte -Located 5-10 minutes from MapleWalk and the church -No Restroom at garden—restroom available at Carmel Presbyterian Church	
Relaxation Time, Silent Auction continues	
6:30 Silent Auction Closes	Ligon Hall
6:30 Dinner Served—Welcome and Grace	Ligon Hall
7:00 Region Business Meeting	Ligon Hall
7:30 Speaker—Dr. Jeff Gillman, Director, UNC Charlotte Botanical Gdn. Invitation to Spring Regional hosted by FSK Announcements and Closing Remarks Silent Auction Winners Announced, Payments Received	Ligon Hall

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2026

11:30-12:30 In-Garden Judges Training—Anita Moran Miller's Edgewater Iris Gardens
This venue is approximately 1 hour and 20 minutes from the hotel (address below)

SUNDAY GARDENS OPEN 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (featuring irises and more!):

Miller's Edgewater Iris Gardens—Sarah Sue Miller

100 Edgewater Rd., Hickory, NC

Sinfonia Gardens—Matt Liner

123 Lee Avenue, Lexington, NC

**AIS Region 4 Fall Meeting 2026 – “Relax and Rebloom”
Friday-Saturday, October 16-17 + Optional Garden Tours Sunday, October 18**

Presented by Charlotte Iris Society (CIS)
Carmel Presbyterian Church, 2048 Carmel Road, Charlotte, NC 28226

3 Options to Register:

ONLINE at <https://forms.gle/b6zD1ukQFh514uzz8>

EMAIL this form to lewis.bozard@gmail.com

MAIL this form to the address below

If registering online or by email, submit your registration, then either mail your check to the address below or call Grey Drum at 704-626-0527 to pay by card

REGISTRATION FORM

Name (1): _____ Chapter/Region: _____

Name (2): _____ Chapter/Region: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Registration includes garden tours, two hours of judges training, and lunch and dinner on Saturday. Breakfast and Friday meals are on your own, with many nearby dining options to choose from. A list of suggested restaurants will be provided.

Early Registration received by Sept. 19: \$125.00 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

After Sept. 19, Full Registration: \$150.00 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Number requesting Special Dietary Considerations

Vegetarian options will be provided and do not need to be requested.

Provide the number of registrants needing each type of special diet below.

Gluten free: _____ Dairy free: _____ Other: _____

Number attending Judge's Training

Classroom-Friday, Oct. 16: _____ In-garden-Sunday, Oct. 18: _____

Mail Registration Form to:

Dr. Lewis Bozard
208 Southwood Court
Fletcher, NC 28732

**Include your check payable to Charlotte Iris Society,
or call Grey Drum at 704-626-0527 to pay by credit card.**

For additional information or questions, contact Regional Meeting Committee Chair Lewis Bozard at lewis.bozard@gmail.com or 704-517-5304 (texting is fine). Requests to cancel with a refund must be received by September 19.

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