



The Newscast



‘Daybreak Over The Rockies’

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SOME IRIS WORLD PERSONALITIES by Hortus Veritas—Part 1
Reprinted with minor editing from *Newscast* 37 (1) (1995)

It has been some years since I submitted an article for *Newscast*. Believing that a new editor deserves everyone's support, I thought it might be timely for me to share my observations on some famous personalities in the world of irises. Oldtimers in our society are sure to recognize some, if not all, of these beloved eccentrics. Still, these people do not often see their names in print, or their virtues sufficiently praised. So, here are some of my favorite "friends":

Mrs. Igota Secret

Igota – The secret is an institution. (Or is it that she used to be in an institution? I forget, but bear with me.) Igota has been working on a secret genetic breakthrough in her iris breeding program for about 30 years. In any discussion of hybridizing, Igota is quick to refute all of the views and "facts" of others. Her experience is overwhelming. Unfortunately, she never reveals why you are mistaken—she just tells you that you're wrong. Igota has some magnificent seedlings of a most unusual type. Nobody but Igota has ever seen these wonderful seedlings, but she loves describing them and will spend hours doing so. One of Igota's strongest assertions is that WHOLE CLOTH (P. Cook 1958) is an overrated parent. She also is quick to maintain that all irises descended from SNOW FLURRY (C. Rees 1939) are inferior. At any meeting of the local iris society, Igota knows that every proposed activity is doomed to failure. Her smile is all-knowing. Her secrets are limitless.

Nearpass Award Winners Wanted

Our family is collecting past winners of the D. C. Nearpass Award. This award is voted by attendees of AIS Region 4 Spring Meetings, and we would like to grow them in tribute to the outstanding work of our regional hybridizers.

These Nearpass Award Winners are:

- Angel of the Pond
- Be Perfect
- Bethany Claire
- Cecilia D.
- Celestial Dream
- Cinnamon Fringe
- Clarence
- ~~Cobra's Eye~~
- Courtney Rucker
- Daughter of Stars
- Debra's Melody
- Grape Harvest
- Guinevere's Kiss
- Ice Adams
- I Do
- Ingleside Joy
- Joan's Pleasure
- Lezghinka
- Libby Cross
- Lightly Seasoned
- Mabel Andrews
- Mama's Music
- Mosby's Lady
- My Ginny
- Obi-Wan Kenobi
- Petite Monet
- Petite Louvois
- Pleasing Accomplishment
- Shaker's Prayer
- Sun and Sky
- Trumpet Concerto
- ~~Uncle Charlie~~

~~Strikethrough~~ means ours is thriving, and we aren't in need of that one.

Please let us know if you have extra rhizomes of these and would like to trade for something on your wish list.

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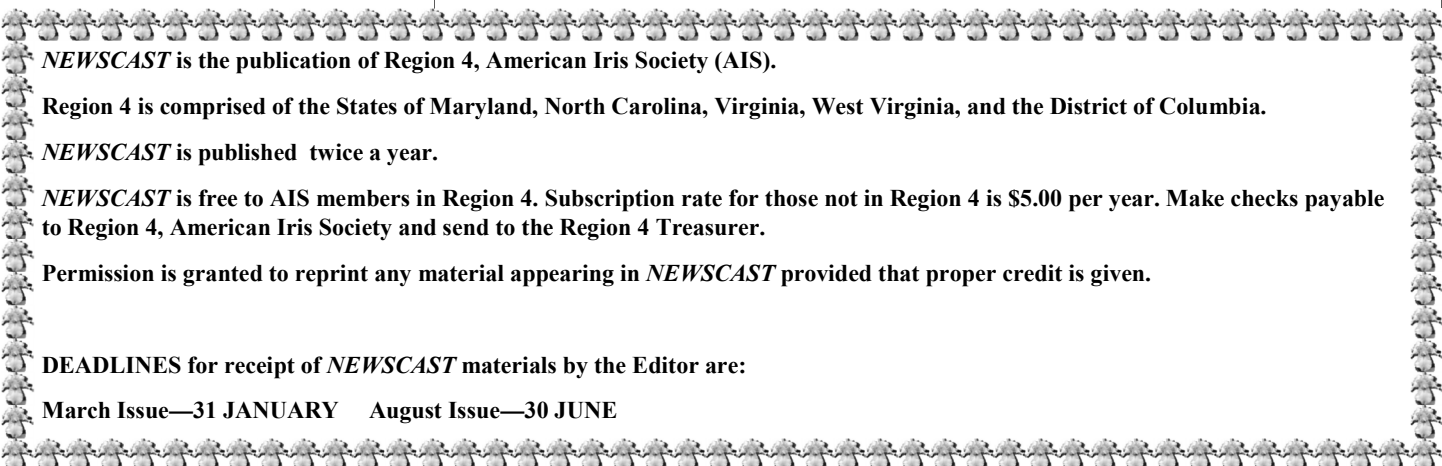
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NEWSCAST is the publication of Region 4, American Iris Society (AIS).

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

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

March Issue—31 JANUARY August Issue—30 JUNE

Notes From The Region 4 Vice President

Since August we've had a wildly successful Fall Regional Meeting hosted by the Bayshore Iris Society, done lots of work on our gardens to plant the irises and other plants we returned home with, and readied our garden beds for winter. The year we are looking forward to starts with local society meetings. On April 3-5 the Society for Louisiana Irises is having their annual convention in Lafayette, Louisiana. Registration and information can be found at <https://louisianas.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2025-SLI-registration-form-convention-final.pdf>. Then April 24-26 the Region 4 Spring Meeting will be held in Durham, North Carolina. The Siberian/Species Iris and AIS Region 21 Convention will happen in Ames, Iowa May 23 & 24, 2025, and the American Iris Society 2025 National Convention will be held June 2-7 in Billings, Montana. I hope many of you will be able to attend at least one of these conventions and write up the gardens you visit.

For those who are new to irises, there is a YouTube video on the life cycle of the bearded iris by Chuck Chapman that I think might interest you. See it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZPu_7dJlMU. For more experienced irisarians, there are many judges training and informational videos on the American Iris Society YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/TheAmericanIrisSociety>. For those needing judges training, please download the test before you start the video and make sure all the information is filled out. Send all judges training forms to our new Judges Training Chair: Lois Rose, AIS Region 4 JT Chair, P. O. Box 30, Partlow, VA 22534 or email them to Lowy222@aol.com.

JUDGES: Just a heads up. The Judges Activity Report has changed. Please use the new form when sending in your reports to Lois. I think you will find the changes Lois made to the form make it easier to read and to use. You can find all the judges training forms you need at <https://www.irisregion4.com/jtf.htm>. As soon as I can I will make the forms fillable where needed. I will also be working on the reblooming report sheet to make it more user friendly.

There are many iris activities to enjoy in the coming months. I hope to see many of you during my travels.

Anita Moran
Region 4 RVP

2024 Region 4 Budget—Final

2024 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 2024		\$822.06	
		August 2024		\$517.51	\$1,584.32
RVP Travel Expenses	Newscast Editor	Instant Ink	\$200.00	\$244.75	
	RVP	\$800/yr for AIS Conventions stipend	\$800.00		
		Portland OR		\$0.00	
		In Person Meeting,		\$0.00	\$0.00
Membership Committee	Membership Sec.		\$100.00		
				\$0.00	
Out of Region Iris Purchases		Bayshore Iris Society	\$400.00	\$391.00	\$391.00
Memorials	RVP/Board	In Memory donations	\$300.00		
				\$0.00	
Zurbrigg-Mahan Award	Award Chair	Engraved Cup (\$300)	\$300.00		
		Awarded to: 09JL3 Chad Harris		\$231.47	
		Etching and Shipping:	\$50.00	\$18.77	\$250.24
EppersonService Award	Award Chair	Engraved Silver Bowl	\$140.00		
		Awarded to:		\$133.18	\$133.18
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		\$71.40	\$71.40
Zoom Account	Board	Annual Free Subscription	\$0.00		
				\$0.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	RVP/Board		\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Total			\$4,390.00	\$2,730.14	\$2,730.14
Budget Spent/Remain		Budget Amount minus Expenses	\$1,659.86		
Submitted by					
Anita Moran					

Iris junonia

Botanical Name: *Iris junonia*

Taxonomy: also known as 'Iris junoninana' or 'Iris pallida junonia' mainly in Europe

Classification: Eupogon (Bearded)

General Description: 20-26 inches tall. It has glaucous short leaves and 5-15 in. tall stems with several branches, numerous flowers (up to 7 flowers) in various colors from blue-purple, lavender, pale blue, cream, white and yellow, with brown veining and white tipped orange beards. It is cultivated as an ornamental plant in temperate regions.

Habitat: It grows in the dry, meadows, beside roadside and beside paths.

Cultivation: It is not fully hardy in the UK. It prefers sunny situations in soils containing limestone, and that are dry during the summer. It can be prone to rhizome rot.

Native Range: Southern central Turkey, endemic in Cilician Taurus from the Cilician Mountains of south-central Turkey

Propagation: Irises can generally be propagated by division, or by seed growing. It can be crossed with other iris species (such as *Iris pumila* and Regelia section irises), to produce fertile offspring.

Seeds Available through 2025 SIGNA Seed Exchange: <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?SeedList>

References:

1. Species Iris Group of North America - <https://www.signa.org/index.pl?Iris-junonia>
2. iNaturalist UK - <https://uk.inaturalist.org/taxa/508315-Iris-junonia>



Iris junonia, Lowell Baumunk @ Iris Colorado

From The Editor

I am sitting at my computer moaning that a mouse (my son's belief) or a group of mice (my thought) chewed through my ice maker water line so I have a flood in my kitchen and fishing room. Yes, I have a fishing room for all my poles (14 at last count), lure making station, and two bookshelves, three tackle boxes of lures, reels, fishing line, and other miscellaneous fishing needs. So, to get my mind off the repairs needed, I decided to work on the *Newscast*.

I will need volunteers to write articles on the Spring Region 4 meeting in Durham, North Carolina for the *Newscast*. When we meet, please let me know if you would like to write up Susan Miller's garden, Bee Happy Farm (lots to write about there), or the Broley Homestead. The Broley Homestead is a new garden, so I might take that one myself. Hopefully some attendees will stay over on Sunday to see and write up a visit to Leslie Tevebaugh's open garden in Durham, Amy Fletcher's open garden in Haw River, the J.C. Raulston Arboretum in west Raleigh, or the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill.

At various times I have been including information on species irises in the *Newscast*. The new 2025 Seed Exchange list has been posted to the SIGNA website: <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?SeedList>

For more information about the irises listed, look in the SIGNA Species Database at: <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?Database>

For the new iris enthusiast, this issue includes "How to Plant Your Bearded Irises", along with some YouTube videos to watch.

If there is anything else you would like to see in the *Newscast*, please let me know.

Anita Moran
Managing Editor

TREASURER'S REPORT

A.I.S. REGION 4

April 26, 2024 to October 19, 2024

Checking Account Balance on April 26, 2024:	\$20,401.32
Receipts:	
Spring Region 4 Auction:	\$1,339.00
Checking Account Interest:	\$1.06
Total Receipts:	\$1,340.06
Expenditures:	
Insta-Ink - Anita:	\$244.75
Epperson Award	\$133.18
August NEWSCAST:	\$517.51
Bayshore Iris Society Rebloomers:	\$391.00
Zurbrigg/ Mahan Award	\$231.47
Zurbrigg/ Mahan Award Shipping:	\$18.77
Anita Moran:	\$300.00
Total Expenditures:	\$1,836.68
Checking Account Balance on October 19, 2024:	\$19,904.70

Carol S. Warner, Region 4 Treasurer

For New Iris Lovers – Planting Bearded Iris Rhizomes

Compiled by Anita Moran

Bearded iris rhizomes are best planted in late summer or early autumn. For best results, plant from July through September. Early planting establishes the new rhizomes before winter. If you live in an area with a strong winter climate, plant at least four to six weeks before a hard frost. The roots of the iris grow from the bottom of the rhizomes and it is very important that they become established prior to the winter season. Late planted rhizomes may not bloom full strength during the first spring season.

WHERE TO PLANT: The ideal location is a sunny, WELL-DRAINED position.

SUN: Sunshine should be at least a half-day. Iris will grow in deep shade but will not flower. An average of six to eight hours of sunlight per day is needed for best performance.

MOISTURE: Water should not stand in your beds so raise beds slightly above the level of the garden paths if necessary.

SOIL: For bearded irises the soil should allow moisture to percolate out quickly and not compact readily.

SOIL PREPARATION - THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTOR IN GROWING IRISES.

Work the soil well to a depth of 10 to 12 inches. If your soil is heavy, incorporate sand or some other material that will allow rapid draining. Addition of compost or other organic material will greatly benefit the soil and produce better plants. Gypsum is also an excellent soil conditioner. Have your soil tested before applying any other corrective measure. We recommend addition of alfalfa pellets to amend the soil. A pH greater than 7.1 is best and greater than 7.2 will reduce the effect of *Erwinia carotovora*, the bacteria responsible for soft rot.

TREATING THE RHIZOME BEFORE PLANTING:

Clean: remove all dirt and debris (dead leaves, mulch, etc.) and then soak for one to two minutes in a 1:10 or 1:20 bleach solution. Allow the iris to dry and heal any wounds that might allow fungus, or bacterial infections.



Photo: BBC Gardeners' World Magazine
published: Wednesday, 24 April 2019

TRIM LEAVES: Trim the leaves to three to four inches which will help prevent the irises from lifting during a storm or wind event.

DIGGING THE HOLE: Dig a hole and mound a pyramid of soil in the center of the hole.

PLACING THE RHIZOME: Place the rhizome on the top of the pyramid and spread the roots on either side.

FIRM THE SOIL around the roots. This helps to remove any air pockets in the soil and gives irises a better chance of strong growth. The rhizomes of bearded irises should be placed at surface level with the upper part of the rhizome exposed to sunlight. In areas with extreme heat, the rhizome should be just slightly below the surface of the soil, with approximately no more than a one-half inch of soil covering them. Planting the rhizomes too deeply will only encourage rot.

Thoroughly soak the area with water once all the rhizomes have been planted. For this first watering, I like to add ¼ strength Miracle-Gro® Water Soluble Bloom Booster Flower Food Water soluble fertilizer (10:52:10) (Use 1/4 tablespoon per gallon of water—color should be very pale blue) to the newly planted irises. Stop watering when you see new leaf growth in about one week. Then let normal rain conditions water your planting.

Roots will form in fall and then the rhizome will sprout and hopefully bloom in spring.



Planting Bearded Iris Rhizomes (cont.)

AFTERCARE: Before flowering, water plants occasionally to keep the soil moist but not soaking. Use Miracle-Gro® Water Soluble Bloom Booster Flower Food fertilizer (10:52:10) 1 tablespoon per gallon. Reblooming irises should be watered during the summer, while spring-flowering irises will tolerate drought. Once established, bearded irises do not require regular watering.

YouTube: videos

Northlawn Flower Farm <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVnFourh-44>

Schreiner's Garden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brBXXxjvg3A>

References:

1. American Iris Society - <https://wiki.irises.org/pub/Main/ExhibitionToolbox/culture-sheet-Bearded.pdf>
2. BBC Gardeners' World Magazine Published: Wednesday, 24 April 2019 <https://www.gardenersworld.com/how-to/grow-plants/how-to-divide-iris-rhizomes/>
3. Erv Evans, Extension Associate, NCSU <https://www.buncombemastergardener.org/time-maintain-dividing-overgrown-bearded-iris/https://www.chailey-iris.co.uk/now-what-do-i-do/>

YouTube: Northlawn Flower Farm <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tVnFourh-44>

Schreiner's Garden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=brBXXxjvg3A>

Iris setosa

Botanical Name: *Iris setosa*

Botanical Synonyms: *Iris setosa* var. *artia*

Classification: Tripetalae

Common Names: Arctic iris, Wild Flag Iris, Beachhead Iris

General Description: 6"-35" tall, with blue or purple flowers, occasionally pink or white.

Distinguishing Features: The seeds have a distinct raised raphe the length of one edge. Flowers in late spring, Deep violet blue flower but occasionally pale lavender and intermediate shades. Flowers are 3-6 in. wide. The sepals are deeply-veined dark purple with a yellow-white signal. The leaves are stiff, narrow and green, with a purplish tinged base.

Preferred Habitat: grows in moist ground on rocky shores, beachheads and headlands along the coast.

Hardiness: Requires a cold dormant period in winter, does not do well in warm climates.

Native Range: Far northwestern North America (Alaska, Yukon, and British Columbia), mostly along the coasts, west to coastal eastern Asia as far south as Japan.

Propagation Description: Propagate by seed or rhizome division. Divisions should have at least one strong bud and should be taken in spring. Sow seeds when ripe. Transplant seedlings as soon as they are big enough to handle. Seedlings usually flower in the third year.

Warning: Poisonous PARTS: Rhizomes (thickened roots) and rootstocks, fresh or dry. Minor skin irritation when touched, low toxicity if ingested. Symptoms include nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, diarrhea, elevated temperature following ingestion; skin irritation upon contact with seeds, rootstock, or cell sap.

Propagation: By seed or rhizome division. Seeds available through SIGNA Seed Exchange <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?SeedList>

References:

1. Species Iris Group Of North America (SIGNA) <http://www.signa.org/index.pl?Iris-setosa>
2. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center https://www.wildflower.org/plants/result.php?id_plant=irse
3. USDA https://www.fs.usda.gov/wildflowers/beauty/iris/Blue_Flag/iris_setosa.shtml



Iris setosa, C. Hensler, The Rock Garden

Bayshore Iris Society Puts On A Show

Did you go? Did you miss it? Well, let me tell you that you missed quite a time at the Region 4 Fall Meeting in St. Michaels, Maryland. Despite being the newest affiliate of Region 4, the Bayshore Iris Society (BIS) volunteered to put on a regional meeting last October. The Bayshore Iris Society currently has nine active members, all of whom worked tirelessly to put on this two-day meeting. In Region 4 a regional meeting must have a board meeting, a live plant auction, and of course, judges training. Organizers can choose to have a one-day meeting or expand it to two days. That is the minimum that is required. The affiliate can add more activities such as: a silent auction, an iris show, guest speaker, garden tours, and others. BIS, being a new and small club, outperformed many of the larger affiliates.

seedlings in bloom and many with bloom stalks ready to bloom at any time. One bloom stalk got a little excited and decided to “pineapple” (grow much too short with short internodes, folded or pleated foliage, and bunchy flowers).



Pat McNeal Rebloom Bed and McNeal Reblooming Seedling



Pat McNeal and John Iwanski man Fall Regional Silent Auction



‘Daughter of Stars’ (D. Spoon 2001)



Included in their meeting were: a reblooming show, a silent auction, classroom judges training on median irises, and in-garden judges training on rebloomers, both given by Bonnie Nichols. Two gardens were on tour and a third was available to see after the end of the meeting.

The first visit was to the garden of Pat McNeal in Preston, Maryland. There was plenty to see, including horses. This was the site of the garden judges training on reblooming irises given by Bonnie Nichols, our next American Iris Society President. Besides ‘Daughter of Stars’ (D. Spoon 2001) and ‘Autumn Tryst’ (J. Weiler 1993), Pat had several



‘Autumn Tryst’ (J. Weiler 1993)

Bayshore Iris Society Puts On A Show (cont.)

The next garden was the farm belonging to Pat Rhodes. If there was a structure on the property, Pat planted irises around it. If not, she just made an island of irises in the middle of the lawn. Pat's garden was a display of companion plantings which included cannas planted with reblooming irises 'Barn Dance' (M. Byers 1991) and 'Surf's Up' (J. Weiler 1979) blossoming among mums and struggling elephant ears. Purple-speckled petunias and orange coneflowers were blooming with 'Feedback' (B. Hager 1983). Among other highlights, a pumpkin snowman stood amid

putting on such an exciting and memorable regional meeting.



'Barn Dance' (M. Byers 1991)



'Surf's Up' (J. Weiler 1979)



Rhodes Fall Garden Beds

mums.

Back at the hotel the live auction of plants, donated by members throughout the Region, garnered the largest amount of any previous plant auction. The auction was followed by a buffet dinner and then a talk on iris companion plants by Ruth Rogers Clausen. Ruth studied horticulture at Studley College, in Warwickshire, England. She has worked as Director of the School of Professional Horticulture at the New York Botanical Garden and as Horticulture Editor for Country Living Gardener magazine. I was delighted to see milkweed among her suggestions as companion plants, because I have a ton of it growing among my irises.

Bayshore added a wonderful extra, a boat ride on the Patriot River Cruise, a part of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. There was a scavenger hunt, and door prizes were added to the offerings. All the attendees were busy the entire time we spent in St. Michaels, and we all loved it. I am so very proud of this new affiliate with its few members for



(R to L) Bonnie Nichols, Lois Rose, Amy Fletcher, Alleah Haley, Dave Bollinger, Diana Dudley, Carol Warner, and a stranger also waiting



William C. Smoot (1948–2024)

A Memorial & Celebration of Life



Bill at Plant Delights Nursery, Raleigh, North Carolina

With great love and respect for William C. Smoot, his families are saddened to inform you of his peaceful passing just before sunrise on Sunday, October 20th, 2024.

He passed away from the side effects of a three-year battle with dementia (ALZ) and various medical issues. Known affectionately by family members as "Lum", he was fully aware of the effects of his disease and fought hard to remain strong, positive, and determined as he progressed through troubled times. Until late September

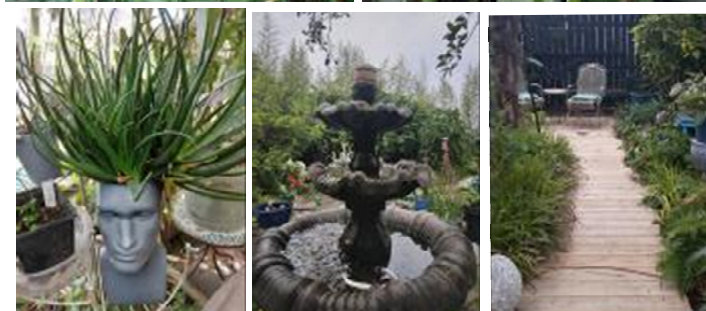
2024, he was still able to navigate the home and his gardens with the aid of his partner through life and his in-home care provider, Ms. Mona Harmon-Beach, for whom he was most grateful.

A native of Logan, WV, Bill (76 – February 19, 1948 - October 20th, 2024) was the son of Mary Robinette Smoot and William Cloyde Smoot. He was predeceased by his sister Bonnie Toppings and is survived by his partner and spouse Bill Trotter, his loving cousins Donna Davis of KY and Frank Robinette of TX, loving niece Debbie Blankenship of WV, sisters-in-law Linda Trotter and Earlene Meder, brother-in-law Charles Trotter, and niece Dawn Trotter. His many family members, as well as his professional and social friends, are left with many memories of their times with him.

Lum was a graduate of Logan High School (WV) where he loved his time as a drum major. He was especially honored to have participated with his marching band members in Macy's Thanksgiving Day parades. During his early years, his uncle Clyde Smoot and friend Louise Kohlberg guided him as Lum became an accomplished equestrian. He later took classes at WVU in Morgantown (WV) and ODU in Norfolk (VA). He received his associate's degree from Tidewater Community College School of Nursing.

Bill served as a corpsman in the United States Navy for six years (1968-1974). After several years in nursing care at

Community Mental Health and Norfolk Naval Shipyard, he migrated to industrial nursing and began his 25-year Department of Defense uniformed civil service career with the Department of Navy Military Sealift Command as a ship's nurse, medical officer, and MSC instructor. He retired in 2006.



Smoot Garden—Photographers Bill Smoot and Bill Trotter

William C. Smoot (1948—2024) (cont.)

During his years at MSC, he took some time off to handle an unexpected bout with cancer and was extremely thankful for being a breast cancer survivor of over 25 years. He was very happy to celebrate with other breast cancer survivors at the Old Dominion University women's basketball annual marches.

During the latter years of his work career and extending into retirement, Bill studied and practiced gardening, designing and developing the gardens which surrounded his home. He held memberships and working relationships in a variety of community organizations including the Tidewater Aquarist Society, the Hampton Roads Iris Society, the Hampton Roads Horticultural Society, the American Iris Society Region 4, the Green Pine Garden Club of Portsmouth (VA), the Portsmouth Master Gardeners, the Virginia Camellia Society, the Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, and was a National Life Member of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. He was a member of the Royal Horticultural Society - United Kingdom. He was a master gardener, floral arranger, judge for horticultural competitions, guest speaker for horticultural groups, and organizer for various annual gardening events, including the Virginia Flower and Garden Show. Bill also enjoyed his membership in the Tidewater (Virginia) Prime Timers.

Lum enjoyed photography and leaves behind many pictures of his gardening experiences and travels. (see pics below)

Bill joined the Friends of Fred Heutte Foundation in Ghent Square, Norfolk, in the 1990s, volunteering with many other gardeners who assisted Sally and Doug Simon and founding members in managing the gardens there. Bill is best remembered for his Urban Gardener Lecture Series, his annual weekend tours to the Philadelphia Flower Show, his FHC garden tours across England and Puerto Rico, and his popular annual FHC Spring Herb Sale & Festival. He later became a board member and for several years served as President of the Board of Directors, leaving the board as his bout with his illnesses progressed. In 2022, Bill was presented the honorary title of President Emeritus by the board of the Friends of Fred Heutte Foundation.

We remember Lum as a kind, self-effacing, hard-working, proud of his work, collegial, generous, tolerant, protective, devoted, and humorous man. His loving, forgiving qualities will never be forgotten.

And so our dear Lum, "Go placidly amid the noise and haste, and remember what peace there may be in silence..." Please read his favorite words to live by, the Desiderata.

As he requested, there will be no service at this time. A get-together is planned this coming spring to share memories of his life. If you wish to make a donation in memory of Bill

Smoot, please make a personal choice, perhaps the ASPCA, a favorite of Lum.



Bill and Sandy McDougle at SPI (Sandy's Plants)



Brugmansia suaveolens



Bea Rogers, Katharine Steele, and Bill Smoot at Winterberry Gardens

William C. Smoot (1948–2024) (cont.)

Bill Smoot (William C. Smoot) will be greatly missed by all who knew him. Bill was a pleasant, kind, generous, and knowledgeable Iris Society master judge among many other things. Born on February 19, 1948, Bill passed on October 20, 2024, of a stroke, a side effect of the dementia he suffered for three years.

I met Bill in 1989 while visiting a meeting of the Tidewater Iris Society. With encouragement from him and another member, I joined the society. It was the start of a long friendship.

Bill was originally from West Virginia. He graduated from Logan High School where he served as their drum major. He attended classes at the University of West Virginia and Old Dominion University, then received his nursing degree from Tidewater Community College. He served in the navy for six years, then joined the Department of Defense as a civil servant serving in the Department of Navy Military Sealift Command for a 25 year career.

Bill loved animals and served as a judge for equestrian shows early in his life. He also loved dogs, cats, fish, and birds, and studied many of these creatures in depth. I remember him having many cats over the years. People seemed to drop cats off at his house or they just wandered there on their own, knowing they had found a place that would love and accept them.

Bill had many horticultural interests. He loved his gardens and built quite a gorgeous, constantly changing, garden around his home in Portsmouth, Virginia. He was a Master Gardener in Portsmouth. He served on the board of the Fred Heutte Center and was instrumental in their annual sale and maintenance of the gardens around that center, especially their camellias.

He served VFGC (Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs) as their Landscape Design School chairman for many years. He also served Green Pine Garden Club as their president for an equal number of years. He assisted with maintaining several garden areas around Portsmouth, even doing a yearly wreath for the Confederate Statutes in downtown Portsmouth at Christmas. One of his favorite flowers was the iris – he tried growing nearly every type, some successfully, others not so successfully, but he tried them all. He loved visiting gardens nearby and out of the country. One of my favorites was our visit to Chelsea in London, England!

Bill also loved photography and left many beautiful pictures of the flowers growing in his gardens and in other gardens that he visited. He will be missed for his flower arranging, iris & flower show judging, kindness to all, and his love of nature.



Frances Thrash and Bill Smoot
Judging Francis Scott Key Iris Society Beardless Show



Bill Smoot and Katharine Steele
at Region 4 Spring Meeting 2008



Bill Smoot with Anne and Mike Lowe
at Winterberry Gardens

The Garden of Jeanette Graham, Twin Falls, Idaho

by Anita Moran

When I mentioned that I was planning a cross-country trip including Idaho in the March 2024 *Newscast*, Ms. Jeanette Graham emailed me and invited me to her garden. I'm all about visiting new gardens. After spending a lovely breakfast with my nephew at a wonderful restaurant called 'Biscuit and Hogs' we headed toward Twin Falls, Idaho. Now I **know** of the Snake River from its association with Evil Knievel but I did not know the Snake River. From Hammet, Idaho to Twin Falls via Highway 84 and then Highway 30, it seemed we crossed the Snake River at least 12 times. After getting lost twice, we finally arrived at Graham's Flower Garden.

Jeanette lives on a large city plot, but from the front you would never know what the fence was hiding. Entering the back yard we saw an explosion of color around the back fence and a large plot of irises from miniature dwarfs to mostly tall bearded (TB). All the beds incorporated irises, but the majority of irises were planted on the left side of the yard. I had never seen many of the tall bearded she was growing before, so I moved slowly through the neat rows of irises.

Broken-colored TBs 'Barney In A Blender' (R. Moore 2021), 'Seek the Unique' (P. Black 2020), and 'Wild Streak' (P. Black 2020) were all new to me; and I was glad to see others were carrying on Brad Kasperek's work with broken colors. I loved them all; and though I am partial to bold colors, 'Seek The Unique' was just elegant. 'I'm Not Stable' (P. Black 2020) I knew and have seen growing in other gardens, and here in Idaho it was a wonderful clump.

Broken-colored tall bearded 'I Broke It' (Black 2018), 'Listen to the Music' (L. Lauer 2019), and 'Reality Check' (R. Tasco 2019) were all standouts as I walked through the garden and saw these varieties for the first time. I also viewed regular TBs that I had seen before, and here they doing equally well in Idaho's traumatic weather conditions. "Absolute Treasure" (R. Tasco 2006) showed why so many people love this iris and was deserving of the Wister Medal with a beautiful clump. 'Stop the Presses' (P. Black 2022) is an orange! that I will add to my very short list of outstanding oranges.



TB 'Barney In A Blender'
(R. Moore 2021)



TB 'Wild Streak'
(P. Black 2020)



'Seek the Unique' (P. Black 2020)



The Garden of Jeanette Graham (cont.)



'I Broke It'
(P. Black 2018)



'Listen to the Music'
(L. Lauer 2019)

Besides the tall bearded irises the miniature tall bearded irises 'Fairy King' (P. Black 2021), 'Subtle Glow' (P. Black 2020), and 'Paper Tiger' (P. Black 2021) made me realize why I love this class of irises and all went on a wish list.

The intermediate bearded iris 'Coal Tar' (K. Keppel 2022)



'Absolute Treasure'
(R. Tasco 2006)



'Stop the Presses'
(P. Black 2022)

stole my breath because it was truly black without evidence of red or purple. The miniature dwarf bearded 'Bit Of Pink' (P. Black 2022) made a wonderful contrast blooming among various perennials and was perfect edging a sidewalk. There were so many irises in such wonderful condition and I was so glad I stopped at Jeanette's Garden.



MTB 'Paper Tiger'
(P. Black 2021)

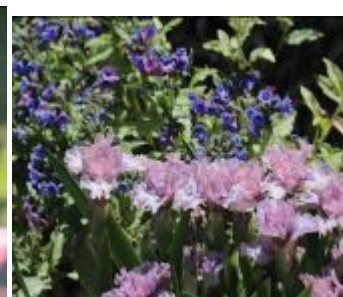


MTB 'Subtle Glow'
(P. Black 2020)

we went on another side trip (a frequent occurrence when Ginny and I travel together). Well, that turned out to be a



IB 'Coal Tar' (K. Keppel 2022)



'Bit of Pink' (P. Black 2022)

waste as we looked at a pile of dirt that a local motorcyclist was using for fun. Nah, not getting out of the car for that! But Jeanette had another sight for us to see. Just down the road was the Shoshone Falls. This was a trip worth taking down a curvy, steep road showing an occasional view of the waterfall. The parking lot at the falls was full when we arrived, but a lookout over the falls and an electric plant was wide and allowed easy photographing of the beautiful sight. Soon a triple rainbow appeared for everyone's enjoyment.

Thanking Jeanette for the wonderful day, we headed east towards Billings, Montana.



Shoshone Falls

Hearing that had visited the Evil Knievel Museum in Kansas, Jeanette offered to show us the ramp he used to try to fly across the Snake River. This sounded exciting, so off

Fall 2024 Regional Vice President Report

I want to thank the Bayshore Iris Society and its members for putting on this Regional Meeting.

A lot has changed for the Regional Board. When I returned from my trip in mid-June, Sue Shackelford sent me a resignation letter as Region 4 Judges Training Chair, a job she has held since August 2019. After talking to her, I accepted her resignation. After this meeting, Lois Rose volunteered to take the position of Judges Training Chair, and I accepted.

After a year and a half with no results, I decided to drop the idea of using Zoom for regional meetings. As I have investigated Zoom, I find that having a Zoom account for Region 4 could be useful for meetings of the various committees. The Zoom Free plan includes the following in the Region 4 plan: Meetings, Whiteboard, Team Chat, Mail, Calendar, Clips, and Notes. Because we do not live close together, this program allows committees to meet as often as needed.

One of the benefits of being the Region 4 RVP is the ability to visit gardens, both in the Region and out of the Region. Most affiliates have open garden dates and it is often worth the trip to visit the various gardens outside your own affiliate. Judges gain information on how irises are growing outside their area so they are able to vote their ballots with greater knowledge.

The Tall Bearded Symposium is the one area where non-judges and judges can vote for their favorite irises. This year's results are:

Top Votes (16/143)	Total Votes	27/391	7% R4 members
	Judges voting	8/28	29% Judges
DAUGHTER OF STARS	17	Ballots Voting for 25 Irises: 12	
DUSKY CHALLENGER	14	Average Number of Irises Voted for: 19	
CONJURATION	11	Total Irises Receiving Votes = 197	
CLARENCE	10	Irises Received No Votes = 330	
SILVERADO	9	6 votes - 7	
THORNBIRD	9	5 votes - 10	
CELEBRATION SONG	8	4 votes - 18	
JESSE'S SONG	8	3 votes - 11	
STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN	8	2 votes - 33	
BELLE FILLE	7	1 vote - 102	
FLORENTINE SILK	7		
GYPSY LORD	7		
IMMORTALITY	7		
ROYSTON RUBIES	7		
STARRING	7		
VANITY	7		

I tried something new this year. I entered the AIS Accredited Virtual Iris Show put on by Mt. Diablo Iris Society of Walnut Creek, California. It was at first confusing but I finally got the knack and entered 51 irises, I received the results at the end of July. There were 19 exhibitors from six states, 334 entries, 19 Sections,

Fall 2024 Regional Vice President Report

2024 MDIS Novel Virtual Iris Show Results:

Best Specimen In Show – TB ‘Bubbly Beauty’ (Black 2020) Shown by Kathy Oldham
 Best In Section TB - ‘Bubbly Beauty’ (Black 2020) Shown by Kathy Oldham
 Section Medal Certificate TB (Most 1st place) – Jean Marie Richter
 Best In Section SDB – ‘Look Inside’ (Black 2012) – Karen Johnson
 Section Medal Certificate SDB – Anita Moran
 Best In Section IB - ‘Crimson King’ (Barr and Sons 1893) – Jan Blaedel
 Section Medal Certificate IB – Pam Worthy
 Best In Section Space Agers – TB ‘Casino Cruiser’ (Burseen 2008) - Sergey Melnikov
 Section Medal Certificate SA – Margaret Edgington
 Best In Section Rebloom – ‘Strawberry Freeze’ (Johnson 2012) - Sergey Melnikov
 Section Medal Certificate Rebloom – Sergey Melnikov
 Best In Section Japanese – ‘Eileen’s Dream’ (Bauer and Coble 2000) – Jana Sharooni
 Section Medal Certificate JI – Jana Sharooni
 Best In Section Historic P1 (Older than 1970 – ‘Lemon Mint’ (Schreiner 1963) – Sergey Melnikov
 Section Medal Certificate Historic P1 – Margaret Edgington
 Best In Section Aril/Arilbred – ‘Copper Mites’ (McGrath 2022) – Mary Sindicic
 Section Medal Certificate – Margaret Edgington
 Best In Section Species/SPEC-X – ‘Pixie’s Path’ (Moran 2024) – Anita Moran
 Section Medal Certificate Species/Spec-X – Jean Marie Richter
 Best Seedling – PCN 21-01B Steve Taniguchi
 Bronze Medal (second highest number of first-place ribbons) Sergey Melnikov
 Silver Medal (most first-place ribbons) Jean Marie Richter

Besides the Best in Section for Species/Spec-X , I also received:
 2 Special Horticultural Certificates (runner-up) to Section Winner for: IB ‘Apple Crisp’ (Black 2014), and
 ‘Nymph’s Shell’ (Moran 2021) and
 5 first place ribbons in seedlings

I will put the information out when I hear if they will be doing this again next year. You must register early. A link to this year’s show results is on the Region 4 Facebook page or at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I4fu7_6Sv8s

Anita Moran
 Region 4 Regional Vice President

Proposed Bylaw Change

Current Bylaw:

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, DUTIES

Section 2. A nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members, one from the District of Columbia and each state in Region 4, shall be elected at the FALL Meeting of Region 4. From this elected committee, the RVP shall promptly appoint a Chairman. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of presenting a slate of officers for publication in the SPRING issue of NEWS-CAST. If, after the election, a vacancy occurs, the RVP shall appoint another member from that state to fill that vacancy. The same procedure shall be followed if there is more than one vacancy.

Proposed Change:

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, DUTIES

Section 2. A nominating committee of five members, shall be selected from attendees of the Fall Region 4 board meeting (including a chair promptly appointed by the RVP). This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of presenting a slate of officers for publication in the SPRING issue of the NEWSCAST and providing the RVP with suggestions for replacements for missing committee chairs. The nominating committee will be active for two years

Committee Reports

Fall 2024 Assistant Regional Vice President Report

After the Spring 2024 Regional conference and show in Charlotte, North Carolina on April 26 and 27, I returned home to Virginia for our show at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden in Richmond on May 4, 2024. Then came the Fredericksburg Iris Society show in May where I entered arrangements—I love to use my talent in designs. I missed the next two shows, however. On May 24, 2024, my husband and I lost everything in a house fire and lost all our irises, too. Now we have to start all over with everything.

Upcoming events: The American Iris Society (AIS) National Convention will be in Billings, Montana, on June 2-7, 2025, hosted by the Big Sky Iris Club. The following AIS National Convention will be May 18-24, 2026, in New Jersey and New York.

I want to thank Charlotte, North Carolina, for hosting this Spring Regional, with a wonderful show and beautiful gardens. I had a great time. I am now going to the Fall Conference and show on Friday and Saturday, October 18-19 in St. Michaels, Maryland, hosted by the Bayshore Iris Society. Many great events are planned for this including, on Friday, a Patriot River Cruise for all iris attendees. Saturday will be a very busy day: visiting gardens, a silent action, dinner and guest speaker Bonnie Nichols. This will close out our regional meetings and shows for 2024. I look forward to iris events in the new year of 2025.

Kathy Huneycutt
Assistant Region 4 RVP

Fall 2024 Newscast Report

I would like to welcome Lewis Bozard from the Charlotte Iris Society to the *Newscast* Editorial Board. He was a great help getting the latest edition of the *Newscast* out and posted. Sorry it was so large, but there was a lot of information to get out. I also want to thank those who wrote articles about the spring gardens. I am sure the garden owners appreciate your efforts.

The greatest space on the website is taken up by the *Newscast*, and again this area is most often sought after between May and September. If we remove the physical *Newscast* from the website, tracking the results of people visiting the *Newscast* area and what they might be interested in will be more difficult, but I can work at trying to track the hits at least.

As always if there is anything you would like to see in the *Newscast*, let me know.

Anita Moran
Newscast Editor

Top 10 of 4245 Total URLs by KBytes

#	Hits	KBytes	URL
1	57	273252	/publications/MAR10C.pdf
2	11	227480	/publications/22_3_1980.pdf
3	20	204715	/publications/42_1_2000.pdf
4	11	190148	/publications/36_1_1994.pdf
5	9	167546	/publications/44_2_2002.pdf
6	98	163366	/publications/DEC09comp.pdf
7	14	152707	/publications/35_1_1993.pdf
8	11	144007	/publications/34_2_1992.pdf
9	12	131873	/publications/41_3_1999.pdf
10	9	122080	/publications/36_3_1994.pdf

Signs Seen In Passing

Sign seen in passing: Don't look back. You're not going that way.

Sign seen in passing: Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth.

Sign seen in passing: YOU MATTER. Unless you multiply yourself by the speed of light ... then YOU ENERGY

Committee Reports

Judges Training Report 2024 Fall Regional Meeting

We have had several changes in the makeup of our judges over the past couple of years. We have welcomed new Students, advanced Students to Apprentices and Garden/Exhibition Judges to Master Judges, and, sadly, we have lost some of our Judges. We currently have two Emeritus Judges, nine Master Judges, nine Garden/Exhibition Judges, two Apprentice Judges, three Student Judges and three Retired Judges. Frances Thrash, our only accredited Design Judge, requested Retired status this past year.

I encourage all judges to keep a Judges Activity Record throughout the year. It is invaluable when it comes time to complete the Annual Judges Activity Report in August. I also want to remind all judges that it is the judge's responsibility to attend and successfully complete refresher courses during each 3-year period. Five hours credit (two of which must be in-garden training) are required for Garden/Exhibition judges every 3 years and three hours credit (one of which must be in-garden training) are required for Master Judges every 3 years. It is your responsibility to make sure that the documentation supporting your training is received by the Judges Training Chairman by August 10 of each year. That would include tests taken at Regional meetings (in-region or especially out-of-region) and on-line webinar tests if you do that. I would encourage you not to send in an annual Judges Activity Report saying "I attended all webinars last winter."

Sue Shackelford
AIS Region 4 Judges Training Chairman

Report/Resignation of the "unofficial" Region 4 Show Chair

2024 Region 4 Fall Meeting, St. Michaels, MD
October 18, 2024

Many years ago, in an attempt to make it easier for clubs to host a fall meeting and to promote rebloom across Region 4 and to the public, I offered to chair the rebloom show for any affiliate willing to host a fall meeting. I have chaired quite a few. I have even ended up chairing a few spring shows, which led to my appointment as the "unofficial" Region 4 Show Chair.

Due to personal and family health issues I find that I can no longer be as reliable as I once was. Chairing this BIS fall show has been touch-and-go. Therefore, I feel I must resign as "unofficial" Region 4 Fall Show Chair. I am willing to remain as a consultant whenever possible on any show, but can no longer commit to chairing any Regional show as the chance I would have to back out and leave the sponsoring affiliate stranded is too great.

Regretfully submitted,
Lois Rose, "Unofficial" Region 4 Show Chair

Spring 2023 Iris Program Resource Report

The online repository for recently created iris programs currently includes:

Antique garden tools,
Aril and arilbred irises,
Bearded iris,
Calendar for iris culture,
Credit card processing,
Iris companion plants,
Delaying iris senescence (plant death),
Dwarf irises,
Ethics,
Historic irises,
Hybridizing,
Judges Activity Report,
Median irises,
Tall bearded irises, and
World of Iris.

A program on beardless irises requested by a garden club in North Carolina is planned for development in early 2024.

Programs are available for any Region 4 member or affiliate to use and help us serve AIS's mission of organizing and disseminating knowledge of the genus *Iris* while fostering its preservation, enjoyment, and continued development.

If you have recently created programs related to iris cultivation, preservation, or any other aspect of iris culture, we would greatly appreciate your contribution to the Region 4 repository.

Also, please bring your gently loved but unneeded "iris periodicals" to a regional meeting or send them with a friend attending.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Haley

Committee Reports

2024 Fall Region 4 Membership Report Ginny Spoon, Region 4 Membership Chair

The 2024 AIS Membership Drive gives two youths (18 years or younger) who sign up with an adult full 1-year AIS Membership (\$45) will receive a AIS Bulletin for one year subscription (\$12) for free.

Membership Drive ends: December 31, 2024. It's not too late! Let's grow the AIS Youth membership today. They are our future!

Here are some current stats for Region 4:
318 active members (not including 8 affiliates), 20 members in their grace period (up to 90 days after expiration)
71 e-members (69 one year, 2 three year)
135 full members (83 single, 52 dual)
34 life members (18 single, 16 dual)
74 print members (53 single, 21 dual)
4 youth members (2 print, 2 no bulletin)

Breakdown by state:

DC: 4
MD: 50
NC: 64
VA: 189
WV: 11

Here is a breakdown of populations by Regions (including affiliates):

1: 78
2: 80
3: 90
4: 326
5: 92
6: 165
7: 152
8: 63
9: 64
10: 23
11: 57
12: 37
13: 154
14: 376
15: 205
17: 204
18: 211
20: 73
21: 98
22: 196
23: 60
24: 35
30: 103

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

Median Report, Fall 2024

In Montana, USDA Plant Hardiness Zone 4, median rebloomers are doing well and blooming. This includes 'Elron's Cloak' (A. Moran R. 2022) blooming the last week of September, and 'Blueberry Tart' (C. Chapman 2002) in mid-September. Cold region median iris rebloomers seem to be expanding the areas across the country for rebloom. More work is needed, but many of the median rebloomers developed in Region 4 do well in northern gardens.

Anita Moran

EPPERSON SERVICE AWARD

Fall Regional Report
St. Michaels, Maryland, Oct. 18 & 19, 2024

The Epperson Service Award committee did select a recipient for 2024. That person was not able to be at this Fall Regional meeting, so it was decided to present the award at the Spring 2025 Regional meeting instead.

Sue Shackelford
Epperson Service Award Chairman

Sunshine Report For Fall 2024

Sunshine Committee sent out the following cards:

Sympathy 2
Get Well. 2
Thinking of You. 2

If you know of anyone who needs a card please let me know: kathyhuneycutt@yahoo.com

Fall 2024 Nominating Committee Report

To be voted on at the 2025 Spring Meeting

The Nominating Committee puts forth the following slate of officers for the 2025-2026 year:

RVP – Anita Moran
ARVP – Kathy Huneycutt
Treasurer – Sue Shackelford
Secretary – Alleah Haley

Heather Haley, Chairman
AIS Region 4 Nominating Committee

Ann Dell Dumler (1927-2024)

Ann Dell Dumler, a cherished matriarch of the family, passed away peacefully on December 7, 2024, at the age of 97 in Salisbury, Maryland. Born on June 4, 1927, in Jefferson, North Carolina.

In Ann's early life she faced the hardship of losing her mother at the age of four. She also endured losing her daughter Judith in early childhood, and her son William in 2022. Despite these hardships Ann was a woman whose life was defined by her selfless nature, spirit, and enduring love for her family, friends and community.

Her life was shared with her beloved husband, Raymond Dumler who preceded her in death. She was very close to her brothers and sisters, and their spouses, who also preceded her in death. She leaves behind a legacy of love and nurturing through her daughter, Patricia Ann; son-in-law, David Smith; daughter-in-law, Robin Barnhill; grandson, Jason (Danielle) Dumler; granddaughter, Lindy Myers; and her great-grandchildren, Chris, Sean, Daniel, Erin (Allison), and Elise, as well as her great-great-grandchildren, Lucy and Ben. Ann also held a special place in her heart for her goddaughter, Rebecca, and her numerous nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her three grand dogs Roxy, Aspen, and Tebow.

Ann's passion for life was evident through her extensive work with the Eastern Shore Iris Society, where she served as a Past President, and her membership with the National Iris Society. Her dedication to these organizations reflected her love for gardening, as she nurtured not just plants but the people around her. She also shared her time and talents as a volunteer with the Girl Scouts.

Ann's interests extended beyond gardening to include cooking, sewing, and caring for her beloved pet dogs. Her cooking skills were a source of joy for family and friends.

Ann was best described as generous, spirited, stoic, and selfless – qualities that she embodied in every aspect of her life. Her generosity was not just in material gifts but in the time, advice, and love she freely gave. Her selflessness was perhaps her most remarkable trait, as she always put the needs of others before her own, making a lasting impact on those fortunate enough to have known her.

Ann Dumler lived a life of love, commitment, and service. Her memory will be cherished and kept in the hearts of her family, friends, and all those who were touched by her extraordinary spirit. As the seasons change and the irises bloom, we will remember Ann.

Ann's life will be celebrated in a manner that honors the fullness of her years and the depth of her influence. Her family will carry forward the values she instilled in them,

ensuring that her spirit remains. Ann's story is one of love, joy, and unwavering kindness. She will be deeply missed.



Ann Dumler's home in Salisbury, Maryland



Mike Lockatell and Ann Dumler at the Maymont Mansion in Richmond, Virginia

Ann Dell Dumler (1927-2024)

In Memory of Ann Dumler by Anita Moran

I first met Ann at my second American Iris Society Convention in Fresno, California. Then we both visited the Maymont Mansion tour arranged by Mike Lockett in Richmond, Virginia as part of the Fall Region 4 meeting put on by Mike. I took the long way around because of a very long stair because I injured my ankle; Ann took the stair with ease. I was not looking to go up the stairs or the long way around. Thankfully our guide showed us a different path. Ann invited me to her home on the Eastern Shore in Salsbury, Maryland the following spring so I could see her garden. Unfortunately, I had to work so did not arrive until it was too late to see the gardens. I spent a very nice evening with Ann discussing all types of irises though her love was for the tall bearded variety.

I truly do not know how she did it, but Ann had a large collection of bearded irises all under the influence of a very large crepe myrtle that was more tree than the usual bushes I had seen in my travels. At every nook and cranny Ann had a plan she wanted to show off. I traveled to the Eastern Shore to see Ann many times, and she was always welcoming and had a wealth of knowledge that she gave freely. I am so sorry that as my days become busier and busier, I lost touch with Ann. What I will always remember is her giving nature and the knowledge she gave so freely to anyone who asked.

I will miss you, Ann



Maymont Group Visit with Sue Shackelford, Glenna Witter, Jim Schroeter, **Ann Dumler**, Shirley Shelton, Janet LeJune, Bob Pries, Peggy Singelman, Bobbie Sullivan, Mike Lockett, Jim Diggs, and Sallie McCrea



Ann Dumler taking the steep steps at the waterfalls at the Maymont Mansion

Ann Dumler's Garden in Salsbury Maryland

Doris B. Rebert (2021-2025)



Doris Rebert

Photo Credit: Myers-Durboraw
Funeral Home, P.A. - Westminster

Doris B. Rebert, 103, died on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at the home of her daughter in Port St. Lucie, FL, where she had been residing for the last five years. She was a long-time resident of rural Westminster MD, where she was born on April 23, 1921. She was the daughter of the late J. Elwood Brehm and Evelyn Menchey Brehm. She was predeceased by her husband, J. Owings Rebert in 2005. They had been married 62 years. She was also predeceased by sister and brother-in-law Nancy and Harry Jones.

She was a graduate of Westminster High School, the Class of 1937. She worked outside the home in several different capacities and retired from Carroll County General Hospital where she had been the supervisor of communications for more than 20 years, beginning soon after the hospital opened. Her greatest joy was caring for her family. Whether she worked alongside her husband maintaining the iris flower gardens for which they were well known, or kept a vegetable garden, or prepared a delicious meal, she continually shared her love and caring.

She was a life-long member of St. John's (Leisters) Lutheran Church, where she participated in many groups, committees, and events, including the Church Council. She was a life member of the American Iris Society (AIS), the local AIS Chapter - Francis Scott Key Iris Society, and the Historical Iris Preservation Society.

Surviving her are a daughter and son-in-law, Deanna R. and Frederick Stevens of Port St. Lucie, FL and son and daughter-in-law, Carl J. Rebert and Tracey Sanford of Finksburg, MD; grandchildren Michael Stevens (Lynn) of Statham, GA, Michelle Hart (Patrick) of Plantation, FL, Jessica



Doris Rebert, her daughter-in-law Tracey Sanford, and Dave Piasecki in the Piasecki/Stewart Garden



Doris helping with spring FSK Iris Show

Shabel of Taylors, SC, Amy Chacon (Santana) of Loomis, CA, Emily Hungate (Douglas) of Blacksburg, VA; great-grandchildren Spencer, Avery and Cadence Stevens, Noah, Ryan and Ethan Hart, Delaney and Logan Shabel, Caroline, Katie and Matthew Gordon, and Emma and Sophie Hungate and step-great-grandchildren Aryanna, Carlo, Julian, Dakota, and Gianna Chacon and several nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews.

Remembering Doris Rebert

by Carol Warner

Owings and Doris Rebert joined the Francis Scott Key Iris Society (FSK) soon after it was formed in 1967 and they continued to be extremely active members of the society. My strongest image of Doris was seeing her hand carry a huge stalk of 'Loop the Loop' into one of our shows. It was magnificent and went on to win the best of show.

Doris and Owings supplied most of the irises sold at many of the FSK sales while their garden was active. Owings would dig the irises and Doris would cut, mark, clean, wash, and dry the rhizomes. Their commitment to only selling prime rhizomes capable of blooming the next year set a very high standard that we still try to achieve. Doris used to say that we would not sell anything smaller than her thumb.

Many picnics were held at the Rebert Garden over the years and Doris was known for her pickles and her lima beans. After losing Owings in 2005, Doris continued to be an active member for many more years by helping with shows and sales. Doris also allowed her garden to be part of the 2007 Regional Meeting supported by the FSK Iris Society.

Doris will be missed but we will always remember the joy both she and Owings gave to the society.

Donald Foster Myers (1948–2024)



Donald Foster Myers, 76, of Wake Forest, NC, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 30, 2024, at WakeMed Hospital. A devoted husband, gifted horticulturist, and talented musician, Donald left a lasting impact on the many lives he touched.

Born with a passion for plants and flowers, Donald pursued his education in plant pathology at Rutgers University and Cornell University. He later dedicated

his career to Bayer CropScience, where he served as a Product Development Manager, blending his expertise and innovation to advance agricultural science.

Donald's love for nature extended beyond his professional life. As an active member of the American Rose Society, Day Lily, and Iris Clubs, he poured his heart into floral artistry. His talents as a judge, competitor, and hybridizer earned him numerous awards for his exquisite floral arrangements and plant variants, leaving behind a legacy of beauty and creativity in the gardening world.

Music was another cornerstone of Donald's life. He was a cherished member of the choir at St. John's Episcopal Church and sang with the Northeast Piedmont Chorale. In his younger years, he graced the stage in musical theater, a passion that led him to meet the love of his life, Mary Russick. The two shared 42 wonderful years of marriage until Mary's passing in 2022. Their love story remains an enduring testament to the power of connection and shared dreams.

Donald's warmth and generosity extended to his community and family. Though he and Mary had no children, he is survived by a large and loving extended family who will miss his kindness, wit, and unwavering support.

(Photo credit <https://www.cswfuneralhome.com>)



Rose 'Easy To Please'

Our Friend, Don Myers

We met Don when he attended one of our ENCIS meetings years ago. He was just beginning an interest in growing irises and wanted to learn about culture and the best varieties to grow. His primary interest was in roses, he said; so I asked about his involvement in the American Rose Society. I soon learned he was a rose judge and had his garden filled with roses. Since Don lived near us, Glenn and I soon visited him to meet his wife, Mary, and see the roses.

His garden was a real treasure. The roses were spectacular and Don showed us the one he had hybridized to honor his wife. He especially liked the miniature roses that were suited to the garden space near the house. His garden was filled with other plants that gave it a special look that contrasted well with the rose planting.

Don was always willing to help in any of our meetings and iris events. He especially enjoyed entering the design portion of our iris shows, and won Best Specimen of the Show a couple of years ago. Glenn and I will miss our friend and his beloved wife, Mary.

Susan Grigg



Don's 'The Blue Garden'



Don giving instruction on irises in his garden

Sutton's Iris Gardens

by Anita Moran

Just west of Boise, Idaho, is a little town named Star. Here is where you will find Sutton's Iris Gardens. I hadn't made an appointment, but I was still able to tour their display garden. There is a tiny little sign next to a gravel driveway, easy to miss; and despite the GPS, I passed it twice. How could I have missed their acres and acres of irises, you might ask. Who knows? But after turning into the little drive and traveling about a quarter mile, there they were – fields and fields filled with irises with a backdrop of blue sky and a few wispy clouds.



'Black Suited' (S. Innerst 2000)



'Bottle Rocket' (M. Sutton 2010)



Sutton's Iris, Starr, Idaho



'Bottle Rocket' (M. Sutton 2010)

As we drove toward the buildings, I noticed a huge compost pile made of irises and what looked like plant material from clearing more acreage. In finding a parking lot, there was a maze of irises, an iris-only display garden. The clumps were beautifully full. I grabbed my camera and was off! It wasn't long before Mike's daughter came out, welcomed us, and showed us the display garden. Glancing around, there were workers everywhere caring for the irises.



'That's All Folks' (W. Maryott 2005)



BB 'Cowboy Coffee' (M. Sutton 2023),

I thought there were only tall bearded bloomers. 'Black Suited' (S. Innerst 2000), the 2019 Dykes Medal winner 'Bottle Rocket' (M. Sutton 2010), and 2013 Dykes Medal winner 'That's All Folks' (W. Maryott 2005) were among irises that were not so well-known. But then I spied border bearded 'Cowboy Coffee' (M. Sutton 2023), which was one of my favorites that day with its heavily ruffled flowers, colored strong browns, reds, and deep yellow. Reverse amoena irises have become common, but 'Fantastical' (A. Mego 2021) is a real standout! This space-ager with its chocolate standards and linen falls with a heavy violet flash was startling both individually and in a clump.



'Fantastical' (A. Mego 2021)

Sutton's Iris Gardens (cont.)

'Lavender Butter' (M. Sutton 2020) is one of the few pastel irises that takes your breath away. It has lavender falls with Mike's signature multiple colored bands of edging ending with yellow that matches the standards. 'Work Around' (M. Sutton 2023) and 'Sonic Burst' (M. Sutton 2023) drew me across the display garden, as they were growing on opposite sides. 'Pointed Remark' (M. Sutton 2021) and 'Shandygaff' (K. Keppel 2018) are pastels with very heavy ruffling, but I saw no problem with them opening and they had exquisite stalks and clumps.

'Mama Quel' (M. Sutton 2023), 'Lemon Cheesecake' (M. Sutton 2020), 'Power Ballad' (M. Sutton 2023),



'Sonic Burst'
(M. Sutton 2023)



'Pointed Remark'
(M. Sutton 2021)

'Mighty Power' (M. Sutton 2023), 'Tahitian Treat' (M. Sutton 2013), and 'Electric Dance' (M. Sutton 2021) were all standouts of the day and I wished I had more time.



'Lavender Butter' (M. Sutton 2020)



'Mama Quel'
(M. Sutton 2023)



'Lemon Cheesecake'
(M. Sutton 2020)



'Work Around' (M. Sutton 2023)



'Power Ballad'
(M. Sutton 2023)



'Mighty Power'
(M. Sutton 2023)

As much as I wanted to stay, we had a lunch date with one of my sister Ginny's high school friends. Since she allowed me this out-of-the-way trip, I reluctantly left the farm with more pictures waiting to be taken.



'Shandygaff' (K. Keppel 2018)



'Tahitian Treat'
(M. Sutton 2013)



'Electric Dance' (M. Sutton 2021)

Affiliate Reports

Fall 2024 Bayshore iris Society Report

Our membership has been busy since last spring planning for the Fall Regional meeting that we are proud to be hosting on October 18 and 19 in St. Michaels, Maryland. We look forward to sharing this beautiful area with Region 4 members.

In July members dug up and separated iris rhizomes in one of our three display gardens. Rhizomes were then prepared for sale at the Easton Maryland Farmers Market on August 3. This was the second year we accepted credit cards at our Farmers Market sale; and, once again, it virtually doubled our sales. We highly recommend that clubs not currently accepting credit cards consider the addition in support of fundraising efforts.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia G. Canute
President (2024)

Central Virginia Iris Society - Fall 2024 Report

The Central Virginia Iris Society (CVIS) continues to grow its membership through public attendance at our show in May, information provided on our Facebook page, and our fall iris sale at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden.

The show in May enticed the public's interest with 82 entries, which included 77 different cultivars brought by 11 exhibitors. The public's participation was encouraged through the new Robert Y. Sandford People's Choice Award. After official judging was complete, the show was opened to the public, and each spectator was allowed to vote for their favorite iris. The winner of this award was 'Kinkajou Shrew', a tall bearded iris entered by Kitty Johnson. Queen of Show (and Best of Section - Tall Bearded Iris) was won by 'Texas Royalty', entered by Stephanie Myers.

Our raised-bed iris display in Hanover Master Gardeners' new Horticultural Learning Center, located at the Hanover County Extension Office in Ashland, Virginia, was a success as the bloom season progressed through the various bearded iris varieties. As a bonus, we have also enjoyed some rebloom.

At our July meeting we were pleased to have Abby Glasgow, a member of Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS), present a talk on "Iris and Companion Plants in the Garden." She discussed, in detail, working with irises and other plants in the garden to have something in bloom year-round, and encouraged members to keep records of their garden plantings. This was an excellent presentation and

included a lot of great information for both new and experienced iris growers.

We had excellent results at our annual iris sale in September at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden's Fall Plant Sale, thanks to the iris donations and efforts of CVIS and FAIS members.

Our upcoming November 2024 Harvest Dinner will feature great food and camaraderie, as well as the election of officers for 2025/2026.

Wayne Bryant, President

ENCIS Affiliate Fall 2024 Report

ENCIS held one of its most successful iris sales this summer at the J.C. Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh, North Carolina. We sold a wide variety of potted and bare-root bearded irises. Beardless irises, including a phenomenal selection of Louisiana varieties, were available at a second sale conducted in September. Both events provided opportunities to promote and educate the public about growing irises here in North Carolina, as well as an opportunity for members to obtain new iris varieties for their own gardens and to socialize with one another.

The focus of ENCIS's September meeting was a discussion and presentation by two local hybridizers of daylilies - a lovely "side trip" from our normal topics of interest. Our last general membership meeting of the year is scheduled for October 13. This will be our Fall Potluck which will primarily provide an opportunity to socialize with fellow members (although some business items will be presented as well). And then Bob Pries will give a Judges Training program on "Judging Species Irises."

Subsequent months include multiple committee planning meetings for the 2025 Regional Spring Conference and Meeting. The dates for this event are April 25 & 26 at the Research Triangle Park DoubleTree Hotel located between Durham and Raleigh, North Carolina. Further details to be announced.

Susan Miller
ENCIS President

Affiliate Reports

Charlotte Iris Society Fall 2024 Report

Charlotte Iris Society enjoyed an exciting spring and summer highlighted by hosting the Region 4 Spring Meeting.

We began the year with a fresh slate of officers: Ingrid Bray began another term as President, with new officers Sarah Sue Miller, First Vice President; Lewis Bozard, Second Vice President; and Sarah Spaid, Secretary. Charles Simon returned as Treasurer and Katharine Steele continued as Past President.

In the spring our major focus was preparing to host the regional meeting, a herculean effort made possible by the voluntary contributions of many members. We refreshed the Carrie Winter Memorial Garden that includes irises named for current and former members of Charlotte Iris Society. Show director Greg Schaffer presented his excellent annual program about preparing irises for show at our April meeting. Several members hosted open gardens in April during bloom season.

The Region 4 Spring Meeting held on April 26-27 at the Hilton Charlotte University Place proved to be a resounding success. We welcomed iris friends from around our Region and beyond. Attendance exceeded our early expectations and planning, leading to some last-minute adjustments in capacity—a nice “problem” to have. Five of our members hosted garden tours during and after the meeting.

Our annual show was held in conjunction with the Regional meeting and featured a nice array of 120 beautiful entries including many from around the Region, a pleasant addition to our usual locally-based participation. CIS member Pat Johnson won Best Specimen with ‘Magic Ring’ and CIS member Matt Liner was awarded the AIS Silver Medal for his 12 1st-place ribbons. This was longtime director Greg Schaffer’s last show as he announced his “retirement” from this labor of love. His hard work and diligent leadership will be greatly missed.

Our annual rhizome sale took place on August 17 at the Charlotte Regional Farmers Market. Longtime sale director Grey Drum was joined by Sarah Sue Miller in leading our big annual fundraiser. A new addition this year was a drop-off station conducted the weekend before the sale for rhizome donations. This allowed donors the convenience of having the sale organizers do the “dirty work” of washing and sale prep. We offered about 40 cultivars to the public and raised over \$2,000.

Each year members look forward to the plant exchange at the September meeting. Once again, members enthusiastically contributed up to three plants of their choosing in order to take home some new additions for their fall gardens.

Our upcoming October meeting will feature presentations about Siberian irises and a members’ visit to Swan Lake Iris Gardens in Sumter, South Carolina. Our final meeting of the year in November will include fun, food, and member recognitions at our annual Harvest Luncheon.

We continue to imagine new ways to engage and inform our community and solicit new members while honoring the rich history and traditions of Charlotte Iris Society, rooted in nearly a century of heritage since the first Charlotte iris show in 1933.

Lewis Bozard, Second Vice for
Ingrid Bray, President

Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society

President’s Report, Fall 2024

The Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society (SPIS) has had a quiet spring/summer 2024. After hosting both the spring and fall 2023 Regionals, we used 2024 to enjoy the efforts of our counterparts around the region.

In addition to attending the spring Regional meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, our members were pleased to attend several of our affiliate shows as judges.

The SPIS Spring Show was held on May 18, 2024 at the West Oaks Farm Market in Winchester, Virginia. The facility was the perfect venue with easy access and plenty of room. Participation was not as high as we would have liked, but we had a nice variety of cultivars, especially seedlings. We are considering moving locations next year to encourage participation in other areas of our region.

On May 25, 2024 our Vice President, Ginny Spoon, hosted an Open Garden at Winterberry Gardens. Our members enjoyed walking through the garden and viewing the vast collection of irises, peonies, and other companion plants.

SPIS held its annual sale on August 3, 2024, as part of the Peach Festival at West Oaks Farm Market in Winchester. This was the fourth year we’ve held the sale during the Peach Festival. The weather was stormy so attendance was not as good as previous years. Sales this year totaled approximately \$800. In addition, we signed on one new AIS member during the sale.

SPIS currently has 33 members with five active Accredited Judges. Our current Board includes:

Patti Meagher, President
Ginny Spoon, VP and Mentor
Colin Campbell, Treasurer
Dawn Zartman, Secretary

Our plan for 2025 is to reach out to our community and encourage a broader participation at our events.

Sincerely,
Patti Meagher, President

Francis Scott Key Iris Society Fall Report

As I reflect on the growing season, I am filled with immense gratitude for our wonderful local society of irisarians.

Less than a year ago, I had little understanding of the dedicated effort and genuine passion that goes into creating such a satisfying experience for all who love irises at FSK. In the short time as president, I've been fortunate to witness firsthand the generosity of spirit and wealth of knowledge shared by so many of you. Whether it's helping out in a garden, sharing your own garden, or offering insights during meetings or by email, your contributions have truly made a difference.

As we look ahead to our upcoming 2024 events, I am reminded of how much we have already accomplished together. With our successful "iris-sistable" rhizome sales, new Facebook group, exhibition (in the rain), open gardens, as well as a bonus daylily garden show, well-attended picnic, and informative meetings behind us, I am confident that the next few months will be filled with even more memorable moments for our group.

We will be tending to the late Dave Oktavec's extensive collection of plantings, filling our Lasagna Bulb Planter Project, trying on new FSK wear, and gathering for our end-of-the-season luncheon/meeting of 2024, where Anita and Carol will speak and guide us through the potted bulb process. All this and more while looking ahead to a new growing season and thinking about what we plan for our gardens and ourselves in 2025.

There is still time to sign up and join us at the Region 4 Event on October 18th and 19th at the St. Michaels Inn. See the last *Newscast*, page 46: "Harvest Celebration").

Schedules:

2024:

Dave Oktavec Garden Dig - September 13 to 14
Region 4 Event - October 18-19, St. Michaels Inn
Buttersburg Inn Luncheon/Meeting - October 26
Lasagna Bulb Planter Project - November 7

2025 Tentative:

Opening Meeting - TBD
Bearded Iris Show - May 17
Open Gardens - TBD
Beardless Iris show - TBD
Picnic - TBD

End-of-Season Luncheon – TBD

Carol Gitter, FSK President

FAIS Fall Report 2024

Our April meeting was a celebration of our 40th Anniversary with a gathering of old and new members. Lois Rose presented a PowerPoint presentation of FAIS and the past 40 years.

In May we had a great turnout in our gardens for Open Garden Day and at our Annual Iris Show.

In August we had a successful iris sale – we actually sold out by 11 a.m. As always, customers enjoyed being able to get a variety of irises at bargain prices and discuss their questions with our team as they shopped.

We awarded two scholarships this year to worthy students from J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and Virginia Tech.

In September Rochelle Felsburr and her husband graciously hosted our annual picnic at their home. We discussed the fun that we had at the Spring meeting in North Carolina and discussed our hosting the upcoming 2026 Spring Regional Meeting and put a call out to our members to get involved and enjoy the experience.

We are looking forward to our annual harvest dinner on November 9th.

Leisa Mullen
FAIS President

Iris Laws: Continued from August 2024 *Newscast* Vol. 67.2, p. 23

Law Number 25: Everyone who shows irises will make mistakes in grooming when starting out. Don't worry about this as poor grooming is not a hanging offense. Except in Maryland and Nevada.

Law Number 26: Old irisarians never die. They just spade away.

Law Number 27: AIS Judges would never award the Dykes to a poor grower; so if you are having trouble with KILT LILT, you'd better examine your cultivation practices. Likewise, if Victoria Falls falls in your garden you should feel it is your fault.

(Excerpts from 1986 *Newscast* Vol 28.1)

Garden of Kimberly Rieniets by Anita Moran

In the parking lot of a mall in Denver, Colorado (I am not a big shopper), waiting for my sisters Ginny and Mary while they explored a shop, I looked up Kimberly Rieniets’s address so I could visit her garden located in nearby Lakewood, Colorado. As we drove up to a beautiful silver house, we found Kimberly working in the garden, or as her mother refers to it “Camelot”. The front of the yard was terraced to a flattened area where paths wandered around various garden beds. There was a wooden bridge over a culvert to access the main garden as you then walked up steps adorned with succulents, various mosses, and other



ground covers.

Every garden bed was a mixture of perennials, evergreens, and, of course, irises. A small courtyard area was adorned with seats that allowed you to sit and enjoy the garden. I can imagine sitting with a cup of coffee or tea watching the sunrise or bees flitting around the blossoms. Going around a corner you were met by a metal pig ornament that was very cute. The real star of Kimberly’s garden was a checkerboard garden with irises and herbs. It flashed me back to Alice in Wonderland and the chessboard. What surprised and pleased me was the sight of a working hügelkultur bed in the process of becoming active.



On the east side of the Rocky Mountains, the dwarfs and medians were in bloom; but I knew that on the desert side, the dwarfs would be at the end of their season as would the early medians. Kimberly’s garden had miniature dwarf bearded (MDB) to border bearded (BB) irises blooming by the time we arrived. The first iris we noticed entering the garden was *Iris pallida* ‘Variegata’, which was planted alone in its own little garden bed. Nearby were two of Kimberly’s BB introductions ‘Calico in Pink’ (K. Rieniets 2020) and aptly named ‘Dazzle Jazz’ (K. Rieniets, 2020) with its pale yellow and white coloring with deep purple veining and dark purple horns. ‘Daybreak Over the Rockies’ (E. Rieniets 2018), which I saw on the 2021 Median Trek in Oklahoma City, was blooming nearby.



Iris pallida ‘Variegata’

Garden of Kimberly Rieniets (cont.)



Calico in Pink' (K. Rieniets 2020)



'Dazzle Jazz' (K. Rieniets, 2020)

One of Kimberly's newer standard dwarf bearded (SDB) introductions, 'Bird of Fashion' (K. Rieniets 2024), was blooming in a nice clump next to another SDB, Paul Black's 'Feeling Pretty' (2023). Nearby were two of Kimberly's MDB seedlings out of 'Black Olive' (P. Black 2013) X 'Past Midnight' (K. Rieniets R. 2021). Both seedlings were deep maroon with one just slightly lighter and with a yellow beard instead of blue like the darker seedling. Both were blooming furiously; and since they were next to each other, you would think they would be easy to judge. Nope. Kimberly's going to have a hard time choosing between these two. Kimberly's 2021 MDB introduction 'Birth of the Cool' was a mass of cool white blooms with pale blue beards and deep violet centers easily seen through slightly open standards.



'Bird of Fashion' (K. Rieniets 2024)



'Feeling Pretty' (Black 2023)



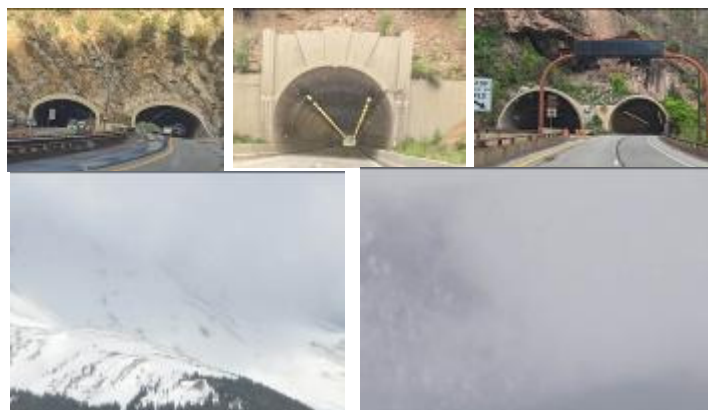
K. Rieniets MDB seedlings ('Black Olive' X 'Past Midnight')



I had to make one more visit to the checkerboard so I could take some more pictures, and I would not be surprised if something similar did not end up in my own garden. Much too soon it was time to leave because I had more family obligations and then, in the morning, I was headed to Kimberly's mother's home in Grand Junction, Colorado.

Garden of Elizabeth Rieniets by Anita Moran

At zero-dark-thirty (five thirty in the morning), my sister Ginny and I headed west again. We had a dinner date in Salt Lake City at six in the evening, an eight-hour trip from Denver. However, I had plans to visit Elizabeth Rieniets, Kimberly Rieniets' mother. It was also a planned trip and since it was four hours to Grand Junction and another four hours to Salt Lake, that would give me at least three hours to spend at the Constant Gardener Farm. That timeline looked to be in trouble as we made our way across the Rockies via I-70. I was entertained by the number of tunnels we had to drive through because Ginny insisted on driving and she hates tunnels. After the fifth tunnel, we noticed what looked like fog forming and were glad that the sun was up. That notion quickly disappeared as we saw what looked like a snow storm coming toward us. Going around a bend in the highway, we were in a snow squall. Not a problem; Ginny lived in Wyoming too many years not to know how to handle snow.



Once we were in the clear, we decided to stop for breakfast and gas. Then we were "On the road again", but it was my turn to be nervous. The highway became an elevated series of bridges as we traveled along the Colorado River. Finally, we descended into a desert basin and then into Grand Junction, Colorado. As we made our way to Elizabeth Rieniets's farm, I was looking for the nearest cross streets when I noticed that many of the cross streets were fractions. Yes, fractions like 45th street were followed by 45th and 1/4 or 1/2 as we traveled. Finally, we arrived at Constant Gardener Farm, which would have been difficult to miss with a long roadside garden bed filled with blooming irises.



Garden of Elizabeth Rieniets (cont.)



We were greeted immediately by Elizabeth. Ginny wanted to rest and ease her nerves, so I headed off with Elizabeth to survey her garden. The backyard was a 20-foot-deep garden bed of irises and other perennials like yellow goat's beard (*Tragopogon pratensis*), a member of the aster family. This was growing throughout the garden along with columbine in a variety of colors and peonies. Following a grass path to the side yard, this garden area was split between the fence and the house by a winding grass path that provided the best view of the garden. Among the irises was the tallest columbine I have ever seen, its yellow flowers close to the height of the tall bearded (TB) 'Adrenaline Junkie' (P. Black 2022), which averages 30 inches.

Halo' (J. Painter 2005) and the miniature tall bearded (MTB) 'Goldvogel' (L. Tasquier 2020).



Flash of Brilliance' (A. Mego 2016)

'Whoa Nelly' (M. Sutton 2022)



Back Yard Garden



Yellow Goat's Beard
(*Tragopogon pratensis*)



'Ruby Moon' (M. Sutton 2012)



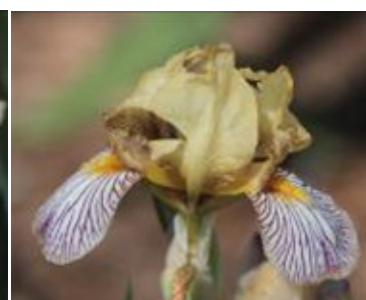
'Mesmerizer' (M. Byers 1991)



◀ 'Adrenaline Junkie'
(P. Black 2022)



'Jealous Halo' (J. Painter 2005)



'Goldvogel'
(L. Tasquier 2020, MTB).

Across the driveway was a grove of fruit trees with irises planted around them and iris seedling beds interspersed. Rescue irises in pots awaiting bloom were scattered about so they could be identified if possible.

In the center of the front yard was a large pine tree, surrounded by more columbines, lilies, *Iris pallida*, and various other perennials. The roadside garden was another mixed perennial bed where 'Flash of Brilliance' (A. Mego 2016) drew my eyes. Among the other TB irises blooming were 'Whoa Nelly' (M. Sutton 2022), 'Ruby Moon' (M. Sutton 2012), 'Mesmerizer' (M. Byers 1991), 'Jealous

Garden of Elizabeth Rieniets (cont.)

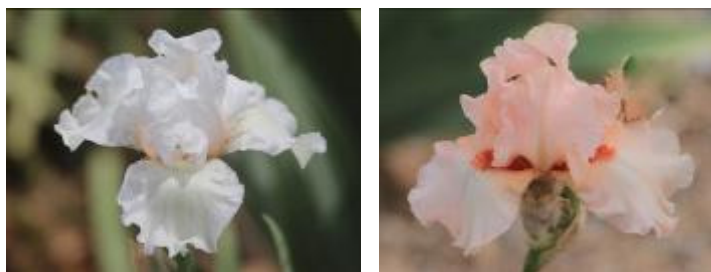
We began evaluating seedlings starting with TBs. Two similar seedlings from a bee pod on ‘Night’s Edge’ (M. Sutton 2016) were similar to the parent: dark-fall amoenas but with larger zones of white than the parent. While seedling No. 1 had red-violet falls, No. 2 was a dark blue similar to ‘Night’s Edge’. Seedling ER-S1B-13 had silver to violet standards and center, pale yellow falls with darker yellow shoulders and edge and pale violet teardrop marks near the end of the falls. I wasn’t sure if it was trying to be a broken color or the marks were from the freeze a few days before, but it had a nice flower with great stalks. The TB seedling I liked the most was ER 33E5-23-21, a cross between ‘Ruby Moon’ and ‘Haunted Heart’ (K. Keppel 2010). Bright yellow heavily ruffled standards with pearl-grey falls edged in light chocolate brown and with shoulders matching the standards.

seedling was pink with mulberry shoulders and a bright red beard.

I have seen many ‘Mesmerizer’ seedlings and was never impressed. The three IB ‘Mesmerizer’ seedlings Elizabeth produced were all different. One had bright pink standards and rounded pale lavender falls with heavy red beards. The second seedling was a dainty shell pink with a red beard, while the third seedling was equally dainty and completely white but with a pink center and pale green veining in the falls and wonderful IB form. I loved all three of these seedlings.



E. Rieniets TB Seedlings out of ‘Night’s Edge’ (M. Sutton 2016)



◀ E. Rieniets seedling ER 33E5-23-21: ‘Ruby Moon’ X ‘Haunted Heart’



E. Rieniets seedlings: ‘Mesmerizer’ X ‘Rave Review’



E. Rieniets seedlings ‘Sphere of Influence’ X unknown dwarf

I still had an hour but Ginny was getting antsy, so it was time to leave. Thanks, Elizabeth, for a wonderful time in your garden.

The TB iris ‘Sphere of Influence’ (T. Burseen 2018) crossed with an unknown dwarf produced two completely opposite intermediate bearded (IB) iris seedlings that were unique. The first was a white iris with a flash of yellow on the top third of the standards and falls edged with the same yellow but with mustard thumbprints on the shoulders. The second

Rebloom Report by Colin Campbell

Lewis Bozard, Charlotte NC

Autumn Circus (B. Hager 1990)
 Clarence (L. Zurbrigg 1991)
 Harvest of Memories (L. Zurbrigg 1985)
 Immortality (L. Zurbrigg 1982)
 Lemon Candy (D. Spoon 2022) BB
 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993)
 Sea World (M. Byers 1990)
 Sunbeams Forever (C. Campbell 2022) SDB

Amy Fletcher, Haw River NC

Double Shot (G. Sutton 2000) – Oct-Nov
 Over and Over (S. Innerst 2001) – Dec

Matt Liner, Lexington NC

Bethany Claire (L. Zurbrigg 1985)
 Cross Stitch (L. Zurbrigg 1973)
 Daughter of Stars (D. Spoon 2001)
 English Cottage (L. Zurbrigg 1976)
 Frances Iva (L. Zurbrigg 1991)
 Gate of Heaven (L. Zurbrigg 1994)
 Joan's Pleasure (L. Zurbrigg 1993)
 Jolly Goliath (L. Zurbrigg 1971)
 Latest Style (L. Zurbrigg 1979)
 Northward Ho (L. Zurbrigg 1991)
 Now and Later (L. Zurbrigg 1972)
 Rime Frost (L. Zurbrigg 1976)
 Summer Olympics (R. Smith 1980)
 Violet Classic (L. Zurbrigg 1976)

Sarah Sue Miller, Hickory NC

Again and Again (S. Innerst 1999)
 Autumn Wine (V. Christopherson 2003) BB
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009)
 Total Recall (B. Hager 1992)

Cathy Price, Seven Springs NC

Again and Again (S. Innerst 1999) – Late Nov
 Autumn Rosemist (L. Austin 1961) – Early Dec
 Doubleday (G. Sutton 2001) – Late Nov
 Flower Shower (J. Weiler 1990) SDB – Mid Nov
 Jack Loving (D. Spoon 2006) SDB – May-Jun
 Lichen (M. Byers 1989) – Mid Oct, Late Nov
 Poignant (G. Sutton 2011) SDB – May-Jun



Autumn Circus (B. Hager 1990)



Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009)

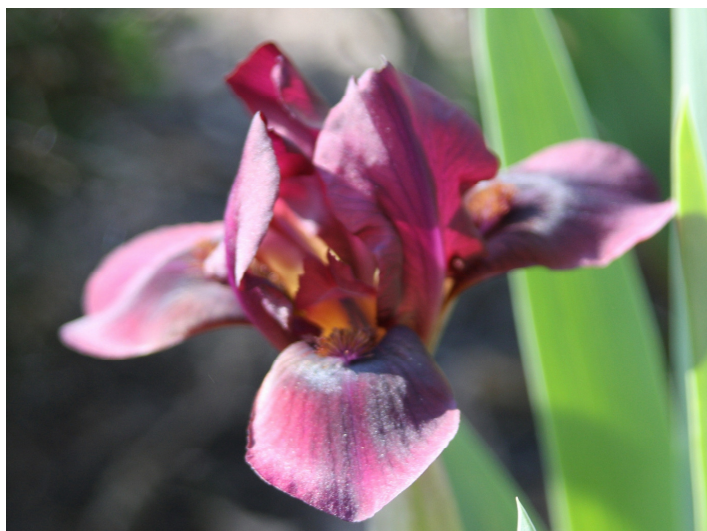


Autumn Wine (V. Christopherson 2003) BB

Rebloom Report by Colin Campbell

Colin Campbell, Middletown, VA

Again and Again (S. Innerst 1999) – Jun, Nov
 Baby Blessed (L. Zurbrigg 1979) SDB –Nov
 Cara (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Early-Late Nov
 Echo of Spring (N. Price 2013) – Oct-Nov
 Forever Blue (C. Chapman 1997) SDB – Sep, Nov
 Gate of Heaven (L. Zurbrigg 2004) – Nov
 July Yellow (Chadwick/Werner 2001) – Nov
 Lest We Forget (G. Sutton 2008) – Nov
 Many Mahalos (J. T. Aitken 2003) IB – May, Oct
 Margaret Wilson Thomas (D. Spoon 2009) – Oct
 Mariposa Autumn (R. Tasco 1999) – Nov
 Metro Blue (M. Lockatell 2015) – Oct
 Pearls of Autumn (B. Hager 1993) – Nov
 Ray Jones (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Oct-Nov
 Repetition (W. Moores 2013) – Jul, Oct
 Royal Maroon (D. Spoon 2001) MDB – Nov
 Sunbeams Forever (C. Campbell 2022) SDB – Oct-Nov



Royal Maroon (D. Spoon 2001) MDB

Mae Robertson, Prince George, VA

Harvest of Memories (L. Zurbrigg 1985) – Late Nov

Kim Rogers, Prince William, VA

Barn Dance (M. Byers 1991) – Mid Nov – Mid Dec
 Summer Olympics (R.G. Smith 1980) – Mid Nov- Mid Dec



Metro Blue (M. Lockatell 2015)



Mariposa Autumn (R. Tasco 1999)



Cara (D. Spoon 2011) SDB

Rebloom Report (cont.)

Lois Rose, Partlow, VA

Again and Again (S. Innerst 1999) – Early-Mid Nov
 Another Bridge (B. Wilkerson 2005) – Oct- Mid Nov
 Anxious (B. Hager 1992) – Early – Mid Nov
 Autumn Nectar (J.G. Crump 2011) - Oct
 Autumn Tryst (J. Weiler 1993) – Oct-Late Nov
 Baby Blessed (L. Zurbrigg 1979) SDB – Sep
 Born Again (B. Miller 1978) – Sep-Nov
 Constant Companion (C. Marsh 1995) IB- Oct
 Corn Dance (D. Spoon 2008) – Mid Nov
 Cricket Song (T. Silvers 2012) MTB – Late Nov
 Doubleday (G. Sutton 2001) – Oct- Mid Nov
 Eric Simpson (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Sep-Mid Nov
 Fall Enterprise (M. Sutton 2007) -Jul
 Golden Encore (F. Jones 1973) – Aug
 Good Prospects (M. Sutton 2017) – Dec
 Haunting (J. G. Crump 2006) – Oct-Nov
 Hidden Sky (M. Lockatell 2021) – Sep-Nov
 I Bless (L. Zurbrigg 1985) IB – Sep
 I Do (L. Zurbrigg 1974) - Oct-Mid Nov
 Istanbul (M. Byers 1990) - Early – Mid Nov
 Jack Loving (D. Spoon 2006) SDB – Sep
 Lady Emma (F. Jones 1986) MTB – Sep-Nov
 Low Ho Silver (M. Byers 1989) IB – Sep-Mid Nov
 Little Blackfoot (Reinhardt 1967) SDB – Late Nov
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009) – Early-Mid Nov
 Maryland Ho (B. Hornstein R. 2003) – Oct
 Matrix (E. Hall 1991) – Early-Mid Nov
 Mother of Dragons (D. Spoon 2021) – Nov-Dec
 My Friend Jonathan (B. Miller 1994) – Late Nov
 Over and Over (S. Innerst 2001) – Oct
 Pink Attraction (E. Hall 1988) – Oct-Nov
 Renown (L. Zurbrigg 1992) – Early- Mid Nov
 Repetition (W. Moores 2013) – Early-Mid Nov
 Rosalie Loving (D. Spoon 2003) SDB – Sep
 Sailboat Bay (L. Zurbrigg 2001) SDB -Oct
 Senorita Frog (D. Spoon 2002) SDB – Sep-Oct
 September Buttercup (G. Brown 1962) BB – Sep
 Sky Willow (D. Spoon 2005) SDB – Oct
 Smell the Roses (M. Byers 1988) SDB – Sep
 Star Gate (B. Wilkerson 2005) – Oct- Mid Nov
 Summer Green Shadows (G.P. Brown 1965) -Oct
 Tawny (Pray 1974) IB – Early – Mid Nov
 Together Forever (A. Moran R. 2022) SDB – Sep

Ginny Spoon, Cross Junction, VA

Again and Again (L. Zurbrigg 1999) – Oct-Late Nov
 Anne Lowe (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Mid Nov
 Baby Blessed (L. Zurbrigg 1979) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Blue Hues (D. Spoon 2010) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Born Again (B. Miller 1978) – Oct/Nov
 Cardinal Feathers (G. Spoon 2025) SDB – Oct-MNov
 Constant Companion (C. Marsh 1995) IB – Oct/Nov

Dime Spot (W. Moores 1985) – Oct-Late Nov
 Eric Simpson (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Oct-Late Nov
 Giggler (D. Spoon 2001) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Glacier King (D. Carson 1986) – Late Nov
 Golden Immortal (G. Sutton 1997) – Late Nov
 Gold Lantern (D. Spoon 2013) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Hasta La Vista (J.T. Aitken 2004) BB – Oct/Nov
 Hereafter (G. Spoon 2025) SDB – Oct-Late Nov
 Hilda's Gift (D. Spoon 2002) MDB – Oct/Nov
 I Bless (L. Zurbrigg 1985) IB – Oct/Nov
 Jaunty Texan (C. Denman 1973) – Oct/Nov
 Kind Candace (D. Spoon 2012) – Oct/Nov
 Love Continues (B. Spoon 2016) – Oct/Nov
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009) – Oct-Late Nov
 Margaret Wilson Thomas (D. Spoon 2009) – Late Nov
 Matrix (E. Hall 1988) – Late Nov
 Momma Rosemary (D. Spoon 2012) – Oct/Nov
 Northward Ho (L. Zurbrigg 1991) – Late Nov
 Persimmon Pie (D. Spoon 2000) BB – Oct-Late Nov
 Pom (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Purple Joy (D. Spoon 2009) SDB – Oct-Late Nov
 Ray Jones (D. Spoon 2011) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Remembering Lloyd (L. Mann 2023) – Oct/Nov
 Resist (D. Spoon 2025) – SDB – Oct/Nov
 Sailboat Bay (L. Zurbrigg 2001) SDB – Oct/Nov
 Storm Compass (Chancellor/Rust 2014) MDB – Oct/Nov
 Summer Fantasy (G.P. Brown 1965) – Oct/Nov
 Summer Green Shadows (G.P. Brown 1965) – Oct/Nov
 Summer Whitewings (G.P. Brown 1960) -Oct/Nov
 Tenderly (D.C. Nearpass 2000) – Oct/Nov
 Ginny Spoon, continued
 Wise Willow (D. Spoon 2004) SDB – Oct-Late Nov
 Zee (D. Spoon 2004) – Oct-Late Nov



'Blue Hues' (D. Spoon 2010, SDB)

Rebloom Report (cont.)

Dawn Zartman, Berryville, VA

Again and Again (S. Innerst 1999)
 Autumn Tryst (J. Weiler 1993)
 Harvest of Memories (L. Zurbrigg 1985)
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009)
 Next in Line (G. Sutton 2001)
 Pink Attraction (E. Hall 1988)
 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993)

Pat McNeal, Preston, MD

Artistic Showoff (B. Wilkerson 2010) – Jun, Aug, Nov
 Autumn Jester (C. Chapman 2000) SDB – Jun
 Autumn Tryst (J. Weiler 1993) – Oct
 Baby Blessed (L. Zurbrigg 1979) SDB – Sep, Nov
 Back Again (D. Spoon 2020) – Oct
 Blessed Again (F. Jones 1976) IB – Oct
 Billionaire (M. Byers 1987) – Oct
 Blue Chip Stock (P. Black 1998) MTB – Jun
 Blue Hues (D. Spoon 2010) SDB – Oct
 Buckwheat (M. Byers 1989) – Oct
 Constant Companion (C. Marsh 1995) IB – Oct
 Daughter of Stars (D. Spoon 2001) – Oct
 Double Your Fun (J.T. Aitken 2000) IB – Mid-Nov
 Forever Blue (C. Chapman 1997) SDB – Aug
 Gate of Heaven (L. Zurbrigg 2004) – Sep
 Golden Immortal (G. Sutton 1997) – Mid Nov
 Harvest of Memories (L. Zurbrigg 1985) – Oct
 Immortality (L. Zurbrigg 1982) – Mid Nov
 Lunar Whitewash (S. Innerst 2003) - Oct
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009) – Oct
 Mariposa Autumn (R. Tasco 1999) – Oct
 Matrix (E. Hall/ Zurbrigg 1991) - Oct
 Over and Over (S. Innerst 2001) – Sep
 Plum Wine (J. Weiler 1986) SDB – Oct-Nov
 Priscilla of Corinth (B. Miller 1994) - Oct
 Revitalize (M. Sutton 2022) – Nov
 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993) – Oct
 Stellar Lights (J.T. Aitken 1986) - May

Anita Moran, Aberdeen, MD

I Do (L. Zurbrigg 1974)
 Mango Parfait (D. Spoon 2009)
 Metro Blue (M. Locketell 2015)

Carol Warner, Upperco, MD

Gate of Heaven (L. Zurbrigg 2004)
 Metro Blue (M. Locketell 2015)
 My Friend Jonathan (B. Miller 1994)
 Pink Attraction (E. Hall 1988)
 Rosalie Figge (J. McKnew 1993)
 Silver Dividends (L. Zurbrigg 1989)

Sunny Disposition (L. Zurbrigg 1991)

Tony Playtis, Washington, WV

Ann's Joy (A. Playtis R. 2013) IB
 Sugar Blues (L. Zurbrigg 1985)



'Daughter of Stars' (D. Spoon 2001)



'Silver Dividends' (L. Zurbrigg 1989)



'Mariposa Autumn' (R. Tasco 1999)

2024 Fall Region 4 Board Meeting Minutes, October 18, 2024

St. Michaels Inn, St. Michaels, Maryland

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at approximately 12:10 p.m. by RVP Anita Moran, who confirmed that a quorum was present with the minimum of nine members.

It was moved, seconded, and passed that minutes of the Spring 2023 Region 4 board meeting be accepted as printed in the August 2024 Newscast.

RVP Report: Anita Moran stated that she has received a letter of resignation from Carol Warner as treasurer of Region 4. Anita stated that she has appointed Sue Shackelford to be the Region 4 acting treasurer starting at the 2025 Spring Region 4 Board Meeting. Anita reported that 27 (7%) of the members of the Region submitted Tall Bearded Symposium ballots including eight (29%) of Region 4 judges. The top vote getters were 'Daughter of Stars', 'Dusky Challenger', 'Conjuration', and 'Clarence'.

Assistant RVP Report: Kathy Huneycutt reported that on May 24, 2024, she and her husband had a house fire and lost everything, including their irises. Now they are starting over. Kathy thanked the Charlotte Iris Society for hosting the Spring Regional meeting and show on April 25 and 26. She plans to attend the Fall 2024 Regional meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Carol Warner reported that she will serve as the region's treasurer until the 2025 Spring Regional meeting but is resigning at that point. Her written report showed the Region 4 checking account had a balance of \$20,401.32 on April 26, 2024. Income was \$1,339.00 from the Spring Region 4 auction plus \$1.06 interest. Expenditures of \$1,836.68 included \$244.75 for Insta-Ink, \$517.71 for the August Newscast (less than previous due to new paper), \$391 to Bayshore Iris Society for rebloomers for the fall meeting, a total of \$250.24 for the Zurbrigg-Mahan Award (a seedling award at the national convention given by Region 4), and \$300 RVP stipend gave a balance of \$19,904.70 on October 19, 2024.

Budget Report: Diana Dudley reported that we spent all but \$1700 of the budget for 2024 and that the 2025 budget includes \$400 expenditures for both spring and fall meetings to help defray expenses of invited guests from out-of-region.

Membership Report: Ginny Spoon reported that AIS Region 4 is 2nd to northern California Region 14 in number of members. Region 4 has 318 active members. AIS is having a membership drive ending December 21, 2024. The drive gives two youths (18 years or younger) who sign up with an adult full AIS 1 year membership free 1-year memberships with mailed bulletins.

Webmaster Reports: Anita Moran stated that she has repaired headers and links on 20 pages of the Region 4 website and has improved judges training forms. We are currently at 78% of our disk space for the website. To manage this Anita recommends that we remove the Newscasts from our website and instead make a link to the AIS Wiki. This would maintain our Non-profit Plus protection.

Newscast Report – Editor Anita Moran welcomed Lewis Bozard from the Charlotte Iris Society to the Newscast editorial board and stated that he was a great help getting the latest edition of our regional bulletin out. She also thanked those who wrote articles on the spring meeting gardens. Anita proposed adding \$250 to the Newscast budget: \$170.00 for Insta-Ink [a monthly subscription for ink, toner, and cartridge recycling] and \$80.00 for printing oversize issues [in addition to the regular budgeted \$750.00 per issue].

Judges' Training (JT) Report: Sue Shackelford provided a written report. Region 4 currently has 20 judges – 2 Emeritus, 9 Master, and 9 Garden/Exhibition. We also have 2 Apprentices, 3 Student judges, and 3 Retired judges. Frances Thrash, our only accredited Design judge, has requested Retired status. Judges should keep their Judges Activity Record current. It is invaluable when completing their Annual Judges Activity Report each August. All judges are required to complete refresher courses each three-year period: five hours, two of which must be in-garden, for Garden/Exhibition judges and three hours, one of which must be in-garden, for Master judges. Documentation of training, e.g., copies of tests taken, must be received by the JT Chairman by August 10.

2024 Fall Region 4 Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

New Judges Training Chair – Sue Shackelford resigned from the position of Judges Training Chairman in July 2024. RVP Anita Moran has appointed Lois Rose to be the Region 4 JT Chairman.

Iris Program Resource Report: Heather Haley reported she now has 15 topics relating to irises in an online repository available for use. A program on beardless irises was requested by a garden club in North Carolina and Heather will develop it in early 2025. Programs are available for any Region 4 member or affiliate to use to promote irises and Heather welcomes contributions to the Region 4 repository if you have recently created iris programs. She encouraged members to bring or send recent iris periodicals to a regional meeting for use in presentations to iris newbies.

Historian Report – Lois Rose was working as the iris show chairman and could not be present in the board meeting. She provided no historian report.

Youth Chair – a Youth Chairman is needed.

Sunshine Report – Kathy Huneycutt reported that she sent two sympathy cards, two get well cards, and two “thinking of you” cards.

Auction Report: Auction Chairman Heather Haley was ill and could not attend the meeting. The treasurer’s report showed that the Spring 2024 R4 Meeting auction brought in \$1339.

Secret Parliamentarian Report: The Secret Parliamentarian resigned and the RVP did not appoint a replacement.

Median Report: Temporary Median Chairman Anita Moran reported that her SDB ‘Elron’s Cloak’ rebloomed in September in Montana. Cold area rebloomers seem to be expanding the areas across the county where they rebloom. We need a Median Chairman.

Reblooming Report: Colin Campbell asked that members email him the names of all irises that rebloom in their garden.

Beardless and Species Report: Carol Warner announced that there will be a Siberian and species iris mini-convention in Ames, Iowa [April 23 and 24, 2025] featuring the Jurik and Lois Girton gardens.

Epperson Award Report – Epperson Service Award Chairman Sue Shackelford provided a written report. The committee selected a recipient for 2024, but that person was not able to attend this meeting. The award will be presented at the Spring 2025 Regional meeting instead.

Affiliate Reports: Reports were presented orally by the following: Bayshore Iris Society – President Patricia Canute, Central Virginia Iris Society – President Wayne Bryant, Charlotte Iris Society – 2nd Vice President Lewis Bozard, Eastern North Carolina Iris Society – President Susan Miller, Francis Scott Key Iris Society – President Carol Gitter. Fredericksburg Area Iris Society – President Leisa Mullen, and Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society – President Patti Meagher. See written reports printed in the Newscast.

The Nominating Committee consisting of Heather Haley (Chair), Leisa Mullen, Lewis Bozard, Lois Rose, and Diana Dudley presented the following slate of proposed officers: President Anita Moran, Vice President Kathy Huneycutt, Treasurer Sue Shackelford, and Secretary Alleah Haley. Officers will be voted on at the Spring 2025 Regional Meeting.

2024 Fall Region 4 Board Meeting Minutes (cont.)

Unfinished Business:

Procedures Committee – Anita is still working to establish a Procedures Committee [to be headed by Susan Grigg]. By-laws are hard to change so the functioning of the Region would be better governed by Procedures where changes only need board approval.

[Per Region 4 bylaws, regional officers are voted in every year; i.e., serve one-year terms.] Treasurer – Carol Warner was elected to serve as treasurer through 2025. She would like to resign as of the end of this meeting. The Nominating Committee has nominated a slate of officers that includes Sue Shackelford as treasurer starting in 2026. The slate will be voted on at the spring 2025 Regional meeting in North Carolina hosted by the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society, with the start of the term of those elected after the fall 2025 Regional meeting. The board must approve Sue Shackelford to serve as acting treasurer until fall 2025. Prior to change of treasurer, an audit of the Region's books will be made by volunteers Lewis Bozard and Sarah Sue Miller.

Nominating Committee Change – Change composition of the Region 4 nominating committee from: A nominating committee of five (5) members, one from the District of Columbia and each state in Region 4, shall be elected at the FALL Meeting of Region 4 to:

The Nominating Committee of five (5) at least one from each state who is in attendance at the fall meeting and will be active for two years.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Alleah Haley, Secretary

Fall 2024 Region 4 General Meeting, October 19, 2024

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by RVP Anita Moran at 5:40 p.m.

Roll Call:

Bayshore Iris Society – 8
 Charlotte Iris Society – 3
 Central Virginia Iris Society – 2
 Eastern North Carolina Iris Society – 6
 Fredericksburg Area Iris Society – 8
 Francis Scott Key Iris Society– Carol Warner – 7
 Shenandoah & Potomac Iris Society – 0
 Guests – 3

Awards from the 2024 Spring Regional:

The E. Roy Epperson Award (for promotion of AIS membership and Region 4 activities) will be presented at the Spring 2025 meeting. The recipient could not be present at this meeting.

The Nominating Committee proposed the following officers for the next year: RVP – Anita Moran, Assistant RVP – Kathy Huneycutt, Secretary – Alleah Haley, Treasurer – Sue Shackelford. It was moved and seconded that the slate be accepted. Motion carried unanimously.

Announcement: Eastern North Carolina Iris Society President Susan Miller invited folks to attend next spring's Region 4 meeting in North Carolina. The convention hotel will be the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park (RTP), I 40 @ Page Road [4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, NC 27703], about halfway between the Susan and Pete Miller garden in Apex and Dean and Diana Richard's "Bee Happy Farm" in Creedmoor. [The meeting registration table at the hotel will be staffed starting the evening of Thursday, April 24, with the meeting on Friday and Saturday, April 25 and 26.] The Miller garden visit will be Friday afternoon, and Saturday gardens will be Bee Happy Farm and the "Broley Homestead" iris garden of Heather Haley and Chris Broberg in Ramseur. All three gardens have more than 100 guest irises to view. An iris blanket donated by Susan Grigg and other donated items will be raffled.

The fall auction brought in more than \$2600.

Meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Alleah Haley, Secretary



America The Beautiful”

AN ACCREDITED IRIS SHOW

presented by the
**EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA
IRIS SOCIETY**

an affiliate of
**THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY,
REGION 4**

**Double Tree Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport
at Research Triangle Park
4810 Page Creek Lane
Durham, NC 27703**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC –
NO ADMISSION CHARGE
FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025
Noon – 2:00 p.m.**

GENERAL RULES

This approved show is being held and judged under the rules and regulations of The American Iris Society as set forth in the latest edition of the Handbook for Judges and Show Officials and any subsequent rules and regulations approved by the American Iris Society Board of Directors. These rules and regulations may not be violated.

Accredited judges of the American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Division(s). Judges' decisions will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion.

Entries will be received from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. on Friday, April, 25, 2025 at the Double Tree Hotel 4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham NC 27703.

Judging will begin at 9:45 a.m. Show will open to the public at noon.

Only specifically authorized personnel will be allowed in the show area during judging.

The Classification Committee or Show Chairman may divide, sub-divide, combine or create groups as necessary.

Youth exhibitors (persons under 19 years of age) who enter specimens or seedlings will compete with adults. Show judges are not permitted to exhibit in this show unless given permission by the Show Chairman.

The Show Committee will exercise all possible care but is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.

Exhibits will remain in place until 2:00 p.m. on April 25. Exhibits must be removed by 2:30 p.m. on April 25.

SPECIAL RULES – HORTICULTURE DIVISIONS

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 class 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.

The horticulture and seedling divisions are open to any grower.

Entries (except for seedlings) 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 or as separate exhibitors (but not both in the same show) provided they both work in the 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.

Exhibitors may enter only one stalk of a variety in single specimen and seedling sections, but may enter any number of varieties.

Unnamed stalks (except seedlings), potted exhibits (except for entries in the container section) 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."

Containers will be furnished for all single specimens, unless the stalk is too large to fit into the provided bottle; then the exhibitor may provide a clear or pale green container. Containers appropriate for the exhibit must be furnished by the exhibitors of collections. The only stipulation is that the containers must be made of transparent materials.

Paper toweling will be furnished by the Show Committee for bracing stalks at the necks of containers. Other material is allowed with permission of the Show Chairman.

Single specimens will be placed by the Placement Committee. Collections may be placed by the exhibitor.

An English Box will consist of six individual flowers of the same classification of iris. Flowers may be all different.

SPECIAL RULES – HORTICULTURE (cont.)

cultivars or all of the same variety. Each blossom must be correctly named and labeled. A 3” X 5” card with the names of the iris in the correct position must be prepared and mounted outside the box. Reservations are required, Contact Heather Haley (707-315-0866; Heather.Haley@gmail.com). Sections or groups for bulbous iris, collections, English Boxes, container-grown iris, and single blossom entries **are eligible** to receive award ribbons, special section awards, and section rosettes. Award ribbons for bulbous iris, collections, English boxes and container-grown iris are included in the tally for Silver and Bronze Medals/Certificates. All of these sections (bulbous iris, collections, English boxes, container-grown iris, and single blossom entries) **are NOT eligible** for Best Specimen of Show Award.

DIVISION 1: OPEN HORTICULTURE

- SECTION A. Tall Bearded Iris (TB)
- SECTION B. Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB)
- SECTION C. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)
- SECTION D. Intermediate Bearded (IB)
- SECTION E. Border Bearded (BB)
- SECTION F. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB)
- SECTION H. Any other Bearded
- SECTION I. Siberian (SIB)
- SECTION J. Louisiana (LA)
- SECTION K. Any other Beardless
- SECTION L. Historic Iris (introduced in 1995 or before). Include year of introduction on entry tag. For an iris that has not been introduced, the date of registration can be used.

DIVISION 1: OPEN HORTICULTURE (cont.)

- SECTION M. Aril (AR) and Arilbred (AB)
 - Group 1. Aril
 - Group 2. Arilbred
 - Group 3. Arilbred median
 - Other groups as needed
- SECTION N. Species (SPEC) and Species-hybrid (SPEC-X)
- SECTION O. Bulbous Iris (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
- SECTION P. Collections (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
 - Group 1. 3 stalks/one variety
 - Group 2. 3 stalks/all different
 - Group 3. 5 or more stalks/one variety
 - Group 4. 5 or more stalks/all different
- SECTION Q. English Box (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
- SECTION R. Container-grown iris (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
- SECTION S. Single Blossom (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show, Sweepstakes awards, or Silver or Bronze Medals)

DIVISION II – SEEDLINGS

Any un-introduced 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. An iris that has been registered, but not introduced, may be entered in the Open Horticultural Division or in the Seedling Division, but not both, in the same show. Only entries in the Seedling Division may be considered for an Exhibition Certificate.

DIVISION III – EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS

Any educational exhibit must fit on a tabletop 6' X 3'. Contact the Show Chairman to reserve space and confirm objectives and awards at least a week before the Show is held.

AWARDS - All are American Iris Society Awards

All exhibitors are eligible for ribbons and awards.

Ribbons: Each specimen can be awarded **only** one ribbon. One first-place, one second-place, and one third-place ribbon may be given to each cultivar in any section **except** in the Seedling Division. As many honorable mention ribbons may be awarded as the judges deem worthy.

Best Specimen of Show (seedlings, bulbous iris, English box, container-grown iris, collections sections, and single blossom entries excepted) – Large purple rosette and certificate.

Two runners-up to Best Specimen of Show: Small purple rosette. (Each runner-up must have earned a first place ribbon).

Horticultural Sweepstakes (most blue ribbons): Silver Medal and Certificate and large purple rosette. [There must be at least five (5) exhibitors and at least twenty (20) cultivars.]

Horticultural Sweepstakes Runner-Up (second most blue ribbons): Bronze Medal and Certificate [There must be at least five (5) exhibitors and at least twenty (20) cultivars.]

In the event of a tie for any medal or certificate award, second-place ribbons will be counted. If a tie still exists, third-place ribbons are to be counted; and if a tie still persists, honorable mention award ribbons are to be counted. If such procedure does not determine a winner, duplicate Silver Medals (and NO Bronze Medal) will be awarded. If the tie involves the Bronze Medal, duplicate Bronze Medals will be awarded.

Best Seedling: Purple rosette and Exhibition Certificate. An Exhibition Certificate will also be awarded to any seedling receiving five (5) or more votes from fully accredited AIS judges attending the show. Ballots are available at the Seedling Division. Judges will please seal ballots and give to the Show Chair.

A **Section Medal Certificate** for most first-place ribbons in a section may be awarded in each section where there are at least three exhibitors and at least five cultivars in the section.

A **Best Specimen of Section Rosette** may be awarded in each section where there are at least three exhibitors and at least five cultivars in the section.

Educational Exhibit may receive the Bronze Medal and Certificate for outstanding educational exhibit.

Artistic (Design)

Best Design of Show: Large purple rosette and Certificate.

Artistic Sweepstakes: Large purple rosette and Certificate.

**“America The Beautiful”
DIVISION IV - ARTISTIC**

DESIGN RULES AND REGULATIONS

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

Note:

Judges are requested to write comments for each design on a 3” X 5” card provided by the Show Committee. This will encourage and educate the exhibitor. Comments should include a positive comment and any errors should be based on the principles of design in a constructive manner.

“America The Beautiful”

Class 1. “O beautiful for spacious skies” – A modern design with two or more irises emphasizing space. The exhibitor may supply an accessory or background to enhance the arrangement. Limited additional dried or fresh material may be used but iris should be dominant in the arrangement. Size of the arrangement is limited to 3’ wide.

Class 2. “- for amber waves of grain” – A traditional line design with three or more irises. The exhibitor may supply an accessory or background to enhance the arrangement. Limited additional dried or fresh material may be used but iris should be dominant in the arrangement. Size is limited to 3’ wide.

Class 3. “-from sea to shining sea” – Feature one or more irises in a design with water showing. The exhibitor may supply an accessory or background to enhance the arrangement. Limited additional dried or fresh material may be used, but iris should be dominant in the arrangement. Size limited to 3’ wide.

ENCIS OFFICERS

President	Susan Miller
Vice President	Alleah Haley
Secretary	Amy Fletcher
Treasurer	Dean Richards

SHOW COMMITTEE

Show Chair	Heather Haley (707) 315-0866
Staging	Chris Broberg
Classification	Lois Rose
Clerks	Lewis Bozard
Placement	Lisa Geist
Information/Display Table	Susan Grigg, Glenn Grigg
Show Clean-up	All ENCIS members



You are invited to the 2025 AIS Region 4 Spring Conference, to be held Friday and Saturday, April 25-26, at the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park (RTP), I 40 @ Page Road [4810 Page Creek Lane, Durham, NC 27703]

The Conference kicks off for early birds on Thursday evening with a discussion on how to capture the best photographic images of our favorite flower, presented by Anita Moran.

Friday starts with an iris show and classroom judges training, followed by lunch, viewing of silent auction items, the first garden visit, a “welcome” dinner and the perennial favorite live-plant auction.

Saturday begins on the tour bus headed to the second garden. Choose a more leisurely tour of extensive iris beds (and maybe the koi ponds!) or in-garden judges training followed by a little time to check out some of the iris beds. Lunch is provided during a stop on our way to the final garden, where participants can enjoy a comprehensive collection of Dykes Medal award-winning irises and, if interested, learn a little about growing irises commercially.

At each of the gardens on this year’s garden tour, you will find guest iris beds hosting as many as 107 different varieties of recent bearded iris introductions and seedlings donated by international, national and regional hybridizers including:

Michèle Bersillon
Tom Burseen (by H. Stout)
Paul Black
Adam Cordes
Howie Dash
Diana Ford
Jim Hedgecock
Steve Kelly
Mike Lockett
Patricia McNeal
Randall Moore

Anita Moran
Elizabeth Rieniets
Kimberly Rieniets
Schreiners
Robert Skaggs
Michael Sutton
Don Spoon
Ginny Spoon
Hugh Stout
Rick Tasco
Bill Tyson

We particularly hope that those of you who have not been able to attend a National Convention recently will enjoy this opportunity to see in person a variety of new irises by both new and established hybridizers!

After returning to the hotel from the garden tour, there is a little time to relax and then an optional social hour before the awards dinner. Dinner will be followed by the Region 4 general meeting and then guest speaker Tony Avent, founder of Plant Delights Nursery and the Juniper Level Botanic Garden.

For those who are not in a hurry to leave the Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill area, a number of suggestions for Sunday will be provided, including two ENCIS member open gardens, local botanical gardens, plant nurseries, and other shopping venues.

Suggested Activities for Sunday, April 27

Visit Leslie Tevebaugh’s Open Garden (Durham)
Visit Amy Fletcher’s Open Garden (Haw River)
Visit the J.C. Raulston Arboretum (West Raleigh)
Visit the North Carolina Botanical Garden (Chapel Hill)
Visit North Carolina Farmers Market – plants, veggies, etc. (Raleigh)
Visit Logan’s Garden Shop (Raleigh, at the Farmers Market)
Visit Kiefer Nursery (South Durham)
Shopping at South Point Mall (South Durham)
Shopping at Brier Creek (NE Raleigh)

**RAFFLE and SILENT AUCTION
AIS REGION 4 SPRING MEETING
APRIL 25 – 26, 2025**

Come and see what iris treasures await you in North Carolina this spring. If you are lucky you may win a one-of-a-kind 50 x 60" blanket adorned with colorful irises, or you may take home a 32x32" picture of an iris garden. A chance for either is just \$5 or \$20 for 6 tickets. Good luck!



50 x 60" Iris blanket



32 x 31" Iris Garden Painting

The silent auction has something in store for everyone: iris jewelry, books about iris culture, clothes and handbags that feature irises, and much more. Bid early and often to be sure you get that special item.

Be sure to register and book your hotel room early. Space is limited. We look forward to seeing you.

**AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
REGION 4 SPRING MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

Schedule of Events

April 24 – April 26, 2025

DoubleTree Hotel Research Triangle Park
4810 Page Creek Ln., Durham, North Carolina

Thursday, April 24

6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Registration	Pre-function area
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.	Photographing Irises	Azalea Room - Anita Moran, Presenter

Friday, April 25

7:00 a.m.	Breakfast on Your Own	Hotel restaurant or other
7:00 a.m. – noon	Registration	Pre-function area
7:30 a.m.	Set up silent auction/raffle	Ballroom
7:30 a.m.	Preparation of show entries	Ballroom
8:00 – 9:30 a.m.	Submit show entries	Ballroom
9:45 – 12:00 a.m.	Judging the Show	Judges Panel: TBD
9:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Judges Training (topic Pseudatas, Carol Warner)	Azalea Room
12:00 p.m.	Silent auction open	Ballroom
12:00 p.m.	Show open	Ballroom
11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Lunch	Pre-Function area & Upper Courtyard
12:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Region 4 Board Meeting	Azalea Room
2:00 p.m.	Show closes	
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Miller Open Garden	Miller Garden (7613 Hazelhurst Cir., Apex NC)
7:00 p.m.	Welcome Dinner	Pre-Function area & Upper Courtyard
7:45 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.	Region 4 Plant Auction	Ballroom

Saturday, April 26

8:15 a.m.	Bus arrives at the front of the RDU/RTP DoubleTree Hotel.	
8:30 a.m.	Leave Hotel for the Richards Garden	
9:15 a.m.	Arrive at Richards Garden (3102 Hester Rd., Creedmoor NC)	
9:30-10:30	Judges Training – Ginny Spoon, TB Garden Judging	
11:15 a.m.	Leave Richards Garden	
11:30 a.m.	Lunch & Mini-Session at Creedmoor Community Center	
12:30 p.m.	Bus leaves for Broley Homestead	
2:00 p.m.	Arrive at Broley Homestead (1423 Pleasant Ridge Rd., Ramseur, NC)	
	Afternoon Snack	
2:15 p.m.	Talk on Commercial Iris Production	
3:15 p.m.	Bus leaves for Hotel	
4:50 p.m.	Arrive back at Hotel, Free time	
6:00 p.m.	Social Hour	Pre-function area and Bar
7:00 p.m.	Silent Auction closes	Ballroom
7:00 p.m.	Awards Dinner	Ballroom
7:45 p.m.	Region 4 Member Meeting: Roll Call, Invitation to Fall Conference	
8:15 p.m.	Guest Speaker - Tony Avent, Plant Delights Nursery Owner & Juniper Level Botanic Garden	
Founder		
9:00 p.m.	Door Prizes	



AIS Region 4 “Diamond Jubilee” Spring Meeting

April 24-26, 2025

DoubleTree by Hilton at Research Triangle Park
 4810 Page Creek Ln
 Durham, NC 27703
 (919) 941-6000

2025 MARKS the 60TH ANNIVERSARY of the Eastern North Carolina Iris Society. Please join us!

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration is limited, so please get yours in early!

Name (1) _____ Chapter/Region _____
 Name (2) _____ Chapter/Region _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ Email: _____

Full registration: \$135 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____ Youth registration: \$80 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____
 Friday only: \$90 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____ Saturday only: \$90 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____
 Friday dinner only: \$60 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____ Saturday dinner only: \$60 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____

Cancellation/refund date is March 30

After March 30, full registration will be:

Adult: \$160 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____ Youth: \$105 x ___ person(s) = \$ _____

Do you have any special dietary restrictions?

If so, please contact Diana Dudley via email: doggieviet2024@gmail.com by April 10, 2025.

How many will attend Judge’s Training on Friday, April 25 _____? Saturday, April 26 _____?

CARPOOL DRIVER VOLUNTEERS

Are you willing to be a driver for the Spring Regional Meeting? YES NO (You must be able to accommodate 3-5 people in total). We will need carpooling for Friday and possibly a few Saturday.

Type of vehicle _____ # of available seats _____

*****ON SATURDAY, WE HIGHLY ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO TAKE OUR CHARTERED BUS AS PARKING IS VERY LIMITED AT ONE OF THE GARDENS!*****

Please mail completed Registration Form with a check payable to ENCIS (Eastern North Carolina Iris Society) and mail by March 28, 2025

Dean Richards
 3102 Hester Rd.
 Creedmoor, NC 27522.

For alternate payment, please contact Dean Richards via email at beehappy3102@gmail.com

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Anita V Moran
630 Third St
Aberdeen MD 21001

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