

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 1

January-February 2018

2018 Calendar *Mark your calendars now!*

Sunday, January 28, 2018: 1:30 p.m.
CHIS Meeting, East Greenbush Community Library. **Speaker: Emily DeBolt, owner, Fiddlehead Creek Native Plant Nursery** in Washington County will give a talk entitled "Go Native: An Introduction to Gardening with Native Plants".

Sunday, February 18, 2018: 11:30 a.m.
Doldrums Pot-luck Party and Speaker at Albany County Cooperative Extension, Martin Road, in Voorheesville. Hosted by Hudson-Adirondack Daylily Society. **Speaker Bill Waldrop from Kennesaw Mountain Daylilies in Georgia** (they grow irises and hostas, too!). Bring a dish to share, get there at 11:00 if you want to help set up.

Sunday, March 19th, 2018: 1:30 p.m.
CHIS Meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Speaker TBA

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Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org

An Introduction to Gardening with Native Plants

At our first meeting of the New Year on Sunday, January 28, 2018, join Emily DeBolt, owner of Fiddlehead Creek Native Plant Nursery, to learn about the benefits and beauty of gardening with native plants. Learn which plants are great for monarchs and other pollinators and which plants can grow in tough sites such as clay soils or dry shade. Emily will introduce some of the native plants available for gardening, the benefits of gardening with natives, and will share some of her favorite natives from her own gardens.

Emily DeBolt owns Fiddlehead Creek Native Plant Nursery, which specializes in native plants for sustainable landscapes. Fiddlehead Creek Nursery is located in Hartford, New York, near Fort Ann in Washington County. Emily has years of experience working with natives as alternatives to invasives, as well as natives for rain gardens, pollinator gardens, shoreline buffers, and more. Emily has her bachelor's degree from Cornell University and master's degree from SUNY-College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse. She is a New York State Certified Nursery Landscape Professional and was selected as the 2012 recipient of the New York Native Plant Conservationist of the Year by the New York Flora Association. Emily and her husband Chris started Fiddlehead Creek in 2009 because of her love for native plants and her desire to make them more available in everyday landscapes.

The East Greenbush Community Library is located on Community Way, off Michaels Road in East Greenbush, New York. If you need driving directions to the library, you can go online to www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org, hit "contact us" and in the lower right corner is a map and a way to access directions.



Linda says...

Happy New Year, all -

It seems like an age since we've had a meeting. I'm really pleased that we will have Emily DeBolt of Fiddlehead Creek Nursery near Fort Ann as our speaker. Her topic, gardening with native plants, is one that all of us are interested in – keeping our gardens as natural and native as possible to prevent loss due to climactic conditions and to help keep pollinators happy! Please join us on Sunday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m. at the East Greenbush Library and bring a friend and a dessert to share.

The February 18th meeting will be the annual Doldrums Party at the Albany County Cooperative Extension in Voorheesville. This is a pot-luck luncheon with an invited speaker. The Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society is hosting this year (we do it next year) and they have invited a speaker who specializes in daylilies but also grows irises and hostas, so he should be able to keep all of us happy. So bring your favorite dish and a friend at 11:30 a.m., Sunday, February 18. It's sure to be lots of fun. If you have anything to contribute to the door prize table, please bring that as well. I know HADS always does a great job with the door prizes, but we should all be contributing something if we can.

On Sunday, November 19th we had our annual Holiday Party. It was a small but happy band of gluttons who enjoyed the feast and the door prizes.

As you all know, we are always looking for speakers for our meetings. Let me know if you have any ideas, or if you go to a meeting or class where there is a particularly interesting talk. You can write me a note on email (see the front page for my address). Thanks.

- Linda

This is a combined January-February newsletter. You will get (probably) an email reminding you of the Doldrums Party next month. Euthemia is expecting her first grandchild any time in February, so she'll possibly be communicating from Baltimore. Hopefully it will all work out fine coming from her iPad!

2018 AIS National Convention: New Orleans!

The American Iris Society is holding its 2018 annual convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, from April 9-14. If you would like information on the convention, go directly to www.2018irisconvention.org and it will bring you up to the site. The convention this year will be held in conjunction with the Society for Louisiana Irises.

The 2018 AIS and SLI Convention will offer its visitors several tours of outstanding public gardens in New Orleans, on the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain and in Baton Rouge — they all boast beautiful collections of Louisiana irises, of course, but with much more to see.

This is an opportunity for you to learn a LOT about Louisiana Irises, which do very well in our northern climates. And it's a wonderful opportunity to go to New Orleans before it gets too hot there. All tours and trips to the gardens are by bus with ample opportunity to wander the sites. Sounds like a trip to start planning right now! We're going to need it after this winter.

Here is some information from the website.

AIS/SLI 2018 Convention April 9-14 New Orleans, LA www.2018irisconvention.org
2018 AIS Convention Chair: Paul W. Gossett
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SLI 2018 Convention Co-Chair: Joe Musacchia
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2018 Convention Headquarters:
Hilton New Orleans Airport Hotel
901 Airline Drive, Kenner, LA 70062
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website: www.neworleansairport.hilton.com

Doldrums 2/18

Be sure to come to the Doldrums Party on Sunday, February 18 at 11:30 a.m. (see calendar on Page 1 for information). Bring a covered dish to share, dessert, salad, whatever you are good at, and a contribution to the door prize table if you've got something people would like. Expect an interesting talk, good company, and phenomenal food!