

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 6

June-July 2018

2018 Calendar

**** Change of Venue – Please note! ****

Saturday, June 2: Iris Show, East Greenbush Community Library. Open to the public at 2:00. Exhibitors please arrive by 10:00 a.m. For information on how to enter your irises for the show, contact Kathryn Mohr at kemohrke@aol.com. See attached flyer, and please **post it if you can!**

Sunday, June 10: Spring Bus Trip to **Elizabeth Park Gardens** in Hartford, CT and John O'Brien Nursery in E. Granby, CT. Leave Crossgates Mall at 8:00 a.m. See article on page 2 and send in registration form attached with your check for \$40 per person. After June 1 call Euthemia to see if there are additional places left.

Wednesday, August 1: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Rhizome Prep party at Euthemia's. Bring your clearly labeled iris rhizomes to prep for our Rhizome Sale on August 4 at Faddegon's.

Saturday, August 4: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Rhizome Sale at Faddegon's Nursery. The rhizome sale of the year! Be sure to put it on your calendar so you don't forget! And if you have a place you can **post the flyer** advertising the sale, it will be appreciated. Supermarkets, libraries, any public bulletin board works well.

Information coming soon! Hold the dates!

Friday, October 19 and Saturday, October 20, Region 2 of American Iris Society Fall Meeting, hosted by Capital Hudson Iris Society, will be held at the Delmar Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker, iris judges training, silent auction, good food! More in later newsletters.

Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org

June 2nd Iris Show

They've started, they've started! Finally after our prolonged cold spring, the irises are beginning to bloom, just in time for the CHIS Iris Show on Saturday, June 2nd at the East Greenbush Library. It's a wonderful event, fun to enter and so enjoyable to visit. Bring the family to see the exquisite display! Iris judges will be coming from outside our club to view the specimens and give awards. Who will be Best in Show this year?

Please think about entering the show with your best looking specimens, labeled with the name of the iris. If you are unsure of the name, bring it anyway and maybe one of us who are prepping our irises will know what it is. Those who are bringing irises to show should be at the East Greenbush Community Library when it opens at 10:00 am because it takes time to clean them and set them up for display. For those of you who simply want to view some beautiful irises (and think about what you want to put in your garden in the future), the show is open to the public from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kathryn Mohr at kemohrke@aol.com.

June 10th Bus Trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford

There are still tickets left for the bus trip on Sunday, June 10, to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, Ct. and to John O'Brien's Nursery in East Granby, Connecticut. If you've been waiting to sign up until you knew your schedule (and until the weather warmed up), wait no longer! We expect to get the bus filled by June 1st, next Friday. We can take reservations after that time only if there are spaces remaining. You can always call Euthemia at 518 439-3758 to find out if there are any spaces left.

Elizabeth Park is on the national register of historic places. There are just over one hundred acres of formal gardens (two rose gardens), a perennial garden, green space, recreational facilities, walking loops and the Pond House Café. Many people have it on their "bucket list" of places to visit – come see why!

The Wade bus will leave Crossgates Mall upper peripheral parking lot on the west side of the mall at 8:00 a.m. sharp, so be on time!

Be sure to bring a cardboard carton clearly marked with your name on it if you expect to buy any plants at John O'Brien's Nursery in East Granby, where we will be stopping on the way home. For those of you who have been there, you know you'll need at least one box! He's got gorgeous things and many unusual selections. If you've never been there, you won't believe the numbers and varieties of hostas! It's a great place and will finish the day nicely. Call Euthemia if you have any questions.

Linda says...

Dear Gardeners -

Our Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale was held on Sunday, May 20, at Main Square in Delmar. The results this year were not nearly as good as in past years, partly because the weather had not been conducive to thinking about planting! We hope to do better at the Rhizome Sale!

And finally, my irises are blooming! Right in time, too. The Iris Show will be held next Saturday, June 2, at the East Greenbush Community Library. The show opens to the public at 2:00. If you want to show your named iris, come at 10:00 to prep them and set them up for the judges. See the article on Page 1.

We've planned the spring bus trip this year to **Elizabeth Park Gardens** in Hartford, CT. with a stop on the way home at one of our favorite spots, John O'Brien Nursery. Be sure to bring a marked cardboard carton with your name on it to put your plants in! There's a description of the two sites we'll visit on the attached registration form. Log on to their websites and check it all out, sign up using the attached form and send in your check. It will be a wonderful trip. Use the attached form to make your reservation if you haven't done it already. There are still a few seats left.

After that is a little hiatus until Wednesday morning, August 1, when we bring our iris rhizomes to Euthemia's house in Delmar to prep them for the Iris Rhizome sale on Saturday, August 4. Most of you know about the sale and how it affords us all an opportunity to add to our irises (and not just tall bearded!).

I hope to see you at the Iris Show and on the bus! Happy gardening.
- Linda

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August 1st Rhizome Party And August 4th Sale

The Iris Rhizome Dig is on Wednesday, August 1st at Euthemia's home, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, from 9-12. At the dig we'll take your clumps of clearly labeled irises (put them in separate plastic bags and write on the outside of the bag which one is inside), we'll clean, trim and divide them into separate rhizomes, and mark each rhizome with a label that has the name and description of the flower. Then we put them into a bag that has a picture and description of the iris on it and bring the bags of rhizomes to the Rhizome Sale at Faddegon's Nursery on Saturday, August 4th. Anyone planning on digging irises from their garden should **let Euthemia know their names by July 26th** (at the latest, earlier is better). She'll make labels and pictures for the bags so the work goes quickly at the Dig. In addition to what we dig here, Bob and Ann Keup are planning to send some of their bearded irises from Maine for the sale. Even if you don't have any irises to contribute to the sale, your help will be appreciated at the dig. You'll enjoy the camaraderie and learning as well as the coffee and bagels!

The sale is just a few days later, on Saturday, August 4th, from 9-12 at Faddegon's Nursery, 1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7) in Latham. As everyone who has been there knows, the Rhizome Sale is the best place to buy new bearded irises! If you have any questions, call Euthemia at 439-3758 or send her an email.

Perennial Sale

Although the turnout was a little off because of cold weather this spring, we still managed to net about \$1,000 at the Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale at Main Square in Delmar on May 20th. Thanks to all who helped!

April 29th Meeting on Container Gardening

Our thanks go out to Christine Saplin, Master Gardener from the Albany County Cooperative Extension, who gave a great talk on "Container Gardening – A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!" at our meeting on April 29. Christine explored the basics of container gardening as well as the potential that containers offer in growing ornamental plants and vegetables.

**CHIS Bus Trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, Connecticut
and John O'Brien Nursery in East Granby, Ct.
Sunday, June 10, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Capital Hudson Iris Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, Connecticut, on Sunday, June 10. **The Wade bus will leave Crossgates Mall upper peripheral parking lot on the west side of the mall at 8:00 a.m. sharp, so be on time!** The cost is \$40 per person including a bagel and juice breakfast on the bus. Fill out the form below, enclose a check made out to **CHIS**, and send it to the address indicated. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Elizabeth Park has many gardens to visit. Established in 1904, the Elizabeth Park Rose Garden is the oldest municipal rose garden and the third largest in the United States today. In addition, the Heritage Rose Garden, with the magnificent fragrances of old roses, is known throughout the country. The Perennial Garden was redesigned by Frederick McGourty in the 1980s and over 1600 new perennials were added. There are annual gardens, a shade garden, greenhouses, a Pond House Garden with a café, ponds and stone bridges. You won't be bored at Elizabeth Park and you'll probably have a hard time seeing it all in one day. Log onto www.elizabethparkct.org to get a hint of what's in store.

On the way home, we will stop at John O'Brien's Nursery in East Granby, Connecticut, where you will be able to buy beautiful perennials, shrubs and their specialty, hosta. They have hundreds of hosta. Be sure to bring a large carton or two with you to store your purchases under the bus.

Fill out the form below and send it with a check for \$40 per person made out to **CHIS** to Euthemia Matsoukas, CHIS Newsletter Editor, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, New York 12054. You will receive an email acknowledging receipt of your registration form. For questions, call Euthemia at 518 439-3758.

(Tear off , fill out and mail form as indicated below. Keep the top part of this form for reference.)

Name(s) – list main contact first:

Address of main contact:

Email of main contact:

Phone Number(s) of main contact:

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for # _____ people to attend the CHIS bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, CT on Sunday, June 10. We will be at the bus at 8:00 a.m. sharp.

Mail this form and check made out to **CHIS** to
Euthemia Matsoukas, CHIS Newsletter Editor,
13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, New York 12054.

If you have any questions, call Euthemia at 518 439-3758. Feel free to duplicate this form or email it to a friend.

The Capital-Hudson Iris Society presents their annual

Iris Show



Saturday, June 2nd

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

East Greenbush Library

**2 Community Way, Off Michaels Road
East Greenbush, NY**

This judged cut-flower show will have a generous display of named irises of all sizes and varieties grown by iris lovers from around the Capital Region. For additional information, call 518 952-4995.

Iris Rhizome Sale

Saturday, August 4th

9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Faddegon's Nursery

**1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham
about 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6**



Ready-to-plant rhizomes of bearded irises: tall bearded, medians, miniature tall bearded, standard dwarf bearded and miniature dwarf bearded iris

For information call 518 439-3758 or 952-4995