

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 5

May 2018

2018 Calendar

Sunday, April 29, 2018: 1:30 p.m., CHIS meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Christine Saplin "Container Gardening - A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!" (See article on Page 2)

Thursday, May 3, 2018: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Digging and Potting Party at Euthemia's, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar. Bring your Siberians and perennials to divide and pot up for our sale on May 20. 518 439-3758 for directions.

Saturday and Sunday, May 12 & 13: Tulip Festival, Washington Park, Albany. Happy Mother's Day Weekend!

Sunday, May 20: 9:00 a.m. Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale, Main Square, 318 Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Rain or Shine. See flyer attached.

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

Saturday, June 2: Iris Show, East Greenbush Community Library. Open to the public at 2:00. For information on how to enter your irises for the show, contact Kathryn Mohr at kemohrke@aol.com. See attached flyer.

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 (first come, first served).

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!

*Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org*

Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale Sunday, May 20th

Sunday, May 20 at 9:00 a.m. is the annual Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale at Main Square parking lot, 318 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar. Members of CHIS will be getting together next week to pot up the hundreds of irises and perennials from our own gardens as well as a substantial contribution from our co-founders, Bob and Ann Keup in Maine. We'll be careful to wash all roots in bleach solution and pot plants in sterile soil-less mix, to avoid any contamination from jumping worms or bugs. As usual, there will be a special selection of perennials from a wholesaler that we sell at discounted prices. It's a wonderful sale, people come back year after year to replenish their gardens with plants guaranteed to grow in our climate. Be sure to get there early so that you don't miss out on the best selection!

Digging and Potting Party Thursday, 5/3

Calling all retirees or people with flexible schedules! There will be a Digging and Potting Party at Euthemia's house on Thursday morning, May 3rd at 9:00 a.m. Even if you have no experience and don't have beardless irises or perennials to pot up, we need you! We're good trainers, the camaraderie is truly inspiring, and you'll learn a lot. If you have irises that you want to divide and they are named varieties, please let Euthemia know so that she can prepare the labels for the pots in advance. It makes the whole process go so much more quickly. And of course, any perennials you have that you think would sell, please bring them. It's a good time to start digging! Call Euthemia at 518 439-3758 or email her if you have any questions.

June 2nd Iris Show

Although spring has been having a difficult time showing up in our part of the world, we know that by June 2nd there will be a lot of irises in bloom in time for the Iris Show. This year the Iris Show will be at the East Greenbush Community Library (rather than Bethlehem) because of construction at the old site. Please think about entering the show with your best looking specimens. They need to be labeled with the name of the iris. If you are unsure, bring it anyway and maybe one of us who are prepping our irises will know the name. Those who are bringing irises to show should be at the 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 at 2:00 p.m. Contact Kathryn Mohr if you have any questions at kemohrke@aol.com.

See Page 2 for Bus Trip info

Linda says...

Dear Iris Folks –

This is it – six weeks of intensity! A late April meeting (the 29th), the May 3 digging party, the May 20 Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale, the Iris Show on June 2 and the bus trip on June 10! There are a lot of activities and they will all be fun. The details are all written up in this newsletter.

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, where we can add to our perennial, shrub and hosta collections. Be sure to bring a marked cardboard carton with your name on it to put your plants in! The 101-acre Elizabeth Park has a beautiful perennial garden designed by Frederick McGourty, the first public rose garden in the country, both a Heritage Rose Garden and another more contemporary Rose Garden. There's a full description on the attached registration form. Log on to their website and check it all out, sign up using the attached form and send in your check. We must receive your registration by June 1st. It will be a wonderful trip.

Our speaker for April 29 is Christine Saplin, a Master Gardener specializing in Container Gardening. What a great way to augment our perennial beds, decorate our porches and fill in bare spots where we didn't expect them!

The Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale is on Sunday, May 20, the Sunday after Mother's Day as it is every year. And again, Main Square Shoppes in Delmar is allowing us to use their parking lot for the sale. Be there at 9:00 (or even earlier if we finish setting up) and add to your collection of perennials and Siberians at greatly reduced prices. For those of you who have named Siberians to divide and contribute to the sale, we are having our **digging party on Thursday, May 3, at 9:00** at Euthemia's. Please come and help even if you have no plants to contribute.

The Iris Show on Saturday, June 2 has had to be moved to the East Greenbush Community Library, so be sure to change your calendar. 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.

I hope to see you all on April 29th and again at the sale and on the bus!

- Linda

Bus trip on June 10

There are still some seats left for the CHIS Bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, CT on **Sunday, June 10**, from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. The park is particularly famous for its rose gardens. On the way home we will stop at John O'Brien Nursery in East Granby so you have an opportunity to bring home some of his beautiful perennials (especially hosta) and shrubs. Bring a cardboard box with your name on it for storage of your plants on the bus. The cost of the trip (including bagels and juice on the bus) is \$40 round trip. **This year, pre-registration is required. The registration form is attached to this newsletter.** Send in the form and payment as soon as possible – this trip will fill up fast, and it's first come, first served. It's a fabulous park with perennial gardens, spectacular rose gardens – both heritage and contemporary, ponds, and beautiful landscaping. Go to www.elizabethparkct.org to learn more. This is a trip not to be missed!

April 29 meeting on Container Gardening

On Sunday, April 29, 1:30 p.m., at the East Greenbush Community Library, Christine Saplin will give a talk on "Container Gardening – A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!" The meeting will be our final presentation of the season before we begin our iris prep parties, sales, show and bus trip season. The program will explore the basics of container gardening as well as the potential that containers offer in growing ornamental plants and vegetables. The East Greenbush Community Library is located on Community Way, off Michaels Road in East Greenbush, New York. You can go online to www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org, for driving directions. Hit "contact us" and in the lower right corner is a map and a way to access directions. The library doors open at 1:00. Coffee and goodies begin at 1:30, a short business meeting at 2:00 and Christine will begin her talk right after that. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share and please bring a friend or two! All are welcome.

CHIS Contacts

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**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 is sponsoring another fabulous

SIBERIAN IRIS & PERENNIAL SALE

Sunday, May 20th

From 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM



**In the parking lot (rain or shine) at
Main Square Shoppes
318 Delaware Avenue, Delmar**

**Siberian irises, daylilies, hostas, and a wide assortment of
sun and shade perennials from our members' gardens.
The prices and selection will be extraordinary. Don't miss it!**

For information call 518 439-3758

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 952-4995.