

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 2

February-March 2018

2018 Calendar

Mark your calendars now!

Sunday, February 18, 2018: 11:30 a.m. **Doldrums Potluck 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.** Bring a dish to share, get there at 11:00 if you want to help set up.

Saturday, March 3: Rensselaer Master Gardener's Spring Garden Day, 9:45 – 3:30 Tamarac High School. Keynote session: Exploring the Farm to Table Revolution. A variety of available classes, lunch, book and plant sale, and auction. \$30 per person. Space is limited. Go to <http://ccerensselaer.org/events> for info and registration form.

Sunday, March 19th, 2018: 1:30 p.m. CHIS Meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, The Second in our series on Native Plants, Karen Ursula Edmondson, Working with Native Plants: Designing with Nature.

Friday – Sunday, March 23-25: Capital District Flower and Garden Show at Hudson Valley Community College. Be sure to visit our table at the show!

Sunday, April 29, 2018: 1:30 p.m., CHIS meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Speaker on Container Gardening.

Thursday, May 3, 2018: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Digging Party at Euthemia's. Bring your Siberians to divide and pot up for our perennial sale on May 20.

Sunday, May 20: 9:00 a.m. Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale, Main Square, 308 Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Rain or Shine.

Saturday, June 2: Iris Show, Bethlehem Public Library. Open to the public at 2:00.

The Doldrums Party on 2/18 at the Albany County Cooperative Extension

Every year in the middle of February, when we're all feeling down and wishing the sun and warmth would reappear, we have the Doldrums Party at the Albany County Cooperative Extension on Martin Road in Voorheesville. It's a time we get together with the members of the Upstate NY Hosta Society (UNYHS) and the Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society (HADS) to compare notes, eat a great potluck luncheon and hear an inspiring speaker. This year's host group is HADS. If you haven't been there before, do come, you'll have a good time and meet some interesting people.

Bill Waldrop is our speaker for this year's Doldrums party. He operates Kennesaw Mountain Daylilies in Georgia (see their website for more). Bill has been growing Daylilies for over 25 years. He will show us his introductions from 2017 and 2018, his new doubles, and some of the many introductions that have received honors from the American Hemerocallis Society (AHS). In addition to daylilies, Bill and his wife, Diana, have added many irises to their garden and have been adding hostas to their shade areas, as well. Bill will tell us how they avoid providing local deer their daylily and hosta meals. There will be lots of beautiful pictures.

Bill Waldrop practiced law in Georgia for 30 years, retiring in 2007 to grow daylilies full time. He currently has 71 daylily introductions. He has won multiple AHS awards including Honorable Mentions, the Award of Merit, the AHS President's Cup, an Achievement Medal and the Ophelia Taylor Award.

Bring a dish to share, main dish, side dish, dessert, something to add to the door prize table if you can, and a friend. Be there between 11 and 11:30, lunch will be served by 12:00 and Bill's talk will begin after that. If you have any questions, contact Euthemia at euthemia@nycap.rr.com. At the Doldrums, you'll also have an opportunity to sign up for manning the table at the Capital District Flower and Garden Show from March 23-25 at Hudson Valley.



Linda says...

Dear Iris Folks -

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, Bill Waldrop of Kennesaw Mountain Gardens in Georgia. The Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society is hosting this year (we do it next year) and they have invited a speaker 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. You can also use this opportunity to **sign up to man our table at the March 23-25 Hudson Valley Flower Show**.

On March 18th, we'll continue our series on Native Plants with a Catskill Mountain designer, Karen Ursula Edmonson. I'm sorry to have missed our January speaker, and look forward to hearing about designing with native plants from Karen Ursula.

See the Calendar on Page 1 for all the other events, too many to mention here!

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

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Emily DeBolt at January meeting

Emily DeBolt of Fiddle Creek Native Plant Nursery educated close to forty people at the January CHIS meeting, beginning our two-part series on Native Plant Gardening.

Emily covered the following topics: What is a Native Plant, the Difference between Cultivars and Nativars, Why use Native Plants, Invasive Species, and Landscaping with Native Plants. She had many beautiful slides of the plants and their landscaping uses.

She also included information on many websites that are helpful for finding native plants and where to use them. The following are among those she cited, including the Fiddlehead Nursery website that includes many lists such as deer resistant native plants.

New York Flora Association Atlas
USDA
BONAP
Go Botany
Bring Nature Home
Rutgers University Deer Resistant Plant List
- Virginia Dorwaldt

Business Meeting, January 28, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Joanne Maier, in Linda Knipper's absence. Announcements were made concerning the upcoming events which are listed on the front page of this newsletter (See Calendar). Special attention was paid to the upcoming Spring Garden Day run by the Rensselaer County Master Gardener's to be held at Tamarac High School. A three-person panel will comprise the **Keynote Session: How are local farms and local foods changing the way we dine out and eat at home?** Farmer Justine Denison, food writer Deanna Fox and Chef Ric Orlando will explain their roles and give us their insights on the Capital District's Farm To Table Revolution. Featured speaker Kate Kerin will talk about The Magic of Innisfree. For information and a registration form, go to <http://ccerensselaer.org/events>

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