

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY REGION 2 ANNUAL FALL MEETING
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
HELD IN HONEOYE FALLS, N.Y. – OCTOBER 5, 2019 AT 10:45 AM

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Regional Vice President (RVP) Kathryn Mohr presiding. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am. Everyone was welcomed and thanked for attending. Special guest Jody Nolin, AIS President, was introduced as well as guest speaker, Hugh Stout. Special recognition was given to Neil, Cara, Betty and Wendy, members of the Greater Rochester Iris Society who organized the meeting.

2. Roll Call - by Secretary Kate Brewitt

Kathryn Mohr - RVP, Awards & Exhibitions co-chair
Carolyn Schaffner - Assistant RVP, Bylaws Chair
Vaughn Sayles - Treasurer, Membership Chair
Kate Brewitt - Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster
Neil Houghton – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS), representative for Cara Hutchings
Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) President
Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) President
Wendy Roller - Judges Training Chair

Other Attendees

Joanne Bassett, Donna Lowry, E.J. Mattson, Jinny Missons, Jody Nolin - AIS President, Jean Reitzel, Aubrey Roller, Evelyn Roller, Michael Roller, Betty Schnellinger, Hugh Stout

Absent and Excused

Linda Knipper – Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) President, Cara Hutchings – GRIS President, Dorothy Stiefel – Archives, Pat Salhoff - Awards co-chair

3. Additions/corrections to the minutes of the Oct. 20, 2018 meeting

Motion by Terry Laurin to accept the 2018 minutes as circulated. Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Vaughn Sayles reported that the Region is in a sound financial position.

Motion by Neil Houghton to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion passed.

5. Committee Reports

Archives Committee – Dorothy Stiefel had nothing to report.

Awards & Exhibitions – Kathryn Mohr reported that Pat Salhoff volunteered to co-chair this committee. Kathryn is looking for an additional co-chair. Printouts of the updated award specifications were made available.

Kathryn presented the AIS Region 2 show awards as follows,
The Magdalen Award to Evelyn Roller (GRIS). Aubrey Roller was second runner-up at the GRIS show.
The Ruth V. Blenis Award to Maria Gerbracht (WNYIS). Marilee Farry accepted the award for Maria.
The William McGarvey Award to Kate Brewitt (ONIS).
The Ethel Anson S. Peckham for Historic Iris to Virginia Dorvaldt (CHIS)
The Irwin A. Conroe Distinguished Service Award to Carolyn Schnaffer (WNYIS)

Bylaws Committee – Kathryn Mohr reported that a new Bylaw Committee has been formed with Carolyn Schaffner as Committee Chair. Once Carolyn has selected additional committee members they will determine the necessary bylaw changes to allow Region 2 to hold electronic meetings.

Judges Training – Wendy Roller reported that all Judges in the region have completed their three-year judges training requirements. There are 10 Active Masters; 7 Retired Masters and 9 Garden/Exhibition judges plus 1 Apprentice judge.

Membership – Vaughn Sayles reported that in addition to the four affiliate memberships and the four organizational memberships there are 98 members of the American Iris Society who reside in Region 2. AIS Region 2 welcomed four new members this year.

Newsletter – Kate Brewitt reported that two editions came out on time in 2019.

Youth – Kathryn Mohr reported that Joanne Maier has stepped down as Youth Committee chair. Anyone interested in volunteering for the position should contact her. Kathryn also urged each affiliate to reach out to local youth.

Webmaster – Kate Brewitt reported that the website averages 1400 visits per month.

6. New Business

2020 Budget - Vaughn Sayles reported the proposed 2020 budget was for \$1,715.00. This was an increase of \$25 over 2019 due to increased website hosting fees. This still includes \$1,000 allotment for an affiliate who hosts the 2020 annual meeting.

Motion by Terry Laurin to accept the 2020 budget. Motion passed.

Loss of an Affiliate - Terry Laurin reported that the Canadian Iris Society (CIS) and its affiliate, the Southern Ontario Iris Society (SOIS), are disbanding. CIS will communicate to its members that ONIS is offering a free one-year e-membership to those interested.

2020 Region 2 Awards Rotation and Show Dates – Kathryn Mohr reported the Affiliates 2020 show dates and Region 2 awards selection as follows,

ONIS – June 7 (tentative) – The Ruth V. Blenis Award
CHIS – June 1 – The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award for Historic Iris
GRIS – June 7 – The William McGarvey Beardless Iris Award
WNYIS – June 6 (tentative) – The Magdalen Award

Nominating Committee - Carolyn Schaffner proposed the following slate of Officers,

Kathryn Mohr – Regional Vice President (RVP)
Carolyn Schaffner – Assistant RVP
Vaughn Sayles – Treasurer
Secretary position to remain open.

Since there were no nominations from the floor, it was requested that the Secretary record one vote in acceptance of the presented slate of officers.

2020 Region 2 Meeting – Kathryn Mohr announced a committee has been established to explore the possibility of electronic meetings in the future. Updates will be published in newsletter.

7. Other Business

Confirmation of AIS Region 2's compliance with IRS requirements was made to Jody Nolin.

Discussed with Jody various issues such as membership issues in other regions, the future of on-line JT and the status of the JT Handbook update.

8. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned 11:35 am.