

# **Greater Rochester Iris Society**

**an affiliate of the American Iris Society**

**April 2023 newsletter**

**ed. Cara Hutchings**

It looks like spring is finally here, but summer is nipping at its heels. But don't count spring out yet, for all those native New Yorkers, we know that we are still in for some cooler days and nights.

As your garden starts to green up, it's time to take stock of what survived our mild winter and what didn't. If you have maps and lists of garden plants, it's time to get them out and start comparing them with what's in the garden.

At our upcoming meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, we will be discussing ways to identify your plants and how to identify iris that you have lost the labels for. We all have our own method for keeping track of our iris, so please share yours at the meeting.

The meeting will take place at 2 pm at St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Ave.

Bring your calendars, too, as we will discuss when our biannual trip to Iris Country Gardens in Geneva. While there is always something blooming in their garden, we don't want to miss the big iris show this year.

Speaking of shows, we're still working on having an iris exhibition this year; it will all depend on the weather and cooperative blooms of our iris. This will not be an accredited show, just an exhibition to showcase our favorite iris.

Even if we don't have a show this year, there's always Neil Houghton's garden. He will be hosting our annual picnic, a great time to meet some of Neil's other gardening friends and be in a beautiful iris setting. Time and date to be announced, but in the meantime, if you want a sneak peek at his garden, he's always looking for enthusiastic weeders!

After our annual sale, tentatively scheduled for August 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting, where we will be discussing proper planting and soil preparations for all the iris that you bought at the GRIS sale.

And then on October 8<sup>th</sup>, we will be discussing how to winterize your garden, especially your iris.

Hope to see you at our next meeting!

Cara