

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023

IN THIS EDITION



TB 'Summer Peach (Spoon, 2017)

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Who We Are

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

Officers

Regional Vice President (RVP)

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Spencer NY 14883
607-589-7465

Bylaws – Position Open

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Membership

Marilee Farry (See Awards & Exhibitions)

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Affiliate Chairpersons

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

Linda Knipper
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Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Cara Hutchings – thehutchings@mac.com

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

Terrance Laurin – tlaurin@rogers.com

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Marilee Farry – (See Awards & Exhibitions)



'Sweetheart's Folly' (Cassebeer, 1955)
© HIPS Archive

RVP Message

Cara Hutchings, AIS Region 2 RVP



As a new Regional Vice President, I have been looking back on the past, to guide me in the future. I have been an AIS member for almost 20 years; I have seen some great people in the position of RVP and know there are some big shoes to fill. This has led me to review past issues of the Region 2 newsletter, especially the spring issues. (These issues can all be found on the AIS Iris Encyclopedia (WIKI) at [Region2Publications < Hist < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](#). Thanks so much to Kate Brewitt for posting them!)

Previous RVPs have always had a message of anticipation, not only are we starting a new year, but also a new season in our gardens. What surprises do our gardens and our future hold?

As we look at 2023, I can see a few developments on the horizon: WNYIS is working hard to build their membership and showing success; GRIS is looking to encompass more of the central New York State area, getting more people and organizations involved in irises. For the Region, we are looking at upgrading our web presence, a possible in-person Regional Fall Meeting, and developing ideas on how to better communicate between Region 2 members, so these bonds of shared interest and friendship will continue to grow.

That feeling of anticipation and wonder of what the future holds will hopefully guide us through this year, as we work to create a region that has great joy in irises, gardening and the people who love them both.

Fondly,

Cara Hutchings (rvp@aisregion2.org or thehutchings@mac.com)

Our new RVP was unable to supply a picture of herself before publication. Instead, a picture of the SDB 'Cara' (Donald Spoon, 2011) has filled in just nicely! – ed.



Remember the Iris Society of Dallas is hosting the
2023 American Iris Society National Convention
in Grapevine, Texas - April 12 - 16, 2023

March 15th is the last day to register at the full early registration rate of \$349.00. Full registration after March 15th and up to April 1st is \$399.00. Convention details plus a registration form can be found on the convention website, [2023 AIS CONVENTION - Iris Society of Dallas \(irises-dallas.org\)](https://www.irises-dallas.org)

From the Editor's Desk



As I flip the page in my calendar from February to March I am always filled with a sense of hopefulness. The arrival of March means that the worst of winter, such as it was this year, is behind us and soon the *reticulatas* will be blooming in my garden! Last autumn I bought some new cultivars, and I can hardly wait to see them in bloom!

As the affiliates return to their regular meetings after a winter break you will find the upcoming events page full of things to do. Some affiliates are still sorting out the details however these will be communicated on various websites and Facebook pages. You can also contact one of the affiliate's board members, listed with each affiliate's report.

The results of the 2022 AIS Tall Bearded symposium are out. Once again, we have compared them against the Region 2 results to provide our members with an idea of what may perform in their gardens. This may be the last year for this format of the AIS Tall Bearded Symposium. Having sat in on January's AIS Board meeting I understand they are exploring the possibility of redesigning it.

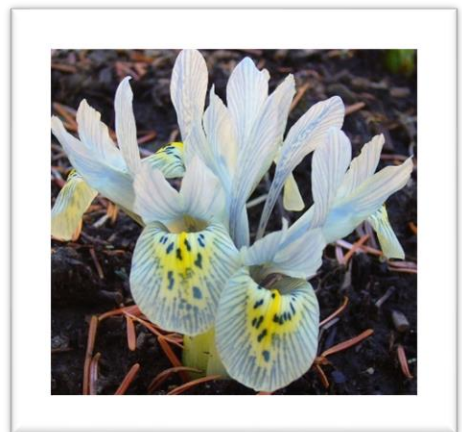
The AIS has a new Artistic Design certification program for judges. In the past, a specially certified judge had to judge the Artistic Division in an AIS sanctioned show. The AIS decided it would be more convenient to offer its own certification program for AIS judges. WNYIS held some training sessions late last year. One of the attendees enjoyed the program so much she shared her experience, and pictures, with us. Hope you enjoy!

The AIS also has a new membership drive in 2023. It is designed to attract new members to AIS Sections or Cooperating Societies however, people renewing their AIS membership are eligible if they upgrade from a 'Basic' to a 'Full' membership. If your membership expires in 2023 think about an upgrade. Details are found on page 12.

To make scrolling through the newsletter easier, links have been added to the topics listed in the table of contents. Click on any topic and you will be taken directly to that article. Pressing the 'home' button will take you back to the table of contents. In the future I will try other enhancements.

Until next time

Kate (just1moreiris@gmail.com)



Iris reticulata 'Katharine Hodgkin'
Both photos © K. Brewitt.



AIS Region 2 Calendar

Six Months of Events At-A-Glance

Print these pages then hang them on your fridge or bulletin board for easy reference!

March

March 5 – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

12:30 pm - Judge Design Certification Test.

1:30 pm - Artistic Design presentations plus March gardening tips.

Location: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY.

Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

March 8 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board meeting

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

March 12 at 2:00 pm – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Presentation: 'Companion Plantings – What to plant with irises to increase color and diversity'

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 12 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls, NY.

Contact: Cara at thehutchings@mac.com.

April

April 1 – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) Facebook Virtual Iris Show begins.

Details found on [ONIS Facebook](#) or contact the Show Chair, Kate, at kbrewitt@rogers.com.

April 2 at 1:30 pm - Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Presentation: 'Nematodes and Methods of Destroying the Iris Borer' plus April gardening tips.

Location: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY.

Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

April 12 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board Meeting via Zoom

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

April 23 at 2:00 pm – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Presentation: 'Ways to identify the NOIDs in your garden, and how to label your irises'.

Location: St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 12 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls, NY.

Contact: Cara at thehutchings@mac.com.

May

May 7 at 1:30 pm – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Presentation on Median Iris plus May gardening tips.

Location: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY.

Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

May 10 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board Meeting via Zoom

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

June



June 2 at 3:00 pm – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Set up for Annual Iris and Perennial Show

Location: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY. Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

June 3 at 1:00 to 4:00 pm – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) Annual Iris and Perennial Show

Location: Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY. Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

June 6 at 7:30 pm – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

Presentation: 'Four Months of Bloom and Beyond'.

Location: McConaghy Centre, 10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, ON. Contact: Terry at tlaurin@rogers.com.

June 14 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board Meeting via Zoom

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

TBD – Field Trip - Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Field trip to the Royal Botanical Garden in Hamilton, ON. Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

July

July 8 - Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) Virtual Iris Show via Facebook

Last day to submit your entries via Facebook. Show Chair: Kate at kbrewitt@rogers.com. On-line voting starts July 10.

July 12 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board Meeting via Zoom

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

TBD – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) Annual Picnic and Potluck Cookout

Location: Stiglmeier Park, Cheektowaga, NY. Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com.

August

August 9 at 7:00 pm - Region 2 Board Meeting via Zoom

Contact Ben Morris (secretary@aisregion2.org) to pre-register.

August 12 – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm– Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) - Iris Rhizome/Plant Sale

In conjunction with the Western New York Hosta Society and the Buffalo Area Daylily Society. Location: Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo, 2351 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY. Contact: Marilee at farmare@aol.com for details.

August 12 and 13 – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) – Iris Rhizome and Plant Sale

Location: Bristol Garden Center, 7454 State Route 96, Victor, NY. Contact: Cara at thehutchings@mac.com.

'Holidays in December' Designs by WNYIS

By Joanne Bassett, Master Judge with photos taken by Dave Baehre, Master Judge

The Horticultural Division is probably the most popular division in an iris show. However, there are also divisions for seedlings, youth, educational, commercial, and artistic design. The Artistic Design Division was judged by trained judges who specialized in this field. In 2022 the AIS developed its own design certification program whereby accredited AIS judges can train in the art of design judging. The program also allows AIS Judges, who have already received training through other garden clubs, to be grandfathered in if specific requirements are met. Several judges in WNYIS expressed an interest in this program and sessions were organized. Joanne Bassett, Master Judge, shares her experiences from one of the sessions held in December.

The Western New York Iris Society is in the process of grandfathering in our AIS judges for the design certificate issued by the AIS. On December 4th our group had the second meeting of this program. Our assignment was to make a design that celebrated "Holidays in December". All our members, judges, and non-judges were invited to participate.

Six of the members took on this assignment. As you can see from Dave Baehre's photos, the designs produced were varied with each designer having their own unique interpretation of the theme.



Arrangement by Marilee Farry



Arrangement by Dave Baehre

Our group is fortunate to have three AIS members, Marilee Farry, Maria Gerbracht, and Annette Kuhn, who are also certified judges of the [8th District Garden Clubs of New York State](#). They skillfully judged each design. Each designer was instructed on what to avoid when creating a design, as well as provided with pointers on how to improve and better meet the design requirements. All other participants gave their critiques. All the discussions were given in such a kind and helpful way that, for me, it was the best meeting we have had. There was much laughter and shared enjoyment.

Of course, we had a delicious meal to close this session. I am looking forward to our next design assignment. I am sure that at our June 3rd show the judges will have many unique and beautifully made designs to review. Know you are invited. (*Join WNYIS at the Julia Boyer Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road, Cheektowaga, NY for this event. Doors open to the public at 1:00 pm. – ed.*)



Arrangement by Chris Krzal



Arrangement by Joanne Bassett



Arrangement by Ida Blasak

2022 AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium

(American Iris Society Results vs Region 2 Best Performers)

When determining which perennials may grow well in their gardens, gardeners will usually look towards the award winners. If you have ever grown Geranium ‘Rozanne’, which received the Award of Garden Merit from the Royal Horticultural Society plus the Perennial Plant of the Year award from the Perennial Plant Association, you will understand the reasoning behind selecting proven winners.

However long-time iris growers will tell you that, regardless of the awards an iris has received, they don’t always perform the same in different parts of the continent. An iris that performs well on the west coast may not perform as well in our colder climate in the northeast. Each of us has our own stories to tell. This is where the results from the AIS TB Symposium can help.

By separating the regional results from the national results you can see which irises perform well in our region. Knowing which irises others have had success with could help you determine which ones may perform in your garden. For this reason it is important that each of us completes the AIS TB Symposium that comes with our AIS Bulletin in the spring.

The results from 2022 show that we continue to select award winners. ‘Immortality’, which has held the number one position since 2018, remains on the list however it has relinquished its crown to the 2021 Wister Medal recipient, ‘Don’t Stop Believing’ (Johnson, 2013).

If you are thinking of adding to your TB collection, you might want to consider one of these beauties. More pictures can be found on the AIS WIKI: [WebHome < Main < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](http://www.irises.org/WebHome/Main/IrisWiki)

<u>AIS 2022 Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
35	1	‘Don’t Stop Believing’ (Wister Medal 2021)	Johnson, 2013
13	2	‘Conjuration’ (American Dykes Memorial Medal 1998)	Byers, 1989









From left to right, ‘Don’t Stop Believing’ and ‘Conjuration’. Photos © K. Brewitt.

<u>AIS Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
17	2	'Daring Deception' (American Dykes Memorial Medal 2021)	Johnson, 2012
55	2	'Insaniac' (Wister Medal 2019)	Johnson, 2012



From left to right: 'Daring Deception', photo © The Shady Spot, and 'Insaniac', photo © Mid-America. Twelve tall bearded irises tied for third place. The AIS ranking is indicated in brackets.

<p>'Before The Storm' (American Dykes Medal 1996) (AIS 2022 Ranking - 35)</p> 	<p>'Beverly Sills' (American Dykes Medal 1985) (AIS 2022 Ranking - 23)</p> 	<p>'Bluebird Of Happiness' (Wister Medal 2021) (AIS 2022 Ranking - 89)</p> 
<p>'Coral Charm' (Honorable Mention 2016)</p> 	<p>'Going My Way' (AIS 2022 Ranking - 70)</p> 	<p>'Gypsy Lord' (American Dykes Medal 2015) (AIS 2022 Ranking - 7)</p> 

'Immortality'
(Award of Merit 1990)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 20)



'Ink Patterns'
(Wister Medal 2013)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 53)



'Laced Cotton'
(Award of Merit 1984)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 85)



'Sharp Dressed Man'
(Wister Medal 2016)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 16)



'Superstition'
(Award of Merit 1981)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 25)



'Titan's Glory'
(American Dykes Medal 1988)
(AIS 2022 Ranking - 41)



The AmazonSmile customer-directed donation program permanently shut down on February 20, 2023.

Thank you to everyone who supported Region 2 of the American Iris Society by shopping on Amazon and using this program!



Membership Corner

Submitted by Marilee Farry, Membership Chair

Currently there are 114 members in Region 2 of the American Iris Society. This number includes the four affiliate memberships (Capital Hudson Iris Society, Greater Rochester Iris Society, Ontario Iris Society, and Western New York Iris Society) and five organizational memberships (Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, Cornell University Library, Jardin Botanique de Montreal Bibliotheque, and the Royal Botanical Gardens.)

Three individuals have joined the AIS since August 1, 2022. Region 2 would like to welcome A. Langhammer (Maple, ON), S. O'Connor (Wappingers Falls, NY), and A. Solla (Trumansburg, NY).

Look Up Your AIS Membership Expiry Date

This link will take you directly to the Web-Based Lookup page, [Web Based Lookup – American Iris Society \(irises.org\)](https://www.irises.org/membership/web-based-lookup). To find your record, type your last name in the search box (case-sensitive) found above the *Membership Good Through* column. You can also sort by region (R02 for Region 2), by name (first or last) or by expiry date (sorted alphabetically by month).

If your AIS membership is expiring in 2023 you may want to take advantage of the AIS 2023 Membership drive!

If your AIS Basic membership (printed bulletin only) expires during 2023 and if, at the time of renewal, you upgrade to a Full membership, (printed bulletin, access to online bulletin, and access to the Irisregister Database) you will receive a voucher for a FREE annual membership to a section or cooperating society to which you are a first-time member.

PARTICIPATING SECTIONS AND COOPERATING SOCIETIES

[Aril Society International \(ASI\)](#)

[Dwarf Iris Society \(DIS\)](#)

[Median Iris Society \(MIS\)](#)

[Tall Bearded Iris Society \(TBIS\)](#)

[Society for Siberian Iris \(SSI\)](#)

[Spuria Iris Society \(SIS\)](#)

[Society for Louisiana Iris \(SLI\)](#)

[Society for Japanese Iris \(SJI\)](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris](#)

[Species Iris Group of North America \(SIGNA\)](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society \(RIS\)](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

[Historic Iris Preservation Society \(HIPS\)](#)

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Submitted by Cara Hutchings, Affiliate Chair

The Greater Rochester Iris Society has been busy planning an activity-filled year for 2023, starting with our first meeting in March.

Our March meeting will be on the 12th, at 2:00 pm in the St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 12 Episcopal Avenue in the town of Honeoye Falls, NY. All our meetings will take place at this location and time.

The topic of our March meeting will be 'Companion Plantings - what to plant with your iris to increase color and diversity in your garden'. Sometimes it is nice to have something else in the garden besides irises (no – this is not blasphemy!).

In April, our meeting will take place on the 23rd. We will be discussing ways to identify your iris and labeling techniques. We all have NOIDs (no ID) in our gardens so we will discuss the resources available to help identify them and how best to keep them labeled so they don't become NOIDs (unless it's a blue self iris - then all bets are off!).

During the summer months we will be keeping busy with a possible iris exhibition, our annual picnic, and a visit to Iris Country Gardens in Geneva, NY. And then of course, our iris rhizome sale which is planned for August 12th and 13th.

In September we will return to our meetings with one planned for the 10th. Just coming off our sale, we will discuss proper planting and soil preparation for the irises that were bought.

Our last planned meeting of 2023 will be October 8th. We will have an open discussion on winterizing your garden, especially your iris. Come and share your best ideas!

Join us on Facebook, [Greater Rochester NY Irises | Facebook](#)

GRIS meets at the second Sunday of the month at St John's Episcopal Church, 11 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls, NY.

GRIS Officers:

Affiliate Chair: Cara Hutchings - thehutchings@mac.com

Vice Chair: Neil Houghton – neil.houghton@me.com or nhoughtonirises@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer: Nate Hutchings - thehutchings@mac.com



*MTB 'Tic Tac Toe' planted with allium, cornflower, and oriental poppies (in bud). A Japanese maple adds color.
Photo © K. Brewitt.*

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, Affiliate Secretary



Get your cameras ready! Our virtual iris show has moved to Facebook. Starting on April 1, you can submit your photos to Facebook. The show schedule will be posted on our Facebook page as well as our website in time for the start date of April 1st. Everyone is welcome to enter. The last day for submissions is July 8th, after which Facebook members will be asked to 'like' their favourites. Prizes will be given to the 'posts' in each class which have the most 'likes'. Contact Kate (email below) with your questions.

On June 6th we will be giving a presentation for the Richmond Hill Garden and Horticulture Society. Join us to discover how planting different types of irises can result in more than four months of iris bloom. The society meets at the McConaghy Centre, 10100 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, ON.

Our Online Rhizome sale is always a success, so we are planning to hold another in July. The Board is currently looking at potential vendors. Contact Terry Laurin if you are interested in receiving a copy of the list of irises in the offering. Canadian orders only please.



Join us on Facebook, [Ontario Iris Society | Facebook](#). Share your gardening experiences, upload pictures from your garden and meet new friends. This year, enter our virtual iris show!

For details on these events, and more, visit our website at [Ontario Iris Society \(google.com\)](http://OntarioIrisSociety.com).

ONIS events are held at the Toronto Botanical Garden,
777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, ON.

ONIS Officers:

Affiliate Chair: Terrance Laurin – tlaurin@rogers.com

Vice Chair: Jinny Missons - jojimissons@sympatico.com

Secretary: Kate Brewitt – kbrewitt@rogers.com

Treasurer: Lyn Hickey – lhickey94@hotmail.com



*Submission from 2022 ONIS
Virtual Iris Show, Siberian 'Creme
Caramel'. Photo © K. Brewitt.*

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Submitted by Marilee Farry, Affiliate Chair

February 5th was our first meeting of 2023. Joanne Bassett gave a presentation entitled 'Beardless Iris Review of Siberian, Louisiana and Ensata Irises'.

Join us at our March 5th meeting when Annette Kuhn will give a presentation on the manipulation of plant material to enhance creative designs. Maria Gerbracht will also give a demonstration on designing table settings. This may be of interest to members who want to learn iris design. For those judges who have been working towards their Artistic Design Certification, the written exam is scheduled for 12:30 pm. Contact Marilee at farmare@aol.com for details.

At our April 2nd meeting David Baehre will report on using nematodes for controlling the iris borer.

May will be a busy month. On May 7th Wendy Roller will give a slideshow presentation on median irises.

Later in the month, we will decorate the Julia Boyers Reinstein Library to publicize our Iris and Perennial Show scheduled for June 3rd. May is also when garden gates are flung open to visitors as the first blooms on the dwarf irises begin to emerge. Let us know if you will be opening your garden.



Marilee reviewing an artistic design arrangement. Photo © Dave Baehre.



*Show Stalks at the 2022 WNYIS
Iris and Perennial Show.
Photo © Dave Baehre.*

The Julia Boyer Reinstein Library will be a beehive of activity on June 2nd. Starting at 3:00 pm we will be setting up for our Annual Iris and Perennial Show. On June 3rd, after judging, the show will open to the public starting at 1:00 pm. The William Mc Garvey Award (highest placed Beardless Iris of the show) is this year's Region 2 award. Contact Marilee at farmare@aol.com for a copy of the show schedule or with any of your questions.

A field trip is being planned to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, Ontario to view the spring irises. We are also planning a cookout/picnic at Stiglmeier Park in Cheektowaga. Details for both events will be in a future edition of the WNYIS newsletter.

Our August iris rhizome sale, which will be run jointly with the Western New York Hosta Society and the Buffalo Area Daylily Society, is planned for August 12th. The venue has changed due to construction at the Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens. Instead, we will meet at the Italian Club in Buffalo.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for our upcoming fall meetings, please contact one of the Board members. Input is always welcome.



Join us on Facebook, [Western New York Iris Society | Facebook](#) or visit our [website](#) to find out more about this Region 2 affiliate.

WNYIS meets the first Sunday of the month at the Julia Boyers Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road South, Cheektowaga, NY.

WNYIS Officers:

Affiliate Chair: Marilee Farry – farmare@aol.com

Vice Chair: Ida Blasak – iblasak7113@gmail.com

Secretary: David Baehre – dwbfarm@gmail.com

Treasurer: Annette Kuhn – akuhn43@yahoo.com



'No Place Like Home' (Black, 2011). Photo © K. Brewitt.

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

CHIS meets at the East Greenbush Community Library, 10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY. For details of 2023 events, contact one of the CHIS officers.

CHIS Officers:

CHIS Chair: Linda Knipper - linda.montanaro@gmail.com – 518-377-4987

Vice Chairs: Dan and Joanne Maier - danjomaier@gmail.com – 518-449-8480

Secretary: Virginia Dorwaldt - vmdorwaldt@gmail.com - 518-439-3110

Treasurer: Don Salhoff - driris2000@hotmail.com 518-439-1484

Newsletter editor: Euthemia Matsoukas euthemiamatsoukas@gmail.com – 518-439-3758

Iris Show Chairs: Kathryn Mohr - kemohrke@aol.com – 518-952-4995

Judges' Training Update

Submitted by Wendy Roller, JT Chair for AIS Region 2

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY – JUDGES and STUDENT JUDGES Status Roster – as of January 1, 2023

<u>Active Master</u>	<u>Garden / Exhibition</u>	<u>Candidate for Judgeship</u>	<u>Retired Master</u>	
David Baehre*	Marilee Farry*	Annette Kuhn*	John Colley	Maria Gerbracht*
Joanne Bassett*	Jinny Missons		Donna James	Maureen Mark
Kate Brewitt	Suzanne Perry		Daniel P. McMillen	Gloria McMillen
Chuck Chapman			Vaughn Sayles	Helen Schuler
Terrance Laurin			Kathleen Shadrack	Dorothy Stiefel
Donna J. Lowry				
Wendy K. Roller				
Janette Smith				

*Currently enrolled in the AIS Artistic Design Judge Accreditation Program.

SPRING 2023 JUDGES' TRAINING (JT) SESSIONS IN REGION 2

There are currently no in-garden JT sessions scheduled within Region 2 during the 2023 bloom season. Judges and student judges will be notified via email if any sessions are planned during the next several months.

PLEASE NOTE: JT sessions must be approved in advance by the Region 2 JT Chairperson, Wendy Roller. Please let her know if any sessions are being proposed within the region during 2023.

JUDGES' TRAINING MANUAL - EDITION 8.22

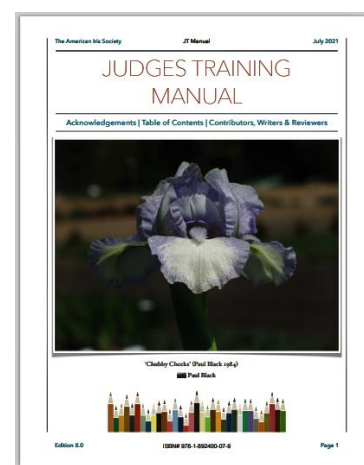
In September 2022 the AIS Judges' Training Manual, edition 8.22 was published. An article in the AIS Bulletin - Winter 2023 edition, outlines the changes. A printable version of the manual can be found on the AIS WIKI: [Info2022AISJudgesHandbook < Hist < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](https://www.irises.org/wiki/Info2022AISJudgesHandbook%20Hist%20IrisWiki).

Retired Master Judge Updates for Judging Local Iris Shows

The most recent editions (8.0 and 8.22) of the AIS Handbook for Judges and Show Officials state the following:

"A retired Master Judge may serve as a show judge as long as they serve on a panel with at least one fully accredited judge. Only one retired judge may serve on a panel. Retired judges may not conduct for-credit judges training courses."

PLEASE NOTE: To judge a show, a retired Master Judge must also be a member in good standing of the American Iris Society.



**REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY ANNUAL FALL MEETING
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2022, AT 7:00 PM VIA ZOOM**

1. Call to order.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm with Regional Vice President, Neil Houghton, presiding.

2. Attendance.

Neil Houghton – Regional Vice President (RVP), Technology Consultant

Cara Hutchings – Assistant RVP, Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) Affiliate Chair

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

Kate Brewitt – Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) Affiliate Chair

Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) Affiliate Chair, Awards & Exhibition Chair, Membership Chair

Wendy Roller – Judges Training Chair

Other Attendees – Joanne Bassett, Kathryn Mohr, Ben Morris, Don Salhoff

Absent - Linda Knipper - Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) Affiliate Chair, Dorothy Stiefel – Archives

3. Additions/corrections to the minutes of October 5, 2021, and September 14, 2022, Board of Directors meetings. Neil Houghton declared both minutes approved as circulated.

4. Officer Reports

RVP Report

Neil Houghton thanked those who stepped in to help in the last few months. He also thanked everyone for their contributions to the Region.

Audit Committee Report

Annette Kuhn reported that the paperwork for the Audit Committee is ready for review. She will email it to all Affiliate chairs, asking one of them to assume the role of Committee chair.

Treasurer Report

Annette Kuhn reported that as of October 1, 2022, Region 2 of the American Iris Society has \$9,399.49 on account. Since January 1, 2022, revenue totaling \$97.75 has been received while \$726.90 has been expended.

A budget for 2023 of \$2,129,00 was proposed. The Newsletter budget decreased by \$50, the RVP AIS Convention registration fee decreased by \$10, and the Treasurer's budget was increased by \$14. Annette to investigate reason for \$2 per month bank charge to determine if it can be avoided.

Motion, as amended, by Neil Houghton to pay the early registration fee to the 2023 AIS National Convention for the RVP or his/her designee. This amount is not to exceed \$350.00. Motion carried.

Motion by Cara Hutchings to accept the Budget as proposed and present it at the General Meeting on October 22nd. Motion carried.

Secretary Report

Kate Brewitt reported that no motions were made during the Board meetings held via Zoom between November 1, 2021, and September 15, 2022.

5. Committee Reports

Archives – Dorothy Stiefel - no report submitted.

Awards & Exhibitions - Marilee Farry reported that WNYIS held a show on June 4th. Wendy Roller will be presented with the Magdalen Award at the General Meeting. There was one virtual iris show in 2022 held by ONIS.

WNYIS will have its 2023 show on June 3rd. CHIS, GRIS, and ONIS have not finalized the dates of their 2023 shows. There are currently no virtual shows planned for 2023.

The Region 2 show awards for 2023 shows were selected as follows,
CHIS – no selection made.

GRIS - The Ruth V. Blenis Award (highest placed Tall Bearded iris).

WNYIS - The William McGarvey Award (highest placed Beardless iris).

ONIS - The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award (highest placed Historic iris).

Judges Training - Wendy Roller reported that 9 judges and 1 apprentice judge completed their three-year requirements. Two judges were granted exemptions to continuing COVID-19 restrictions. During the last year Region 2 judges earned, collectively, 16 hours of credit for in-garden judges' training sessions and 22 hours of credit for attending AIS classroom judges' training sessions held via Zoom.

Membership - Marilee Farry reported that there are 124 members of the American Iris Society residing in Region 2. This number includes four affiliate memberships and five organizational memberships.

The 2022 AIS Membership Drive resulted in 36 new Region 2 members. All received welcome letters. Marilee to draft new welcome letter which is more general in nature. Marilee would like to work with affiliates on ways to ensure AIS membership retention.

Newsletter - Kate Brewitt thanked those who submitted articles. A copy of the newsletter is uploaded to the AIS Iris Encyclopedia online library and sent to the Region 2 Archivist.

Technology Consultant - Neil Houghton reported the Zoom program is available for use by the affiliates.

Webmaster - Kate Brewitt recommended the Board update the program being used for the Region 2 website. Kate will secure additional information on computer compatibility. Discussed increasing budget as timing could affect next year's expenditure. Suggestion made that any overage could be covered by monies from the Miscellaneous category.

Affiliate Updates

Cara Hutchings provided updates on recent and upcoming GRIS meetings. Marilee Farry gave an update on WNYIS' recent meetings and displayed their new brochure. She is also working with Wendy Roller, JT Chair, on creating a session for Artistic Design certification.

Nominating Committee

Cara Hutchings presented the Committee's recommendation for nominations for the 2022/2023 Officers' positions,

Cara Hutchings – Regional Vice President (RVP)

Assistant RVP – Position will remain open

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

Benjamin Morris – Secretary

Motion made by Neil Houghton to accept the Nominating Committee report. Motion carried.

6. Unfinished Business

Concern was raised that the proposed Membership budget for 2023 may not be sufficient to address mailings for membership renewals. Email was suggested as a cost-free alternative.

7. New Business

Budget and show rotation addressed during meeting.

8. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, AIS Region 2 Secretary

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY (AIS) ANNUAL FALL MEETING MINUTES FOR THE GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 22, 2022, AT 10:30 AM VIA ZOOM

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:33 am by Neil Houghton RVP. Everyone was welcomed. Neil thanked everyone for the support provided during the past year.

2. Attendance

Neil Houghton – Regional Vice President (RVP), Technology Consultant

Cara Hutchings – Assistant RVP, Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) Affiliate Chair

Kate Brewitt – Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) Affiliate Chair

Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) Affiliate Chair, Awards & Exhibition Chair, Membership Chair

Wendy Roller – Judges' Training Chair

Other Attendees - Joanne Bassett, Chuck Chapman, Kathryn Mohr, Ben Morris, Don Salhoff.

Absent - Linda Knipper – Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) Affiliate Chair, Annette Kuhn – Treasurer, Dorothy Stiefel - Archives

3. Additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 16, 2021, General Membership Meeting. Kate Brewitt declared the minutes approved as circulated.

4. Treasurer's Report

Neil Houghton explained the Treasurer's Report in Annette's absence. As of October 1, 2022, Region 2 of the American Society Iris Society has \$9,399.49 on account. Since January 1, 2022, revenue totaling \$97.75 has been received while \$726.90 has been expended.

GRIS contributed to the Region after October 1, 2022. It is not included in this report. ONIS will contribute before the end of 2022.

A discussion on the budget followed. The need for an Awards budget of \$200 was questioned given changing attitudes towards trophies. This discussion was tabled in favor of a more in-depth discussion at a future Board meeting.

The Treasurer's budget was discussed. It was suggested that the \$2/month charge was possibly for a paper bank statement. Neil suggested it be investigated if the Region's not-for-profit status would exempt us from bank charges.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings to accept the budget as presented. Motion carried.

5. Audit Committee - Marilee Farry reported that the Treasurer's audit report was accepted by the Audit Committee.

6. Committee Reports - Reports were displayed during the meeting. Committee Chairs filed their reports with the Secretary. These are available upon request.

Archives – no report.

Judges' Training - Wendy Roller reported that she had nothing to add to the report published in the AIS Region 2 Autumn newsletter. Currently there are 8 Active Master Judges, 3 Garden/Exhibition Judges, 1 Candidate for Judgeship, and 11 Retired Master Judges.

Membership – Marilee Farry reported a revised number of 123 members as of today's meeting. This number includes four affiliate memberships and five organizational memberships.

The 2022 AIS Membership Drive resulted in 36 new Region 2 members. The breakdown was, from AIS sections: ASI – 1, HIPS – 8, SIGNA – 1, TBIS – 1, from affiliates: GRIS – 6, ONIS – 5, WNYIS – 13, NYC - 1 (no affiliate). All received welcome letters.

Newsletter – Kate Brewitt thanked those who submitted articles. She also requested that Region 2 members send her their old newsletters so they can be added to the Hager-DuBose Online Library on the AIS WIKI. Wendy thanked Kate, on behalf of the Region 2, for her efforts.

Technology Consultant – Neil Houghton reminded everyone that the Zoom program is available for affiliates to use.

Webmaster – Kate Brewitt reported 2023's website expenditure will be contingent upon the timing of upgrades to the website program. Still pursuing details with HostPapa.

Awards & Exhibitions – Kathryn Mohr reported that Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) has selected the Magdalen Award (highest placed Median Iris) for their 2023 flower show.

Other awards as selected at the Board of Directors meeting are as follows,
GRIS - The Ruth V. Blenis Award (highest placed Tall Bearded iris).
WNYIS - The William McGarvey Award (highest placed Beardless iris).
ONIS - The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award (highest placed Historic iris).

Youth Committee - Neil Houghton reported that the Chair position is vacant, suggesting anyone interested in this position should contact the new RVP.

7. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business from the floor.

8. New Business

1) Budget was addressed during discussion of Treasurer's Report.

2) Show Awards - Marilee Farry reported that one show has been confirmed for 2023. WNYIS will hold its flower show on June 3, 2023. Marilee requested that the other affiliates contact her as soon as they decide upon their show dates.

Marilee Farry presented the Magdalen Award (highest placed median iris) to Wendy Roller for BB 'Brown Berry' exhibited by her at the WNYIS 2022 Flower and Perennial Show. Marilee also thanked Wendy for judging the show.

3) Vote on Officers - Cara Hutchings, Nominations Committee Chair, reported the following nominations for the 2022/2023 Officers' positions,
Cara Hutchings – Regional Vice President (RVP)
OPEN – Assistant RVP
Annette Kuhn – Treasurer
Benjamin Morris - Secretary

Since there were no nominations from the floor, Neil Houghton declared the nominees elected by acclamation.

9. Neil Houghton adjourned the meeting at 11:25 am.

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, AIS Region 2 Secretary



*TB 'Sun King' (J. Stahly, 1977). Photo © K. Brewitt.
High Commendation 1977, Honorable Mention 1978, Judges' Choice 1978, Award of Merit 1980.*



Treasurer's Report

Submitted by Annette Kuhn, Treasurer

As of December 31, 2022, Region 2 of the American Society Iris Society had \$9,337.59 in its checking account. When compared with the January 1, 2022, total of \$10,028.64, total assets have decreased by \$691.05 in 2022.

Total revenue received in 2022 was \$428.04. Affiliate contributions accounted for \$405.00 while \$23.04 in revenue came from Amazon Smile.

Total expenses for 2022 were \$1,119.09. These included \$359.00 for the RVP registration fee for the 2022 National Convention, \$149.90 for the Zoom annual renewal, a donation of \$200.00 in appreciation of the speakers' presentations for our annual 2022 fall meeting in addition to \$200.00 for 2021 annual fall meeting speaker, \$190.19 for the website hosting, and \$20.00 for bank charges.

The annual financial audit was performed by the affiliate chairs and the treasurer submitted information to AIS for the annual IRS filing.

Balances	1/1/2022	12/31/2022
Checking Account	\$10,028.64	\$9,337.59
Total Assets	\$10,028.64	\$9,337.59

Revenue received 2022

Affiliate Contributions	received	\$405.00
CHIS	\$0.00	
GRIS	\$250.00	
ONIS	\$75.00	
WNYIS	\$80.00	
Total	\$405.00	
Interest Income		\$0.00
Total	\$0.00	
Other Revenue		\$23.04
Amazon Smile	\$23.04	
Total	\$23.04	
<u>Total Revenue received 2022</u>		<u>\$428.04</u>

Expenses (2022)	Budgeted 10/05/2021	Expended 12/31/2022	Balance 12/31/2022
Archives	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Judges Training	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Membership	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Newsletter (2 issues)	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
RVP (miscellaneous)	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
RVP (AIS Conv. Reg.)	\$360.00	\$359.00	\$1.00
Treasurer	\$10.00	\$20.00	-\$10.00
Secretary	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Youth Membership	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Fall Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$549.90	\$450.10
Website	\$300.00	\$190.19	\$109.81
Miscellaneous	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Totals	\$2,175.00	\$1,119.09	\$1,055.91

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY COMPARISON OF 2022 AND 2023 BUDGETS

Expenses	Budgeted 2022	Budgeted 2023	Budget Changes
Archives	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Judges Training	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Newsletter (2 issues)	\$150.00	\$100.00	-\$50.00
RVP (miscellaneous)	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
RVP (AIS Conv. Reg.)	\$360.00	\$350.00	-\$10.00
Treasurer	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Secretary	\$10.00	\$24.00	\$14.00
Youth Membership	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Fall Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Website	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$2,175.00	\$2,129.00	-\$46.00



AIS Region 2 Online

Did you know that each affiliate has its own webpage on the Region 2 website?

Did you know previous editions of the Region 2 newsletter are online?

Here are some links that you may find useful.

AIS Region 2 website: [Home Page \(aisregion2.org\)](https://aisregion2.org)

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

[CHIS \(aisregion2.org\)](https://aisregion2.org/CHIS)

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

[ONIS \(aisregion2.org\)](https://aisregion2.org/ONIS)

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

[GRIS \(aisregion2.org\)](https://aisregion2.org/GRIS)

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

[WNYIS \(aisregion2.org\)](https://aisregion2.org/WNYIS)



[Greater Rochester NY Irises | Facebook](#)

[Ontario Iris Society | Facebook](#)

[Western New York Iris Society | Facebook](#)

You can also find the American Iris Society Online:



American Iris Society Website: [American Iris Society \(irises.org\)](https://irises.org)

AIS Iris Encyclopedia [WebHome < Main < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](#)

including the Ben R Hager – Sidney DuBose Memorial Online Iris Library

[The American Iris Society - YouTube](#) contains past webinars, including JT sessions, presented by the AIS.

[World of Irises \(theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com\)](https://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com)

The American Iris Society is also on social media,

[The American Iris Society | Facebook](#)

[The American Iris Society \(@TweetAIS\) / Twitter](#)

[The American Iris Society \(@theamericanirissociety\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

The Newsletter of Region 2 of the American Iris Society is published twice a year and e-mailed to all members of the American Iris Society residing in Region 2 (New York State, Ontario, and Quebec). Members without e-mail may receive a paper copy by mail upon request. It is the member's responsibility to advise of e-mail changes and to submit a written request for paper copies to the editor. Permission is granted to reproduce articles, with proper attribution, unless otherwise noted. It is appreciated that a copy of the publication is provided to the editor.

COPY DEADLINES

Spring Issue February 1

Fall Issue August 1

(Please note, submissions may be edited for style and clarity.)

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