

# Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 7

Late July - August 2018

## 2018 Calendar

**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! Be sure to put it on your calendar so you don't forget! And if you have a place you can **post the attached flyer** advertising the sales coming up, it will be appreciated. Supermarkets, libraries, any public bulletin board works well. And send email notes to your friends!

**Sunday, September 16:** 1:30 p.m. CHIS meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Speaker Eli Hunter-Joseph from Greene Bee Greenhouses in Cornwallville will give a talk on "Latest Introductions and Underutilized Plants." He and his wife Briana will also bring many of their unusual perennials to sell, so bring your checkbooks!

## Hold the dates!

**Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, October 20<sup>th</sup>,** Region 2 of American Iris Society Fall Meeting, hosted by Capital Hudson Iris Society, will be held at the Delmar Presbyterian Church. Guest speaker Bonnie Nichols, President of the Novelty Iris Society, iris judges training, silent auction, good food! Potluck luncheon on Saturday prepared by CHIS members – think about what you want to bring! See article on Page 2.

*Join the American Iris Society*  
[www.irises.org](http://www.irises.org)

## August 1<sup>st</sup> Rhizome Party and August 4<sup>th</sup> Rhizome Sale

The Iris Rhizome Dig is on Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> at the home of Euthemia Matsoukas, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, from 9-12. At the dig we'll take your clumps of clearly labeled irises (put them in separate plastic bags and write on the outside of the bag which one is inside), we'll clean, trim and divide them into separate rhizomes, and mark each rhizome with a label that has the name and description of the flower. Then we put them into a bag that has a picture and description of the iris on it and bring the bags of rhizomes to the Rhizome Sale at Faddegon's Nursery on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Anyone planning on digging irises from their garden should **let Euthemia know their names right away**. She'll make labels and pictures for the bags so the work goes quickly at the Dig. In addition to what we dig here, Bob and Ann Keup are planning to send some of their bearded irises from Maine for the sale.

Even if you don't have any irises to contribute to the sale, your help will be appreciated at the dig. As you can tell from the above description, it's a process to prepare the irises, and people are needed at every level. Besides, you'll enjoy the camaraderie and learning as well as the coffee and bagels! So if you're retired or not working, or can take the morning off, please come!

The sale is just a few days later, on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, from 9-12 at Faddegon's Nursery, 1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7) in Latham. As everyone who has been there knows, the Rhizome Sale is the best place to buy new bearded irises! Let your friends know about the sale and bring them.

If you have any questions, call Euthemia at 439-3758 or send her an email.

## Hosta and Daylily Plant Sales Follow Ours at Faddegon's

Our "sister" plant clubs, the Upstate NY Hosta Society and the Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society, also have sales at Faddegon's on Saturday mornings in August. Ours is the first, on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. The next Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, brings the Upstate NY Hosta Society sale to the same spot at Faddegon's, and the Daylily Society's sale is on Saturday morning, August 18<sup>th</sup>. All of the sales go from 9-12 and all of them are great. Bring your friends and marvel at the diversity and selection you will have. And be sure to bring your checkbook – you won't go home empty handed. Print out the attached flyer and post it on your refrigerator so you don't forget these sales. Also remember that Faddegon's, our host, has great bargains at this time of year, so you can load your car with lots of beautiful plants.

## Linda says...

Dear Gardeners -

We had a lovely Iris Show on Saturday, June 2. Kudos to Virginia Dorwaldt, who STOLE THE SHOW with her wins in practically every category. You really are a consummate iris grower, Virginia! I particularly enjoyed the CHIS bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in West Hartford in June. Their Rose Gardens are known throughout the country and did not disappoint.

Wednesday morning, August 1, will be the iris rhizome Digging Party at Euthemia's house in Delmar. There we prep irises for the Iris Rhizome sale on Saturday, August 4. Most of you know about the sale and how it affords us all an opportunity to add to our iris collections (and not just tall bearded!). This sale and our perennial sale in May are how we bring in guest speakers to our monthly meetings. We will also have some of the Siberian irises from the May sale available at Faddegon's – we had so many it was impossible to sell them all.

Eli Hunter-Joseph and his wife Briana will be here for our September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting. Besides giving an interesting talk on underutilized plants, they will bring many of their perennials for sale at the end of the meeting. Yay!

We're in the throes of planning the Region 2 Fall Meeting, which CHIS is hosting in Delmar. See the article in the next column and learn all about the meeting.

Happy gardening to you all and I hope to see you at the Digging Party and at the Rhizome Sale.

- Linda

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## Reserve October 19 & 20 for Region 2 Meeting Hosted by CHIS

Many of you will remember the last time CHIS hosted the Region 2 meeting at the Delmar Presbyterian Church four years ago. It's our turn again and we have a great speaker who will also give two judges' trainings, a potluck luncheon, and a silent auction on the agenda. The guest speaker is Bonnie Nichols, President of the Novelty Iris Society, a relatively new subgroup of the American Iris Society. Bonnie hails from Mesquite, Texas, is a hybridizer and sells irises from her Hillcrest Iris and Daylily Gardens that she operates with her husband. Her keynote speech "Novelty Irises: Looking Forward, Looking Back" will give us a good background on novelties and let us know what's in the works for the future. Novelties are irises with broken color, an odd number of falls, perhaps no standards, space age irises with horns (some fuzzy) and hooks, flatties, those with variegated foliage, and overlapping falls. Obviously not all on one iris! She's a great speaker and the weekend promises to be both educational and enjoyable. Be sure to put it on your calendar.

If you are a CHIS member, please bring a dish to share for the potluck luncheon, something you're good at making and that others will enjoy. If you want some guidance, call Euthemia and she'll be glad to help. There will be more on the meeting including a registration form in the September newsletter.

### Results of Iris Show

Virginia Dorwaldt was the star of the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Iris Show this year, winning Best Specimen (Ace, MTB), Best Tall Bearded/Border Bearded (Joyce Terry), Best Miniature Tall Bearded (Ace), and Best Historic Iris (Tom Tit). There were no awards for Siberians because not enough exhibitors and specimens were shown. Kathryn Mohr won the Silver Medal for most blue ribbons, and Virginia won the Bronze Medal for second most blues. Virginia also received the Bob and Ann Keup Award for Best Tall Bearded Iris (Joyce Terry).

We want to encourage more of you to submit irises for the show next year. When you buy new irises at the Rhizome Sale on August 4<sup>th</sup>, be sure to label them well, perhaps even draw a map of where you've planted which iris, and then you'll have a named variety to submit for judging next June. It's a fun experience and we hope to have more entries next year.

# ***Three Great Plant Sales!***

## **Iris Rhizome Sale**

**Capital Hudson Iris Society**

**Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> 9-12**

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 439-3758

## **Hosta Sale**

**Upstate New York Hosta Society**

**Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 9-12**

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 439-9419

## **Daylily Sale**

**Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society**

**Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> 9-12**

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 598-3366