



2019-2020 Calendar

Sunday, November 17th: 1:00 p.m. (note early time). **Annual Holiday Pot Luck Luncheon**, East Greenbush Community Library, program to be announced.

No meeting in December.

Sunday, January 19th, 2020: 1:30 p.m., CHIS Meeting, East Greenbush Community Library. Speaker: **Carol Coogan, former Times Union nature writer.**

Sunday, February 16th: 11:30 a.m., Winter Doldrums Party, Albany County Cooperative Extension. Pot luck luncheon and speaker (to be announced). Come early if you can help to set up. Bring a contribution for the door prize table if you've got one. Stephanie Kronau is coordinating this year's meeting for the Upstate New York Hosta Society.

Other events of interest

AIS 100th Anniversary Convention, May 18th– 23rd, 2020. Based at Marriott Hotel, Liberty Airport in Newark, with tours and events in New York City, New Jersey and surrounding area including the New York Botanical Garden, the Highline, Presby Memorial Gardens, and Wave Hill. Google "American Iris Society Convention 2020" and take a look at the program.

Join the American Iris Society

www.irises.org

Annual Holiday Party Sunday, November 17 at 1:00

The Sunday, November 17th, **1:00 p.m.** meeting of the Capital Hudson Iris Society will be our annual Holiday Party at the East Greenbush Community Library. Please come and bring a friend and a dish to share for the delicious potluck luncheon. Do remember that we begin early, at 1:00 p.m.

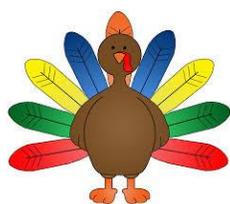
We're making this our end of the year holiday party to avoid the December rush, so bring a festive dish to share. CHIS will provide the paper goods and beverages. If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift in the \$15 price range and you'll get to take home one for yourself. There will be \$300 in gift certificates from a range of iris growers and local nurseries as door prizes, too. And Kathryn will bring some pretty iris slides to show.

For those who have never partaken, this is a festive event not to be missed. CHIS has some serious cooks and everyone tries to bring something they really consider their specialty. There will be all sorts of hot luncheon items, side dishes, salads, and desserts. Since we won't be in the main room, but in Conference Rooms A&B, please bring your dish already warmed up because we can't guarantee that we'll have the use of the microwave or oven. And don't forget the serving implements needed for your dish. If you have any inspirations for **table centerpieces**, please by all means create them. And we would appreciate any **tablecloths** you can bring. Anything to help make the room look ready for a party is appreciated.

Any questions about the Holiday Party should be directed to Euthemia Matsoukas at euthemia@nycap.rr.com or 518 439-3758. Come to the party and bring a friend – there is always lots of food and the more the merrier!

Remember, the festivities begin at 1:00, when the library opens.

The East Greenbush Community Library is located on Community Way off Michaels Road in East Greenbush, New York. If you need driving directions to the library, you can go online to www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org, hit "contact us" and in the lower right corner is a map and a way to access directions.



Linda says...

Dear Gardeners -

We had SO much fun at our October meeting with a guided lesson in Zentangle by Joanne Maier. People helped themselves to Sharpies to use on white and orange pumpkins, light colored rocks for the garden and even ceramic tiles to vent their creative and sometimes previously unknown artistic abilities. Thanks, Joanne, it was great fun and our families and friends were thrilled with our projects.

Sunday, November 17th is our annual Holiday Party, a pot luck luncheon that is always overwhelmingly delicious and fattening. Mmmm. Please come, bring your favorite dish to share (salad, side, main course, casserole, dessert, whatever!) and be prepared to eat well. Kathryn will be bringing a slide show of irises which will be playing while we eat – although we'll probably be so transfixed by some of the pictures we will ignore our food (hah, if only!). We'll be in the Conference Rooms A & B, which means we might not have access to the kitchen, so please heat your items before you come, or bring them in a crock pot. Bring something priced around \$15 if you want to participate in the gift exchange. There will also be gift certificates to iris growers and garden centers as door prizes.

We have no meeting in December, so if I won't see you on November 17th, have a wonderful holiday season!

- Linda

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Join the American Iris Society

www.irises.org

Zentangling in October

Joanne Maier, Euthemia Matsoukas and Virginia Dorwaldt shared their creative expertise and Joanne led a fun hands-on workshop in Zentangle at our October meeting. Folks decorated pumpkins, garden stones and ceramic tiles in this meditative craft session entailing what I call decorative squiggling and doodling. It was really fun to see what talented, creative people we have in our group! Our emphasis was definitely not on perfection, but more along the lines of fun and fellowship. Everyone went home with their own little Zentangled treasure.

- Dan Maier

Big Dreams, Small Spaces: Monty Don on Netflix

I, for one, had never heard of Monty Don, until I received a call from Anne Foster, who recommended that I watch his series on Netflix on French Gardens. I never got that far, but it's definitely on my list, as are all his other shows Netflix is presenting. On the way to looking for it, I bumped into another series he's done that's on Netflix entitled *Big Dreams, Small Spaces*. I highly recommend the series (I think there are three so far, with several episodes in each series.)

Monty is apparently the most beloved gardener in England, to judge by the awed responses he receives from the people he consults with who want to renovate their gardens. In this series he helps ordinary people, most with very limited budgets and very small spaces, to conceptualize, draw plans, and then execute them in their small, urban or suburban settings throughout England. And he's not just an idea person, he also gets in there and digs with them. And he's charming, practical, and very knowledgeable.

A prolific horticultural journalist, Monty Don was the gardening editor of the Observer from 1994-2006 and now contributes a regular column for the Daily Mail and Gardener's World Magazine. He's written too many books to list here.

I try to control my watching to two shows at a time, but it's quite hard. If you subscribe to Netflix, I hope you will take a look – you won't regret it. He's a great teacher and the people he helps are really enjoying themselves. It's very inspiring.

– Euthemia Matsoukas