

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

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September 2018

2018 Calendar

Sunday, September 16th 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 and shrubs to sell, so be sure to bring your checkbooks!

**Hold the dates!
See the articles on
Pages 1 & 2**

Friday, October 19th and Saturday, October 20th, Region 2 of the 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!** And try to make a nice contribution to the Silent Auction. **Please note, if you are a local CHIS member, probably the only day you'll want to go is on Saturday.** See articles on Page 1 & 2.

Sunday, November 18th, 1:00 p.m. (note early start time) **HOLIDAY PARTY!** We start early so we avoid the December rush and the bad weather (we hope). Great potluck, gift certificate door prizes, gift exchange (voluntary participation only), and a chance to relax before the onslaught of the holidays! Be sure to come, bring a friend, and a dish to share. If you’re new to the group and want to get to know some of us better, this is a good opportunity.

No meeting in December.

Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org

“Latest Introductions and Underutilized Plants” with Eli Hunter-Joseph

Eli Hunter-Joseph and Briana Davis of Greene Bee Nursery in Cornwallville (that’s Greene County, of course) will be at our first meeting of “the season” on **Sunday, September 16th**, at the East Greenbush Community Library. Eli will give a talk entitled “Latest Introductions and Underutilized Plants”. Briana and Eli will bring many plants with them for sale – they have beautiful and unusual stock, so expect to be wowed. (You’ll regret it if you don’t bring your checkbook or cash with you.) And since the weather is still warm, you’ll be able to plop them right into good planting holes!

Greene Bee Greenhouse is an uncertified organic nursery specializing in select trees and shrubs as well as perennials and vegetable seedlings, located in the foothills of the Catskills outside Greenville. They grow and sell plants that, to the best of their knowledge, co-exist peacefully with the indigenous species of our region while simultaneously striving to offer a broad and unique variety.

The meeting opens at 1:30 with coffee and cake, then a short business meeting at 2:00 and the speaker right after that. Call 518 439-3758 if you need driving instructions or go onto the library website. And bring a friend!

October 19 & 20 Region 2 Meeting Hosted by CHIS

It’s our turn again to host the Region 2 Annual Meeting. We have lined up a great keynote speaker who will also give two judges’ trainings, there will be a potluck luncheon and a silent auction. **And registration is free!** 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 some with overlapping falls. She’s a great speaker and the weekend promises to be both educational and enjoyable.

If you are local, please bring a dish to share for the potluck luncheon, something you’re good at making and that others will enjoy. There’s a place on the attached registration form to indicate what you’ll bring. If you want some guidance, call Euthemia and she’ll be glad to help.

Linda says...

Dear Gardeners -

We had a very successful Iris Rhizome Sale at Faddegon's on Saturday, August 4th. Our thanks go out to Faddegon's Nursery for promoting the sale with their customers and in their email newsletter. **We couldn't do it without them.** The sale grossed more than \$2500 and will help pay for speakers at our monthly meetings. And thanks go to the 12 members who came on August 1 to help prep, label and bag all the irises that Bob Keup sent from Maine, and Kathryn Mohr dug from her garden.

Our September meeting features one of our favorites, Eli Hunter-Joseph and his wife Briana Davis. Besides giving an interesting talk on underutilized plants, they will bring many of their unusual perennials and shrubs for sale at the end of the meeting. Be sure to bring your checkbook, they've got fabulous plants!

The Region 2 Meeting on October 19 and 20 has been finalized. It will be held at the Delmar Presbyterian Church, the same space we used four years ago. The Schedule, Registration Form and other information are attached to the newsletter. Don't worry, **it's free**, but we need a count of people for the luncheon and for the judges trainings, and also contributions for the Silent Auction from you! We're very excited about our keynote speaker, Bonnie Nichols. See the articles on Page 1 and 2 about the Regional Meeting and do put it on your calendar. It's fun meeting iris people from around New York State and Ontario!

We'll need lots of help coordinating everything for the October meeting, so if you're able to help, please send Euthemia a note. We really need all the help we can get! Thanks. See you on September 16th! - Linda

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Silent Auction: Contributions Needed for Regional Meeting

The Capital Hudson Iris Society will be hosting the Region 2 Meeting at the Delmar Presbyterian Church on October 19 and 20. As most of you know, each year there is a Silent Auction at the Regional Meeting to raise money for the Region – it is one of the main fundraisers for Region 2 and it's lots of fun.

Each of the local groups are asked to send items for the auction (no item can be too big) that are really worthy of being auctioned, items that YOU would be willing to buy at a silent auction because they're unusual or something special (something that you don't ordinarily see, for example, on a door prize table.) If we have a limited number of quality items to auction, we know they will be worth bidding on and taking home, and the auction can make a significant contribution to the region.

If you're a quilter and would like to make an iris-related wall hanging, or if you are a sculptor who makes beautiful garden ornaments, or if you see some great bargain in the next few weeks as you are perusing the garden centers and stores that you know would do well in the auction, please consider making a contribution of that item to the auction. You may have a very special iris that you can pot now and bring, especially if it's a new introduction. Be creative and think about what you would buy at the auction, and go from there.

Dan and Joanne Maier are coordinating the Silent Auction, danjomaier@gmail.com. **If you're a local CHIS member or if you don't have a club any more, you can include the information about what you will be bringing to the silent auction on your registration form (attached or in the Region 2 Fall newsletter).** If you belong to another club, please contact your local club coordinator who will be responsible for bringing the items, and they'll let us know what's coming from your club. It is assumed that one person from each local club will be responsible for bringing the items but if you have another way you prefer to get them to the meeting, we're open to any suggestions.

Silent auction **set-up** will begin on Friday evening at 4:00 and continue the next morning between 8 and 9 a.m. The silent auction bidding begins at 9:30 and all the paperwork has to be in order before we open, so be sure to let us know in advance what you're bringing.

- Euthemia Matsoukas

AIS Region 2 Annual Fall Meeting
October 19 – 20, 2018
At the Delmar Presbyterian Church
585 Delaware Avenue
Delmar, NY 12054

Registration Form

Please print out and complete an individual form for each person. **There is NO charge for the meetings, trainings or luncheon.** If you are local (CHIS area) please indicate below what you plan to bring for the potluck luncheon on Saturday, October 20. For questions or comments: euthemia@nycap.rr.com or call Euthemia at 518 439-3758.

Mail the form to: **Euthemia Matsoukas, CHIS, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, New York 12054**

We must receive your form by October 11, 2018.

Out-of-town guests: Please note the special **hotel rate** at the Comfort Inn Glenmont has a deadline of September 21.

Name as you wish it to appear on your name tag (First and Last, please print)

Address: # Street

City, State/Prov., Zip/Postal Code

Local club if applicable

Print Your e-mail address

Preferred phone # with area code

I will attend the Training Session “Awards and Ballots” Yes _____ No _____

I will attend the Training Session “Judging Novelty Irises” Yes _____ No _____

Local members only (CHIS):

I plan to bring the following to the potluck luncheon on Saturday: _____

I plan to contribute the following item(s) to the Silent Auction: _____

(Use the back of the form if necessary)

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY REGION 2 FALL MEETING

Friday and Saturday, October 19 & 20, 2018

Hosted by the Capital Hudson Iris Society, an Affiliate of the American Iris Society
All events are at the Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054

SCHEDULE

FRIDAY – Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054

4:00 – 5:30 pm **Registration** – Community Room Corridor

4:00 – 7:30 pm **Silent Auction Setup** – Community Room

5:00 – 6:00 pm **Audit by Affiliate Leaders**

Dinner on your own

SATURDAY – Delmar Presbyterian Church, 585 Delaware Avenue, Delmar, NY 12054

8:00 – 10:30 am **Registration** – Community Room Corridor

8:00 – 9:30 am **Silent Auction Setup continues** – Community Room

8:30 – 9:30 am **Judges Training: Bonnie Nichols, President, Novelty Iris Society**
Awards and Ballots (1 hour classroom credit) – Library/Lounge

9:30 – 10:30 am **Region 2 Board of Directors Meeting**

9:30 am – 12:45 pm **Silent Auction Bidding** – Community Room

10:30 – 12:15 pm **General Membership Meeting** – Community Room
Welcome, Business meeting, Awards presentations

12:15 – 12:45 pm **Pot Luck Luncheon courtesy of Capital Hudson Iris Society**
Community Room

12:45 – 2:00 pm **KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Bonnie Nichols, President, Novelty Iris Society**
“Novelty Irises: Looking Forward, Looking Back”

2:00 – 2:30 pm **Silent Auction payment and pickup**

2:30 – 4:30 pm **Judging Training: Bonnie Nichols, President, Novelty Iris Society**
Judging Novelty Irises (2 hours classroom credit) – Community Room

Questions/comments: Euthemia@nycap.rr.com
or call Euthemia Matsoukas, 518 439-3758