

GREATER ROCHESTER IRIS SOCIETY  
an affiliate of the American Iris Society  
September 2018 meeting newsletter  
ed. Cara Hutchings

It certainly has been quite an old-fashioned summer, with the dry heat! I hope you have been watering those irises, especially the re-bloomers and Japanese iris.

Our show was a great success, with over 100 bloom stalks to be judged. Dorothy Stiefel won queen of the show with "Eramousa Cloud Drifter". She also won the silver medal, and Neil Houghton won the bronze. We had quite a diverse number of iris for the popular vote, and in the end, "Orinoco Flow" ended up the winner (didn't that iris win last year?).

The sale was also successful; with the addition of credit cards, it really made a difference! Also, special thanks to Neil for selling so many iris out of his garden and donating the proceeds to GRIS and also for manning the booth both days of the sale, especially Saturday when Nate and I had a family commitment.

Now for our fall meetings:

First up is September 9<sup>th</sup>. REVIEWING 2018 IN IRIS

Starting in April, some of our members attended the AIS National Convention in New Orleans. Neil Houghton will show photos and commentary from the unusual convention focusing on beautiful Louisiana Iris. Then came our own unique season! The first bloom was about two weeks late and then a heat wave rushed us through the season. Some of us had spectacular bloom, others not so much. We'll share some new tips on borer control! We'll also review an AIS digital presentation, review and offer suggests about it. This time that presentation is from the fun and games category!

And on October 14<sup>th</sup>: IRIS COMPANION PLANTINGS

Bearded iris are some of the most beautiful flowers, yet are surprisingly easy to grow, as we all know. Join Master Gardener Brenda Fox for a discussion on these beauties. The discussion will explore colorful combinations with shrubs and perennials. These will be illustrated with lavish photos showing both contrasting and complementary color schemes. A list of companion plants for bearded iris will be provided.

All meetings take place at St. John's Episcopal Church, 11 Episcopal Ave., Honeoye Falls. The meetings start at 2 pm, there is always refreshments and prizes. See you there!