

## **Greater Rochester Iris Society**

an affiliate of the American Iris Society

September 2019 newsletter

Cara Hutchings, ed.

It seems impossible the summer is coming to an end already! It has barely gotten started. But yes, it is time to start getting the garden ready for the winter. To that end, we will be discussing what to do at our next meeting, on September 8<sup>th</sup>. As usual, it will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Ave., Honeoye Falls, NY at 2 PM. In addition to discussing fall garden care, we will also be showing the AIS program "Beardless Iris".

Our next event is hosting the AIS Region 2 meeting. This is where all the affiliates of AIS in New York, Ontario and Quebec, Canada get together and discuss regional business. We also have some great speakers, who give wonderful talks about iris and also give AIS judges training. This year it is being held on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, at the First Presbyterian Church in Honeoye Falls. Our speaker will be Hugh Stout, a hybridizer from Oklahoma. He will be giving talks on bearded iris, and it looks to be a great time!

Our October meeting is scheduled for October 13<sup>th</sup>, the next weekend. It may get re-scheduled due to its closeness to the Region 2 meeting. We will be discussing that event at the September meeting, so I will keep everyone informed! The meeting will be about winter and early spring care of your garden, with an added discussion of bulbous iris and other bulbs as well.

Those were the future events, and here's what has happened in the past:

Our annual picnic/Judges' Training at Neil Houghton's house went very well, we had quite a turnout, and Wendy Roller gave a great session on judging iris in the garden.

Next was our show, and what a show it was! We had Evie Roller, Wendy's young granddaughter; win best of show for the iris "Smarty Pants". This iris also won the Magdalen Award, the Region 2 award for best median. And my iris, "Grape Harvest" came in a close second to win First Runner Up. Evie's younger sister, Aubrey, won second Runner Up. Dorothy Stiefel won the silver medal for the most blue ribbons, and Wendy won the bronze for the second most.

I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work for the show, Neil, Wendy, Jean Reitzel, Cora Roller and Nathan Hutchings. Our wonderful Judges also deserve a round of applause: Joanne Bassett, Vaughn Sayles and EJ Mattson. And then of course there's our Always Helpful Husband, Gary Roller!

We had our sale in August this year, so we could have Japanese iris for sale. At our new location, Bristol's Garden Center, we had a very successful sale. Special thanks to Dorothy Stiefel and Gert Hauck for contributing so many irises for us to sell. Neil did a wonderful job this year, as usual, getting the bought-in iris organized and cataloged, as well as the pictures and info for the members' iris. He also continued the sale at his house for the next week. Wendy was there, contributing iris and helping customers, and Jean Reitzel also helped customers. Thank you all!

Hope to see you at our September meeting!