

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2008



Region 2 of the AIS, Fall 2008 Newsletter

Table of Contents

Page 1	Officers, Committee and Affiliate Chairpersons
Page 2	RVP Message
Page 3	Region 2 Fall Meeting
Page 4	Silent Auction
Page 5	Fall Meeting Schedule
Page 6	General Membership Meeting Agenda
Page 7	Show & Exhibition Report
Page 9	Nominating Committee Report
Page 9	Webmaster Report
Page 10	Affiliate Reports
Page 13	Joe Pye Weed's Garden Honors Jerry Murphy with New Iris, <i>Euthemia Matsoukas</i>
Page 14	Roy's Boys, <i>Vaughn Sayles</i>
Page 16	Irvin A. Conroe Award, <i>Dorothy Stiefel</i>
Page 18	HIPS Honors Dorothy Stiefel, <i>Vaughn Sayles</i>
Page 19	Dinner Reservation for Fall Meeting Banquet



The Newsletter of Region 2 of the American Iris Society is published twice a year and is mailed free to all members of the American Iris Society residing in Region 2 (New York State). Please send address changes to the editor promptly, to help us reduce re-mailing costs. Copy deadlines are Feb. 15 for the Spring issue, and Aug. 15 for the Fall issue. Permission is granted to reproduce articles, with proper attribution, unless otherwise noted.

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REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

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Bylaws **Judy Tucholski**, 130 Cresthaven DR, Cheektowaga, NY 14225
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Creative Money **Mildred Horak** (see Secretary)

Exhibitions **Judy Tucholski** (see ByLaws)

Judges Training **vacant**

Membership **Donna James** (see Treasurer)

Newsletter Editor **Dorothy Stiefel** (see Archives)

Youth Committee **Janette Smith**, 297 Atkinson RD, Pulaski, NY 13142-3158
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Webmaster **Vaughn Sayles** (see President & RVP)

SOCIETY AFFILIATE CHAIRPERSONS

CHIS – Capital-Hudson Iris S. **Linda Montanaro**, 107 Vley RD, Scotia, NY 12302-2501
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CNYIS – Central New York Iris S. **Donna James** (see Treasurer)

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HVIDS – Hudson Valley Iris & Daylily S. **Howie Dash**, 8 Arden LN, New Paltz, NY 12561
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STIS – Southern Tier Iris S. **Dorothy Stiefel** (See Archives)

WNYIS – Western New York Iris S. **Maria Gerbracht**, 5064 Clearview DR, Williamsville, NY 14221
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FROM YOUR REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT

August is rapidly drawing to a close and Dorothy and I are scrambling to get this Newsletter pulled together. For some reason I'm more behind than usual for this time of year. A busy schedule and lots of rainy days during the summer have made it difficult to keep up with the lawn and the weeds this year are phenomenal. I hope you are having more success at keeping the interlopers from taking over your iris beds than I am.

All of the affiliates have been busy with their shows and sales. I'm sure many of you have had to find space in your collections for acquisitions that you made during the summer. I hope you have room for a few more since there will be some nice potted iris available at the Silent Auction at the Fall Meeting. If you have something to share, please bring it. Other than donations from each affiliate, the Silent Auction is currently our only other means of raising money to fund Region 2.

As you look over our budget you will see that we have a number of expenses. Most are minor but one of the major ones is communication. We are facing increasing expenses in this area as the cost of postage and the expenses of producing the Newsletter continue to increase. It also costs money to maintain the website but that is a means of reaching anyone who is interested and serves as a repository for a lot of information. Right now it may be the only place that an updated copy of the Region 2 Bylaws exists and is an easily accessible location for information on the Region 2 Awards and their recipients. Both the Newsletter and the Website give us a means of disseminating information and making sure that we have a record of our activities. It is important that they continue.

One expense that I will be recommending a decrease in is for travel reimbursement for the RVP for the Spring AIS Board Meeting. Since I usually attend the National Convention and in light of the fact that we do not have unlimited resources, I will not be asking for reimbursement for transportation and will only request a reimbursement for the extra night I have to spend at the convention hotel for the Spring AIS Board Meeting.

Our last major expense is our Annual Fall Regional Meeting. This is an important event and our only time to conduct the business of Region 2. My affiliate, the Southern Tier Iris Society, is hosting this year's Fall Meeting and we hope to have a great program for those who attend. Make sure you read the article on this event on pages 3-4. As RVP for Region 2, I strongly encourage each affiliate to make sure they have representation at our business meeting at the Owego Treadway at 10:00 a.m. on October 18th. It is important that each affiliate be part of the decisions that we will be making.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Fall Meeting. As long as we don't have a snow storm or a flood, we should be enjoying the fall season as we gather for fellowship, judges training, Region 2 business, the annual awards banquet, and the program following the banquet presented by Ginny and Don Spoon of Winterberry Gardens. I hope you will help be able to help us celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Southern Tier Iris Society.

Vaughn Sayles
Region 2 RVP

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY REGION 2 FALL MEETING Oct. 17-18, 2008

Rooms:

Please make your reservations directly with the Owego Treadway Inn (607) 687-4500. A block of rooms has been reserved for our group, so be sure to mention the Southern Tier/NYS Iris Society Event to get the special price of \$94.95 per night (plus 11% room tax). This price is for a single or double room. A cot may be added for an additional \$15.00 per night. **IMPORTANT: This price is good only until Wednesday, Sept. 17,** which is not very long from now, so please act ASAP!

The hotel is very nice, and the rooms are well equipped. For details, visit their web page at www.owegotreadway.com

Meals:

The River's Edge Restaurant at the Owego Treadway Inn features floor to ceiling windows providing a view of the Susquehanna River and the Treadway's landscaped grounds. The River's Edge serves breakfast, lunch and dinner and a champagne Sunday Brunch. Breakfast is from 6:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.; Lunch, 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.; and Dinner, 5 p.m. – 10 p.m. daily.

Saturday Lunch:

The tentative schedule is contained elsewhere in this newsletter. You will notice that it is a very full one! In order to accommodate those attending the Saturday morning activities and also the judges' training at 2:00 p.m., we have arranged the efficiency of a complimentary luncheon to be served in our meeting room. It will consist of garden salad accompanied by grilled chicken strips, cheese chunks, tortellini pasta salad, and beverages. We need to know if you plan on joining us for this lunch.

If you prefer a more leisurely lunch and will not be attending the judges training, you may prefer to make the 2-3 mile drive to downtown Owego and visit the Hand of Man Gift Shop and River Rose Café (www.handofman.com) for good food and unique shopping. There are also several fast food restaurants within walking distance of the Inn and a number of other restaurants in Owego including The Cellar Restaurant, John Barleycorn, Jail House Restaurant and Bar, Mario's Pizza, O'Hara's Restaurant, The Parkview Restaurant, and Tioga Trails Café. You may enjoy touring Historic Owego and exploring the shops on 'River Row' (Front St). Book lovers will not want to miss Riverow Bookshop (www.riverow.com), a wonderful independent store with creaking wooden floors and both new and used books.

Saturday Dinner: (next page)

Saturday Dinner:

Saturday's Awards Banquet will feature three choices for entrees. You may select Boneless Roast Prime Rib, Stuffed Flounder Florentine, or Treadway Inn Roast Chicken. The meal will begin with soup du jour and garden salad. The entrees will be accompanied by chef's vegetable, potato, rolls, butter, dessert and beverage.

Registration:

You will find a registration form at the back of this newsletter on page 19. Please complete it, indicate if you will be joining us for lunch on Saturday, make your dinner choice, and return with payment by Sept. 17. Make checks out to "STIS," and mail as directed.

THANK YOU!

REGION 2 FALL MEETING SILENT AUCTION

We will be holding a Silent Auction at the meeting again this year to help fund our Region's activities. Participating is a great way to make a contribution and have some fun at the same time. Donations of iris-related and garden items are welcome! All you need to do is bring your items in and we will gratefully accept them and prepare the bid sheets for them.

Among the treasures to be sold this year are some items from the Region Archives (already held in duplicate), including iris books and old catalogs...always of interest to historic iris fanciers! There will be 2 pots of the Siberian iris 'Jerry Murphy,' introduced by Jan Schafer and Marty Sacks of Joe Pye Weed's Garden this year to honor our late friend. Several packages of iris note cards have also already been donated, and we can promise a nice assortment of other items.

Sooooooo....be sure to bring a fat wallet! There is bound to be something you just won't want to leave without!

Tentative Schedule
American Iris Society
Region 2 Fall Meeting
Hosted by the Southern Tier Iris Society
October 17 and 18, 2008
Owego Treadway Inn & Suites
Owego, New York

Friday, October 17, 2008

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 4:00 p.m. -- | Registration |
| 6:00 p.m. | Casual Reception—Coffee, tea |
| 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. | Judges Training – Median irises,
emphasis on rebloomers
Ginny and Don Spoon, Winterberry Gardens |

Saturday, October 18, 2008

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. | Audit Committee Review of Financial Records
& Region 2 Board of Directors Meeting |
| 9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. | Break with light refreshments |
| 10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. | General Membership Meeting |
| 12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Lunch |
| 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Judges Training – Reblooming irises; emphasis
on Tall Bearded & “Space Agers” (SA)
Ginny and Don Spoon, Winterberry Gardens |
| 5:30 p.m. | Closing Banquet, Silent Auction |
| 6:00 p.m. | Dinner |
| 8:00 p.m. | Welcoming Remarks and Awards |
| 8:30 p.m. | Irises at Winterberry Gardens
Ginny and Don Spoon |

AGENDA
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Region 2 Annual Fall Meeting
October 18, 2008

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Roll call of officers, affiliate chairpersons and committee chairpersons by secretary – Millie Horak
3. Additions and corrections to minutes for the October 13, 2007 fall meeting
4. Treasurer's report – Donna and Ron James
5. Affiliate Reports
 - CHIS – Linda Montanaro
 - CNYIS – Donna James
 - GRIS – Gertrude Hauck
 - HVIDS – Howie Dash
 - STIS – Dorothy Stiefel
 - WNYIS – Maria Gerbracht
6. Committee reports
 - Archives – Dorothy Stiefel
 - Bylaws – Judy Tucholski
 - Creative Money – Millie Horak
 - Exhibitions – Judy Tucholski
 - Judges Training – Clayton & Diane Crandall
 - Membership – Donna James
 - Newsletter Editor – Dorothy Stiefel
 - Youth – Janette Smith
 - Webmaster – Vaughn Sayles
 - Nominating – John Colley

New business:

7. Election of officers for 2009
8. Show dates for 2009 and Region 2 Awards
9. Budget for 2009
10. Additional New Business
11. Adjournment

AIS REGION 2 COMMITTEE REPORTS

Show & Exhibition Report 2008

Judy Tucholski

REGION 2 SHOWS

AFFILIATE	SHOW DATE	ENTRIES	EXHIBITORS
HVIDS	May 25	62	8
CHIS	May 31	109	14
GRIS	June 8	53	10
STIS	June 8	128	10
WNYIS	June 7-8	80	11
WNYIS (Japanese)	July 1	exhibition only	
CNYIS (Beardless)	July 5	27	4

REGION 2 AWARDS

AWARD	RECIPIENT	CLASS	CULTIVAR
Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award	Clayton Crandall	SIB	'Helen Astor'
The Blenis Award	David Baehre	TB	'Into the Night'
The McGarvey Award	Frank & Rosemary Sorbello	SIB	'Salamander Crossing'
The Magdalen Award	Dorothy Stiefel	MTB	'Bangles'

LOCAL AWARDS

AFFILIATE	AWARD	RECIPIENT	CLASS	CULTIVAR
CNYIS	Clinton Ziems Memorial Award	no report		
WNYIS	Mary Pat Engel Award	Judy Tucholski	SIB	'Lydia Winter'
WNYIS	Wirtz-Rettig Award	not awarded – exhibition		
CHIS	Kathryn Mohr Award	Dorothy Stiefel		'Frou Frou'

AIS MEDALS

AFFILIATE SHOW	SILVER MEDAL	BRONZE MEDAL
HVIDS	Frank & Rosemary Sorbello	Howie & Lilly Dash
CHIS	Frank Sorbello	Dorothy Stiefel
GRIS	Donna Lowry	Floyd Reitzel
STIS	John Colley	Vaughn Sayles
WNYIS	David Baehre	Judith Tucholski
WNYIS (Japanese Iris)	not awarded – exhibition only	
CNYIS (Beardless)	show too small to award AIS medals	

BEST DESIGNS

SHOW	BEST DESIGN	SHOW	BEST DESIGN
GRIS	Donna Lowry	WNYIS	Eleanor Wolford
STIS	Vaughn Sayles	WNYIS (Japanese)	exhibition only

BEST SPECIMEN OF SHOW

AFFILIATE SHOW	BEST SPECIMEN	CLASS	EXHIBITOR
HVIDS	'Bit O' Afton'	MTB	Chester & Betty Gilbert
CHIS	'Dreamsicle'	TB	Bruce Baird
GRIS	'Maggie Smith'	SIB	Wendy Roller
STIS	'Lucky Mistake'	MTB	Vaughn Sayles
WNYIS	'Into the Night'	TB	David Baehre
WNYIS (Japanese)	Exhibition only		
CNYIS (Beardless)	'Electric Rays'	Jl	Clayton Crandall

BEST SEEDLING

AFFILIATE SHOW	SEEDLING	CLASS	HYBRIDIZER
HVIDS	not awarded		
CHIS	00-10-1	MTB	Mildred Koschara
GRIS	not awarded		
STIS	not awarded		
WNYIS	FW-18S	TB	Floyd Reitzel
WNYIS (Japanese)	Exhibition only		
CNYIS (Beardless)	Jl x21 - 06	Jl	Ron James

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2007 Reg. 2 Show Report Update

As the Fall 2007 Reg. 2 Newsletter was going to press, HVIDS was coping with the simultaneous loss of their beloved leader and 2007 Show Chairman, Jerry Murphy. Therefore an incomplete HVIDS report was published. Here is the full report.

AFFILIATE	SHOW DATE	ENTRIES	EXHIBITORS
HVIDS	May 27, 2007	89	11

REGION 2 AWARD

Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award, for 'Buffawn,' TB, exhibited by Sondra Tillou

SILVER MEDAL

Robert Keup

BRONZE MEDAL

Frank & Rosemary Sorbello

BEST SPECIMEN OF SHOW

'Goldkist,' TB, exhibited by Howie & Lily Dash

BEST SEEDLING

'Romantic Evening' x 'About Last Night,' hybridized and exhibited by Werner Stiegler

Nominating Committee Report

John Colley

Chairman: John Colley

Committee Members: Howie Dash and Judy Tucholski

The following individuals have indicated that they are willing to continue in their current positions:

RVP	Vaughn Sayles
Vice President	John Colley
Secretary	Mildred Horak
Treasurer	Donna & Ron James

Additional nominations will be accepted at the business meeting

Webmaster Report

Vaughn Sayles

The AIS Region 2 Website (AISRegion2.org) is up and running and is updated monthly. I hope everyone is checking it from time to time. In addition to current articles from the Region 2 Newsletter, it contains our bylaws, histories of the Region 2 Awards, information on our shows and sales and our yearly budget.

It has been generating about one contact per month requesting information on iris or about our clubs. It's nice to know that we are out there and that people are finding it. If your club has a special event that you'd like publicized on our website, please let me know.

Currently I Host Networks is providing a site for our webpage. Their monthly fee is \$9.95 and there is an additional annual fee of \$14.95 for our website name – AISRegion2.org. I also purchased a copy of Web Easy Software which allows me to maintain our website. The cost for the software was \$45.93 and I have been reimbursed for the expense by our treasurers. Since I was not billed \$9.95 for the month of January, our total cost for the webpage for 2008 will be \$170.33. This exceeds the \$150.00 budgeted for the Region 2 Website by more than 10% and we will need approval by the Board of Directors to increase the expenditure in this budget category for this year.

If there is not an increase in fees from I Host Networks in 2009, our annual expense should be \$134.35 for next year. There should not be a need to increase the budget amount for the Region 2 Website in the 2009 budget.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions for additional material to be included in the Region 2 Website. It might be nice to have a collection of pictures of iris gardens in Region 2.

REGION 2 AFFILIATE REPORTS

CAPITAL-HUDSON IRIS SOCIETY

President, Linda Montanaro

CENTRAL NEW YORK IRIS SOCIETY

Donna James

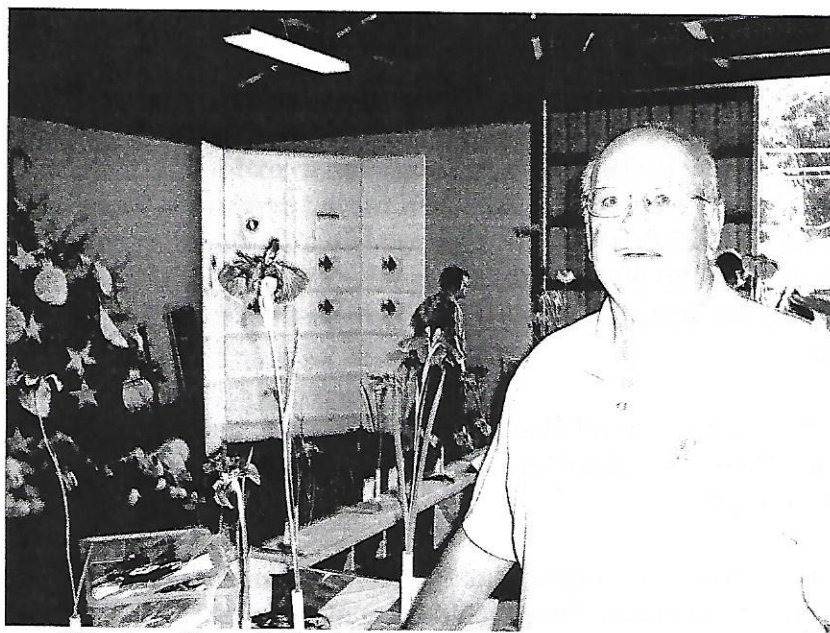
President, Donna James

Hello, all! The small core of workers in CNYIS have been busy in our area. In June we held a required Garden Judges Training. It was on Siberian Iris due to a strange early bloom of TBs. There were about 14 Judges who took part in the training, presented by Donna. After the training and test there was a picnic. Iris people are such good cooks!

In July CNYIS sponsored a Christmas Tree in July celebration at the Sandy Creek Fair. Plus, CNYIS held our Japanese Flower Show and cut leaf Hosta show. The interest by the public was unbelievable. As a group we have been thinking of combining Iris and Hosta to gain and maintain membership.

In the past few years many of our members have passed into another garden. We are continually trying to get new membership without much luck. CNYIS held its annual sale and picnic in August with the normal 6-8 members present. This year's sale was not as successful as other years. At September's meeting we will hold our election of officers. Once again we will try to improve our membership.

CNYIS Iris Show, July 5, 2008



Clayton Crandall with Best of Show, 'Electric Rays'

GREATER ROCHESTER IRIS SOCIETY

Gert Hauck

President, Gert Hauck
Secretary, Jacqueline Hyde

Vice-Pres., Michael Gullo
Treasurer, West Hyde

News from GRIS: We had a very good first show in June! 54 bloom stalks were entered. Also in June we had a meeting (5 of us) and toured the Louisiana Friendship Garden at Highland Park in Rochester. What a lovely display!

The end of July brought our rhizome sale. The leftovers were donated to the Western NY Society ... a good way to get them all used up.

I personally have really enjoyed the rainy summer. The earth is always soft enough to give up those weeds willingly, then the mulch goes on (except for the irises of course).

Looking forward to seeing the Region 2 gang in October.

HUDSON VALLEY IRIS AND DAYLILY SOCIETY

President, Howie Dash
Website: www.hvids.org

SOUTHERN TIER IRIS SOCIETY

Dorothy Stiefel

President, Dorothy Stiefel
Secretary, E.J. Mattson

Vice-Pres., John Colley
Treasurer, E.J. Mattson

STIS had an excellent iris season! We continue to meet at the Vestal Public Library at 10:00 a.m. on the second Saturday of months Mar.-May and Sept.-Dec. We enjoyed programs on "Cold Hardy Roses for Upstate NY," "A Rooftop Garden in NYC," and "Irises at the 2007 National Convention in Oklahoma City." A number of us attended the 2008 National Convention in Austin, TX, and we conducted an excellent iris show at the Oakdale Mall in Johnson City on June 8. Once again, we had good weather (with just a few sprinkles!) for our iris & perennial plant sale. We had a very good sale and were grateful for the support of our members and the public.

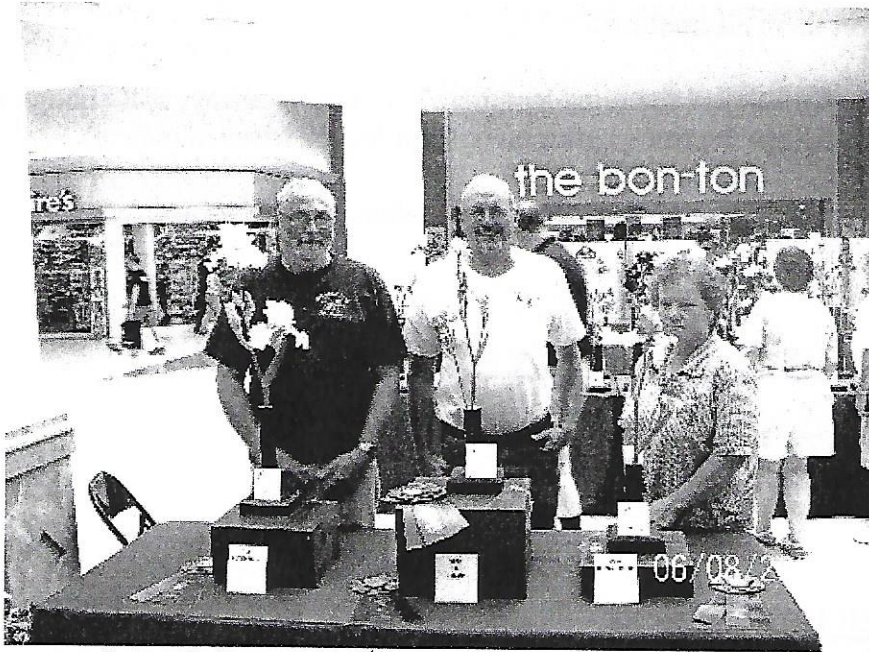
We were very sorry to bid farewell to long-time member Marcia Droege, but wish her well in her new Pennsylvania home. We were very **happy** to welcome several guests and new members this year!

New Members: Lyn Gerry, David Blake, Tom Cortright, John Schanbacher, and Chris Knickerbocker. Welcome!

STIS Fall schedule:

- Sept. 13 Meeting and tour of Cutler Gardens, Binghamton. PLEASE note ... we will meet directly at the Gardens.
Oct. 11 Planning/work meeting for Reg. 2 meeting
Nov. 8 "Iris at the AIS National Convention, Austin, TX" V. Sayles/D. Stiefel
Dec. 13 Holiday meeting.

STIS Iris Show, June 8, 2008



**John Colley with 1st Runner Up, 'Uncle Charlie',
Vaughn Sayles with Best of Show, 'Lucky Mistake',
and Dorothy Stiefel with 2nd Runner Up, 'Thimbleberry'**

WESTERN NEW YORK IRIS SOCIETY

President, Maria Gerbracht

Joe Pye Weed's Garden Honors Jerry Murphy with New Iris

Euthemia Matsoukas

Jan Sacks and Marty Schafer of Joe Pye Weed's Garden have named one of their new introductions for 2008 after our good friend Jerry Murphy, former President of the Hudson Valley Iris and Daylily Society, who died last year. For a preview go to <http://www.jpwflowers.com/cd08/images/JerryMurphy.jpg>



Jan Sacks writes: "When this iris first bloomed in 2004 the idea of brown Siberians was something people still laughed about and we were not sure it would be accepted. We were excited about it as one of our first children of 'So Van Gogh'. We left it in the field for several years and were pleased at how many people commented on it because it makes such a grand clump. When Howie Dash told me that Jerry's favorites were brown and yellow, we knew this iris would be perfect to name for him. Its coloring comes from the combination of yellow overlaid with pink, blue and purple. The exact coloring changes depending on the weather during the

development of each bud - sometimes it is very dark and sometimes much lighter."

The description of 'Jerry Murphy' in their new catalog reads: "A very special iris to honor our friend Jerry Murphy, an enthusiastic iris lover from the Hudson Valley. The simple description of this iris is a brown amoena. On close examination the falls have a pale apricot ground which shows on the rim and is covered by various shades and amounts of red-violet stippling and blending. The standards and styles are creamy with light gold trim. The depth of color varies and the flower lightens as it ages. Gorgeous green foliage lasts late into the fall. The clump effect is lovely with flowers held well above the foliage and it blooms a long time with four to five buds per stalk. Sib of 'On Her Toes' ('Strawberry Social' x sib of 'Book of Secrets'/'Dawn Waltz'/'Off She Goes') X 'So Van Gogh'.

For those interested in acquiring this wonderful new iris, go to www.jpwflowers.com. We are so pleased that Jan and Marty have chosen to honor Jerry in this very special way.

Editors note:

This article was reprinted from the March 2008 Capital Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) Newsletter, Volume 15, Number 3.

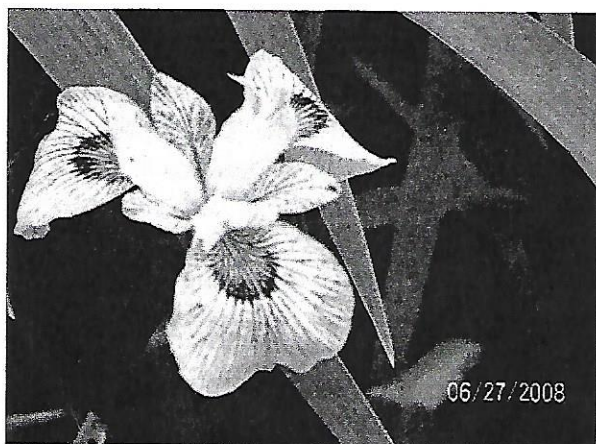
Special note:

There will be two potted 'Jerry Murphy' Siberian iris plants available at the Region 2 Silent Auction. They were purchased by the Southern Tier Iris Society and donated to the Creative Money Committee.

ROY'S BOYS

Vaughn Sayles

In 1987 Ben Hager registered an iris that was a cross between two species of iris. This iris, 'Roy Davidson', was introduced the same year by Melrose Gardens. The pod parent for this iris was *Iris pseudacorus* that was pollinated by some other species of iris. There are a number of species crosses that have appeared which have *Iris pseudacorus* as one of their parents and they are considered to be sterile although viable seeds have been rarely produced.



'Roy Davidson'

The blooms of 'Roy Davidson' are yellow and are lightly veined with brown on the falls. The deep yellow signal is crescent shaded with a deep brown outline. Under favorable conditions the plants can reach three feet in height. In my garden it grows well without extra water, but I have seen plants growing in ponds in gardens featured on American Iris Society (AIS) National Convention tours in different part of the United States.

Interestingly, two hybridizers observed pods forming on 'Roy Davidson' in their gardens. Both planted the resulting seeds and each introduced two of the seedlings they obtained. One hybridizer was Terry Aitken who operates Aitken's Salmon Creek

Garden in Vancouver, Washington, with his wife Barbara. The other hybridizer is Region 2's Dana Borglum who operates Borglum's Iris Gardens near Geneva, New York, with his wife Sylvia.

Terry Aitken introduced 'Roy's Lines' and 'Roy's Repeater' in 2002. It is thought that the pollen parent was *Iris versicolor* 'Between the Lines'. I first saw these cultivars in bloom at Salmon Creek Gardens at the 2006 AIS Convention and ordered them that fall.



'Roy's Lines'

'Roy's Lines' has white flowers which are delicately veined with purple. The signal is pale yellow and the style arms are white. The overall appearance of the flower from the distance is a delicate pastel purple that almost shimmers in the breeze.

Its sibling, 'Roy's Repeater', is supposed to rebloom and has white flowers heavily overlaid with purple veins. The blooms have a dark yellow signal with purple veins running through it.



'Roy's Repeater'

Both 'Roy's Lines' and 'Roy's Repeater' bloom from mid late to very late in the season and have a registered height of 42". In my garden their foliage is about three feet tall. Although they both started blooming at the same time 'Roy's Repeater' was in bloom a couple of weeks longer than 'Roy's Lines

Dana Borglum registered 'Child of Roy' in 2004 and it was introduced in 2005. This iris is much shorter with a registered height of 23" and blooms midseason with white flowers with purple striping. The signal is yellow with dark purple veining. It has not been a good grower for me and I almost lost my plant this past winter. It is still alive but failed to bloom. It has much larger blooms

than its sibling which Dana did not register at that time.

When I purchased 'Child of Roy' from Dana, I also purchased its sibling which he has since registered as 'Roy's Surprise'. This iris is a much better grower although it has smaller, more species like, white blooms that are heavily overlaid with purple veins. The plant is similar in size to 'Roy Davidson' in my garden and blooms during the same time period as 'Roy's Repeater'.



'Roy's Surprise'

The four offspring of 'Roy Davidson' that have been introduced all have purple based foliage and extend the season of iris bloom. They bloom for me between the Tall Bearded and Japanese iris bloom seasons. Three of them are good growers and they all provide different combinations of white and purple with yellow signals.

View the color photos in this article at www.AISRegion2.org

IRWIN A. CONROE AWARD

Dorothy Stiefel

Dr. Irwin A. Conroe, (1899-1988) played a very large part in the early history of the Empire State Iris Society (ESIS), predecessor to the current 'Region 2 of the American Iris Society' organization. He was present at the ESIS organizational meeting in Elmira in 1953 and became Chairman of the By-Laws Committee. From then on he was continuously active in Society administration. He served as Auctioneer at area iris sales, Master of Ceremonies at regional meetings, and 3 separate terms of 3 years each as AIS RVP.

At the ESIS regional meeting in 1986, William Peck, on behalf of the Capital-Hudson Area, presented a proposal to honor Conroe for his service to ESIS. Named in honor of "Doc," an award was to be given annually to a living person, for exceptional service to ESIS. The first award was made in 1987 and was a dual award to both Bill Peck and "Doc" Conroe.

The original declaration of the award, as published in the ESIS Newsletter, Winter 1987, reads:

IRWIN A CONROE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL

1. There shall be an Empire State Iris Society Award to be known as the Irwin A. Conroe Distinguished Service Medal.
2. The medal shall be awarded annually to a living person selected to receive the Medal by an Irwin A. Conroe Award Committee to be appointed annually by the president of ESIS, consisting of three members of ESIS; provided, however, Irwin A. Conroe shall be one of the three committee members while he is able and willing to serve.
3. The Medal shall be awarded for distinguished service rendered while a member of ESIS, primarily for service to ESIS, but the Committee may also consider service to the American Iris Society.
4. In addition to the selection of the persons to receive the Medal, the Committee shall be responsible for the obtaining of medals, and for the preparation of suitable citations to be awarded with the Medal.
5. The Capital-Hudson Area will pay the costs of the first award to be made at the 1987 ESIS annual meeting; and intends to provide any amounts that may be required to cover costs of subsequent awards through 1996 to the extent such costs are not met by the Fund established as provided below.
6. A Fund will be established to be handled by the ESIS treasurer, who shall hold the same as a special fund of ESIS, and pay to the committee there from amounts requested by it for costs incurred in connection with awards. There shall be added to the Fund any income it may earn. Contributions designated for the Award shall be received into the fund.

Inscription to read:

**THE EMPIRE STATE IRIS SOCIETY
PRESENTS THE IRWIN A. CONROE AWARD
TO**

YEAR

Recipients of the Conroe Award

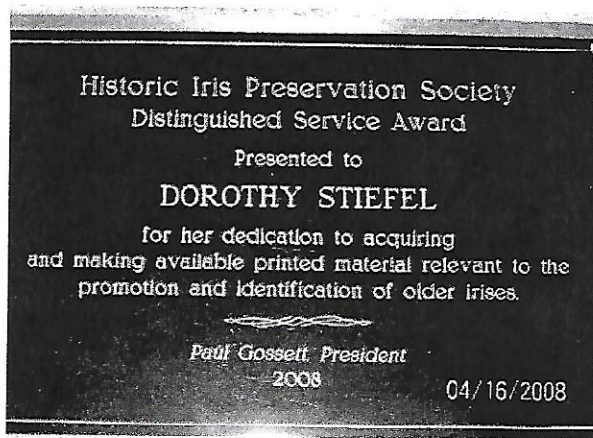
1987	Irwin A. Conroe and William Peck
1988	Harry Kuesel
1989	Lillian & James Gristwood
1990	Lynn Carmer
1991	Al deGroat
1992	Greg Schifferli
1993	Jane Barry
1994	Kathleen Guest
1995	John Wheeler
1996	Wendy Roller
1997	James Burke
1998	Dorothy (Fingerhood) Stiefel
1999	Helen Schueler
2000	Donna James
2001	Peter Weixlmann
2002	-No Award-
2003	Bob Keup
2004	-No Award-
2005	Don & Donna Lowry
2006	Judith Tucholski
2007	Jerry Murphy

HIPS HONORS DOROTHY STIEFEL

Vaughn Sayles

The president of the Southern Tier Iris Society, Dorothy Stiefel, was presented with the Historic Iris Preservation Society's (HIPS) Distinguished Service Award at the HIPS Meeting on Wednesday, April 16, 2008 at the American Iris Society's National Convention in Austin, Texas. In addition to serving as the head of the Southern Tier Iris Society, maintaining the Region 2 Archives and publishing the Region 2 Newsletter, Dorothy also finds time to do the Publication Sales for HIPS.

If you've ever checked out an issue of *Roots, Journal of the Historic Preservation Society*, you will find a page of the publications that HIPS has for sale. Dorothy maintains the collection, has copies made, and fills orders for irisarians on a regular basis. She also spends hours at the AIS National Conventions at a table featuring HIPS materials and publications for sale. This is a valuable service for HIPS members and other individuals interested in Historic Iris.



2008 HIPS Distinguished Service Award

The award was a complete surprise for Dorothy. It certainly is nice to see her receiving recognition for some of her efforts. If you see her, make sure you congratulate her on this national honor. Sometimes we forget just how much she does to promote iris. She is the driving force that keeps the Southern Tier Iris Society on track and it's amazing how much one person can do. Where she finds time to work, keep her gardens going and take care of her horse, Bonnie aka fertilizer producer extraordinaire, and all the stuff she does for the American Iris Society is tiring to even think about.



Dorothy and the award plaque

If you see her, make sure you congratulate her on this national honor and let her know how much we appreciate all she does.

AIS REGION 2 MEETING & DINNER REGISTRATION
October 18, 2008
Treadway Inn & Suites, Owego, NY

Name _____

Name (2) _____

Phone number _____

e-mail _____

Saturday Lunch

If you will be joining us for lunch on Saturday, we need to have a head count for the Treadway to ensure that everyone gets a meal. The complimentary luncheon will be served in our meeting room and will consist of garden salad accompanied by grilled chicken strips, cheese chunks, tortellini pasta salad, and beverages.

___ Number of individuals who will be attending the complimentary luncheon.

Saturday Dinner (Banquet)

Please check dinner choice(s):

___ Boneless roast prime rib served au jus with horseradish cream

___ Stuffed flounder Florentine topped with white wine sauce

___ Roasted Treadway Inn chicken with savory stuffing, topped with
Champagne sauce

Entrees include chef's vegetable, potato, rolls, butter, dessert and beverage. The dinner will start with soup du jour and a house salad.

All dinners are \$25.00. Please send this completed form, along with a check for the appropriate amount made out to "STIS," to:

Dorothy Stiefel, 260 Michigan Hollow Rd., Spencer, NY 14883.

Questions? Dorothy: (607) 589-7465 irisacher@aol.com

PLEASE RETURN BY SEPT. 17. THANK YOU!