



# The Newscast

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given.



## The Region 4 Vice President Message

For the past few days, as I have looked into the grey wood behind our home, I have called to mind the words of the great poet Percy Bisshe Shelley,

who writes: “If winter comes, can spring be far behind? To which I reply “I certainly hope so,” for this has been a bleak winter season with grey skies, cold temperatures, cold rain, ice and scattered snows here in Blacksburg where mountains have protected us from the heavy snowfall that persisted elsewhere. The deer have been a problem here as elsewhere for the usually abundant acorns and walnuts are nowhere to be found and they have turned to sampling iris and stripping my holly bushes. Plants that usually make it through the winter untouched are gone, and my fall rhizomes have been pulled up and shuffled about, so my sympathy goes out to those others in Region 4 who are struggling with the cold and with the critters. Hang in there, for surely the first danfordiae or reticulata will be here to brighten our days before long.

As this new year which will be my last as RVP begins, there is much to report and to look forward to in the months ahead. First, I want to call attention to some changes in the Board of Directors. Two long-time members of the board stepped down. Mac Shawe gave up his post as the membership chairperson, and Mike Lockett stepped down as chairman for Reblooming Irises. All of us in Region 4 owe gratitude to these gentlemen. Mac was one of the first members of AIS with whom I became acquainted when I moved to Virginia 11 years ago. He kept all of us well apprised with regard to the changes in membership that occur, and was always willing to assist me as RVP in any way he could. Thank so very much Mac. Thanks, too, Michael for all that you have done. I met Mike shortly after I moved to Virginia when he volunteered to present a program at the first of the three regional meetings which I have organized in Blacksburg. His articles in *Irises* and elsewhere have focused attention on his work in this field have called attention to important work going on in the region, and attracted attention to Region IV. Michael also undertook the organization of our Fall meeting in

2013. Let me say again here what I have said to Michael privately, well done. Your school on rebloomers was great and the beds that you had prepared should attract attention to rebloom and make the Richmond area a center of interest for glorious autumn irises. Thanks too for providing me with samples of your hybrids for my display garden here. To both of these gentlemen, Hail and Farewell!

And let us welcome their successors. I am pleased to welcome Ginny Spoon and Robert Campbell as co-chairmen of the membership committee and Colin Campbell as chairman for rebloom. I know that all three of them are already hard at work on their new duties and appreciate their service to the organization. Please, do all that you can to make their times in office fulfilling.

And let us all plan on attending the spring meeting sponsored by Francis Scott Key Iris Society. It promises to be a fine meeting which will give us an opportunity to see Siberian Iris along with the bearded varieties we have seen recently.

Don Rude, RVP

The rainbow is flowing along the ground  
 Purples and blacks, white and yellows  
 The pinks are there red not to be found  
 The colors collide yet all is mellow

From species to made  
 From needed peace  
 Long and short  
 The bed are laid

We dream of those strange and not with us  
 Winter is to rest and plans for the future  
 Each day is a wait to see what is loss  
 No worry at all with catalogs we conjecture

From blue to the pink  
 From mauve to the brown  
 The earth we link  
 Ti the colors abound



## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to 2014 and what a year this will be! The Spring regional is in my neck of the woods with five gardens all busting at the seams with guest. Yes I know they are mostly bearded but it will give you a prelude of what you might see in 2018 when FSK again host the Siberian Species convention.

That is the one this I have learned about region 4, yes we love our bearded but we really love our beardless. Very few gardens I have visited have less than at least one beardless iris, whether it is Japanese, Siberian, Louisiana, any number of the various species seem to be well represented in this Region. So I have a job for you.

Go visit. Yep that’s what I said, go visit. You do not have to go far, a neighbor will do. Visit, have a cup of tea, take pictures of their garden and let us see what you see. There are innumerable places in the newscast where one or two pictures can be added to a small write up of the gardens you see.

Another job for all of you. We are supposed to fill out the Tall Bearded symposium, well response has been a slack of late so here is what I propose. I usually print a list of what region four chooses as their favorite tall bearded but here is the twist. What did you choose? IS it growing in your garden? Is it in the neighbor’s garden? Did you see it at a regional, national?

So fill out your Tall Bearded Symposium ballots, send them in then send me what your top choice is and

why and a picture. If you do not have a picture that is ok I will find one for you, just tell me why you made the choice you made.

Every year I have a new top choice, but then I see a lot of gardens and it still amazes me where tall bearded irises grow and bloom. My choice last year was in my garden “Arctic Burst” By Roger Duncan (2008), color, stalks, substance, unusual pattern and coloring it stands out and begs for attention.

As you can see only a couple of inches. You can do it. I have faith.

Anita Moran  
 Newscast Editor



“Arctic Burst” By Roger Duncan (2008),

## From the Editor (cont.)

Since Taking over the Newscast I have had to produce five issues of some of the Irisarians that Region 4 has produced and this is my sixth. Sadly I never met Lloyd Zurbrigg but I did know the rest but Clarence Mahan was the first person I met from the American Iris Society. I met Clarence Mahan within a week of joining the American Iris Society at the behest of Ginny Spoon who I had been talking to over the phone. Ginny told me that Region 4 which included Maryland was hosting the National Convention in Washington DC and when I asked her if they needed help she gave me Clarence's number. Our first conversation involved convincing Clarence that I truly wanted to volunteer to help with the national and no I was not some crack pot setting him up as a joke. Finally he believed me and invited me to a meeting about the convention after assigning me to handle the raffle. I like to arrive early and this was no different, I went to the restaurant to get some coffee and relax and write down my thoughts on running the raffle (not real big on meeting new people). Within fifteen minutes an elderly man sat at my table and asked to share my coffee (served in a French press, a first for me) and I poured him a cup. We talked about what I was writing and finally he introduced himself just before announcing it was time to head to the meeting. Over the week of the convention I came to know Clarence as a hardworking, detail oriented, funny man. He often sat himself at our booth and just rested as he teased the various hybridizers that stopped by and he loved to tease my sister Virginia who thought irises were just purple.

In for a few years after that Clarence taught a lot of classes for judges training and sent me a piece of "Reminiscence" to grow in my garden. As he became ill, we continued to correspond through e-mail or talked on the phone. I cannot count the times when I started to produce seedlings that he was supportive and pushing me to try even greater things no matter that my ideas might seem strange to others.

Since I have taken over the Region 4 Newsletter there have been many losses to the old guard of Region 4, some I knew, some I never met. Clarence Mahan like Roy Epperson left a large gaping hole in the fabric of region 4 that will never be filled. Although he did so

much for the American Iris Society, it was the little things he did for the people and groups in Region 4 that we will remember. He was a friend, a mentor, a shoulder, a defender, a laugh when you needed it, and knowledge when you needed that. Good-Bye Clarence, try not to replant all heaven's gardens in irises.

Anita



`Reminiscence` Mahan 1994

## 2013 AIS AWARDS Recipients Region 4

**Runner-up Williamson-White Medal (MTB):**

Petit Louvois (Clarence Mahan)

**Runner-up Cook-Douglas Medal (SDB):**

Spiderman (Don Spoon)

**Winner Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB):**

Trimmed Velvet (Don Spoon)

**Runner-up Winner Caparne-Welch Medal (MDB):**

Spider Web (Don Spoon)

**Runner-up Randolph Perry (Spec-X):**

Kinshikou (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

**Award Of Merit:**

**TB Runner Up:**

Orchid Dove (Don Spoon)

**MTB Runner Up:**

Sari's Dance (Ginny Spoon)

**SPEC-X Runner Up:**

Shiryukyo (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Tsukiyono (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

**Honorable Mention:**

**BB Runner Up:**

Tina Louise (Bryan Spoon)

**SDB Winner:**

Purple Joy (Don Spoon)

Anne Lowe (Don Spoon)

Exotic Eyes (Don Spoon)

Zippo (Ginny Spoon)

**SDB Runner Up:**

Anita Moran (Don Spoon)

Muppet (Don Spoon)

Granny Apple (Don Spoon)

**MDB Winner:**

Kayla's Song (Don Spoon)

**MDB Runner Up:**

Lotta Dotta (Don Spoon)

**SPEC-X Winner:**

Take No Sato (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Ryugan (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

**SPEC-X Runner Up:**

Shirabyoshi (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Takamagahara (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

Yukiyanagi (Hiroshi Shimizu by Carol Warner)

## The Region 4 Assistant Vice President

A lot happened at the Fall Regional in Richmond this past October. Not only was it a fun regional the Charlotte Iris Society gave a tentative acceptance for the Fall 2015 Regional. The Francis Scott Key Iris Society, who is sponsoring the Spring 2014 Regional meeting, will also be hosting the Spring 2018 regional meeting in conjunction with the national Siberian Species mini convention. The same five gardens that you will see in the spring will host Siberian and Species from all over the country including Region 4.

So for Regional we have the following plans

Spring 2014- Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
Timonium, Maryland

Fall 2014 - Eastern North Carolina Iris Society  
Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina

Spring 2015- Central Virginia Iris Society  
Richmond, Virginia

Fall 2015 Tentative Charlotte Iris Society  
Charlotte, NC

Spring 2016 Fredericksburg Area Iris Society  
Fredericksburg, Virginia

**Fall 2016- TBD**  
**Spring 2017-TBD**  
**Fall 2017- TBD**

Spring 2018 Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
In conjunction with Siberian Species Mini  
Convention Timonium Maryland

As you can see we need three slots filled for the fall of 2016 then both 2017 fall and spring. I hope for some news soon on those willing to host the Regionals for these dates and get with me as soon as possible.

Watch for blast e-mails of upcoming meetings, and announcements that keep you up to date with the happenings in the region and if I do not have your e-

mail please let your president know or e-mail me directly at [avmoran1@earthlink.net](mailto:avmoran1@earthlink.net). How do you know if I have your e-mail? If you did not get an e-mail from me announcing that the Full Color Newscast was available on the site then I do not have your e-mail address.

Francis Scott Key Iris Society has a packed schedule for us in the Spring and you can see what is planned by going to the happenings tab of the website or just look at the rear of this Newscast to see what is planned. Hope to see you there.

Anita Moran  
**Assistant RVP Region 4**

## PROPOSED 2014 BUDGET FOR REGION 4

Expenditures	Dollar
Printing and Mailing two (2) Issues of Newscast	\$2000.00
RVP Travel Expenses	600.00
Membership Committee – M. Shaw	100.00
Memorials	300.00
AIS Youth Program	100.00
Web Page	150.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	300.00
Total	\$3550.00

Submitted by:

JACK W. LOVING

Note: Have received no request for additional funding.

The nominees for officers of Region 4 for 2014 - 15 are:

RVP -- Anita Moran

Asst. RVP -- Doug Chyz

Secretary -- Frances Thrash

Treasurer -- Carol Warner

Members of the Nominating Committee are Susan Grigg, Chairman; Doug Chyz, and Debbie Campbell.

## **Lloyd Zurbrigg -- Clarence Mahan Award**

The fall of 2012 I presented to the board of Region 4 the need of a seedling award at the National AIS conventions since no seedling award is consistently given. With the Region 4 board's approval I wrote up the proposal and had our RVP, Don Rude, present it to the AIS board. The board of the American Iris Society approved the proposal by Region 4 that a seedling award, sponsored by Region 4, be given to the favorite seedling every year at the National Conventions. The inaugural award will be presented to the seedling with the most votes. Thanks to Susan Grigg's dedication she has chosen the exquisite bowl pictured below and had the initial engraving completed. This bowl will be presented to the winner at the Awards Banquet and have their name and seedling number or name engraved and sent to them as a permanent memento for their work as shown in their seedling. Thanks you Susan for all your hard work.

### **Lloyd Zurbrigg -- Clarence Mahan Award Presented by Region IV AIS For Favorite Seedling Dallas, Texas 2014**



## Maymont, A Gift



**The Dooley Mansion, at Maymont**

# Maymont, A Gift

Anita Moran

Japanese garden but not the last set of step or slopes we had to traverse.



Maymont visit with Sue Shackelford, Glenn Witter, Jim Schroetter, Ann Dumler, Shirley Shelton, Janet LeJune, Bob Pries, Peggy Singelman, Bobbie Sullivan, Mike Locketell, Jim Diggs, Sallie McCrea

Maymont, a former dairy farm on the James River, the home of James and Sallie Dooley from 1893 to 1925 was gifted to the city of Richmond in the form of a bequeath in 1925. Due to the efforts of the Maymont Foundation who gifted the residents of Richmond and the visitors to Maymont a huge treasure to be enjoyed by all. There is no way to adequately write up our Maymont visit but it was as much a gift to those not of the area as it was originally. Thanks to Mike Locketell who arranged for a guided tour given by Peggy Singelman who met us at the entrance gazebo where we all congregated. After taking pictures and a quick talk about what we were going to undertake off we went.

Peggy took us past a Greek fountain that seemed oddly perfect in the farm setting. Going through a farm gate into the farm area we found irises were blooming. ‘Lunar Whitewash’, ‘My Friend Jonathan’, ‘Unchained Melody’ and ‘Echo Location’ were in full bloom with ‘Northward Ho’ had a single bud ready to pop but not yet opened. Into the paddock area where two horses were eating their breakfast and not too impressed with the interruption of us gawking at them and taking pictures.

Moving out of the farm area, past the Italian Garden with its wonderful roses, we stood atop the Cascade. The bilateral stairway that snakes around a series of waterfalls was not something I was looking forward to but onward we went. The Cascade was the steepest part of the downward climb to the



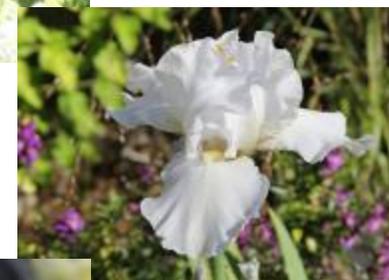
◀ Greek Fountain

Lunar Whitewash ▼



◀ My Friend Jonathan

Unchained Melody ▼



◀ Echo Location

Maymont Horse ▼



# Maymont (cont.)



▲ The Italian Garden and one of the Roses seen ►



The Cascade—With the group on top



◀ Tour group making their way down the Cascade



◀ Ann Dumler making her way down the Cascade

The ► Gate to the Japanese Garden



The Cascade ► seen from the side



## Maymont (cont.)



**The Falls and Moon Bridge**—Janet LeJube, Ann Dumler, Sue Shackelford, Glenna Witter, Bob Pries



**The Falls and Moon Bridge**

Our ultimate goal was the Japanese Garden and the only notice we had that we were getting close was a wooden gate way, still there were more stairs and downward sloping pathways to go until we reaches a tree rings with Iris tectorum and across from that a Japanese Maple with pond. The Japanese garden was completed in 1912 but was rede-

signed and expanded in 1978. The walkways once concrete were now gravel but the concrete removed was not wasted but instead made its way into the architect of the garden, usually near large trees.

down to Richmond with me and poor thing ended up getting chosen to pose in most pictures. From the Moon Bridge we follow a path, (a special path since it appears this is not a path the public is allowed to take) along the back of the lake and discovered that beyond the bamboo and shrubbery was the real world in the form of very active train tracks. Annoying, yes but the trains blended into the background and became part of the auditory picture of the garden. After reaching the Azumaya (a resting place ), it was amazing that this structure was level yet two sides were supported by rocks that we totally different. We entered the area that apparently those who care for the pond feed the Koi for as soon as they saw us they congregated



Old Japanese Maple and pond



close by even following us for a short distance. They were large colorful and quite the sight as they glided through the water.

▲The Koi ►



Starting our tour of the Japanese Garden we turned right from the gate path toward the Moon Bridge so that the waterfall could be seen in all its glory. Poor Ann, she rode

## Maymont (cont.)



Turtles sunning themselves

As we made our way around the lake the turtles came out to get some rays after a chilly night and I noticed that the lake was perfect for reflection shots which I took many. At the end of the lake were cypress knees which formed one side of the path that lead thankfully to benches and rest, my toes were not happy and I am sure Mike's and Ann's backs were not in any better shape. It was while I was sitting in the shade that I noticed them. Along the edge of the lake were hundreds of Japanese irises. Oh what a display that must be in June.



The Grotto

Making our way up the paths we found the Grotto which was constructed into the garden in 1911. The original stalactites and stalagmites were removed from a cave in West Virginia and brought to the garden. When we finally reached our starting point there was still the problem of the uphill climb. Thankfully Peggy arranged transportation for the gimps which included me, Ann Dumler and Bill Blaylock. Ah I bet you thought that was the end but since I took pictures of the barns I felt I had to take pictures of the Dooley's home. Bob Preis and I looked at the house and was not sure if we were looking at the front or the rear but finally moved under the patio and found the front. The house was a study in curves and odd angles all built with stone. There were tours but I did not think I could have completed it so I headed for the front where Ann was waiting. Unfortunately it was time to leave. As you leave Maymont there is a donation box and since Maymont survives strictly on donations I was happy to give. Such a wonderful place I cannot wait to come back hopefully in June and see the Japanese Iris bloom. More Picture of our trip at Maymont can be seen at



◀The Dooley home



## **Proposed Change to the** **By-Laws of Region 4**

At the Spring Regional Meeting a vote will be taken of the membership to allow the change in the by-laws of Region 4.

It was brought up by Bob Pries that the bylaws need to be revised to correct a problem with officers serving as committee chairman. Bob Pries made the motion and Frances Thrash seconded the motion to change Article IV Section 1 of the bylaws by striking the last line.

### **Current By-law:**

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, DUTIES

Section 1. The officers of Region 4 shall be Regional Vice President (RVP), Assistant RVP, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties described by these bylaws and by the Parliamentary Authority adopted by Region 4. **An elected officer shall not concurrently serve as a chairman of a Regional Standing Committee.**

### **Proposed Change:**

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, DUTIES

The officers of Region 4 shall Regional Vice President (RVP), Assistant RVP, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties described by these bylaws and by the Parliamentary Authority adopted by Region 4.

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### C&P President's Report, October 2013

Our youth member, Colin Campbell has already gotten his ten hours of judges training and wants to be an apprentice judge, but he has not been a member of AIS for three years which is a requirement. Colin is hoping that he will be given an exception by AIS so that he can start his apprentice training this spring. Colin has also given many talks to garden clubs and other organizations this year and he has expanded his garden by almost double its original size.

Our iris show was held on May 11th, in Winchester at the Opequon Presbyterian Church in their Fellowship Hall. It was a huge success with many of our members attending. Several of our youth members won the silver and bronze youth medals. They must have paid attention at the March Tea. Congratulations to Gabby Potter who won the Youth Silver Medal and Best Specimen in the Youth Section with 'Prince of Burgundy'. Congratulations also to Sarah Mercer who won the Bronze Youth Medal. Ginny Spoon won Best Specimen in the adult section with 'Spiked' and also the silver medal. Ray Jones won the Bronze Medal. We had 9 exhibitors and 56 varieties were entered. Griff Crump won best seedling. There was also a potluck lunch after the judging that we all enjoyed. Several of our members went to Colin's garden and Winterberry Gardens to enjoy the iris blooms after the show.

Our plant sale was held Saturday, August 17th at the Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg. We had some of the best plants for sale that I have ever seen, but unfortunately not many customers. Still, we made a nice amount of money and many of the left-over plants were sold to the Georgia Iris Society and they were very pleased to receive large plants of reblooming irises for their sale.

Our fall picnic was held at Winterberry Gardens on September 21st, where we had a potluck lunch and grilled hot dogs and hamburgers. Afterwards, we had our plant exchange and many irises were exchanged and dug on the spot. We have decided to hold our plant sale at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester next year in conjunction with their tomato and garlic festival. Colin will be giving a slide show there of edible flowers. We are also trying to get the reception room at Blandy State Arboretum for our spring show on the same date as their May Mother's Day Sale.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ginny Spoon  
President, C&P Iris Society

### CVIS AFFILIATE REPORT

CVIS consists of 51 members of which 17 are AIS members. On May 5th we had our annual iris show at Stranges Garden Center where we signed up two new members.

Our May meeting was our spring picnic hosted by Bill and Paula Blaylock. Everyone had a wonderful time including the cicadas. We had a rhizome swap at our July meeting and everyone present suggest it be an annual event.

Stranges presented a program on products to use in the growing and cultivation of iris at our September meeting. Also in September we held our annual rhizome sale at Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens. It was a huge success with many cultivars selling out. We signed up two new members at the event.

June and I were ask to present a program for the Twin Lakes Garden Club in Clarksville, Va. for their September meeting. They had 22 members attending and we presented each of them a re-blooming iris rhizome that were left over from the CVIS rhizome sale.

Our November meeting will be our annual harvest dinner when a new slate of officers will be voted upon. I would like to say thank you to all the members of region 4 for your help and support during my two terms as president of CVIS.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Rosini

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### EASTERN NC IRIS SOCIETY REPORT - APRIL 2013

We thought that our 2012 meetings were concluded with the Harvest Lunch in October, but through a contact with hybridizer Bob VanLiere of Denver we scheduled a luncheon meeting on December 1. Bob presented an interesting program on his history with irises and his hybridizing goals. He very generously gave each attendee a gift certificate for one of his iris introductions and left certificates to be given to other members of our club.

Our first meeting of 2013 in February was cancelled due to bad weather, so we began our year on March 17th with our own member, Ruth Barker, who gave a program called "What's In the Dirt?" Ruth always has a spectacular iris garden and she shared some of her tips for preparing the soil, keeping the weeds at bay, and dealing with problems of culture or disease. We had several new members present for this meeting and many notes were taken by new and current members during Ruth's presentation.

ENCIS was glad to be invited to sponsor the April Lecture at the Raulston Arboretum and Bob Pries, member of EN CIS, spoke on "Dwarf Irises". Bob, an AIS Emeritus Judge and current Vice President of the Dwarf Iris Society, traced his interest in the Dwarf Iris and gave his audience a look at the development of these little beauties.

ENCIS provided AIS and Dwarf Iris Society memberships to the two North Carolina State University horticulture students who were in attendance. If weather permits, our Accredited Iris Show will be held at the Crabtree Valley Mall Promotional Court, Raleigh. The Show will open to the public at noon.

On June 16 our program will be "Pseudatas, Spurias, Versicolors, Oh My!" presented by Susan and Glenn Grigg. Election of officers will be held at this meeting.

On Saturday, June 29 our 8th Annual ENCIS Iris Sale will be held at the Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh.

Our annual iris drawing and auction for ENCIS members will take place on August 4th and our program will be "Irises That Will Grow in Water or Wet Soil".

Susan Grigg  
ENCIS President

### EASTERN NC IRIS SOCIETY REPORT – OCTOBER 2013

On June 16 we elected officers for the year – August 2013 to August 2014. They are: President, Susan Grigg; Vice-President, Bonita Masteller; Secretary, Glenn Grigg; Treasurer, Kat Causey.

Our annual Iris Sale on June 29 was successful in money raised and in new members recruited. We sold over \$3,000. worth of irises and gained 9 new members for our club. We are grateful to the JC Raulston Arboretum for our large indoor room to set up our annual Iris Sale. We were glad to donate irises again this year to the Duke Gardens in Durham and to the Raulston Arboretum.

At the annual iris drawing and auction on August 4th members brought the guest irises from their gardens that had been growing and increasing there. These were then auctioned to the group. Some members brought irises to be given away to any who wanted them. Everyone went happily home with new irises to plant.

We are looking forward to having the Regional Board Meeting in Raleigh next fall on Friday, October 10 and Saturday, October 11. We have scheduled a Saturday afternoon tour of Tony Avent's Plant Delights garden and nursery. Come prepared to shop for plants. More information will come to you early in 2014.

Susan Grigg  
ENCIS President

## AFFILIATE REPORTS

### FAIS Fall Report

It's that time again, I have to dust off my trusty quill pen and fill the inkwell so I can profoundly embellish the year the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS) has had. Fortunate for me the embellishing part is very easy because we have a great group of members who just make things happen. And additionally we have a great public in our area that enjoys and supports our events. Make no mistake about it, much of this public support is in response to advertising (advertising is nothing more than a conveniently scheduled reminder) of which we have the luxury of being showcased in multiple medias including newspaper, radio, billboards, banners and flyers.

This is FAIS' events for 2013:

March, Program on the AIS 2012 National Convention in Ontario, CA,  
by Lois Rose

April, Irises for Dummies: Starting the Year off Right, hosted by Jack  
and Rosalie Loving, by Doug Chyz

May, Open Gardens within FAIS membership, Annual Show

"Springtime in Oz", Open Gardens Day (gardens open to the public)

June, How to Hybridize New Irises, by Jim Schroetter

July, Annual Sale at Roxbury Farm and Garden Center

August, Dang people, we rested!

September, Annual Picnic, and Digging and Processing Beardless Iris  
program hosted at/by Lois Rose.

October, that's why I am scribing this, Fall Regional Meeting.

November, Harvest Dinner and Awards.

Temporarily out of service till March 2014.

Now let's recap our three public events. The show being the first, we had an amazing show. Horticultural Divisions had 86 different varieties with 10 exhibitors, and the Artistic Division, five themes based on Wizard of Oz, twenty beautiful arrangements, all by members of the FAIS, pretty special. The Open Gardens Day, the Sunday after our show, gives the public an opportunity to visit iris gardens spread around the area. We had 6 gardens open to the public this year with excellent attendance. Additionally at both the show and the open gardens many of us took pre-orders for our sale, which is very popular, and a very successful addition to our sale

## Remembering My Friend, Clarence Mahan

By Don Spoon



One of my fondest memories of Clarence occurred when we commissioned our talented artist, C&P club member Bill Poesch, for an oil painting of Clarence's Award of Merit winner 'Suky' to present to him as a surprise gift at our March event to honor him for all he had done for the C&P Iris Society. At our winter get-together, at Merrifield Garden Center, I knew I needed to talk with Suky about the details of the matting and frame so it could be properly prepared by Sylvia Poesch to be displayed in the Mahan home. Since Clarence was present, and as usual, jovially talking with various club members, I found a secluded area across the large second floor room where I could talk with Suky. We talked quietly about our plans, but Dick Sparling, sporting his signature long bushy white eyebrows, was in earshot and walked up and asked us what we were talking about so secretly. Suky turned to Dick and said, nonchalantly with a straight face, "We are just talking about our affair." There was a short silence and then all three of us broke out in such laughter we even got Clarence's attention from across the room. This showed how completely Suky, who was born and raised in Korea, had mastered her second language and culture to create subtle English humor. Like Clarence,

she has a great sense of humor, delightful smile, and infectious laughter.

Suky was working as a professional Korean/English translator when Clarence, as an Army medical clerk, met her as a civilian Army employee in Seoul, South Korea, and in 1962 they began their 50+ years of marriage. Their son, a medical doctor, Sean Mahan and wife Sheila have three sons, Dallas, Ryan, and Logan, and live in Orlando, FL. Their daughter Christiane and husband Mark Routt live in Ashland, VA. Region 4 members got to meet Christiane when she graciously accepted, for her father, the first AIS Region 4 E. Roy Epperson Service Award in 2011, presented by Susan Grigg. Clarence named his beautiful, cold climate rebloomer, the light blue TB 'Christiane Elizabeth' for his daughter and three irises for his grandsons. Winterberry Gardens introduced his marvelous MTB, 'Petit Louvois' and appropriately named TB 'Obi-Wan Kenobi' that are very popular cultivars and both won the Award of Merit. We grow many of his twenty-five introductions including the ruffled and laced, silvery lavender-blue TB 'Lady Bird Johnson' that grew so magnificently in his garden.

While still at my Georgetown University garden in 1985, I watched my very first seedling open its top flower early on a Saturday before the sun rose, with my car running and headlights illuminating my tall maroon-purple TB with yellow beards. On Sunday, the stalk had a second flower. I called Clarence and asked him if I could bring the stalk by their house that afternoon as I thought that my very first seedling might be Dykes Medal quality. When I knocked at his front door I imagined his ecstatic words of adulation. Before he even let me in the door, he made a quick appraisal and gave me the best praise he had to give, "It may be a good garden iris."

## Remembering My Friend, Clarence Mahan (cont.)

After a mild winter, we had a nice planting of the late rebloomer 'Sweet Solitude' registered by Charlie Nearpass in 1996, that I would describe as a fully flared, cold climate reblooming 'Queen's Circle'. I called Clarence and asked if I could bring him a stalk of 'Sweet Solitude', as he had not seen it in bloom. Also, Clarence had introduced its pod parent, 'My Katie' for Charlie, and its pollen parent was Joe Ghio's 'Entourage'. I knocked on his front door and when he opened it to let me in, he gently took that gorgeous stalk in his hands and began a flow of praise that few iris garden judges could muster. In the Bulletin, he described 'Sweet Solitude' as "One of the most beautiful irises, a pristine white flower with falls edged in mauve and with bright tangerine beards." Unfortunately, in the East 'Sweet Solitude' needed a mild winter to adequately increase and was never introduced.

Clarence was by far the most competitive participant in all the iris shows I ever attended where he entered his immaculately prepped and culturally pampered stalks. He would transport them sitting flat on his car seat or across a box with the stalk ends wrapped in moist paper so nary a petal was touched. I watched him, year after year, win the AIS silver medal with by far the most blue ribbons to the consternation of down-in-the-mouth losers like myself. Clarence was obviously very proud of himself that showed all over his smiling face. Then Ginny, who was a neophyte to Irisdom, joined C&P Iris Society. So began the great challenge of his life. But I must say he was as magnanimous as he could possibly be when Ginny, year after year, would edge him out again like Lucy and the football Charlie Brown attempted to kick. I enjoyed most the look on his face when he learned she had bested him again.

The first time I met Clarence, I was on a tall ladder hanging iris posters on the walls at the U. S. Botanic Gardens in Washington, DC with Charlie Nearpass holding the ladder. Clarence walked up and stood

smoking a cigarette below me. I shouted at him to get away immediately, and holding my breath to avoid another anaphylactic shock, climbed down the ladder and made it to better air. I was pretty rude to Clarence and told him his smoking addiction would shorten his life, but hopefully not mine. After that incident, Clarence apologized profusely and never once in the nearly three decades of our friendship, even though he continued to smoke, did he ever smoke remotely close to me or upwind from me. We talked often about his nicotine addiction as if we were talking about someone else, and how difficult it was for him to stop smoking. He quit several times, even for a few months, but each time gained weight or just missed how it motivated his intellect. I am four months younger than Clarence, as we are members of the 1939 cohort. Over the last years of his life, we had many great phone conversations talking about our lives as youths and how much he enjoyed milking cows in the early morning on the family dairy farm in western Ohio. I talked about how much I enjoyed raising pigeons with my dad and growing irises and gardening with my mother. Clarence was very widely read and knew as much as I did about evolution and Charles Darwin, who went from a trained Anglican clergyman to become an atheist. Clarence told me that when he had his heart attack he was pleased that he did not call on God to help him. From my theist perception, I believe that because of his great life, sterling character, and all his good acts that our Creator's grace was richly given to Clarence Mahan. When talking on the phone became too tiring for him, Clarence continued to send Ginny and me the most considerate and thoughtful e-mail messages.

## Remembering My Friend, Clarence Mahan (cont.)

Clarence was the “Wizard of Praise”. Nearly every spring he would visit my Georgetown University Garden and help me appraise my seedlings. He said that my TB ‘Emilie Dolge’ was the most beautiful laced light yellow he had ever seen. At a show he judged in Fredericksburg, he gave it a blue ribbon. But Clarence could also withhold his praise. He let me know that my unique ‘Cheshire Cat’ might be one of the ugliest TBs he had ever seen. Then, when a panel of judges headed by Sterling Innerst voted it best specimen of the show with a perfect stalk, I brought Clarence up to the winner’s table to see my prize stalk and had him bow down to it and ask forgiveness for his unkind remarks about my glorious beauty. Anyone who has had Clarence write about their introduction with his genius for praise is a lucky person. His comments about my TB ‘Little John’ in the Bulletin were so strong that I am sure they helped ensure its Award of Merit. Thank you, Clarence! I am also proud of the great piece Clarence wrote in the Bulletin on the hybridizing accomplishments of Charlie Nearpass with his four Awards of Merit that accompanied Charlie’s being awarded the AIS hybridizing Medal. In my opinion, Charlie’s TB ‘Spinning Wheel’ definitely should have won the Dykes Medal. Dyke Medal winners like ‘Everything Plus’ and ‘Splashacata’, plus many Award of Merit winners have Charlie Nearpass introductions or seedlings in their pedigrees.

In my opinion, Clarence and Suky Mahan are the quintessential gentleman and gentlewoman. In his dedication of his classic irises book, Clarence praised Suky in poetic prose, “For my wife Suky whose virtue and beauty have enriched my life beyond measure.” There was no doubt how much he loved her, when he had a full page in the Bulletin that said, “I love Suky”. Of course, we knew he was advertising his love for both his wife and the iris he named ‘Suky’. In the 35 years I knew Clarence, I can not recall a single time when he ever used an explicative, but do remember times when I probably provoked one. He was gracious to all in

speech and manner and showed respect for the opinions of others and listened to their opinions without interruption. Where we differed was in his misguided belief that the Fleur-de-Lis was a lily and not an iris. He persisted in his error, even when I showed him the photograph of the ancient Persian Jerusalem coin that showed a perfectly depicted iris flower on one side. Also, I told him that Jerusalem had as its city flower the sword lily - their name for the iris for its sword-like foliage - and had fans of iris blades adorning the tops of the pillars of the temple. I presented to him many other irrefutable facts, but to no avail. I am sure he or I will have to write fifty times on St. Peter’s black chalk board either, “The Fleur-de-Lis was an iris” or “The Fleur-de-Lis was not a lily” before gaining entrance through the pearly gates. Nevertheless, as you can see by how I phrased these two equivalent statements (heads I win, tails you lose), I know deep down in my heart that I am right and Clarence is wrong. And I have faith that our all-knowing Creator knows the correct answer, that the Fleur-de-Lis is the symbol for an iris and not a lily. Yet, I doubt Clarence will relent.

Clarence, with his excellent business sense and credentials including an MBA degree (Syracuse University, 1969), was the Deputy Comptroller for the U.S. Department of Energy and EPA, as well as EPA Director of Research Program Management. As a career member of the U. S. Civil Service, Clarence was awarded by President Reagan the rank of Meritorious Executive. I saw Clarence in action when he chaired our 2003 Northern Virginia AIS National Convention that ended with a substantial surplus to return to the Region 4 coffers. Bob Pries in the January/February Irises Bulletin #369, volume 95/1:38 told how as AIS President (1998-2001) Clarence single handedly balanced the AIS budget with hard, necessary decisions.

## Remembering My Friend, Clarence Mahan (cont.)

Also, Clarence told me that he ran his Iris Pond business for many years with enough profit that it paid for him to send his son to medical school. One of Clarence's most valuable articles "Advice for Beginning Hybridizers" appeared in the July 1997 AIS Bulletin #306, pages 64-68, where he gave away many of his secrets of how to introduce, market, and promote a hybridizer's introductions. It is recommended reading for anyone planning to establish a profitable iris business. He ended his article with a very encouraging statement, "The opportunities for advances and improvements of all types of irises have just begun."

Another example of Clarence as the "Wizard of Praise" was his series of articles praising the great irisarians that AIS chose to confer the name for each of its major awards above the Award of Merit. After reading each piece, Clarence had convinced me that the choices were abundantly appropriate. I know he would have been pleased that the new AIS award starting in 2014, for the best seedling at a national convention, is named the Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Award as it also honors Lloyd who named his finest introduction 'Clarence'. This great reliable cold climate reblooming beauty was the powerful pod parent that crossed on Keith Keppel's gorgeous luminata 'Mind Reader' produced my Wister Medal and TB Hall of Fame winner 'Daughter of Stars'. 'Clarence', I thank you.

I loved Clarence's monumental 404 page book *Classic Irises and the Men and Women who Created Them*" (Krieger Pub. Co., 2007) so much that I read it through a second time just to savor and learn from his delightfully erudite writing style. In his acknowledgments, Clarence gave credit to all those who made his book possible, leading off with his stalwart friend and editor Rosalie Figge, and master photographer Mike Lowe who provided most of the great images that made the book a beautifully illustrated volume. I have watched Mike at work at Winterberry Gardens with his splendid camera, lenses, and tripod admiring and pho-

tographing his beloved historic flowers. If a picture is worth a thousand words, then Mike certainly made a gigantic contribution to this wonderful book that Clarence authored to praise those great, historic irisarians. I feel deeply indebted to Clarence for the fifteen years he devoted to creating his Opus Magnum.

Clarence had once thought he could bring together a group of authors and update the 1978 *The World of Irises*. He asked me to write a chapter on genetics and hybridizing and sent me his suggestions on how to write it. He said to keep the paragraphs short with good beginning topic sentences that made a clear, focused point. He said to keep the sentences as short as possible. Few readers can remember all those dependent clauses with their complex punctuation that tend to hang separately rather than together. He said to keep your writing simple and straightforward. In his *Classic Irises* book he did all this and more and made a highly entertaining, yet factually rich, memorable, and understandable classic.

I have never seen a more beautiful garden than the one that completely surrounded the Mahan home in McLean, VA. Possibly, the most impressive planting was on the whole south side of the house where Suky had her fine collection of peonies. The final addition was the oriental garden on the north side along the driveway that featured choice plants, an arched bridge, stone lantern, and different sized rocks as a Valentine gift from Clarence to Suky. There was a small square of lawn in front of the house that Clarence had completely ringed in raised iris beds and even the front area sloping to the street, that is technically county property, held iris plantings. By the sidewalk, around a lamppost was a planting of siberian irises. The north side of the house had heritage roses on trellises and species and historic iris plantings, but the back yard was his gardening triumph.

## Remembering My Friend, Clarence Mahan (cont.)

It had shade trees in the back with shade-loving flowering plants, a large pond surrounded by healthy clumps of beardless irises, and on the north side, terraced beds of rich loam that grew one of the best collections of bearded irises in Irisdom as well as the patches of Clarence's seedlings. The filter setting in the pond let a little algae color the water so the full-sized koi would not end up as expensive meals for the great blue herons. Clarence told me how it took him years to convince one neighbor not to cut their flowers for arrangements in her home when they were away on their world travels. On the north side of the Mahan lot was a large empty lot that Clarence said he wished he had bought before its value went out of sight.

Clarence always had many iris cultivars that I wanted to harvest a few stamens from for my hybridizing efforts, and he let me visit several times for that purpose. Also, after the shows he would let me take home some of his stalks to use their pollen. He was very generous when he dug for our C&P Iris Society sales and would bring in many bags of iris plants that included big plump rebloomers. We would set out all the rebloomers on a big table and then stand around the table waiting for the signal that the sale had begun. It was sort of like the frenzy of black Friday with marked down designer handbags, yet everyone was as polite and patient as humanly possible.

A score of years ago, at the C&P Iris Society fall show at Accokeek, MD there were about fifteen members present that included Charlie Nearpass and Brian Lazarus. There were not enough stalks or growers to have an official show, and none of those who were present knew that Ginny and I had been dating, and were engaged to be married. Ginny decided it was time for our C&P club members to know, so she said she should receive a kiss from the show chairman for all her work helping to set up the show. I gave her one of those big Hollywood-style kisses as I leaned her back in my

arms. Happy Tupling began to clap for us as did some other delighted members, Dick Sparling nearly fainted from seeing such a brash public kiss, later Phil Ogilvie asked Ginny if he could recommend a psychiatrist, but the best of all was that happy, knowing smile that spread all over Clarence's face as he wished us loads of happiness for now and evermore. That is my favorite smile I will always keep in my mind when I cherish my memories of Clarence Mahan.



## A study of Summer Rebloomers

By Colin Campbell

When I placed my first order ever for irises in 2008, I bought them to add color and fun to a circular flower bed that I had made. Some of the irises from that first order were rebloomers. In 2010 came my first re-bloom experience, with Champagne Elegance (Niswonger, 1983) reblooming in July, and Feed Back (Hager, 1983) blooming in the fall. In 2011, Champagne Elegance gave me the same performance again and I knew that I needed to grow more reblooming irises. I also decided that I would like to start selling the increase of my 15+ varieties of iris. My parents kindly helped me build and gave me the materials for wooden terraced iris beds in our backyard, with 1,500 square feet of garden space. I took the money I had made that summer selling irises to friends and relatives and sold some Disney stocks so that I could fill those beds up with irises! This I quickly did and soon had 150 new irises growing in those beds. Two of them rebloomed that fall: Baby Blessed (Zurbrigg 1979) and Senorita Frog (D. Spoon 2002). 2012 was an amazing year for rebloom. We had an extremely early Spring, and unusually wet weather. It was even wet during the summer. I was thankful that God had blessed me with such an amazing year for rebloom so early in my iris growing venture! There was rebloom from late May through early December! In 2013 my irises underwent a massive migration to new beds in the front yard, so that my 800 seedlings could come out of their pots and get planted in the backyard beds! I left small portions of most of my rebloomers in the back so that they could rebloom. Despite all this transplanting, 2013 was almost as good a year for rebloom as 2012! God is merciful even in little things.

We will take a chronological stroll through my gardens to look at the summer rebloomers, starting with the earliest rebloomer and ending in early September.



Champagne Elegance (Niswonger, 1983)



Feed Back (Hager, 1983)



Senorita Frog (D. Spoon 2002)

## A study of Summer Rebloomers (Cont.)

In 2012 *Senorita Frog* was in a hurry and started re-blooming while the last Tall Bearded was still in bloom in late May. When I was ordering irises in 2011, I took a completed order form on a visit to Winterberry Gardens. Don and Ginny Spoon sent me home with a pot of *Senorita Frog*. When I picked up my irises I found more *Senorita Frog* in my order! Thus I had six one year clumps of *Senorita Frog*. Throughout the last week of May and most of June, the six clumps bloomed one after the other, providing a nearly constant Spring-like display of blossoms. During the summer, I sold a bit of *Senorita Frog*, dwindling my collection down to three one year clumps. Still they managed to rebloom all summer and fall, not skipping a single month! *Senorita Frog* was my first rebloomer of the summer and my last rebloomer in the early winter, pleasantly surprising me with a flower in Mid-December. It is marvelous how the SDB's bloom stalks are protected by their leaves from milder freezes so that when the weather warms up they are able to bloom in a time of year when the garden is rather bleak. *Senorita Frog* also performed well in 2013 spanning June-October with its rebloom. Both in 2012 and 2013 *Cantina* (Byers 1990) sent up a bloomstalk on every single rhizome during June and July. The Summer stalks were taller and nicer than the Spring ones. Then *Cantina* rested all Fall, gathering up steam for the next Spring. The honey-colored rebloomer *October* (Byers 1989) has the same parentage as *Cantina*, so I wonder if *October* can rebloom in the summer as well.

*Buckwheat* (Byers 1989) was a heavy rebloomer during the summer of 2012, blooming in June, July, August and September. The stalks were well-budded with 9-10 flowers per stalk. However *Buckwheat* also stopped reblooming when Fall rolled along. It did send up a stalk in the late fall, but it was too cold for it to bloom. *Buckwheat* didn't rebloom for me in 2013 because I transplanted all of it to my new beds.

*Tennessee Gentleman* (Innerst 1991) sent up one rebloom stalk in Late May. However it had so many buds, and the blooms stayed open so long that it stayed in bloom for 3 weeks. *Tennessee Gentleman* is a great plant but garden visitors and I did not like the color one bit, so I removed it from my garden in 2013.



*Buckwheat* (Byers 1989)



*Tennessee Gentleman* (Innerst 1991)

## A study of Summer Rebloomers (Cont.)

Sonata in Blue (Smith 1994) has rebloomed for me in the early summer both years. However the plant has behaved unusually for me. In 2012, Sonata in Blue did not bloom in the Spring. Then it sent up a stalk in June. When Spring came in 2013, Sonata in Blue gave beautiful and abundant spring bloom with big, imposing, ruffled flowers. The plant is quite vigorous with beautiful purple-based foliage. Then in July it sent up a very deformed stalk that was all twisted and curled up. It was no taller than 1 foot, but managed to bloom. Words do no justice to this stalk. Sonata in Blue has never tried to rebloom for me in the Autumn.



Sonata in Blue (Smith 1994)

Autumn Jester (Chapman 2000) stands right up with Senorita Frog as an all season-reblooming SDB. I saw it rebloom at Winterberry Gardens in the summer and fall at Winterberry Gardens in 2012. The Spoon's gave me a plant that year and it started reblooming during late June in 2013. It rebloomed several more times in the early summer, making a beautiful, majestic clump. Autumn Jester is taller when it reblooms than it is when it blooms in the Spring. So many stalks had been sent up in June and July that I was afraid that Autumn Jester wouldn't rebloom in the Autumn, but the clump continued to grow and gave me multiple rebloom in September and October.



Prince of Burgundy (Niswonger 1993)

In 2012 I was amazed to see the IB Prince of Burgundy (Niswonger 1993) send up a stalk in June. The stalk and flowers were spectacular. I think that the iris rebloomed because the year was so exceptional, and that it is not a reliable rebloomer. The Reblooming Iris Society Checklist says that this iris has rebloomed in Tennessee and the Netherlands in zone 7. Even though most IB's are sterile, I have a few seedlings from the cross of Prince of Burgundy x TB RE Bountiful Harvest (Hager 1991). Hopefully I will get some rebloom from those seedlings. The SDB Gingerbread Man (B. Jones 1969) also rebloomed nicely during the early summer of 2012, sending up several different flushes of bloom.



'Pink Attraction' Hall, 1988

Pink Attraction is a faithful multiple rebloomer. In 2012 it rebloomed in the summer and fall, and rebloomed in July in 2013. I then sold a lot of Pink Attraction in 2013 and moved the remaining plants to the front yard, where they tried to bloom in the fall. Pink Attraction is a strong rebloomer and has passed the multiple-rebloom trait to some of its children.

## A study of Summer Rebloomers (Cont.)

Corn Dance has an amazing aptitude for bloom, whether spring, summer or fall. In 2012 it was one of the first TB's to bloom for me in late April, and kept on blooming into late May! Then Corn Dance rested a little bit and rebloomed in the fall. However in 2013, Corn Dance's summer rebloom qualities shone across my garden. Corn Dance was the highlight of my rebloom in June and July, sending up several stalks. The flowers seemed fairly tolerant of the heat. Corn Dance rebloomed again in October, showing its beautiful, charming blossoms. I have a number of seedlings planted with Corn Dance as a parent, trying to get a bright golden yellow with Corn Dance's rebloom.

Feed Back ended up having rebloom flowers open more days than any other rebloomer in my garden in 2012 with over 70 days of rebloom. Feed Back is still a beautiful flower, standing the test of time.

Lloyd Zurbrigg's Wister Medal winner, Clarence (1991) has been an excellent summer rebloomer for me. Clarence starts reblooming in July and provides cheer during some of the bare, hot month of August when most irises do not dare to bloom. Clarence is quite vigorous and the flowers are resistant to hot weather. In 2012 Clarence bloomed throughout much of August, making there be only a few days in August with no rebloom. In 2013 Clarence rebloomed in July, the first couple days of August and October.

The IB Constant Companion (Marsh 1995) is a marvelous rebloomer, reliably sending up stalks in the summer and the fall. It was hybridized in Nebraska. Besides being a charming addition to the garden, Constant Companion makes excellent iris ink with its deep purple flowers.

Peachberry Swirl (D. Spoon 2001) is a little-known variegated pattern flower in a lovely combination of pale pink and lavender. Peachberry Swirl rebloomed for me in July and August of 2012 and again in the late fall. The summer flowers suffered some from the

heat and weather, sometimes having odd numbers of standards and falls, but the fall flowers were absolutely stunning! Peachberry Swirl is a nice iris and could be helpful for breeding broken color rebloomers in new shades. I have some seedlings from Peachberry Swirl x Alessandra's Gift (B. Spoon 2011) which reblooms some in zone 7. I can't wait to see the results! Ginny Spoon's Liquid Amber (2003) Also rebloomed in the summer in 2012. I don't know if this is normal, but I do know that Liquid Amber is a very strong and reliable rebloomer in the fall.



'Corn Dance' D. Spoon, 2008



Constant Companion (Marsh 1995)

## A study of Summer Rebloomers (Cont.)

Baby Blessed rebloomed off and on during the summer of 2012. Baby Blessed has a strong pleasant lemon fragrance, like a lemon cleaner spray and is super vigorous. In 2013 it started reblooming the first of September and on and off throughout the fall. Baby Blessed is such a cute and cheerful iris and is so useful in the garden!

Starring Encore (D. Spoon 2008) is a powerful rebloomer. In 2012 it sent up stalks all summer and fall. Starring Encore, Feed Back and Clarence bloomed for over 70 days. In 2013 it bloomed several times starting in the early fall. Starring Encore's personality and abundant rebloom far outweigh the few faults it has, making it a nice plant grow. Starring Encore could also be a useful parent for new colors in rebloomers. Last but not least in our stroll, we see Purple Joy (D. Spoon 2009)

Purple Joy starts reblooming late August or early September and blooms all throughout the fall. It also has the ability to withstand freezes, looking unaffected after a freeze, while the other SDB's are droopy. The flowers are nice and ruffly, the plant is good and the color is superb. Garden visitors love it. The flowers have an interesting, but not unpleasant rubbery scent. Purple Joy ranks with Autumn Jester, Baby Blessed and Senorita Frog as one of the best multiple-reblooming SDB's.

Summer rebloom can be quite different each year depending on the weather. It seems that the better the year is for rebloom, the more summer rebloom you will get.

God truly has made gardening exciting! Summer rebloom is wide-open trait to explore. Some irises send up many stalks starting in the summer and continuing into the fall. These have been called Multiple-rebloomers, or All-Season rebloomers. Some irises, such as Champagne Elegance, only rebloom in the summer. I encourage you to take a portion of your garden and set it aside for irises that can rebloom in

the summer. Plant the best irises that are known to be able to rebloom both in the summer and the autumn. Give them extra water and nutrients and watch them rebloom!

To find more irises that can rebloom in the summer, go to the Region 4 website ([www.iris.Region4.com](http://www.iris.Region4.com)) and you can find a list of irises that rebloom in region 4 and what months that they have rebloomed in. You can also email me at [IrisHillsFarm@outlook.com](mailto:IrisHillsFarm@outlook.com) with questions about summer rebloom and which varieties are reliable.



`Baby Blessed` Zurbrigg 1979



Purple Joy (D. Spoon 2009)

# Your Website by the Numbers

by Anita Moran, Webmaster Region 4

I was going to just put in the dry Fall Regional report but it has come to my attention recently that many of you do not know that we have a website, a very active website that is seen around the world. The web address is [www.irisregion4.com](http://www.irisregion4.com) and is there for your use, enjoyment and a place where your local affiliates can post their pictures and schedules. When you find the site you will see the region 4 logo and a menu to delve into the rest of the site. If you are due for renewal there is a link directly to the American Iris Society where you can easily renew your membership. There are also links on the home page for the AIS Facebook page, Region 4 Facebook Page and Region 4 Cubit. The Cubit is not very active but it is there for a more concentrated discussion of local information.

## ABOUT US:

The About Us section give a quick read of our purpose, and list of board members, our bylaws (in both Word and PDF formats) and a method to contact us. If you have a question, send it in.

## AFFILIATES:

The affiliate pages are a way for you to see the activities in your local group (depending on what is sent to me) photos from your group, and your officers. The FSK pages are the most complete only because it is my affiliate and I have ready access to the information so go here to see what can be available. The photos in this area must be sent through your affiliate president to be posted in this area for they control the local sight. FSK posted pictures of some of the Guest Irises you will see at the spring regional FSK is hosting. The schedules are important to make sure you get to the shows, rhizome sales, and meetings.

## HAPPENINGS:

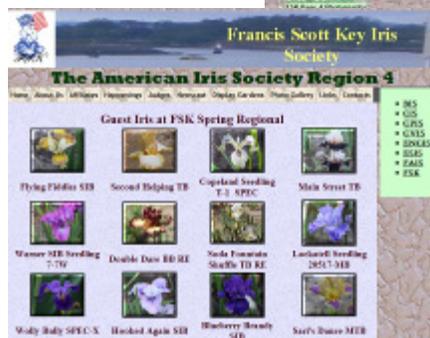
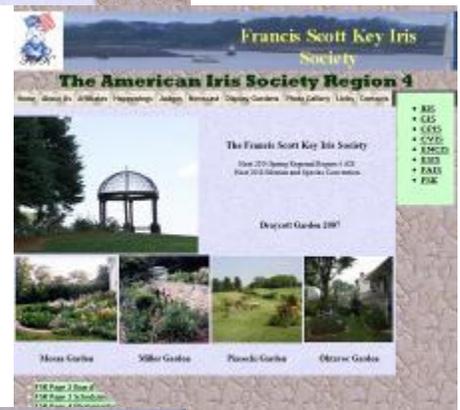
The happening page is just that a list of what is happening in the region as far as regional meetings. So far we have all of 2014, 2015 cover and spring of 2016 covered as well as

spring 2018 when FSK will once again host in conjunction with the National Siberian Species Mini Convention.



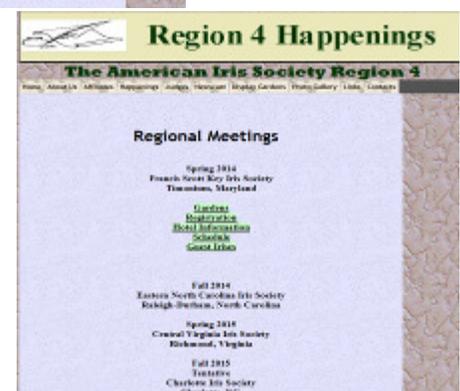
◀ Region 4 Home Page

FSK Homepage



◀ FSK Photo Page

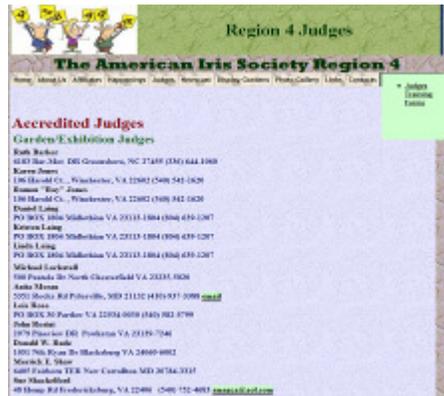
Happening Page



# Your Website by the Numbers (Cont.)

## JUDGES:

This page is for AIS judges, apprentices, students, and people thinking about becoming judges but the main use is for those accredited AIS judges who are available to judge shows or teach judges training. The one link is for all the judges training forms that could be needed including application to become a student, application for apprentice, tutoring forms, training records, and the all-important activity reports. All the documents are in both Word and PDF formats.

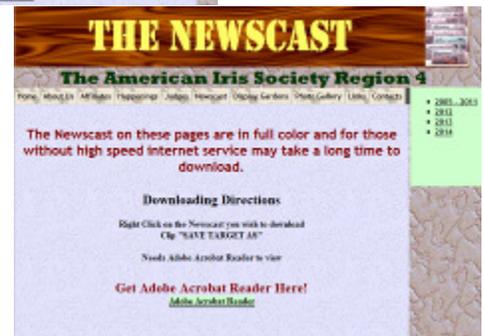


◀ Judges Page

## NEWSCAST:

As a bonus, the Newscast is posted to the site at the same time it is sent to the printers so you can get a just start on seeing the newest issue first. For those that have seen the Newscast pages before you will notice that there are some changes. Many past years are now grouped together on a single page. The Newscast pages are the most downloaded and viewed areas of the website. Once you click on one of the links to get to the issues you will see the cover of that issue. Just click on the date and a PDF of the issue will open and allow you to read on-line or print for yourself. The print copy sent in the mail is all black and white, here it is in full color. Take a look.

Newscast Home Page ▶



Past Newscast ▶



## DISPLAY GARDENS:

Many of the gardens in Region 4 are display gardens for a variety of other societies like the Aril Society International, the Tall Bearded Iris Society, HIPS, and the Dwarf Iris Society. That means they have a significant number of those types of iris to make it worth visiting. The Species Iris Group of North America (SIGNA) does not currently have display gardens but many gardens in Region 4 have species irises in their plantings. The directions about conduct within the gardens are on the first page so please read before visiting.



◀ Display Garden Home Page

# Your Website by the Numbers (Cont.)

## PHOTO GALLERY:

There are lots of photographs here for you to see on these pages, as well as an area for you to add your own garden pictures. The first group contains those irises from Region 4 hybridizers which have won Major AIS awards for their sections. During Region 4 Spring meetings there is a vote for three awards, the Alice Bouldin Award for best seedling seen in the display garden and the Nearpass Award given to an introduced variety of a Region 4 Hybridizer.

The biggest addition is a list of Reblooming irises that the Reblooming chair Colin Campbell put together and is linked to the Iris Wiki so that you can see pictures of those iris that rebloom in region 4. On the second page you have the opportunity to download this report in either Word or PDF format so that you can see exactly where these irises rebloomed.

Region 4 Garden area is for you. You do not need anyone's permission to send me pictures of your garden and irises. They are separated by affiliates and I have lots to add to this page. Please take pictures of your garden this spring and let us see. Hybridizers from Region 4 also have space to place their most promising seedlings and new introductions. The final page is for your photos. If you have a youth have then send in photographs of how they see irises and gardens.

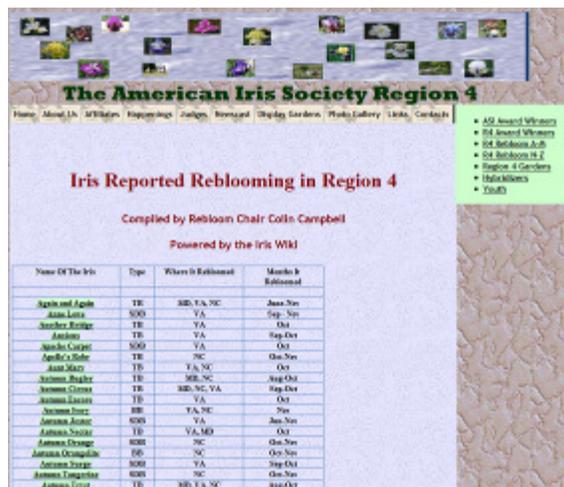
## LINKS:

On this page you will see links to many of the iris societies, Iris informations, Webpages of Region 4 gardens, commercial growers from all over the nation, Iris discussion forums, and some fun links to gardening information.

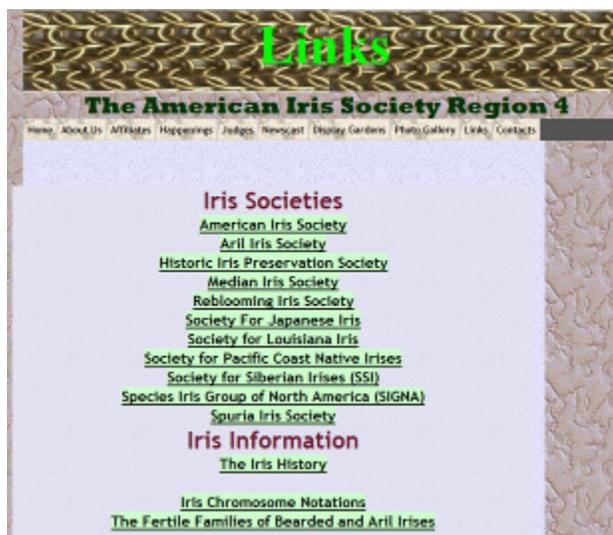
The webpage is by no means complete yet as I wanted to put it live to give you a chance to help me fill it. Winter is the best time for me to work on the webpage but during the year as I have time I do some upkeep. Offer your services as photographer for your affiliate so that they have photographs of your events and gardens. I can always add pages as needed so feel free. I am open to any ideas you might have so e-mail me your photos and ideas

( avmoran1@earthlink.net ).

Anita Moran  
Your Webmaster (I still really like that title)



Rebloom Page in Photo Gallery Section



Links Page

# J Sargeant Reynolds Community College Rebloom Truly Spring in Fall

Anita Moran



J Sargeant Reynolds Community College in Goochland Virginia was a school within a park. The entry into the main building was a collection various shade and sun gardens with known and unknown plants and flowers. Unfortunately some were not identified so they are strange plant # whatever and I will let you identify them for me. From the parking lot we walked through impressive greenhouses then into a park like setting with gravel walkways and plenty of plants still in bloom. Near the rear of these beds, which I bet are spectacular in the Spring, is the Reblooming Iris Garden developed and cared for by Mike Lockett.



Now I know Mike wanted the most rebloom available in the fall but the tall bearded bed and median bed were spectacular, so much so it looked like a spring garden in full bloom. We had time to walk around and take photographs before the start of Judges Training, and that is exactly what

we did. ‘My Friend Jonathan’ (Miller, 1994), ‘Christiane Elizabeth’ (Mahan, 2001), ‘Just Call Me’ (Wilkerson, 2008), and ‘Rosalie Figge’ (McKnew, 1993) were the stars of the display each having huge clumps with a lot of bloom.



◀ ‘My Friend Jonathan’ (Miller, 1994),

Christiane Elizabeth’ ▶ (Mahan, 2001)



◀ ‘Just Call Me’ (Wilkerson, 2008)

Rosalie Figge’ ▶ (McKnew, 1993)



## J Sargeant Reynolds Community College Rebloom Truly Spring in Fall

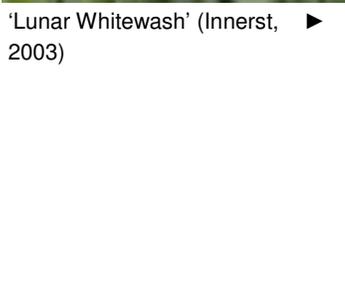
Anita Moran

Others like ‘Clarence’ (Zurbrigg, 1991), ‘Liquid Amber’ (G. Spoon, 2003), ‘Lunar Whitewash’ (Innerst, 2003), and ‘Pink Attraction’ (Hall, 1988) were also in fine form with plenty of blooms. All this after we went from 70oF to 40oF over night. Some of the flowers showed their displeasure at the sudden change while others thrived and at this early morning showing with dew on the falls it was a site. ‘Starring Encore’ (D.Spoon, 2008) and ‘Renown’ (Zurbrigg, 1992) at the back of the display, two totally different irises made a great counter point because of their placements to those irises around them.

The median bed, although it was not blooming with as much vigor as the tall bearded bed was still a site for sore eyes on a cold October Morning. ‘Peach Parasol’ (BB, D.Spoon, 1997), ‘Rosalie Loving’ (SDB, D.Spoon, 2003), ‘Midsummer Night’s Dream’ (IB, Baumunk, 1999), and ‘Hot Glow’ (IB, Tasco, 2006) were the stars of this bed but ‘Lady Emma’ (MTB, Jones, 1986), and ‘Trimmed Velvet’ (MDB, D.Spoon, 2006) were also beautiful. The wide walkways provided in this garden were perfect for judges training as people could stand three thick and still see the plants. Mike did the judges training and I was very pleased to see the turn out since this was a great display for reblooming judges training. With ‘Queen Dorothy’ (Hall, 1984) present it a treat to see how far rebloom has come over the years. The modern rebloomers displayed here would do well on any show bench and seeing the lack of leaf spot and other problems that are known in the area Mike should be proud of this display.



◀ ‘Clarence’ (Zurbrigg, 1991)



‘Lunar Whitewash’ (Innerst, 2003) ▶



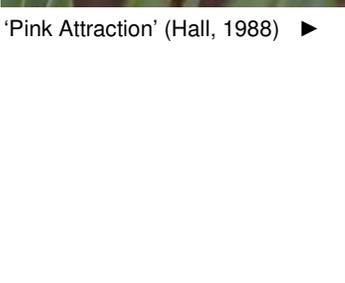
◀ ‘Peach Parasol’ (BB, D.Spoon, 1997)



‘Hot Glow’ (IB, Tasco, 2006) ▶



◀ ‘Lunar Whitewash’ (Innerst, 2003)



‘Pink Attraction’ (Hall, 1988) ▶



◀ ‘Trimmed Velvet’ (MDB, D.Spoon, 2006)

# J Sargeant Reynolds Community College Rebloom Truly Spring in Fall

Anita Moran

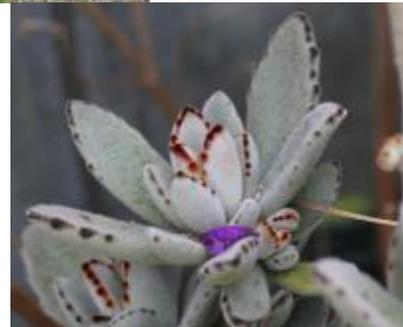
Some Additional Pictures from JSRCC:



◀ In Garden Judges Training



Not a Clue #1 ▶



Not A Clue #2 ▼



'Queen Dorothy' ▶  
(Hall, 1984)



◀ Don Rude and Bonnie Masteller enjoying the bloom at JSRCC



◀ 'Renown' (Zurbrigg, 1992)

## NEWSCAST REPORT

The cost for the Newscast increased just slightly due to cost in paper increases and bulk mail cost. We still need articles. Don't be shy anything will do. Newscast continues to be enjoyed worldwide and I would like them to see what I see. Let everyone see your gardens. Remember you can make it look as good as you want. You take the pictures, you write the text, send them to me and it goes in. Having the Newscast on line is a major boost for Region 4 and irises in general. The Mid-Atlantic is thought to be a waste hole for irises except beardless but we grow everything with a little work. I hope you want to others to see what a little work can do. Ideas from your garden can make a difference in other's gardens. Help me, Region 4, THE WORLD, write you your own garden.

Having said that I want you to know that if you send me something and I do not respond by e-mail I did not get it. I have heard that people are having problems getting hold of me. If I do not answer the phone don't leave a message I will not listen to it for several weeks, bad habit but there it is. The best way to get in touch with me is by e-mail which I check several times a day. Hope this helps

Anita Moran  
Newscast Editor

## Webmaster Report

Except for emergencies I do not have time to make changes in the website, and yes there are emergencies. As soon as I get home I will be putting the Spring Regional information on line so that not only Region 4 members can access it but those in other states who are planning on coming, like Rick Tasco and Roger Duncan, and we have a busload of at least 60 from another region planning on attending.

If there are changes needed to the website, new officers, changes in judges status, new pictures, new schedules, whatever you want on the site now is the time to get it to me. After I make the changes I will email and have you check it out so that any changes that are needed can be done quickly.

As many of you know I maintain an e-mail blast list. **Please get with your president and make sure I have the right e-mail.** If you did not receive a reminder of the Fall regional then I either have the wrong address, or I do not have your e-mail address at all. I maintain this for use by me to notify you that a full color Newscast in on the website, the RVP, other officers or Regional Meeting Chairs to get information to you as soon as possible. If you do not want this information you need to do nothing.

Respectfully  
Anita Moran

## AIS SYMPOSIUM RESULTS



“Daughter Of Stars” Don Spoon 2001

One of the pleasures of being R.V.P. is tallying the results of the AIS Symposium. I only wish that more members of the organization had returned their votes to me, for the 13 response seems small. In any case, I want to share the results with all of the region.

The most popular iris this year is “Daughter of Stars” from Don Spoon’s garden (2001). It received a total of 11 votes. Our selection reflects the popularity the iris enjoys nationally, and we should all congratulate Don for its being the most popular iris in the TBIS Popularity Poll.

Other irises popular with members included “Champagne Elegance” (Niswonger 1987) (9 votes) “Conjuration” (Byers 1989) (8 votes) and “Clarence (Zurbrigg 1991), “Queen’s Circle” (Kerr 2000) and “Starring” (Ghio 2006) tied for fourth place with seven votes apiece.

Additional irises receiving one or more votes were: (6 Votes) “Dusky Challenger” (Schreiner 1986), “Lady Friend” (Ghio 1981), “Orchid Dove” (Spoon 2007), and “Stepping Out” (Schreiner 1964); (5 votes) “Honky Tonk Blues” (Schreiner 1988), “Second Hand Rose” (G. Spoon 2004) and “Stairway to Heaven” (Lauer 1993); (4 votes) “Autumn Sunrise” (G. Spoon 2007), “Beverly Sills” (Hagar 1979), “Celebration Song” (Schreiner 1993),

“Huckleberry Fudge” (Gibson 1997), “Mango Parfait” (Spoon 2009), “Slovak Prince” (Mego 2003), and “Titan’s Glory” (Schreiner 1981); (3 Votes) “Double Ringer” (Ernst 2007), “Hello Darkness” (Schreiner 1992), “Immortality” (Zurbrigg 1982), “Mesmerizer” (Byers 1991), “Sea Power” (Keppel 1999), “Signal Red” (Spoon 2006), “Silverado” (Schreiner 1987), “Sky Hooks” (Osborne 1980), “Splashacata” (Tasco 1998), “Supreme Sultan” (Schreiner 1986), “Thornbird” (Byers 1989) and “Yaquina Blue” (Schreiner 1992).

Following with two votes were: “Before the Storm” (Innerst 1989) “Bolshoi” (Keppel 2009), “Boysenberry Buttercup” (Lauer 1997), “Drama Queen” (Keppel 2002), “Gypsy Lord” (Keppel 2006), “Peggy Sue” (Lauer 2006), “Raven Girl” (schreiner 2008), and “Santorini” (Schreiner 2008).



◀ “Conjuration” (Byers 1989)

“Starring” (Ghio 2006) ▼



▲ “Lady Friend” (Ghio 1981)



“Second Hand Rose” (G. Spoon 2004) ▶



## AFFILIATE REPORTS

Bringing up the rear with one vote apiece were: “Black Magic Woman” (Tasco 2008), “Bollywood” (Keppel 2007), “Boogie Woogie” (Nichols 1993), “Casino Cruiser” (Burseen 2008), “Center Ice” (Ghio 2010), “Christmas Present” (Ghio 2007), “Crowned Heads” (Keppel 1997), “Darcy’s Choice” (Schreiner 2007), “Edith Wolford” (Hager 1986), “Elizabethan Age” (Baumunk 2005), “Emilio” (Richardson 2005), “Everything Plus” (Niswonger 1984), “Explicit” (Ghio 2005), “Florentine Silk” (Keppel 2005), “Fluffy Pillows” (Schreiner 2008), “Glamour Pants” (Blyth 2006/07), “Going My Way” (Gibson 1972), “Golden Panther” (Tasco 2000), “Grand Classic” (Tasco 2007), “Guardian Angel” (Keppel 2005), “Here Comes the Night” (Schreiner 2009), “I Wuv Woses” (Burseen 2009), “Jurassic Park” (Lauer 1995), “Magical” (Ghio 2008), “Millenium Falcon” (Kasperek 2000), “Money in Your Pocket” (Black 2007), “Montmartre” (Keppel 2008), “Notta Lemon” (Burseen 2010), “Oreo” (Keppel 2004), “Ozark Rebounder” (Nicodemus 2003), “Pewter And Gold” (Filardi 2006), “Queen Eleanor of Aquitaine” (Baumunk 2007), “Ring Around Rosie” (Ernst 2000), and “Romantic Evening” (Ghio 1996).

Their selection may help you as you select irises for your garden that will do well in Region 4.

Don Rude, RVP



◀ “Elizabethan Age” (Baumunk 2005)

“Florentine Silk” (Keppel 2005)



◀ “Golden Panther” (Tasco 2000)

“Oreo” (Keppel 2004)



◀ “Montmartre” (Keppel 2008)



“Black Magic Woman” ▲ (Tasco 2008)



“Casino Cruiser” ▶ (Burseen 2008)

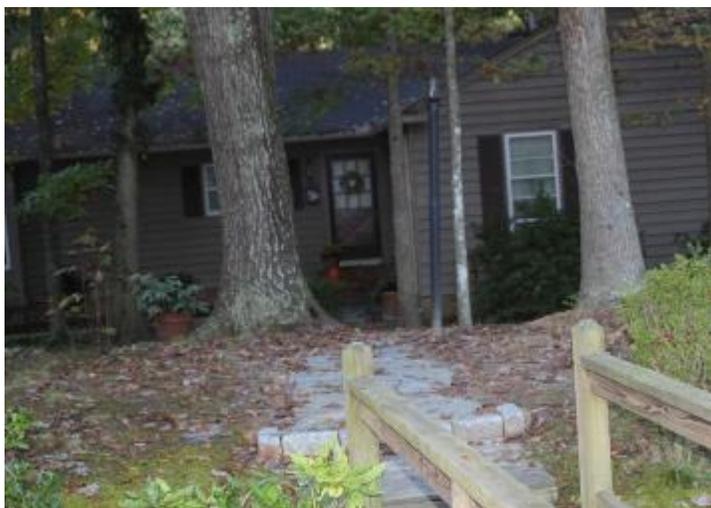


# Mike and the Moss Lady

Anita Moran

Fall regional meetings are an iffy bet but this fall (2013) saw a fun filled meeting of like minds that enjoyed fellowship and jokes as we vied for various articles from Door Prizes and Raffle offerings to the exceptional offerings at the plant sale. Mike Lockett did a great job and I want to thank him and those that help him for his hard work. However, there is more to a regional meeting than what we see from it is often what we don't see that sparks interest. Don't get me wrong Maymont was spectacular and the bloom at JSR Community College was fabulous, but on the way home I stopped by Mike's home to see his seedling and then to a secondary site where his stock was kept.

Mike's home is situated on a forested neighborhood steeped in deep shade but even under these less than stellar conditions Mike's crop of seedlings seem to be thriving. Shade gardening was obvious but any clearing had irises or peony plantings along with daylilies which edged a corner Mike had cut to make a slope to a stepped garden along a walkway. Covered in black netting to keep the locals out and prevent growth of whatever seeds they are wanting to hide, There looked to be seedlings from this year's germination to some older that were cut back and in pots.



Mike Lockett's Home



Norrie Burnet's (a.k.a. The Moss Lady) home



◀ Mike Lockett's Seedlings

Mike Lockett has moved his stock several times since he began hybridizing and this is the latest move. After leaving his home we followed him to Norrie Burnet's (a.k.a. The Moss Lady) home. Ok I admit it I had my reservation when we drove up her driveway and entered an enchanted forest complete with a sunrise through the trees to the gazebo which just as easily been a little cabin in the woods. The Moss Lady is an apt name as there is no grass but a carpet of moss that varies throughout the yard. .

Step Garden near Mike's Driveway ▶



## Mike and the Moss Lady

### Anita Moran

Forested walkways with benches to rest, other gazebos to just sit and enjoy the forest, then there is the fern tree. You all are lucky for I had to get to the side of the fern to see it was a potted fern on a bird feeder. Mike had me going with the sun in my eyes and the shade's dappled light it did look like a fern tree (which I have never heard of before). As we moved through the yard, (Mike took me the easy way because of my toe issue, Thanks Mike), I was getting worried for I did not see a patch with enough light that could come close to being what a mature iris plant would need

Walking through a narrower shorter woodland path it opened into the space provided by high power lines and Mike's Seedling reselets and his stock plants. Although the stock plants were still in pots they looked in good shape. Most of the reselets were not only planted but marked with another round of selections. Although there was little bloom since Mike was a big contributor to the Rebloom Iris Show, there was still things interesting to see. "Rosalie Loving", a reliable reblooming SDB was of course in bloom despite the sharp drop in temperatures and wet conditions it seemed perfectly content. Next to 'Rosalie Loving' was a first flower open seedling of Mike's that was rich yellow with red shoulders a thick white beard that was ORANGE in the throat. I love beards. A second seedling was trying to bloom but was just showing color when we went through. A bicolor rebloomer with bright yellow standards and according to Mike purple falls. He promises a picture for me. Showing seven bud this young seedling was worthy of a reselect flag just to see how it develops.

It was time to go home and after a pleasant conversation as we meandered back to the car I got in and rode into the sunrise and home.



◀ Woodland path

Many Different ▶  
types of moss  
covered the  
ground instead of  
grass



◀ Mike's Stock area

Mike's Seedling Stock ▶



◀ Sunshine  
gazebo on way to  
Mikes Stock

# Minutes Fall 2013

**AIS Region4 Fall Board Meeting**  
Comfort Inn-Midlothian Turnpike  
Richmond, Va.  
October 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Assistant RVP Anita Moran at 2:10 pm. with a welcome to everyone attending. Anita advised that Don Rude had been held up in transit and would be in shortly.

## **Secretary's Report- Sue Shackelford**

The 2013 Spring Secretary's Report was published in the Summer 2013 issue of Newscast. Assistant RVP, Anita Moran asked for a motion to accept the Spring 2013 minutes as they were printed in the Newscast. Sue Shackelford moved the minutes be accepted as printed, it was seconded by Carrie Winter and Assistant RVP, Anita Moran stated minutes stood as printed and approved.

## **Treasure's Report – Carol Warner- No Report Report will appear in March Newscast**

## **Assistant RVP's Report- Anita Moran**

The Spring 2014 Regional meeting will be hosted by Francis Scott Key affiliate in the Timonium, Maryland area. The Fall 2014 Regional meeting will be hosted by Eastern North Carolina affiliate in the Raliegh/Durham area. The Spring 2015 Regional meeting will be hosted by the Central Virginia Iris Society in Richmond. The Fall 2015 meeting was tentatively taken by Carrie Winter of the Charlotte Iris Society. The Spring 2016 meeting will be hosted by the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society and the Fall of 2016 is still open but may be taken by C&P.

## **RVP, Don Rude, called for the following Committee Reports:**

### **Historian- Lois Rose- No Report**

### **Beardless & Species- Carol Warner (report by Anita Moran)**

Carol attended the Siberian & Species Convention in Michigan in June. It was a great convention with excellent weather and peak bloom. Write ups will be in the fall issue of The Siberian Iris and a report was in the last issue of IRISES. The beardless guests which are growing in FSK Guest Gardens for the Spring Region 4 meeting in May 2014 all showed excellent bloom in the members preview tour of the gardens. I have been impressed with how well they have grown and how little maintenance has been involved in taking care of them. FSK is considering hosting the National Siberian & Species Mini Convention in late May of 2018. Plans have not yet been finalized for this. The next mini meeting is in Portland, Orgean in 215.

### **Budget- Jack Loving**

Jack read his budget as posted in the Summer issue of Newscast. Anita Moran made a motion to accept the budget as posted. Sue Shackelford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## Minutes (Cont.)

### **Judges Training Chair – Carrie Winter**

Clarence Mahan passed away recently. He was the first recipient of the Epperson Award. Carrie expressed our sadness at the loss and the club will send a card to his family.

There are 7 forms on the website giving the requirements for becoming and remaining an AIS judge. There is information there as well that will help define what is accepted as judges training. Other forms found there will help current judges with their requirements to stay certified. Region 4 has 4 Emeritus Judges with the most recent addition being Bob Pries. Reports have been sent to the Judges Training Chairperson as to the status of Region 4 judges. Some have been granted an extension of time to complete their requirements for certification.

### **Medium Iris Chair - Ginny Spoon –No Report**

### **Membership Chair - Mac Shaw (report by Anita Moran)**

Continued pattern of growth. Now 386 members. Because of health issues, Mac asked to be replaced.

### **Re-blooming Chair - Mike Lockett**

Mike is hosting this Fall regional here in Richmond. He thanked everyone for coming and is very proud of the display garden at J. Sargent Reynolds that we will visit. He encourages everyone to become involved with promoting reblooming iris and making the public more aware. He continues to write article and speak whenever possible. Because of his increasing involvement in another project, he has asked to be replaced as Re-blooming Chairman.

### **Beardless Iris Chair - Carol Warner - No written report**

### **Iris Program Resource- Bill Smoot-no report**

### **Youth Chairman- Ray Jones (Griff Crump)**

Griff encourages all affiliates to try and involve youth members. By just reaching one, we can perhaps reach others through their contacts with friends.

### **Newscast Editor & Webmaster- Anita Moran**

Anita reminded everyone that she does website revisions in the WINTER when she is not able to work in her garden and changes are made only on an emergency basis otherwise. Please e-mail her and don't call-she will probably not get the message that way. If you have any information that you want sent to everyone, you can e-mail her and she will send out an e-mail BLAST to everyone whose e-mail address is current. Anita reports that Newscast is enjoyed worldwide. She encourages everyone to send pictures.

### **Epperson Award Committee-Susan Grigg-no report**

## Minutes (Cont.)

### **Public Relations-Bob Pries**

Bob asked for any ideas or recommendations for Public Relations projects for Region 4. He says that the AIS News & Notes electronic newsletter is available to anyone who provides a current email address to the membership chairman. It comes out monthly and clubs can publish their activities in this. Only available to AIS members. He encourages us to take and provide videos. He advises that grants are available to groups doing good things in their communities such as display gardens.

### **Sunshine Committee-Frances Thrash**

Frances reminded us that Clarence Mahan had passed recently. Anita will ask Don Spoon to write a memorial to be printed in the Newscast. Frances motioned that we give a memorial donation to AIS equal to but not to exceed the amount given for Roy Epperson or \$500. Anita Moran seconded the motion. Motion carried. Frances will get a sympathy card to be signed by everyone at the Friday night dinner and sent to his wife, Suky. She will also get a card for Bill Smoot who is having some health issues and was unable to attend this Fall meeting.

### **Affiliate Reports:**

Charlotte - no written report

Central Virginia – report presented by Anita Moran

Eastern North Carolina – Report given by Susan Grigg

Chesapeake & Potomac – No Report

Eastern Shore – No Report

Francis Scott Key - Presented by Anita Moran

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society- report by Doug Chyz

### **Old Business**

At the last Region 4 meeting, Anita Moran took the floor and recommended that Region 4 consider contributing an annual award for Best Seedling at the AIS National Convention each year to be voted on by the attendees. A discussion followed on the type of award that would be given, the cost of the award, and the name to be given the award. A declaration was made by RVP, Don Rude, that Anita should go forward in approaching AIS to discuss whether or not they would be interested in Region 4 making this award available each year at the AIS convention. At this meeting Griff made a motion that the award be named the Mahan-Zurbrig Memorial Award. Also that it be an individual award to be given to the recipient. Sue Shackelford seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## Minutes (Cont.)

The Epperson Award was given to Clarence Mahan two years ago. No award was given last year. Carrie Winter is the chairman of that committee for this year. She advised that the recipient will be announced at the Spring Regional. Don Rude will get in touch with each affiliate president so they can appoint a representative from their club to nominate candidates.

Last years nominating committee recommended that the officers remain the same for 2013.

### **New Business**

Don Rude appointed Susan Grigg, Chairman and Doug Chyz and Debbie Campbell as the nominating committee for the 2014-2015 slate of officers.

Anita Moran will work on submitting the recommendation to AIS for the Best Seedling annual award.

Region 4 suggests that the Eastern Shore affiliate submit its application to AIS which was not done previously. Susan Grigg reported that new members and renewing members get a \$25 voucher with NO expiration date from participating nurseries-checkout the AIS website.

AIS is working on the development of a badge for Boy and Girl Scouts. Jean Morris is the contact if anyone has ideas.

It was brought up by Bob Pries that the bylaws need to be revised to correct a problem with officers serving as committee chairman. Bob Pries made the motion and Frances Thrash seconded the motion to change Article IV Section 1 of the bylaws by striking the last line so that it reads:

### **Article IV**

#### **Section 1**

**The officers of Region 4 shall Regional Vice President (RVP), Assistant RVP, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties described by these bylaws and by the Parliamentary Authority adopted by Region 4.**

### **Announcements**

**Proposed revision to the bylaws will be read to members at the banquet on Saturday evening and then posted in the next Newscast.**

Anita Moran made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded. RVP, Dun Rude adjourned the meeting at 4:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sue Shackelford, Secretary

**AIS Region4 Membership Meeting**  
Comfort Inn-Midlothian Turnpike  
Richmond, Va.  
October 19, 2013

An after dinner roll call was taken before moving on to speaker. The affiliate roll count at this time was as follows:

Affiliate	Number Present
Central Virginia Iris Society	4
Charlotte	2
Chesapeake & Potomac	1
Eastern North Carolina	4
Eastern Shore	1
Francis Scott Key	2
Fredericksburg Area Iris Society	8
Out of Region - David Mohr	1
Unaffiliated	5

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sue Shackelford, Secretary

## Show Schedule

The Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
an Affiliate of The American Iris Society  
in conjunction with  
District III – Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland, Inc.  
presents  
“Oh Say Can You See”  
recognizing the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the writing of “The Star Spangled Banner”



A Small Standard Flower Show featuring Bearded Iris  
Friday, May 23, 2014 from Noon to Nine PM  
Crowne Plaza Baltimore  
2004 Greenspring Drive, Timonium, MD  
410-252-7373  
Open to the Public at no charge – Noon to 8:00 PM  
All Bearded Iris Growers are invited to exhibit

## Show Schedule (cont.)

### Francis Scott Key Society Officers

President:	Carol Warner
Vice President:	Joan Miller
Recording Secretary:	Robert Hartge
Corresponding Secretary:	Anita Moran
Treasurer:	Carl Rebert
American Iris Society President:	Jim Morris

### Show Committee

Chair: Sylvia Deck 410-980-3444

Horticulture:	
Co-Chair:	Carol Warner
Secretary – Awards	Barbara Hartge
Staging and Properties:	Carol Warner
Membership Table:	Felicitas Goethals
Schedule:	Sylvia Deck
Entries and Classification:	Anita Moran
Design Tributes:	Linda Masland
Judges:	Bruce Hornstein
Educational Exhibits	Anita Moran
Clerks:	Robert Hartge

### GENERAL RULES

1. This accredited show is being held and judged under the rules and regulations of The American Iris Society as set forth in the *Handbook for Judges and Show Officials*, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2007, and subsequent rules and regulations approved by The American Iris Society Board of Directors. These rules and regulations may not be violated.
2. Accredited judges of The American Iris Society will judge all entries in the Horticulture Division(s). Judges' decisions will be final. Any award may be withheld at their discretion.
3. Set up will be on Thursday night, May 22, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. to closing.
4. Entries will be received on May 23rd, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Exhibitors must leave the floor by 10:15 a.m.
5. Judging will begin at 10:30 a.m.
6. Only specifically authorized personnel will be allowed in the show area during judging.
7. The Classification Committee may divide, sub-divide, combine or create groups as necessary

## Show Schedule (cont.)

8. Youth exhibitors (persons under 19 years of age) may enter exhibits in the Youth Horticulture Division OR the Adult Horticulture Division but not both in the same show.
9. Show judges are not permitted to exhibit in the show.
10. The Show Committee will exercise all possible care but is not responsible for loss or damage to exhibits.
11. Exhibits will remain in place until 8:00 pm on May 23rd, 2014. All exhibits must be removed by 9:00 pm.
12. Show Registration #: 2014-030.

### SPECIAL RULES – HORTICULTURE DIVISIONS

1. This is a VARIETY/CULTIVAR show, staged according to type and in alphabetical order within the various sections and groups. Each variety constitutes a separate group and must be correctly named. No unnamed variety may be exhibited except seedlings which may be entered under number.
2. Division, Section, and Group numbers and name of variety (number or name in Seedling Division) must appear on the entry card. The entry card is to be prepared by the exhibitor.
3. The horticulture and seedling divisions are open to any grower.
4. Entries must have been grown and entered in person by the exhibitor whose name appears on the entry tag. Members of a family may exhibit from the same garden.\
5. An exhibitor may enter a seedling originated by another person but the hybridizer's name and the seedling name or number must appear on the entry card.
6. Exhibitors may enter only one stalk of a variety in single specimen and seedling sections, but may enter any number of varieties.
7. Unnamed stalks (except seedlings), potted exhibits or labeled irises grown by another person are not eligible for AIS ribbons and awards, but may be displayed on the table marked "FOR DISPLAY ONLY."
8. Containers will be furnished for all single specimens. Containers appropriate for the exhibit must be furnished by the exhibitors of collections.
9. Foam insulation pieces will be furnished by the Show Committee for bracing stalks at the necks of containers.
10. Single specimens should be placed by the Placement Committee. Exhibitors will be allowed to place collections.

## Show Schedule (cont.)

11. An English Box will consist of five individual flowers of the same classification of irises. Flowers may be all different cultivars or all of the same variety. Each blossom must be correctly named and labeled. A 3" X 5" card with the names of the irises in the correct position must be prepared and mounted outside the box. Reservations required. Call Sylvia Deck cell 410-980-3444 after 5 pm.
12. Exhibitors are requested by the Awards Committee to bring an alphabetical list of their entries. This will expedite the paperwork necessary for determining awards.
- 13 Stalks will remain in place as long as deemed necessary by show officials.

### AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY AWARDS

1. Ribbons: Each specimen can be awarded only one ribbon. One First (Blue), one Second (Red), and one Third (White) place ribbon may be given to each cultivar in any given Section except in the Seedling Division. As many Honorable Mention (Pink) ribbons may be awarded as the panel of Judges deems worthy.
2. Best Specimen of Show – (Seedlings, Bulbous, English Box, and Collection Sections excepted): Large purple rosette and certificate.
3. Runners-up (1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th) to Best Specimen of Show: Small purple rosette.) Each runner-up must have earned a first place ribbon and be deemed worth of this status by the judges panel.)
4. Horticultural Sweepstakes (most blue ribbons, Divisions I and III): Silver Medal and Certificate and large purple rosette in the event of a tie for any medal or certificate award, second place award ribbons (red) will be counted. If A tie still exists, third place ribbons (white) are to be counted, and if a tie still persists, honorable mention award ribbons (pink) are to be counted. If such procedure does not determine a winner, duplicate silver medals (and NO bronze medal) will be awarded. If the tie involves the bronze medal, duplicate bronze medals will be awarded.
5. Horticultural Sweepstakes Runner-up (second most blue ribbons, Divisions I and III): Bronze Medal and Certificate. [Same minimum requirements and counting conditions as under (4) above.]
6. Best Seedling – Purple rosette and Exhibition Certificate. An exhibition Certificate will also be awarded to any seedling receiving five or more votes from fully accredited AIS judges attending the show. (Ballots and envelopes are available at the Seedling Division. Judges will please seal ballots and give to the Show Chairman.)
7. Best Specimen of Section rosette may be awarded to the best specimen in each qualifying section.\*
8. Section Medal Certificate may be awarded to the exhibitor winning the most blue ribbons in each qualifying section.\*

**\*Note: To award the Best Specimen of Section rosette and Section Medal Certificate requires at least three exhibitors and at least five cultivars in the section. Sections can be combined to meet this requirement.**

## Show Schedule (cont.)

9. Educational Exhibit may receive the Bronze Medal Certificate for outstanding Educational Exhibit.
10. Special Award Rosette - Horticultural Division: Awarded to entries in section A through T as merited.

### FRANCES SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY AWARDS

People's Choice Award - Awarded to the exhibitors (Horticulture) receiving the most votes by the attending public.

#### DIVISION I – HORTICULTURE

- SECTION A. Tall Bearded Iris
- SECTION B. Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB)
- SECTION C. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)
- SECTION D. Intermediate Bearded (IB)
- SECTION E. Border Bearded (BB)
- SECTION F. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB)
- SECTION G. Space Agers
- SECTION H. Novelty Bearded
- SECTION I. Any other Bearded
- SECTION J. Siberian (SIB)
- SECTION K. Louisiana (LA)
- SECTION L. Spuria (SPU)
- SECTION M. Japanese (JI)
- SECTION N. Californicae (CA)
- SECTION O. Any other Beardless
- SECTION P. Historic Iris (Introduced 30 years or more prior to the date of the show).
- SECTION Q. Aril (AR) and Arilbred (AB)
- Group 1. Aril
  - Group 2. Arilbred
  - Group 3. Arilmed
  - Other groups as needed
- SECTION R. Species (SPEC) and Species-cross (SPEC-X)
- SECTION S. Bulbous Irises (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
- SECTION T. Collections (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)
- Group 1. 3 stalks/one variety
  - Group 2. 3 stalks/all different
  - Group 3. 5 or more stalks/one variety
  - Group 4. 5 or more stalks/all different
- SECTION U. English Box (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show). Box to be provided by exhibitor.

## Show Schedule (cont.)

### DIVISION II – SEEDLINGS

Section A: Any unintroduced iris of any type. Seedlings must be entered under seedling number or registered name and must be made in the name of the owner or originator of the clone.

### DIVISION III – YOUTH HORTICULTURE

Same Sections and Groups as in DIVISION I above.

SECTION A. Tall Bearded Iris

SECTION B. Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB)

SECTION C. Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB)

SECTION D. Intermediate Bearded (IB)

SECTION E. Border Bearded (BB)

SECTION F. Miniature Tall Bearded (MTB)

SECTION G. Space Agers

SECTION H. Novelty Bearded

SECTION I. Any other Bearded

SECTION J. Siberian (SIB)

SECTION K. Louisiana (LA)

SECTION L. Spuria (SPU)

SECTION M. Japanese (JI)

SECTION N. Californicae (CA)

SECTION O. Any other Beardless

SECTION P. Historic Iris (Introduced 30 years or more prior to the date of the show).

SECTION Q. Aril (AR) and Arilbred (AB)

Group 1. Aril

Group 2. Arilbred

Group 3. Arilmed

Other groups as needed

SECTION R. Species (SPEC) and Species-cross (SPEC-X)

SECTION S. Bulbous Irises (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

SECTION T. Collections (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show)

Group 1. 3 stalks/one variety

Group 2. 3 stalks/all different

Group 3. 5 or more stalks/one variety

Group 4. 5 or more stalks/all different

SECTION U. English Box (not eligible for Best Specimen of Show). Box to be provided by exhibitor.

## Show Schedule (cont.)

### DIVISION IV – EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITS

1. Table space or area dimensions assigned to this exhibit are 18 square feet, which includes table top, and any upright display or niche.
2. Reservations for an Educational Exhibit are required. Please contact Sylvia Deck cell 410-980-3444 after 5:00 pm.
3. Any topic pertaining to iris, iris culture, or hybridizing is acceptable. Each entry shall be deemed to be a separate class.
4. The entire panel of Horticultural judges will judge this division.
5. The judges' decision is final.

### **AWARDS**

1. The judges may award any of the following to any of the exhibits if merited:  
 American Iris Society Purple Rosette Special Award  
 American Iris Society Blue Ribbon  
 American Iris Society Red Ribbon  
 American Iris Society White Ribbon  
 American Iris Society Pink Ribbon
2. Judges may award the American Iris Society Bronze Medal Certificate for Educational Exhibit to one exhibit if merited.

Exhibit 1. Steadfast and True Irises of Region 4 – Care and culture for these loyal bloomers.

Exhibit 2. Divide and Conquer - How to increase your “army” of blooms.

Exhibit 3. Schools of Oriental Style Design – Local Chapters will create designs using irises to educate the public on the difference in the schools of design.

### DIVISION V –DESIGN

#### MARYLAND MY MARYLAND – HOME OF THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Note: Division V is for display and enjoyment only; no awards will be given.

Members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Maryland are proud to present floral designs representing lyrics from The Star Spangled Banner. These historic and patriotic lyrics were written by Francis Scott Key during a fierce battle off the shores of Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland in 1814 as Americans fought for their freedom in the War of 1812. Each original design presented here is based on the Designer's personal interpretation of the picture that accompanies their design.

Designs will be staged on ½ of a six-foot table draped in black. Designers have the freedom to choose any design style. Backgrounds, underlays and accessories of the designer's choice are allowed. Designers will need to pre-register with Linda Masland: 410-879-7763.

## Oh Say, Can We See You In Region 4 In 2014?

The Francis Scott Key iris Society is pleased to be hosting the Region 4 meeting of the American Iris Society in Maryland on Friday and Saturday, May 23rd and 24th, 2014 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the writing of the Star Spangled Banner. We have been very fortunate to receive a total of 631 guest rhizomes from 19 different gardens / hybridizers which are growing in our five tour gardens. The Siberian, laevigata, species and specX irises will be on third year clumps and the bearded guests including TB's, SDB's, IB's MTB's and one Aril Bred are all two year clumps.

**Joan Miller's Garden**, Dogwood Hill near the Maryland – Pennsylvania Line in Northern Baltimore County is a collector's garden with a cottage garden plan. In addition to over 225 varieties of tall bearded irises, about 75 IB's, MTB's, and SDB's, and over 50 Siberian and Japanese irises, there is also a collection of 500 varieties of daylilies. Most years, something is in bloom from late February to mid -November.

**The Piasecki-Stewart Garden** is a picturesque setting of gardens, which include a mixture of annuals, perennials and flowering shrubbery, and is located in the rural region of Harford County, Maryland. The owners, Dave Piasecki and Vicki Stewart, established these gardens on 2.2 acres overlooking Geneva Farms Golf Course in 2003. With hundreds of varieties, the irises are the main feature of the gardens. They include a mixture of tall, standard and miniature dwarf bearded, Siberian and Japanese iris. In the summer, several hundred varieties of daylilies steal the show with a dazzling display of color. For those who like foliage, our shade gardens feature more than forty different varieties of hostas, with more going in this fall.

**Carol Warner's Draycott Gardens**, located in north western Baltimore County, will be on tour Friday afternoon and will host the Welcome Banquet. The rolling property consists of ten acres, about half of which is wooded. The landscape gardens feature collections of peonies; herbaceous, Itoh hybrids and tree peonies; bearded irises and a large collection of beardless irises; two rock gardens featuring dwarf conifers and many specimen trees that have been maturing over the past 40 years.

**Anita Moran's Garden** covers more than five acres in Northern Harford County with everything from species to aril and arilbreds. This is a garden in flux with many projects going on including a partial iris maze. There are micro-climates for various species and hard-to-grow irises and plants such as a banana tree are scattered throughout. Garden plants include wisteria, daylilies, iris seedlings, and strange plants that just screamed "Try Me". There is a wooded path to take you to the lower gardens or you may take the safer driveway path to visit the beardless beds.

**Dave Oktavec** is a new member of F.S.K. Iris Society but he caught the "iris virus" in a big way and has amassed a very large collection of newer introductions, mostly T.B's, and many interesting historic irises. He is a true horticulturist and visitors will find all kinds of interesting plants. His small greenhouse will be loaded with things Dave has started from seed for planting in his garden.

The AIS 2014 National Convention is very early the year and is in Texas. We are hoping that many visitors from other AIS regions will be able to attend our meeting. We also encourage everyone to bring specimens to enter in our show on Friday at the hotel headquarters. Additional information and the registration form can be found on the Region 4 website, <http://www.irisregion4.com/happenings.htm>

# *Oh, Say Can You See?*

*The American Iris Society  
Region 4 Spring 2014 Meeting  
Celebrating*

*The 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of  
The Star Spangled Banner*

*Sponsored by the Francis Scott Key Iris Society  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014*

*Convention Headquarters: Crowne Plaza - Baltimore  
2004 Greenspring Drive, Lutherville/Timonium, Maryland  
21093*

*Call 410-252-7373 and request the \$99 per night  
FSK IS Rates*

**Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Show with horticulture and artistic divisions. We encourage attendees to bring specimens for the show so that we can see a cross section of irises that are blooming in late May in different sections of the region and the nation. Bus Tour to Carol Warner's Draycott Gardens in Upperco, Garden Judges Training Sessions and Welcome Dinner catered by Friendly Farms of Upperco. A silent auction and the regional auction will be held at the hotel from 7:00 to 10:00 PM.

**Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>:** Bus tour to Joan Miller's Garden in Maryland Line; Dave Oktavec's Garden, Dave Piasecki and Vicki Stewart's Garden and Anita Moran's Garden in northern Harford County. Lunch will be served in the Piasecki / Stewart Garden. The Awards Banquet and guest speaker presentation will be at the hotel on Saturday evening.

**Note:** Because the tour gardens cannot accommodate large charter buses, transportation for the garden tours on Friday and Saturday will be via **School Buses!** The trips to/from/between the gardens are a maximum of 30-minutes each.

## Registration Form

**Timonium 2014 – “Oh, Say Can You See?”  
AIS Region 4 Spring Meeting: May 23 and 24**

**Convention Headquarters: North Baltimore Plaza Hotel  
2004 Greenspring Drive, Lutherville/Timonium, Maryland 21093**

**Reservations may be made by phone: 410-252-7373 – all rooms are \$99 per night if you mention FSK Iris Society and reserve before May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.**

**Registrant 1:**

**Registrant 2:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Preferred Name on Your Name Tag:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, ZIP:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number:

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address:

A Confirmation E-Mail Will Be Sent To You When Possible.

**Full Registration:**

	\$125 postmarked	\$175 postmarked
	<u>By</u> May 1, 2014	<u>After</u> May 1, 2014

Registrant 1:

\$125

\$175

Registrant 2:

\$125

\$175

**Youth Registration:**

\$75

\$100

**Partial Registration:**

Friday Tour & Dinner: \$50

\$75

Saturday Tour & Lunch: \$50

\$75

Saturday Awards Banquet: \$50

\$60

How Many Plan On Attending Garden Judges Training? \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restraints and/or Medical Concerns \_\_\_\_\_

Make Checks Payable To: FSK Iris Society and Mail Form and Payment To:

**David Bollinger, Registrar, 16815 Falls Road, Upperco, MD 21155-9445**

Questions: Call Carol Warner, 410-374-4788 or E-Mail draycott@qis.net.

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## Schedule of Events

### Friday, May 23th

8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Show entries
10:00 - 12:00 a.m.	Region 4 Board Meeting & Show Judging
12:00 - 1 :30 p.m.	Lunch on own and show viewing
1 :45	Buses leave for the display garden and the Baltimore County Agricultural Center
2:15 p.m.	Buses leave for Warner's Garden
2:30 p.m.	Buses Arrive at Warner's Garden
3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	Garden Judges Training (Possibly two one hour sessions)
5:30 - 6:30 p.m.	Welcome Dinner at Warner's Garden
6:30 p.m.	Buses leave Warner's Garden for trip back to hotel
7 :00 p.m.	Arrive back at hotel
7:00 - 10:00 p.m.	Silent Auction
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Regional Auctions

### Saturday, May 24th

8:00 a.m.	Buses leaves for garden tours
8:30 - 9:45 a.m.	Joan Miller Garden
10:30 - 11 :45 a.m.	Dave Oktavec Garden
12:15 - 2:45 p.m.	Dave Piasecki Garden and Lunch
3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Anita Moran Garden
4:45 p.m.	Buses arrive back at the hotel
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.	Silent Auction
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Awards Banquet
7:30 - 8:00 p.m.	General Meeting and Awards Presentation
7:45 - 8:45 p.m.	Guest speaker - Anna and David Cadd

Anita Moran  
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