

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2022

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AB (OGB-) 'Sun And Snow' (Tasco, 2018)

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Who We Are

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

Officers

President & RVP

Neil Houghton – images@irises.org

Vice President

Cara Hutchings – thehutchings@me.com
Rochester NY 14621
585-266-0302

Secretary

Kate Brewitt – just1moreiris@gmail.com

Treasurer

Annette Kuhn – akuhn43@yahoo.com

Committee Chairpersons

Archives

Dorothy Stiefel – irisacher@aol.com
Spencer NY 14883
607-589-7465

Bylaws – Position Open

Awards & Exhibitions

Marilee Farry – farmare@aol.com
Cheektowaga, NY 14227-3140
716-668-1789

Judges Training

Wendy Roller – gwr67@frontier.com
Rochester NY 14616-4133
585-621-8985

Membership – Marilee Farry (See Awards & Exhibitions)

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Kate Brewitt – just1moreiris@gmail.com

Youth Committee - Position Open

Affiliate Chairpersons

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

Linda Knipper –
linda.montanaro@gmail.com
Schenectady NY 12309
518-377-4987

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Cara Hutchings – thehutchings@me.com
Rochester NY 14621
585-266-0302

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

Terrance Laurin – tlaurin@rogers.com

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Marilee Farry – farmare@aol.com
Cheektowaga, NY 14227-3140
716-668-1789



*MDB 'Forever Violet' (C. Chapman, 2002)
(photo © K. Brewitt)*

RVP Message

Neil Houghton, President and AIS Region 2 RVP



Happy New Year

Expressing our gratefulness is something that always seems to fall short, to be inadequate. The leadership of Kathryn and the entire AIS Board and Committee chairs has kept us moving forward even when there were cancelled shows and in person Regional Meetings. It must have felt like a Sisyphean task. But labor on they did! Thank you all.

It is my pleasure to attempt to lead such a well-informed group of iris experts. “Lead” is not the right word, “attempt” certainly is. Perhaps facilitate better describes the role.

Haven't we had quite a time over the last two years? I don't think any of us would go through it again if we could choose. Buried in the mucky mess a few seeds were planted that bloomed. One of these might be the hope for our revival. It is our use of Zoom. Nothing replaces face to face meeting and learning. Zoom did, however, bring new opportunities for us to collapse distances to make many things possible. As your new Regional Vice President, I want us to cultivate this opportunity and build on it.

Relatively new to the iris world, I caught the bug twenty years ago when Kyle and I moved to a new house. The condo's Homeowner's Association had no issue when Kyle moved from Atlanta to join me. They did take issue with the three dogs that came with him. We quickly bought a house with a half-acre of property and my single iris was soon joined by a few more. Now half the yard is irises.

Kyle and I were married in Toronto City Hall in 2008. I am thrilled to have a more concrete connection to the country, now.

After 35 years teaching elementary school, I retired in 2008. I served on many curriculum development committees and as various Union officers. Since the 1990's I worked with a not-for-profit organization and became a member of the Board of Directors and was a member of the Vestry at my church. Though I have little experience in horticulture, I have lots in pedagogy! Many of these groups involved training in efficient group functioning. When we were getting paid, they wanted us to be productive.

While I cannot in any way add to the knowledge base of this wonderful group of irisarians, I do hope that my experience in other areas will prove useful. Just like every social group we are struggling to maintain, let alone grow members. It is my hope that some of my experience working with groups can be helpful in turning visitors into returning visitors and finally into members. The AIS has developed a 5-year Membership Plan. We will be hearing more about it. This plan won't work by itself. Local action is the key to using it!

My experience as a teacher (and aren't we all teachers?) tells me that the first rule is to listen to your audience, to restate what you heard to confirm understanding. For teachers this was referred to as avoiding being the "sage on the stage." For kids it was "we have one mouth and two ears." Listen more than you speak.

If this sounds condescending, I don't mean that anyone must change everything they are doing, but simply be aware when you or someone is not listening to needs of the other members or visitors.

One last idea: We have many members that are in areas where an affiliate is not available. The preferable solution would be to start these groups or re-establish them. It is a long-term goal. In the meantime, let's act as a Region. We have had many Zoom experiences that have brought us together. Our monthly Zoom meeting provide an opportunity to have an interactive experience. In short, local activities that can be shared Region-wide will benefit us all.

Questions, comments? Contact me at images@irises.org or 585-301-8256

Hard to believe right now here in Upstate New York but for you Game of Thrones fans: "Spring is coming!"

Upcoming Region 2 Monthly Zoom Meetings



AIS Region 2 has scheduled monthly Zoom meetings for 2022. Some meetings will be Board meetings, others will be social gatherings where you can catch up with your Region 2 iris friends or take in a virtual presentation.

All members will receive an email invitation with details in advance of the meeting. If you need assistance using the zoom program Neil Houghton, our Technology Consultant, can provide you with help. He can be reached at images@irises.org.

NOTE CHANGE: Meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday of every month.

Start time is 7:00 PM Eastern Time.

Our next meeting is March 9, 2022

The dates for the remainder of the year are as follows. Mark your calendars now.

April 13, 2022

May 11, 2022

June 8, 2022

July 13, 2022

August 10, 2022

September 14, 2022

October 12, 2022 – Annual Region 2 Board Meeting – Pending Board decision.

October 22, 2022 – Annual Region 2 General Meeting – Pending Board decision.

November 9, 2022

December 14, 2022

From the Editor's Desk



A member asked why I put my Editor's Message at the end of the newsletter. When I couldn't provide a reason other than 'it's different', it was suggested I move it to the more traditional position at the beginning of the newsletter. So, here I am, following the RVP's Message.

I had a busy Autumn uploading past editions of the Region 2 newsletter to the AIS WIKI. Editions from Spring 2008 to current date are now found in the *Ben R Hager - Sidney DuBose Memorial Online Iris Library* under *Regional Publications*. It's a great way to store the Region's old publications, allowing full access to everyone. Here's a direct link - [Region2Publications < Hist < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](#).

My goal is to have as many editions uploaded as

possible. Now that I've gone through my supply, I'm looking for more. If you have any old newsletters in PDF or paper ones that you'd be willing to scan and email, please let me know.

Otherwise, in this edition are details of the 2022 AIS Membership drive (page 12). Since one of the criteria is that the individual has never been an AIS member, you might want to give a membership to your local affiliate as a gift. On page 6, Region 2 tall bearded symposium results are compared with the AIS results while a report on reblooming irises in the Region during 2021 may give you some ideas for additions to your garden.

Speaking of members, did you know Region 2 has four organizational members? They are the Brooklyn Botanic Garden in Brooklyn, New York, the Cornell Botanic Gardens in Ithaca, New York, the Montreal Botanical Garden, (Jardin Botanique de Montreal) in Montreal, Quebec, and the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton, Ontario. All four have websites and, during these times, they have offered virtual programs, many of them free! As the weather gets nicer think about planning a visit to one of them so you can get outdoors and enjoy the fresh air! Some have reciprocal admissions programs (RAP). Check their websites for details.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden - [Brooklyn Botanic Garden - Brooklyn Botanic Garden \(bbg.org\)](#) - Reciprocal admissions program (RAP) for American Horticultural Society members.

Cornell Botanic Gardens - [Visit – CornellBotanicGardens](#) – Reciprocal admissions program (RAP) for American Horticultural Society members.

Montreal Botanical Garden - [Botanical Garden | Space for life \(espacepouurlavie.ca\)](#)

Royal Botanical Gardens - [Home - Royal Botanical Gardens \(rbg.ca\)](#) – Royal Botanical Garden members get access to the reciprocal admissions program (RAP) as one of their benefits.

Until next time

Kate (just1moreiris@gmail.com)

2022 Show Dates and Region 2 Awards

Submitted by Marilee Farry, Awards and Exhibition Chair

IRIS SHOWS for 2022

For up-to-date information on each Affiliate's iris show, contact the Show Chair as indicated.

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) is planning an Iris Show on June 4, 2022.

Show Chair: Marilee Farry – farmare@aol.com.

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) is reviewing its options for holding an Iris Show in June.

Show Chair: Terry Laurin – tlaurin@rogers.com.

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) will not be holding a show in 2022.

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) – To be determined.

REGIONAL AWARDS ROTATION FOR 2022

Since there were no shows in 2021, the Regional Award Rotation will remain as previously assigned. The rotation and awards for 2022 are as follows,

ONIS – The Ruth V. Blenis Award (highest-placed Tall Bearded Iris of the Show)

CHIS – The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award (highest-placed Historic Iris of the Show)

GRIS – The William McGarvey Award (highest-placed Beardless Iris of the Show)

WNYIS – The Magdalen Award (highest-placed Median Iris of the Show)

The Wirz-Rettig Award (highest-placed Japanese Iris of the Show) was not assigned in 2022.

VIRTUAL IRIS SHOWS FOR 2022:

Virtual iris shows are not sanctioned by the American Iris Society (AIS). For this reason, they are ineligible for AIS or Regional Awards. Affiliates who sponsor a virtual show may choose to award prizes. Contact the Show Chair for details.

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) 3rd Annual Virtual Iris Show

April 1 to July 15, 2022.

Show Chair: Kate Brewitt, just1moreiris@gmail.com.

This show is open to ONIS members and AIS Region 2 members living in Ontario or Quebec.

Pictured right, stalk view entry into Section C (IB) of the 2021 Virtual Show – IB 'Rififi' (Blyth, 2005/06). (photo © K. Brewitt)



2021 Tall Bearded Iris Symposium

Region 2 Top 11

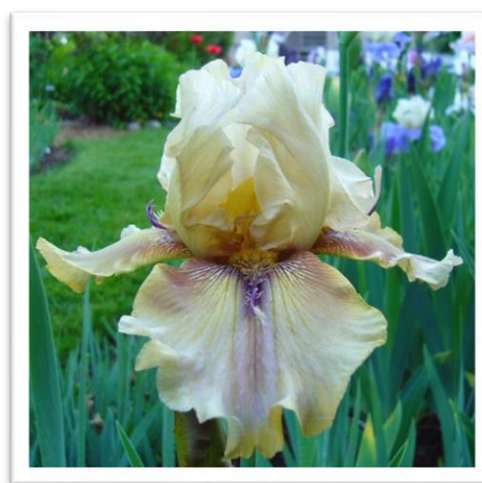
(American Iris Society Results vs Region 2 Favorites)

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2021 AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium. It was nice that we could venture out to admire the irises growing in the gardens of others. Your input is valuable on two levels. At a national level, it ensures the region has fair representation in the results while at the regional level, your selections give other Region 2 members an idea of what will grow well in our climate.

We continue to select award winners of all types. Award of Merit, Wister Medal, and Dykes Medal winners are all included in this list. 'Immortality' has held the number one position since 2018, a testament to the quality of this forty-year-old iris. Some irises are appearing for the first time while others are returning after a brief hiatus. This coincides with the patterns in my garden i.e. an iris will bloom well one year but may not the next, depending on the weather.

If you are thinking of adding to your TB collection, you might want to consider one of these beauties. More pictures can be found on the AIS WIKI: [WebHome < Main < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](#)

<u>AIS Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
22	1	Immortality (Award of Merit 1990)	Zurbrigg, 1982
2	1	Thornbird (Dykes Medal 1997)	Byers, 1989



*From left to right, 'Immortality' and 'Thornbird'
(photos © K. Brewitt)*

<u>AIS Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
4	2	Daughter Of Stars (Wister Medal 2007)	Spoon, 2001
5	2	Jesse's Song (Dykes Medal 1990)	Williamson, 1983



*From left to right, 'Daughter Of Stars' and 'Jesse's Song'
(photos © K. Brewitt)*

<u>AIS Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
6	3	Queen's Circle (Dykes Medal 2007)	Kerr, 2000
13	3	Sharp Dressed Man (Wister Medal 2016)	Johnson, 2010



*From left to right, 'Queen's Circle' and 'Sharp Dressed Man'
(photo left © K. Brewitt, photo right © C. Cosi)*

<u>AIS Ranking</u>	<u>Region 2 Ranking</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Hybridizer</u>
35	4	Clarence (Wister Medal 2000)	Zurbrigg, 1991
55	4	Going My Way	Gibson, 1972
52	4	Kathy Chilton (Wister Medal 20012)	Kerr, 2006
26	4	Stepping Out (Dykes Medal 1968)	Schreiner, 1964
39	4	Superstition (Awards of Merit 1981)	Schreiner, 1977



*From left to right, 'Clarence', 'Going My Way' and 'Kathy Chilton'
(photo left and center © Elladan, photo right © C. Cosi)*



*From left to right, 'Stepping Out' and 'Superstition'
(photo left © D. McQueen, photo right © La Ferme Des Iris)*

2021 Rebloom Season In Region 2

Compiled by Kate Brewitt (Ontario Iris Society)

When do irises start to rebloom in your garden? What irises have rebloomed in your garden? These are questions we should be asking each other so we can share our rebloom successes.

Our garden in Ontario is considered Canadian zone 5b (approx. USDA zone 6). Weather conditions are a big factor in any rebloom season, and as a result, no two seasons are the same. In a good year, rebloom starts in our garden in late August and continues until there is a hard frost which usually occurs in late November/early December. An early frost or snowfall can shorten the season by weeks while a dry autumn can result in little or no rebloom. However, the Autumn of 2021, was one of our better years, and irises rebloomed from August 29 until November 21. No complaints here!



IB 'Precious Little Pink' (Byers, 1995) is an iris we would not be without. This iris put up a multitude of bloom stalks in late August. Just when we thought it was finished, another flourish of bloom stalks would appear. By late November, and with a hard frost in the forecast, the final three stalks were brought indoors for us to enjoy (*pictured left* © K. Brewitt).

MTB 'Lady Emma' (F. Jones, 1986) is an iris that reblooms reliably in our garden. She usually makes an appearance around our Canadian Thanksgiving (first Monday in October) and blooms for about four weeks. This year she put up seven bloom stalks the

first week of November. Again, a threat of frost resulted in the stalks being brought indoors to finish their bloom (*pictured right* © K. Brewitt).

Other irises to rebloom were TB 'Starring Encore' (Spoon, 2008) which bloomed from the end of September through to the end of October, and SDB 'Ray Jones' (Spoon, 2011) which bloomed from mid-October until early November.



'Immortality' (Zurbrigg, 1982) is a reliable reblooming iris for many members in our Region. Every year there are rebloom sightings throughout Ontario and New York State. This year Wendy Roller, who lives in New York State USDA zone 6b, reported "... (seeing) it all over our area from late August onwards. I was able to enjoy a nice clump each day on my walk around the neighborhood. Some of the garden centers have been selling it the last several years. Obviously, it is establishing nicely in our area."



SDB 'Sun Doll' (B. Jones, 1985) is another iris Wendy reported reblooming in New York State, though not a registered rebloomer. She says it sends up a lot of spring bloom and is a great increaser. The color is very recognizable across the garden. Although she has never had it rebloom in her yard, a family member has a huge planting in a raised landscape bed behind her house. The plant gets lots of warmth from the garden path bricks all around the raised concrete block bed. This year it put up a single stalk in mid-late September. (*photo © Don McQueen*)

Wendy also reported that IB 'Many Mahalos' (Aitken, 2003) put up a quality "spring-type" stalk in mid-October. She goes on to say, "(i)t took awhile to develop but finally started to bloom on November 11th. Only one blossom opened before the frost hit the plant. However, that one flower stayed open for 8 days. It was definitely a late fall "over-achiever." Another stalk tried to develop but only sent up a stalk with one bud. It never opened. I finally cut the stalk down right before Christmas – at that point another stalk was trying to develop on the plant. I wonder what my spring bloom will be like next year?!" (*photo © Irisu Pasaulis*)



Other members throughout Region 2 enjoyed rebloom in their gardens as well. This year there were reports of rebloom on SDB 'Autumn Jester' (Chapman, 2000), SDB 'Baby Blessed' (Zurbrigg, 1979), MDB 'Forever Violet' (Chapman, 2002), and SDB 'Perpetual Indulgence' (Aitken, 2005).

(*TB 'Immortality' pictured left © K. Lockyear*)

Reblooming irises are fun to watch develop and bloom during a time when everything else in the garden is 'going to sleep'. They don't come with any guarantees however if an iris reblooms for someone with growing conditions similar to your own, then it just might rebloom for you! If you are looking for a list of irises which may rebloom in your garden, on the Region 2 website there is just such a list compiled from members' reports, [Rebloom \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org). If you have an irises you would like to add to this list, please email me at just1moreiris@gmail.com.

2022 AIS Membership Drive



From March 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022 the American Iris Society (AIS) is having a Membership Drive and invites all eligible persons to participate.

During this time, if you join an AIS Section or an AIS Affiliate for the first time PLUS have never been an AIS member, you will receive a free 1-year AIS print membership, which consists of four printed copies of *IRISES - Bulletin of the American Iris Society*. Membership details can be found on the AIS website at [AIS Members – American Iris Society \(irises.org\)](https://www.irises.org).

For example,

1. If someone joins Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS), Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS), Ontario Iris Society (ONIS), or Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS), all AIS Affiliates, for 1-year and has never been a member of the affiliate or the AIS that person is eligible for a free 1-year AIS print membership (a \$30 US value). Contact the chair of the affiliate you are interested in joining. See page 2 for email addresses.
2. If someone joins an AIS Section (membership rates vary) and has never been a member of that Section or the AIS, that person will receive a free 1-year AIS print membership (a \$30 US value).

The following groups are included in this offer. Links to their websites are provided so you can access details and membership forms.

[Dwarf Iris Society \(DIS\)](#)

[Society for Pacific Coast Native Iris](#)

[Median Iris Society \(MIS\)](#)

[Species Iris Group of North America \(SIGNA\)](#)

[Society for Siberian Iris \(SSI\)](#)

[Reblooming Iris Society \(RIS\)](#)

[Spuria Iris Society \(SIS\)](#)

[Novelty Iris Society](#)

[Society for Louisiana Iris \(SLI\)](#)

[Historic Iris Preservation Society \(HIPS\)](#)

[Society for Japanese Iris \(SJI\)](#)

AIS Membership Drive - The Fine Print

This offer is valid only during the months of March, April, and May of 2022.

This incentive can not be combined with any other incentive offer from AIS Affiliates or AIS Sections.

This offer does not apply to prior members of the AIS nor to prior AIS Affiliate members and AIS Section members.

This offer is time-limited and quantity-limited. Act promptly during the timeframe specified! The AIS Membership Secretary will check for prior AIS memberships.

Please direct any of your questions to Marilee Farry, farmare@aol.com.



Membership Update

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

Submitted by Marilee Farry, Membership Chair

Currently there are ninety-five members in Region 2 of the American Iris Society. This number includes the four affiliate members (Capital Hudson Iris Society, Greater Rochester Iris Society, Ontario Iris Society, and the Western New York Iris Society) and four organizational memberships (Brooklyn Botanical Garden, Cornell University Library, Jarden Botanique de Montreal Bibliotheque, and the Royal Botanical Garden.) There have been no new memberships since the last report in October 2021.

New Way to Look Up Your AIS Membership Expiry Date

Starting in January 2022 a new tool for looking up membership expiry dates was made available to AIS members. The tool is located on the AIS website under the *Membership Tab*. Scroll down to 'Check Membership Status' then click on the link to bring up a list of all AIS members. To find your record you can type your last name in the search box (case-sensitive) found above the 'Membership Good Through' column. You can also sort the listing by region (R02 – for Region 2), by name (first or last) or by expiry date (sorted alphabetically by month).

Here's a link if you want to try it out: [Web Based Lookup – American Iris Society \(irises.org\)](https://www.iris.org/web-based-lookup)

AIS Look Up (www.aislookup.org) will continue to be available until March 31, 2022.



Do you shop online? Do you support Region 2 of the American Iris Society? If you shop on Amazon, you will be able to have 0.5% of eligible purchase prices donated to Region 2 of the American Iris Society*. There is no cost to Region 2 and there is no additional cost to you. It is a win-win scenario if you make purchases this way.

Use this link [AmazonSmile: You shop. Amazon gives.](#) to log directly into **AMAZON SMILE** and land on the 'Support Region 2 of the American Iris Society' page. Happy Shopping!

**(Note: this is available to US Amazon shoppers only.)*

Do You Belong to a Region 2 Affiliate?

The American Iris Society (AIS) is comprised of 22 Regions covering the United States and Canada. The entire state of New York and the Canadian Provinces of Ontario and Quebec are known as "AIS Region 2". Within Region 2 are four separate clubs each with affiliate status in the AIS.

If you are interested in informative presentations on gardening, judged flower shows, plant sales, picnics/barbeques, garden tours plus are looking for an opportunity to meet other gardening aficionados, then check out one of our affiliates. Of course, all zoom presentations hosted by any of the affiliates are open to all Region 2 members.

Capital Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) - meets at the East Greenbush Community Library, 10 Community Way, East Greenbush, NY.

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) - meets St John's Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls, NY.

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) - holds its event at the Toronto Botanical Garden, 777 Lawrence Avenue East, Toronto, ON.

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) - meets at the Reinstein Library, 1030 Losson Road South, Cheektowaga, NY.

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)

For details of upcoming events in 2022, contact one of the CHIS officers.

CHIS Officers:

CHIS Chair: Linda Knipper - linda.montanaro@gmail.com – 518-377-4987

Vice Chairs: Dan and Joanne Maier - danjomaier@gmail.com – 518-449-8480

Secretary: Virginia Dorwaldt - vmdorwaldt@gmail.com
518-439-3110

Treasurer: Don Salhoff - driris2000@hotmail.com
518-439-1484

Newsletter editor: Euthemia Matsoukas
euthemiamatsoukas@gmail.com – 518-439-3758

Iris Show Chairs: Kathryn Mohr - kemohrke@aol.com –
518-952-4995



'Fishnet Stockings' (Black, 2019)
(photo © K.Brewitt)

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)

Submitted by Cara Hutchings, Affiliate Chair

The Greater Rochester Iris Society is gearing up for what will hopefully be a more active year than we have been able to have in the past.

Our first meeting will be on **March 13th**. Our presentation will be by our own membership – “The ABCs of Growing Iris.” This will be a beginning iris growers’ program. We will also talk about what grows well in our area, and what each of us has as our favorite iris.

Not wanting to interfere with either Easter or anyone going to the AIS 2022 National Convention, our April meeting will be on **April 24th**. Our program will be “*A Primer on Iris Show and Sale Presentation*”, again run by our members.



A trip to *Iris Country Gardens* in Geneva, NY is also planned. We’re aiming for the end of May or the beginning of June (*garden pictured left*).

Sadly, we will not be having a show this year. Hopefully we will be able to host an outdoor picnic in a member’s garden!

We will be having our annual sale on **August 13th and 14th** at *Bristol’s Garden Center* in Victor, NY.

On **September 18th**, Maureen Dunphy, a GRIS member, will be giving a talk about “*Landscaping with Native Plants*”

Our last meeting, planned for **October 16th**, is ‘to be determined’. We may have a Fall Celebration, plant exchange or maybe a guest speaker.

Our meetings are held in the St. John’s Church Hall at 11 Episcopal Avenue, Honeoye Falls, NY, and start at 2:00 pm. A SHORT business meeting precedes each presentation after which we will have a Q & A period where we will discuss what you should be doing in your garden in the coming month. We will finish up with a social time and door prizes. This seems to work well for our membership, and we hope you will join us!



Join us on Facebook, [Greater Rochester NY Irises | Facebook](#)

GRIS Officers:

President: Cara Hutchings - thehutchings@me.com

Vice President: Neil Houghton - images@irises.org

Secretary/Treasurer: Nate Hutchings - thehutchings@mac.com

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)

Submitted by Kate Brewitt, Affiliate Secretary



Saturday, March 26th – Virtual Innisfil Seedy Saturday featuring a Marketplace and Learning Hub. This event is hosted by the Innisfil Seed Library in partnership with the Innisfil ideaLAB & Library.

[Program — Innisfil Seed Library](#) – This link will take you to the Innisfil Seed Library website where you will find program details. Some programs require registration to participate. Registration opens on Tuesday, March 1st. Also on this page is another link to the Marketplace where you can connect you with seed companies and related groups and businesses.

April 1st to July 15th – Virtual Flower Show

Get your cameras ready! ONIS will have another Virtual Flower Show in 2022. We've made some changes so ask for a copy of the show schedule. This show is open to ONIS members and AIS Region 2 members living in Ontario or Quebec. Contact Kate Brewitt (just1moreiris@gmail.com) to receive details on how to enter including a copy of the show schedule.

July/August – Due to the growing success of our Online Rhizome sale, ONIS is planning to hold another in 2022. The Board is currently looking at potential vendors. Contact Terry Laurin if you are interested in receiving a copy of the list of irises in the offering. Canadian orders only please.



Join us on Facebook, [Ontario Iris Society | Facebook](#). Share your gardening experiences, upload pictures from your garden and meet new friends.

For more details on these events visit our website at [Ontario Iris Society \(google.com\)](#).

ONIS Officers:

President: Terrance Laurin – tlaurin@rogers.com

Vice President: Jinny Missons - jojimissons@sympatico.com

Secretary: Kate Brewitt – kbrewitt@rogers.com

Treasurer: Lyn Hickey – lhickey94@hotmail.com

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)

Submitted by Marilee Farry, Affiliate Chair

WNYIS members learn and teach about irises and how to grow them in our climate. We also have potlucks, cookouts, and iris garden visitations! We meet at Reinstein Library 1030 Losson Road South, Cheektowaga, NY 14227 (between Union and Transit Roads). After a brief Winter Break our meetings will resume on March 6th.

Sunday, March 6th at 1:30 pm – The presentation is entitled “*Iris of the Wetlands*”. and will cover the care of *Iris pseudacorus*, *Iris laevigata*, *Iris versicolor* and *Iris pseudata*. We will also discuss “*What to do in the Pre-Iris Garden*” and supply handouts. Social time to follow. Please join us!

Sunday, April 3rd at 1:30 pm - The program will be “*Components to Interpret a Themed Iris Flower Design*” geared for the novice. Designing with irises is one part of the Show. Rules of iris design will be discussed with examples given. It is very enjoyable to view the various design examples and see how the entrants interpreted the themes which are outlined in the Show Schedule. Handouts will address “*What to do in the Spring Iris Garden*”.

Sunday, May 1st at 1:30 pm - The program will cover “*Preparing Iris for the Show Bench*” which will cover everything a person needs to know about cutting iris, grooming, and transporting irises to an iris show. Entry cards will be explained, and all questions will be satisfactorily answered. Handouts with reminders will be distributed. We will continue “*What to do in the Spring Iris Garden*”.

Saturday, June 4th – Our annual IRIS SHOW will be held from 1:00 - 4:00 pm at the Reinstein Library in Cheektowaga. Everyone is invited to participate. If you are entering the show, be sure you arrive before 11:00 am. Contact one of the Officers for a copy of the show schedule.

Saturday, August 13th – Our annual IRIS SALE held at the *Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens* in Buffalo, NY. This is in conjunction with the Hosta and Daylily Societies.



Iris pseudacorus



We have a NEW Facebook page, [Western New York Iris Society | Facebook](#). Join us and stay up to date on our events.

WNYIS Officers:

President: Marilee Farry – farmare@aol.com

Vice President: Betty Schnellinger – bettyschnell@icloud.com

Secretary: David Baehre – dwbfarm@gmail.com

Treasurer: Annette Kuhn – akuhn@rich.com

Judges' Training Report

Submitted by Wendy Roller, JT Chair for AIS Region 2

REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY – JUDGES and STUDENT JUDGES Status Roster – as of January 1, 2022

<u>Active Master</u>	<u>Garden / Exhibition</u>	<u>Candidate for Judgeship</u>	<u>Retired Master</u>	
David Baehre	Marilee Farry	Annette Kuhn	John Colley	Maria Gerbracht
Joanne Bassett	Jinny Missons		Donna James	Maureen Mark
Kate Brewitt	Suzanne Perry		Daniel P. McMillen	Gloria McMillen
Chuck Chapman			James McMillen	Vaughn Sayles
Terry Laurin			Helen B. Schuler	Kathleen Shadrack
Donna J. Lowry			Dorothy Stiefel	
Wendy K. Roller				
Janette Smith				

Please note that four changes have occurred in this roster as of January 1, 2022:

Dorothy Stiefel has stepped down as an AIS Judge. Dorothy started serving the American Iris Society as a Garden/Exhibition Judge in 1996 and then as a Master Judge in 2009. Dorothy's 26 years of experience in judging irises in the garden setting, her knowledge of historic irises, and her expertise in judging irises on the show bench will be sorely missed within Region 2.

Terry Laurin and Kate Brewitt started serving the American Iris Society as Garden/Exhibition Judges in 2007. Both were eligible for judging advancement last fall; they have been honored with Master Judge status.

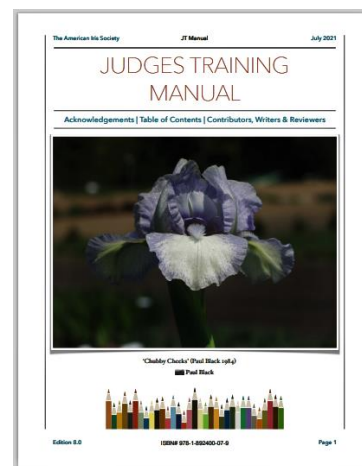
Suzanne Perry has completed her AIS Apprentice Judge requirements. Suzanne is now listed as an accredited Garden/Exhibition Judge.

SPRING 2022 JUDGES TRAINING COURSES IN REGION 2

Due to the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, no in-garden judges training courses have currently been scheduled within Region 2 during the 2022 bloom season. Judges and student judges will be notified via the internet if any courses are scheduled during the next several months.

PLEASE NOTE: Judges training sessions must be approved in advance by the Region 2 Judges Training Chairperson. Please let Wendy Roller know if any judges training sessions are being proposed within the region during the year 2022.

JUST A REMINDER: the Judges' Training Manual is available on the AIS Iris Encyclopedia. [Info2021AISJudgesHandbookWithColor < Hist < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](http://Info2021AISJudgesHandbookWithColor < Hist < Iris Wiki (irises.org))



**REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY ANNUAL FALL MEETING
MINUTES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 2021 AT 7:30 PM VIA ZOOM**

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm with Regional Vice President, Kathryn Mohr, presiding.

2. Roll call: Officers, Affiliate Chairpersons, Committee Chairs

Kathryn Mohr – RVP and President

Neil Houghton – Assistant RVP, Technology Consultant

Vaughn Sayles – Treasurer, Membership Chair

Kate Brewitt – Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Cara Hutchings – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) President

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) President

Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) President, Awards & Exhibition Chair

Wendy Roller - Judges Training Chair

Other Attendees - Annette Kuhn

Absent

Linda Knipper - Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) President

Dorothy Stiefel – Archives

3. Additions/corrections to the minutes of Oct. 6, 2020 Board of Directors meeting

Minutes were declared approved as circulated by Kathryn Mohr.

4. Officer Reports

RVP Report

Kathryn Mohr thanked the Board for three wonderful years.

Treasurer Report

Vaughn Sayles reported that as of October 5, 2021, the account at Fulton Savings Bank has been closed. He will provide the new Treasurer with a check of \$9,906.64, representing the total balance from all accounts.

Audit Committee Report

Kathryn Mohr reported that the Treasurer's audit report was accepted by the Audit Committee.

Secretary Report – Previous Motions

Kate Brewitt reported that at the August 3, 2021 zoom meeting a motion was made by Neil Houghton to provide a speaker fee of \$200 to Cathy Egerer for her presentation at the AIS Region 2 Fall meeting. Motion carried.

At the September 7, 2021 zoom meeting a motion made by Vaughn Sayles to facilitate the closure of the AIS Region 2 bank account no new donations and/or expenditures will be accepted by him after October 1, 2021. Motion carried.

5. Committee Reports

Archives – Dorothy Stiefel - no report submitted.

Bylaws – this position is open. If anyone is interested, please contact the RVP.

Judges Training

Wendy Roller reported there was one addition to her report published in the Autumn 2021 newsletter. Effective January 1, 2022, Dorothy Stiefel, Master Judge, will be retiring.

Membership

Vaughn Sayles reported that in addition to four affiliate memberships and four organizational memberships there are 96 members of the American Iris Society who reside in Region 2.

Newsletter

Kate Brewitt reported that a volunteer was needed to mail archival copies of the Spring and Autumn newsletter to the AIS Archives and the Region 2 Archives. Neil volunteered to take on the task.

Technology Consultant

Neil Houghton reported that we have made good use of our Zoom membership. He reminded Affiliate Chairs that this membership can also be used for their club meetings.

Youth – this position is open. If anyone is interested, please contact the RVP.

Webmaster

Kate Brewitt recommended discussion on possible website updates be tabled until after the new RVP was voted in. Agreement by all present.

Awards & Exhibitions

Marilee Farry reported that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Region 2 held no accredited iris shows in 2021.

Motion made by Neil Houghton to accept Marilee's report. Motion carried.

Nominating Committee

Neil Houghton presented the Committee's nominations for the 2021/2022 Officers' positions, Neil Houghton – Regional Vice President (RVP)

Cara Hutchings – Assistant RVP

Annette Kuhn – Treasurer

Kate Brewitt – Secretary

Motion made by Marilee Farry to accept the Nominating Committee report. Motion carried

6. Unfinished Business - none

7. New Business

2022 Budget

Vaughn Sayles presented a Budget for 2022 of \$1,715,00.

Motion made by Neil Houghton that \$500 be added to the Budget for this fiscal year to help defray the cost of the Regional Vice-President (RVP), or his or her designee, to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Iris Society, and the following Annual Convention. Furthermore, the intention is to view this as an ongoing expense unless removed by a future R2 Board vote. Motion failed.

Motion made by Marilee Farry to pay the RVP the cost of the early registration fee for the AIS National Convention in year 2022. Motion carried.

After discussion increases were made to RVP Allowance (\$360), Website (\$100) resulting in a Budget for 2022 of \$2,175.00.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings that expenses incurred due to the setting up of a new bank account will be taken from 'Miscellaneous'. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathryn Mohr to accept the Budget amount of \$2,175.00 for 2022. Motion carried.

Motion to appoint Interim Treasurer

Kathryn Mohr appointed Annette Kuhn as Interim Treasurer from October 16, 2021 to November 4, 2021.

2022 Region 2 Awards Rotation and Show Dates

Marilee Farry reported that the Awards rotation for 2022 will be the same as in 2021:

ONIS – The Ruth V. Blenis Award (highest-placed Tall Bearded Iris of the Show)

CHIS – The Ethel Anson S. Peckham Award (highest-placed Historic Iris of the Show)

GRIS – The William McGarvey Award (highest-placed Beardless Iris of the Show)

WNYIS – The Magdalen Award (highest-placed Median Iris of the Show)

The Wirz-Rettig Award (highest-placed Japanese Iris of the Show) had not been assigned.

Motion made by Neil Houghton to accept the Awards and Exhibition report. Motion carried.

Notifying attendees to Annual meeting of reports

Neil Houghton will work with Kate Brewitt to ensure that members who register for the Saturday, October 16, 2021 Annual General Meeting receive the necessary reports.

8. Adjourn

Kathryn Mohr adjourned the meeting at 8:37 pm.

*AB (OBG-) 'Octave' (Johnson, 2008)
(photo © K. Brewitt)*



REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY (AIS) ANNUAL FALL MEETING

October 16, 2021

General Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order and welcome

Meeting called to order at 10:39 am by Kathryn Mohr RVP. Everyone was welcomed. Kathryn announced that this was her last meeting as RVP for Region 2. She thanked everyone for their support of her as well as the Region.

2. Roll call: Officers, Affiliate Chairpersons. Committee Chairs

Kathryn Mohr – RVP and President

Neil Houghton – Assistant RVP, Technology Consultant

Kate Brewitt – Secretary, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

Cara Hutchings – Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS) President

Terry Laurin – Ontario Iris Society (ONIS) President

Marilee Farry – Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS) President, Awards & Exhibition Chair

Wendy Roller – Judges' Training Chair

Other Attendees

Joanne Bassett, Chuck Chapman, Annette Kuhn, Benjamin Morris, Dolores Picard.

Absent and Excused

Vaughn Sayles – Treasurer, Membership Chair

Linda Knipper – Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS) President

3. Additions or corrections to the minutes of the October 24, 2020 General Membership Meeting.

Kathryn Mohr declared the minutes approved as circulated.

4. Treasurer's Report

Kathryn Mohr reported for Vaughn Sayles. The bank account for Region 2 has been closed. A check for the account balance of \$9,906.64 will be given to the new Treasurer to open an account in his/her vicinity.

5. Committee Reports

Reports were circulated to the attendees prior to the meeting. Committee Chairs were asked to report any changes. Reports are filed with the Secretary and are available upon request.

a. Archives – no report.

b. Awards & Exhibitions – Marilee Farry reported no additions.

c. Membership - Kathryn Mohr reported for Vaughn Sayles that there were no additions.

d. Judges' Training - Wendy Roller reported that Suzanne Perry has advanced to Garden/Exhibition Judge effective 2022. Terry Laurin and Kate Brewitt have both advanced to Master Judge effective 2022.

Chuck Chapman raised a concern about Canadians not being able to cross the border to receive in-garden training in 2022. Wendy Roller responded that Bonnie Nichols, AIS

Judges' Training Chair, was working on the possibility of zoom in-garden training sessions next year.

- e. Newsletter – Kate Brewitt reported no additions.
- f. Technology Consultant – Neil Houghton reported no additions.
- g. Webmaster – Kate Brewitt reported no additions.
- h. Youth Committee and Bylaws Committee
Kathryn Mohr reported that the Chair position is vacant for both these committees. If anyone is interested in chairing one of these committees, they should contact the new RVP.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business from the floor.

New Business

1) Budget for 2021

Kathryn Mohr reported for Vaughn Sayles. Two items were added to this year's budget, a stipend to pay for the RVP's \$359 registration fee for the 2022 AIS National Convention and a \$100 increase to the Website Committee to pay for potential website upgrades.

Motion made by Cara Hutchings to accept the proposed budget as presented. Motion carried.

2) Vote on Officers

Neil Houghton reported that Marilee Farry is willing to take over the Membership Chair's position.

Neil Houghton, Nominations Committee Chair, also reported the following nominations for the 2021/2022 Officers' positions,

- Neil Houghton – Regional Vice President (RVP)
- Cara Hutchings – Assistant RVP
- Annette Kuhn – Treasurer
- Kate Brewitt - Secretary

Since there were no nominations from the floor, Kathryn Mohr declared the nominees elected by acclamation.

3) Interim Treasurer Announcement

Kathryn Mohr reported that prior to the meeting a motion was made via email by Kate Brewitt to appoint Annette Kuhn as Interim Treasurer from October 16, 2021 to November 6, 2021. The motion carried.

Adjournment

Kathryn Mohr adjourned the meeting at 11:03 am.

Treasurer's Report

Region 2 of the American Iris Society

December 31, 2021

Submitted by Annette Kuhn, Treasurer

As of December 31, 2021, the balance in the bank account of Region 2 of the American Iris Society is \$10,028.64 compared with a total of \$9,976.49 at the end of 2021.

The total revenue received in 2021 was \$393.92. Interest accounted for \$7.23, Affiliate contributions for \$330.00, and Amazon Smile donations for \$7.69. Special thanks go to the Western New York Iris Society for their contribution of \$80.00, to the Ontario Iris Society for a contribution of \$100 and to the Greater Rochester Iris Society for a contribution of \$150.00. If you are making purchases through Amazon, please consider participating in *Amazon Smile* and naming Region 2 of the American Iris Society as your charitable organization.

The total expenses for 2021 were \$342.77. These included \$149.90 for the zoom license, \$14.60 for mailing expense to Region 2 Judges, and \$174.27 for the Website.

The annual financial audit was performed by the Affiliate Chairpersons and the Treasurer submitted information to AIS for the annual IRS filing.

Balances	1/1/2021	12/31/2021
Checking Account	\$2,758.02	\$10,028.64
Savings Account	\$3,626.62	\$0
Certificate of Deposit	\$3,621.85	\$0
Total Assets	\$9,976.49	\$10,028.64

Revenue received 2021

Affiliate Contributions	received	\$330.00
CHIS	\$0.00	
GRIS	\$150.00	
ONIS	\$100.00	
WNYIS	\$80.00	
Total	\$330.00	
Interest Income		\$7.23
0 Savings Account	\$1.20	
Certificate of Deposit	\$6.03	
Total	\$7.23	
Other Revenue		\$57.69
Donation	\$50.00	
Amazon Smile	\$7.69	
Total	\$57.69	
Total Revenue received 2021		<u>\$393.92</u>

Expenses (2020)	Budgeted 10/24/2021	Expended 12/31/2021	Balance 12/31/2021
Archives	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Judges Training	\$25.00	\$14.60	\$10.40
Membership	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Newsletter (2 issues)	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
RVP (miscellaneous)	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Treasurer	\$10.00	\$4.00	\$6.00
Secretary	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$10.00
Creative Money	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Youth Membership	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Fall Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$149.90	\$850.10
Website	\$200.00	\$174.27	\$25.73
Miscellaneous	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
Totals	\$1,715.00	\$342.77	\$1,372.23

**REGION 2 OF THE AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY
COMPARISON OF 2021 AND 2022 BUDGETS**

Expenses	Budgeted 2021	Budgeted 2022	Budget Changes
Archives	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Awards	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Judges Training	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Newsletter (2 issues)	\$150.00	\$150.00	\$0.00
RVP (miscellaneous)	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
RVP (AIS Convention)	\$0.00	\$360.00	\$360.00
Treasurer	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Secretary	\$10.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Creative Money	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Youth Membership	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Fall Meeting	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Website	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$100.00
Miscellaneous	\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Totals	\$1,715.00	\$2,175.00	\$460.00





The next century of the AIS begins

**Las Cruces
New Mexico**

The Next Century Begins 'Iris Enchantment'

2022 American Iris Society National Convention
April 11 - 16, 2022

Last Chance to Register – Deadline is March 15, 2022.

Registration form is found on the convention website,
[2022 National Convention – AISRegion 23.](#)

This YouTube video highlights the convention gardens. - [AIS Webinar #17 "Preview of the 2022 National Convention at Las Cruces, NM" by H. Dash & S. Ayres - YouTube](#)

'Region of Bloom'

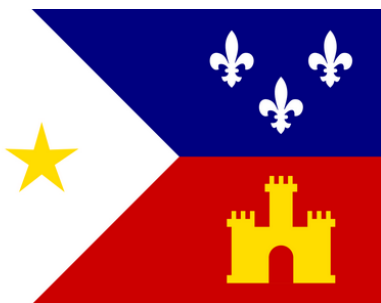
2022 Siberian/Species Convention May 27-29, 2022

"Come Experience Our Region of Bloom!"

The King County Iris Society is very pleased to host the 2021 (oops, 2022!) Siberian/Species Iris Convention. The convention will be held in the greater Seattle, Washington, area Friday through Sunday, May 27-29, 2022. We offer a tour of three gardens, along with a 1-hour session of in-garden judges training and a species iris trek.



[Complete details and the registration form.](#) Deadline for registration is May 15, 2022. Hotel registration should be made by April 27, 2022.



Society for Louisiana Irises Convention

April 6-9, 2022

The [Society for Louisiana Irises](#) convention is in Lafayette, Louisiana.

[Complete details and the registration form.](#) Registration should **reach the registrar no later than March 15, 2022.** See the [SLI website](#) and the [Greater New Orleans Iris Society website](#) for any changes.

Please contact the registrar, Ron Killingsworth with any questions. Phone 318-426-3654 or email retmiaqt@gmail.com

AIS Region 2 Online

Did you know that each affiliate has its own webpage on the Region 2 website?

Did you know previous editions of the Region 2 newsletter are online?

Here are some links that you may find useful.

AIS Region 2 website: [Home Page \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org)

Capital-Hudson Iris Society (CHIS)
[CHIS \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org)

Ontario Iris Society (ONIS)
[ONIS \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org)

Greater Rochester Iris Society (GRIS)
[GRIS \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org)

Western New York Iris Society (WNYIS)
[WNYIS \(aisregion2.org\)](http://aisregion2.org)



[Greater Rochester NY Irises | Facebook](#)

[Ontario Iris Society | Facebook](#)

[Western New York Iris Society | Facebook](#)

You can also find the American Iris Society Online:



American Iris Society Website: [American Iris Society \(irises.org\)](http://irises.org)

AIS Iris Encyclopedia [WebHome < Main < Iris Wiki \(irises.org\)](#)

including the Ben R Hager – Sidney DuBose Memorial Online Iris Library

[The American Iris Society - YouTube](#) contains past webinars, including JT sessions, presented by the AIS.

[World of Irises \(theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com\)](http://theamericanirissociety.blogspot.com)

The American Iris Society is also on social media,

[The American Iris Society | Facebook](#)

[The American Iris Society \(@TweetAIS\) / Twitter](#)

[The American Iris Society \(@theamericanirissociety\) • Instagram photos and videos](#)

The Newsletter of Region 2 of the American Iris Society is published twice a year and e-mailed to all members of the American Iris Society residing in Region 2 (New York State, Ontario, and Quebec). Members without e-mail may receive a paper copy by mail upon request. It is the member's responsibility to advise of e-mail changes and to submit a written request for paper copies to the editor. Permission is granted to reproduce articles, with proper attribution, unless otherwise noted. It is appreciated that a copy of the publication is provided to the editor.

COPY DEADLINES

Spring Issue February 1 Fall Issue August 1

(Please note, submissions may be edited for style and clarity.)

Editor: Kate Brewitt – just1moreiris@gmail.com