

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 4

April 2018

2018 Calendar

Sunday, April 29, 2018: 1:30 p.m., CHIS meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Christine Saplin "Container Gardening - A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!"

Thursday, May 3, 2018: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Digging Party at Euthemia's. Bring your Siberians to divide and pot up for our perennial sale on May 20.

Sunday, May 20: 9:00 a.m. Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale, Main Square, 318 Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Rain or Shine. See flyer attached on all sales coming up.

**** Change of Venue – Please note! ****

Saturday, June 2: Iris Show, East Greenbush Community Library. Open to the public at 2:00. For information on how to enter your irises for the show, contact Kathryn Mohr at kemohrke@aol.com. See attached flyer.

Sunday, June 10: Spring Bus Trip to **Elizabeth Park Gardens** in Hartford, CT and John O'Brien Nursery in E. Granby, CT. Leave Crossgates Mall at 8:00 a.m. See article on page 1 and send in Registration form attached (first come, first served).

Wednesday, August 1: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Rhizome Prep party at Euthemia's. Bring your clearly labeled iris rhizomes to prep for our Rhizome Sale on August 4 at Faddegon's.

Saturday, August 4: 9:00 a.m. – noon, Iris Rhizome Sale at Faddegon's Nursery. The rhizome sale of the year!

Just in from our Rochester Friends: Gardens that Rock. Saturday, April 28, **2018 Gathering of Gardeners** at the Doubletree by Hilton, Henrietta, NY (just south of Rochester). For more info go to <http://www.gatheringofgardeners.com/event-summary.php>.

Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org

"Container Gardening: A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!"

On Sunday, April 29, 1:30 p.m., at the East Greenbush Community Library, Christine Saplin will give a talk on "Container Gardening – A Guide to Beautiful and Bountiful Pots!" The meeting will be our final presentation of the season before we begin our iris prep parties, sales, show and bus trip season. The weather promises to really deliver spring by this date and we'll all be ready to plant some beautiful pots.

Christine Saplin comes to us via the Albany County Cooperative Extension Master Gardener program. She has been a volunteer with the Master Gardeners since 2012 and enjoyed gardening for over 40 years. She originally became interested in the Master Gardener program because it offered her the opportunity to work with young students and help them become gardeners. It has become an extension of her career in education.

The program will explore the basics of container gardening as well as the potential that containers offer in growing ornamental plants and vegetables. In her power point presentation she will have lots of pictures of fully grown containers for us to ooo and aah at! Christine hopes that you will come with many questions for her as she explores this fun and inspiring subject.

The East Greenbush Community Library is located on Community Way, off Michaels Road in East Greenbush, New York. If you need driving directions, you can go online to www.eastgreenbushlibrary.org, hit "contact us" and in the lower right corner is a map and a way to access directions. The library doors open at 1:00. Coffee and goodies begin at 1:30, a short business meeting at 2:00 and Christine will begin her talk right after that. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share and please bring a friend or two! All are welcome.

Bus trip to Elizabeth Park

The CHIS Bus trip this year will be to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, CT on **Sunday, June 10**, from 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. The park is particularly famous for its rose gardens. On the way home we will stop at John O'Brien Nursery in East Granby so you have an opportunity to bring home some of his beautiful perennials (especially hosta) and shrubs. Bring a cardboard box with your name on it for storage of your plants on the bus. The cost of the trip (including bagels and juice on the bus) is \$40 round trip. **This year, pre-registration is required. The registration form is attached to this newsletter.** Send in the form and payment as soon as possible – this trip will fill up fast, and it's first come, first served. It's a fabulous park with perennial gardens, spectacular rose gardens – both heritage and contemporary, ponds, and beautiful landscaping. Go to www.elizabethparkct.org to learn more. This is a trip not to be missed!

Linda says...

Dear Iris Folks –

It's about to start – our full spring season of sales, events and **THE BUS TRIP**. As those who attended Karin Ursula Edmondson's wonderful presentation at our March meeting know, we've planned the spring bus trip this year to **Elizabeth Park Gardens** in Hartford, CT. We will stop on the way home at one of our favorite spots, John O'Brien Nursery, where we can add to our perennial and hosta collections. I'm really excited about this trip because 101-acre Elizabeth Park has the first public rose garden in the country, with a Heritage Rose Garden and another Rose Garden. But they're more than just roses, as their website will tell you as well as the description on the registration form. Log on and then sign up using the attached form and send in your check – you won't be disappointed.

Our speaker for April 29 is Christine Saplin, who is a Master Gardener specializing in Container Gardening. What a great way to augment our perennial beds, decorate our porches and fill in bare spots where we didn't expect them! I hope you'll join us.

The Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale is on Sunday, May 20, the Sunday after Mother's Day as it is every year. And again, Main Square Shoppes in Delmar is allowing us to use their parking lot for the sale. Be there at 9:00 (or even earlier if we finish setting up) and add to your collection of perennials and Siberians at greatly reduced prices. For those of you who have named Siberians to divide and contribute to the sale, we are having our **digging party on Thursday, May 3, at 9:00** at Euthemia's. Please come and help even if you have no plants to contribute.

The Iris Show on Saturday, June 2 has had to be moved to the East Greenbush Community Library, so be sure to change your calendar. The show opens to the public at 2:00. If you want to show your named iris, come at 10:00 to prep them and set them up for the judges.

I hope to see you all on April 29th and again at the sale and on the bus!

- Linda

Of Interest

Saturday, April 21, 1-4 pm and Sunday April 22 12-4 pm.
The Capital District African Violet Society Annual Show and Sale, St. Mathew's Catholic Church, 25 Mountainview Street, Voorheesville, NY 12186. \$3 donation.

Sunday, May 20, Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 20 at 9:00 a.m. for the annual Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale at Main Square parking lot, 318 Kenwood Avenue, Delmar. Members of CHIS will be getting together on Thursday morning, May 3, to pot up the hundreds of irises and perennials we sell from our own gardens as well as a substantial contribution from our co-founders, Bob and Ann Keup in Maine. We'll be careful to wash all roots in bleach solution and pot plants in sterile soil-less mix. And as usual, there will be a special selection of perennials from a wholesaler that we sell at discounted prices. It's a wonderful sale, people come back year after year to replenish their gardens with plants guaranteed to grow in our climate.

March meeting on Native Plants

The last half of our two-part series on gardening with native plants featured Karin Ursula Edmondson, a landscape designer who works primarily throughout the Catskills (www.kulandscapes.com). Karin designs, builds and maintains ecological gardens on properties large and small, with a strong emphasis on incorporating native plants in her palette. Her program included many examples of her beautiful work such as meadows, forested areas, poolside gardens and rockeries. She is a firm believer in the circle of life concept: that by planting native species we then encourage beneficial native insects, birds and animals to frequent our gardens. She enthusiastically recommended a trip to the Catskill Native Nursery in Kerhonkson, NY where she sources much of her native plant material. – Dan Maier

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**CHIS Bus Trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, Connecticut
and John O'Brien Nursery in East Granby, Ct.
Sunday, June 10, 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

Capital Hudson Iris Society is sponsoring a bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, Connecticut, on Sunday, June 10. The Wade bus will leave Crossgates Mall upper peripheral parking lot on the west side of the mall at 8:00 a.m. sharp, so be on time! The cost is \$40 per person including a bagel and juice breakfast on the bus. Fill out the form below, enclose a check made out to **CHIS**, and send it to the address indicated. Reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Elizabeth Park has many gardens to visit. Established in 1904, the Elizabeth Park Rose Garden is the oldest municipal rose garden and the third largest in the United States today. In addition, the Heritage Rose Garden, with the magnificent fragrances of old roses, is known throughout the country. The Perennial Garden was redesigned by Frederick McGourty in the 1980s and over 1600 new perennials were added. There are annual gardens, a shade garden, greenhouses, a Pond House Garden with a café, ponds and stone bridges. You won't be bored at Elizabeth Park and you'll probably have a hard time seeing it all in one day. Log onto www.elizabethparkct.org to get a hint of what's in store.

On the way home, we will stop at John O'Brien's Nursery in East Granby, Connecticut, where you will be able to buy beautiful perennials, shrubs and their specialty, hosta. They have hundreds of hosta. Be sure to bring a large carton or two with you to store your purchases under the bus.

Fill out the form below and send it with a check for \$40 per person made out to **CHIS** to Euthemia Matsoukas, CHIS Newsletter Editor, 13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, New York 12054. You will receive an email acknowledging receipt of your registration form. For questions, call Euthemia at 518 439-3758.

(Tear off , fill out and mail form as indicated below. Keep the top part of this form for reference.)

Name(s) – list main contact first:

Address of main contact:

Email of main contact:

Phone Number(s) of main contact:

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for # _____ people to attend the CHIS bus trip to Elizabeth Park Gardens in Hartford, CT on Sunday, June 10. We will be at the bus at 8:00 a.m. sharp.

Mail this form and check made out to **CHIS** to
Euthemia Matsoukas, CHIS Newsletter Editor,
13 Hartwood Road, Delmar, New York 12054.

If you have any questions, call Euthemia at 518 439-3758. Feel free to duplicate this form or email it to a friend.

Four Great Plant Sales!



Siberian Iris and Perennial Sale

Capital Hudson Iris Society

Sunday, May 20th 9-12

Main Square Shoppes, 318 Delaware Avenue, Delmar

For information call 518 439-3758 or 518 377-4987



Iris Rhizome Sale

Capital Hudson Iris Society

Saturday, August 4th 9-12

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 439-3758



Hosta Sale

Upstate New York Hosta Society

Saturday, August 11th 9-12

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 439-9419



Daylily Sale

Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society

Saturday, August 18th 9-12

Faddegon's Nursery

1140 Troy-Schenectady Road (Route 7), Latham, NY

About 2.5 miles west of I-87 Northway exit 6

For information call 518 598-3366

The Capital-Hudson Iris Society presents their annual

Iris Show



Saturday, June 2nd

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

East Greenbush Library

**2 Community Way, Off Michaels Road
East Greenbush, NY**

This judged cut-flower show will have a generous display of named irises of all sizes and varieties grown by iris lovers from around the Capital Region. For additional information, call 952-4995.