

Newsletter of the Capital Hudson Iris Society

Volume 25

Number 3

March 2018

2018 Calendar *Mark your calendars now!*

Sunday, March 18th, 2018: 1:30 p.m.
CHIS Meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, The second in our series on Native Plants, Karin Ursula Edmondson, Working with Native Plants: Designing with Nature.

Friday – Sunday, March 23rd-25th:
Capital District Flower and Garden Show at Hudson Valley Community College. Be sure to visit our table at the show! If you want to sign up to help man the tables, see Linda's column on page 2.

Sunday, April 29, 2018: 1:30 p.m., CHIS meeting, East Greenbush Community Library, Speaker on Container Gardening.

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, 308 Delaware Avenue, Delmar. Rain or Shine.

Saturday, June 2: Iris Show, Bethlehem Public 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.

Join the American Iris Society
www.irises.org

Karin Ursula Edmondson "Working with Native Plants: Designing with Nature" Sunday, March 18th

On Sunday, March 18th, we will continue our series of talks on native gardening with our guest speaker, Karin Ursula Edmondson. Her talk is entitled "Working with Native Plants: Designing with Nature." In her slide show and discussion, Karin Ursula will define what native plants are and why, now more than ever, they are vital for gardens to gracefully navigate climate change and to sustain pollinator habitat. Just as important – native plants are exceptionally beautiful. Basic design principles will be explored, and she will showcase her favorite native plants along with project details. Numerous visual examples will be provided on how to incorporate native plants into existing gardens.

Karin Ursula Edmondson is a landscape designer who creates and manages garden environments for humans, birds, bees and butterflies. She enjoys sharing her knowledge of ecological gardens with others and is confident that a kind heart and a trowel are mightier than the sword. She lives and works in the Catskill Mountains with her dogs Bella, Suzie, Ollie and Arthur. You can see more of her work online at www.KULandscapes.com, or on her Facebook account, KULandscapes.

The meeting will be held at the East Greenbush Library at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 18. 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. Bring a dessert or appetizer to share and please bring a friend or two! All are welcome.

Just two of Karin Ursula's favorite native plants from her website.



Linda says...

Dear Iris Folks -

As I write this we are experiencing the worst snowstorm of the season – at least it feels that way after so many teasingly warm spring days earlier this week. Oh well, we do live in the northeast! March is coming in like a lion and we hope it will cooperate and leave like a lamb.

On Sunday, March 18th, Karin Ursula Edmondson will continue our series on Native Plants with a talk entitled “Working with Native Plants: Designing with Nature”. She is a designer from West Kill, New York, in the Catskill Mountains, and is very knowledgeable about native plants. See the story on page 1 for more details.

You still have an opportunity to sign up to man our table at the March 23-25 Hudson Valley Flower Show. To find out what the available time slots are, contact Cindi Jones at cindijones58@gmail.com.

Our April 29th meeting will be later in the month and we hope we won't have to deal with snow! The subject is container gardening and our speaker will be from the speaker's bureau of the Albany County Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners.

As you all know, we are always looking for ideas for a bus trip, either in June or the fall. You can write me a note on email (see below for my email address). Thanks.

- Linda

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Doldrums Party on 2/18

It was another great Doldrums Party on Sunday afternoon, February 18. The Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society (HADS) hosted the event this year. We were all pleased with the speaker, the potluck luncheon, and the plethora of beautiful door prizes provided by HADS and our members. Thanks so much to Cindi Jones, Bill Wurster and Barb Sander for organizing the great party, and to Debi Chowdury for inviting the speaker. Bill Waldrop came from Marietta, Georgia, to show us his magnificent daylily introductions and garden. He was an entertaining and informative speaker, spending considerable time showing us progress in new forms developing in daylily hybridization. To see his website, go to www.kennesawmountaindaylilies.com.

Capital District Flower & Garden Show

The Capital District Garden & Flower Show and Cornell Cooperative Extension have an outstanding line-up of speakers planned for the Capital District Flower and Garden Show, March 23-25, 2018, at Hudson Valley Community College. Log onto their website at www.gardenandflowershow.com and look up the schedule. They have a great combination of horticultural experts, master gardeners, authors, speakers, chefs, business and garden center professionals. They'll share tips, trends, hot topics and offer live demonstrations for everyone from the novice to the expert gardener. And don't miss the floral design competition – our own Magdalena Slone won a prize two years ago!

One featured speaker is Tovah Martin, prolific author and gardener, who will give two talks on Sunday, March 25, at 12 and 2. Her 2:00 talk is “Gardening as if the World Depends on Us.” This lecture is filled with ideas from gardeners who rallied their acreage in backyards large and small to make a difference during times of crisis. From 21st Century versions of Victory Gardens to pollinator plants, native shrubs, and bird forage with scenic excursions into cover-the-earth density plantings, lawn alternatives, herbs, and drought-tolerant suggestions, she will talk about how you can ally with nature to make the world a better place for all creatures. The results are ravishing—these gardens bristle with beauty and overflow with pride.

The Capital Hudson Iris Society, Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society and the Upstate New York Hosta Society will again get together and have an information booth where we answer questions and distribute information about our respective clubs. Please be sure to visit our booth while you're there.