



American Iris Society Region 4

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The Newscast

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‘Royston Rubies’ (Adam Cordes)

Winner Clarence Mahan/Lloyd Zurbrigg Seedling Cup Winner

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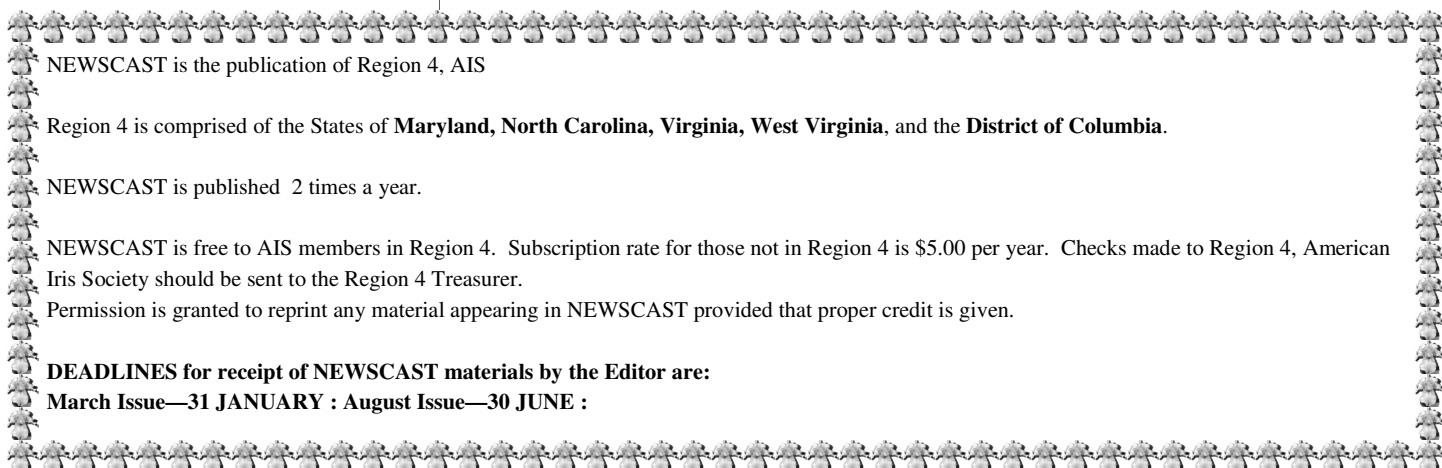
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Notes From The Region 4 Vice President

Welcome to Spring.

Yep sizzling to freezing, rain to snow and everything in between. Welcome to spring in the Mid-Atlantic Region. Nowhere else will you find the weather drama we have here in Region 4. Not only do we deal with it from February to May it begins again in the fall. Right now it is time to clean bed, put down Merit and fertilizer, and those with little ones probably already have at least some bloom.

Want ideas for your garden? How about a new iris at a REALLY good price. How about learning to judge an iris at the local show? How about learning about irises in a rain garden? Native irises anyone? All these topics and more can occur at the local club meeting, Regional meetings and of course the National meeting.

This year the National Iris Convention is being held in New Jersey, just a hop skip and jump for most of us. Make plans to attend local, Regional or National meetings it is usually worth the trips.

Volunteer. I know all of us love those plant sales but they do not happen on their own. Get involved and help with the sales, shows and other plans happening in your local area. It takes many people to put on a Spring Regional, Just ask those preparing for the 2016 Spring Regional hosted by the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society. Help your local club grow and thrive.

Have a wonderful Spring and Summer. Send me pictures and notes on what is happening in your neck of the woods.

Anita



Keith Keppel's Garden May 2015

In The Next Issue

**Fredericksburg Area Iris Society
Gardens**

The Garden Of Keith Keppel



Joni Renshaw's

Dance-in-the-Wind Iris Garden

FRDM THE EDITDR

I am sorry this edition of the Newscast is so late but a lot has happened since I returned home from Nationals and not a lot of it is good. Thank God that everything is slowly turning out for the better but some things are still in flux.

I have met many people on my travels to and from the national meeting and while I will be writing up some of the gardens in the edition more will be written up for the Spring Newscast.

For those attending the National, I will be attending many meetings and preparing to give a presentation so those attending please take some notes and write up one of the gardens for me.

There are many plans for the Regional meeting and the people of Fredericksburg Area Iris Society would enjoy your attendance. It looks like its going to be a great couple of days.

Is there something you would like to see in the Newscast, please feel free to make a suggestion. Just remember you might be tasked to make it come true

Here is hoping you have a great Spring and summer. Just remember me and send me a note that just might make it in here.

Mount Pleasant Iris Farm

Anita Moran



In the midst of the Columbia River Gorge on the Washington State side is the steep sloped Mount Pleasant Iris Farm and home of Chad Harris and Dale Grams. Looking down from the midpoint was like looking onto a river of irises, although the most impor-



you to a grassy area which allows you a spectacular view of the Columbia River Gorge and “Vista House” and “Rooster Rock State Park which is on the Oregon side of the river. Continuing down the grassy area toward where the buses awaited the Weigela were in full bloom with bees making the round of flowers. When we could drag ourselves away from the view, further down the path was another natural pond with *Iris pseudacorus variegata* blooming happily in front of the pond hiding it from passersby while *Iris pseudacorus* was full bloom next to the pond.



tant, that was not all Mount Pleasant Iris Farm had to offer. The back deck, which had a spectacular view, contained a small koi pond, several bonsai trees, a wonderful root or branch (not sure which) that looked like a preening lion and next to that a large pot of *Iris evansia* ‘Nobody’s Child’ (Simpson 1994). Going behind the deck is a staircase where *Iris pallida variegata* topped the stairs. Continuing up the stairs leads



Mount Pleasant Iris Farm (cont.)

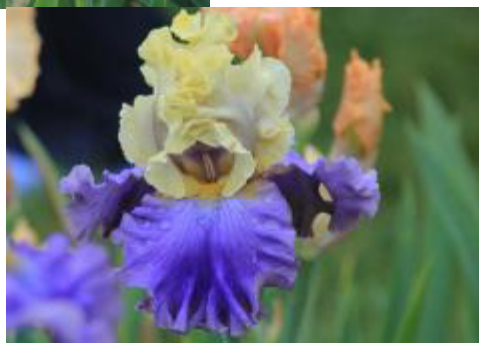
There were just too many outstanding irises to name them all here and the list of those that took my breath away was nearly as long. One iris that was a standout to me in every garden was ‘Bright Sunshinny Day’ (T.



◀ ‘Bright Sunshinny Day’ (T. Johnson 2010).

‘Dancing Days’ (Keppel 2013) ▼

Pfeiffer Seedling 11T-03A ▼



Johnson 2010). This bright yellow iris with red veining was spectacular in every garden I saw it in. ‘Dancing Days’ (Keppel 2013) and ‘Friendly Advice’ (Keppel 2012) were two totally different irises that just drew you in. The Pfeiffer Seedling 11T-03A, a royal violet over nearly black violet falls stood out for holding its form and color despite the rain storm the night before. The miniature tall bearded irises put

on a wonderful show with ‘Sari’s Dance’ (G. Spoon 2008) and ‘Moose Tracks’ (L. Miller 2015) had huge clumps filled with flowers and more stalks emerging

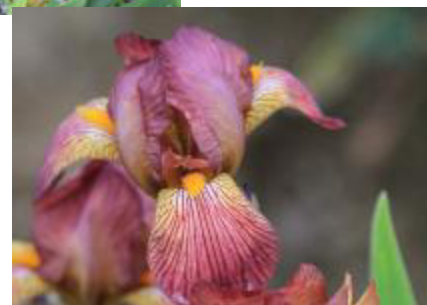
with promises of a

◀ ‘Sari’s Dance’ (G. Spoon 2008)



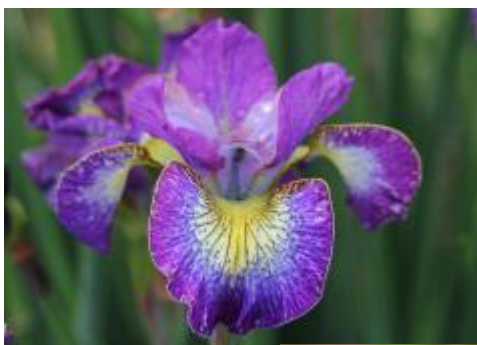
▲ ‘Moose Tracks’ (L. Miller 2015)

Lucy Burton’s ► seedling ‘L03-MY-rust’



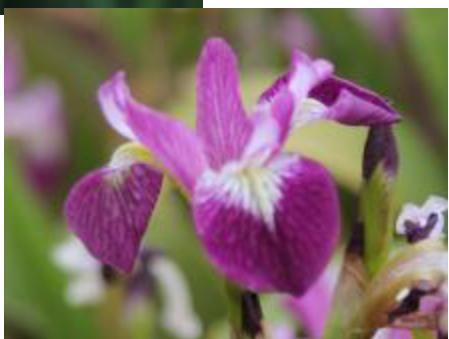
long bloom season. Lucy Burton’s seedling ‘L03-MY-rust’ put on a great show with its multicolored falls and red veins. Another median that took my heart was ‘Witty’ (2012) an IB from Paul Black with its rich yellow ground and light chocolate plicata

Mount Pleasant Iris Farm (cont.)



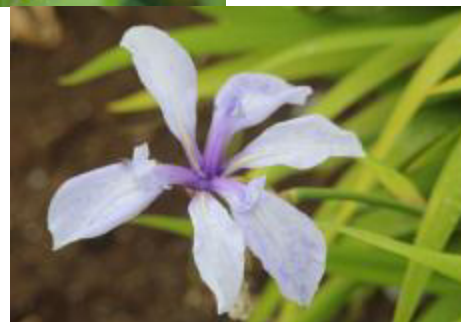
▲ 'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009)

Rita Butler's ►
SPEC-X seedling
'More Raspberries Please'

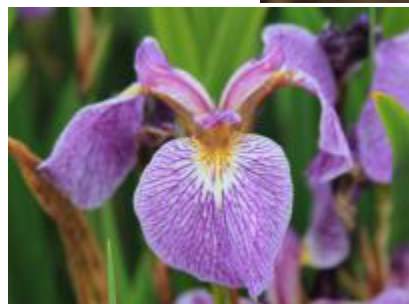


▲ 'Do The Math' (SPEC-X, Copland 2008)

'Lakeside Ghost' (Harris 2012) ►



It was nice to see a wide variety of beardless irises as well as the bearded. The Siberian 'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009) was spectacular in every garden with its multihued coloring, but my heart was stolen by Rita Butler's SPEC-X seedling 'More Raspberries Please' which produced a huge clump of raspberry colored flower. I have never seen my own



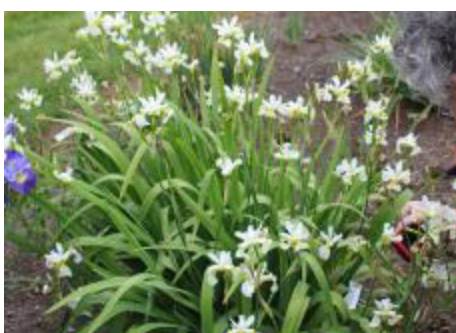
◀ *Iris setosa* 'All Stripes' (Schafer/Sacks 2014)

'Lakeside Ghost' (2012) but the two seedlings 07LAK2 a dark royal purple, and 07LAK9 a bright blue drew you to them as you walked the rows. The *Iris setosa* 'All Stripes' (Schafer/Sacks 2014) with its large flowers with a white ground and red veining and red peppering just demanded attention.

All in all Mount Pleasant was a wonderful stop that provided areas for quiet reflection to the made buzz



often accompanying National Conventions to get as many iris pictures as possible.



'Forest Haimati' (Moran 2010)

'Forest Haimati' (means Forest Water Queen)(Moran 2010) bloom so well as it did at Mount Pleasant. 'Do The Math' (SPEC-X, Copland 2008) was a monster taking most of the end of a row as it bloomed with Dark rich violet blooms contrasted white style arms and yellow signal that darted white into the dark fall. Chad's *iris laevigatas* were wonderful starting with

Wildwood Gardens

Anita Moran



Wildwood Gardens Spring 2015

Half way between Portland and Salem Oregon is Molalla Oregon, and located in the hills along the Molalla River is Wildwood Gardens the home of Will Plotner. The one thing about having the AIS National conven-



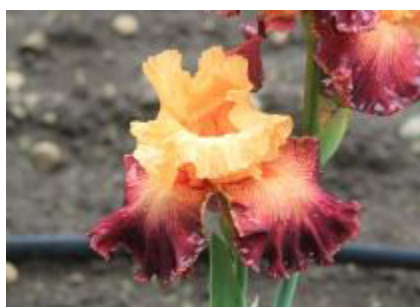
Iris pallida in Wildwood Garden

tion in Oregon (or anywhere in the Pacific Northwest) is the constant threat of rain as I well learned when I attended the National in Portland nine years before. Late

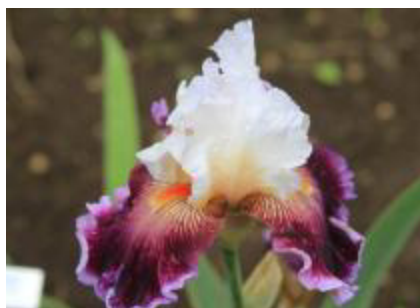
time it rained for a solid two days of the tours but this year although there were sprinkles, and the clouds constant the rain held off for the most part. That came to an end the night before we visited Wildwood Gardens. The heavy rains overnight were not great for an early morning visit but it is exactly what you want to see when deciding which are the strongest irises. When we entered the front display garden area, a large rose bush greeted us filled with open and budding coral colored roses. Directly across from this was a small bed with *Iris pallida* blooming happily. There were several stand outs that not only took the rain and



'Subtle Beauty' (Tasco 2011)



Kanarowski's 'Tijuana Taxi' (2014)



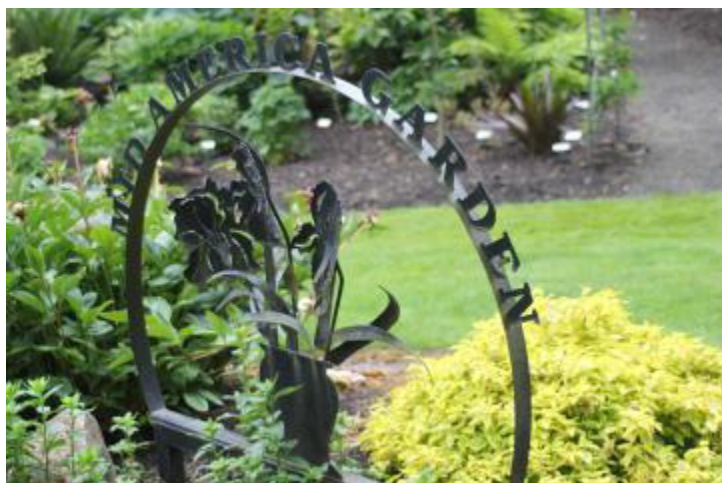
'Care To Dance' (Schreiner 2013)

remained standing but kept form as well. One of these was 'Subtle Beauty' (Tasco 2011) which had straight upright stalks despite the obvious pounding the garden endured, but the flower remained in wonderful condition. Kanarowski's 'Tijuana Taxi' (2014) showed strong with three flowers open and remaining upright as if it had been a light drizzle as did his 'Sings With Frogs' (2013). Of course with that kind of name it should be expected.

The iris 'Care To Dance' (Schreiner 2013) was spectacular as it had several stalks all erect even in the wettest area of the garden. Although I love dark irises they seem to not do well in rain often fading terribly and spotting. That could not be said of this iris as it not only maintained its form despite damage from the storm it also maintains its color saturation for a beautiful display. All and all a great visit to see the strongest of the guest iris.

Mid-America Gardens 2015

Anita Moran



The Pacific Northwest is considered Iris nirvana and for good reason, some of the largest, best known Hybridizers and gardens reside in a narrow corridor. One of those gardens is Mid-America Garden, the hybridizing home of Paul Black and Thomas Johnson, as well as the home of Sebright Hosta Garden. The problem with Mid-America is that it is so large and there is so much to see from the interior garden path around the house or the exterior path. Then there are the white peacocks to see, display gardens, and then the shade plant gardens. When getting off the tour bus it is a terrible pulling sensation in each direction but must go to display beds.



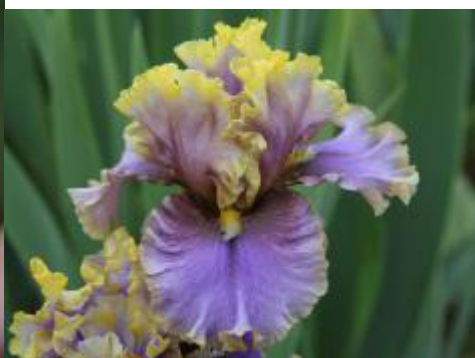
Between the bus and the display beds is a production median bed with many luscious blooms that want to snare you into spending time in their presence. 'Lady Of The Night' (BB, Black 2008) stopped me in my tracks. This is why you cannot judge an iris from a picture. No picture could present this iris as well as seeing the deep richness of the purple offset but the bright yellow of the beard. It immediately went on my get now list. Other medians, 'Rustler's Rhapsody' (BB Black 2013), 'Grace And Charm' (BB, Black 2013), and 'Ballerina Pink' (BB, Black 2010) were all doing their best to slow us from getting to the display beds.



◀ 'Lady Of The Night' (BB, Black 2008)

Once in the display bed there are so many irises vying for attention that it is difficult to choose a favorite among the choices. Paul Black's 'I'm All Shook Up' (2013) and 'Poodle Parade' (2010) were wonderful showing off in beautiful clumps.

'Grace And Charm' (BB, Black 2013) ▶



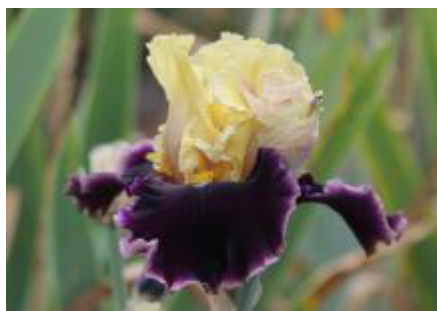
◀ 'I'm All Shook Up' (Black 2013)

Mid-America Gardens 2015 (Cont.)

Lynda Miller's 'Football Hero' and her pink space age seedling '309B-MA' were spectacular and 'Football Hero' (2015) received the President's Cup at the awards banquet. Tom Johnson's 'Bright Sunshiney Day' (2010) was spectacular in every garden giving a brilliant display no matter which irises it was placed among as was his 'Note To God' (2012) a soft pink self with a darker pink beard. Joe Ghio's 'Yours Truly' (2013) a white with brilliant yellow infusion was another stand out as was Keith Keppel's 'Friendly Advice' (2012). Robert Skagg's 'Judy's Smile' (2014) a wonderful red violet with pink standards was a knockout with its severe ruffling and color combination.



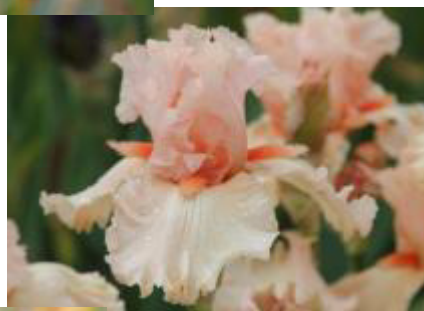
◀ 'Royston Rubies' (Adam Cordes)
Winner The Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup



◀ 'Football Hero' (Miller 2015)

Miller seedling ▶

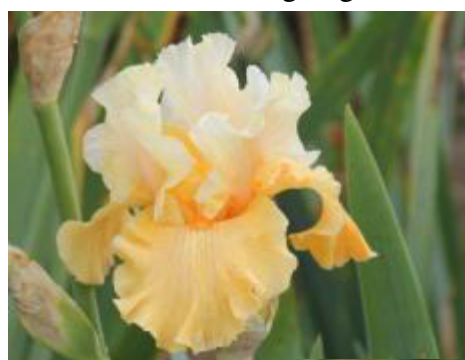
'309B-MA



◀ 'Judy's Smile' (Skagg 2014)



miniature tall bearded seedlings from Brunell P52-1b a delicate tan over white with rich dark violet markings, R96b-3 was a dark yellow over white with a long bright yellow beard that in a clump was spectacular. Seedling W68B-2 while similar to P52-1b in coloring the violet lining in the standards was so dark that it gave the impression of being broken color. Kanarowski had two tall bearded seedlings 0439 a rich yellow amenoa and 0441 a burgundy fall space aged variegata. Both seedlings were completely different and both intriguing.

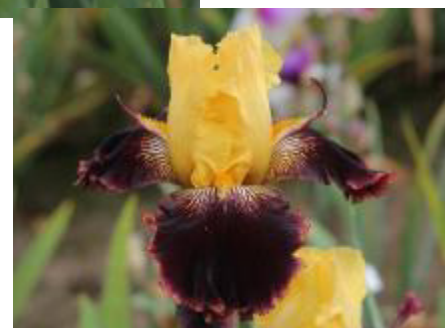


Kanarowski ▶
seedling
0439

Kanarowski ▶

seedling

0441



Although the introduced varieties were spectacular the seedlings were candy waiting to be devoured. 'Royston Rubies' (Adam Cordes) received the most votes to win the Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup award and it was well received. Other standout seedlings included three spectacular

Mid-America Gardens 2015 (Cont.)

Both seedlings were completely different and both intriguing. Austell seedling J3026 with its large flowers of violet and lavender accented with dark violet buds made for a special display in the gardens. Another beautiful neglecta was Kelly's seedling HGLS09-17 the dark black violet falls were offset with a bright red beard. Linda Millers pink space age seedling 309B was spectacular in form and substance with ruffles and lace on the standards and a broad thick pink beard it was very drool worthy.



◀ Millers seedling
309B

Once the display garden was thoroughly investigated the paths to the display gardens which was teasing us on the hill since our arrival demanded attention. As we reached the bottom of the outer path lead to a shade path of sorts with many unusual plants and trees. The one bush which caught my eye was the Bull's-Eye Rose. What a spectacular flower and plant which was covered in blooms and none were the same it was fabulous. Dogwoods, Purple Smoke trees accented the green of the other trees and the wide variety of hostas that lined the paths. At the end of the exterior path were two attractions, the compost pile which was huge and an aviary which housed Tom's white peacocks who were more than willing to show off.



At the top of the hill was the rest stop for drinks and ever present cookies and other treats to keep up our strength, but there was one more item to see the shade



◀ Bull's-Eye Rose

house of Sebright Hosta Garden. Janet Lejeune and Gail Delrose were both enjoying the tempting offerings as I entered. So much to choose from but so far to travel home.

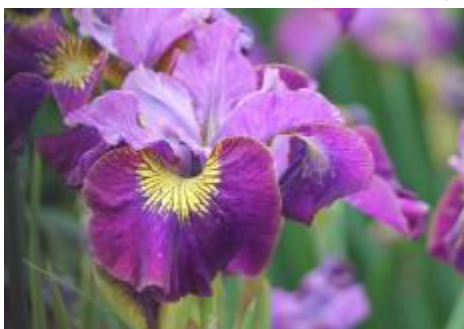
On our second visit to Mid America we were treated to some very special seedlings. Paul Black has been working with Siberians and his seedlings were scrumptious. V319C was a vibrant purple with lighter standards and style arms over a bright yellow signal and a thin golden edge. V369B2, a tan amenoa with violet wash on the falls had so many flowers trying to take a picture of a single was one difficult. V371-0, a lavender, had very wide falls and golden edging to match the signal. V371-A was a beautiful silver blue with baby blue standards and style arms and its sibling V371-D was incredible with heavy violet dotting on pink falls, silver standards and white style arms, a thicker gold edging really set off the colors of this seedling which was my favorite. V371-S, a vibrant blue was also charming with a strange grey silver edge that gave a slightly shredded appearance to the falls. The pink amenoa seedling W327B was so beautiful with its simple colors. With its large signal it was unusual enough to catch anyone's eyes.

It was difficult to walk away from Mid-America even having two changes to see everything it just was not possible. Big thanks to Tom and all for all their hard work for our pleasure.

Mid-America Gardens 2015 (Cont.)



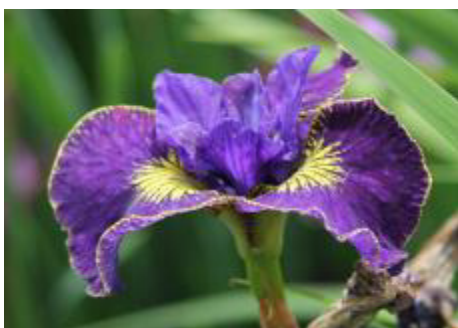
Janet Lejeuse and Gail Delrose enjoying Hosta House



Black Seedling
V371-O



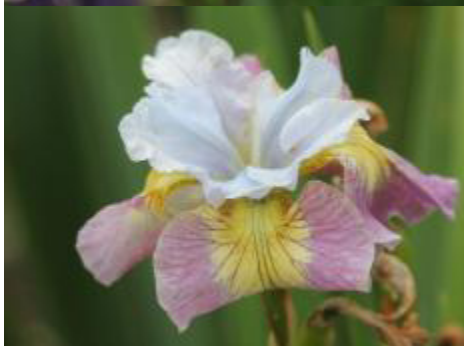
Black Seedling
V371-A



Black Seedling
V319C



Black Seedling
V369B2



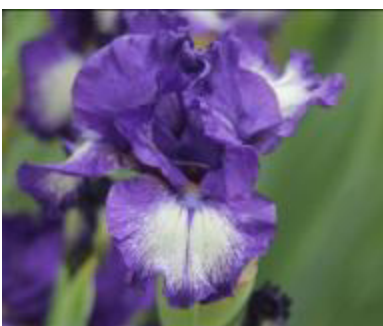
Black Seedling
W327B

The Digg's Garden

This year's Region 4's Spring Regional was hosted by the Central Virginia Iris Society. I arrived early so that I could see Jim Digg's garden without a lot of people in it. In a quiet neighborhood as you drive up there are a few iris to peek your interest but the lovely



home, fence and hedge row are hiding a treasure. Among the various plants and planters is a wide variety of garden art. Nothing is wasted in Jim's garden not even the crepe myrtles which double as a watering can holder. Although it was early in the season iris were still blooming. 'Bahama Blues' (Sutton 2008) and 'Star Woman' (Smith 1998) were the remnants of the medians and as always 'Daughter of Stars' (Spoon 2001) was blooming beautifully.



'Bahama Blues' (Sutton 2008)

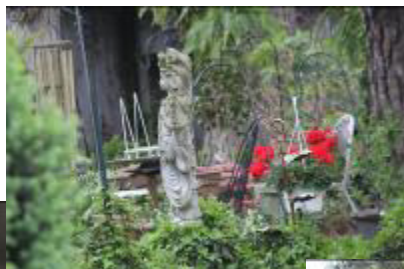
'Star Woman' (Smith 1998)



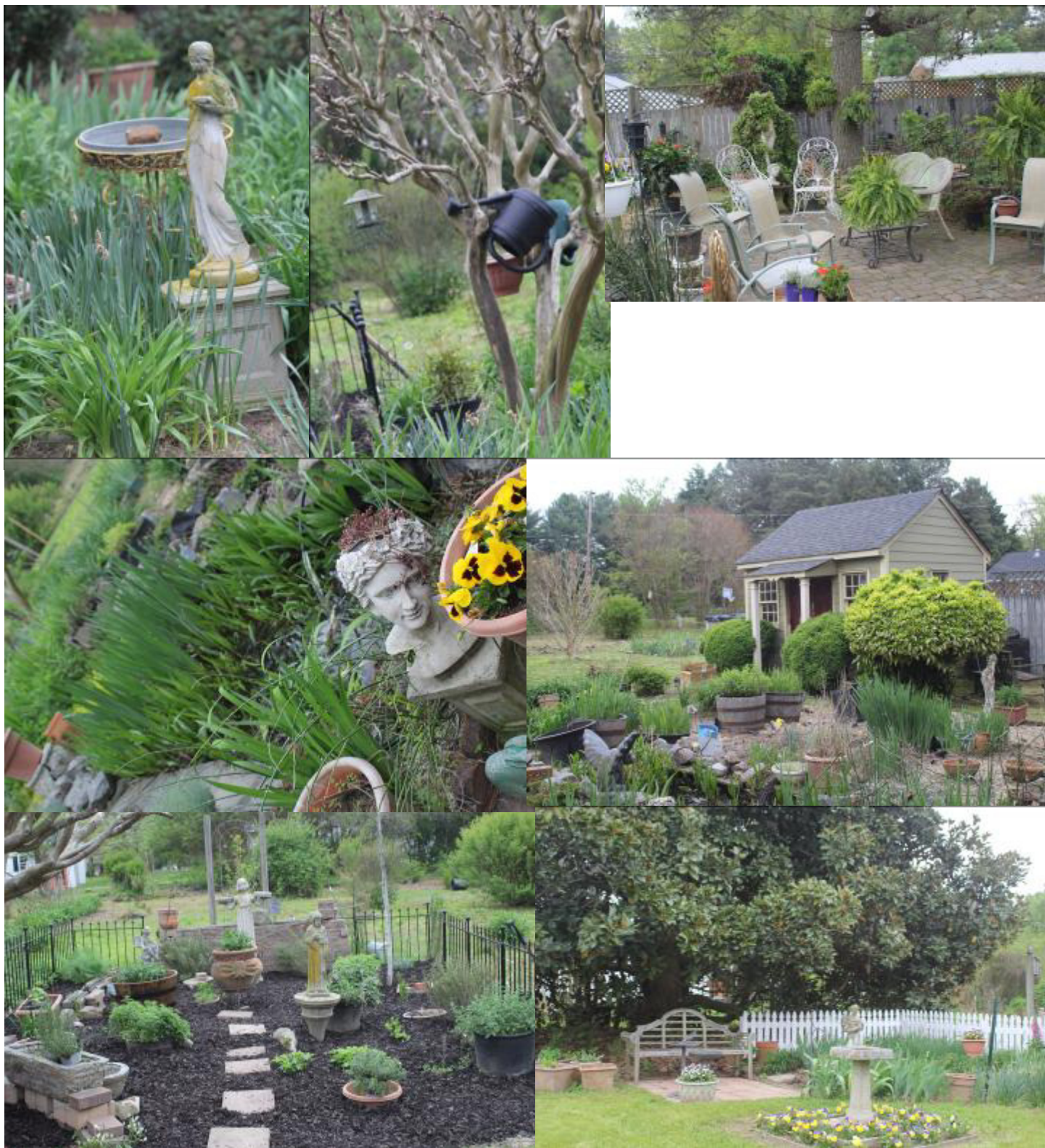
Need a place to rest there is always the hammock just waiting for an occupant. The Digg's garden is a garden to sit and enjoy and there are plenty of seating not only in the garden but in a sun room that overlooks the garden. Wildlife including birds, frogs, and various furies has adequate food and cover and add to the overall charm of the garden. One cardinal was building a nest and raiding the garden for materials under the watchful eyes of a robin that probably lost sight of the cardinal as often as we did.

Jim is busy adding more iris beds as his collection expands into another section of the yard. But there are established wetland ponds where the frogs sang while hiding from the traffic among the Japanese that are growing. As your circle the house there is an area devoid of iris that has the look of an English cottage garden. This is Mrs. Digg's herb garden and no irises are allowed but like the rest of the garden the garden art is on display.

Among the daffodils, annuals and perennials is a very eclectic collection of garden art. From statuary to wrought iron. I loved the number of pots that were filled with flowering annuals but also those waiting to be filled. So many ideas were available as I walked the Digg's garden I hope to develop something similar in my garden.



The Digg's Garden (Cont.)



Mike Lockatell's Rest Stop



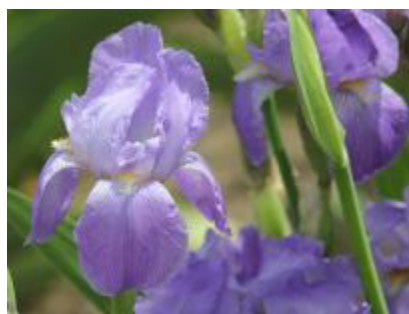
Granted I have not been around the iris society very long I still do not think I have even heard of putting an iris garden on a gas station lot. Well Mike thought of it. A collection of Reblooming iris which usually blooms early, this collection had lots of bloom. The iris clumps were well established and looked very healthy considering they had to contend with rush hour, the added heat of asphalt and concrete which surrounded the bed. In addition to this is pedestrian traffic who we all know are usually uncaring of the plant material.

Medians put on a colorful show including MTBs 'Cricket's Song' (Silver 2012) 'Lady Emma' (Jones 1986), IBs 'Midsummer Night's Dream' (Baumunk 1999), 'Constant Companion' (Marsh 1995), 'Megglethrop' (Innerst 1991) and 'Hot Fudge' (Hager 1983), and SDBs 'Dark Crystle' (Byers 1988), 'Exotic Eyes' (Spoon 2011) and 'Teagan' (Spoon 2009). All these made for a great border for the bed and as tough as I know many of these are helped protect the tall bearded.

Once again 'Daughter of Stars' (Spoon 2001) was striking as always and a great contrast to 'Pink Attraction' (Hall 1988), 'Again and Again' (Innerst 1999) and one of Mike's seedlings out of 'Daughter of Stars'. Other stand outs, well there were so many but 'Autumn Circus' (Hager 1990), 'Lunar White-

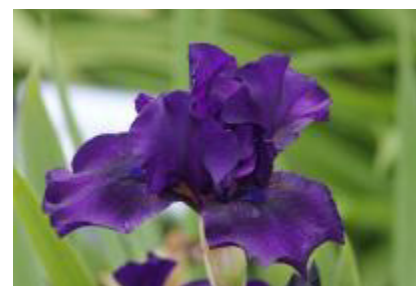
wash' (Innerst 2003), and 'Mariposa Autumn' (Tasco 1999).

'Queen Dorothy' (Hall 1984) and 'Blessed Again' (Jones 1976) were great historic in full bloom. It was nice to see passersby take a moment while they waited for the traffic light to change to investigate the explosion of color and a couple actually pulled into the service station to see what so many people were looking at. Great Job Mike!



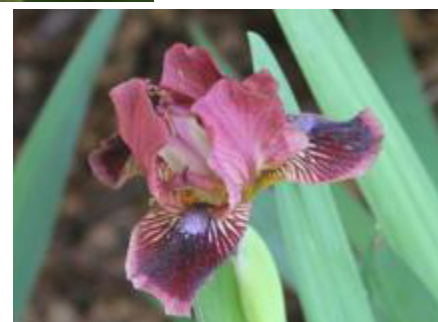
'Cricket's Song' (Silver 2012)

'Midsummer Night's Dream' (Baumunk 1999),



'Megglethrop' (Innerst 1991)

'Exotic Eyes' (Spoon 2011)



Mike Lockatell's Rest Stop (cont.)



'Teagan' (Spoon 2009)

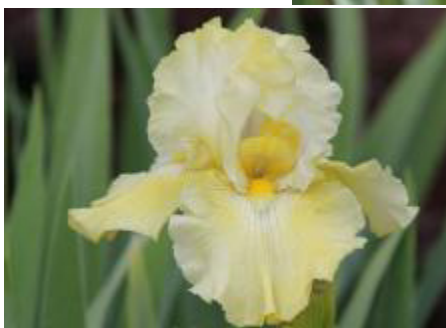


'Mariposa
Autumn' (Tasco
1999)

'Daughter of
Stars' (Spoon 2001)

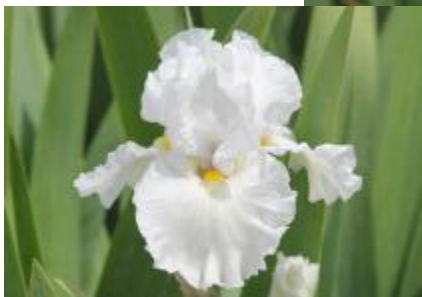


'Queen Dorothy'
(Hall 1984)



'Again and
Again' (Innerst
1999)

Lockatell Seedling



Lunar White-
wash' (Innerst 2003)

The Garden of Judy Durant



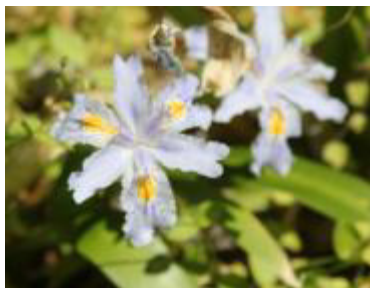
Durant Garden Entrance

Log Planter



Shhhh... Yep it must be a top secret site. “Are you sure these are the right directions, Jim?” Well I recognized some of the cars but it was scary black TALL fence. Well of course once you entered the Durant compound you understand what is being protected. Well irises of course which was the focus of our visit, but the first sight was a wonderful use of a downed rotted tree. The center was eaten away but supporting several an-

Iris japonica



nuals all looking very happy in their home. As you walked down the paths there was a gazebo of which included twisted branches and a nice shady spot to have lunch. A huge area covered with Iris japonica which Judy generously allow several people to take samples of to take to their own homes.

There was a riot of medians in bloom in beds that surround a two story farm house. It is a garden that invites you to sit as nearly every tree has at least one chair beneath it. Some of the SDBs that had great



Ellen Seacrest in Durant Median Bed

bloom included standouts like ‘Open Your Eyes’ (Black 2010), Paradigm Shift (Chapman 2006), Gag Gift (Black 2013), Carmel Topping (Stewart 2010), Herbal Tea (Chapman 2001) and one I had never seen before “Enchanted Mocha”(Schmieder 2002).

Intermediate Bearded were also putting on a show. “Intermediary” (Sutton 2005) a registered rebloomer was really showing well as was ‘Dazzling’ (Black 2008) which always draws people

to it with its beautiful color and form. This was the first time I saw ‘Star In The Night’ (Black 2009) until I saw it blooming in Mid-America Garden in Oregon a few weeks later. Two Keith Keppel’s IBs “Spectator” (2011) a beautiful raspberry plicata and ‘Lunar Frost’ (1996) a white with a moonlit yellow spot both put on a show. The one Miniature Tall Bearded iris blooming was stunning. “Frisly Molly” (Fisher 2011) was filled with blooms of deep mauve with a shock of violet from the beard. The one tall bearded that was blooming was “Clarence” (Zurbrigg 1991) shooting up nearly the height of the neighboring rhododendron.

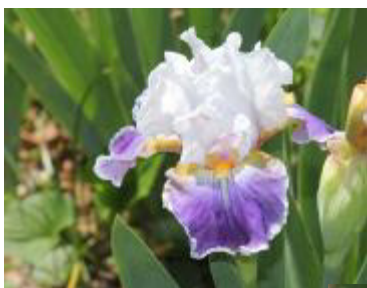
“Intermediary”
(Sutton 2005)



The Garden of Judy Durant (Cont.)

As spectacular as the irises were in the Durant Garden were the accessories and garden art throughout the gardens. A lot of unusual ideas were given to the visitors like including an antique pump placed at the edge of a small pond with a nearby seat to enjoy the croaking of frogs and the sight of water loving irises. A historic milk can was used to hold a post for a bird feeder or a rusted piece of tractor was mounted on a pole as another bird feeder deep in the undergrowth. As you walked the path an metallic blue and green peacock peeks out from the brush that covers the more naturalized areas of the yard. The most unusual garden art was the historic wringer washer in a naturalized garden near the house.

As interesting as the Durant garden was, lunch was eaten and it was time to go to the next stop. After thanking Judy for her wonderful hosting it was in the car and off again.



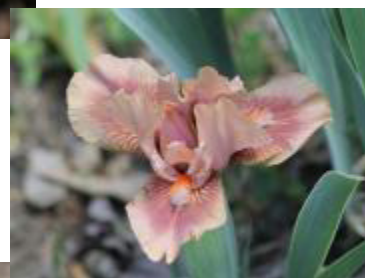
“Dazzling” (Black 2008)

“Spectator” (2011)



“Open Your Eyes” (Black 2010),

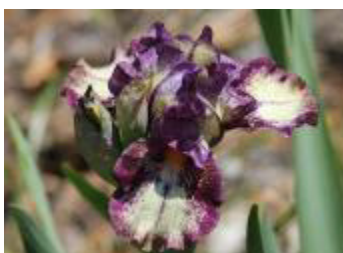
“Enchanted Mocha” (Schmieder 2002).



“Gag Gift” (Black 2013),



“Filly Molly” (Fisher 2011)



Schreiner's Iris Garden



Ginny Spoon in Schreiner Garden

Schreiner's Iris Garden is probably the most known world-wide. The display gardens at Schreiner's are a spectacle to behold. On the one side of the drive are acres of irises.

Some took this path first before headed toward the display gardens. On the display garden side is a gauntlet of various booths from wine tasting to



food. On the other side of hundreds of picnic tables the display garden is filled with trees, irises and plants of many colors and varieties.

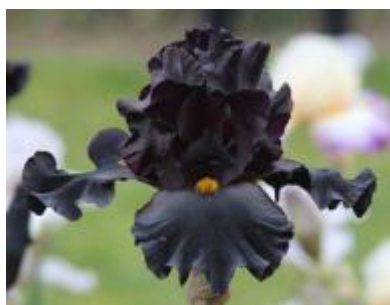
Surrounding the display garden are dogwoods in a variety of colors and patterns from whites to pinks to reds. Joining the dogwoods are variegated willows and many other flowering plants including a wide variety of poppies, including some doubled varieties. Lupines, peonies, various annuals, filled the spaces that are not taken up by the irises. In one corner, to feed the water irises and other water loving plants is a small pond surrounded by rhododendrons, willows, pines and a large clump of pseudocorus. Schreiner's display garden also includes a



Lois Rose and Tricia Taylor in Schreiner Dykes Medal

complete collection of Dykes metal winners. The one great thing about Dykes Metal Winner beds is that from the earliest winners these are the irises that stood out for their generation. Many still take your breath away and no signs are needed to identify these timeless classics.

My first stop in the display garden is a bed filled with Schreiner seedlings. Since this would be the only time I would be able to see these seedlings I decided to spend time here first. The one seedling (Schreiner seedling 2004-50-1) that caught my eye was not flashy, but a black red self that was offset by a thick beautiful orange beard just the simplicity on the flower make it strikingly beautiful. Seedling TT1671-3, a floriferous bright yellow tall bearded made a bright clump begging for attention. Seedling TT9351-1 was another simple formed beautiful amenoa over pale blue falls and accented with a yellow and white beard. It made a statement with its clump having dominated its area of the garden.

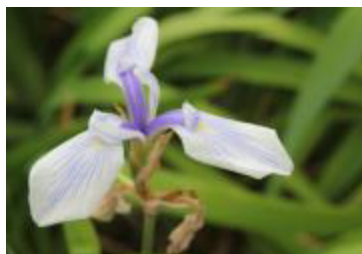


SCHREINER Seedling 2004-50-1



Schreiner Seedling TT1671-3

Schreiner's Iris Garden (Cont.)



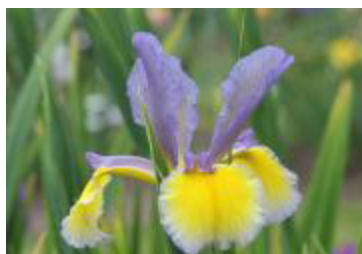
'Blue Rivulets' (Harris 2013)



'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009)



The beardless irises were also displayed also on the first tier of beds. "Pacific Tapestry" (Aitken 2010) was a deep violet that darkened at the edges with cobalt blue veining though the white signal. The Copland Louisiana seedling IKXGV-2 vied for attention with its dark lavender coloring and bright yellow dart.



'Blue Rivulets' (Harris 2013) put on a wonderful show

'Ibex Ibis' (Kasperek 2012)

'Black Joker' (Schafer Sacks 2013)



near the pond with its pale blue lines on pure white standards and falls accented with violet style arms. 'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009) was beautiful in every garden it was displayed and Schreiner's Garden was no exception the clump was breath taking. The HUGE clump of 'Swan's In Flight' (Hollingworth 2006) made a clear statement 'Look At Me' and we all did. 'Ibex Ibis' (Kasperek 2012) a spuria was beautifully upstanding and in keeping with the seemingly soft coloring theme with its blue, yellow and white. 'Black Joker' (Schafer Sacks 2013) a charcoal Siberian that with a thin gold edge drew me in so much and bright white line that split the fall. The charcoal effect started with none of the style arms to light on the standards to deeply charcoaled on the falls. Loved this one so much I did not leave Portland without it.



'Note To God' (Johnson)



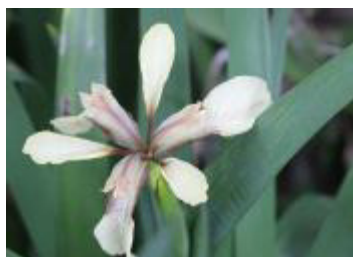
Moving into the bearded display beds there among all the other plants and flowers there were many irises that took over and demanded attention. 'Yours Truly' (Ghio 2013), a beautiful white with yellow shoulders and 'Other Side of Heaven' (Ghio 2013) a beautiful pale pink demanded attention with a their soft colors and ruffling stood out against the dark green and darker colors they were surrounded with. Lezhinka (Crump 2013) put up a great contrast with its soft yellow standards and red black falls. 'Auckland' (Johnson 2013) another soft colored iris in peach with an occasional break in the coloring and a bright flash of violet radiation from the bushy orange beard. 'Bright Sunshiny Day' (Johnson 2010) was again the bright spot in the garden with increase, color, form, it drew your eyes no matter where in the garden you were. Also a stand out for me was 'Note To God' (Johnson 2012), with its lively soft pink flower and thick pink beard. 'Girly Girl' (Schreiner 2013) fought successfully to stand out among the peonies and columbines.

There are just too many standout irises that I could not name them all here. Visiting Schreiner's is a dream no matter which path you take around the compound. It would take days to see everything and the buses were loading too quickly for us to see it all.

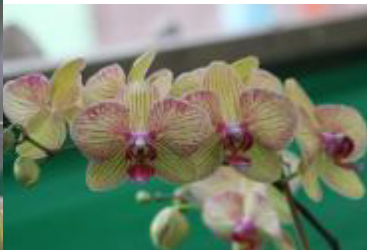
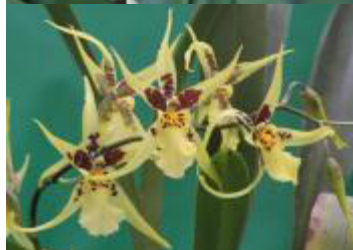


Wine Tasting by Region 4 Members

Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens



Iris foetidissima



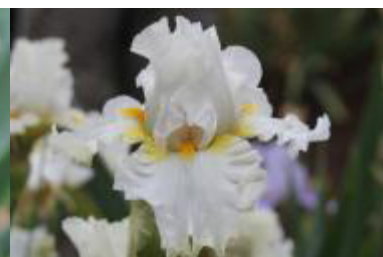
Orchids of Salmon Creek Garden

With the fog burning off as we head north from Portland into the neighborhood wilds of Vancouver Washington, in the middle of a development is a sea of color and acres of irises for any palette. This is Salmon Creek Garden home to Barbara and Terry Aitken. Everything from species to the majestic tall bearded irises can be found starting from the first step off the bus. We are greeted immediately by the soft colors of a huge stand of *Iris foetidissima* that wraps around large trees that blocks the house from the road. I was not the only one stopped by this sight before adventuring further, but even before following the crowd toward the iris beds, a long green house calls with the sight of orchids just peeking through the door. Delicate flowers from as small as a dime to the size of a bread plate color combinations and forms delight the eyes as you move from the display area to the rear nursery it is almost too much to take in. On one back table it looked as if a stem of pure white orchids led to a deep maroon on one the same stem. I was not the only one snapping pictures of this phenomenon, at least until Terry broke our bubble and separated the stems that had become entwined. Oh well.

The guest bearded bed was on the side of the house after following a shaded path. Already filled with convention attendees one of the first irises to catch my attention was

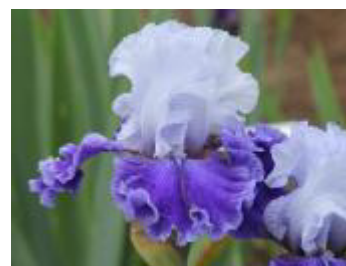


Austell's seedling J3026



Austin seedling (06-16-02)

Austell's seedling J3026 soft lavender with dark violet accents on the standards and soft brown shoulders. Another seedling from Austin (06-16-02) was a white with soft yellow shoulders and bright yellow beards. Baumunk offerings 'Phantom Ship' (2007) and 'Vermeer' (2013) were wonderful giving soft coloring to the bolder irises around them. 'Baby I Love You' (Black 2012) stole my breath and I am not a yellow person but this was so bright



Baumunk 'Phantom Ship' (2007)



'Baby I Love You' (Black 2012)

it demanded attention.

The MTBs were spectacular including Howard Bunnell's 'Breakfast in Bed' (2014), 'Hoosier Bell' (2012), and Bunnell's seedling P52-1. Ken Fisher's 'Ozark Charmer' was impressive with tall stalks filled with flowers and buds. Two MTBs stole the show, Lynda Miller's 'Moose Tracks' (2015) and Ginny Spoon's 'Sari's Dance' (2008) both with huge clumps with great stalks and lots of flowers and buds.



'Breakfast in Bed' (Bunnell 2014)



'Hoosier Bell' (Bunnell 2012)

Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens (Cont.)

The beardless guest were at the end of the bearded guest and flowering well in the cool morning. Bauer and Coble's Siberian 'Concord Crush' (2010) showed off but Schafer/Sacks introduction 'Black Joker' (2013) stopped me. I would bet 80 percent of the people walked by this Siberian without giving it another thought but for me it was striking. Carnivalito (Schafer/Sacks 2015) was another Siberian that took my breath away with all the colors and lines not only on the falls but the standards as well. It was very difficult to choose a favorite between 'How Audacious' (Hollingworth 2009) and 'Judy Judy Judy' (Hollingworth 2010) but 'Swans In Flight' (Hollingworth 2006) was majestic with tall flower topped stalks that could be seen



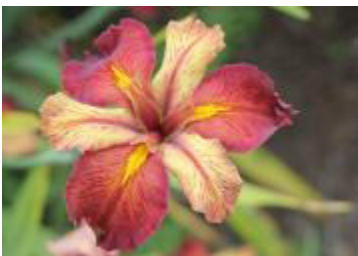
'Concord Crush' (Bauer and Coble 2010)



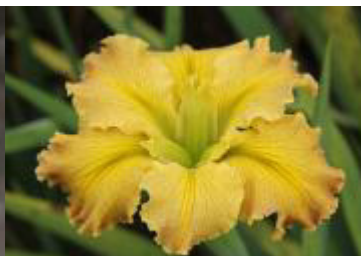
Swans In Flight' (Hollingworth 2006)

nearly everywhere in the garden. 'Rubicon' (Lankow seedling), a CAL-SIB got everyone's attention with its mahogany red coloring a velvet appearance. The Louisiana iris from Harry Wolford were all outstanding but 'Seminole Moon' (2009) and 'Seminole Sunrise' (2006) were my favorites.

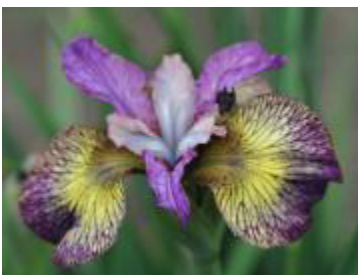
Now one of the most important things that gardens need is a place to rest.



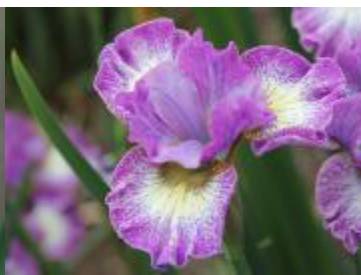
'Seminole Sunrise' (Wolford 2006)



'Seminole Moon' (Wolford 2009)



Carnivalito (Schafer/Sacks 2015)



'Judy Judy Judy' (Hollingworth 2010)

Next to the beardless bed was a sprawling tree with a lot of folding chairs propped against the trunk. A second tree was available for those that took to the upper reaches to investigate the non-guest beds. Then as you traveled down the hill for more beardless beds there was another uphill climb back to the orchid house and refreshments. As Region 4 members arrived I decided there were a lot of us and I had my camera and took advantage of the situation. Herding cats, which I have done, is so much easier but after several shots we finally got all the Region4 four members that were on Green Buses 1 and 2.

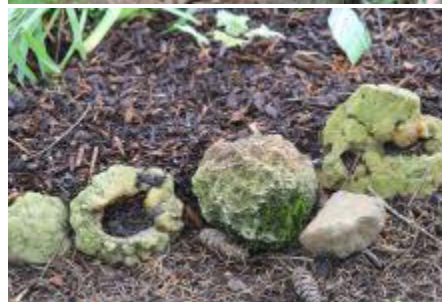


Left to right: Ray Jones, Janet Lejeuse, Patty Dumbler, Gail Delrose, Anne Dumbler, Dean Richards, Anita Moran, Tricia Taylor, Diana Dudley, Ginny Spoon, Carolyn Rude, Karen Jones, Don Rude, Sue Shackelford.

Miller's Manor



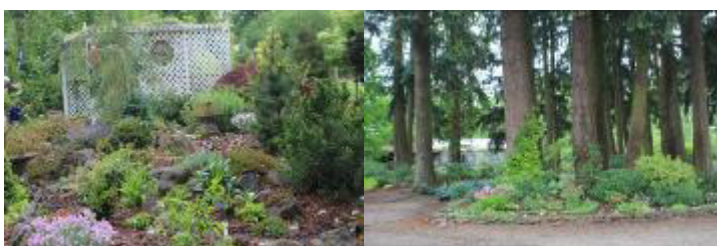
▲ Metal garden art



◀ Strange rocks in garden

The Miller Garden is a commercial garden for conifers from micros to large pines. Many of the evergreens are in display gardens that surround the house that move from deep shade to full sun. To the right of the driveway was an evergreen jungle that made up the commercial portion of the enterprise. Blue, gold light and dark green, tufted, long needles, short needles all mixed to draw the eye. On the left were the iris guest beds blooming happily despite the torrential downpour it was subjected to the night before. As we walked toward the house the drive turned into a variety of paths that led to various portions of the property.

of the grass were several metal works of art including a clump of tall bearded irises and another a daffodil. The paths were edged in several places with unusual rocks that were never the same shape or material. There were dogwoods of various colors splashing color around the garden to complement the irises.



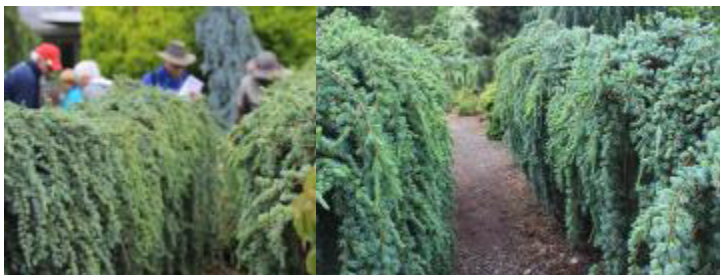
Japanese and shade gardens at Miller's Manor

A small Japanese garden with beautiful stones, a small stone bridge, and a wonderful display of plants from Japanese maples to Hinoki Cypress begged to be explored and lead to a stone path that led to a metal gazebo. Nestled in a back corner was a deeply shaded area that hosted hostas, bleeding hearts in the shade areas along with Iris foetisema. In the Full sun area surrounded by a wall of evergreens is the display garden with guest irises. Around the house at the edge



Plants were not the only site to see. In a pasture that abutted the iris garden, horses kept watch at the strange people that invaded their area. We must not have distressed them too much for they remained laying down as they watched us. In the rear of the property was the chicken coop with several red chickens watching the strange people who also watched them as they pressed against the cage as if begging us to let them out.

Miller's Manor (Cont.)



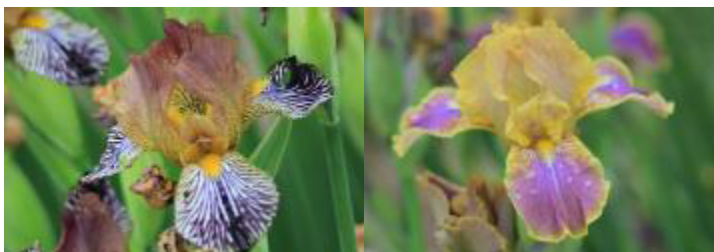
As you walked away from the coop the path was lined with waterfalls of ever greens. The plants were soft as you passed through so it was a slow walk to move the 30 feet as your hands skimmed the branches. At the end of this path was an unusual bench that sat two people but they would face in opposite directions.



were vying for attention and both putting on a great show. In the iris field one of the standout irises was an Aitken Seedling 05T9-A. This extremely pale violet spaceager stood up extremely well to the storm of the previous night. As we moved around the iris garden we caught Bill Maryott giving an impromptu judges training using "Football Hero" (Miller 2015) as the subject.



Bill Maryott giving an impromptu judges training using "Football Hero" (Miller 2015)



'Moose Tracks' (Miller 2015) 'Sari's Dance' (G. Spoon 2008)

The medians were in their own beds around the house. Here 'Moose Tracks' (Miller 2015) and 'Sari's Dance' (G. Spoon 2008), two miniature tall bearded

Despite the time allotted it was not nearly enough as I did not get to investigate the evergreen area as much as I would have liked to but it was off to the next destination and more irises to see.



Aitken Seedling
05T9-A

Minutes

AIS Region 4 Spring Board Meeting

May 1, 2015

Richmond, Virginia

RVP Anita Moran called the meeting to order at 1pm. 13 people were in attendance.

Minutes were adopted as printed.

Treasurer's report, given by Anita Moran, gives our balance at \$16,193.40.

Assistant RVP Doug Chyz gave a report on upcoming regional meetings. The next will be in Tidewater, organized by Bill Smoot and Frances Thrash.

Budget Report: Jack Loving presented a budget of \$3,950. A motion was made by Sue Shackleford to increase the Zurbrigg/Mahan award from \$200 to \$250. Ginny Spoon seconded and after a brief discussion, the budget was amended and the motion passed.

Committees:

Historian: Lois Rose – Has no records

Judges: Carrie Winter – no report. Colin Campbell suggested retired judges be reinstated so that they may judge a show. Awards & Ballots must be presented every two years. It was noted that Awards and Ballots would be presented by Bill Smoot at the upcoming Fall Regional.

Membership: Ginny Spoon and Robert Campbell – Membership currently stands at 350 with 7 youth. Updates are being sent out monthly by email and less frequently by post. It was noted that Region 14 has 126 youth members and the chairmen wondered why. It was suggested that they offer a lot of classes that youth are interested in.

Minutes

Beardless: Carol Warner – report read by Anita Moran.

Median: Ginny Spoon – First Dykes Medal ever for a median was given in 2014 to Dividing Line (MTB) by Chuck Bunnell. Other awards were noted.

Youth: Ray Jones – no report

Website: Anita Moran – Emergencies will be updated very quickly. Otherwise, changes will happen as she has time.

Newscast: Anita Moran - #1 Newsletter downloaded is Spring 2008 which contained information about species irises and how to grow them from seeds, specifically *Iris cristata*. Other top downloads are the memorials for Mahan, Spring 2014; Zurbrigg – Spring 2005; and Rebert – Fall, 2005. If you wish to receive a hard copy of Newscast you must let Anita Moran know. If you have an email address, you will receive an electronic copy. Presidents will receive a hard copy.

Conventions: Doug Chyz – Amendments to Bylaws were presented and with minor corrections were passed. 37 attendees were at this Regional this year. Question from Lois Rose – will next spring's regional meeting be impacted by the national in 2016?

Iris Programs Resource: Bill Smoot – No requests have been received. Lois Rose suggested putting a note in the Newscast about speakers and what they speak on.

Public Relations: Bob Pries – absent

Reblooming Irises: Colin Campbell noted that many of the irises reported to him were hybridized in Region 4. His report was published in the Newscast.

Minutes

Nominating Committee: to begin in October

Chair – Ginny Spoon

Lois Rose, Cheryl Campbell, Carol Warner, and Diana Dudley

Epperson Award Committee: Bonita Masteller, Doug Chyz, Sheryl Campbell, Pat McNeal, Bruce Hornstein, Carrie Winter, and Sue Shackleford. Needs to be completed by the Fall Meeting. Next committee will be the Assistant RVP and all affiliate presidents.

Affiliate Reports:

BIS – No report

CIS – No report

CPIS – Report given by Ginny Spoon

CVIS – Report given by Jim Diggs

ENCIS – report to be sent by email from Bonita Masteller

FAIS – report given by Sue Shackleford

FSK – Carol Warner, report given by Anita Moran

Old Business:

ESIS voted to not seek affiliation with AIS. But, wants to retain membership in Region 4. Debbie Campbell is President.

New business:

RVP plans to visit all Region 4 gardens. All there affiliates needs from AIS?

Facebook page needs a monitor – no volunteers. Suggested that Colin Campbell add growing zones to his rebloom report.

Region 4 needs a mission statement and a vision statement. No volunteers.

Meeting adjourned at 2:45pm.

Minutes

AIS Region 4 Spring 2015 Membership Meeting Richmond, Virginia

May 2, 2015

RVP Anita Moran thanked John Rosini, CVIS, and garden owners for a wonderful regional.

B.Y. Morrison Award – Autumn Explosion from Rich Tasco.

Announcements; Judy Durant anniversary today. Jim Diggs birthday today. Show schedule available from Lois Rose for next weekend's show.

Auction took in \$1,347.00 as a final.

Region needs a Facebooker to take on the monitor duties of Region 4 Facebook Page – Ginny Spoon volunteered.

Affiliate Presidents will contact you to update information and Newscast preferences.

Secretary Roll-Call

Bayshore Iris Society – 0

Charlotte Iris Society – 0

Central Virginia Iris Society – 14

Chesapeake & Potomac Iris Society – 7

Eastern North Carolina Iris Society – 4

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society – 7

Francis Scott Key iris Society – 0

Region 4 at large – 1

Invitation to Fall Meeting from Bill Smoot & Frances Thrash.

Nearpass Medal – Daughter of Stars from Clarence.

Alice Boulduin – 21110B from Mike Locatell

Runner up was Metro Blue x Over & Over

TREASURER'S REPORT

TREASURER'S REPORT A.I.S. REGION 4 October 10, 2014 to May 1, 2015

Checking Account Balance on October 10, 2014 \$16,152.30

Receipts:

Fall 2014 Regional Auction: \$1,016.00

Checking Account Interest: \$ 0.89

Total Receipts: \$1,016.89

Expenditures:

RVP Gift \$ 41.25

March 2015 Newscast Printing & Mailing: \$ 534.54

Total Expenditures: \$ 575.79

Checking Account Balance on May 1, 2015: \$16,593.40

Carol S. Warner, Region 4 Treasurer

2016 Proposed Budget For Region 4

PROPOSED 2016 BUDGET

Expenditures	Dollars
Printing and Mailing two (2) Issues of Newscast	\$2000.00
RVP Travel Expenses	600.00
Membership Committee – Ginny Spoon	100.00
Memorials	300.00
Zurbrigg—Mahan Award	200.00
Epperson Service Award	100.00
Sunshine Fund	100.00
AIS Youth Program	100.00
Web Page	150.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	300.00
Total	\$3950.00

Submitted by:

JACK W. LOVING

WELCOME TO OUR IRIS GARDEN PARTY!

The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society (FAIS) warmly invites you to attend the 2016 Region 4 Annual Spring Meeting in “Historic” Fredericksburg, VA! Our theme this year, “Iris Garden Party”, is a tribute to the beautiful iris gardens of our members that we will be showcasing, and also a nod to FAIS’s many fun activities that help bring us together to get to know each other better while growing irises and carrying on AIS’s important work.

All the fun things you are looking forward to are here—the dinners, in-garden judge’s training, the iris flower show, the live plant auction, the garden tours, the silent auction—not to mention the side iris chats and sharing of information among people from Region 4’s four states, Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia and North Carolina, and the District of Columbia, whom we have grown to know as friends. Iris hybridizer Robert Van Liere of Iris4U Gardens will be our special guest speaker. Known as one of the nicest people in the iris world, “Iris Bob” will regale our group with iris tales from his garden and insights into his hybridizing program.

All of this will take place at the Hospitality House in Fredericksburg, VA. The venue is perfect for our meeting, with spacious meeting rooms and newly upgraded sleeping rooms in a most convenient location. The Hospitality House is right off of I-95 and within the Central Park shopping complex. It is within walking distance of dozens of restaurants and shops.

Four spectacular gardens are being lined up to showcase the best of what FAIS and the iris world has to offer! Our members take their gardens very seriously, and you will see a vast array of irises, and other flowers and plants in a variety of settings. Region 4 has many hybridizers within its membership, and some of their best work will be on display, along with many new and historic irises from around the country and the world. Enjoy your trip around the Fredericksburg area gardens while riding in our Martz luxury bus—included in the registration fee!

As you know, Fredericksburg is a historic town, having experienced both the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, as well as being the residence of many of our most famous people in U.S. history—including George Washington, Patrick Henry, James Mason and James Monroe, and a frequent destination of dignitaries such as Abraham Lincoln and the Marquis de Lafayette. The town is full of reminders of its storied past—with a 40 block historic Old Town section, and tours ranging from 1700’s-era taverns and apothecary shops, to great Civil War battlefields and ghost walks featuring Civil War soldiers still seen crouched for battle in upstairs windows.

Finally, we are offering an optional group tour of Belmont, the home of American Impressionist Painter Gary Melcher, on Sunday morning, May 15. Gary Melcher’s Home and Studio is a beautifully landscaped estate with a 200 year old mansion and a studio and galleries that feature the work of this prolific painter—and some of the work of other artists of the time. The estate overlooks the powerful Rappahannock River as well as the bucolic pasture where Melcher grazed his beloved cows. Read more about Belmont at <http://garimelchers.umw.edu/visit/>.

So get your reservations in early! Our Belmont tour—and our hotel rooms-- are sure to sell out quickly. We’ll be trying hard to make this another great Region 4 Annual Spring Meeting making memories for you that last for years to come. We hope to see you there!

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society Presents “Iris Garden Party”
2016 Region 4 Annual Spring Meeting
Friday May 13, 2016 and Saturday May 14, 2016
Fredericksburg Hospitality House
2801 Plank Road, Fredericksburg, VA 22401
Phone 540-786-8321

Name (1): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name Preferred on Nametag (1): _____

Name (2): _____ Chapter or Region: _____

Name Preferred on Nametag (2): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Full Registration: Before April 15th: Full Registration: \$112 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

(Full registration includes all activities and Friday and Saturday evening dinner. Optional Belmont Tour is not included.)
All full registrants should indicate dinner choice below.

After April 15th: Full Registration will be \$125 x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Partial Registration:

Friday, May 13th only (includes all sessions plus dinner) \$50.00 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Saturday, May 14th only (includes all sessions, tours, lunch and dinner) \$75.00 X _____ persons = _____

Judges Training only: \$10.00 per session. Two sessions are available, please indicate which sessions you wish to attend.
Session 1 will be held on Friday, May 13, at the Fredericksburg Hospitality House at @2:30 pm (after the Board meeting ends). Session 2 will be held in the garden of Lois Rose on Saturday, May 14, at 9:30 am.

Session 1: (no. of guests) _____ + Session 2 (no. of guests) _____ Total \$ _____

Bus Garden Tour Only: (includes lunch, tour by bus and judge's training.) \$50 each \$ _____

Dinner Only (please indicate meat preference below)

Friday: No. guests X \$40.00 _____

Saturday: No. guests X \$40.00 _____

Belmont Tour (May 15, optional) (add \$10 for each person) \$ _____

Total amount enclosed for registration(s), tours, dinner and/or judges training: \$ _____.

Friday Night Dinner-(choose one) Chicken Fish Vegetarian

Do you have a special dietary need? If so, please describe and indicate which person _____.

Saturday Night Dinner-(choose one) Chicken Fish Vegetarian

Do you have a special dietary need? If so, please describe and indicate which person _____.

Last Day to Cancel with Refund: April 30.

Send completed Registration form with check made payable to FAIS, to the following address:

FAIS, c/o Janet Lejeune,
509 Spottswood Street,
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

For additional information contact: Douglas Chyz, dougchyz50@verizon.net, 540-659-6202; or Sue Shackelford, smsgca@gmail.com, 540-379-1451.

ROOMS Room registration may be made by calling the **Fredericksburg Hospitality House at 540-786-8321** or use the link below. FAIS has reserved a small block of rooms for the meeting at the special rate of \$99 per night. To get the discounted rate you must reserve by May 1 and mention that you are attending the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society spring meeting. Thursday night is also available at the special rate for those desiring to arrive early.
<http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=1328627&hotelID=15003>

Gardens on the AIS Region 4 2016 Spring Tour

Rose Garden (which has no roses growing in it) Those who have visited my garden before will understand what I mean when I say that it evolved using serendipity as its main design principle. Mine is a rural garden in the middle of the horse pasture and at one time I thought I was in danger of getting the whole place planted to irises. Reality of digging, dividing, and weeding kicked in, and I am now down to about 800 varieties of all kinds of irises, with an emphasis on tall bearded, but with a respectable number of Siberians, Louisianas, and Japanese. My almost complete Dykes Medal collection was moved to virgin soil two years ago and shows renewed vigor. The old Dykes bed became a "homeless shelter" for irises getting bumped from overgrown, weedy beds in much need of rejuvenation. That project continues and I hope to at least have the weeds clipped back before you visit. Most of my Siberians and Japanese have also been moved to a new bed and even if they aren't in bloom for the Spring Meeting they make a great demonstration of what fresh soil can do for beardless irises. The beds they came out of have, for the most part, been planted to grass in my continuing effort to cut back and simplify the garden. So come see what's different since you last visited--and what's the same.

Schroetter Garden A log home in the woods cloistered by 8 acres of tall trees may seem like a dream setting to call home. However, opening enough property for a house and septic field did not yield enough sunlight for an avid iris grower. The subsequent opening of more land beside the home - turning woods into a sunlit garden spot - was an effective remedy. A plan evolved to create a tribute iris bed honoring 35 years of hybridizing by "The Mad Scientist", Tom Burseen, of Grand Prairie, Texas. Numerous introductions were ordered from his most recent Plant Lab catalogs, and orders were also placed with other sellers who had some older Burseen cultivars. A few more rhizomes were donated by or traded with FAIS members, and another handful was located at our annual sale. This subsequent mass planting of Burseen irises has endured a couple of somewhat unfavorable growing seasons; extended periods of excessive rainfall, long periods with little or no rainfall, warm weather well into winter, end of winter thawing followed by more freezing, and other cringe worthy growing conditions have occurred. Some of the irises have had to be replaced, while others have hung in there. Nevertheless, I hope to have enough of Tom Burseen's cultivars in bloom to provide a fascinating look at some of the world's most unique and distinctive irises.

Shackelford Garden This iris country garden is a rambling old country farm that recalls a time when life was more simply and less hurried. Rolling lawns give way to flower beds that accent the house, outbuildings and trees. A rain garden and pond are nestled in the back of the house. Diana and Dean gave us Koi last summer to go with the other fish. There are irises, of course, with an almost complete Dykes Medal winners bed but there are also lots of peonies, hydrangeas, day lilies and crepe myrtles. There are unusual objects in unexpected places that add visual interest and whimsy. The garden is ever changing and evolving. Current projects include enhancing the butterfly garden and working on a night garden. If you have been here before, visit again for the first time.

Garden of Doug and Mary Chyz A suburban lot with an interesting blend of many different types of irises and other flowers, bushes, herbs, fruits, and vegetables. Doug is an old fossil and as such has a few antique items scattered about the informal and rustic landscape. The gardens include a pool, raised beds, retaining walls, paver patios and stone walks that also add interest. You will find some state of the art name tags on many Iris that use QR codes to link you to information on each iris via Plants Map. Doug's iris includes a significant collection Historic Iris from the 1600s-1800s and many from the early 1900s. He also has many MDBs, and SDBs which will probably be gone by, of course IBs, BBs, MTBs and TBs, a number of REs, a few Louisianas, Siberians, Japanese, a couple varieties of *I. tectorum*, *I. japonica*, and he even gets some *Spurias* to grow one of which is a Historic. There is also one 2015 introduction that was purchased and planted pre-season in hopes of bloom for Spring 2016. He has separated his Guest Iris into two different areas of the garden so as to avoid the pushing and shoving of trying to get a look at them. He and Mary also have two Norfolk Terriers that keep the mole/vole population in check. He can talk the ears off of an elephant so be prepared.

Bob Van Liere

Bob Van Liere is the owner of Iris4u Iris Garden in Denver, Colorado. A father of three and grandfather of 6, he is a grower and seller of approximately 1000 newer tall bearded Iris varieties in the Mile High City. He is also a hybridizer of tall bearded iris. Bob has served as a Director and President of the Tall Bearded Iris Society.

The garden was established at its current location in 1994 and was about 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ acres in its original state but with the addition of adjoining properties it is now about 3 acres in size.

Bob, in his spare time runs a Landscape Maintenance business which actually supports his habit--or should I say--his passion of growing and hybridizing tall bearded iris. Bob started hybridizing tall bearded iris in 1998 and introduced his first few cultivars in 2005. He has made iris crosses every year since 1998 with as few as 1500 seedlings germinated the following year to begin the selection process to as many as 10,000 seedlings germinated to work with. There are always plenty of seedlings being evaluated, selected and reselected and cultivars being rejected and thrown on the compost pile. The selection process involves a lot of planting, replanting and culling to find a few varieties with that special quality or look which allow them to be introduced into the Iris World. To date, Bob has registered and introduced about 50 tall bearded iris, which sounds like a lot, but when it is compared to how many seedlings have been processed and thrown away--about 50,000--then 50 is a pretty small percentage, .001.

Bob's slogan is; "Growing and Hybridizing Tall Bearded Iris for Beauty, Performance and your Pleasure."



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