



The Newscast

Inside this issue:

Region 4 Board	2
Affiliates	3
RVP Message	4
From The Editor	5
Judges Training Report	6
Membership Report	6
<i>Hermodactylus tuberosa</i>	7
Rebloom Report	8
A Visit To Charlotte	14
Newscast Report	17
Website Report	17
Minutes Fall Meeting	18
Louisiana Species	20
Affiliate Reports	21
Region 4 By-Laws	23
Sedona and Back	27
2017 Spring Regional Infor-	39



Hermodactylus tuberosa

Snake's-head iris, widow iris

See Page 7

Regional Vice President

Anita Moran, FSK
630 3rd Street
Aberdeen, MD 21001
410- 937-3388
anita.iris@pilmore.com

Assistant RVP

Doug Chyz, FAIS
6 Biscoe Ct
Stafford, VA 22554-6437
540-659-6202
doughchyz50@verizon.net

Immediate Past RVP

Donald Rude, UA
1051 Nik Ryan Dr.
Blacksburg, VA 24060-6002
540-552-0373
Don.Rude@comcast.net

Secretary

Francis Thrash, UA
2019 Cocoa Cir
Virginia Beach, VA 23454-2213
757-481-3484
Francesthrash@cox.net

Treasurer

Carol Warner, FSK
16815 Falls Road
Upperco, MD 21155-9445
410- 374-4788
Draycott@qis.net

Historian

Lois Rose, FAIS
PO Box 30,
Partlow, VA 22534-0030
540-582-5799
Lowy222@aol.com

Parliamentarian

OPEN

Beardless and Species

Carol Warner, FSK
Draycott@qis.net

Budget

Jack Loving, FAIS
10483 Edgehill Lane
King George, VA 22485-4538
540- 775-4043
JRLoving@juno.com

Judges' Training

Carrie Winter, CIS
5801 Masters Court
Charlotte, NC 28226-8046
704- 542-3812
CarrieWinter@att.net

Median Irises

Ginny Spoon, C&P
1225 Reynolds Road
Cross Junction, VA 22625-1726
540- 888-4447
VSpoon@aol.com

Membership

Ginny Spoon, & Robert Campbell
C&P
1225 Reynolds Road
Cross Junction, VA 22625-1726
540- 888-4447
VSpoon@aol.com

Reblooming Irises

Colin Campbell
465 Chapel Road,
Middletown, VA 22645
540-868-2123
irishillsfarm@outlook.com

Iris Program Resource

William Smoot, HRIS
213 Derby Rd
Portsmouth VA 23702-2017
757-393-4617
BillSmoot@cox.net

Conventions

Doug Chyz, FAIS
6 Biscoe Ct
Stafford, VA 22554-6437
540-659-6202
doughchyz50@verizon.net

Youth

Colin Campbell
465 Chapel Road,
Middletown, VA 22645
540-868-2123
irishillsfarm@outlook.com

Legal Counsel

Open

Webmaster

Anita Moran, FSK
www.irisregion4.com

Auction

William Smoot, HRIS
213 Derby Rd
Portsmouth VA 23702-2017
757-393-4617
BillSmoot@cox.net

Editor NEWSCAST

Anita Moran, FSK
630 3rd Street
Aberdeen, MD 21001
410- 937-3388
anita.iris@pilmore.com

Public Relations

Robert Pries, ENCIS
107 Brothers Drive,
Roxboro, NC 27574-9091
336-597 8805,

Sunshine

Sue Shackelford, FAIS
48 Hemp Rd
Fredericksburg, VA 22406
540-379-1451
smsgca@gmail.com

AFFILIATES

Beautiful iris flower,
Some petals folded down,
Instead,

Many are upright, however,
Making a pretty crown
Indeed!

Tantalising architecture,
Fragrance in profound,
Appealed!

Nectar lover pollinators,
Straying all around,
Hurried!

by
Jyoti Sunit Chaudhary



"Friendly Advice"

Keppel 2012

BAYSHORE IRIS SOCIETY - CHRISTINE EARECKSON

3753 Rumsey Dr, Treppe, MD 21673, (410-476-3971)

CENTRAL VIRGINIA IRIS SOCIETY - JIM DIGGS, 9117 Warren Ave

Mechanicsville, VA 23116 804-7469424

CHARLOTTE IRIS SOCIETY - CARRIE WINTER , 5801 Masters

Court, Charlotte NC 28226, 704-542-3812

SHENANDOAH & POTOMAC IRIS SOCIETY - DON SPOON

1225 Reynolds Road, Cross Junction, VA 22625 (540) 888-4447

EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA IRIS SOCIETY - DIANA DUDLEY

3102 Hester Rd Creedmoor, NC 27522 919-528-3591

EASTERN SHORE IRIS SOCIETY - DEBBIE CAMPBELL

809 Camden Ave. Salisbury MD 21801-6301

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY IRIS SOCIETY - JOAN MILLER P.O. BOX

73, MARYLAND LINE, MD 21105, 410-3578244

FREDERICKSBURG AREA IRIS SOCIETY - DOUG CHYZ,

6 Biscoe Ct , Stafford, VA 22556-6437 540-659-6202

NEWSCAST is the publication of Region 4, AIS

Region 4 is comprised of the States of Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

NEWSCAST is published 2 times a year.

NEWSCAST is free to AIS members in Region 4. Subscription rate for those not in Region 4 is \$5.00 per year. Checks made to Region 4, American Iris Society should be sent to the Region 4 Treasurer.

Permission is granted to reprint any material appearing in NEWSCAST provided that proper credit is given.

DEADLINES for receipt of NEWSCAST materials by the Editor are:

March Issue—31 JANUARY : August Issue—30 JUNE :

Notes From The Region 4 Vice President

This has been long months since we last met In October and so much has happened in my life and little of it has to do with irises. I did however take a lovely drive to Sonoma Arizona for the fall AIS Board meeting. Having never been to Sonoma before I was treated to a barrage of sights that required me to stop and take pictures a drive of about an hour took four and then there was Sonoma itself which I will write about later. On this trip I also was able to hit the Dinosaur Museum, Petrified Forest, Painted Desert, Arches, Grand Canyon, and two trips to Monument Valley. After that mad dash I decided that Arizona needs a minimum of 45 days to explore all its wonders. No I take that back I need months.

In the Judges Training Report there are 22 Judges (EMERITUS – 3, MASTER – 8, GARDEN/EXHIBITION – 11) who could vote this past year for the American Iris Society Awards. Out of 352 members less the seven retired judges and one apprentice judge that leaves 322 members that have not even started the process to becoming AIS Judges. That's 322 members that can make a significant difference in who wins the Dykes Medal, and all the other section medals. President try and convince your members to learn about the flower they love.

The coming Spring meeting sponsored by the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society will be my last Spring meeting as RVP and as much fun as I have had I will be looking forward to being just a member. For those of you who have never volunteered to be officers of the local or regional Iris society please give it some thought. Some of it is hard work but it is also so very rewarding. There is learning the other members in the region or local club but there is the chances to meet with people that visit the local or regional meetings beyond the meeting itself.

Even after I leave office I will continue to make my way around the region in hopes of visiting as many gardens as I can.

Well I hope to see many of you at the Spring in Winchester Virginia May 19 and 20th 2017.



FROM THE EDITOR

Spring edition of the Newscast is the hardest issue to produce for most of what happened in the year of bloom is usually printed in the summer/fall issue. This is when I need you the most to tell me how your gardens faired and what you have blooming that is new.

Many of Region 4 members buy new introductions it would be great to know how these irises are doing in our challenging climate. Please send a note so that everyone in the region can enjoy what does well in this difficult collection of climates.

I decided to start with one of my favorites 'The Widow Iris' or *Hermodactylus tuberosus*. It is the first iris to bloom for me even before the reticulates. The foliage remains green all winter even under two feet of snow. While most beardless iris like acidic soil this little iris love alkaline soil and is in fact is planted between a concrete walk and a concrete block wall both which help keep the area where it is planted warm beneath the surface.

The rhizomes are planted less than two inches below the surface of the ground. Even now

with a Nor'easter on the way I have no worries about my little irises for the heat from the block basement and the concrete walkway will keep the rhizomes warm enough.

If you get a chance give this little lovely a try.

**Judges Training Report
Region 4
October 21, 2016**

The Judges Training Year ended July 31, 2016 with some changes in status for some judges. Assuming that the recommendations from the Region are approved by the AIS Board in November, our count will be as follows;

EMERITUS – 3, MASTER – 8,
GARDEN/EXHIBITION – 11, RETIRED – 7,
APPRENTICE - 1

This means that only 22 members in Region 4 have the opportunity to vote the Ballot. Each affiliate is encouraged to appoint a JT Chair with the charge to encourage additional members to pursue JT. Once a member commits to the training, mentoring and encouragement becomes very important for successful completion. A worthy goal would be for each affiliate to a new student for the 2016 - 2017 year.

It is an honor for me to serve Region 4 as JT Chair.

CARRIE WINTER

**Membership Report
BY Ginny Spoon
October 19, 2016, Charlotte, NC**

As of September, Region 4 has 352 total members, up 21 members from spring 2016. We are now second in total memberships in AIS with region 14 still at number 1 at 577 members (218 are youth members). We now have 9 youth members and many are active in our club as you will see at our regional meeting in May 2017.

The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society had a banner month in August reinstating 7 members and adding 7 new members. Congratulations Fredericksburg. Iris Shows and sales are the best places to teach people about irises and also to have new members join our society. I have also given out the AIS brochures and other educational material to garden visitors and encourage others to do the same. Our clubs won't prosper and grow without education and new members.

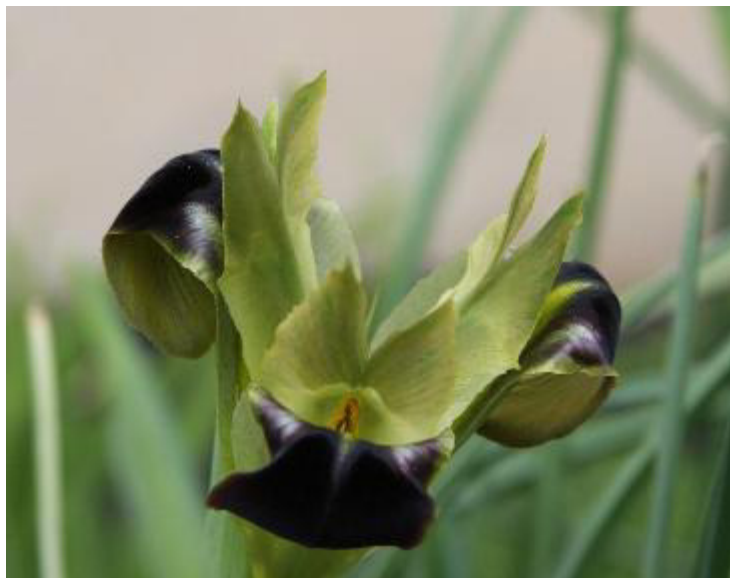
Respectfully submitted,

Ginny Spoon

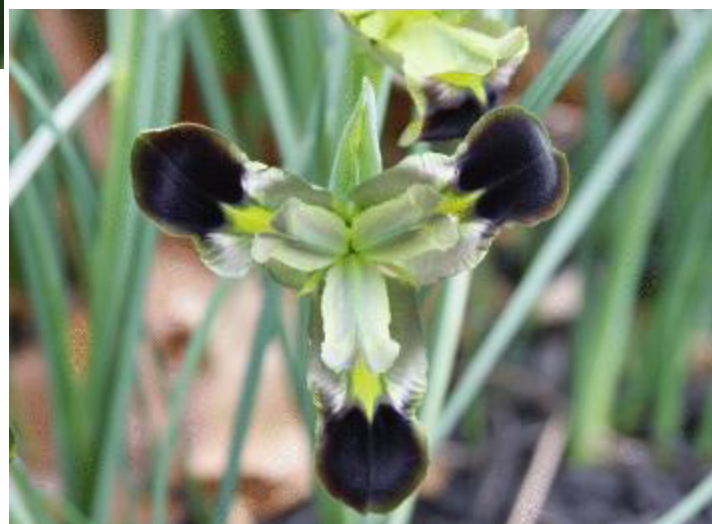
Membership chairman, Region 4

Hermodactylus tuberosa

Snake's-head iris, widow iris



full sun. The leaves begin to break dormancy around September to November and grown all winter even under several inches of snow. The flowers bloom shorter to 12" (30cm) in the foliage and are greenish-brown with purple-black falls; standards very small and hidden by falls. The *Hermodactylus tuberosa* blooms after leaves reach full height, in zone 6 that is usually in late March or very Early May. This plant likes stony, limy soil, likes to come into growth early with plenty of water it likes a warm spot. Originally from the Mediterranean area specifically Morocco, it is easily hardy in zone 8 but with care you can grow them in Zone 6 here in Region 4



Hermodactylus tuberosa or otherwise known as the Snake's-head iris or widow iris is a bulbous iris. This iris in its preferred zones of 8 or greater reach 12-18" (30-45cm) tall. In Maryland Zone 6b I have them planted next to a block wall in



Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gar-dens	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Again and Again	(S. Innerst 1999)	TB	4	1	2		1		NC,VA, WV
Anne Lowe	(D. Spoon 2011)	SDB	1		1				VA
Another Bridge	(B. Wilkerson 2005)	TB	1			1			VA
Autumn Bugler	(F. Jones 1986)	TB	1			1			NC
Autumn Circus	(B. Hager 1990)	TB	1			1			NC
Autumn Embers	(C. Chapman 1996)	SDB	1			1			VA
Autumn Jester	(C. Chapman 2000)	SDB	1		1				VA
Autumn Orangelite	(G. P. Brown 1962)	BB	1				1		NC
Autumn Queen	(H. P. Sass 1926)	SDB	1			1			NC
Autumn Surge	(J.T. Aitken	SDB	1		1				VA
Autumn Tangerine	(D. Spoon 2002)	SDB	1		1				VA
Autumn Tryst	(J. Weiler 1993)	TB	1			1			NC
Baby Blessed	(L. Zurbrigg 1979)	SDB	4	1		1	2		NC,VA, WV
Belvi Cloud	(K. Jensen 1988)	TB	1			1			NC
Belvi Queen	(C. Jensen 1976)	TB	2			2			MD,NC
Blitz	(J. Weiler 1988)	SDB	1			1			MD
Blueberry Tart	(C. Chapman 2002)	SDB	2	1		1			NC, WV
Bonus Mama	(B. Hager 1990)	TB	1			1			NC
Breakers	(Schreiner's 1986)	TB	1			1			NC
Brother Carl	(L. Zurbrigg	TB	2			2			NC,VA
Cantina	(M. Byers 1990)	TB	1			1			MD
Cara	(D. Spoon 2011)	SDB	1		1				VA
Champagne Encore	(J.T. Aitken	IB	1			1			MD
Christiane Elizabeth	(C. Mahan 2001)	TB	1			1			VA
Claire Doodle	(D. C. Nearpass 2000)	MTB	1			1			VA
Clarence	(L. Zurbrigg	TB	3			2		1	NC, VA
Constant Comment	(D. Hall 1954)	TB	1				1		NC

Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gardens	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Constant Companion	(C. Marsh 1995)	IB	2		2				VA
Corn Dance	(D. Spoon 2008)	TB	1						WV
Corn Harvest	(C. Wyatt 1977)	TB	1			1			NC
Coronation of David	(B. Miller 1999)	TB	1				1		NC
Crimson King	(Barr 1893)	IB	1			1			NC
Csardas Princess	(J.G. Crump 2013)	TB	1			1			VA
Curtain Up	(My Byers 1988)	TB	1			1			NC
Dark Crystal	(M. Byers 1988)	SDB	2			2			NC, VA
Daughter of Stars	(D. Spoon 2001)	TB	5		2	1	1	1	MD, NC, VA
Delta Lady	(L. Lauer 2009)	TB	1		1				VA
Diamond Blush	(D. Spoon 1998)	TB	1		1				VA
Double Your Fun	(J.T. Aitken 2000)	IB	1					1	NC
Duke of Earl	(M. Byers 1987)	TB	1			1			NC
Earl of Essex	(L. Zurbrigg 1980)	TB	1			1			VA
Earth and Sky	(D. Spoon 2006)	SDB	1				1		NC
Easy Smile	(T. Silvers R.	MTB	1		1				MD
Eleanor Roosevelt	(Sass/McDade 1933)	IB	2			1	1		NC
Emma Louisa	(E. Buckles 1969)	TB	1			1			NC
English Cottage	(L. Zurbrigg 1976)	TB	2			2			MD, NC
Eric Simpson	(D. Spoon 2011)	SDB	1	1					WV
Ever Cool	(J. T. Aitken 2001)	IB	1					1	NC
Faithful and True	(D. Spoon 1997)	TB	1				1		NC
Fast Forward	(J. T. Aitken 2002)	IB	1			1			NC
Feed Back	(B. Hager 1983)	TB	2			2			NC, VA
Flower Shower	(J. Weiler 1990)	SDB	2		1	1			NC, VA
Forever Blue	(C. Chapman	SDB	1			1			NC
Friday Night Chat	(M. Greenfield 2008)	IB	1				1		VA
Gate of Heaven	(L. Zurbrigg	TB	3		1	1	1		VA

Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gar-	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Gladiatrix	(L. Zurbrigg 2003)	IB	1			1			NC
Glitter Repink	(L. & K. Jedlicka 2008)	TB	1			1			NC
Golden Encore	(F. Jones 1973)	TB	1			1			VA
Golden Immortal	(G. Sutton 1997)	TB	1				1		NC
Golden Lantern	(D. Spoon 2013)	SDB	1				1		NC
Grand Baroque	(L. Zurbrigg 1969)	TB	1			1			NC
Gray Poupon	(M. Byers 1989)	SDB	1		1				VA
Harvest of Memories	(L. Zurbrigg 1985)	TB	3		1	2			NC, MD, VA
Hello Again	(J.G. Crump 2009)	SDB	1				1		VA
Hemstitched	(B. Hager 1990)	TB	1					1	NC
Hilda's Gift	(D. Spoon 2002)	MDB	1		1				VA
Holy Night	(K. Mohr 1983)	TB	1			1			NC
I Bless	(L. Zurbrigg 1985)	IB	2			2			MD, NC
I Do	(L. Zurbrigg 1974)	TB	1			1			NC
I Repeat	(J. Roberts 1998)	TB	1		1				MD
Immortality	(L. Zurbrigg 1982)	TB	7		3	2	1	1	MD, NC, VA
Istanbul	(M. Byers 1990)	TB	1			1			NC
Jack Loving	(D. Spoon 2006)	SDB	1			1			VA
Jennifer Rebecca	(L. Zurbrigg 1985)	TB	1			1			VA
Jewel Baby	(E. Hall 1984)	SDB	2		2				VA
July Yellow	(K. Chadwick/ E. Warner 2001)	TB	1		1				VA
Kansas Ingleside	(Hillson 1939)	TB	1			1			NC
Kind Candace	(D. Spoon 2012)	TB	1		1				VA
Lady Emma	(F. Jones 1986)	MTB	2	1		1			VA, WV
Lady Essex	(L. Zurbrigg 1991)	TB	1		1				VA
Leah Traded	(B. Miller 1990)	BB	1		1		1		VA
Lenora Pearl	(H. Nicholls 1990)	BB	1					1	NC
Lilac Stitchery	(K. Jensen 1989)	TB	1		1				VA
Lilla	(D. Spoon 2000)	TB	1				1	1	NC
Love Goes On	(D. Spoon 2004)	BB	1			1			VA
Love Returns	(B. Spoon 2015)	TB	1		1				VA
Lovely Again	(R. G. Smith)	TB	1			1			NC
Low Ho Silver	(M. Byers 1989)	IB	3	1		2			VA, WV
Luminosity	(M. Byers 1991)	TB	1				1		NC

Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gardens	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Mango Parfait	(D. Spoon 2009)	TB	2		2				VA
Many Moons	(H. Wright 1967)	TB	1			1			NC
Margaret Wilson Tho-	(D. Spoon 2009)	TB	2		1		1		NC, VA
Mariposa Autumn	(R. Tasco 1999)	TB	2		1	1			NC, VA
Mariposa Wizard	(R. Tasco 2004)	IB	1					1	NC
Marita	(L. Zurbrigg 1989)	SDB	1		1				VA
Martie Everest	(McDade/ Kirkland 1935)	TB	1			1			NC
Maryland Ho	(B. Hornstein R. 2003)	TB	1			1			MD
Matrix	(E. Hall 1991)	TB	1		1				VA
Metro Blue	(M. Lockatell	TB	1			1			VA
Midnight Caller	(M. Byers 1990)	TB	1			1			NC
Midsummer Night's Dream	(L. Baumunk 1999)	IB	2			2			NC, VA
Midsummer's Eve	(D. Spoon 1999)	IB	1			1			NC
Monet's Sky	(D. Spoon 2013)	TB	1				1		NC
Mulligan	(M. Sutton 2015)	IB	1	1					WV
My Friend Jonathan	(B. Miller 1994)	TB	1			1			NC
Northward Ho	(L. Zurbrigg 1991)	TB	2		1	1			MD, NC
Now and Later	(L. Zurbrigg 1972)	TB	2			2			MD, NC
Over and Over	(S. Innerst 2001)	TB	2		1		1		VA
Perfume Counter	(L. Zurbrigg 1972)	TB	1			1			NC
Pink Attraction	(E. Hall 1988)	TB	2		1	1			MD, VA
Pink Puppy	(D. Spoon 2010)	BB	1		1				VA
Plum Wine	(J. Weiler 1986)	SDB	1	1					WV
Prince of Burgundy	(O. D. Niswonger 1993)	IB	1			1			NC
Purple Joy	(D. Spoon 2009)	SDB	1	1					WV
Queen Dorothy	(E. Hall 1984)	TB	3		2	1			MD, NC VA
Raspberry Frost	(G. Sutton 2001)	TB	1			1			NC
Refined	(J. Weiler 1987)	SDB	1			1			VA
Renown	(L. Zurbrigg 1992)	TB	1			1			NC
Rielle	(D. Spoon 1999)	BB	1		1				VA
Roney's Encore	(D. Spoon 1997)	TB	1		1				VA

Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gardens	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Rosalie Figge	(J. McKnew 1993)	TB	6	1	3	2			MD, NC, VA, WV
Rosalie Loving	(D. Spoon 2003)	SDB	2		1	1			VA
Ruby Eruption	(C. Chapman	SDB	1		1				VA
Sailboat Bay	(L. Zurbrigg 2001)	SDB	1			1			VA
Sangreal	(J. Sass 1935)	IB	1			1			NC
Sapphire Jubilee	(G. Spoon 2013)	MDB	1		1				VA
Senorita Frog	(D. Spoon 2002)	SDB	1	1					WV
September Buttercup	(G.P. Brown	TB	1			1			VA
Sign of Leo	(L. Zurbrigg 1977)	TB	1			1			NC
Sign of Virgo	(L. Zurbrigg 1991)	TB	1			1			NC
Sipping Chartreuse	(J.G. Crump 2015)	IB	1			1			VA
Sky Willow	(D. Spoon 2005)	SDB	2		1	1			VA
Smell the Roses	(M. Byers 1988)	SDB	1		1				VA
Soda Fountain Shuffle	(M. Lockatell	TB	1			1			VA
Stacey's Blue	(D. Spoon 2014)	SDB	1		1				VA
Sugar Blues	(L. Zurbrigg 1985)	TB	1			1			NC
Summer Fantasy	(G.P. Brown	TB	1		1				VA
Summer Green Shadows	(G.P. Brown 1965)	TB	2		1	1			VA
Summer Olympics	(R. G. Smith	TB	2			1		1	NC
Summer Radiance	(B. Wilkerson 1996)	TB	1			1			VA
Sunny Disposition	(L. Zurbrigg 1991)	TB	1			1			VA
Sunshine Daydream	(J. Schroetter	SDB	1		1				VA
Swizzle	(B. Hager 1972)	IB	1			1			VA
Total Recall	(B. Hager 1992)	TB	2		1	1			NC, VA
T-Rex	(G. Richardson 2002)	TB	1					1	NC
Trimmed Velvet	(D. Spoon 2006)	MDB	2	1			1		NC, WV
Victoria Falls	(Schreiner's	TB	1			1			NC

Name of iris	Hybridizer	Class	Total # of gardens	Zone 6A	Zone 6B	Zone 7A	Zone 7B	Zone 8A	States
Violet Returns	(E. Hall 1988)	TB	1		1				VA
We Duz	(B. Hornstein R. 2009)	TB	1			1			MD
Winesap	(M. Byers 1989)	TB	1			1			NC
Zee	(D. Spoon 2004)	TB	1					1	NC
Zurich	(M. Byers 1990)	TB	1		1				VA

A Visit to Charlotte North Carolina

Fall meetings are not often associated with iris garden tours but there is much more to see or experience. Arriving at the Hotel I immediately saw that across the side street was a Chinese restaurant that was aptly named Super Buffet. The Interior was filled with beautiful wood carvings from a place to wait for a table to Dragons and Fish. Not only was the atmosphere beautiful the food was excellent.



Wood Carvings in Chinese Restaurant

Learning about Novelty Iris from Ginny Spoon which happen to include Broken Color (variegated bloom), Space Agers, Flatties, Variegated Foliage, Purple Foliage (better known as PBF, base, stems, bracts) and those irises who routinely have those pesky extra parts or otherwise called Extrapetaled Irises.

After that wonderful judges training it was off to that wonderful Chinese “Super Buffet”, which of course was my second visit, hee hee. After dinner as always was a plant sale that was well attended.

The next day Carol Warner gave a talk we all wanted to hear “Using Irises in the Landscape”. We have all been to Carol’s Garden and the valuable information, well my hand hurt taking notes and my brain hurt. Another very useful talk was given by Glenn Grigg called “Special Report on Pest and Disease of Irises with Emphasis on Treatment.” This fact filled short talk gave a volume of information I knew I should have recorded it because I know I missed something.



The Duke Mansion

A Visit to Charlotte North Carolina

Skipping lunch we, meaning Janet LeJeune, Doug Chyz, Sue Shakelford, Lois Rose and Diane and Dean Richards went to the Duke Mansion. I would have gotten pics from inside but there was a wedding and I think there was issues for people where running all over the place. The Judy Harrison Barry Children's Garden was filled with cute garden art that only a large garden could hold but they were great. I loved Mrs. Bunny Tree and the hidden daughter sneaking round. What was wonderful about all the gardens was the use of herbs along with the flowers and vegetables.



Judy Harrison Berry's Children's Garden



Jamee's Prayer Garden

A Visit to Charlotte North Carolina

The Jamee's Prayer Garden was beautiful with its circular walkway and bench where it would be a perfect place to meditate. The smell of herbs exploded in the air every time you brush by the plant. I have to get me some sage and other herbs to put along walkways.

There were an abundance of spent hydrangea blooms that surrounded all the walkways in the back of the mansion along with a beautiful place to sit and perhaps have a spot of tea beneath a large oak with limbs spreading to help shade the area. There were camellias and roses as well as hollies bursting with berries waiting to turn red. We did manage to find iris plants but there were no labels so there was no telling what hybrid it was. There was a rose garden with plants that were at least eight feet tall if not taller filled with beautiful bud. That led us to another shady area for resting with what looked like a steel dancer that surely no one can pose like that?

As we made our way to the stairs that would lead us back to the car the brick facing of the stair was filled with a strange vine that was dainty and beautiful. There was ivy mixed in with it in several places but this plant looked to be hardier as if was taking over the ivy. Would be interesting to grow this if I knew what it was. As we walked up the steps toward the front of the house camellias lined the stairs and short walkway to the fountain in the front that was now sporting a pale rainbow that refused to show up on my photographs.

Rushing back to the hotel to get ready for dinner I checked a few last minute things and then we were sitting to a great meal. Before we even finish Captain Jack, a Patriot from the Revolutionary War era entertained us with tales of the beginning of our history. At the end of this tale, in which we spent much of our time laughing, was time for the membership meeting and this year's E.Roy Epperson Service Award winner. With a unanimous vote the recipient was someone who has touch nearly everyone in the life and always to the better. From the time I joined AIS and Region 4, Susan Grigg has had many jobs locally, regionally and nationally and she put in 100% of her time and effort.

Well for a fall meeting it was rich and entertaining thank you Charlotte Iris Society.





Newscast Report:

I want to thank Sheryl Campbell, Colin Campbell, and Carol Warner for the garden write ups at the National Meeting in New York.

I also want to thank Lois Rose for her continued help is getting the Newscast ready for posting and printing.

The Newscast is the main source of information for members and non-members alike. The American Iris Society has a youth policy that I can no longer publish photos of youth members on line but can in print. Even with parent's permission all youth photos although allowed in Newscast print copy has to be removed from Newscast online.



Website Report:

Region 4's website continues to be a great source for information for people from all over the world. The addition of pictures from gardens in the Fredericksburg Area Iris Society Gardens was a large boost to people viewing our site. The Newscast continues to be a large draw as is the many areas. All the rebloom links were broken with the migration of the Wiki and I will work this winter to re-establish them and add any additions from Colin's report.

All Affiliates now have seven pages: Home, Officers, Schedules, History, Projects, Awards, Photos.

The Photo section has to be approved by the affiliate president but send photos for the Website general photo area. The Fredericksburg Area Iris Society Gardens are not only in the Photo Gallery of the Website but also linked to the Photo page of the Affiliate section.



Minutes

AIS Region 4 Fall Board Meeting

October 21, 2016

Charlotte, NC

The Fall meeting of Region 4 AIS was called to order by President Anita Moran at 2:05 pm. Minutes were approved as printed in Newscast. Treasurer Carol Warner gave a treasury balance of \$18,799.30.

Committee reports:

Judges Report: Carrie Winter gave a report on the status of judges for the Region. Only 22 are current and able to vote the Ballot at this point. Currently have 3 Emeritus, 8 Master, 11 Garden/Exhibition, 7 Retired, and 1 Apprentice.

Membership Report was given by Ginny Spoon. Region 4 has 352 members, an increase of 21 from spring 2016.

Beardless Iris Report was given by Carol Warner. Swans in Flight won the Dykes Medal. This is the first beardless EVER to receive this award.

Median report given by Ginny Spoon.

Website and Newscast reports were given by Anita Moran. Our website continues to be a great source of information for people from all over the world. Pictures give a large boost to people viewing our site. AIS has a youth policy whereby youth photos are no longer allowed to be in the Newscast even with a parent's permission.

Nominating Committee chaired by Ginny Spoon with Lois Rose, Cheryl Campbell, Carol Warner, and Diana Dudley gave their report. Reported officers are RVP Anita Moran, Assistant RVP Doug Chyz, Treasurer Carol Warner, and Recording Secretary Janet Lejeune.

Affiliate reports were received from CIS (Carrie Winter), ENCIS (Diana Dudley – oral only), FSK (Joan Miller – oral only), and SPIS (Ginny Spoon).

Old Business:

Technology uses: Should Region 4 have technology available so that home bound members can see certain parts for meeting and shows? Decision was to restrict use to members of hosting affiliate only.

New Business:

Nominating Committee was appointed: Chair Carol Warner, Diana Dudley, Frances Thrash, Carrie Winter, and Lois Rose.

ByLaw Change: From: A nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members, one from the District of Columbia and each state in Region 4. TO: A nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members with at least one person from each state & affiliate represented at the fall meeting.

Adjourned 2:35 pm.

AIS Region 4 Fall General Meeting

October 21, 2016

Charlotte, North Carolina

Meeting called to order at 7:55pm by RVP Anita Moran.

RVP Anita Moran thanked Carrie Winter and CIS for hosting.

Plant Auction brought in \$512.00 and Silent Auction brought in \$178.50

Vote was taken on the Bylaw Change approved by the board, passed in the general membership vote.

Vote was taken on the Nominating Committee report. Nominees were Anita Moran, RVP; Doug Chyz, Assistance RVP; Diana Dudley, Secretary; and Carol Warner, Treasurer. No nominations from the floor. Vote was unanimous to accept the slate as presented.

Secretary Roll Call:

Bayshore Iris Society – 0

Charlotte Iris Society – 7

Central Virginia Iris Society – 0

Eastern NC Iris Society – 5

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society - 4

Francis Scott Key Iris Society – 3

Shenandoah Iris Society – 4

Region 4 at large – 2

Out of Region – 0

Invitation:

Ginny Spoon gave an invitation to the Region 4 Spring Meeting to be held in Winchester, May 19 – 20, 2017 with Perry Dyer as the speaker.

Announcements;

Alice Bouldin Award was awarded to Griff for 082L13.

Nearpass Award was awarded to Griff for Lezghinka.

Lois Rose will present both to him at the FAIS Harvest Dinner.

2016 Epperson Service Award was given to Susan Griggs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

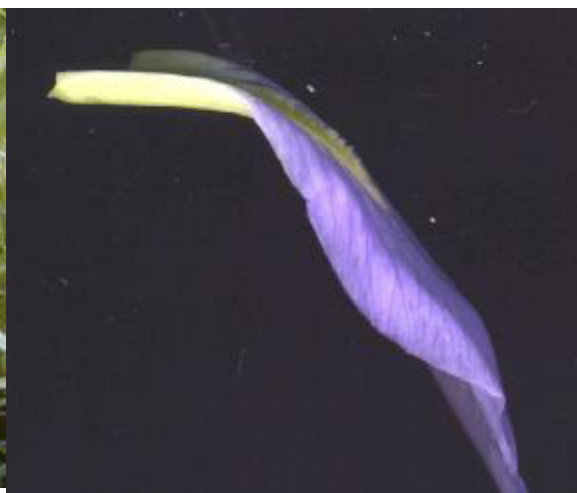
Louisiana Species Iris



Iris fulva

There are two Louisiana Iris (LA) Species that do well in Region 4, the first one most people know which is *Iris fulva*. *Iris fulva* can range from near white to pale or brilliant yellow, to orange to deep red. Able to grow in most soils it prefers ditches, bogs and wetlands but also does well in regular garden soil with additional watering. Able to grow in full sun to part shade it is a very versatile iris but does not seem to like to be moved at least in my area.

The second LA species is *Iris brevicaulis* which is the blue hues of the species and sometimes referred to as leafy blue flag iris or zigzag iris. The stems of this iris literally zigzag at 45o angles. also distinctive in that it has a yellow pubescense (rudimentary beard) on the falls. Growing in the same conditions as *Iris Fulva*. This iris has a broader range from California to Georgia, all the gulf states and into Missouri. Both species are worth the try



Iris brevicaulis

Affiliate Reports

CHARLOTTE IRIS SOCIETY

Region 4 October 21, 2016

Since the Region 4 Spring Meeting, the Charlotte Iris Society has had a busy schedule with our Annual Rhizome Sale in July. Our profit was something over \$ 1000.00. August was marked with our Annual Picnic held at a member's lake front home. Due to the intense heat, it turned into an indoor event.

Somehow the lake provided a more attractive vista looking out through the patio doors and windows than the same view from the deck. September was our usual Plant Exchange with the meeting devoted to planning for our hosting the Fall Regional which has culminated in our meeting today and tomorrow. Our year which coincides with the calendar year will conclude with our Harvest Luncheon, featuring Roast Turkey and Dressing provided by CIS and members adding salads, sides and desserts. Our current officers will continue in 2017, completing the 2nd year of their term.

We are pleased that you have joined us in Charlotte for the Fall Regional.

Carrie Winter, President CIS

Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society President's Report, October 21, 2016

We have had a busy year in 2016. We changed the name of our chapter from the Chesapeake and Potomac Iris Society to the Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society and have gotten a 501 (c) 3 Non Profit status.

We have planted a large selection of irises at the State Arboretum in Boyce, VA and weeded them several times as a club activity. We are looking forward to the bloom during the spring regional in May of 2017. There are also some iris plantings at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley in Winchester which will also be on tour at the 2017 regional.

We had two sales this year, one at Blandy, the State Arboretum of Virginia, and another at the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley. Both were well attended and we had a good time at the activities that were also associated with the sale. There is a garden training and potluck lunch scheduled for October 15th with a meeting afterwards to discuss the 2017 regional. We are looking forward to seeing everyone next spring on May 19 and 20, 2017 at our Regional meeting and garden tours.

Respectfully submitted, Don Spoon

President,

Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society

Affiliate Reports

Fredericksburg Area Iris Society,

Fall 2016 Report

As you all know FAIS hosted the Region 4 Annual Spring Meeting in May which was healthily report on in the latest Newscast, nice work Anita and thanks again to all who supported and attended the meeting.

In June Doug Chyz gave his “Iris Basics: Getting a Head Start” program to the society, and in July we hosted, led by Jim Schroetter, another very successful rhizome sale at Roxbury with proceeds from the sale at just better than \$2,500.00. Andy of Roxbury brought in a Food Truck and treated us all to lunch, thanks Andy, great food too. In August we rested and planted iris, but we also celebrated the life of our Rosalie Loving who left us on August 9th, we all miss her very much. Then September was upon us and we came back together with a great pot luck annual picnic hosted by Janet Bykowski and Joe Coronet, what a wonderful time we had. And now October brings us to Charlotte, NC for the Region 4 Fall Meeting hosted by the Charlotte Iris Society, thank you CIS.

During the past few months FAIS had many other things going on, we received a Guest Iris order from Bob Van Liere of 83 rhizomes which we distributed to our members to grow for a couple of years; three of those guests we donated to the Fall Plant Auction here in Charlotte. We have approved two \$500 scholarships, one to a Virginia Tech student for this Fall Semester and one to a J. Sargeant Reynolds student for the Spring 2017 semester. Some of us have given Iris presentations to various garden clubs in our local area. As you can see, FAIS has been busy since our last report and look forward to chronicling our activities for the next one.

Doug Chyz

Region 4 By Laws

REGION 4 BYLAWS

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the organization shall be REGION 4, The AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY, hereinafter referred to as Region 4, AIS. Region 4 shall comprise the states of Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia, and the District of Columbia.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. Purposes

The purposes of Region 4 shall be to develop the science of horticulture and activities related to the study, propagation, and culture of irises; to stimulate and foster interest in botanical and horticultural pursuits; to cooperate with other organizations, public and private, in the scientific and horticultural education of those interested in learning about irises by any means consistent with these Bylaws. These shall include but are not limited to:

- (a) To support scientific research, including the culture and improvement of irises, and to encourage garden visiting by the general public;
- (b) To collect and disseminate information on the history, classification, hybridization, climatic range, and culture of irises;
- (c) To promote shows and exhibitions for the purpose of educating the general public and fellow irisarians;
- (d) To educate the public through public display gardens, published standards for judging, and local, area, regional and national meetings open to the public; and
- (e) To encourage membership in, and cooperation with, the AIS and its regional and local societies.

Section 2. Organization and Operation

Region 4 shall be organized and operated exclusively for educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Section 3. Prohibited Activities

- (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, Region 4 shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (1) by an organization exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or (2) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (b) No substantial part of the activities of Region 4 shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and Region 4 shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign, including publication or distribution of statements on behalf of any candidate for public office.

Region 4 By Laws

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

- Section 1. Members of the AIS residing within the geographical limits of Region 4 are automatically members of this Region.
- Section 2. The membership of Region 4 shall be organized by chapter (hereinafter includes the name Society) according to geographical location. Each chapter shall elect its own officers and set up its own bylaws, not in conflict with these nor the AIS Bylaws.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS, ELECTIONS, VACANCIES, DUTIES

- Section 1. The officers of Region 4 shall be Regional Vice President (RVP), Assistant RVP, Secretary, and Treasurer. These officers shall perform the duties described by these bylaws and by the Parliamentary Authority adopted by Region 4. An elected officer shall not concurrently serve as a chairman of a Regional Standing Committee.
- Section 2. A nominating Committee consisting of five (5) members, one from the District of Columbia and each state in Region 4, shall be elected at the FALL Meeting of Region 4. From this elected committee, the RVP shall promptly appoint a Chairman. This committee shall be charged with the responsibility of presenting a slate of officers for publication in the SPRING issue of *NEWSCAST*. If, after the election, a vacancy occurs, the RVP shall appoint another member from that state to fill that vacancy. The same procedure shall be followed if there is more than one vacancy.
- Section 3. Elections: (a) Officers shall be elected at the ANNUAL SPRING MEETING and shall assume office at the close of the FALL meeting. (b) Terms shall be for one year or until their successors are elected, and to run concurrently with the AIS officers. The RVP shall be appointed annually by the AIS Board of Directors, and shall serve no more than three consecutive years. (c) No officer, except the Secretary and the Treasurer shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms in the same office.

Section 4. **DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

(a) The Regional Vice President shall:

- (1) Attend the Board of Directors meetings (Spring and Fall) of the AIS when at all possible to promote and coordinate the interests of the Region;
- (2) Preside at all meetings of Region 4;
- (3) Be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and
- (4) Appoint the Parliamentarian, the Chairman of each Standing Committee, and the Audit Committee (at least two members), with the approval of the Board.

Region 4 By Laws

(b) The Assistant Regional Vice President shall:

- (1) Assume the duties and exercise the power of the RVP, in the absence of or in the inability of the RVP;
- (2) Assume the duties of the RVP should a vacancy occur in the office of the RVP; and,
- (3) Be the advisor for Fall Meetings; be responsible for scheduling meeting sites; and, also serve as Chairman of Regional Awards.

(c) The Secretary shall:

- (1) Keep an accurate record of all meetings and be custodian of all documents and valuable papers belonging to Region 4.
- (2) The Secretary shall also send a copy of the minutes to the (RVP) within two weeks of the meeting.

(d) The Treasurer shall:

- (1) Receive all funds and deposit them in an insured institution;
- (2) Disburse such funds by check ONLY when authorized to do so by the RVP or the Board; and,
- (3) Render a brief statement of accounts at the FALL Meeting and a full report at the SPRING Meeting, audited to date.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be one meeting per year known as the ANNUAL SPRING MEETING. This meetings can be hosted by an affiliate or individual or group of individuals. While the main purpose of the shall be a business session held at some time during the meeting for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports of the officers and committees and for conducting any other business of Region 4. Beside the normal business meeting there shall be: (1) an auction/sale which will help defray the expenses of Region 4; (2) a Judges training Course (in garden or classroom.)

Section 2. There shall also be a FALL MEETING of Region 4. This meetings can be hosted by an affiliate or individual or group of individuals. Beside the normal business meeting there shall be: (1) an auction/sale which will help defray the expenses of Region 4; (2) a Judges training Course (in garden or classroom.)

Section 3. Meetings may include the following: an iris show, garden visits, a guest speaker, a silent auction or any other iris related activity.

Section 4. Neither the Spring nor Fall Meeting dates may conflict with the dates of the AIS meetings. Furthermore, chapter activities should not conflict with either Regional or National conventions.

Region 4 By Laws

ARTICLE VI. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Section 1. The Board of Directors, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall consist of the elected officers of Region 4, the Immediate Past RVP, Parliamentarian, Regional Committee Chairmen, and Chapter Chairmen or Presidents.
- Section 2. The Board shall have the general oversight of the affairs of the Region.
- Section 3. The Board shall hold two (2) regular meetings per year: at the Annual Spring Meeting and in the Fall. The RVP may call special meetings with fifteen (15) days notice or may hold telephone conferences.
- Section 4. Nine (9) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

- Section 1. Standing Committee Chairmen shall be appointed by the RVP to serve for a period of one year, the term of office to run concurrently with that of the elected officers.
- Section 2. There shall be the following Standing Committees: Auction, Beardless and Species, Budget, Historical, Judges Training, Median Irises, Membership, Photography, Publicity and Public Relations, Reblooming Irises, Robins, Youth, and Editor of Region 4 publication, the NEWS-CAST.
- Section 3. Special Committees may be created as needed.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCE

- Section 1. Operating funds for Region 4 shall be supported by the various chapters. Regional auctions and sales supplement these funds, but money may be raised by other methods selected by the Board.
- Section 2. The Budget Committee shall submit a budget at the FALL Meeting and upon approval by the Board, it shall be mailed to those members of the Board not present and published in the next *NEWSCAST*.

ARTICLE IX. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The current edition of *ROBERT'S RULES of ORDER, NEWLY REVISED* shall be the parliamentary authority for Region 4, AIS.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at the Annual Meetings by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting, providing that 30 days previous written notice has been given or the proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted by mail to the Region 4 membership. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the total cast for any amendment or amendments shall be required for ratification and adoption.

ARTICLE XI. DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution of Region 4, after paying or adequately providing for its debts and obligations, the Regional Vice President and Treasurer shall distribute all assets of Region 4 to The American Iris Society or to such organizations as are qualified as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of a future Internal Revenue Code.

Sedona and Back

I needed to travel to Sedona Arizona for a board meet of the American Iris Society and as always I decided to drive. According to MapQuest that is a trip of 2,265 each way but looking at the Rand McNally map I decided to take Route 81 South from Maryland to Tennessee to catch Route 40 west to Flagstaff then south to Sedona. There was plenty to see on the way but I wanted time so that I could stop and see Petrified Forest National Park which leads to the Painted Desert which is within the Petrified Forest National Park. On the way I also took pictures of my favorite sights animals and sunsets and storms. On the side of the road I was surprised to see American Bison and what I first that were mountain goats. I had to turn around to see that the animals were in fact Black Welsh Mountain sheep ram.



Black Welsh Mountain sheep ram

American Bison

Now as I was moving very fast and many of the photographs were taken from the car while driving for also MapQuest gave me a time of 33 hours drive time, maybe when I was younger and could do with less sleep. The first park that I reached on the way to Sedona was the Petrified Forest National Park. I have visited the park before but this time I wanted to spend more time. The first section we passed was the Painted Desert which the colors move from red to what they call blue. As you drive through the park there are many areas to stop and see signs of the Native Americans that used to live in the area including Newspaper Rock where you can see petroglyphs (Rock Carvings usually prehistoric). It was one of the areas I stopped to walk out on the outcropping to get a picture of the petroglyphs. When I got back to my car a raven followed me looking for food. Squawking at me I decided to name him Stanley for I was also noting the trip for my great niece Juliet whose class was doing a Flat Stanley Project.



Painted Desert Red Section



Painted Desert Blue Mesa

Sedona and Back



Petrified Forest Newspaper Rock petroglyphs



Petrified Forest

Looking at map I decided to head to Monument Valley which looked to be just north of the Petrified Forest National Park and since I did not need to be in Sedona until the next evening I drove north toward the valley which has been used to make westerns for many years. Next time you watch a John Wayne movie see if you can see some of the monuments. I always thought that Monument valley was a national park but it is not instead it is a Navajo Tribal Park. Getting to the park as the sun was rising, I was glad that I drove my all-wheel drive Santa Fe for the dirt roads were in terrible condition and often times I was at a steep side angle as I moved into the valley. I came upon some chipmunks racing around gathering seeds and nuts but when they saw me they made their way up to the tallest rock in the nearby area. There were also some very cool looking dried trees and stumps that were all around the area. Sadly it was time to head for Sedona.



Stanley the Raven



Monument Valley at dawn

Sedona and Back



Monument Valley



Monument Valley



Monument Valley Wildlife – chipmunks finding morning nuts



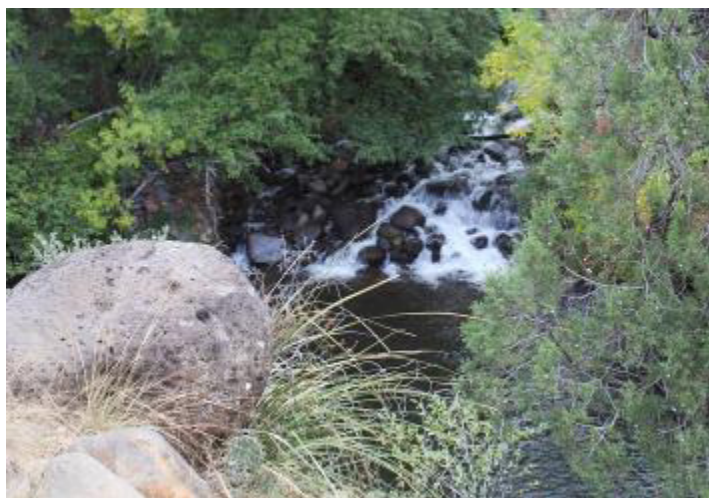
Monument Valley a very cool stump

I have never been to Sedona before but the trip between Flagstaff and Sedona along Route 89A was a beautiful revelation as I passed through a beautiful valley of cliffs and waterways. I found a small area to hike in and there were several impressions of leaves, insects and animals in the soft sandstone. It is a cute mountain town with beautiful sunsets and sunrises, tiny eateries, artwork lining the roads, monuments to those from the town who lost their life in military service, including those in the K-9 corp. There was red sage and several plants that I had no clue about but they smelled wonderful. Unfortunately it was not a good time of year and none of the cuttings survived.

Sedona and Back



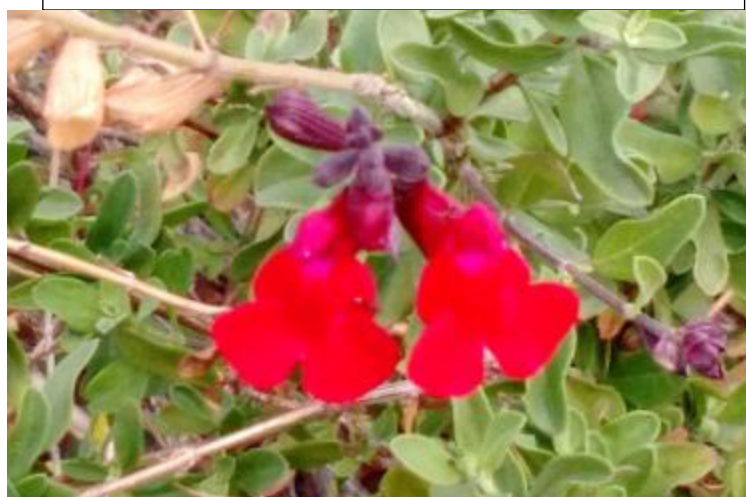
Sedona Canyon



Sedona Canyon Waterfall



Sedona Park Sand Stone Sculptures



Sedona Red Sage



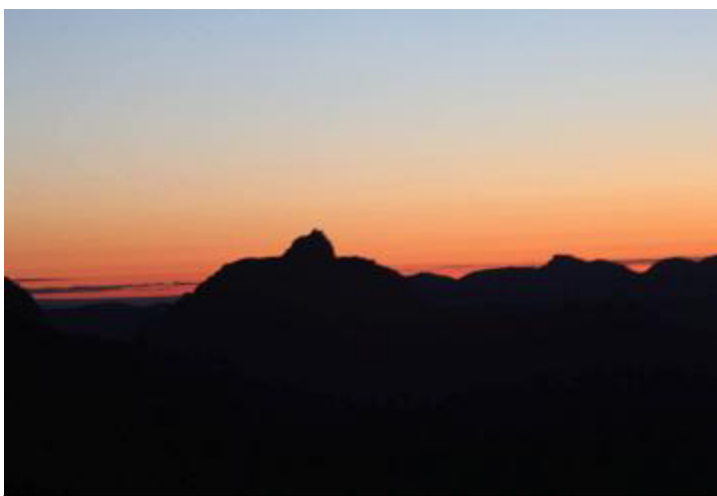
Art works along Main Street

Sedona and Back

After the meeting which lasted two days I left Sedona at three o'clock in the morning so that I could reach the Grand Canyon at sunrise. Well I arrived at the Grand Canyon Village on the South Rim early, very early and was surprised that I was not the only one out on the cliff in 28 °F weather. Thank goodness it was clear and not raining or snowing. As the sun broke over the canyon the tips of the highest peaks were lit up like gold and it slowly exposed more and more of the canyon as the sun rose. Leaving the South Rim I headed east toward Route 64 toward the Desert View of the canyon as I saw on the map that I was not far from Arches National Park in Utah which was on my way to Denver Colorado to see my niece and nephews so I added it to my list of places to go.

About six miles from the Grand Canyon Visitor's Center a herd of Elk went wondering across the road. Since I was stuck I felt I should at least take their picture since they were so kind in posing for me. A little further down was Moran Point. Well Since I am a Moran I had to check it out. Turns out a painter by the name of Thomas Moran (no idea if we are related) was a geologist who surveyed the Grand Canyon but also took time to paint the scenic beauty of the park and helped in pushing congress to establish the canyon as a National Park.

As I was getting ready to leave the park I noticed a tower in the area called the eastern Gate of the Grand Canyon. The Watch Tower built in 1932 by Fred Harvey reflecting the architect of ancestral Puebloans of the four corner region. This is what is called Desert View. The reproduction of the petroglyphs in the tower were done by Hopi artist Fred Kabotie and were very evident in the ceremonial room on the second floor which required climbing stone stairs with leather wrapped hand rails.

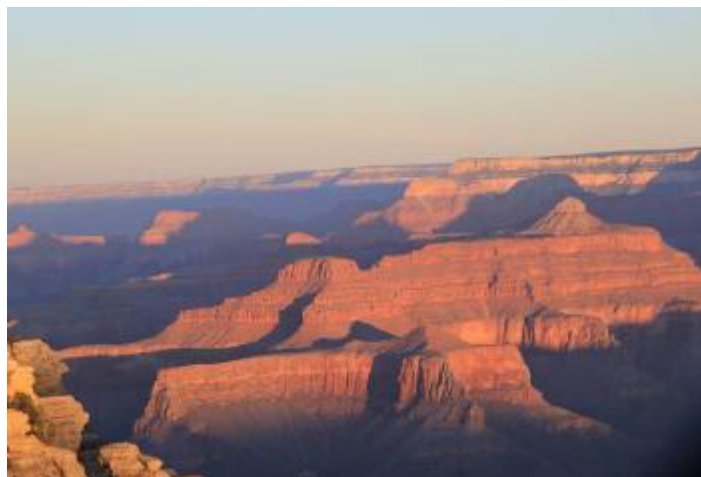
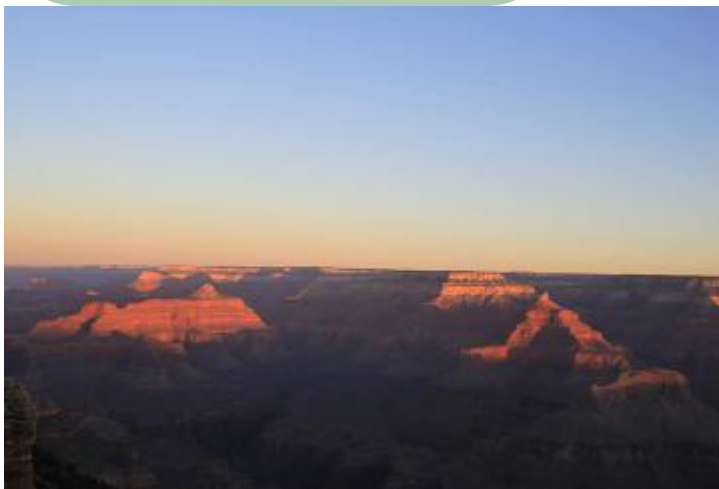


Grand Canyon Sunrise

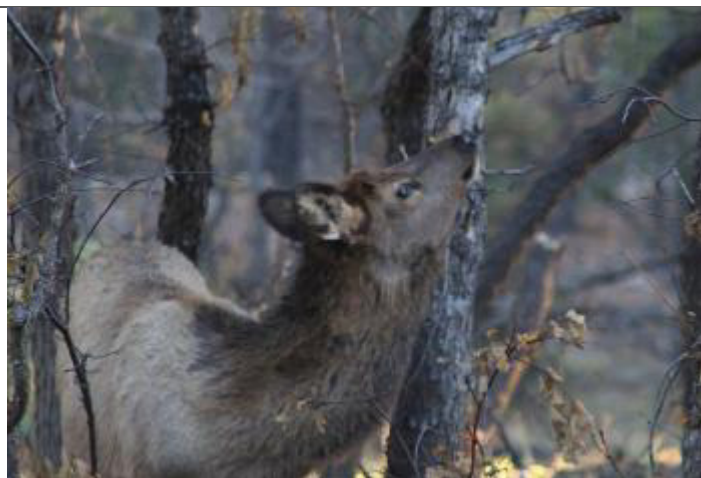


Grand Canyon Sunrise

Sedona and Back



Grand Canyon Sunrise



Grand Canyon Elk



Grand Canyon Moran Point



Moran Painting of the Grand Canyon

Sedona and Back

The trails of the Grand Canyon are narrow and without guard rails which would have put anyone in grave danger yet several groups with BIG backpacks went down these little tiny NARROW pathways. I'm assuming there is a drastic lack of fear in these people because I took this picture with a zoom lens. No way was I getting near that edge.

Well it was time to fly if I wanted to get to Denver by midnight and I still wanted to stop at the Arches National Park. The first structure you see in the park is the Balancing Rock, Followed by the Hole in the Wall which has a shop and museum associated with it. Then there was the Windows.

Those are the only ones that could be seen from the road or nearby parking. As the sun was setting I decided to try and rush to see the closest arch and that was the Landscape Arch which is the longest natural arch in the land and on the planet. After the 4 mile hike (2 miles each way) it was nearly dark when I finally reach the car.

Getting gas I was on my way home. But not before visiting a Dinosaur museum that had an ad every few miles. The lunch with sister and niece in Denver. An over night with another sister and another neice finally jump on I-80 and headed home. The trip covered a distance of 7,800 miles and went through 19 of the fifty states including Maryland, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. It was good to be home



Grand Canyon Trail



Grand Canyon Watch Tower



Grand Canyon Watch Tower Ceremonial Room

Sedona and Back



Arches – Balance Rock



Arches – Hole In the Wall



Arches – Windows



Arches – Landscape Arch



Arches – Near Landscape Arch

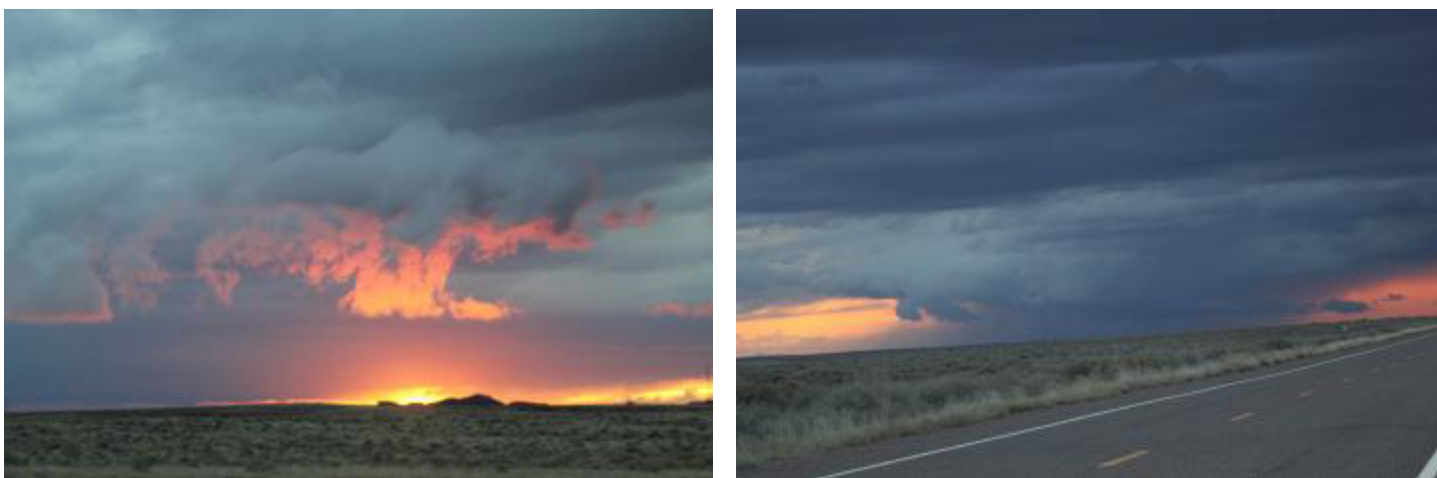


Arches – Another cool dead tree

Sedona and Back



Dinosaur Museum: (1) Arizona Swamp (2) Utahaptor Claw



Sunsets and Storms

2017 Spring Regional Tour Gardens

Glen Burnie Gardens at The Museum of the Shenandoah Valley

The seven-acre Glen Burnie Gardens are both impressive and intimate. The creation of the gardens began in 1956 and continues today with a multi-year renovation in progress.

The Pleached Allee is a highlight during spring bloom, and boxwood plantings create the Parterre and Knot Gardens. Herb and Vegetable Gardens demonstrate the use of edible plants in garden design. The redesigned Rose Garden is comprised of hundreds of plants while the Perennial Garden presents a rainbow of colors.

Speaking of rainbows, the S&P Iris Society donated hundreds of iris in 2014 and 2015 to add to the existing iris displays throughout the Glen Burnie Gardens. Walk the path along the stream to discover Siberian irises and tall bearded mixed perennial beds, meander by the large planting of *iris tectorum*, meditate on the Japanese irises in the Asian Garden, and climb the overlook path for a larger display of TB's. Historic irises dot the landscape in plantings where you would expect them – near the historic Glen Burnie House.

State Arboretum of Virginia at Blandy Experimental Farm

Started in the 1930's, the Arboretum occupies 172 acres of plantings, driving and walking trails. The Walter Flory Memorial Iris Collection can be found in the Interpretive Iris Beds near The Quarters. Originally planted in the early 2000's as Region 4 prepared to host the National Iris Convention, the beds suffered damage in ensuing years as trees grew to shade the beds, deer moved the rhizomes, and soil was depleted. In the summer of 2015, the S&P Iris Society donated and planted 100 new iris varieties to rejuvenate the collection. The beds bloom from early spring through late fall featuring reticulates, median and tall bearded iris, Louisiana's, Siberians, *iris virginica*, and Spec X irises, including many reblooming SDB's and TB's. In addition to the main iris beds, *iris virginica* can be found in the wetlands and *iris cristata* bloom throughout the grounds. The Siberians have an additional bed all their own nearer The Quarters.

To get to the iris beds, you walk through the Pollination Garden observing butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds visiting their favorite flowers. Leaving the irises, you enter a shaded path leading you through a half-acre Native Plant Trail that is a living field guide to Virginia native plants.

Iris Hills Farm, A youth member commercial and hybridizing garden

Iris Hills Farm started as a commercial venture several years ago when Colin needed a way to support his iris habit. He originally planted a large terraced garden above the sheep pasture and began merrily hybridizing. The front yard disappeared in irises the year that Colin discovered he had no place to plant the 800 seedlings he had grown. Iris Hills Farm now comprises about an acre of iris, over 300 varieties grown for sale, and (still) hundreds of seedlings. Most of the irises are tall bearded varieties, but there are 40 medians scattered about, a growing number of Siberians, *iris virginica*, and some Spec X varieties.

The first registered introduction from Iris Hills Farm debuts in 2017 and will be playing the debutante for the Spring Regional Tour. Come join us as Anita Moran gives Iris Seedling Selection Training in Colin's seedling beds that weekend.

While you are at the farm, make sure to spend a few minutes with the lambs, chickens, and guinea hens cavorting on the lawn. And make sure to pet InkJet and Cocoa, our two intrepid barn cats who love to wander among the irises with visitors.

2017 Spring Regional Tour Gardens

The Bird Sanctuary, A youth member garden

This lovely suburban garden includes irises, daffodils, chrysanthemums, tiger lilies, roses, and zinnias. Sarah has always had a few irises, and became even more interested in them when she learned through S&P Iris Society about the panoply of colors and types that were available. She especially likes purple, yellow, blue, and burgundy tall bearded iris. Most of the irises in grown here are in the Bird Sanctuary which is the garden grown to attract different types of birds including gold finches, robins, and mourning doves. Sarah once rescued an iris from a foreclosed lot and it now blooms in a special spot in the garden.

Opequon Memorial Scatter Garden

Located next to the Kernstown Battlefield, Opequon Presbyterian Church was organized in 1736 over 100 years before the famous battles fought there. Work on the Memorial Scatter Garden was commenced in 2009 and is finishing up this year with donations of iris from Ray and Karen Jones.

The garden is in the shape of a Jerusalem Cross, containing four smaller crosses said to symbolize the four books of the Gospel. There are four distinctive areas with each quadrant planted in daylilies, dianthus, and salvia. In addition, foundation plantings of boxwood, shrubs, lavender, and hyssop complement the area. Upright plantings of spirea, lilac, and crape myrtle bushes are carefully arranged around two meditation areas with seating positioned to afford individuals a place for prayer, meditation, and an unrestricted view of the Kernstown Civil War Battlefield.

Ray and Karen, long time members of the American Iris Society, Region 4, and Shenandoah and Potomac Iris Society, have donated many tall bearded irises to Opequon and planted them on the outer edge of the quadrants in the Memorial Garden during the past two years. They recently added SDB's, donated by Don and Ginny Spoon of Winterberry Gardens, to the display.

Winterberry Gardens

Don and Ginny learned, as youths, to love irises while gardening with their mothers, Lilla Edwards Spoon (past President of the Charlotte Iris Society) and Wilma Patrick (an avid plant collector). Don was born and raised in Charlotte, NC and Ginny in Fairfax, Virginia. Don first learned Genetics by breeding pigeons with his father, Kenneth Bryan Spoon, and later studied Genetics in Graduate school. Don earned his M.S. and Ph. D. degree at Emory University and taught Ecology and directed graduate research at Georgetown University for 22 years retiring in 1994.

Ginny met Don at their local iris club, the Chesapeake and Potomac (C&P) Iris Society in 1991. They were married in 1994 and moved to Oracle, Arizona for two years where Don worked as a microbiologist on the Biosphere 2 project as a senior scientist and Ginny managed the Intensive Agricultural Biome for several months while the manager went back to Nepal to visit his family and then worked inside the Biosphere IAB until they returned home to Virginia.

In 1996, they moved back to Cross Junction, VA and started their Winterberry Gardens iris business in earnest where they now grow over 5,000 cultivars of bearded irises, over 2,000 of them are rebloomers. They both enjoy hybridizing all classes of bearded irises and have over 20,000 seedlings. Don and Ginny have both earned major awards for their irises from the American Iris Society and Don has won International Awards. They are both official American Iris Society Master Judges. Ginny completed her Horticultural Business degree at Lord Fairfax Community College, and is the business manager of their Winterberry Gardens iris business. They also grow over 1,000 cultivars of daylilies; have a large collection of daffodils and many other woody plants planted around their 5 acre property.

HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Garden Inn

120 Wingate Drive, Winchester, Virginia 22601

Phone: 540-722-8881 Fax: 540-722-8889

www.winchester.hgi.com

Room rate: \$99.00 plus tax per night plus tax.

You must mention S&P Iris Society when registering to get these rates and you must make your own reservations with the hotel BEFORE April 30, 2017 in order to get the discounted rate. The special price of rooms expires on May 1st at the hotel so call early.

Some additional rooms have been set aside at our special rate for Thursday, May 18th for those who desire to arrive early.

Facilities & Services

Indoor Pool & Whirlpool

Fitness Center

24 Hour Business Center with Remote Printing

Pavilion Pantry - 24-Hour Convenience Center with Snacks & Toiletries

Restaurant and Bar On Site

Complimentary Wired & Wireless Internet

Microwave, Refrigerator, and Safe in Every Room

Keurig Coffee/Tea Maker in Every Room

Garden Sleep System Beds

Walking Distance to Restaurants & Entertainment

Complimentary Parking

Business Center with Copy and Fax Services

Directions to the Hotel: From I-81 take exit 313B west towards Winchester to route 50 (E. Jubal Early Drive) turn left on S. Pleasant Valley Rd. (at the McDonalds) and take an immediate right onto Wingate Drive (if you get to Featherbed Lane you have gone too far). The Hilton Garden Inn Hotel is at the end just past the Wingate Hotel.

**AIS Region 4 Spring 2017 Meeting
Friday May 19th and Saturday, May 20th
Winchester, Virginia
Registration Form**

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: _____ (optional)

Full Registration: **\$121.00** x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Youth Full Registration: **\$75.00** x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

After April 20th, the Full Registration will be **\$150.00** x _____ person(s) = \$ _____

Garden judges training (only) on Saturday **\$30.00** x _____ person (s) = \$ _____

At Winterberry Gardens

(Note: this is included in the full registration)

(Full registration includes dinner on Friday and lunch and Awards Banquet dinner on Saturday and vans to garden tours and garden training both days)

Special Dietary needs? E-mail Sheryl Campbell at Campbells@IrisHillsFarm.com by May 1st.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Send completed Registration Form with a Check made payable to *S&P Iris Society* and mail by April 10th to:

Ginny Spoon
1225 Reynolds Rd
Cross Junction, VA 22625

For additional information contact:

Ginny Spoon
540-888-4447

Sheryl Campbell
540-868-2123

Email: vspoon@aol.com

campbells@irishillsfarm.com

Anita Moran
Newscast Editor
5351 Rocks Rd
Pylesville, MD 21132

**BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 21
Joppa, MD 21085**