



# MARCH 2015 NEWSLETTER

## *President's Message*

Dear Fellow Floraphiles,

As I am writing this, the temperature is in the low teens and snow is expected for tomorrow. But of course there is plant life still alive and ready to pop up when Spring finally arrives. And with Spring comes gardening and thoughts of once again getting outside and working in our gardens. In just a short time it will also begin our yearly cycle of SIDHDIS meetings and activities. On February 3 we celebrated our Twentieth Anniversary and also passed some revisions to our By-laws. **Our next meeting will be on March 2 at 7 pm at Southside Christian Church.** Dan Knudsen will present a program on "Iris: Kinds and Culture." I have seen some of the new irises and some of the different kinds of irises, and am looking forward to see what Dan will present. The officers will be bringing refreshments, so come early and enjoy food and fellowship.

Also at this meeting we will have available **the 2016 Directories**. It is a great help if you would pick up your Directory at that meeting to save us the expense of mailing it. If you have a friend or neighbor who cannot make the meeting, you could pick up theirs also. Jane has put in a lot of time and effort in preparing the Directories, and I want to say Thank You Jane!!

If you have extra gardening magazines or catalogs you don't want, be sure and bring them to the meetings to share with others. We will also be having our ever-popular door prizes. If you would like to contribute one or more door prizes, you could bring any kind of plant related materials e.g. seeds, plants, rabbit droppings, tools, ornaments, etc. As you begin to plan and start seeds and plants, think ahead to our member-to-member plant sale at the May meeting and prepare some for that.

A very important announcement: **The Master Gardeners' Garden Fair will be Saturday, April 2** and we will need some people to help set up our booth, attend to the booth during the day in 2 hour shifts, and help take down the booth at the end of the Fair. Nancy Deckard is in charge of this and will give us more information at the March meeting as well as having a sign-up sheet. Notice this is before our next meeting which is April 6 and so that's why we urgently need you to sign-up at the March meeting.

I hope to see you all at the March 2 meeting. Mark

## **Need a Ride?**

After polling of members and much discussion the decision was made to stay with our same meeting day and location. We will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of the month (see the 2016 Event Calendar in this newsletter for more details). We will also stay at the Southside Christian Church at 500 E. Empire Mill Road, Bloomington, IN. Some members expressed concern about driving at night and several members stepped up with offers of ride sharing. If you need a ride to any meeting call one of the following:

Jeanne Lager 812-988-8431  
Nancy Deckard 812-606-2538  
Debbie Shields 812-334-0569  
John Simpson 812-332-8815

If anyone else is available to give rides to members please let me know and I will distribute the information to the membership. Jane Herr (jane@rjherr.com or 812-320-2340)

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**Refreshments** for the March meeting will be provided by SIDHDIS officers: Mark Cline, Greg Beavers, Karen Crosby, Diana Young, Jane Herr, Sue Speichert

# 2016 EVENT CALENDAR

<p>March 2     <b>“Iris: Kinds &amp; Culture”</b> Dan Knudsen</p> <p>April 2     <b>Master Gardener's Fair</b> SIDHDIS Exhibit at National Guard Ar- mory</p> <p>April 6     <b>“All you ever wanted to Know about Moles, Insect Control and Organic Gar- dening”</b> Amy Thompson</p> <p>May 4       <b>Member to Member Plant Sale</b></p> <p>June 1      <b>“Companion Plants for your Garden”</b> Cindy Vogel</p> <p>June 25, 26 <b>Bloomington Garden Walk</b></p>	<p>July 26     <b>SIDHDIS Exhibit at Monroe County Fair</b></p> <p>August 3    <b>SIDHDIS election Demonstration of divid- ing &amp; labeling</b></p> <p>August 27   <b>Annual Public Plant Sale at Highland Village Pente- costal Church, 515 S. Curry Pike (9am-4pm)</b></p> <p>September 11 <b>Annual Pitch-In Picnic, Plant Trade and Give Away at 1pm at David Sherlock's</b></p> <p>October 5    <b>“Curating Your Daffodil Collection to Enjoy, Share &amp; Show”</b> Suzy Wert, Sara Kinne, &amp; Lynn Courson</p> <p>December    <b>Holiday Party</b></p>
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## March 2 Meeting at Southside Christian Church: “Iris: Kinds & Culture”

Your don't want to miss this meeting with long time (more than 10 years) SIDHDIS member Dan Knudsen as our speaker. Dan has grown iris all his life. His earliest memories involve helping his mother in her iris garden with growing, weeding and dividing. Much of his early years were spent in eastern Washington State. His family grew iris obtained from Schreiners or from “Dr. Parker”, a family friend who an early member of the Aril Iris Society. Later they moved to Virginia and Dan got a taste of growing in clay soils. His current gardens are about 15 years old and he is growing descendants of iris grown by his family before 1970. These historical iris are his special passion. He formed his Shields Ridge Gardens about five years ago and it now includes three separate gardens under its license.

Dan will briefly cover different kinds of iris in his presentation to help us become familiar with the needs of the different varieties. He will then go into greater detail about he cares for bearded iris, Siberians, Louisianans, Spurias and Japanese. For each type he will cover everything from soil preparation to how and when to dig, divide and replant. There will be plenty of time for questions.

### 2016 Directories Available at March Meeting

The 2016 Directories with lists of people, events, meetings, officers, and other important club information are now ready. They can be picked up at the March 2 meeting. **Please try to make this meeting and pick up your Directory and save our club the cost of mailing.**

If you did not pay your dues before the publishing of the directory your name will not appear in it. You can still join and receive a directory and all the other fantastic benefits of SIDHDIS membership, see our treasurer Diana Young. Annual dues are \$10 for singles and \$15 for families.

## Spring is coming and so are the Daffodil Shows!

**April 6-11, 2016**

*"Show Me Daffodils" 2016 World Daffodil Convention*

St. Louis, Missouri

Daffodil enthusiasts from around the world will see a fabulous daffodil show, participate in interactive educational sessions, tour the world-renowned Missouri Botanical Garden, and visit both commercial and private daffodil collections. For anyone interested but without arrangements, the reduced Registration Fee of \$287 USD is in effect if postmarked by March 1, thereafter it is \$325 USD. The website at <http://stldaffodilclub.org/wdc2016/schedule.html> can be viewed for complete listing of events. Do review/renew current ADS membership as needed. It will be special!

**April 14-15, 2016**

*Indiana Daffodil Society (IDS)*

Nature Center at Holliday Park

Indianapolis, Indiana

Consider showing your daffodil blooms at this Indy show with staging of flowers 2:00pm-8:45pm on April 14, to be continued 9am-11am on the morning of April 15, before the show opens. Further information at <http://www.indianadaffodilsociety.org>

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### Master Gardener's Fairs begin in March:

**March 18-19**

*Morgan County Master Gardener's Fair*

4085 Leonard Rd, just off SR 252, 3 miles east of Martinsville. (Noon to 7:00pm on the 18th, and 8:00am to 3pm on the 19th)

**March 19, 9 am—4 pm**

*Putnam County Master Gardener's Fair*

at the Putnam County Fairgrounds (on 231 just north of Greencastle)

**March 19, 9 am—4 pm**

*Hendricks County Master Gardener's Fair*

*"Gardening for All Ages"*

at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds 1900 E Main St, Danville, IN 46122(free)

**April 2, 9am—4 pm**

*Monroe County Master Gardener's Fair*

Bloomington Armory (\$2)

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### Also Happening this Month:

**March 5 & 6, 2016**

*National Maple Syrup Festival*

The National Maple Syrup Festival will celebrate its second year in Brown County and will feature tree tapping, sap boiling, incredible foods and unique drinks using maple syrup as an ingredient. Brown County State Park will serve as the main location with various events throughout the county. See <http://nationalmaplesyrupfestival.com/> for more information.

**March 18 & 19, 2016**

*The Great Lakes Hosta College*

Each year during March, the Great Lakes Region (GLR) of the American Hosta Society hosts a gathering of approximately 500 enthusiastic gardeners from the Midwest and other parts of the US, Canada, and even Europe. This gathering is called Hosta College, and it takes place at Upper Valley Career Center in Piqua, Ohio. See more at [www.ihostohio.org/portal/ghc/college.asp](http://www.ihostohio.org/portal/ghc/college.asp)

As you can see SIDHDIS has lots going on this year! And what makes all this great stuff happen? You do! Step up and have fun. Volunteers will be needed for the Master Gardener's Fair, plant sales, the Monroe County Fair and our annual parties. Please consider joining the excitement—sign up boards will be available at regular meetings.

On a personal note I want to know what you would like to see in this newsletter—book reviews, web site info, new plant descriptions, even recipes (doesn't everyone eat?). If you have a contribution send it to me: [jane@rjherr.com](mailto:jane@rjherr.com), 4923 Stevens Rd., Nashville, IN 47448, or 812-320-2340. I need to have your piece by the end of the third week of the month for the next month's newsletter. —Jane Herr, newsletter editor



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