



MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER

President's Message

Dear Fellow Floriphiles,

Trees, shrubs, and flowers all seem to be happy with the weather. It is really breathtaking to look around at all the color and the changes the earth is making right now and to think it does this each spring year after year. I remember when I was in grade school that I used to make small baskets of colored construction paper by stapling them together, fill them with flowers, and hang them on the door knobs of neighbors' houses on the first of May each year. Later when I taught grade-schoolers, we would make 3D colored paper Daffodils and Hyacinths to decorate the room each spring. I guess this goes to show how much I have always enjoyed the flowers of spring.

SIDHDIS is having the annual **member-to-member plant sale on Wednesday, May 4. at Southside Christian Church at 7 pm.** The details are below. This is one of the meetings that is the most fun for everyone. Please come and participate by bring extra plants from your yard or by bringing your pocket book to purchase items, or both! There will be refreshments but no program or door prizes.

Sometime towards the middle of May the irises that Dan Knudsen and I have should be in full bloom. When we know when that will be, we will email you and tell you when you can come and visit Dan's and my irises. If someone else has irises and they would like to have club members come visit, please let me know. Don't forget to check in the Directory (see page 9) to see the club members who would be willing for you to phone ahead and then come visit.

Somewhere I recently read the following: "The garden in my head is better than the one in my yard." That's definitely true for me, but like all of you, I keep trying. Happy gardening. Hope to see you on Wednesday, May 4.

Mark

Member-to-Member Plant Sale 2016

On ***Wednesday, May 4, at 7:00 PM*** we will have our annual Member-to-Member plant sale at Southside Christian Church. **Please try to have your plants there by 6:45.** There will be refreshments, too, so come early to look at what's available and enjoy the fellowship. You may bring in any kind of plants that you have to sell to other members: indoor, outdoor, seedlings, seeds, trees, etc. Here are some guidelines to help you get ready to bring in your plants:

- Pot your plants or wrap in newsprint or plastic bags
- Label the plant with as much information as you can, i.e. cultivar, cultural requirements
- Give growing requirements, i.e. sun, shade, etc
- Put a price on the label; even dollars only
- Put your name on the tag so the buyer can ask you any questions
- Avoid bringing invasive plants
- You can make your own labels from cottage cheese cartons, mini blind slats, etc.

REMEMBER, there are **NO EARLY SALES**, and no picking up and setting aside plants before the sale actually begins which will be immediately following the short business meeting. Proceeds from the sale are for the benefit of the club and to give members a chance to try new plants at a low price. This sale is for **MEMBERS ONLY**. **Be sure to bring money to purchase plants: cash, checks and money orders will be accepted—no debit or credit cards.** **Meeting and sale will be held rain or shine!**

Plant Care for May

Daylily—Daylilies can be transplanted in late April and early May, depending on the weather. Plant the fans in well drained soil where they will receive at least 4-6 hours of sunlight. Soak the roots in water for a couple of hours before planting. The crown should be no more than 1 inch below the ground.

Hosta—Make sure that hostas get plenty of water; about an inch per week. If you mulch, keep the mulch about 3 inches from the crown.

Daffodils—Normally this is the end of the bloom season for daffodils, but in order for the plant to bloom well next year, you need to leave the foliage until it turns brown. Don't forget to add some low nitrogen fertilizer (such as 6-24-24) around the clumps. If you want to be able to dig the bulbs later, be sure to mark where they are now before you forget.

Iris—Usually May is the peak of the iris season. Keep weeding and enjoying them. After the Tall Bearded bloom, then come the Louisianas, Siberians, Japanese and others. This is a good time to search the web for iris growers and plan for next year's plantings. Check in the Directory and start with AIS website (American Iris Society) which will give you lots of links to iris sources.

Please add the following to your Directory:

Rebecca A. Johnson
939 Lilac Lane
Bedford, IN 47421
812-340-0069
histotech1948@gmail.com

Paula & Jerry Perron
6305 Bittersweet Road
Spencer, IN 47460
812-935-7424
paula.j.perron@gmail.com

Cindy Houston
812-825-6119
cahouston@aol.com

Gwen & Roger McCay
PO Box 1657
Bloomington, IN 47402-1657
812-322-4554
rmccay@aol.com

Bus Trip Cancelled due to Transportation Issues

Our May 7 trip to Chuck Bunnell's garden will not take place. No charter buses are available due to IU Graduation and the Kentucky Derby that same day and no passenger vans are available due to a recall!

If anyone is interested in trip planning for later in the summer please contact Greg Beavers or Mark Cline.

Refreshments for the May meeting will be provided by: Jan Skinner, Judy Summerville, Sara Huntington, Gywen Magee, Marcia Locke

*"Thou art the Iris, fair among the fairest,
Who, armed with golden rod
And winged with the celestial azure, bearest
The message of some God."
- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Iris*

It's All About Iris! Area shows and tours

May 21, 2016

Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Iris Show

Sullivan Hardware Do It Center., 6955 N. Keystone, Indianapolis, IN

Public viewing is 1-4 pm

For more information visit:

<http://www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org/>

May 21, 2016

North East Ohio Iris Society Annual Iris Show

Annual Iris show at the Rockefeller Park & Greenhouse located on 750 E. 88th Street Cleveland Ohio 44108.

May 23-28, 2016

AIS 2016 National Convention, Newark, NJ

Hosted by The American Iris Society, Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, and Essex County New Jersey. Attendees will have the opportunity to tour 3 beautiful gardens: Presby Memorial Iris Gardens and 2 beautiful gardens in Eastern Pennsylvania: one in Palmerton (Glenara Gardens of George & Carol Boyce), and one in Slatington (George Hil-denbrant Garden). For more information visit:

<http://ais2016convention.com/>

May 29, 2016

Northeastern Indiana Iris Society Iris Show

Botanical Conservatory, Fort Wayne, IN

Open to public @ noon

June 4, 2016

Southwestern Michigan Iris Society Iris Show

Wenke Greenhouses, Kalamazoo, MI

June 11, 2016

Region 6 American Iris Society Spring Meeting and Garden Tour

Logan County History Center, 521 E. Columbus Ave., Bellefontaine, OH

This spring tour will be held in west-central Ohio, in and around historic Bellefontaine. This one-day meeting features three plantings of guest beardless iris. There are guest spuria, Siberians and species crosses in addition to permanent plantings at the Nolin-Saxby's Stick and Thistle farm. Attendees will enjoy brunch, dinner, plenty of time to socialize, and of course, our wonderful auction!

For more info. visit: <http://aisregion6.weebly.com/>

American Iris Society 2016 Photo Contest

The winner of each of the six categories will win a 2016 introduction, one year paid membership in the AIS and their photos will be published in the January AIS Bulletin and on the AIS web site. Runners up in each category will receive a 2013 or 2014 introduction.

(view prior winners and runners up at www.irises.org, select Photos & Puzzles)

The entry form is on the AIS website above. Either e-mail high resolution (300 dpi or higher) digital photos or mail your high resolution photos on a CD. You may enter 5 photos total.

The deadline for entries is Mid. July 31, 2016. There must be irises of the genus Iris in the photo.

Categories:

1. Irises in a landscaped garden.
2. Irises in a field or in a home garden
3. Events. tours, a person or people (at iris location).
4. Close up of an iris or of irises
5. Iris photos - art effects, macro of bloom segments.
6. Photos of pets, wildlife, or garden art with the irises.

Send your photo CD and entry form to:

The American Iris Society Photo Contest
c/o Janet Smith, PO Box 1585
Coarsegold, CA 93614-1585

OR

E-mail your digital photos and entry form to: gby456@gmail.com

Further inquiries: gby456@gmail.com



Jane Herr
4923 Stevens Road
Nashville, IN 47448

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday, May 4, 2016

Time: 7 PM (snacks and fellowship before meeting)

Location: Southside Christian Church
500 E. Empire Mill Road
Bloomington, IN

This meeting will be our member-to-member plant sale, see article inside newsletter for more information.