

# Tri-County Iris Society



Dear Region 6 Members and Friends:

Please join Tri-County Iris Society for the 2018 Region 6 Spring Convention, Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, and Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at Hampton Inn, Okemos, Michigan. We look forward to greeting you at the registration table on Friday beginning at 5:00 p.m. Friday evening activities include exhibition judges' training, and a banquet, where speaker Cathy Egerer, President of the Historical Iris Preservation Society (H.I.P.S.) will present on historic irises. Saturday activities include four garden tours, garden judges' training, and an auction. Over 80 guest irises from 12 hybridizers were planted at two of the four gardens on tour. Treat yourself to our convention where you will: visit the Hamlick garden, a lovely perennial garden that contains numerous irises in the plantings; the Barton/MacGuidwin garden (containing guests), which makes its Regional tour debut; the Kaufmann gardens (containing guests) where the hundreds of irises for Tri-County Iris Society sales are grown and where garden judges' training will be held, and the Hollingworth farm, where you can take the rare opportunity to see some of the Siberian Iris seedlings under evaluation by the first and only hybridizer to win the Dykes Medal with a Siberian Iris! The Convention will conclude with a phenomenal auction at the Hollingworth farm, immediately following the tour of their garden. Please start thinking about what you might like to bring to donate for the auction.

Since each garden has reasonable parking space, and are all in close proximity to one another, we decided it best to use personal vehicles (car-pooling as much as appropriate) instead of renting a bus. Doing so helped us keep registration costs low. Without bus rides, there are fewer opportunities to socialize, so please use opportunities at the Friday evening dinner, during lunch, and at the various gardens, to introduce yourselves to those you don't know – share your gardening ideas – laugh with them – make new friends!

We look forward to a successful tour that we hope will rival any you've previously attended. Once again, please join us. We'll be excited to see you!

Lori Lanford, Convention Chair  
John Kaufmann, TCIS President

