### Annual Region 6 Awards

Annual Region 6 awards are made to a Region 6 hybridizer (**Don Water Award**) and to a hybridizer from outside Region 6 (**Hal & Dorothy Stahly Award**) whose iris introductions are voted as having the best clump display at the Region Six Spring Meeting.



Bottle Rocket (Sutton, 2009) Photo: B. Heilman

# AIS Region 6 Newsletter

Summer 2023

Indiana - Michigan - Ohio

Hal & Dorothy Stahly
Award

1<sup>st</sup> Place Tie





Hoosier Belle Photo: B.Heilman

> Eye For The Guy Photo: B.Heilman

### **Don Water Award**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Hoosier Belle (Bunnell, 2012) 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Eye For The Guy (Autumn Cordes, 2017)



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Jim Copeland, Lawton, MI, 49065, (269) 624-1968 | email: jandjcope@aol.com

#### **Judges' Training Chairman**

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### **Regional Youth Chairman**

**TBD** 

#### **Regional Webmaster**

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Jean Kaufmann, Okemos, MI, 48864, (517) 347-7555 | email: jejpkaufmann@hotmail.com



### Region 6 Affiliates

### **Columbus Iris Society**

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### **Grand Valley Iris Society**

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### Indiana Daylily - Iris Society

Rod Maust, President Indianapolis, IN 46202 317.923.3786 yodermaust@sbcglobal.net

### **North East Ohio Iris Society**

Fred Pedersen, President Brecksville, OH 44141 330.714.9102 fpedersen@neo.rr.com



### **Mio Irisarians**

Website: www.mioiris.com Adam Cordes, President Hillman, MI 49746 989.742.4248 cordesview@gmail.com

### Northeastern Indiana Iris Society

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### Southwestern Michigan Iris Society

John Coble, President Galesburg, MI 49053 269.665.7500 ensata@aol.com

### **Tri County Iris Society**

Linda Jones, President Mason, MI 48854 jonesjandl@gmail.com

2023 Spring Meeting Kaufmann garden (photo: B.Heilman



### RVP's Message

Fred Pedersen

Another excellent Spring Regional has just concluded! As always, I enjoyed every minute of it. Friday evening was a treat to have Chad Harris give us his presentation on historic Japanese irises. One key thing I took away from it was that irises introduced a century and a half ago looked very much as modern as the Japanese irises being introduced today. I want to do more to learn about the culture of Japanese irises. Of course, one way will be to attend the 2024 AIS Convention in Portland, a Japanese iris

convention who visited their gardens on Saturday, June 3rd.

I am looking forward to seeing the results of the voting on the irises by all of us, hopefully in this newsletter. The gardens all were lovely, but I noticed and confirmed, one issue I had in my garden this year. Some of my most reliable irises did not bloom at all which, I think, had to do with the extremely warm February and a late freeze that confused some of my irises.

I am working on a solution to our Spring 2024 regional. I am also eagerly awaiting our Fall Regional, September 16, in the Fort Wayne area, hosted again by TCIS. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

### Welcome New Members

Drew Armfield Gosport, IN

Timothy Doman Aurora, OH Karen Flittner Newburg, IN

Iris Hunt Indianapolis, IN Judy Smith Three Rivers, MI Margaret Smith Oxford, OH

Carol Wait Grand Rapids, MI

Heather Web Grand Blanc, MI



Know It All (Black, 2016)
Photo: B.Heilman in the Kaufmann Garden

### 2023 Spring Meeting

### Friday Night With Chad Harris

After an enjoyable time visiting, meeting new members and a delicious buffet dinner everyone settled in for Chad Harris' presentation.

In 2011 there was an earthquake in Japan which led to a tidal wave which then caused a nucelar power plant to be taken out. Unsure of the possible effects the power plant could cause on horticulture, one man (of Japanese descent) living 2 miles from Chad Harris commuted back and forth (numerous times) from Portland, Oregon to Japan. The objective: To bring Historic Japanese Iris to Mount Pleasant Gardens to ensure their preservation.

Chad has devoted much time and garden space to save these beautiful irises. His presentation was slide after slide of beautiful, amazing forms of Japanese Iris that have been developed in Japan over the past 250 years. Click on the link to see all of Chad's presentation.

https://www.bing.com/search?q=chad+harris+historic+japanese+iris+youtub&FORM=A1NTBH&PC=A1NT&PTAG=52SS5OUJIE

Chuck and Barb Bunnell were unable to attend the 2022 AIS Convention, where he would have been presented with the Williamson-White Medal for Breakfast In Bed (2014). Bob Hollingworth made the presentation Friday evening with 56 region members present. Congratulations!



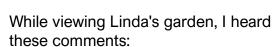
### The Jones Garden

Alvie Bebertz, article and photos

What a delight to visit Linda Jones' garden! The delight began the night before when Linda asked the question, "Why do we do this?" Why do we put in so much work and effort to get a garden ready for

show? Well, Linda spoke about all the beautiful iris she was able to see last year, including succulents, pansies, etc. Last year I thought that one of the gardens was rather small and so I loved Linda's perspective - she said how nice it was that someone with a smaller yard could grow

such beauty!



Oh, I love this - it is so cool.

That is amazing!

It's laid out really nicely, beautiful.

It's very pretty the way she has other flowers worked in with the iris.





The beds were beautifully landscaped and mulched with a lovely long row all around the house. We were even serenaded with lovely harp music! Thank you, Linda for answering the question "Why do we do this!"

### The Hamelick Garden

Peggy Harger-Allen, article and photos

It was a pleasure to return to the Hamelink garden to see how it has evolved since our last visit in 2018. Just a lovely spot to view fabulous iris as well as glorious clumps of peonies, groves of garlic, giant hostas and unusual conifers. The barn and house were finished, and both are stunning. Some favorite irises, both young and old, included Sotto Voce (Hager, 2000) (photo: top left), Got Milk (Aitken, 2002) (photo: center), Going Home (Blyth, 1997) (photo right), and Pure as Gold (Maryott, 1993) (photo lower left). Everyone raved over Peony "Do Tell" and the author promptly went home and ordered one! It was fun to meet new friends and visit with old ones over lemonade in the shade. Many thanks to Jane for being on tour again. Unforgettable garden.



CIS Group: Sheena, Lou, Jody, Wil, Chris, Bill, and Susan







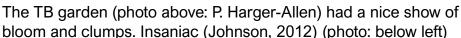


IDIS Group: John, Marie, Peggy, Rod, Barb, Chuck, and Greg

### The Hollingworth Garden

The Hollingworth Garden was a sea of color on display for visitors to enjoy. Hal Stahly's Celtic Glory (2000) (photo right: P. Harger-Allen) was putting on quite a show. It really caught the viewers eye with the red barn enhancing its bright orange colors.





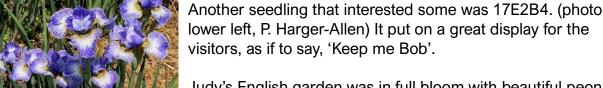


caught many visitors eye. The white falls were overlayed with red-violet lines that flared out to the wide yellow rim.

Not far from the TB garden viewers could see stunning clumps of yellow Siberians. It was a Hollingworth Seedling 14V3A10 (photo right, P. Harger-Allen) a closer look had many hoping it would be a possible keeper.







Judy's English garden was in full bloom with beautiful peonies, daisies, Siberians, Baptisia and a variety of perennials. All helped to make the Hollingworth Farm a perfect location for a picnic lunch under the shade trees.

### The Kaufmann Garden

Brock Heilman, article and photos

The last time I sat down to write about a spring regional garden I was enjoying a delicious jar of homemade jelly made by the Copelands. This time it's homemade redbud jelly made by Jody Nolin and gifted to me after the auction by a dear and selfless friend who cared more about satiating my curiosity than keeping it for herself. Spoiler alert: it's delicious too! That auction took place at the Kaufmann's – the tour garden I'm here to talk about.

I find myself in the funny place of writing about a tour garden that many other guests might have never seen before and I've had the privilege of visiting for years. I was extremely fortunate to be able to visit the Kaufmanns in their garden Friday before the evening's events and first thing Saturday morning before the heat set in. They farm iris for the annual Tri County Iris Society sale, so the iris shone in their orderly and still wonderfully appealing rows. I was especially spoiled to be handed a stack of maps and the use of their golf cart before I headed out to wander the fields.

Some of my favorites included: 'Bargain Hunter' (Black, 2010) (photo: left) a crisp white with orange beard, yellow hafts, and hints of purple veining down the falls. 'Captain Thunderbolt' (Blyth, 2011/12) (photo: 2<sup>nd</sup> from left) a lavender/purple bitone with falls covered in high contrast dark purple and white veining, orange beard, and a lighter fall rim, for good measure. 'Autumn Tease' (Johnson, 2019) (photo: 3<sup>rd</sup> from left) – one of the newly planted varieties – really glowed in its bright yellows and ambers with white, then yellow, fall rims. 'Stolen Sweets' (Black, 2009) (photo: right) was as crisp and clean as ever in several gardens. Pristine white with bright yellow standard and fall bands. 'Know It All' (Black, 2016) TB was an intriguing variety. Sort of an electric blue/violet ground color with a warmer violet overlay which deepened at the edges. Old gold beards and hafts.

There were many, many more interesting varieties of iris to enjoy, along with the bubbling koi pond and beautiful mixed beds around their impressive home. TCIS member and good friend, Evelyne Cudel, even arranged for her musician friends The Pretty Shaky String Band to play some Appalachian music while folks rested in the tent's shade. It was a very nice touch. I wish I could have enjoyed more before the judges' training pulled me away. Chad Harris of Mt Pleasant Iris Farm put on an excellent session about Siberian iris in the garden. Adam Cordes kept things lively as auctioneer, with every donation finding a new home and benefiting the region's coffers.



The extreme heat, the drought, the late freezes – they all tried to rain on our parade and none of it worked. It was a wonderful regional, full of great bloom and even better friends. Jean and John have always been very generous with their time, space, kindness, and gardens. I'm so grateful I could be there to enjoy it all again.







### 2023 Spring Meeting Ballot Favorites

Jim Copeland, Awards Chair

### Favorite Iris

- 1<sup>st</sup> Bottle Rocket (Sutton, 2009)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Winters Smile (Black, 2016)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Hoosier Belle (Bunnell, 2012)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Melted Butter (Fan, 1992)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Black Suited (Innerst, 1999)
- 4th Battle Of The Bands (Sutton, 2011)
- 4th Luxuriant (Black, 2016)
- 4th Pure As Gold (Maryott, 1989)
- 4th Red Ahead (Black, 2016)
- 4th Eye For The Guy (Cordes, 2017)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Dusky Challenger (Schreiner, 1986)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Mary Louise Michie (Miller, 1985)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Judy Judy (Hollingworth, 2010)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Code Of Honor (Johnson, 2013)
- 5th Magical Encounter (Schreiner, 1999)

There were 107 other varieties that got four or less votes, six of them were seedlings.



## Favorite Iris Choices From Our Youth Members

Taavi, Bennett, Jacob, Steven and Jody with their new hand carved walking sticks!



Each of the youths were asked to pick a favorite iris from one of the gardens on tour. They each kept track of their choices recording favorites in each garden for later voting.

**Steven's** choice in the Jones garden was Bottle Rocket (Sutton, 2009). He said it had good form and was a nice clump.



**Taavi** liked Coming Storm (Schreiner, 2005) in the Hamelick garden. He liked the color and said the stems were straight and it had nice branches.



Thank you, Steven, Taavi, Jacob and Bennett! Our readers enjoy learning what our younger members like in our world of iris. **Jacobs** favorite in the Hollingworth garden was Headline News (Johnson, 2021). He said it was a nice

flower, had good branches and looked sturdy.

Bennett's choice in the Kaufmann's garden was Padded Shoulders (Black, 2005). He really liked the way the orange was on the falls and the bright orange beards.



### 2023 Region 6 Iris Show Results And Events

### CIS

**Bruce Schaffer** 

CIS will be holding an Iris Sale on Sunday, July 16, 2023, in Dayton, Ohio, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Market, 600 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Kayton, OH. The sale will be from 11 AM to 3 PM, with setup at 10 AM. We will be outdoors under a tent at Dock 9.

CIS is also holding an Iris Sale on Saturday, July 22,2023, in Columbus, OH, at the Whetstone Public Library. Details to be determined.

### **IDIS**

Peggy Harger-Allen, article and photos

### Indiana Daylily and Iris Society Iris Display - Great Success!

IDIS decided to do an iris fun display at the Avon Gardens Peony Palooza since IDIS is only doing one sanctioned show a year (Daylily will be July 1, 2023, at

Avon Gardens). It was a fabulous display and huge success!

Fifty-four entries grown by six members. All classes and colors were represented. The public voted on his or her favorite stalk. We tallied 250 votes and the tall bearded took the day

(MTB's received no votes....). Winners included a tie for first place. Greg

Beavers with Gypsy Romance (Schreiner, 1994) (photo: far right) and Dan Howell with a NOID (photo: below) that needs a name since everyone wanted a piece of it. Second place to Rod Maust for Cleared For Take Off

(Schreiner, 2011) (photo: left). Wintry Sky (Keppel, 2002) (photo: far right) by Greg Beavers was third. It was a





beautiful day to be in a lovely

garden surrounded by stunning flowers and all those gorgeous iris!



### **NEIIS**

Lana Wolfe, President

Best Specimen Of Show: Irene's Song

Irene's Song Alvie Bebertz

(Nicodemus, 2011)
Exhibited by Alvie
Bebertz (photo: left)
Best Seedling Of Show:
TB seedling exhibited/
hybridized by Bruce

Schaffer (photo: left)



Silver Medal Winner:
Brian Wendel
Bronze Medal Winner:
Lana Wolfe
Artistic Design
Winner: Alice In
Wonderland
Designed/Exhibited by
Anita Wendel



### **NEOIS**

Fred Pedersen, President

Greetings from North East Ohio! The NEOIS had its first AIS sanctioned iris show in several years. First Covid then low bloom put us down for the count until this year. We had a great show at the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, with over 70 exhibits including David Mauerman's many seedlings. Lou DiSanto's Happy Traveler, a 2015 SPX introduced by Marty Schafer and

Jan Sacks was Queen of our show. Our top-rated seedling was 19.2672, a TB



seedling grown by David Mauerman. We also added three new members and five additional people to our email list. In addition to our show, the Willott Iris Garden sold 2100 pots of iris during the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse plant sale, the weekend prior to the show. That helps to fund the maintenance of the garden. They literally sold out of potted irises. They will be potting up another 2000 pots during June-July for the next sale.



Silver Medal Winner: David Mauerman Bronze Medal Winner: Lou DiSanto

### **SWMIS**

John Coble, President



Best Specimen Of Show: Mirame (Morgan, 2019) Exhibited by John Coble (photo: left)

Best In Section TB:
Backwater Blues (Stahly,

1999) Exhibited by Mason Patacsil Silver Medal Winner: Susie Everse Bronze Medal Winner: Ginny & Steve

Smith





During SWMIS' June meeting John Coble presented Jim Copeland with the **2022 Morgan-Wood Medal** for Fisherman's Fancy (2011). Congratulations. Jim!

# **TCIS**Linda Jones, article; Peggy Harger-Allen photos

Tri County Iris Society enjoyed hosting the spring regional meeting. It was absolutely wonderful to talk to so many of you and to see faces that are familiar as well as new members. Jean Kaufmann and Judy Hollingworth started planning the fall meeting before a week had passed after the spring meeting. We hope that you will join us.

We are looking forward to our dig and sale in July. Our group utilizes both Facebook Marketplace and an in-person sale at the Capital City Market in the heart of Lansing. Due to the hospitality of John and Jean Kaufmann, many attended an iris open house the day after the spring meeting and pre-ordered rhizomes. Customers enjoy the opportunity to see the iris before purchasing them and there is nothing like seeing a beautiful plant in full bloom.

We also recently completed a hybridizer interview with our own Bob and Judy Hollingworth in their gorgeous garden which was in full bloom at the time. Currently, the interview is being edited. It was absolutely a joy to spend time with the two of them, and it was fun to hear so many stories about their history as irisarians and hybridizers. The interview will eventually become part of the

AIS archive.







I enjoyed growing a few of Adam Cordes' seedlings. Three of them are pictured. Left to right:

MTB LL60A - TB K44-A - TB L 18A

### **MIO**

Adam Cordes, President

**Open Division:** 

Best Specimen Of Show: Jamaican Velvet

(McGarvey, 1985) Exhibited by: Adam Cordes (photo

left)



Silver Medal Winner: Mary McDonald Bronze Medal Winner: Paula Currie

Artistic Design Winner: Hale, Designed/ Exhibited by Kim Kocher (photo right)



**Youth Division:** 

Best Specimen Of Show: Lavendar Lemonade (Shadlow, 2020)

Exhibited by: Steven Cordes (photo right)



Silver Medal Winner: Steven

Cordes

Bronze Medal Winner: Taavi Cordes



Artistic Design Winner: Ikebana,
Designed/Exhibited by
Taavi Cordes

### Anna Mae Miller, A Life Well Lived

Karl Miller, Photos: John Coble

Anna Mae Searcy Miller passed away the 26th of May 2023 just a few weeks shy of her 99th birthday.

Her mind was still sharp, her body just wore out. It was the end of a life well lived.



She was proceeded in death by her parents, Wilson & Laura Elizabeth (Tapp) Searcy, her husband Ronald F Miller, son Bruce R Miller and brother Lloyd Searcy. She is survived by her son Karl Miller and his wife Kathy, sister-in-laws Wilma Searcy, Linda Lawlor and Marg Clark and several cousins and nephews.

Anna Mae was born on a cattle farm near Liberty MO, on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1924. She received her degree in chemistry from William Jewell College during World War 2. Upjohn brought her to Kalamazoo as a researcher working on the synthesis of Cortisone. She helped break the glass ceiling by being one of the first female chemists to work for the company.

She met her husband Ron at a square dance, and they married after he returned from serving in the Korean conflict. Her career at Upjohn ended (as was their practice) when she got pregnant with the first of her two sons. That was their loss.

Along with raising children, she was one of the founding members of the Chula Vista Garden Club and also started a large flower garden. She began flower arranging and used fresh flowers and plant material from the garden for those. This led into becoming a flower show judge and traveling around the state judging arrangements and horticulture displays at garden shows with her gardening buddies. When she couldn't find the right containers for her arrangements, she started taking pottery classes at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. This was the beginning of a 20+year association with them and a whole pile of Anna Mae thrown pottery. Because this was not enough to keep her busy, she started hybridizing Siberian iris and attending national, regional, and local Iris events.

Many of her hybrids were good enough to introduce resulting in two of them winning the top Siberian Iris award from the American Iris Society (photos below). As if this was not enough, she enjoyed going to plays, the symphony and traveling around the US and the world collecting art museums and botanical gardens. During wintertime she quilted, often times putting favorite flowers and images onto

fabric. At one time she belonged to four quilt groups.

More than anything else, Anna Mae was the consummate friend maker. She maintained relations with her former co-workers at Upjohn for decades, hung out and traveled with her gardening and quilting buddies and when she moved to Bronson place discovered a whole new batch of folks to know.

If you didn't know her personally, I hope this gives you an idea of a life well lived.



Anna Mae, always fun at conventions... June 2005, SJI Convention, Delaware.

John Coble



Anna Mae's Morgan-Wood Medal Winners



Frosted Cranberry (1998)

Aqua Whispers (1995)

### Mark Your Calendar

Year	Date	Event & Location	
2023	September 16	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: TCIS	
2024	June 25-29	AIS/Japanese Convention; Portland, OR	
	TBD	Region 6 Spring Meeting	
	September 15	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Host: NEIIS	
2025	June 2-7	AIS Convention, Billings, MT	
	TBD	Region 6 Spring Meeting, Host: IDIS	
	September 21	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Host: TBD	

Melted Butter (Fan, 1994) In the Hamelick Garden Photo: B.Heilman

### Registration Form

American Iris Society (AIS) Region 6
Fall Meeting
Sept 16, 2023

### **Location: Avilla Library 104 Ley St, Avilla, IN 46710**

Name:	Name:			
Address:	Address:			
CityState:Zip:	City:State:	Zip:		
Phone:	Phone:			
Email:	Email:			
Registration fee: #People X \$25.00 = \$				
Will you be attending Judges Training? Yes or No (How many?) Registration fee includes coffee, donuts and lunch				
Lunch choice: Ham Turkey	Vegetarian			
Special Dietary Requirements:				

Make check out to: Tri County Iris Society

#### Mail this form and check to:

Jean Kaufmann 5140 Cornell Rd Okemos MI 48864 Phone: 517-347-7555

Email: jejpkaufmann@hotmail.com

### Schedule:

10:00 - 12:00 Region 6 Business Meeting—Fred Pedersen RVP

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:00 Judge's Training

2:00 - 3:00 Program (TBD if we can get one, if not we get done earlier)

3:00 - 3:15 Break

3:15 – 4:30 Auction (Please bring things for auction)