



AIS Region 6 Newsletter



Gene Tremmel among the iris at the Willott Garden in Cleveland, OH

Spring 2021 Indiana - Michigan - Ohio

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Iris cristata

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ensata@aol.com

Tri County Iris Society

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jonesjandl@gmail.com



RVP's Message

Jean Kauffman

Greetings to all from someone who is still locked up, masked up, and fed up. I went back and reread my letters from the last year. They were all hopeful that we would

finally get to meet. Guess I was too optimistic. I am however hoping we will be able to meet this spring. Things are starting to gradually open and get back to normal and we have the vaccine getting out. We will keep you posted and again, I hope to see you in Ohio in May.



As I write, I am looking out at a total of 15+” of snow on my deck and temperatures I don’t even want to mention. I keep reassuring myself that this thick blanket of snow is keeping the iris well insulated against the temps. That’s what I am hoping any way. I wish the weeds would freeze but I figure they are insulated also, darn. With a warm-up expected, I am beginning to anticipate getting into the garden again. When my back starts hurting and I develop calluses on my knees as I crawl around weeding, I will probably wish for winter again. Then again, maybe not this year!



If we aren’t able to meet in May, I will continue to hope for a fall meeting and eventually I will have to be right! Until then, I plan to visit gardens and any nearby club activities that are held. I encourage everyone to visit other gardens and enjoy the beautiful spring flowers.

Photos of Kauffman garden taken in 2019.

Welcome New Members

Greg Beavers
Bloomington, IN

Skyler Kervin
Muskegon, MI

Nancy Mellott
Harrisville, MI

Janice Schroeder
Defiance, OH

Judith Shaw
Kent, OH

Stephanie Strauss Watty
Indianapolis, IN

William Weakland
Aurora, OH

Roselinde Neal
Bloomington, IN

2021 Introductions from Region 6 Hybridizers

Jill Copeland:

For 2021 Jill is introducing a pseudata, 'Spicy Mustard'. Ensata Gardens describes 'Spicy Mustard' as "A sassy addition to the pseudatas. Mustard yellow (plain and Dijon) with stark wine-red eye shadow halo around the dark mustard signal." And they ask you to, "Put some spice in your garden..." Jill's iris are available from Ensata Gardens. www.ensata.com



Bob Hollingworth:

Bob is introducing two Siberians this year.

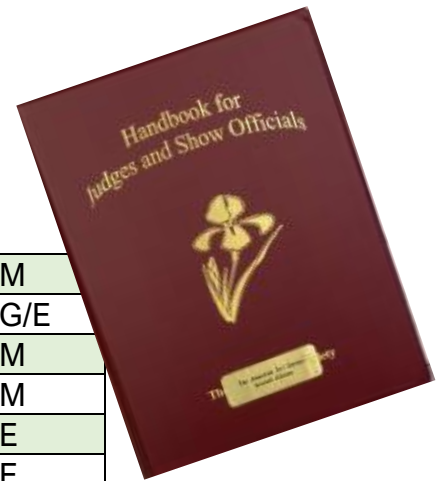


'Ruby Riches' is a tetraploid, described as "Bright wine-red with a flashy yellow-gold sunburst signal. Standards are light rose-red with blue-violet midribs and wide flaring and ruffled crests and wings. If you walked Bob's farm garden, you may have seen 'Ruby Riches' the seedling 17D9B1. (photo left)



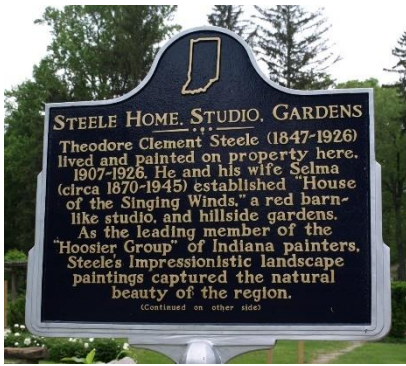
'Sapphire Starburst' is an early season tetraploid, seedling 17E24A. Ensata Gardens describes 'Sapphire Starburst' as "A bright burst of color in the garden. Bright white centers burst out across the falls with blue plicata pattern at the edges with a thin white rim. Standards and styles are solid blue that accentuate the centers of the blooms. 'Sapphire Starburst is very distinctive." (photo right)

2021 Region 6 Judges



Robert Bauer	Galesburg, MI 49053	M
Barbara Bunnell	Lafayette, IN 47905	G/E
Dr. Charles A. Bunnell	Lafayette, IN 47905	M
John A. Coble	Galesburg, MI 49053	M
James A. Copeland	Lawton, MI 49065	E
Jill Copeland	Lawton, MI 49065	E
Adam Cordes	Hillman, MI 49746	G/E
Autumn Rose Cordes	Hillman, MI 49746	G/E
Kathleen Devlin	Milan, MI 48106	G/E
Deb Diget	Battle Creek, MI 49014	G/E
Louis F DiSanto	Aurora, OH 44202	G/E
Peggy Harger-Allen	Whitestown, IN 46075	G/E
Brock Heilman	Belleville, MI 48112	G/E
Judith Hollingworth	Williamston, MI 48895	G/E
Robert Hollingworth	Williamston, MI 48895	E
Jean Kaufmann	Okemos, MI 48864	G/E
Inge Mesik	Plainwell, MI 49080	G/E
Kathy J. Moore	Franklin, IN 46131	M
Jody Nolin	Rushsylvania, OH 43347	M
Annette Pedersen	Brecksville, OH 44141	A
Fred Pedersen	Brecksville, OH 44141	G/E
Laurel Richardson	Indianapolis, IN 46242	G/E
Mary L Swann-Young	Mc Cordsville, IN 46055	G/E
Janet L. Wilke	Indianapolis, IN 46226	M
Mrs. Anthony Willott	Beachwood, OH 44122	E
Wil Weakland	Aurora, OH 44202	A
Doris Winton	Franklin, IN 46131	M
Lana Wolfe	Willshire, OH 45898	M





T. C. Steele Indiana State Historic Site - a great place to visit during the iris season

Peggy Harger-Allen

Hoosier artist, Theodore Clement Steele, was a world-famous impressionist painter. His wife Selma was a wonderful gardener.



Together they built a beautiful 211-acre retreat, art studio, and several gardens in the hills of Brown County Indiana called *The House of the Singing Winds*.

This Indiana treasure, the T.C. Steele State Historic Site,

www.tcsteele.org, is worth a visit during the iris season. Artists from all over the world flock to this gem to paint, take classes and commune with nature. Besides the home tours, three miles of hiking trails, and Indiana history, the restored formal gardens are gorgeous and are full of historic iris. The former groundsman, Anthony Joslin, prepared a detailed 11-page plant list and set about restoring Selma's gardens to their original state. The gardens were

rededicated in 2017. Lori Willis, present grounds person,

invites gardeners to visit during any season of the year where there is something for everyone. The gardens are one of our five regional Historic Iris Preservation Society Display Gardens (Indiana-3, Ohio-1, Michigan-1). Brown County Indiana is famous for the color of the fall leaves, but the

spring season with all the migrating birds, wildflowers, and iris is amazing. The T.C. Steele site (closed Monday and Tuesday) is centrally located in Indiana and a great day or weekend trip for Region 6 irisarians. The photos were taken in 2019.



Top: Believed to be 'Lindbergh' (Arbuckle, 1928)

Bottom right: 'The Black Douglas' (Sass, 1934)

Bottom left: 'Snow Queen' (Barr & Sons, 1900)



Some Iris Musings

Brian Wendel

Spuria Iris bloom this year was amazing. 'Carousel of Delight' (Cadd 2006) (photo left) produced 17 bloom stalks. 'Clarke Cosgrove' (Hager 1975) an older iris with excellent form produced 15 bloom stalks. 'Kaibab Trail' (Wickenkamp 1985)



(photo right) produced 7 beautiful bloom stalks in a less than desirable location. Two new to our garden Spuria Iris were brought by Peggy this past September. 'Piper May' (Jenkins 2009) and 'Rhett's Surprise' (Jenkins, 2006) (photo below right). We so enjoyed the Spuria focused Spring Regional a few years back hosted by Jody and the Columbus club that honored the noble, but often overlooked Spuria class.



A small portion of the 2020 Siberian Iris seed crosses harvest was prepared via daily water changes for

14 days, a one-half hour soak in a diluted bleach solution followed by a thorough rinse and then a three-month refrigeration period. That process followed by soaking the seeds daily in warm water for one half hour and then draining the seeds and leaving them at room temperature seriously increased the germination of the seeds. I found that diploid and tetraploid Siberian Iris germinated at almost equal rates with the method described.



I have enjoyed watching and growing 'Double Play' (Hollingworth, 2010). I used the 'Double Play' pollen on some named cultivars and seedlings of mine. Bob has related to me that one half of the seedlings should have the doubled effect. The study of genetics and how it presents itself in crosses never ceases to amaze, humble, inspire and makes me truly thankful for the miracle that it is. 'Double Play' has a fairly generous genetic base, so I would be inclined to think that even the non-double seedlings would have amazing potential. Considering that the amount of pollen that 'Double Play' produces is very limited, the pollen is very potent as most of the crosses resulted in well filled pods using much less pollen than normal since there is limited pollen.

I found 'Something Shocking' (Hollingworth, 2013) (photo bottom left) to be very pollen fertile. I also



found OP seedlings of 'Crimson Fireworks' (Dunlop, 2014) (photo bottom right) to be pod and pollen fertile. The majority of the 2020 tetraploid seed crosses were comprised of 'Something Shocking' and the OP 'Crimson Fireworks' seedlings to named cultivars or some of my seedlings. It is truly a pleasure to be able to pot up germinated seeds just as a big snow is coming and for them to pop up in their pots in the basement under growth lights later. It is so hard



to wait for them to pop up. As this is written 3 diploid seedling and one tetraploid seedling has popped through. I am so excited.

2021 A Better Year

Lana Wolfe

We are all looking forward to a better year for all our clubs. It has been difficult for sure. I don't know about all of you, but I find it fun to go back to all the pictures taken last year of the Iris and other flowers. They make me smile for sure. Also, I enjoy looking at other flowers posted on Facebook. If any of you are on Facebook, you are welcome to go to my wall and look at my albums. Some pictures are good and some not so good and you are welcome to use any of them that you like. My promise to myself to



slow down sort of worked but I must admit that I got lost in the "what if's" with the daylilies for sure. Trying to take more time to smell the roses as the saying goes and am liking it quite a bit. So, looking forward to the spring regional and seeing you all.

The Society for Japanese Iris

SJI SALE of the 2020 Convention Guest Iris

The SJI Convention in Nova Scotia was canceled in 2020, but the Guest Iris kept growing! There was no auction, so SJI is going to sell the increase of Guest iris grown in the US for US customers. This is a plant SALE, not an auction. First come, first served! There are 38 varieties for sale, but 9 only have one division for sale! To order; send an email to John Coble at: ensata@aol.com with a list of what you WANT. John will reply with what is still available, plus shipping (\$14.00) and request that you send him a check made out to SJI. Checks only, to SJI. Shipping will be Sept 7, 2021

This is the only money-making activity that SJI has, and our treasury is running low because there was no convention Auction to bring in needed money to publish The Review... costs are way more than dues. So, you are very welcome to buy these iris like it is "a Sale"! Your purchase is a 100% donation to SJI and you get some beautiful newer iris. After you get the plants YOU want reserved, then you can tell friends or local club members about the sale! Full Sale details, pictures, prices, and descriptions are available to anyone on the SJI website: www.socji.org Go Look. You can at least look at all of the Guest iris that were at the Convention on the website. Wish we would'a been there, right?

What a better way to get local iris or garden club members to look at our website!

**BECKY'S
DREAM**

Jill Copeland
2018



**PURE
EMOTION**

Terry Aitken
2013

**SPICY
MUSTARD**

Jill Copeland
New Pseudata
for 2021



Region 6 Display Gardens

<p>Chuck and Barb Bunnell 7941 Peshewa Dr. Lafayette, IN 47905 Phone: (765) 296-6955 Email: whozher@intel.net MDB, SDB, IB, BB, MTB, TB, SIB, LA, SPU, Species, JA Peak bloom: May</p>	<p>Virginia's Iris Garden, Janet Wilke 5406 Boy Scout Rd., Lawrence, IN 46226 Phone: (317) 317-749-1332 (Mon-Fri 8am -6.00 pm) Email: jane.wilk@yahoo.com Dwarfs, IB, TB, BB, SIB Peak bloom: April 15 to May 31 Call on weekends.</p>	<p>Joan McFadden 450 E Cty. Rd. 450N, Seymour, IN Phone: (812) 523-6273, cell: (765) 749-2477 Email: jmcfadden100@sbcglobal.net TB, IB, medians Peak bloom: May 15, please call ahead</p>
<p>Myers Iris Garden, Matt Myers 3514 E 500 S Warsaw, IN 46580 Phone: (574) 527-5663 Over 2,000 named varieties of iris Peak bloom: Mid May to Early June</p>	<p>Winton's Iris Hill, Doris Winton 7131 E 550 South, Franklin, IN 46131 Phone: (812) 526-9237 TB, MTB, IB, SDB, BB and Siberians Peak bloom: TB's - May 15-30; SIBs - May 25-June 7</p>	<p>The Willott Display Garden at Rockefeller Park Greenhouse 750 East 88th St., Cleveland, OH TB, BB, IB, SDB, MDB, Sib, seedlings Peak bloom: Varies for type of iris – call for best bloom time. Greenhouse grounds open every day 8 to 4:30, except holidays. Greenhouse buildings open 10-4 daily</p>
<p>Stick and Thistle Farm, Jody Nolin 5184 County Rd. 20, Rushsylvania, OH 43347 Phone: (614) 507-0332 Email: jody.nolin@gmail.com A bit of everything, including Spuria and LA gardens Peak bloom: Mid-May through June, always something blooming! No need to call Peak bloom: May 1 - July 15</p>	<p>Bunnies and Bouquets, Elaine Johnson 3524 S. Derby Rd., Sidney, MI 48885 (3/8-mile S. of Sidney, Montcalm Co.) Many varieties, but mainly TB's Peak bloom: First week of June</p>	<p>Jim and Jill Copeland 78118 M-40, Lawton, MI 49065 Phone: (616) 624-1968 Email: jandjcope@aol.com IB, TB, LA, SIB, JI, Species and SpecX Peak bloom: We usually have bloom from May through July. Visit anytime we are home</p>
<p>Ensata Gardens, Bob Bauer and John Coble 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053 Phone: (269) 665-7500 Email: Ensata@aol.com Siberians and Japanese Peak bloom: SIB's - 1st week June JI's - last week of June -July 4. Not necessary to phone ahead</p>	<p>J & J Iris Farm, John and Jean Kaufmann 5140 Cornell Rd., Okemos, MI 48864 Phone: (517) 347-7555 Email: jejpkaufmann@hotmail.com Mostly TB's, some dwarf and intermediate, a few SIBS Peak bloom: Last two weeks of May to first 2 weeks June</p>	<p>Windwood Gardens Irises, Bob & Judy Hollingworth 5410 N. Williamston Rd. Williamston, MI Bob's Cell: 517 930-0180, Judy's Cell: 517 930-4429 Email cyberiris@att.net Mostly SIB, some MTB's Peak bloom: Approx May 25-June 10</p>

History of Region 6 – part 2

Jean Kauffman

Jay Ackerman, not a big hybridizer, has his name on the AIS Ackerman Youth Essay award and was on the first board of the newly formed MIS. He was treasurer of AIS from 1960-1976. He received the AIS Distinguished Service Medal in 1964 and the AIS Gold Medal in 1976. His daughter donated money to establish the Ackerman award in his name.

Forest McCord started his hybridizing in dwarfs with the other Indiana hybridizers but moved to Siberians. He was awarded two Morgan Awards. The first in 1974 for 'Grand Junction' (1968) and in 1975 for 'Halcyon Seas' (1972) (photo right) his only two Siberian introductions – 100% success. Bob Hollingworth named one of his Siberians after Forest because of the crossing help he gave Bob in the beginning.



Anthony and Dorothy Willott were very active in Region 6 and were known for their work with the 'little iris'. Together they hybridized 358 iris (1-AB, 4-BBs, 40-IBs, 66-MDBs, 222-SDBs, 17-TBs, 2-SIBs and 8-MTB, editor's note: if I counted correctly, which leads to how do I select 1 photo for the newsletter - obviously I couldn't) They have a city garden in Beechwood Ohio named after them and filled with their iris. The Caparne-Welch Medal was awarded three times for 3 of their iris and jointly they were awarded the Hybridizers Medal in 2000. Together they were instrumental in the formation of MIS, both served at different times as president of MIS and RVP of Region 6.

Anna Mae Miller started hybridizing JI and Siberians while she ran a perennial farm. She served as the Director of the Society for JI and was President and Director of the Society for Siberian Iris. Her garden was on the tour for the first Siberian Convention held in 1993. She won many awards and the Morgan-Wood Medal in 1991 and 1998. SSI presented her with the Distinguished Service Award for all her work in promoting the society. Anna Mae introduced 'Michio' in 1989, (photo left).



Jim and Jill Copeland are both active leaders/hybridizers in Region 6.

Jill is very diverse in her hybridizing having worked with JI, Species, LA and Species Hybrids. Jill has received four Randolph-Perry awards, three Founder of SIGNA awards, one Payne award, one Payne medal, and one Debaillon Medal for 'Michigan Belle' (2007) (photo right). In 2011 Jill was awarded the Hybridizer Medal.



Jim has been hybridizing for many years and has registered several Siberians.

He is very active in SSI and its conventions doing all types of jobs from obtaining pins and patches to potting up donations for auctions and driving them cross country for a convention. After a hiatus he started hybridizing again and was awarded an HM for 'Yellowtail' (2006) (photo left). The AIS Distinguished Service Award was presented to him in 2007. It is speculated he may have won it because of his famous fish fry dinners for tours to their garden. The Copeland garden has been on many Regional, JI, SSI and garden club tours. Jim has been RVP for Region 6 twice: 1980-1982 and 2013-2015. He continues to serve in other AIS and regional positions.



Bob Hollingworth's interest in irises began in California when he and his wife Judy moved there from the UK, but his hybridizing career has been entirely in Region 6, first in Indiana and then in Michigan where he continues to hybridize Siberians. He was awarded the Morgan-Wood medal ten times and the Randolph-Perry medal in 2016. His Siberian 'Swans In Flight' (2006) was the first non-bearded iris to win the Dykes Medal in 2016. He was awarded the Hybridizer Medal in 1997 and the Foster Memorial Plaque by the British Iris



Society in 2011. In 1994 'Strawberry Fair' (1994) won the Franklin-Cook Cup, the first time by a Siberian and Bob received the award again in 2015 for 'Swans In Flight'. Bob has been president of the American Iris Society Foundation from 1998 to the present. In 2019 AIS awarded him the Distinguished Service Medal. Both he and his wife, Judy, have been editors of The Siberian Iris, Presidents of SSI, and have chaired Siberian iris conventions, including the first in Lansing, Michigan in 1993. Judy also served as RVP for Region 6.

Roger and Lynda Miller (no relation to Anna Mae) started their hybridizing career in Indiana before moving to Oregon. As a young man, Roger worked for Paul Cook's widow and had already done some hybridizing when he married Lynda. Lynda started her hybridizing with MTBs and received several awards. Her 1994 introduction, 'Squiggles' won the Caparne-Welch Medal in 2003 (photo left). Lynda hybridized in other classes and eventually even to Siberians. She was awarded the Hybridizer Medal in 2002 and received several awards while in Region 6. Lynda was also RVP of Region 6 from 1986-1988.



As a young man, Roger worked for Paul Cook's widow and had already done some hybridizing when he married Lynda. Lynda started her hybridizing with MTBs and received several awards. Her 1994 introduction, 'Squiggles' won the Caparne-Welch Medal in 2003 (photo left). Lynda hybridized in other classes and eventually even to Siberians. She was awarded the Hybridizer Medal in 2002 and received several awards while in Region 6. Lynda was also RVP of Region 6 from 1986-1988.

Bob Bauer and John Coble had a career in stained glass when they acquired several Siberian plants. Their garden quickly proceeded to fill with beardless iris. It was after they started blooming that they began growing Siberians from bee pods. Learning from that, they started making their own controlled crosses with JI, Spurias and Siberians. Their first JI introduction was in 1993, 'Bellender Blue'. It went on to win the Payne Medal in 2000, a feat that usually takes 10 years. 'Lion King' (1996) (photo right) won the Payne Medal in 2001 and continues to win popularity polls among iris growers and the general public. Ensata Gardens opened in 1985 and they have dedicated their careers to hybridizing JI and Siberians. In addition to receiving numerous AMs, they were awarded the Payne Medal seven times and were awarded the Hybridizers Medal in 2007. Their garden was on the first Siberian Convention tour and has been on several national tours. Bob designed the Payne Medal and each year they sandblast one for presentation at the National AIS convention. Bob also co-designed the Caparne-Welch Medal with Lee Welch. Bob then cast the first few bronze medals in their foundry.



Carol Morgan was awarded the Williamson-White medal for 'Rayos Adentro' (2007) in 2014, her first introduction (photo by Peggy Harger-Allen left). She was RVP of Region 6 1989-1991.

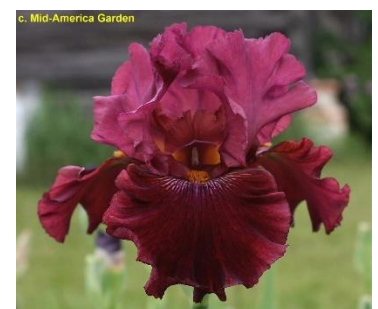


Harry Wolford was awarded the DeBaillon Medal in 2014 for 'Edna Claunch' (2004) and in 2015 for 'Seminole Sunrise' (2006) (photo right). Harry moved out of Region 6 to Florida where he did his Louisiana iris hybridizing.



Chuck Bunnell's interest in MTB's was fostered by Jack Norrick and he has awarded several AIS awards including the first MTB to win the Dykes Medal for 'Dividing Line' (2005) (photo left) in 2014, and his MTB 'Gesundheit' (2012) won the Williamson-White Medal in 2019. After the sad death of his first wife, Chuck married Jack's daughter Barb. The Bunnell's hosted the Median Convention in Lafayette Indiana in 2017.

Adam Cordes is just beginning his iris hybridizing career and the future is promising. His first TB seedling was a guest at the 2015 AIS Convention in Portland and it won the Lloyd Zurbrigg-Clarence Mahan Seedling Cup. It was later registered and introduced as 'Royston Rubies' (2016) (photo right).



RVPs from Region 6 inception to the present

1928-1930	H.S Jackson, West Lafayette IN	1980-1982	James Copeland, Mattawan, MI
1930-1933	W.A. Payne, Terre Haute, IN	1983-1985	James Foreman, Tipp City, OH
1934-1935	Dr. A. C. Kinsey, Indiana University	1986-1988	Lynda Miller, Ossian, IN
1936-1948	Mrs. Silas B. Waters, Cincinnati, OH	1989-1991	Carol Morgan, Flint, MI
1949-1951:	Mrs. Fern Robinson, Battle Creek, MI	1992-1994	Dorothy Willott, Beechwood, OH
1951-1952	Earl Evans, Fort Wayne, IN	1995-1997	Emma Hobbs, IN
1953-1955	Jay Ackerman, Lansing, MI	1998-2000	Howard Hughes, MI
1956-1958	Dr. V.C. Frederick, Urbana, OH	2001-2003	Sandra Rawlins/Bowman, OH
1959-1961	Dr. Norlan C.Henderson, Huntington, IN	2004-2006	Judy Hollingworth, Williamston, MI
1962-1964	Mr. George Morgan, Saginaw, Michigan	2007-2009	Jody Nolin, Rushsylvania, OH
1965-1967	Anthony Willott, Beechwood, OH	2010-2012	Dr. Charles Bunnell, West Lafayette, IN
1968-1970	Mrs. Elsie Zeurcher, Portland, IN	2013-2015	James Copeland, Lawton, MI
1971-1973	Dr. Harold L. Stahly, Grand Blanc, MI	2016-2018	Barbara Bunnell, Lafayette, IN
1974-1976	D. Olen Rawdon, Akron, OH	2019-2021	Jean Kaufmann, Okemos, MI
1977-1979	Mrs. Jayne Overholser, New Albany, IN		

Remembering Our Friends

Carol Morgan

Judy Hollingworth



Carol Morgan left the iris world on December 12, 2020, after a several year battle with a rare form of cancer. She was 74 years old. A native Michigander, Carol got her degree from the University of Michigan and taught Spanish in the Michigan Public Schools, she retired in 2010. She is survived by her daughter Angela Pruitt and son Joe Morgan (who many of you may remember accompanied their Mom to iris events when they were young), and grandsons Paul and Joe who were regular attendees at our Iris Connoisseurs picnics.

Carol was a long-time member of the American Iris Society. She was also a life member of the Japanese Iris Society, the Siberian Iris Society, and the following Michigan clubs: Southwestern Michigan Iris Society,

Mio Iris Society and Tri County Iris Society.

Carol began her training to become an AIS Judge in 1982. She received training from many noted irisarians, Hal Stahly, Adolph Vogt, Dorothy Willott, Currier McEwen and Steve Varner just to mention a few. She became an Apprentice judge in 1985 and was appointed to a Garden Judge in 1986. She became a Master judge in 2000. She became a Retired Master judge in 2018 as keeping her needed training up to date became more difficult. While active, Carol regularly made herself available to judge shows. She was familiar with all the iris sections and thus was very valuable as a judge.





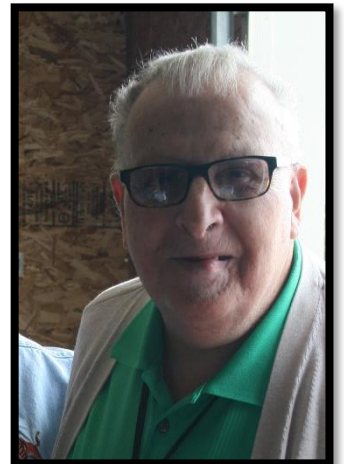
Carol was very active in Region 6 activities. She was RVP from 1989 through 1991 and held several other regional positions including Awards Chair. She rarely ever missed a Regional meeting and would always bring garden plants for the auction. In 2010 she organized the spring bus tour to visit the Mio club.

She was not a “hybridizer” but like to dabble in bee pods, especially MTB’s. After growing one of her seedlings for several years she decided to introduce it as ‘Rayos Adentro’ (2007). It went on to win the Williamson/White Medal in 2014. She also selected one of her “Flatty’s” which she registered as ‘Mirame’ in 2019. It will be introduced this year by Salmon Creek Gardens and is the first ‘flatty’ MTB. Although she will never know how it performs, she definitely has left her mark on the Iris world in fact if ‘Mirame’ has the success of ‘Rayos Adentro’ she may go down in history as introducing only two iris and winning two medals. She will be missed.

Gene Tremmel

Fred Pedersen

Gene Tremmel passed away on January 25, 2021 at the age of 86. He was an Air Force Veteran, Ford Retiree, and lifetime member of the American Iris Society. Dear son of the late Eugene and Lucille Tremmel, brother of the late Rosemary Sted and Bob Tremmel. Gene was a dear friend to all of us in NEOIS. He considered us and others in Region 6 his iris family. Gene had an extremely large extended family and wanted us in his iris family to meet his biological family for his 80th birthday so he invited both families to his 80th birthday so we could all meet each other. It was a wonderful time for all of us.



Gene was a highly active member, not only in our club, but in Region 6 as well. He was a judge-mentor for his NEOIS family. Gene was presented with the Region 6 Outstanding Service Award at the fall 2015 region meeting. Gene he will be terribly missed. His family requested in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to the American Iris Society. NEOIS plans to make a donation to AIS in remembrance of Gene.

Frances Holecek

Fred Pedersen

Our other long-time member who passed was Frances Holecek. Frances and her sister Rose had been members for decades. Sadly, Rose passed a few years ago and Frances had to move to a retirement center where we continued to supply her with irises during the bloom season. She enjoyed her life there and until Covid-19 came to prevent us from stopping in on occasion to see her, we liked to visit her when we had the opportunity. Neither Gene nor Frances were victims of Covid-19, which I am thankful for.

Mark Your Calendar

AIS and Region 6 Events

<i>Year</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Event & Location</i>
2021	May 22	Region 6 Spring Meeting, Cleveland, OH area, Host: NEOIS
	September 18	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: IDIS
2022	April 11 - 16	AIS National Convention, Dallas, TX
	TBD	Region 6 Spring Meeting, Kalamazoo, MI area, Host: SWMIS
	September 17	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: SWMIS
2023	September 16	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: TCIS

Region 6 Affiliate Events

NEIIS – Northeast Indiana Iris Society

Iris show and sale will be held at Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory
1100 South Calhoun Street | Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

AIS sanctioned show: May 30, 2021 set-up and entries 8:30 AM open to public 12 PM

Iris rhizome sale: July 25, 2021 set-up 9:30 AM open to public at 12 PM

Mio Irisarians

77th Annual Iris Show

Saturday, June 12, 2021

Word of Life Baptist Church - *TENTATIVE venue*

1900 N Bagley St.

Alpena, MI 49707

Rhizome/plant sale is also at the show

Tri County Iris Society enjoyed a wonderful Zoom meeting with our own Robert Hollingworth in January. Spring came into our living rooms as we saw lovely pictures of his latest seedlings and possible introductions. In our meeting, we learned what made Bob say, “Ay Caramba and Judy, Judy, Judy”, and the sentiments were shared as we looked at some beautiful new Siberian iris. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of the meeting was Bob’s answers to many questions--and most especially how he came to hybridize. Thank you, Bob, for your presentation!

Our Zoom meeting on March 14th will feature a discussion of iris borer. The members will share what they have done that has worked as well as strategies that have not worked well. It is hard to imagine that our snow will soon be gone, and that we will be in our gardens once again enjoying beautiful blooms and fighting borer!

Linda Jones, President

Tri County Iris Society

Region 6 Spring Meeting Update

News from NEOIS Fred Pedersen

Photos of Willott Garden located in Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, Cleveland, OH.

It has been over a year now since the NEOIS has had a meeting. We have not done anything of note except to keep our gardens in as good a shape as we can. That includes the guest iris gardens for our AIS Region 6 spring meeting which hopefully we will be able to host here in Cleveland.

We have not heard yet whether the *Rockefeller Greenhouse* will be opening in time for our spring meeting. When I discussed with the Region 6 board I was given direction to wait until the end of March before committing fully to the meeting. Between now and the end of March we will be talking to the staff at the Greenhouse to see if they will be opening prior to our meeting or if they are willing to open the garden just for us to visit both the *Willott Iris Garden* and our guest iris garden directly behind the *Willott Iris Garden*. Once we have their commitment then the Spring meeting is on.



In the meantime, the date for the meeting is May 22nd. The motel we will have our meeting at is the Quality Inn in Richfield, Ohio (previously a Holiday Inn Holidome).

We will be bussed from there to the *Rockefeller Greenhouse* Saturday morning, participants will spend 2-3 hours the gardens and will include a judge's training session. A box lunch will be provided.

Then we will be bussed to the guest iris garden at my property in North Royalton, Ohio for a tour of my garden. Then back to the motel for a presentation by Bob Pindell on the *Willott Iris Garden* followed by dinner and an auction.



The motel has a room, we have tentatively reserved, for evening events: presentation, dinner and auction. The motel also has, at minimum, depending on Covid-19, a breakfast to go but more than likely, will have a buffet type breakfast bar for those who intend to stay over-night on May 21st or the 22nd.



Once we have the commitment from the *Rockefeller Greenhouse* staff, you will receive an email with the schedule and registration form.

We are excited to be hosting the 2021 Spring meeting for the first time in many years.