



Join other region iris lovers at the 2023 Spring Meeting (Photo: Hollingworth garden)



AIS Region 6 Newsletter

Spring 2023

Indiana - Michigan - Ohio

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Region 6 Officers and Directors

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Regional Youth Chairman

TBD

Regional Webmaster

Jody Nolin | email: jody.nolin@gmail.com; Bri Diget | email: bridiget@gmail.com

Immediate Past Regional Vice President

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



Region 6 Affiliates

Columbus Iris Society

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704.824.3071
gobux48@gmail.com

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Tri County Iris Society

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



See 'Blueberry Bandy' (Bauer/Coble, 2010) and many other irises at the 2023 Spring Meeting (Photo: Kaufmann Garden)

RVP's Message

Happy New Year! Its Jean's fault. Four years ago, probably after too short a time thinking about it, I agreed to be her vice president for Region 6. I knew that one day I would be following in her footsteps as RVP and that day has arrived. Annette and I are taking a one week break between winter stays in Virginia Beach VA and Lincoln Beach, OR. It's a good time for me to get my first RVP Message done along with all the other stuff I need to get done in the week between winter trips.



I want to thank Jean for her leadership before, during and after the Covid break and for her willingness to serve a 4th year as RVP due to the down time, thanks to Covid. As she said in her last RVP Message, "things are getting back to normal again." I am thankful for that.

The past year and this year are transition years for my iris garden. After the NEOIS hosted the 2021 Region 6 Spring meeting, we sold the property where my iris garden was. I dug up all the irises and wintered them over in large flats, Basically, covering them with enough soil to protect them and leave them out in the yard. This year I created a new iris garden out of much of my front yard and planted iris in raised rows. I also added iris to the gardens around my porch and side yard gardens. I turned a rose garden into a beardless garden and de-potted my beardless irises into their new home too. I will probably convert the rest of the sunny part of my front yard into iris garden this year. Stay tuned over the next couple years as my irises return to at least semi-normal.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring regional in Lansing. Annette and I had conflicts last year for both meetings, so it's been awhile since I have seen Region 6 folks. We need to resolve what to do with the Spring meeting in 2024 as no club has stepped up to host that meeting. Our Region also needs a Secretary to take notes and do the minutes at our twice a year meetings. Thoughts from all are gladly welcomed.

Welcome New Members

Jennifer Blaies
Rockwood MI

Jeanne Flury
Amhurt OH

Shuler Hermon
Battle Creek MI

Judy Raether
Howell MI

Jane Roeske
Washington MI

Ira & Jackie Sanborn
Williamston MI

Michael Stephens
Warren OH



2023 Region 6 Judges

Robert Bauer	Galesburg, MI 49053	M
Barbara Bunnell	Lafayette, IN 47905	G/E
Dr. Charles A. Bunnell	Lafayette, IN 47905	M
Ann Cline	Royal Oak, MI 48073	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	M
Autumn Rose Cordes	Hillman, MI 49746	G/E
Kathleen Devlin	Milan, MI 48106	M
Deb Diget	Battle Creek, MI 49014	G/E
Louis F DiSanto	Aurora, OH 44202	G/E
Susie Everse	Hamilton, MI 49419	A
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
Kathy J. Moore	Franklin, IN 46131	M
Jody Nolin	Rushsylvania, OH 43347	E
Annette Pedersen	Brecksville, OH 44141	G/E
Fred Pedersen	Brecksville, OH 44141	G/E
Laurel Richardson	Indianapolis, IN 46242	G/E
Mary L Swann-Young	Cordsville, IN 46055	G/E
Wil Weakland	Aurora, OH 44202	G/E
Janet L. Wilke	Indianapolis, IN 46226	M
Doris Winton	Franklin, IN 46131	M
Lana Wolfe	Willshire, OH 45898	M



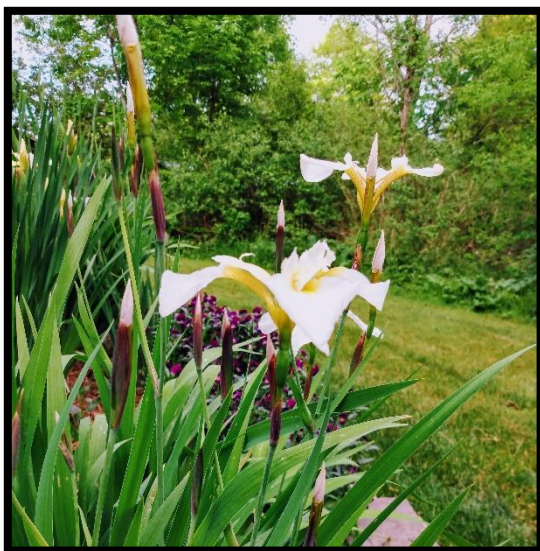
The Hamlick Garden will be on the spring 2023 garden tour. Photo: Linda Jones

2023 Introductions from Region 6 Hybridizers



Jill Copeland – Jill is introducing ‘Nancy Queen Of Hearts’. It is a 33” tetraploid with 3 BIG falls and blooms midseason. The standards have a dark violet center, violet towards the edge which is lavender. The style arms are dark purple on the back and light lavender on the front. The falls are light lavender, dark violet purple around the signal and veins, the signal is yellow. ‘Nancy Queen Of Hearts’ was the favorite of the public in the SWMIS late iris (unjudged show) in June 2022.

Jim Copeland – Jim is introducing one Siberian, ‘Twenty Thousand Leagues’. It is a mid to late season bloomer. The standards are violet-purple with darker veins. The style arms are violet, tipped violet, and turquoise midrib. The fall are red-violet, blue-violet around the signal, yellow-green signal with ruffled brown edge.



Lou DiSanto – Lou is introducing ‘Santa’s Whiskers’ a species iris with 6 – 8 inch blooms. The standards are white, style arms white and yellow, and the falls are white with a yellow signal. Midseason bloom. (Note from Lou: “The spathes are deep red purple as well as the base of the fans. It’s pure iris Setosa.”)

Bob Hollingworth – Bob is introducing 2 Siberians.

‘Sun Sprinkles’ standards are light red-violet with broad deep veins. The style arms have a light blue base with red-violet edges. Falls are a rich mid red-violet sprinkled with gold and cream dots and dashes, dashed cream rim, gold veined red-violet, diffusing out across the falls as dots and dashes of color blaze. The form is broad, flaring and well ruffled. Blooms early to midseason.



‘Make Mine A Double’ is a mid to late season bloomer that has 6 light blue-violet standards with a near complete second flower hose-in-hose. The 3 falls are smoky blue with a narrow buff outer rim and a yellow diffused blaze.

Note: All of the above beautiful iris are available through Ensata Gardens.
Ensata@aol.com

Idea For Club Publicity – Fred Pedersen

If your club has a “sign-up” sheet at your iris show, this might be the kind of letter to send out for a contact about your next meeting or your up-coming SALE.

Thank you for stopping by our table at _____.

The sign-up sheet was just for us to send you a reminder of our upcoming Iris Shows and our annual Iris Rhizome Sale at _____, on _____.

But if you are interested in our monthly Iris Club meetings, please email me for details (so I don’t bother everyone with details), 17 of you are on this list – most just want a reminder of the Sale.

BUT, I personally go ‘hooked’ when I attended my first meeting. It was in July – 1980 and it happened to be the Club AUCTION! Yup, all different kinds of iris, a couple daylilies, and a few pots of hostas!

I increased their treasury! And it was Fun.

All of our summer meetings are at different members’ gardens – some in iris season, some in daylily season, some showcase hostas, or something in bloom!

Hope to see you again at some iris function.

_____, President, _____ Iris Club

Emails with iris questions are welcome: _____(email address)

News Around the Region

Indiana Daylily – Iris Society

The Bunnell Big Dig August 2022

Peggy Harger-Allen Photos: Lezlie Myers

Chuck and Barb Bunnell sold their home in Lafayette, IN, and downsized some iris in August 2022. The Indiana Daylily and Iris Society (IDIS) was invited to dig several hundred bearded and beardless iris for our annual sale. Volunteers came out with muscles, shovels and spading forks to dig, process, wash, label and tag on a hot day in early August. We had lots of fun and Barb served a

delicious lunch. Our sale was a great success too!



A big shout out and thanks to the Bunnell's. You will find them on a fishing lake now up in Otterbein, IN with a bunch of iris, just not as many as they had up in Lafayette.

February Bloom!

Tom Tomlinson

Arriving home from Hammond, Indiana (site of the weekend/holiday volleyball wars) on Monday February 20, 2023, I was greeted by hundreds of Snowdrops around my garden. I do not ever remember February blooms here in this area--usually we are scooping snow and fully clad in several layers of winter wear. While I keep bloom date records on various plants in the flower beds I have no records of February blooms--earliest records start in late March. Temperature did hit in the 60s with full sun.

Grocery shopping on Thursday, February 23 I noticed they had a whole rack of Snowdrops in three-inch pots containing two or three plants for \$9.98. Heck I could have made deals of 100 for \$9.98. Well Lana--maybe the Iris Show needs to be moved up a couple of Months!



Mio Irisarians

Adam Cordes, President

The Mio Irisarians 79th Annual Iris Show will be in MIO, Michigan at St. Mary Catholic Church Parish Hall, 100 Deyarmond Street on Saturday, June 10, 2023. Entries accepted 7-10 am. Open to the public 1:30-4:30 pm. Plant/rhizome sale same time as open to the public.

North East Ohio Iris Society

Fred Pedersen, President

Greetings from Northwest Ohio. Our winter has certainly been strange so far. It has been fun seeing all the posts on facebook of the new introductions for this year. Lots of eye candy to cheer us up on these dreary days. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the spring regional, which will be here before we know it.

Northeastern Indiana Iris Society

Lana Wolfe, President

NEIS events for 2023

April 22 Held at the Huntington Library from 1 to 4 Huntington, IN

May 28 Show at Botanical Conservatory downtown Fort Wayne, IN

July 23 Iris rhizome sale at the Botanical Conservatory downtown Fort Wayne, IN

In my own gardens, I have moved so many plants around it will be fun to see how they all do in their new homes. Thankfully, I made written charts as I can't rely on my memory. (Been there, done that and have been rudely disappointed.) Hope you all are well and see you at the spring regional.

Southwestern Michigan Iris Society

John Coble, President

Wedel's Nursery will be the site for SWMIS Iris Show on May 27 and the Late Iris Display on July 1



It's Official....The Copeland's Are Retiring

Yes, it's true Jim and Jill are retiring from growing a thousand bearded iris for the club's rhizome sale each year! This August 5th will be SWMIS' final iris rhizome sale at the Bank Street Farmers' Market in Kalamazoo, MI. Be there or Be Square! Come and thank Jim and Jill for the many many years of work for our club and iris education.



Tri County Iris Society

Linda Jones, President

TCIS officers for 2023

Linda Jones, President

Jean Kaufmann, Vice President

Kathy Geiger, Secretary

Charlan Washington, Treasurer



TCIS is excited to host the 2023 spring meeting. There will be 4 beautiful gardens for our tour. Photo left from the Jones garden features IB 'Code Of Honor' (Johnson, 2013) and SDB 'Riveting' (Black, 2009). Make plans now to attend the spring meeting.

Hosting a Spring Regional Meeting

Jody Nolin

Hosting a Spring meeting can be as elaborate as a full weekend complete with bus tours and banquet or as simple as a one-day carpool tour with lunch. Your club will decide on the length of the event. Each event is different, but they all have some things in common. The list below is intended to give you an idea of the steps involved and the relative timing of these steps for a full two-day meeting. Also, remember that there are people who have hosted in the past who are happy to give advice.

The Event Team

No one can do it all. You will need a team of reliable folks in addition to the event Chair: at least a registrar, a guest plant manager and bus captain/carpool coordinator.

Guest Iris

1. Issue an invitation to the Region for guest irises. This should be done **at least 2 years before** the regional date. Invitations can be made to AIS members nationally as well as regionally. The Irises magazine of the AIS and the internet are valid resources for your invitations.
2. Once the guest plants arrive, the designated person should keep track of them so that progress reports can be sent to the Hybridizers. **Remember:** the guest plants are the property of the hybridizer. Ask them how they would like their plants to be disposed of after the Regional.
3. Arrange for host gardens for guest irises. These should be grouped by location with reasonable travel time between them.
4. Encourage guest gardens to keep the guests well maintained. Club assistance is often a big help.

Accommodations and Meeting Room

5. Research arrangements for possible hotels and room discounts and menu choices (remember to include a vegetarian choice). Be sure there is a room that will handle possible audio/visual shows. A location should be arranged **at least 9 months prior** to the regional.
6. Lunch and dinner arrangements should be made with the hotel or meeting venue.

Transportation

7. Research arrangements for possible bus companies if a bus tour is included. This will be one of your biggest expenses. See #10 below for carpooling option.
8. Arrange for one or two club members to serve as bus captains. They will help the driver find the gardens and give information about the guest gardens to passengers. They are also asked to time the visits and keep the tour on schedule. Some tours have had games to pass the time on long distance trips. This is optional. Be sure that these folks have a cell phone and contact numbers in case of an emergency.
9. Buses for tours are reserved. Touring buses carry between 40 and 60 persons. The number of buses needed depends on the estimated attendance. Most bus companies require a deposit and will then guarantee the rates to hold at the quoted amount. Have the guest garden locations and a route arranged to give to the bus company. They will want the estimated times of travel and lay-over at each stop. The driver should be included in the lunch count. Don't forget the gratuity. (Passing the hat is OK and has been done frequently

in the past or it can be included in the registration fee. If it's in the fee, the Bus Captain will give the gratuity to the driver.)

10. Carpooling – If your gardens are within driving distance, consider carpooling. This will save a significant amount of money. Maps of the tour gardens with a phone number for assistance should be given to all attendees.

Training, Speaker and Final Prep

11. Once hotel, buses, speaker and meal rates are determined, an estimate of the per person cost should be made. Help with this is available from the region board (many of them have worked on regional meetings.) This is the total costs divided by the estimated attendance number. Some financial help is available from the region.
12. A registrar should be appointed to receive registrations and deposit money in the club's account. There should be two member's names on the account. Usually, the registrar is responsible for name tags.
13. A registration form that includes information about attendee's name, address, phone, email, and whether there are several attendees using that registration; costs, hotel (name, contact, and location), schedule, and menu choices should be prepared so that it can be included in the Regional newsletters, and ideally an on-line site like the AIS Region 6 website.
14. Host club will work with Regional Judges Training Chairperson to determine judges training and the region board for speaker choices. When speakers are contacted, ask what media devices they will need. Travel expenses and a speaker's fee are usually part of the expenses of the regional meeting. Try to find a speaker within driving distance to minimize registration costs.
15. If you plan an auction, line up an auctioneer.
16. **About a month before the date** of the regional meeting, the banquet hall/hotel and the bus company should be notified as to the number of attendees. The balance of bus cost is due at this time.
17. The registrar should arrange for people to man a registration table to hand out name tags and gift bags (if you have them) the day of the meetings. If you are doing two-day meeting this table should be manned for both days in case of late arrivals.
18. Some clubs decorate the banquet tables with simple center pieces. There should be a table for auction items. Door prizes and table favors are optional.
19. Check with the hotel to see if there is transportation to and from the airport. If not, the local club should try to provide that service.
20. The President of the local club should be prepared to introduce speakers and give appropriate announcements.

Post Meeting Duties

21. Arrangements for the return of guest plants to Hybridizers should be made.
22. If plants were auctioned, a dig and shipping should be arranged. Don't forget to tell buyers if shipping is included in the cost of the plants or will be added to the price.
23. The registrar and/or treasurer should figure the final costs.



Cordes Seedling may be blooming for our 2023 spring regional meeting
Photo: Linda Jones

<p>Region 6</p> <p>Display</p> <p>Gardens</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 and The NEOIS Seedling Evaluation and Judges Training 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. 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>Chuck and Barb Bunnell 7941 Peshewa Dr. Lafayette, IN 47905 Phone: (765) 296-6955 Email: whozher@mintel.net MDB, SDB, IB, BB, MTB, TB, SIB, LA, SPU, Species, JA Peak bloom: May</p>	<p>J & J Iris Farm, John and Jean Kaufmann 5140 Cornell Rd., Okemos, MI 48864 Phone: (517) 347-7555 Email: jejkkaufmann@hotmail.com All varieties bearded iris and a large collection of Siberians. Bloom: May to July</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>

Need Judges Training?

The AIS webinars are a great way to book those classroom hours of JT. Webinars are held once or twice a month on Wednesday evenings. Check your copy of *Irises*, or your News & Notes for times and topics.

If you miss a session or want to see what's already been given, check the AIS YouTube channel: youtube.com/c/TheAmericanIrisSociety. You can also find a link to this on the AIS website under 'Resources'.

You can take the test for any JT webinar at any time. There is a link to the test document on the webinar page. Be sure to send me your completed tests! You can scan and email it or print and mail it.

Thanks!

Jody Nolin

Jody.nolin@gmail.com



Hamlick Garden on the Spring Meeting Tour
Photo: Linda Jones

Mark Your Calendar

Year	Date	Event & Location
2023	April 10 – 15	AIS National Convention Dallas, TX
	June 2 -3	Region 6 Spring Meeting, Host: TCIS
	September 16	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: TCIS
2024	June 17 – 22	AIS National/Japanese/Species Convention, Portland, OR
	TBD	Region 6 Spring Meeting, Host: TBD
	September 15	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne area, Host: NEIS

AIS REGION 6 SPRING MEETING
FRIDAY JUNE 2 AND SATURDAY JUNE 3, 2023
COMFORT INN
2187 UNIVERSITY PARK DRIVE
OKEMOS, MICHIGAN
PHONE (517) 347-6690

Hotel: Make your reservation with the Comfort Inn, Okemos Michigan Phone: 517-347-6690 **using the code Region 6 Iris Convention** at the time of booking. Rooms are at a special rate of \$99.00 per night for a single or double room.

Friday 6/2/2023

5 – 8:30pm: Registration at Alaiedon Township Hall, 2021 Holt Rd. Mason.
6 – 7pm: Buffet Dinner (including a vegetarian option)
7:30 – 8:30pm: Speaker: Chad Harris from Washington State (photo right)



Saturday 6/3/2023

9-12 pm: Garden Tours – by own transportation to the Jones, Hamlick and Hollingworth gardens.
12-2 pm: Catered Lunch at Hollingworth Garden
2:15 : Kaufmann Garden with in-garden judges training followed by the auction
Maps with directions to the gardens will be provided at registration.

Registration Form:

Name(s)

1).....2).....

Email or address.....

Please indicate if you will you be taking Garden Judges Training?..... How Many?.....

Registration: \$25.00 (how many?)
(required except for youth members whose registration is free)

Buffet Dinner: \$20.00 (how many?)

Lunch: \$15.00..... (how many?) Please mark your choice (s)

- Vegetarian Sandwich.....
- Ham Sandwich.....
- Turkey Sandwich.....

Total: \$.....

If you have any special needs please let us know we will happily try to accommodate you.
Please mail this form with your **check made out to TCIS** to:
Judy Hollingworth 124 E. Sherwood Rd. Williamston, MI 48895. A reply by Friday May 26 would be appreciated.