



Japanese Iris at Kalamazoo Country Club  
Photo: Ensata



# *AIS Region 6 Newsletter*

Summer 2015

Indiana ❖ Michigan ❖ Ohio

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# RVP's Message

Congratulations to all of the Region 6 Hybridizers on winning awards at the AIS Convention and the Siberian/Species/Species-X Convention in Portland. Adam Cordes was on "cloud nine" when it was announced that his Tall Bearded iris 'Royston

Rubies' (pictured left) was voted the Best Seedling and won the Zurbrigg /Mahan Cup. Siberian iris are becoming more competitive with Bearded iris as Bob Hollingworth's "Swans in Flight" won the Franklin Cook Cup for best out of Region iris at the AIS Convention. Region 6 was well represented at the AIS Convention with 32 in attendance. Look for more information in this newsletter.



Region 6 Spring meeting, hosted by the Southwestern Michigan Iris Society on June 5th and 6th was a big success. There were 51 registered and everyone seemed to have a good time. This is the largest number of people registered for a Spring meeting in quite a long time. The weatherman cooperated by giving us pleasant, dry weather. I was glad to see several new faces from Ohio. At least 4 of Ohio's attendees are interested in becoming AIS Judges. I hope to see them at more Regional meetings.

The rains we had on June 12th and 13th were quite severe. We had a total of 6.21 inches for the weekend. On Saturday we had just over 2 inches in about an hour and a half. Some of the beardless iris in our garden up back were standing in about 10 inches of water. Had the convention been that weekend it would have been a disaster. The area where we parked cars for the Region 6 meeting was under water.



Everyone should start thinking about attending the Region 6 Fall Meeting on September 19th near Fort Wayne, Indiana. Region 6 will be electing new Officers for the next 3 year term. Look for more information in this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

## **Welcome New Members!**

CATHY EGERER  
GRAND MARAIS, MI

SANDRA REED  
HOWELL, MI

DALENE STULL  
DANVILLE OH

AMBERLY WILSON  
WEST LAFAYETTE, IN

# AIS Convention in the Pacific Northwest

Article & photos by Peggy Harger-Allen

The 2015 convention was my first time to attend an AIS function. It was a splendid experience on all levels. I started my adventure with four days of birding (we saw over 100 species of birds) along the Oregon coast before arriving at the convention. The Red Lion hotel and staff were very accommodating. I really enjoyed all the classes the day before the bus trip and recommend attending them next year. Speakers were great and so informative. Lots of interesting history about each class of iris and many varieties were discussed that can grow well in our area. Our own John Coble gave two presentations and he is not to be missed. He presented a lovely, new DVD produced by the Society for Japanese Irises. It can be purchased to show at your local club and comes complete with text for your local programs.

The gardens were the main event and they did not disappoint. I was continually amazed at the size of the clumps and the enormous blooms. Everything grows so well in the Pacific Northwest. It was difficult not to be overwhelmed with the profusion of colors and plants. There was something unique and inspiring to enjoy at each garden and the landscaping was gorgeous. It made me want to get home and redouble my efforts at my own garden to try to grow what I can well and quit trying to grow the impossible.



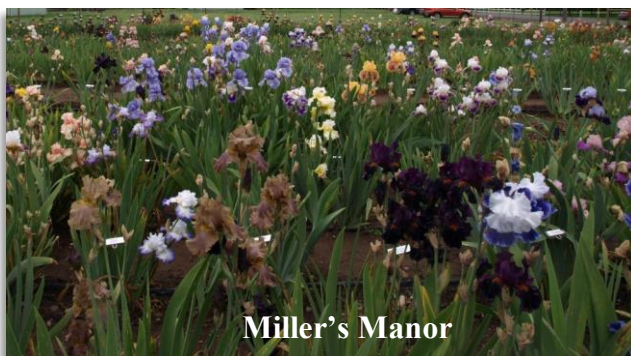
Mt. Pleasant Iris Farm



Schreiners



Our Region 6 growers were well represented and the Median irises were growing beautifully. Many convention attendees were new to the Medians and were very impressed (great advertising for the 2017 Median Convention to be held in Lafayette, Indiana). Beardless iris were outstanding, especially Bob Hollingworth's 'Swans In Flight' (2006) (photo left), which took the Franklin-Cook Cup at the awards dinner, and Jim and Jill Copeland's Siberian and Louisiana Seedlings. Our region was blessed with many award winners (Adam, Chuck, Carol, Bob, Jill, former Hoosier Lynda Miller and former Buckeye Harry Wolford), which made the awards banquet extra special. Plan to attend a future convention and enjoy the iris season in another area of our beautiful country.



Miller's Manor



Mid-America Iris

# Congratulations Region 6 Hybridizers!

## Awards presented at the AIS 2015 Convention



**Dykes Medal** presented to *Chuck Bunnell* for 'Dividing Line'

**Williamson-White Medal** presented to *Carol Morgan* for 'Rayos Adentro'

**Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal** presented to *Harry Wolford* for 'Edna Claunch'

**Randolph-Perry Medal** presented to *Jill Copeland* for 'Wooly Bully'

**Zurbrigg/Mahan Cup** presented to *Adam Cordes* for favorite guest seedling 'Royston Rubies'

**The Franklin Cook Memorial Cup** was awarded to *Bob Hollingworth* for 'Swan's in Flight'. The Cook Cup is awarded to an out-of-region iris at a national convention receiving the greatest number of votes. Bob and Judy left the convention early to attend the graduation of their granddaughter 'Emily Ann'.



## Awards Presented at the 2015 SSI Convention



Jim Copeland (RVP) accepted Bob Hollingworth's **Favorite Siberian Award** for 'Swans in Flight'.

Jill Copeland received the **Favorite Species/Species-x Award** for 'Do The Math' (2006) (pictured left).

At the *Region 6 Spring Meeting* Jim presented Bob with his award.



# Spring 2015 Regional Meeting

Article by Judy Hollingworth

Photos: B. Hollingworth

**Region 6 held its spring meeting in Kalamazoo, MI**, and with over 50 attendees it was the best attended regional meeting in several years. With the people as with the irises it was a case of meeting old friends and being introduced to new ones. It was especially pleasing to meet a large contingent of first time attendees from Ohio. There were no guest plantings so we were free to just enjoy the gardens without the duty of evaluating guests.

We started our Saturday tour at the home of Deb and Dwight Diget. Their house, designed by Dwight was nestled into the side of a hill and Deb's gardens were all beautifully integrated into the landscape. At the base of the hill is a small pond full of frogs and with Chad Harris's lovely blue and white *I. laevigata* 'Lakeside Ghost' (2012) (pictured at right) growing very well at the edge of the water. The approach to the house was landscaped with lots of beautiful peonies and then transitioned into plantings of ferns and hostas inter-planted with many other shade plants including the wood peony – peony obovata and *I. versicolor*.



The majority of the irises were planted on the sunny side of the house. These were fairly recent plantings but several were growing well including Siberians 'Forever Remembered' (Anna Mae Miller, 2004), 'Jewelled Crown' (Hollingworth, 1987) and 'Ginger Twist' (Schafer/Sacks, 2009). A couple of recent TB's that caught my attention were 'Beauty Contest' (Black, 2013) it has pink standards and dark falls edged in pink and 'Bravery' (Ghio, 2012) – with blue-white standards, deep velvety blue-purple falls edged with a ruffled white edge.

Stop Two was Ensata Gardens, home of Bob Bauer and John Coble. Siberians were in good bloom here as were some TB's, a new planting for John and Bob. Their own dark blue-violet 'Blueberry Brandy' (2010) (pictured left) was showing off beautifully and went on to be voted favorite iris bred in Region 6. 'Old Vine Zin' (2013) a very deep wine red also looked good. 'Blushing Saphira' (Wendell, 2013) was remarked on by several people – a blue Siberian with tailored form but made distinctive by the blush of red-violet at its heart. Marky Smith's 'Star Lion' (2006) was blooming well as was 'Magnum Bordeaux' (Bauer/Coble, 2000) – fifteen years old and looking good. I liked 'Cape Cod Boys' (Schafer/Sacks, 2009) a dappled blue-violet flower with a sunny yellow signal. 'Kiss The Girl' (Schafer/Sacks 2004) is an excellent older yellow which was voted best out of region iris. And dare I put a word in for one of our recent introductions, 'Neptune's Gold' (2014), which is a strong growing tetraploid – a two tone blue with a gold treasure in its depths.



TB's that I thought would merit garden space were 'Boulevard Jazz' (Blythe, 2009/10) with pure white standards – dark lavender falls and a white star burst pattern over 2/3 of them and 'Daring Deception' (Johnson, 2012). It wasn't until I started writing this article that I realized that 'Daring Deception' is the third iris that I noted with light standards, deep purple falls and a ruffled contrasting rim. I must have a predilection for these types!!

Stop Three was Jill and Jim Copeland's home. Jim grows the bearded irises that their club buys and grows up for resale to the public. We saw TB's here that were growing very well in the sandy soil: 'Casino Cruiser' (Burseen, 2008) (pictured left) a buttercup yellow formed a spectacular clump. 'Oreo', a Keppell, 2004 introduction still looks wonderful as does 'Expose' (Ghio, 2004) a white iris with a wide yellow band around the falls



and yellow at the shoulders and radiating blue lines. ‘Pumpkin Pie Ala Mode’, a large flowered amoena (Johnson, 2013) was delectable - I love desserts!

Jill’s hybridizing with species was of course evident but, sadly, we were a little early in the season to see the pseudatas (*pseudacorus/ensata* crosses) where many advances have been made. Her 2013 *pseudacorus* ‘Sushi’ a pale cream with the characteristic *pseudacorus* thumbprint on the falls was in all the gardens as was ‘Do The Math’ (2008) a deep velvety blue *versicolor/virginica* cross.

Their Siberian bed at the front of the house had a mixture of new and older Siberians planted. Two of Jim’s older intros looked particularly good. ‘Yellowtail’ (2006) and ‘Hooked Again’ (2006) a lovely blend of blues which has always been a favorite of mine.

We finished with a lively regional auction and a fish fry dinner – altogether a very satisfactory day.

## ***Region Six Spring Regional Award Results***

By Carol Morgan

The results for the Regional meeting balloting for the Best Iris Clump hybridized In and Out of Region were tabulated as follows:

Three iris clumps tied for the Out of Region best clump certificates. They are:



‘Star Lion’  
(M.Smith, 2006)



‘Kiss the Girl’  
(Schafer/Sacks, 2004)



‘Dirigo Black Night’  
(J.White, 2005)

The Don Waters Award for best Iris clump hybridized within Region Six was:



‘Blueberry Brandy’ (Bauer/Coble, 2010)

Congratulations to all these winners! The choices were difficult as so many irises were showing off their beauty so nicely.

The popularity poll was difficult to tabulate. There were lots of ties so I am listing the top winners beginning with the most popular. They are as follows:

*Oreo, Blueberry Brandy, Fisherman’s Twilight, Star Lion, Kiss the Girl, Lakeside Ghost, Pumpkin Pie Alamode, As You Were, Black Suited, Laugh Out Loud, Neptune’s Gold, One More Night, and That’s All Folks.*

Thanks to all who voted. See you at the Fall Regional. Carol

-7- Region 6 Summer 2015

# 2015 Iris Show Results

## Grand Valley Iris Society

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Common Thread' (TB) exhibited by Dale Clark  
**Best Youth Design:** 'Kids Rock' exhibited by Addy Levanduski  
**Best Design of Show:** 'Symphony in Snow', exhibited by Ruth Levanduski  
**Best Blue Iris:** 'Breakers' exhibited by Steve and Ginger Smith  
**Silver Medal** (most blue ribbons): Mike Moorman  
**Bronze Medal** (second most blue ribbons): Steve and Ginger Smith  
**Design Sweepstakes winner** Ruth Levanduski

## Iris Growers of Eastern Indiana

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Brown Derby' (TB) exhibited by Bob Hill  
**Best Specimen of Section** (TB): 'Stray Cat's Strut', exhibited by Roger Hoover  
**Best Specimen of Section** (IB): 'Dog and Pony Show', exhibited by Charles Bunnell  
**Seedling Judged Most Worthy:** W70-7, MTB, Hybridized by Charles Bunnell  
**Best Artistic Design of Show:** Joyce Baker  
**Silver Medal** (most blue ribbons): Charles Bunnell  
**Bronze Medal** (second most blue ribbons): Bob Hill

## Mio Iris Society

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Stop Flirting' (TB) exhibited by Adam Cordes  
**Best Specimen of Section** (Median): 'Sonja' Selah' (BB) exhibited by Kris Sorogenfrei  
**Best Specimen of Section** (SIB): 'Charming Billy' exhibited by Del Gifford  
**Seedling Judged Most Worthy:** A1-4, TB, Hybridized by Adam Cordes  
**Youth Best Specimen of Show:** 'Slew O'Gold' (TB) exhibited by Steven Cordes  
**Best Artistic Design of Show:** 'Mackinaw Bridge' exhibited by Amy Hughes  
**Artistic Sweepstakes:** Carron Nevill  
**Silver Medal** (most blue ribbons): Kris Sorogenfrei  
**Bronze Medal** (second most blue ribbons): Mary McDonald  
**Youth Silver Medal:** Steven Cordes  
**Youth Bronze Medal:** Taavi Cordes

## Northeastern Indiana Iris Society

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Jacks Pick' (MTB) exhibited by Brian Wendel  
**Best Specimen of Section** (TB): 'Sing To Me', exhibited by Lana Wolfe  
**Best Specimen of Section** (IB): 'Witty', exhibited by Lana Wolfe  
**Best Specimen of Section** (Historical TB): 'Quaker Lady' exhibited by Brian Wendel  
**Best Specimen of Section** (SIB): 'Simply Delightful' exhibited by Brian Wendel  
**Best Specimen of Section** (BB): 'Brown Lasso' exhibited by Lana Wolfe  
**Best Specimen of Section** (Spec): 'Mint Fresh' exhibited by Brian Wendel  
**Seedling Judged Most Worthy:** 14-004, MTB, Hybridized by Lana Wolfe  
**Silver Medal** (most blue ribbons): Brian Wendel  
**Bronze Medal** (second most blue ribbons): Lana Wolfe

## Southwestern Michigan Iris Society

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Brouhaha' (TB) exhibited by Jim & Jill Copeland  
**Seedling Judged Most Worthy:** Y-1-T, Species, Hybridized by Jill Copeland  
**Silver Medal** (most blue ribbons): James Copeland Jr.  
**Bronze Medal** (second most blue ribbons): Roger Busk

## Tri County Iris Society

**Best Specimen of Show:** 'Sushi' (Spec-X) exhibited by Brock Heilman  
**Best Specimen of Section** (MTB): 'Dividing Line' exhibited by Bob Hollingworth  
**Best Specimen of Section** (TB): 'Magical Moonlight' exhibited by Jean Kaufmann  
**Best Specimen of Section** (SIB): 'Coronation Anthem' exhibited by Lori Lanford  
**Seedling Judged Most Worthy:** 14-U7B5 (SIB) Bob Hollingworth  
**Best Design of Show** (Adult): Judy Hollingworth  
**Best Design of Show** (Youth): Bannen Emerson  
**Silver Medal:** Brock Heilman  
**Bronze Medal:** Bob Hollingworth

For photos go to: <http://aisregion6.weebly.com>



# *Region 6 Hybridizer*

## *Mary Lou Swann-Young*

### *‘Discovering Reblooming Iris’*

by Mary Lou Swann-Young



*I discovered reblooming iris* in the fall of 1996. What could be better than iris blooming throughout the growing season? Like so many other folks, I bought ‘re bloomers’ and was completely disappointed. The few that did bloom in the fall were not up to modern standards. Most advertised as reblooming were unable to in a cold climate, with a shorter growing season.

Normal people give up at that

point. I went the other way and began trying to improve the ones that could rebloom in northern Indiana. I tried everything and worked with several that I would never use now that I’ve seen what they produce. Lots of disappointments. Thousands of seedlings plowed under along the way. I was most disappointed in so few available in the pink, orange and red classes and decided to focus my efforts there. But I love variety, so I have about every color and pattern out there.



None of mine have been introduced yet. Aitkens Salmon Creek Garden is trialing some which should have enough stock for introduction in the near future. First will probably be ‘Blushing Again’, which is mostly white with a pink flush through the center of the bloom.

Another reaction to my early disappointment was beginning and maintaining a list of iris that actually rebloom in Indiana, to try and save others from wasting their time, space and money on ones that cannot rebloom this far north. Nothing beats the anticipation of seeing your own creations bloom for the first time. With ones bred to rebloom, the anticipation does not end with the spring bloom season.

I do this for love, not money. Anybody wishing to try their own rebloom crosses is entirely welcome to benefit from my experiences (good and bad). Success is a lot more fun than failure, and I’m eager to help any way I can. My email address is [swannyoung@outlook.com](mailto:swannyoung@outlook.com).



# Things We Find in Our Garden

by Chuck Bunnell

We live on ten acres with our largest flower garden between the house and an adjacent cornfield. The fence row is heavily overgrown with trees, shrubs, raspberries and weeds. The main garden is about 50' x 200' and houses mostly iris seedlings. Well, even more mostly weeds of great diversity. I have unintentionally used Darwin's theory of "survival of the fittest" to see which seedlings survive the weed infestation.



In front of the big garden is a 4' x 100' bed of annuals, mostly zinnias and snapdragons, used for cut flowers. They are of many colors and sizes and attract other garden prizes, butterflies and bees, which bring the flower bed alive with activity with fluttering and buzzing. Speaking of fluttering, it is not uncommon to hear a humming noise when admiring the beautiful flowers. A glance to check on the hummm revealed a hummingbird giving me the once over from about eight feet away. Once she satisfied her curiosity, she left to find a sweet treat.



Occasionally, a buzz is a huge wasp carrying a cicada to bury as food for its young.

Fortunately, these wasps are not very interested in humans. Bumble bees and honey bees are very evident when the iris are in bloom; in fact, they are competing to pollinate flowers.

Bumble bees, in particular, do not like to be disturbed as they gather pollen. I have a sting to prove it. Even nastier creatures, hornets (alias sweat bees) live in the garden underground. I discovered this by accident while digging up some iris. They really hate it when someone disturbs their nest and show their displeasure by swarming the culprit, in this case me, who disturbed them. They can sting multiple times, even though clothes. The pain lasted two days.



More pleasant things include deer in broad daylight, even an 8-point buck.

Evidence of their presence at night is seen by their hoof prints. Wild turkey hens have strutted along the fence line. I tried to have a conversation with one after she startled me, she didn't feel like chatting and hurried into the brush.



There you have it--things found in our garden, at least some of the more interesting ones. Happy gardening & God bless.





# *Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB) Irises – In Search of the ‘Little Ones’*

by Terry Laurin, TWIKI Photo Manager

‘Royal Bee’ (A.& D. Willott, 1978)

*As Lewis Carroll’s Alice once pondered in ‘Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland’, “What is the use of a book without pictures or conversations?”*

This sentiment now holds true for websites, in particular the AIS Iris Encyclopedia, also known as the AIS TWIKI or TWIKI. If you have been on the TWIKI you will know that descriptions and photographs are provided for as many iris cultivars as possible. These descriptions have a greater impact if accompanied by a picture. However last year it was determined that 85% of the MDB cultivars had only one or no picture at all. At this point the Dwarf Iris Society (DIS) would like to make an appeal for pictures to anyone who grows MDBs...or ‘the little ones’.

Do you have pictures of MDBs in a photo album, or in an old shoebox, taken when Kodachrome was the medium of the day? Do you have pictures of MDBs taken in your garden that just sit on a SD card or computer? If you answered ‘yes’ to either of these questions you should read on.

A list of the MDB cultivars which require pictures has been added to the Ontario Iris Society website, <https://sites.google.com/site/ontarioirissociety/>, under Miniature Dwarf Iris Picture Project. You don’t have to limit yourself to the irises on the list. If you have any pictures of MDB irises you can upload them to the TWIKI. Single flower or clump shots are acceptable.



‘Strippling’ (M. Smith, 2004)

**If you have digital photographs** you can add them to the AIS TWIKI yourself. Simply register for a user ID and password and you will be allowed to add pictures. To do this, find the cultivar and click on the ‘attach’ button. You will be guided through the process. Please ensure the picture you are uploading matches the description given.

**If you have paper photographs** and you have a scanner, you can scan them to your computer as JPGs and upload them to the TWIKI as above.

**If you have slides**, and you know someone with a slide scanner, you can have them converted to JPGs and added to the TWIKI. According to Janet Smith, AIS Coordinator of Digital Programs/Slides, try different dpi (dots per inch) settings. “Some slides don’t like 600 dpi or above. Some work better at 300 dpi. If you only want the photo for computer work you can go lower than 300 dpi. Take one slide and see what it looks like at different settings.”

A word of caution, please do not upload pictures that are not your own without the owner’s permission. This is against TWIKI policy.



‘Pokemon’ (Sutton, 2003)

If you don’t have the time to upload but want to share your pictures you can send your JPGs to me via email ([tlaurin@rogers.com](mailto:tlaurin@rogers.com)). If you want a copyright on the picture you can do this yourself or let me know what copyright you want and I will enter it for you. JPGs should be 500 to 1000 pixels in size. Your assistance with this project will go a long way towards raising the profile of MDBs on the AIS TWIKI. If you have any questions, please contact me at [tlaurin@rogers.com](mailto:tlaurin@rogers.com).

# IRIS IN WONDERLAND 2015 AIS Convention

Article and Photos by Anna Mae Miller

I went on the optional tour to Oregon Gardens, a nice public garden with a wonderful collection of Dwarf Evergreens. There were many small garden areas featuring trees, shrubs, and perennials.



Next, we went to Keith Keppel's who moved from Stockton CA, a few years ago. The property is landscaped with large trees, rhododendrons, and perennial beds with several Siberian Irises. Keith had a display of 2015 introductions and seedlings. Last year he lined out 7000 seedlings plus 2000 for Philip Remare. Where he uses a template with notches equally spaced.

Keith shares his knowledge of parentages and culture. There were several sisters with luscious ruffling, dark falls with paler edges and standards in variegata: 'Swedish Lullaby', 'Painted Shadows' and 'Neglecta': 'Billowing Waves', 'Espionage' to continue 'Gambling Man' and 'Wishes Granted' in 2014.

Keith has a strain of dark brown standards with plicata falls, 'Tuscan Summer'(2010) from the 'Drama Queen' line. He always has lovely pastels. I spotted a black, black (Seedling 09104A) in a long row for maybe 2016.

Kevin Vaughn retired and moved from MS to OR where he was able to continue his hybridizing on Siberians, Spurias and semperviviums (which he has a love of). He has done an amazing amount of work in 3 years. He built raised beds and resumed some earlier ideas. Kevin had a beautiful clump of 'Sandy River Belle', (Schafer/Sacks, 2011).

The sections had their board meetings, programs and judging classes interspersed during the week. John Coble gave two presentations, on Multi-Petaled Siberians, which I missed due to my wonderful visit to Adelman Peony Farm. John presented a new SJI DVD, at the SJI section, which has most of the Payne Award winners with a short biography that would make a nice program for iris clubs. Ensata has also updated the SJI checklist. A panel on Questions and Answers by Keith Keppel, Joe Ghio and Barry Blyth was the TB Section Program. It was lively and informative.



We began the garden tours, with 18 buses scheduled Thurs-Sat. Two buses per garden worked well in large gardens. My Thurs. morning was at Mid-America, with 17 acres of rolling hills, 5 acres of iris, with white peacocks and exotic chickens (photo left). There were also over 1000 guest irises to view, photograph, and evaluate!

Paul Black has been hybridizing Siberians the past few years, producing nice colors, W319A, V374C. I liked 'Speckled Spring', (S Markham, 2011), MTB, 'Very Very Good', (P Black, 2013), a smaller flowered TB in red with purple/orange beard. Tom Johnson, owner had two iris getting lots of attention: 'Barbara Rider', (2015) named for his grandmother, a yellow standards with medium purple ruffled falls and 'Voulez-vous', (2015),

which has 6 falls with buffy peach styles. Jenkins' Spuria 'Falcon's Crest' (1995), was nice. Jill Copeland had a deep purple LA seedling IKXGV-2 (pictured right) which was about to devour Jim's 'Fisherman's Twilight' (2014). Jim's seedling 07-1 was a beautiful clump. There were lots of iris to see before we made it to the landscaping around the house. Which included many plant groupings of large trees, shrubs, roses, peonies, and hostas of the Sebright Hosta Garden / partner Kirk Hansen.



I have been lucky to attend over 30 AIS Conventions. My favorite area is Oregon at the large commercial Iris Gardens. I attended 1994, 2006 and 2015 plus I have been to SJI and SSI mini Conventions in the gardens. Most are large gardens with 2 hours in each garden. It's so interesting to see that each garden has its own personality.

We had lunch at Adelman Peony Farm and enjoyed a cut peony exhibit and the landscaping around their home. Then we motored a short distance to Schreiner's 200 acres. The display gardens were beautiful with lupines, eremurii, clematis, trees and irises. There, 'Football Hero' by Lynda Miller (formerly of Reg. 6) was lovely and later won the President's Cup. Also, 'Better Together' (Schreiner, 2014) and 'Coal Seams' (Schreiner, 2013) which is a very fine velvety black, were standouts.

Friday my bus went to Terry and Barbara Aitken's Salmon Creek Gardens where they have gardened for forty years. The TB irises were along our way, Terry had a BB 'Art Festival' (2012), with nice shades of orange, Keith Keppel's 'Joviality' (2012), Tom Johnson's 'Gypsy Lady' (2012) and 'Edge Of Heaven' (2013), all caught my attention.



Bill Marriott, Joe Ghio, and Barbara Aitken's evaluating iris

The Siberian guests were in their glory! Even the TB lovers were enthralled with the wonderful colors and forms that have been introduced in the past ten plus years. Bill Marriott and Joe Ghio were wishing they could grow them in California. Marty Schaefer/Jan Sacks continue with neat and unusual patterns that they have developed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. 'Carnivalito (2015), is well named with "purple and yellow and veins everywhere" as their catalog description. Their golden browns have progressed in 'Butterscotch Fizz' (2013), 'Colonel Mustard', (2013) and the dark 'Black Joker' (2013). Bauer/Coble had four with 'Blueberry Brandy' (2009) and 'Concord Crush' (2010) a purple multipetal attracting a lot of attention. Terry Aitken had a nice 'Burgundy Fireworks' (2013), Bob Hollingworth's 'Swans In Flight' (2006) was very popular at both conventions as well as 'How Audacious' (2009), 'Judy Judy Judy' (2010), also seedling 10K8B3, nice rose red with large yellow signal area.

In the afternoon we went east to Mt. Pleasant Iris Garden to visit Chad Harris who has been hybridizing *Ensata* irises for thirty years now, including the *Spec-X pseudatas* and *I. laevigata* for 15 years. His 'All in Stripes' (pictured right) was voted the best *Spec-X*. This garden rises up from the road to the house so shows a lot of color to the traffic. In Chad's master planting he has rectangular beds, each devoted to its particular kind of iris, which are transplanted each year after a cover crop has been used. Each bed is irrigated for 24 hours and he uses Steer Compost from Wisconsin, 3" under the rhizomes and 3" as a mulch. We saw most types of iris even the *I. Ensata*. What a treat. The TBs were beautiful and 'Tijuana Taxi' (Kanarowski, 2014) was bright and cheery. Siberians: Schafer/Sacks 'Paprikash', (2012) and 'Solar Energy' (2014), a bright yellow was lovely.



Saturday we took off bright and early for the Miller Manor Gardens by Roger and Lynda Miller and son Nathan who has a wonderful collection of dwarf conifers. They are also interested in perennials and Lynda does the iris hybridizing in bearded iris. 'Football Hero' (2015) was wonderful (pictured left), it won the President's Cup, and her MTB 'Moose Tracks' (2015) won the Median award. 'Raining Cats And Dogs', (P Black, 2014) and 'Deal Or No Deal' (2014) were both nice. Lee Walker had a nice *Spuria*, 'Oregon Sunlight' (2013) and Adam Cordes, Region 6, won the best seedling with a nice rich brown 'Royston Rubies'.

Wildwood Gardens was the last garden. We had a Garden Judging class, unfortunately this garden had been disturbed after planting for sewers so was not in full bloom. Will Plotner has been president of SIGNA for 11 years and sends plants to many around the world.

The Siberian/Species Convention followed AIS so we visited the Harris and Aitken gardens on Sun with 3 buses. There were two programs that evening; A Hybridizers' Panel, which included Terry Aitken, John Coble, Marty Schaefer and Jan Sacks and the SIGNA program "Growing Species Iris in the Maritime Northwest" by Patrick Spence.

Monday we toured Mid-America, Schreiner's and Vaughn Gardens. Lunch was BBQ chicken which is an annual affair for Memorial Day neighbors. And then a banquet and auction at our hotel. A very successful auction with proceeds split between SSI and SIGNA. It was good to visit the gardens a second time. I have pretty well mentioned most of the outstanding Siberians and species that we saw. I had a marvelous time and feel so lucky to have been able to attend this year.

# IGEI's 2015 Minnetrista Garden Fair

By Tom Tomlinson

## The Booth:



## The Visitors:



## The Star of the Show: *The Coupon Box*



## Thank you IGEEI volunteers:

*Bev and Bob Hill:* Booth set-up and teardown and for staffing booth on Saturday and Sunday.

*Joyce Baker:* For staffing booth on Saturday and Sunday; and, for the beautiful floral arrangement that adorned the front table.

*Roger and Penny Hoover:* For booth setup and teardown, and for staffing booth on Sunday.

*Bev and Bob Hill:* For the cut irises that adorned the front table.

*Tom Tomlinson:* For setup and Saturday booth staffing.

## Thank you to IGEEI members who donated irises for the booth:

*Joyce Baker.*

*Bev and Bob Hill*

*Roger and Penny Hoover*

*Peggy Harger-Allen*

*Kent Rumbaugh*

*Tom Tomlinson*

## Garden Fair notes:

IGEEI sold \$230 worth of potted irises.

Booth visitors loved the floral arrangement by Joyce Baker—we even had offers to sell it!

A lot of interest was shown by visitors regarding the Japanese irises in the vase and floral arrangement.

The Iris Sale coupon box was very popular with visitors.

We had visitors from Southern Indiana Daylily, Hosta, Daffodil and Iris Society (SIDHDIS), Bloomington, IN area visiting the Garden Fair and IGEEI's booth.

IGEEI booth staffers were seen buying "stuff" from the Garden Fair's many vendors.

## **4 IDIS Members travel to Kentucky to judge the Louisville Area Iris Show**

In early May four members of the IDIS traveled to Kentucky to judge the *Louisville Area Iris Show*. They had a wonderful time and enjoyed meeting the Tennessee contingent and getting a chance to learn 'the ropes of judging'.

Left to Right: Andrew Buhler, apprentice from Tennessee, Peggy Harger-Allen, Evan Underwood from Tennessee, Barb Bunnell, working on classes to become an apprentice, Chuck Bunnell, Mary Lou Swann-Young.



**I am looking for these Reblooming  
Tall Bearded Iris hybridized by my  
late husband, Charles V. Applegate**

Autumn Evening	1972
Belleek Pastel	1970
Dark Vintage	1970
Lavish	1973
Lothario Again	1970
Orchid Cloud	1973
Royal Encore	1973
Royal Summer	1970
Sweet Summer	1971
Touch of Spring	1971

I am also interested in:  
Gate of Heaven – Zurbrigg  
Beverly Sills – B.Hager  
Queen Dorothy – E Hall  
Violet Returns – E. Hall

Thank you, Linda Applegate  
419-961-8569  
No email

3699 Pleasant Hill Rd  
Perrysville, OH 44864

**Visit the Region 6  
website at:  
[aisregion6.weebly.com](http://aisregion6.weebly.com)**

The site has been recently  
updated.

Please send information for  
the website  
to:bridiget@gmail.com

# Mark Your Calendars for AIS and Region 6 Events

<b>Year</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Event &amp; Location</b>
2015	July 10-12	IDIS co-hosting American Hemerocallis Society Region 2 summer meeting in Indianapolis (contact John Everitt <a href="mailto:dverittjt@gmail.com">dverittjt@gmail.com</a> for more information)
	July 25	ICOWM's Bus Trip to Cranbrook & other gardens in the Detroit Area (contact Don Sorensen <a href="mailto:djsorensen55@gmail.com">djsorensen55@gmail.com</a> for more information)
2016	Sept 19	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne, IN – Hosted by NEIIS
	May 23-28	AIS National Convention – Newark, NJ
	TBD	Region 6 Spring Meeting – Hosted by Columbus Iris Society
2017	Sept 17	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne, IN, Hosted by TCIS
	May 22-26	AIS National Convention – Des Moines, Iowa
	TBD	AIS Median Mini Convention and Region 6 Spring Meeting – Hosted by IDIS
	Sept 16	Region 6 Fall Meeting, Fort Wayne, IN – <i>Host Club Needed</i>

**JUDGES Remember to:  
VOTE THE AIS BALLOT**

**All AIS Members Remember to:  
VOTE THE TB SYMPOSIUM**

## **Announcement**

An election of new officers will be held at the Fall Region 6 meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Below are the Candidates for all of the elected region officers.

Regional Vice President-----Barb Bunnell  
 Assistant Vice President-----Jean Kaufmann  
 Treasurer-----Peggy Harger-Allen  
 Indiana State Chairman-----Tom Tomlinson  
 Michigan State Chairman-----Don Sorensen  
 Ohio State Chairman-----Fred Pederson



# ***AIS Officers and Administrative Officers***

## **President**

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## **First Vice President**

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## **Second Vice President**

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## **Recording Secretary**

Open

# ***Region 6 Officers and Directors***

## **Regional Vice President**

Jim Copeland, 78118 M-40 Highway, Lawton, MI, 49065, (269) 624-1968, [jandjcope@aol.com](mailto:jandjcope@aol.com)

## **Assistant Regional Vice President**

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## **Michigan State Chairman**

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## **Ohio State Chairman**

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## **Awards & Elections Chairman**

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## **Judges' Training Chairman**

Jim Copeland, 78118 M-40 Highway, Lawton, MI, 49065, (269) 624-1968, [jandjcope@aol.com](mailto:jandjcope@aol.com)

## **Regional Youth Chairman**

Judy Barton, 1903 Culver Hill Dr, Williamston, Mi, 48895 (517) 655-9222, [contact@iriswarehouse.com](mailto:contact@iriswarehouse.com)

## **Regional Webmaster**

Jody Nolin, [jody.nolin@gmail.com](mailto:jody.nolin@gmail.com); Bri Diget, [bridiget@gmail.com](mailto:bridiget@gmail.com)

## **Immediate Past Regional Vice President**

Chuck Bunnell, 7941 Peshewa Dr., Lafayette, IN, 47905, (765) 296-6955, [whozher2003@yahoo.com](mailto:whozher2003@yahoo.com)

# Region 6 Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 19, 2015

**Reta Winebrenner's Home**

**1297 CR 19**

**Waterloo, IN 46793**

10:30 – 11:30 Board/General membership meeting

11:30 – 12:30 Judges Training – Exhibition

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 Judges Training – Median Iris

2:30 – 3:00 program for prepping iris for a show.

3:00 Auction!!!

Dismissal

Registration \$20 per person.

Please send check payable to Lana Wolfe to:

Lana Wolfe

9730 Auburn Rd

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Attendee(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City & State \_\_\_\_\_

Email or phone \_\_\_\_\_