

Indiana IDIS Newsletter



NEWS



President's message

Greetings Gardening Friends,

Hope you enjoyed the presentation by David Toth on his work blending Space Age iris features with Broken Color iris. Four lucky folks went home with gift certificates for some of his iris.

This month we will be meeting on the **second Tuesday, May 14**, and hearing from Gus Guzinski of Kalamazoo, MI. He'll be presenting, "How daylilies grow and divide". Gus is a retired research chemist who's been a member of the American Daylily Society for over 30 years. He's been especially interested in the genetics of color inheritance and unusual genetic traits in daylilies. For the past several years he's been working on early bloom in daylilies, getting daylilies to bloom in June rather than July in his area of Michigan. Planting about 3000 seeds a year, he's working on foliage types, scape branching patterns, as well as other traits of interest. He has introduced five daylilies from his work. Come and hear about the mystery of how daylilies grow and divide.

Our Iris Show will be on Saturday, May 18 at the Judge Stone House, 107 S 8th St, Noblesville, IN. This will be in connection with the Peony Festival which will be held in the same general area. Set up will be from 8-10:30am with judging thereafter. The show will be open to the public from 1-4pm. The show information and guidelines were attached to the April newsletter and are again attached to this newsletter. There will be tags available at our www.indianadaylilyirissociety.com

May meeting. This will be a great opportunity to educate the public about iris. Please consider bringing some iris to exhibit in order to make our show a success.

The Hendricks County Master Gardener show is Saturday, April 27 from 9am to 4pm in Danville, IN. Mary Vinson is coordinating our booth there. If you would like to volunteer, please contact her. We will be selling plants, passing out literature about growing daylilies/iris, and chatting with guests about flower growing.

The following weekend, Saturday, May 4, the Johnson County Garden Club will be holding their show, "May the 4th be with you" from 9am to 3pm in Franklin, IN. Lezlie Myers will be coordinating our booth there. Please contact her if you would like to volunteer.

John Chapin, Tree Frog Gardens, 3160 S 125 West, Danville, IN will be holding his annual plant sale May 9-11, open 10am-4pm. You may remember his presentation to our club several years ago on hydrangea.

Don't forget the Nominating Committee and their work. Might you venture into volunteering for a board position? Do you know of someone who would be a good board member? Let Laurel, Mary, or Alex know of your suggestions.

We'll have a place for free plants at our May meeting. If you are working in your garden this spring and have extra plants, bring them along to share with others in the free exchange.

Thanks for your support of IDIS!

Rod Maust, president

yodermaust@gmail.com

IT'S SHOW TIME - IRIS SHOW - SATURDAY - MAY 18, 2024

Place: In conjunction with the Indiana Peony Festival

Nickel Plate Arts Campus - Judge Stone House 107 South 8th St., Noblesville, IN 46060

Time: Entries accepted from 8-10:30 AM

Open to the public from 1:00 until 4:00 PM

Admission to AIS approved shows is free **Clean up:** 4:00 PM

Calling all IDIS members and friends to exhibit at our iris show this year and to attend this great event. Show Schedule is attached to the email. We are not printing scads of schedules (cost \$1.00 each) so please download the schedule and print it if you like. Let Peggy know if you do not have access to a printer. Libraries have printers. This year will be wonderful as it is happening the same day as the Indiana Peony festival: <https://www.indianapeonyfestival.com/>

The iris venue is around the corner 2 blocks from Noblesville's Seminary Park (350 S. 10th St.). There is a parking garage near the venue. Also street parking.

We will need helpers to set up tables on Friday afternoon, help the exhibitors enter stalks from 8-10:30 on Saturday, greeters for the show (1-2 hours shifts from 1:00-4:00pm) and clean up at 4:00pm. We need exhibitors. We need visitors to the show. Help make this the best one ever! Call or email Peggy for information or to select a job to help out. dpmallen52@gmail.com or 317-260-0257

Thanks so much!

The Iris Show Committee

2024 IDIS EVENTS

Red font indicates local events

Black font indicates regional/national events

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

Program: "How Daylilies Grow and Divide", (Gus Guzinski, Kalamakoo, MI)

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: First Friends Church

3030 Kessler Blvd., East Drive, Indianapolis

MORE ABOUT-James (Gus) Guzinski is a retired research chemist whose field of expertise is natural flavor and natural color. He is an expert on chili peppers. After his early retirement from industry, he taught chemistry and has since retired again. He published the first report identifying lycopene as the carotenoid pigment responsible for the melon colored daylily flower.

He has been an AHS member for more than 30 years. He was Region 2 Newsletter editor several years ago and also written several popularized science article for the newsletter and for the Daylily Journal. In the past he served on the Registration Committee for AHS and is now on the Scientific Studies Committee. He is also a garden judge and a popular garden judge instructor.

His interests in hybridizing are heavily weighted toward the genetics of color inheritance and to the study of unusual genetic traits in daylilies. For the past several years he has been working predominantly for early bloom in daylilies. In his display gardens in Kalamazoo, MI, peak bloom is third week in July but, in his seedlings beds, peak season occurs in June. "I can't wait until July each summer to see daylilies bloom." He finds working for something different more satisfying than working on the hot trends in daylilies.

He has no interest in becoming a commercial daylily hybridizer and rarely registers his seedlings. "Five named cultivars in 30 years seem enough." This should not be taken to mean that his hybridizing program is small. He plants about 3,000 seeds a year with about one quarter of those dedicated to projects to study foliage types, scape branching patterns, and other traits of interest. Most of his hybridizing uses diploids because the genetics are simpler and there is more variety available.

www.indianadaylilyirissociety.com

His garden is a piece of his acreage, “just enough to be too much.” Display cultivars are grown in raised wood beds near a small pond that often has baby turtles. His acre of seedlings is nearby and is open to garden visitors by appointment. The best time to visit is late June when he has thousands of seedlings in bloom but almost no bloom until a month later in his display bed of registered cultivars.

Saturday, May 18, 2024—Iris Show “Iris In Wonderland”

Time: Set-up: 8:00 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.

Judging: 10:45 A.M. – 12:45 P.M.

Public Viewing: 1:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Place: Judge Stone House, 107 S 8th St, Noblesville, IN

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

Program: NCAP daylily distribution (Members only)

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: First Friends Church

3030 Kessler Blvd., East Drive, Indianapolis

June 12-15—American Daylily Society National Convention, Oklahoma City, OK

June 22—American Iris Society Region 6 Spring Meeting, Avilla, IN

June 26-29—American Iris Society National Convention, Portland, OR

Tuesday, July 2, 2024

Program: “Evolution of a Garden From Pasture to Paradise”, (Laura Teague, Madisonville, KY)

Time: 6:30 P.M.

Place: First Friends Church

3030 Kessler Blvd., East Drive, Indianapolis

July 19-21—American Daylily Society Region 2 Summer Meeting, Wooster, OH

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Program: “Hybridizing Daylilies in the Midwest”, (Steven Franklin, Louisville, KY)

Time: 6:30 P.M.

www.indianadaylilyirissociety.com

Place: First Friends Church
3030 Kessler Blvd., East Drive, Indianapolis

Saturday, August 10, 2024—IDIS Annual Daylily/Iris plant sale

Time: Setup: 8am, Membership buying: 9:45am

Public Buying: 10am-3pm

Place: Avon Gardens, 6259 E County Rd 91N, Avon, IN

Saturday, September 7, 2024—Installation of Officers, Plant Exchange, NCAP Daylily Auction
(members and guests only)

Time: Set-up: 11:00 A.M.; Lunch: 11:45 A.M.;

Auction: 12:30 P.M.

Place: First Friends Church
3030 Kessler Blvd, East Drive, Indianapolis

Saturday, September 21—American Iris Society Region 6 Fall Meeting, Avilla, IN