



Waco Iris Society News

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Swans In Flight

2016 Dykes Medal Winner

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An affiliate of the American Iris Society

May 2017

Club Year-End Luncheon Set for May 20

Waco Iris Society will gather at the Vegas Buffet, 505 N. Valley Mills Dr. (corner of Waco Dr. and Valley Mills in the Westview Village Shopping Center) between 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 20th. Members will enjoy a great lunch, paid for by the club and visitors are invited to join us. We will be in the meeting room in the back, past the buffet.



Following lunch and in the absence of President Dan Cathey, Ken Anderson, Waco Iris Society Vice President and Show Chair, will conduct a brief business meeting and distribute the show awards. A complete list of all winners and photos of each variety may be found in this newsletter.



President's Message by Dan Cathey

Now that our iris season is a fond memory it is time to look forward to one of the favorite Club activities, the annual luncheon and Show awards presentations. Please try to attend, think FREE FOOD and good fellowship! Our Show Chair, Ken Anderson, will be conducting the meeting in my absence and will present all the awards from our Spring Show. As you may or may not know, Peggy and myself are daylily judges and have a previous commitment to judge a daylily show in Houston the same day as our banquet. We regret not attending and will miss not seeing everyone for the last meeting before the new club year begins again in September.

I hope everyone will try to attend the Region 17 Meeting being held in Dallas this year, August 4-5. This is close enough to make attending easy and worthwhile. See more details later in this newsletter.

All members who are AIS members should have received your blue bal-



lot for the Tall Bearded Symposium. Please vote for your top 25 favorite Tall Bearded irises and send your ballot to the Region 17 RVP, our own Peggy Cathey. You may mail your ballot to her at 1115 HCR 1414, Covington, TX 76636, or list your picks by their number (from the ballot) and e-mail it to her at aisregion17@gmail.com. Please represent our Region 17 by voting the ballot. You may choose 1 iris from the list or up to 25.

If you have not yet done so, it is important to get your iris beds cleaned up and remove all spent bloom stalks. The stalks can introduce rot down into the rhizome so get them out as quickly as possible (plus they



are just plain unsightly). Usually, the stalk will break off - "pop" - by bending it down to the ground forwards and/or backwards. If it does not pop, cut it as close to the rhizome as possible. Remove weeds and debris as these can harbor insects and disease that can attack your plants and will make your garden look a whole lot nicer through the summer. A light fertilization can be done in late May to early June if you wish. This will help the plants replenish the energies spent in bloom production but will require a deep watering to move the nutrients into the root zone. Use a balanced, low nitrogen or organic fertilizer at about half your usual rate. You can cut away dead and/or diseased leaves at this time but leave all healthy leaves intact as they are what manufacture the food for your plants.

Enjoy the luncheon and my hearty congrats to all the Show award winners.



Waco Iris Society Spring Iris Show by Ken Anderson

The Waco Iris Society held its spring show at the Hampton Inn and Suites in Waco on April 8, 2017. In addition, potted irises were sold at the show. The show and sale went very well. As Show Chair, I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who participated in preparing for the show, bringing entries, entering the design portion, helping with the plant sale and assisting with closing down and the clean up following the show. There are many little pieces of work and many workers that make a show come together. Thanks so much for helping make our show a success.

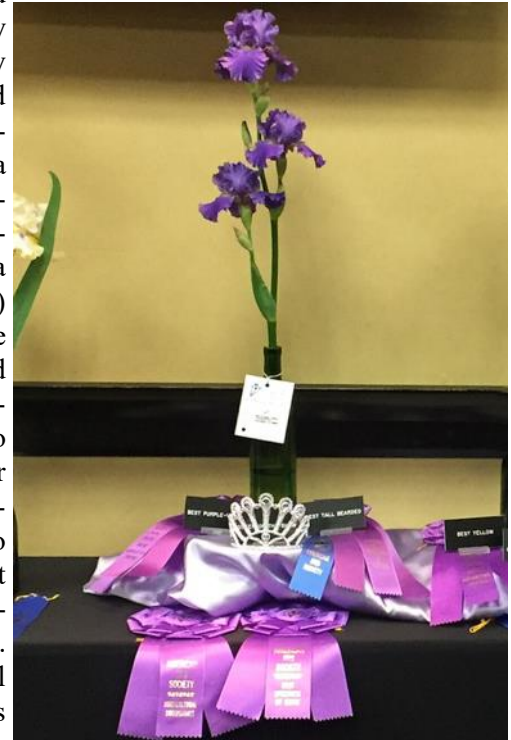
Our show was judged by Dawn Boyer of Amarillo. This was the first time she had judged a show on her own, however, it seemed to go very well. The Queen of Show was won by Dan and Peggy Cathey with their tall bearded entry *Far Gal Valicia*. Dan and Peggy also won the Silver Medal for the most blue ribbons. The Bronze Medal for the 2nd most blue ribbons was won by Michael Lowe. The Best Design of Show was won by Peggy Cathey and the Sweepstakes for Artistic Design (most blue ribbons) was also won by Peggy.

We have a number of new members in our club and some of those mem-

bers might just be gaining experience growing iris. So if you are new at growing iris, don't let this past season discourage you. Even the most experienced members of our club have agreed this was a very strange year for irises. The general consensus seems to be that our winter was so mild the iris rhizomes did not get the proper chill they need to produce blooms. Some bloomed rather early, some bloomed very late, some bloomed with very short and/or distorted stalks, and many never bloomed at all. Consequently some members had a smaller number of desirable specimens to enter in the show. Compared to previous years, this was a small show. We had only five (5) exhibitors and only Seventy-three (73) entries. However, the good part was that we had great attendance and met some people who expressed interest in joining our club. It is always good to remember the main purpose of the Waco Iris Society is to promote interest in growing iris and to share personal knowledge with new people. With those goals in mind we all can rest assured that those goals were accomplished.

We will be having our final meeting of the club year on May 20,

2017, at the Vegas Buffet in Waco. I know there are a few members who will not be able to attend, but I hope most of you will be there. This meeting will consist primarily of recognizing winners of awards from the show, distributing awards, and having lunch together. It will be the last meeting before we get back together in September.



Mitchell Whitley with his 1st Runner-up *Daintree*, which was also selected Best Louisiana and Best Yellow.



AIS Region 17 Meeting by Dell Perry



The AIS Region 17 Meeting for 2017 will be held in Dallas on Friday/Saturday August 4-5, 2017, hosted by The Iris Society of Dallas.

The host hotel will be ***The Courtyard by Marriot Dallas Northwest***. The room rate will be \$75 +tax per night.

Contact the hotel DIRECTLY at 972-620-8000 to reserve your room. Say you are with ***The Iris Society of Dallas***, or book online, click on this link -

[Book your group rate for Iris Society of Dallas](#)

We have reserved a small room block, so **please book early** to ensure a room at the \$75 rate. **Rate is guaranteed until July 21, 2017.**

Regional registration is \$60. The Judges Training class is \$10. Please be sure your registration is emailed or postmarked no later than July 25, 2017 to avoid the \$10 late charge. Friday dinner will be chicken and beef fajitas, followed by something fun.

For the Saturday banquet you may select chicken, beef, or vegetarian. Be sure to indicate any special dietary needs we need to be aware of.

There will be a hospitality get-together on Friday evening at 5:00 p.m. Saturday morning muffins, pastries, yogurt, fruit, juice and coffee will be provided in the Hospitality Room.

All events will take place at **Holy Cross Lutheran Church**, 11425 Marsh Lane, a very short 1.5 mile drive from the hotel. Transportation will be available for those without a car.

Saturday will be Judges Training in the morning: ***What Would You Do?*** - 1 hour **Ethics** and 2 hours **TB garden and exhibition judging**.

After lunch, the Regional business meeting and the ever popular IRIS AUCTION. The evening will end with the banquet and program - ***Sex in the Garden...a Dauber's Guide to Hybridizing***. Our guest speaker will be Cheryl Deaton of Canyon Country, CA., hybridizer and AIS Youth Chair. There will also be a Silent Auction.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FRIDAY

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. - registration

7:00 p.m. - Dinner and entertainment

The Region 17 Board Meeting will follow the dinner and entertainment, Location to be determined.

SATURDAY

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Boutique open. Iris sales and silent auction open.

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Judges Training w/Cheryl Deaton

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Break/lunch

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Region 17 business meeting

3:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. Region 17 iris auction

5:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. Hospitality (wine, hors d'oeuvres)

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Dinner and speaker

Contact Bonnie Nichols with any questions at :

BJNHTN@aol.com or 214-676-9892.

April Iris Sales by Peggy Cathey

The heavy rains the morning of the Gardeners Gathering in Woodway kept many vendors and visitors away, but we were there with lots of plants and enthusiasm. They moved the sale inside the Grand Pavilion, which is a very nice venue and there were lots of friendly volunteers to help us move the plants around and even bring us 2 extra tables. We had the best spot in the house, right in front of the main doors. A big THANK YOU to those who came to help and who donated plants. Total Sales were \$364.00.

At the Iris Show, the sale plants were set up in the Longhorn Room,



Gardener Gathering crew: L-R Preston Floyd, Michael Lowe, Ken Anderson, Frances Peterson, Don Peterson, Dan Cathey and Peggy Cathey (no pictured).

adjacent to the main Show Room. sale. Guests were lined up at 1:00 waiting

for the sale to open. Sales were fast and furious when the doors opened. Thank you to Naomi Nabors and Jean Tomlinson for getting the sale underway. Total sales for the show amounted to \$895. Thanks to all who donated plants and helped with the



Best of Show 2017

Far Gal Valicia

Dan & Peggy Cathey

Far Gal Valicia
Best of Show
Best Tall Bearded
Best Purple
By Dan & Peggy
Cathey



Daintree
1st Runner-Up
Best Louisiana
Best Yellow
By Mitchell Whitley



Section Winners



Best Historic
I. orientalis
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Louisiana
Daintree
Mitchell Whitley



Best Spuria
Rodeo Blue
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Space Age
Beth's Blessings
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Tall Bearded
Far Gal Valicia
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best by Texas Hybridizer
Beth's Blessings
Dan & Peggy Cathey

Color Class Winners



Best Amoena
Ayes Alert
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Banded
Core Values
Michael Lowe



Best Bi-Tone
Panama Hattie
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Blend
Bayou Tiger
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Blue
Dance Recital
Ken Anderson



Best Brown
Coco Loco
Frances Peterson



Best Orange
Abdul Unknown
Michael Lowe



Best Pink
Double Platinum
Mitchell Whitley



Best Plicata
Winsome Wendy
Michael Lowe



Best Purple
Far Gal Valicia
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Red
Victorian Inn
Dan & Peggy Cathey



Best Reverse Amoena
Dance Recital
Ken Anderson



Best White
Wings of Peace
Michael Lowe



Best Yellow
Daintree
Mitchell Whitley



Class 2-Glittering Gold and Yellow
Leprechaun's Gold
1st place—Peggy Cathey



Class 2-Glittering Gold and Yellow
All That Glitters is Not Gold
2nd place—Ken Anderson



Class 2-Glittering Gold and Yellow
Glittering Gold and Yellow
3rd place—Frances Peterson



Class 1-Flaming Red & Orange,
See the USA in Your Chevrolet,
1st Place—Dan Cathey

Irises: A Celebration of Color Artistic Designs



Class 3-Anything Goes With Green
Anything Goes With Green
1st place-Donald Peterson (Novice)



Class 4-Brilliant Blue & Passionate Purple
Feeling Blue
1st place & Best of Show—Peggy Cathey



Class 4-Brilliant Blue & Passionate Purple
Passionate Purple
2nd place—Ken Anderson

Waco Iris Society

An affiliate of the American Iris Society
And the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

Meetings held 3rd Saturday of
January, March, May, September
and November at 10 a.m.

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Join Waco Iris Society today!
Only \$10 per year. You may join at a
meeting, download membership form
from our website, or send a check with
your name, address, phone number and e-
mail address to:

Waco Iris Society Membership
P. O. Box 21921,
Waco, TX 76702-1931

MARK THESE DATES

May 20, 2017
WIS Annual "End of Year Luncheon" Vegas Buffett (Valley Mills @ Waco Dr.)

May 23-27, 2017
AIS National Convention
Des Moines, IA

August 4-5, 2017
AIS Region 17 Meeting
Dallas, TX

September 16, 2017
WIS Meeting, Annual Iris Giveaway, Exchange & Auction. Crestview Church of Christ

September 30, 2017
Annual Iris Sale. 9a.m.-2 p.m.
GreenLife Nursery, New Road @ Bosque Blvd.

Like us on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/WacoIrisSociety>



We're on the Web:

http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html

Word Search Puzzle—Iris Hybridizers

R S T X S H T Y L B J B I S H
O C S A T U R Z P C B K Z K E
R H V H U Z B E T S N R E N D
E I A R Z U N R G H G O J U G
L L Z Q R I R N E N D S U M E
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L P N W N A C N U D A G Y T K

BURSEEN	SPOON
NICHOLS	MILLER
BLACK	NISWONGER
JOHNSON	BAUMUNK
KEPPEL	ERNST
BLYTH	OCONNER
GHIO	
TASCO	
DUNCAN	
SCHREINER	
PAINTER	
LAUER	
HEDGECK	
VANLIERE	
AITKEN	

