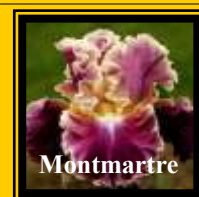




Waco Iris Society News

Website: http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html E-mail: wacoiriss@gmail.com



2017 Dykes Medal Winner

Volume 10, Issue 1

An affiliate of the American Iris Society

September 2017

Welcome Back! by Peggy Cathey

The first meeting of the 2017-2018 Waco Iris Society club year will be September 16th at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi Rd. (Sanger changes to Delhi past Providence Hospital). Membership dues of \$10 per person will be due at this meeting. This will be our annual Iris Giveaway to qualifying members (see pg. 2 for details and to see if you qualify). We will also have our iris exchange. If you received a gift plant in 2015, please bring back an increase of that iris. If it died or did not increase,

you may select another iris of equal value (same year of introduction +/- one year). A list of who received what in 2015 is listed on pg. 2 also. After everyone eligible has chosen an iris, all remaining irises will be auctioned. We have some really great irises this year and you can find a full list of all 75 on page 4.

Our annual Iris Sale will be held at GreenLife Nursery, 1312 N. New Road. Please clean and label your irises and don't forget to price them. How to clean your irises and prepare

for sale along with a pricing guide may be found on page 11 of our current yearbook. Don't forget to call or e-mail your list of sale plants to Peggy so photos will be available (wacoiriss@gmail.com or 254-854-2558)

Deadline for sending list is Sept. 28th



President's Message by Dan Cathey

It is hard to believe that the summer has already slipped away. I hope everyone had a rewarding summer in the iris patch (or what is known as the weed patch at our place). I know, at least for my part, the unusual weather has not been especially kind to our iris. Our bloom was much less that we had hoped for and we have had a real bout with rot without being able to determine the cause other than to blame Mother Nature. Oh well, better days ahead. Speaking of days ahead, our upcoming September meeting on the 16th will be the much anticipated iris giveaway and auction. We have 75 really nice rhizomes to tempt us this year and quite a few are 2017 introductions and there are some real beauties, let me tell you. Be sure and look for the plant list and the eligibility in this newsletter. Remember, too, that we have our "bring back and exchange" go-

ing on as well to help us all add to our collections.

Be thinking about our sale coming up only two weeks after the September meeting. Now is the time to get in the garden and make your list of plants to bring. This is the prime time to dig and divide your iris, so put those that really need to be divided at the top of your list for your sale plants. This sale is our prime fund raiser every year and is what funds such things as our annual show, luncheon, speakers and last but not least, our iris giveaway. Please plan to attend and bring as many rhizomes as possible. The sale will be September 30th at the GreenLife Nursery, as usual. We will open for business at 9 a.m. so try and be there by 8 a.m. to get set up and ready for business. We will go until 2 p.m. or until we are sold out whichever comes first. Be sure and spread the word to all your

friends and contacts about the great plants and terrific bargains that will be available, "first come - first served". If you are on social media, such as Facebook, that is a prime way to get the word out.

Since Peggy and myself were unable to attend the annual luncheon this Spring it has been a "long time - no see" as they say. I am very much looking forward to getting together with everyone again at the meeting and the sale. Keep in mind that the time for Fall fertilization is mid to late October so be sure and put that on your to-do list. Use an organic fertilizer or a low nitrogen blend at this time. You will be rewarded with healthier happier iris come the Spring.





Gift Iris Qualifying Members & Iris Exchange

We have chosen to list each member who qualifies for the 2017 Gift Iris this year to save on the expense of printing and mailing individual letters. To qualify, per WIS bylaws, a member is required to attend 3 meetings in the 2016-2017 club year AND assist with either the sale or show. A new member who joined at the September sale or later, will automatically qualify, but must be present at the meeting. Club dues must also be current (\$10 due at the September meeting).

Qualifying members:

Bob Alexander
Ken Anderson
Linda Barnard
Bill Calhoon
Dan Cathey
Peggy Cathey
Preston Floyd
Ken Fuchs
June Hivnor
Glenn Huddleston
Jim Landers
Michael Lowe
Phil Nacke
Frances Peterson
Jean Richardson
Linda Roper
Jean Tomlinson
B.J. Wheeler
Frank Wheeler
Mitchell Whitley

New Members joining since last September meeting are qualified if present at September meeting:

Charlotte Anderson
Rosie Gulig
Janice Ketcher
Judy Morgida

Members who need one more meeting to qualify (must be present at September meeting)

Joyce Jones
Karen Moses
Leroy Nabors
Naomi Nabors

Everyone is eligible to participate in the Iris Exchange. Members who received a gift plant in 2015 are

listed below with the iris they received. Please bring an increase from your gift plant for the Exchange. If your iris died or did not increase, you may bring an iris with an introduction year the same or +/- 1 year to participate. If you did not receive a gift plant in 2015 and want to participate in the Exchange, you may bring an iris introduced within the past 6 years (2011 or newer). Don't forget to write the name of the iris you are bringing back on a piece of paper for the drawing.

2015 Gift Plant-Bring Back for Exchange	
Bob Alexander -	Die Laughing (Black 2014)
Ken Anderson -	Country Picnic (Black 2014)
Linda Barnard -	Rainbow Sunset (Johnson 2015)
Bill Calhoon -	Ready for My Closeup (Black 2014)
Dan Cathey -	Why Be Normal (Johnson 2014)
Peggy Cathey -	Crowned in Glory (Johnson 2014)
Preston Floyd -	Heat is On (Johnson 2013)
Glenn Huddleston -	Seasons in the Sun (Johnson 2014)
Joyce Jones -	Midnight Velvet (Johnson 2014)
Michael Lowe -	Bubblicious (Black 2015)
Karen Moses -	Shouting Match (Keppel 2013)
Leroy Nabors -	Gilt by Association (Black 2015)
Naomi Nabors -	Arro Reece (Burseen 2013)
Phil Nacke -	Cowboy Caviar (Schreiner 2013)
Jean Richardson -	Raining Cats and Dogs (Black 2014)
Ellen Singleton -	Triple Dip (Black 2013)
B.J. Wheeler -	Core Values (Ghio 2013)
Frank Wheeler -	Fixin' to Fly (Burseen 2014)
Mitchell Whitley -	Fabulous Fortune (Black 2014)

AIS Awards by Peggy Cathey

The American Iris Society announced the 2017 Iris Award Winners the middle of August. There is an official ballot of all qualifying irises that is sent to all the AIS Garden/Exhibition judges each year. Judges vote for the best irises they have observed growing and blooming over at least a 2 year period. The ballots must be sent to AIS no

later than July 31st each year for tabulation. This year's Dykes Medal winner is *Montmartre*, a tall bearded iris hybridized by Keith Keppel and introduced in 2008. (photo on cover page).

Congratulations to 2 Region 17 hybridizers for winning Honorable Mention awards this year. Tom Burseen received 5 for his Tall

Bearded introductions of *Don't Doubt Dalton*, *Salsa and Chips*, *Ayes Alert*, *Izitme Orizitu*, and *Cow Palace*. Hooker Nichols won the HM for his Louisiana Iris *Reverchon Snowfall*. The HM is the first step toward the Dykes Medal-the highest award given.





Secretary's Report by Bill Calhoon

Waco Iris Society Meeting Minutes
- May 20, 2017

(Annual Luncheon Meeting - Held at the Vegas Buffet on Valley Mills Drive, Waco)

Vice-President Ken Anderson called the meeting to order at 11:11 a.m. and welcomed attending members. Bill Calhoon then conducted Roll Call; seventeen (17) club members were in attendance.

Meeting Minutes from the March 2017 meeting were published in the WIS newsletter; after receiving no additions or corrections from the floor the minutes were approved as published. Mitchell Whitley presented the Treasurer's Report: as of April 12, 2017, balance of the account was \$10,524.73 with several checks outstanding. The drawing for the A.I.S. membership was conducted with Glenn Huddleston winning the drawing.

Ken opened the floor to old business; no old business was discussed. Ken then opened the floor to new business.

First was a discussion regarding the date for the 2018 WIS Iris Show

and Sale. Ken explained that keeping the show on April 7 would compete with Austin, Dallas and Fort Worth shows; moving to the 14th would conflict with the final day of the AIS National Convention. Following discussion, Linda Barnard moved to set the date of the show for Saturday, April 7, 2018; Frances Peterson seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Next, Mitchell Whitley discussed the orders for the annual Giveaway and Auction, asking if the group wanted to order once again from Mid-America and Superstition. Following discussion, Bob Alexander moved to order rhizomes for the September 2017 Giveaway and Auction from Mid-America and Superstition; Preston Floyd seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Following a break for our meal, Ken Anderson gave the final show report and distributed Award Certificates to those members present and recognized the achievements of those unable to attend the meeting.

There was a reminder to feed your iris following the bloom season

(suggestions were to use a 10-20-10 or 13-13-13 fertilizer).

Meeting was adjourned at 12:28 p.m.

Submitted respectfully,

Bill Calhoon

Secretary, Waco Iris Society

HOSPITALITY

By Preston Floyd

Thank you to everyone who always chips in to help fill our Refreshment Table for our meetings. This month, the request will be the same as always. We need members to bring finger foods, chips, dips, etc. Dan will bring the coffee and I will be doing some baking. I will also bring drinks and the plates, cups, napkins, etc.



**AIS Membership Winner in
May, 2017**



Glenn Huddleston

Judges Training to be Hosted by Iris Society of Dallas by Bonnie Nichols



The Iris Society of Dallas is proud to announce LYNDIA MILLER from Oregon will be our Judges Training Instructor on Saturday, October 21st.

We are honoring Lynda with a reception and dinner on Friday evening October 20th @ 6:30 p.m. There will be a silent auction of some of Lynda's iris introductions.

On Saturday morning Lynda will take us through 3 hours of judges training on **Medians-Garden and Exhibition**, from 9:00 a.m. until



noon. The Iris Society of Dallas program begins at 2:00 p.m. Lynda will present a program on her hybridizing successes. A live iris auction of Lynda's introductions follows the program. Guests are welcome to stay for the business meeting after Lynda's program.

The closest hotel is the Marriott Courtyard Dallas Northwest at 2930 Forest Lane in Dallas. Phone number: 972-620-8000. We have not reserved a block of rooms.

- ☐ Come Friday afternoon
- ☐ Meet Lynda at a reception/dinner on Friday evening, October 20th
- ☐ Participate in Silent iris auction

Friday evening

- ☐ Attend Judges Training w/Lynda on Saturday morning, October 21st from 9:00 a.m. until noon (Fee \$10)
- ☐ Hear Lynda's program on hybridizing irises @ 2:00 p.m.
- ☐ Participate in Live iris auction Saturday afternoon.

Reception/dinner, judges training, and program/meeting are at:

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
11425 Marsh Lane
Dallas, Texas 75229

Please R.S.V.P if you plan on attending any or all of the functions.
Bonnie J Nichols 214.676.9892
bjnhn@aol.com



2017 Iris Giveaway & Auction Plants

Here is a preview list of all the irises that will be available to choose from during our annual Iris Giveaway to qualifying members. Please choose your 10 favorites and keep this list handy. When your number or name is called, give us the NUMBER of

the plant that you want (plant numbers are to the right of the name in the list below). All irises not chosen in the giveaway will then be available for auction. Everyone is invited and encouraged to bid on the auction plants. The money raised goes

to reimburse the club funds for the money spent to purchase the plants. Irises came from Superstition Iris Gardens and Mid-America Gardens. Please send then a note of thanks for their generous orders.

1	ALL THINGS CONSIDERED	T. Johnson	2017	39	IRRESISTIBLE CHARM	Tasco	2016
2	ART COLONY	Moores	2015	40	IRRESISTIBLE CHARM	Tasco	2016
3	BARBARA RIDER	T. Johnson	2015	41	LEMON JADE	Painter	2015
4	BIG BAND	Black	2016	42	LET'S PLAY DRESS UP	Black	2017
5	BIG PICTURE	Ghio	2015	43	LIGHT OF DAY	Black	2017
6	BLAZE VALLEY	Van Hook	2015	44	LIGHTLY BUTTERED	Black	2017
7	BOB'S PRIDE	Annand	2015	45	LOCOMOTION	T. Johnson	2017
8	BORN THIS WAY	T. Johnson	2015	46	LOOKING GLASS	Painter	2016
9	BUBBLICIOUS	Black	2015	47	LOTTO WINNER	Miller	2017
10	BUD TO BLOSSOM	Lauer	2015	48	LOVE RETURNS	Spoon	2015
11	CALL TO DANGER	Black	2016	49	LUMINAGER	Stout	2016
12	CELTIC TARTAN	Keppel	2015	50	MARRY THE NIGHT	T. Johnson	2017
13	CORALINA	T. Johnson	2014	51	MOLOKINI	Sutton	2016
14	CROWNED IN GLORY	T. Johnson	2014	52	MYSTIC IMAGE	Tasco	2016
15	DARK ENERGY	Keppel	2016	53	MYSTIC IMAGE	Tasco	2016
16	DARK STORM	Tasco	2017	54	NIGHT NAVIGATOR	Aitken	2016
17	DARK STORM	Tasco	2017	55	OPTIC OVERLOAD	Tasco	2017
18	DEEPER MEANING	T. Johnson	2017	56	OPTIC OVERLOAD	Tasco	2017
19	DON'T STOP BELIEVING	T. Johnson	2013	57	ORGAN MOUNTAIN SUNRISE	Dash	2016
20	ELEGANZA	T. Johnson	2014	58	PAINTED LOVE	T. Johnson	2016
21	EVEN FLOW	Lauer	2016	59	PAINTED SHADOWS	Keppel	2015
22	EVER CLEVER	Burseen	2016	60	PALE SUNLIGHT	Black	2017
23	FALL FANTASY	Black	2016	61	PARISIAN LACE	Sutton	2015
24	FIRE DANGER	Keppel	2015	62	PEGGY DAY	Baumunk	2016
25	FIRST PRIZE	Tasco	2017	63	PRICELESS MEMORIES	Tasco	2017
26	FLACH MOB	Keppel	2016	64	PRICELESS MEMORIES	Tasco	2017
27	FOOTBALL HERO	Miller	2015	65	PURPLE PANACHE	Schreiner	2016
28	FOR VERONICA	Schreiner	2015	66	PUZZLED	T. Johnson	2015
29	FRONT OF THE LINE	Ghio	2016	67	READ BETWEEN THE LINES	T. Johnson	2016
30	GENTLE SOUL	Ghio	2015	68	ROYSTON RUBIES	Cordes	2017
31	GET BACK	Lauer	2015	69	SERGY	T. Johnson	2016
32	GOOD MORNING SUNSHINE	T. Johnson	2014	70	SWEET CHILD OF MINE	Lauer	2015
33	HARD TO RESIST	T. Johnson	2016	71	SWIVEL HIPS	T. Johnson	2016
34	HIGH SCHOOL HONEY	Schreiner	2015	72	UNDER MY SPELL	Tasco	2016
35	HOSPITALITY	Ghio	2015	73	UNDER MY SPELL	Tasco	2016
36	IN THE FLESH	Black	2016	74	WAVES OF JOY	Tasco	2015
37	IN THE MOMENT	T. Johnson	2017	75	WHAT A BEAUTY	Ghio	2015
38	INSANIAC	T. Johnson	2012				



Greetings From Your Show Chair by Ken Anderson

For those of you who have written articles for a newsletter, letters to an editor or any other publication, I think you can agree that the hardest part is finding the right words for that introductory sentence. With that part accomplished, I can now move on to thoughts about gardening and iris. There are at least three certain things: First, summer is always hot in Texas, second, time passes quickly, even in hot weather, and third, cooler days are just around the corner. Even today as I write this article I am actually looking forward to mowing the grass with temperatures only in the 70's. How nice is that? With the arrival of slightly cooler weather it is time to be thinking about digging and dividing. I hope all of our members have had a good summer and their irises have survived the summer heat. I was doing some work in my yard yesterday, removing old leaves and cleaning up some of the beds, and I believe most of my irises are in as good of condition as they have been in a long time.

As we look forward to our spring show on April 7, 2018, preparations are already underway. Judges for

the horticultural entries have been contacted and confirmed. Unfortunately, we will not be able to use the same location as last year. I stopped by to book the hotel a few weeks ago and was told that the space had already been booked. So after some searching, I found another location that will be suitable. We will have our show at the La Quinta on Highway 84 just west of Highway 6 on the right side of the highway. The main difference in the room is that it is more of a square than a long rectangle but the space seems ample for our purposes. The staff at this hotel seems very anxious to accommodate our needs, as they have been at other hotels. More specific information will be provided at the meeting.

Our theme for the 2018 show is "Irises and Childhood Memories". As usual, there will be four categories. Category I: Children's Songs, such as Old McDonald, Pop Goes the Weasel, and Itsy Bitsy Spider, plus many others. Category II: Fairy Tales, such as Rapunzel, Hansel and Gretel, and Cinderella. Category III: Nursery Rhymes such as Old Mother Hubbard, Little Miss Muffet, and



Little Bo Peep. Category IV: Saturday Morning Cartoons, such as Scooby Doo, Bugs Bunny, Popeye and many others. I think this theme will be fun and offer many opportunities for participants to show their creativity. Of course, the list for each category is fairly extensive, but I have listed just a few to get people thinking about what might be fun.

I hope to see you next week at our first meeting week. Until then, happy gardening and enjoy our slightly cooler weather.

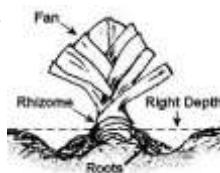
Dividing and Planting Irises by Peggy Cathey

The perfect time for digging, dividing and replanting irises is the fall. Most of us usually start in September in preparation for our club sale. Irises should be divided about every 3 years or as the clumps become over crowded. I like to dig the entire clump by lifting it with a spading fork. The soil is then shaken off and the rhizomes are easily broken or cut apart. Rhizomes with no leaves may be discarded. Trim leaves 6-8 inches in an inverted "V". The roots may also be trimmed to 3-4 inches. It is



a good idea to soak the rhizomes in a 10% bleach solution (1 c. bleach per 1 gal. water) for about 30 minutes to kill any disease or insects that may be lurking. Scrub them and rinse in clean water before laying out in a cool, shady spot to dry and give the rhizome time to callus over before replanting. This is the time to choose the plants you want to keep and bring the rest to our club sale or share with family and friends.

When replanting, dig a wide shallow hole with a



ridge of soil in the center. Place the rhizome on top of the ridge with the roots going down into the hole. Cover the roots with soil and pack well. The top of the rhizome should be at ground level or just above. Irises are not bulbs, so should not be buried. Water well to get established, being careful not to over water. Plant 18-24 inches apart to prevent over crowding. For more detailed instructions on Iris culture, see pages 13-14 in the Waco Iris Society Yearbook, ask a WIS member, or join our Society to learn more about growing irises.

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.

Crestview Church of Christ
Community Center
7129 Delhi, Waco

Dan Cathey, President
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Ken Fuchs, Webmaster
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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



Like us on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/WacoIrisSociety>



We're on the Web:

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

MARK THESE DATES



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



September 30, 2017
Annual Iris Rhizome Sale
GreenLife Nursery, 1312 N. New Road, Waco



November 18, 2017
WIS Meeting-Iris Judging in Paris by Hooker and
Bonnie Nichols
Crestview Church of Christ

Fertilizing Irises by Peggy Cathey

We talk a lot about when to fertilize our irises, but not the "how's and why's". So, let me try and educate you on this important part of growing irises. We recommend fertilizing irises 3 times per year. First is around Feb. 14 (Valentine's Day). This will help wake up your irises and get them ready for the bloom season (usually late March thru early June). The second time is 30 days after bloom or around mid June (Father's Day). This is especially important if you have reblooming irises. You do not want rebloomers to go dormant during the summer months like most irises do. For non-rebloomers, this fertilization is optional, but after the bloom season, they would appreciate a good meal before their sum-

mer nap. Irises will usually break dormancy starting in September when the weather starts to cool and we start getting some rain. Between the middle of September through October 31st, Irises should be fed again to get them through the winter months. This is the time they will be putting down roots and developing increases or baby irises to take the place of the mother rhizome after she blooms.

How to fertilize: Any good organic fertilizer may be used to feed your irises. If using a chemical fertilizer, choose one that has a lower nitrogen level such as a 10-20-10, or one where all 3 numbers are the same, like 8-8-8, 13-13-13, etc. Apply the fertilizer at the rate of 1 Tbl. Per

rhizome. Water well after fertilizing to get it activated and into the rootzone. It is also a good idea to use Alfalfa Pellets. Be sure to get horse grade pellets (nothing added but alfalfa) and not rabbit pellets which contain salt and other ingredients. These may be applied at the rate of 1/2 cup per iris clump. These should be gently worked into the soil, if possible. Never put alfalfa pellets under the plant when planting new irises as these could heat up when decomposing and burn the roots. Alfalfa contains chemical compounds which are very beneficial to your irises and help prevent some diseases and act as a root stimulator when used properly