



# Waco Iris Society News

Website: [http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco\\_index.html](http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html) E-mail: [wacoiriss@gmail.com](mailto:wacoiriss@gmail.com)

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An affiliate of the American Iris Society

January 2022



Waco Iris Society will host its first meeting of 2022 on Saturday, January 15th. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and we meet in the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi (Sanger changes to Delhi after crossing Hwy. 6).

Can you believe we are only four (4) weeks away from iris fertilizing time!?! If the weather cooperates, (unlike last February) on or around

February 14th is the time to show your irises some love by fertilizing them to wake them up for the

spring bloom season. You want to get them started off right for the 2022 bloom season and who knows, you might even grow the next Queen of Show at our April 9th Show.

We are excited to have a guest speaker from Farmers Branch come talk to us about *Preparing Your Garden for Spring*. In his presentation, he will discuss year-round garden activities to maximize enjoyment and minimize maintenance. Irises and many companion plants will be covered in his presentation.



Reed Garden in Farmers Branch

Michael Reed has been gardening since grade school and continues to grow the same types of vegetables from his childhood garden. He has expanded his plantings to include perennials and native plants. Irises and daylilies are the dominant perennials in the landscape of the Reed Garden. Michael's beautiful garden, which backs up to a golf course, has been on many iris and daylily tours and is scheduled to again, be one of the tour gardens for the 2023 American Iris Society Convention.

Michael is a garden and exhibition judge for the American Iris Society and has provided

judges training at both local events and national conventions. He is the Assistant Vice President of AIS Region 17 as well as the newsletter editor. On the National level, he serves on the Board of Directors for the American Iris Society as the Awards

Chair and as a director for the Society for Louisiana Iris.

While Michael does the landscaping, planting and maintenance of the garden, his wife, Mary Ellen is busy filling any "unplanted" spots with beautiful and whimsical garden art.

We hope you join us.



Some of Mary Ellen's yard decorations



## Minutes of November 20, 2021 by Ken Anderson

The second regularly scheduled meeting of the Waco Iris Society was held on Saturday, November 20, 2021, at the Crestview Church of Christ, 7129 Delhi Road, Waco, Texas. The meeting was called to order by the president of the club, Mitchell Whitley, at 10:05 a.m.

### New Members

New members, Jeani Collard and Karen Moses, were welcomed to the club.

### Roll Call

Members present for the meeting were: Ken Anderson, Linda Barnard, Dan Cathey, Peggy Cathey, Jeanie Collard, Ken Fuchs, Glenn Huddleston, Joyce Jones, Jerry Keeth, Mary Keeth, Jim Landers, Karen Moses, Linda Roper, Robb Startzman, and Mitchell Whitley.

### Old Business

Preparations for the spring show were discussed. Sign up sheets with show theme and descriptions of each of the four classes of designs were distributed. It was noted that ribbons need to be inventoried and ribbon order completed. Peggy Cathey said she had all of the information for the new yearbook and would have them ready for distribution at the January meeting. Dan Cathey stated that plant markers were available for \$9 per pack of 25. There was some discussion of determining where the final meeting

would be held. This topic will be discussed at future meetings.

### New Business

Peggy Cathey announced that Mike Reed, president of the Iris Society of Dallas, will provide the program for our January meeting.

### A.I.S. Drawing

Linda Roper's name was selected in the drawing for a one-year membership of the American Iris Society.

### Treasurer's Report

Mitchell Whitley reported that as of November 10, 2021, the balance of the checking account was \$11,490.23.

### Secretary's Report

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by acting secretary, Ken Anderson. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

Following the secretary's report there was some discussion of how the rhizome sale was held. There was some concern that people were allowed to purchase rhizomes before the advertised starting time.

There was also a brief discussion of what companies might be used as a source for rhizomes to be sold in the auction.

Jim Landers reminded everyone of the A.I. S. Convention which will be held in Las Cruces, New Mexico, April 11-16, 2022.

Dan Cathey requested that members be prepared to share suggestions at our future meetings in regard to organization for our rhizome sale in September, 2022.

Refreshment break was taken at 10:48.

Following the break Glenn Huddleston presented a program on iris cultivation. His program included a discussion of nutrition, including the use of alfalfa pellets, commercial fertilizer, and the times of the year these supplements should be applied. In addition, he discussed soil preparation, including the use of compost and its positive impact on the soil because of all the micro-organisms contained within compost. His presentation was followed by several questions and good discussions of various aspects of productive iris cultivation practices. His program concluded at 11:50 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

## Judge's Training Classes

*Great opportunity to learn more about irises. You do not have to be a judge to attend*

### Iris Color Patterns

Feb. 12, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Instructor: Peggy Cathey

1 credit hour

JN Long Cultural Arts Complex

425 Granbury St., Cleburne

\$5.00 for judges

### Tall Bearded Irises

Feb. 27, 2022, 3:00 p.m.

Instructor: Cynthia Wade

1 credit hour

Grandy's Restaurant

3201 Texhoma Parkway, Sherman

\$5.00 for judges

## Treasurer's Report—to Nov. 20, 2021-Jan. 9, 2022 by Peggy Cathey, Asst. Treasurer

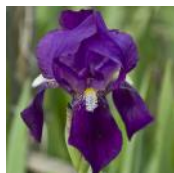
<b>Checking-Opening balance</b>			
<b>11/20/21</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>11,245.23</b>
Income:	Dues	\$	20.00
	Plant Markers	\$	36.00
Expenses	AIS Membership	\$	(30.00)
	Meeting room donation	\$	(25.00)
<b>Checking-Ending balance 11/12/21</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>11,246.23</b>
<b>PayPal balance 1/9/22</b>		<b>\$</b>	<b>9.84</b>

# Fun Facts About the Iris by Dan Cathey

The name *iris* is the Greek word for the rainbow. To the Greeks the rainbow was personified in the beautiful, swift footed goddess Iris, Zeus and Hera's messenger, whose path between heaven and earth was the rainbow.



Iris symbolizes eloquence.



Purple iris is symbolic of wisdom and compliments.



Blue iris symbolizes faith and hope.



Yellow iris symbolizes passion.



White iris symbolizes purity.

Bearded Iris and Siberian Iris are two of the most common types of irises grown.

Iris gardens in Florence, Italy and Presby Memorial Iris Garden in New Jersey are the two largest gar-

dens in the world dedicated to the cultivation of iris



In the ancient world, the Indian and Egyptian cultures were among those that used iris rhizomes for medicinal purposes and for the manufacture of perfume. Perfumes were applied as offerings to the gods, and iris by-products like orris roots were thrown onto fires to create scents that would be pleasing to the gods.



Centuries later, the practice of using dried iris rhizomes was a major industry in 19th-century Florence, Italy. The iris became the emblem of Florence. In neighboring



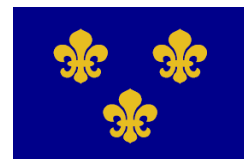
Germany, orris roots were hung in barrels of beer to keep the beer fresh. The same applied to casks of wine in France.



Today Iris essential oil (absolute) from flowers are sometimes used in aromatherapy as sedative medicines.

Juice squeezed from the plant can be used to improve condition of the skin. Orris root can be used for the purification of the body because it contains substances with laxative, diuretic and emetic properties.

During the Middle Ages, the meaning of irises became linked to



the French monarchy, and the Fleur-de-lis eventually became the recognized national symbol of France.



The Purple Iris is the state flower of Tennessee. the Fleur-de-lis is

The emblem for the city of New Orleans.



A flower on the Sphinx is considered to be an Iris.



Source: <http://justfunfacts.com/>



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**

**Mitchell Whitley, President  
Peggy Cathey, Newsletter Editor  
[wacoiriss@gmail.com](mailto:wacoiriss@gmail.com)**

### Join WIS 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:  
Mitchell Whitley, Treasurer  
812 Dayton, Waco, TX 76706



January 15, 2022 10 a.m.  
Crestview Church of Christ, 7129 Delhi  
**Preparing Your Garden for Spring** by Michael Reed



March 19, 2022, 10 a.m.  
Crestview Church of Christ, 7129 Delhi  
**Getting Ready for the SHOW**



April 8, 2022, 4-6 p.m.  
LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Woodway-Waco South  
Iris Show set-up All Members



April 9, 2022  
LaQuinta Inn & Suites, Woodway-Waco South  
Iris Show

Check out our website:

[www.kenfuchs42.net/waco\\_index.html](http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html)



<https://www.facebook.com/search/wacoirissociety>

## Word Search—Iris Names That Begin With Frost

Find the following words in the puzzle.  
Words are hidden → ↓ and ↘ .

**ALERT  
BABY  
BITE  
DESIGN  
ECHO  
END  
FAIRY  
FIRE  
FLOWERS  
GLINT  
IMP  
KING  
KISS  
LINE  
MAIDEN  
QUEEN  
TIPPED**

