



Waco Iris Society News

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An affiliate of the American Iris Society

April, 2023



Annual Iris Show & Potted Iris Sale

Saturday, April 8th

Hampton Inn & Suites Waco South
2501 Marketplace Dr., Waco

Exhibit entry check-in 8-9:30 a.m.
with all exhibits in place by 9:45

Judging 10:15 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

Show and Potted Iris Sale opens to
the public from 1-3 p.m.

Preparations for Show *by Ken Anderson, Show Chair*

The spring iris show is always exciting. I remember the first time I visited a show and the first time I brought a horticultural entry. That is a story that will NOT be shared in this article. Let's just say it is a distant memory, and it is probably best left in the past. If you are bringing a horticultural entry for the first time, you might be concerned about the things you should do and the things you should not do. Just remember some basics. Get your entry cut late in the day on the evening before the show or early in the morning on the day of the show. Be sure to put the bloom stalk in water as soon as possible, even if it is not in the green bottle you will be using at the show. Be sure to label it correctly, especially if you are bringing more than one entry. And be sure you have a green bottle for each entry. At our last meeting, Mary Keeth did a wonderful job of sharing a lot of pointers

for show preparation of horticultural entries. If you are new at doing this, there will be plenty of other members to assist you in making sure your entry is properly exhibited. The same goes for any of you who might be entering the artistic division of the show. The best way to approach this is to just jump in and

enter. The first time to enter might seem challenging, but once that experience is under your belt you will find a lot of pleasure in being a contributor to the show from this point forward.

I have tried to reach the contact person at the Hampton Inn to verify the time at which we might be able



Show iris from 2021



Preparing for Show (cont.)

to get into the show area on Friday afternoon. I know we will be able to get in there by 5:00 p.m., and it is likely they will let us in even earlier if there is not a function occurring in that room on Friday, April 7. However, at this time, I have not been able to get a response from the person in charge of reserving the room. If you really need to be there earlier than 5 o'clock on Friday, please feel free to contact me on Thursday, two days before the show. By then, I will have contacted the person by phone, email, or personal visit to the hotel. Call or text me at 254-223-3161.

For those members who are bringing potted irises, you can certainly drop them off at the hotel on Friday evening. However, if you live quite far from Waco and need to wait until Saturday to bring them, try to arrive around 8 o'clock. Check-in time for entries in the show will begin at 8:00 a.m. There is always a lot going on as entries are being checked in and placed on tables, and members entering the artistic division are busy preparing their designs. All displays and entries need to be in place by 9:45 a.m. The judges will be coming into the

show area at 10:00 a.m. for instructions, and the judging will begin at 10:15.

Finally, I will repeat my usual speech regarding participation in the show. It is understandable that members want to bring the very best specimens they have and increase their chances of receiving blue ribbons on their entries. However, the public likes seeing color and the various combinations of colors. It is my opinion that all of the irises that bloom are worthy of appreciation. Last year we were worried about having enough irises to have a show. Remember, we have to have at least five exhibitors and at least twenty different cultivars to have an accredited show. Even if you have only one or two blooming on the day of the show, please bring them and help increase our number of exhibi-

tors and cultivars.

For those of you who are bringing potted irises, you need to have a 1"x4" strip of paper with your initials on it to receive the bonus from the sale. Please staple it securely to one of the leaves. (Please see page 13 of your Yearbook for information on sale tags.) It is very helpful if you use bright-colored paper (card stock works well), which helps with the sorting of tags for the person calculating bonuses. Also, be sure you have the variety of the iris marked clearly on the pot. All Pots should have at least two iris fans in them. If you have a pot with only 1, please hold it for an increase. All Pots will be \$10 each this year.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the show and really hoping to see a lot of beautiful irises.



2022 Sale Table—we will have even more this year! Potted irises-\$10 each

March 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes by Jacky Roberts, Secretary



The March meeting of the Waco Iris Society was called to order by President Ken Anderson. We had 17 members present. The minutes and treasurer's report were discussed and accepted by Rob Startzman, seconded by Carol Lane. A.I.S. membership drawing was won by Ann and Mike Harder.

Raffle drawing had Jacky Roberts, Katrina Rieser, Carol Lane, Jim Landers and Linda Roper as winners.

Old Business: all current officers have agreed to serve another term of office for the 2023-2024 club year. President: Ken Anderson, VP: Linda Roper, Secretary: Jacky Roberts, Treasurer: Peggy Cathey, and Parliamentarian: Mitchell Whitley. Accepted by Mike Harder, with a seconded by Mary Keeth. Approved with unanimous vote by members.

New Business: Discussion about the club's tax free status through the Texas Garden Clubs, Inc. Decision was made to wait on a reply from the A.I.S.

Next discussion was on the potted iris sale in April. Approximately 150 potted irises expected to be sold only to the public.

Next discussion was about the end of year meeting. Linda Roper to research restaurant locations. We then went to break. After break Mary Keeth and Peggy Cathey gave us a lot of pointers on show preparation and presentations.

Next show entry supplies and handouts were distributed. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.



Show Time is Upon Us! by Ken Anderson, President

If you are a member of the Waco Iris Society I hope the excitement of an upcoming show is building for you as much as it is for me. All of us are unique individuals, so our view of any topic, our ideas for completing a project, and even our thoughts about an upcoming iris show have a uniqueness that is defined by each individual. So whether you are young, old, or somewhere in between, and whether you have had years of experience growing irises or you are just a beginner, I hope you share a fair amount of excitement. Many of our members have been participating in iris shows for a number of years, but I hope even our “seasoned” members still find great excitement as this event approaches. All of us who have irises in our gardens spend money purchasing some of the new varieties. Then we spend more time, effort, and perhaps another bit of money preparing the beds. And then, there is the care given throughout the fall after planting the new rhizomes. There is the weeding, occasional watering, and removal of dead leaves. Then Valentine’s Day rolls around, and one realizes it is time for that late winter/early spring fertilization. After all these preparations, it is time to reap the benefits of your hard work by enjoying the bounty. Even just one or two iris blooms can really catch the eye of any gardener. A whole bed of blooms is breathtaking.

It is always exciting to see the blooms beginning to appear. Just driving around for a few minutes in various neighborhoods, one does not have to go too far before spotting a fresh bloom. Just yesterday, I saw a beautiful iris blooming in a yard in the older part of Gatesville. It was bright yellow and appeared to be one that might have been introduced in the ’70s or ’80s. What a wonderful time it is. I just wish this season

of cool days with a variety of green colors would last longer than it does.

The hillsides around Gatesville are many shades of green for a brief span of time. Even though it is central Texas it is in early spring and in the fall when one realizes there are quite a number of varieties of trees living on the side of those hills. There are several types of oaks, hackberry, cedar elms, Texas red-buds, and others, all vying for attention among the darker Ashe Juniper, otherwise known as mountain cedar. I have an appreciation for all of them, even the lowly cedar. And while I am on the topic of natural beauty, certainly all iris gardeners also appreciate the beauty of the abundant wildflowers. Even though various invasive types of grass have completely devastated some wildflower fields over the past ten or fifteen years in this area, there are

still some wonderful places to enjoy this beauty. I hope you are able to take it all in before it is gone. I need to be in one of two places. I need to be weeding in my garden or working on preparing things for the show. But the nature lover in me wants to be anywhere and everywhere at the same time when the wildflowers start to bloom. Routine trips up and down the highways and country roads become so much more fun this time of the year. Enjoy the scenery but keep your eyes on the road if you are doing the driving!



Treasurer’s Report	
Checking Account	
Beginning bank balance March 1, 2023	\$ 1,465.57
Income	
Plant markers	\$ 22.00
Raffle	\$ 55.00
Total Income:	\$ 77.00
Expenses	
Facebook ad for show)1st pmt.	\$ (12.64)
AIS Affiliation & Membership dues	\$ (65.00)
May-22 thru Mar-23 Expenses	
Newsletter printing	\$ (40.80)
Postage	\$ (16.32)
Office supplies (Yearbook binders, cash box, check book, etc.	\$ (105.80)
Printing-Yearbooks, sale photos, giveaway/auction sheets, etc.	\$ (329.25)
Speaker stipends	\$ (75.00)
Total Expenses	\$ (644.81)
Checking account balance March 31	\$ 10,910.40
Petty Cash	\$ 110.00
TOTAL	\$ 11,020.40



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 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:

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April 8, 2023-Open 1-3 p.m.
Annual Iris Show and Potted Iris Sale
2501 Marketplace Dr., Waco



April 12-16, 2023
American Iris Society Annual Convention
Grapevine, TX, hosted by the Iris Society of Dallas



May 20, 2023
End of Club Year Luncheon
Location to be announced



August 4-5, 2023
AIS Region 17 Annual Meeting
Weatherford, TX

Check out our website:

www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html



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

Word Search-Iris Names Beginning With SHOW by Peggy Cathey

Words may be up, down, across, di-
agonal forward or backwards



Show Finale
Nicodemus, 2014

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

- GLOW
- QUEEN
- PIECE
- DOWN
- FINALE
- OFF
- CASE
- CIRCUIT
- ROYALE
- GIRL
- DRESS
- MISS
- STOPPER
- MASTER
- BIZ
- BOAT
- BOUND
- TIME
- BABY
- MANSHIP