



# Newsletter

Waco Iris Society



## Welcome Back



Welcome to the first meeting of the 2023-2024 Waco Iris Society club year. We will get this year rolling with our favorite meeting of the year—the annual Iris Giveaway and Auction. The meeting will be held at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi, in Waco, beginning at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome to come and participate in the auction.

What a great selection of 69 irises this year for our Iris Giveaway and Auction. When choosing your favorites, think about our show next April and see how many sections, color patterns, and color classes you could have a chance to win. There will be a wide variety to choose from. For the Show Sections, we will have Tall Bearded, Border Bearded, Intermediate Bearded, Arilbred, Historic, and Novelties such as Broken Color and Space Age. All the color patterns will be

represented: amoenas, banded, bi-color, blend, bi-tone, broken color, Emma Cook, glaciata, selfs, luminata, neglecta, plicata, selfs, and variegatas. We will have colors like blacks, pinks, yellows, purples, and everything in between. Once we have all selected our gift iris, all remaining irises will be auctioned. The auction is how we reimburse the club for the irises ordered just for you. There will be irises for every budget, from historic irises introduced in the mid-1990s to current 2023 introductions. Don't miss this fun meeting. Remember, the auction is open to everyone. Let's make this the best one ever!



*Born to Party*, Johnson, 2023

## Announcing the 2023 AIS Dykes Medal Winner

Congratulations to our friend and fellow Region 17 member —Tom Burseen, this years Dykes Medal Winner. The winning iris is *'Don't Doubt Dalton'*.

We are so proud of Tom. A well deserved honor for all his years of hybridizing.



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## Time to Tale a Stroll—President’s Message by Ken Anderson

It is that time of year again. It is the time of year when the summer has been so hot it is hard to imagine that in a few weeks, we will begin to experience some pleasant weather. Unless you have been out of the state and spending your summer elsewhere, I don’t have to tell you how hot it has been. I have never served time in prison, but I think this summer, all of us felt like we were imprisoned in our houses with one of the hottest summers we have experienced in a long time. Whether it was stepping out to get the mail, going to the grocery store, or running any errand, I don’t think any of us wanted to be outside past noon. According to the weather forecast, we should see an end to all the 100-degree days very soon. With that being said, it is time to take a stroll through our gardens and make note of many things. My advice is to plan that stroll as soon after daybreak as possible. If you like to make lists, you might want to jot down a few things that need to be accomplished once the heat subsides. More importantly, you might want to make a list specifically about your irises. Take note of what survived and what needs to be divided. For any member who is new to growing irises, keep in mind that it is important to dig up and divide clumps a few years after planting a new variety. If a variety is growing very well for you, this process of digging and dividing might occur as early as the third year. When clumps are left undivided for too many years, the size of the rhizomes decrease, and the

amount of bloom decreases or disappears completely.

The September stroll is important because now is the time to begin deciding which clumps definitely need to be dug and divided. If you are planning to bring rhizomes to the iris sale, it is not too early to start making a list of what you will be bringing. Without getting too detailed, the way that many members handle this task is to dig one clump at a time. As you begin to break up the clump, write the name on the innermost leaf of the fan on every rhizome (or even on the rhizome itself if the leaves are very small) before doing anything else. Once the rhizomes are cleaned up, it is time to divide them into three groups. The first group contains the ones to be kept for your own garden. The second group are the ones that are well-developed and can be prepared for the sale. The third group are the smaller ones that can be put in pots of two or more rhizomes for the potted iris sale in the spring.



Keep in mind that the smaller ones might look insignificant when planted, but with a minimal amount of care throughout the winter, they will produce rhizomes large enough to bloom the following spring. For more specific infor-

mation regarding trimming up and cleaning rhizomes, how to attach price tags, how to price, etc., please refer to your yearbook. If you have questions, please ask any member who has been doing this for a while.

As usual, the summer heat has taken a toll on many of our irises. Those growing out in full sun likely look the worst. Those that have received some shade are in better condition. As the cooler weather arrives and, hopefully, some rain, the rhizomes will begin to revive. It is always amazing to see how quickly these plants respond to cooler weather.

September is a busy month for iris gardeners. It is time to dig, divide, amend the soil, replant, and prepare spaces for new irises. In addition to those garden tasks, it is time to prepare rhizomes for the sale that is held on the last Saturday of September. Our first meeting, which is the “giveaway” and auction, will be on Saturday, September 16, at the Crestview Church of Christ, 7129 Delhi Road in Waco. Our rhizome sale will be two weeks later, on Saturday, September 30, at the GreenLife Nursery located at 1312 N. New Road in Waco.

Despite the extremely hot and extremely dry summer, I hope your irises have survived. I also hope you will have rhizomes to bring to the rhizome sale. I look forward to seeing everyone at the first meeting of our 2023-2024 club year. Until the first meeting, be sure to enjoy a stroll through your garden.

## Meeting Minutes-May 20, 2023 by Jacky Roberts, Secretary

The May 20, 2023, meeting of the Waco Iris Society was called to order by President Ken Anderson at Di Campi's Italian Restorante.

Thirteen members and 1 guest were present.

Business: Mitchell Whitney gave us details on rhizome orders from Sutton Iris Garden and Mid-America Iris Garden.

Diane and Jacky Roberts, and Donna Little gave reports on the

2023 American Iris Society National Convention hosted by the Dallas Iris Society.

Ken Anderson read a letter from the A.I.S. on the club's non-profit status.

Discussion on next year's show: will use the same venue and do we really need 3 judges. No decision was made.

Linda Barnard asked to head up the selling of rhizomes to members

at the rhizome sale. We talked about the members getting the rhizomes to her early so she could get them separated for the members.

Motion by Mary Keeth to donate \$150.00 to the Fort Worth Iris Society for the Region 17 convention. Second by Michael Lowe, a unanimous vote by all attendees.

We enjoyed our meal, had great conversation, and adjourned at 12:50 pm

## Treasurer's Report by Peggy Cathey

Opening balance 5/1/23:	Expenses:	Ending balance:
\$10,048.34	May luncheon: \$422.62	Checking: \$9,312.82
<b>Income:</b>	Donation-FWIS-R-17: \$150.00	Petty cash: \$100.00
<b>0.00</b>	Memorial donations: \$100.00	
	Flowers for Memorial \$ 50.00	
	Newsletter printing: \$ 6.15	
	Postage: \$ 6.75	
	<b>Total expenses: \$ 735.52</b>	

## 2024 Iris Show

It's never too early to start thinking about our next iris show and ideas for the Artistic Design division. The theme chosen for the 2024 Iris show is: An Iris Show Where the Wild Things Are. There should be lots of ideas and accessories to complete your design. See page 6 for the different design classes. Searching for that perfect accessory to tell your design "story" is half the fun.



## 2023 Iris Giveaway

As stated in our club by-laws, Article XXII, General:

*Section V: All members present at the annual iris gift plant meeting who have attended at least three (3) meetings during the past club year and assisted in either the Iris Show or Rhizome Sale will be eligible to receive a gift rhizome purchased by the Society, provided the member's dues are current. If a member has met the required attendance but is unable to attend the gift plant meeting due to illness or work, they may designate someone to act on their behalf. This person may then choose for the absent member, but only after the members present have chosen. Any new member who joins the Society after the last gift plant meeting, who is present, will be eligible to receive a gift plant. It will be determined at the May meeting, by member vote, where rhizomes will be ordered from and the amount to spend, including all shipping costs.*

The following members have met these requirements:

Ken Anderson  
Linda Barnard  
Dan Cathey  
Peggy Cathey  
Debbie Sartain\*  
Preston Floyd  
Jerry Keeth  
Mary Keeth  
Kimberly Christian\*  
Carol Lane  
Michael Lowe  
Marilyn Roessler\*  
Millie Read\*  
Don Peterson  
Frances Peterson  
Katrina Rieser  
Diane Roberts  
Jacky Roberts  
Linda Roper  
Rob Startzman  
B.J. Wheeler  
Frank Wheeler  
Mitchell Whitley

New members (those with \*) must be present at the meeting to receive a gift iris.

### ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP



Membership dues are due at this meeting (with the exception of new members

joining at our April Show (\*). Please pay your membership dues at our September meeting. If you can't attend, please notify the club president of your intent to stay a member and be included in the 2023-2024 Yearbook.



*Singularity, Sutton-M, 2023*

## Remembering Glenn Huddleston by Peggy Cathey



*In Memory of Glenn Huddleston-  
Nov. 4, 1941—July 31, 2023*

Glenn and his wife Gloria became members of the Waco Iris Society in 2010, even though they had been entering and winning our Iris

Shows for several years, winning their first WIS Queen of Show in 2005 with **Textronics**, Burseen 1998. They went on to win again in 2011 and Glenn won in 2016. They won numerous Silver Medals for the most blue ribbons through the years. They became active members and Glenn served as club president from 2013-2016.

They always brought lots of irises from their extensive iris garden each year for our club sales and were eager to help new members get started with their own iris gardens, offering advice as well as irises to get them going.

Glenn presented many programs to the club on growing irises and we especially enjoyed his **Show Prep** programs.

Gloria, the love of his life, passed away in July of 2015.

Glenn's Memorial Service was held in Whitney on August 12. Many Waco Iris Society members were present for the service. Waco Iris Society, along with Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society and Dan and Peggy Cathey, sent flowers for the service, and as is custom with our club, Memorial Donations in Glenn's name were sent to the American Iris Society and Region 17.



## Waco Iris Society

An affiliate of the American Iris Society

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We're on the Web!

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

Check it out—  
recently updated

## Wordsearch: Iris Names Beginning with September



September Chereau

Brown, 1966

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

1. bouquet
2. butterfly
3. charm
4. chereau
5. contrast
6. cream
7. dawn
8. frost
9. gleam
10. gold
11. moon
12. morn
13. pastel
14. replay
15. sailor
16. seas
17. serenade
18. skies
19. song
20. sparkler
21. sunshine



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

## 2024 Iris Show Artistic Design Classes



### Class 1. Out of Africa

There are many WILD THINGS in Africa. The list doesn't just include all the wild animals in Africa. Use your imagination to create a design that brings the Wild Things to life.



### Class 3. An Outback Party

Australia has lots of animals you don't see wild anywhere else. Party with the crocks and kangaroos. There are lots of beautiful and exotic birds.



### Class 5: Wild Child (Youth)

This division is for anything you find WILD. Can be something from any of the categories, or make up your own.



### Class 2. Wild and Woolly West

Cowboys and Indians, Sheriffs and Outlaws, Cattle stampedes, Rattlesnakes, wild horses, lots of things in the Wild and Woolly West.



### Class 4. Into the Woods (Novice)

How many Wild Things can you find in the woods? Lots of furry critters, mushrooms, ferns, and even fairies if you look really hard.

Where the Wild Things Are should be really fun. You can let your imagination run wild. You have plenty of time to think about it. Keep your eyes open for fun accessories to bring your design to life. Half the fun is in the hunt for just the right thing.