Waco Iris Society Newsletter

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BINGO Is Back: Join Us November 21st

We had a great start to our new club year in September with the Iris Giveaway and Auction, followed the next week by a successful Fall Rhizome Sale. Now we are keeping the momentum going with an exciting and fun meeting. Who's ready for some BINGO?!

Everyone goes home a winner, and visitors are always welcome. We'll play games until all the prizes are won, so there are plenty of chances to take home new irises to add to the beauty of your spring landscape.

MEETING DETAILS

Club BINGO

When: November 21st, starting at 10:00

Where: Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi Rd., Waco

WHAT TO BRING

Irises, prizes and snacks

- Three (3) named irises, bare-root or potted
- No irises to share? Bring other plants or garden items to use as prizes
- Snacks for the hospitality table

Everyone goes home a winner, and visitors are always welcome.

Our Raffle Returns

We will also be bringing back our raffle. Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5. Members donate the raffle prizes, and it's fun to see what's available when your number is drawn.

Proceeds benefit the club. They help fund the annual Iris Show, our annual Iris Giveaway, and the drawing at each meeting for an AIS membership, where one lucky member wins a 1-year membership in the American Iris Society. I hope you can join us for the fun and prizes.

Pre-Thanksgiving Warm-Up

We all love to eat, so please bring snacks for our hospitality table. Peggy and Dan plan to bring turkey sandwiches for a pre-Thanksgiving warm-up. Drinks are BYOD—*bring your own drinks.*

Help Your Irises Through the Winter

The much-needed rain and cooler weather are making the irises happy. If you were able to get fertilizer out before the rain, it will help your irises through the winter as they grow new roots and add increases for a beautiful spring bloom.

LATE-SEASON TIP: If you missed our usual October 31st fertilizing date, it's not too late to use an organic fertilizer around your irises. Organic fertilizers feed not only your irises but also the soil microbes that build the soil, making it easier for your irises to take in nutrients.

President's Report: Rain, Rhizomes and Region 17

by Carol Lang, President

This month: thanks for a successful rhizome sale, news from the Region 17 Meeting in Cleburne, and details for our November 21 meeting.

A Welcome Change in the Weather

As I write this, the day is cool and rainy—a welcome change after summer's extreme heat. The steady rain and cooler air feel especially refreshing after weeks of hot weather, and I'm grateful for the shift.

More unsettled weather may be ahead. The Old Farmer's Almanac's November outlook describes a warm, stormy, and active pattern in some regions, with a strong El Niño influencing the broader weather setup. Long-range forecasts vary by region, so local conditions may differ. almanac.com

Whatever the forecast brings, I'm enjoying this cool, steady rain while it lasts. It's good for the garden, and I hope more is on the way.

A Successful Rhizome Sale

Thank you to everyone who attended our September 26 iris rhizome sale at GreenLife Nursery, and to those who brought rhizomes to sell. Once again, the sale was a success.

Many of our members shared their knowledge of irises and how to care for them with customers, and we appreciate everyone who helped. Members will pot any unsold rhizomes and offer them for sale at our Iris Show in April, so please plan to join us there.

Region 17 Meeting in Cleburne: Award, Auctions, and Waco Iris Society Highlights

The Johnson County Iris and Daylily Society hosted the Region 17 Meeting in Cleburne, Texas, on October 2 and 3, and went all out to make it a spectacular event.

Congratulations to Peggy Cathey, recipient of the 2026 Region 17 Distinguished Service Award! This is a once-in-a-lifetime award, meaning a person can receive it only once. Recipients must have served their club, the AIS, and Region 17. A club, or a group of five people, nominates the recipient by sending letters to the Region 17 Service Award nominating committee. The RVP presents the award at a Region 17 Meeting, and this year RVP Hooker Nichols presented it to Peggy.



Peggy Cathey, 2026 reciepient of the Region 17 Distinguished Service Award and Region 17 RVP Hooker Nichols.

Seven members of the Waco Iris Society attended the Meeting: Jacky and Diane Roberts, Dan and Peggy Cathey, Mary Keeth, Katrina Reiser, and Carol Lane. We also had one former member, Robb Startzman, who flew in from South Carolina just for the event. Everyone had the opportunity to learn and connect with fellow iris enthusiasts.

Attendees enjoyed several informative presentations, including talks about Louisiana irises and iris hybridizing. The Meeting also featured plenty of raffle prizes and iris sales, a Live Auction to benefit the region, and over 100 Silent Auction baskets. The Waco Iris Society's wagon, filled with wonderful gardening items, was a big hit in the Silent Auction!

Between the Region 17 Meeting and our rhizome sale, I returned home with plenty of irises to plant and lots of inspiration for the garden.

Please join us at our meeting on Saturday, November 21, beginning at 10:00 a.m. We will meet at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi, Waco, and we will be playing BINGO. Please bring 3 irises or other garden plants to use as prizes. Everyone wins! Who will be the first to yell BINGO? Have a friend who loves plants and FUN? Bring them along. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Minutes of September 5, 2026 Meeting by Jacky Roberts, Secretary

DATE	September 5, 2026
PRESIDING	Carol Lane, President
ATTENDANCE	13 members present; no guests

CALL TO ORDER

The September meeting of the Waco Iris Society was called to order by President Carol Lane.

ATTENDANCE

Membership Chair, Dan Cathey, conducted the roll call; 13 members were present, with no guests. We welcomed our newest member, Verlon Baize.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary's Report was accepted with no changes. Diane Roberts moved to approve, seconded by Peggy Cathey.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Peggy Cathey gave the treasurer's report.

A.I.S. MEMBERSHIP DRAWINGS

A.I.S. Membership drawings for April, May, and September will be done by Peggy Cathey, and the winners will be informed. *(Note: Winners of AIS drawings were: Nicholas Washington, Dianne Reagan, Verlon Baize, and Linda Barnard.)*

OLD BUSINESS

Medals for the April Show were presented. Mary Keeth won the Silver Medal, and Katrina Rieser received the Bronze Medal.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Rhizome Sale

Our Rhizome sale will be September 26th at ***GreenLife Nursery.*** Setup will start at 7:30. Suggested pricing is on the reverse side of the meeting agenda. Peggy Cathey will need a list of what you plan to bring by Tuesday the 22nd so she can have pictures and also be able to advertise what we will have available.

B. 2027 Show

The 2027 show will be April 10, 2027. Please think about show theme ideas.

C. Region 17 Meeting

The Region 17 meeting is in Cleburne on October 2 & 3, 2026. Please bring items for our Raffle Wagon.

D. Member Aprons

We discussed ordering Aprons for members. Jacky Roberts moved, and Katrina Rieser seconded. The vote was unanimous. Peggy is placing the order, and they will be $20.

E. Hospitality

Carol Lane asked that, as she is now President, someone take over Hospitality from her. Diane Roberts accepted.

F. Bugs and Pests

Katrina and Michael gave a short discussion about Bugs and Pests.

REFRESHMENTS, IRIS GIVEAWAY AND AUCTION

Refreshment break, and then this year's Iris giveaway and auction. There were 71 Iris to choose from, and qualifying members got their choice. Remaining irises were auctioned.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.



Treasurer's Report: Aprons On, Irises Sold! by Peggy Cathey



Waco Iris Society members sport their new club aprons at our September Iris Rhizome sale. (l-r) Peggy Cathey, Dawn Holmes, Michael Lowe, Diane Roberts, Jacky Roberts, Mary Keeth, Linda Roper, Linda Barnard, Mitchell Whitley, Carol Lane and Dan Cathey. Missing from the photo is Dianne Reagan who had to leave early and Ken Anderson, who was our photographer.

What a September! Our iris auction was a big hit, and we earned back every penny we spent on the Giveaway Irises, with a little extra to spare for the club.

Our Iris Rhizome sale was another success. Sales came in just a touch below last year's, but with the extreme heat and drought, we think that's something to celebrate! Everyone looked sharp in our new club aprons, and members loved having a handy spot for their phones, pens, and club brochures. If you didn't make it to the sale and want an apron to wear at our shows and sales, there are still some available.

A big thank-you to everyone who brought irises to sell, lent a hand at the sale, or took rhizomes home to pot for our spring show's potted iris sale. You make these fundraisers bloom!

Be sure to join us at our November meeting for the full treasurer's report. See you there!



Happy iris shoppers



Winding down

Word Search-Words That Start With 'HOLIDAY'





'Holiday in Mexico'
Probst, 2012 (MTB)

Word Placement

- ☑ → Left to right
- ☑ ↓ Top to bottom
- ☑ ↑ Bottom to top
- ☑ ↘ Top-left to bottom-right
- ☑ ↗ Bottom-left to top-right
- ☑ ← Right to left
- ☑ ↙ Top-right to bottom-left
- ☑ ↖ Bottom-right to top-left

C R J B B T S E W D D S Q I A C Z N A O
L A Y T P H J B Q U R V A T B X J X R Q
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1. affair **2.** cheer **3.** dream **4.** fashion **5.** flame **6.** habit **7.** house **8.** inMexico **9.** lover **10.** magic **11.** magic **12.** mood **13.** parade **14.** punch **15.** romance **16.** show **17.** Spain **18.** spirit **19.** time **20.** treat **21.** west **22.** wine

Important Club Dates For Members

Please mark your calendars for the club's key dates and activities for the year. Additional details, including any changes to meeting locations or schedules, will be shared in the club newsletters.

- **Club Meetings:** The club year runs September through May, with no meetings during the summer. Meetings are typically held on the third Saturday in September, November, January, March, and May unless otherwise noted.
- **Iris Show:** The show is held on the second Saturday of April, with the location announced in the newsletter. A potted iris sale is held in conjunction with the show.
- **End-of-Year Luncheon:** The May meeting includes a luncheon to celebrate the close of the club year. Location details will be announced in the newsletter.
- **Welcome Back Iris Giveaway and Auction:** This takes place at the September meeting. Eligible members may receive a free iris purchased by the club.

Thank you for staying involved and supporting the club's meetings, sales, show, and member activities throughout the year.

