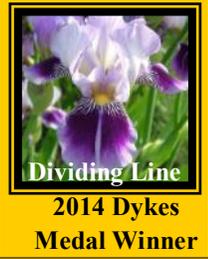




# Waco Iris Society News

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



Volume 7, Issue 1

An affiliate of the American Iris Society

September, 2014

## Change of Location—This Meeting Only

The next meeting of the Waco Iris Society will be held September 20, 2014 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Both of our usual library locations were booked for this day, so this meeting will be held in the Community Center of Crestview Church of Christ, 7129 Delhi, Waco. For those who have not been to this location before, take the Sanger St. exit off Hwy. 6 and go south. Sanger changes to Delhi and the church is just a few blocks on the right. The community center is on the back side.

It will be good to see everyone again. Preston, our hospitality host, is still in North Carolina, so we will need volunteers to bring items for the refreshment table. This is going to be a fun meeting. The hybridizers we order from for our Giveaway and Auction have been VERY generous, so hope you can all make it.

## President's Message

by Glenn Huddleston

September marks the beginning of a new year for iris growers. Usually we can expect cooler temperatures and hopefully much needed moisture. Iris cultural practices completed in the next sixty (60) days will reward all of us with beautiful iris blooms next spring. The first thing we need to do is to evaluate the irises we have in our gardens. If the irises have been in place for three (3) bloom seasons, they more than likely need to be divided. If left undivided, growth will slow, fewer and smaller blooms will appear and eventually the clump may die. When we divide our irises, we

will have lots of extra rhizomes to share with others and also extra rhizomes could be used to support the Society's annual plant sale. Remember our Society Rhizome Sale will be held on Saturday, September 27th at the GreenLife Nursery.

Our society sale is also a great place to acquire new varieties for our gardens at bargain prices.

The next thing most of us need to do is to cleanup our existing irises. Following a hot, dry summer, our iris beds are full of weeds, grasses and iris debris. Unfortunately there is no simple way to accomplish this annual activity. This unwanted debris is a perfect place for insects to spend the winter, as well as a breeding site for disease spores. Leaf spot diseases we generally experience in the spring can be lessened with cleaning the irises now.

Hopefully all members can be present at our September meeting for the annual members rhizomes giveaway, exchange, and auction. There is nothing more exciting than the anticipated bloom of a new iris variety and possibly a "Queen of the Show".

Happy Gardening!!!

## Memorium



It is with great sorrow we learned one of our former members, Myrna Raborn, passed away August 25th. A memorial dona-

tion has been sent in her name to the American Iris Society and to Region 17.

## Preview of Some of the Giveaway/Auction Iris



Act Surprised



Advanced Features



Alsea Falls



Baby I Love You



Beacon of Light



Brainstorm



Bronze Heart



Call Me Maybe



Clash of Titans



Common Thread



Daring Deception



Deal or No Deal



Downtown Brown



Early to Rise



Faithfully Yours



Friendly Advice



Gaudy is Good



Golden Gaga



Ice Adams



Insaniac



Mayan Mysteries



One Step Beyond



Team Player



Ten Carat Diamond



## 2014 American Iris Society Top Medal Winners

The American Iris Society (AIS) announced the top medal winners for 2014 on August 13. Winning the top honor, **The Dykes Medal**,



is **Dividing Line** 2005 MTB by Charles Bunnell

Before an iris is eligible to win the Dykes Medal, it must first win an Honorable Mention, an Award of Merit, and it must win a medal for the class of iris it is. Following are the 2014 Medal winners:

**John C. Wister Medal** for top 3 TB's



**Montmartre** 2008 by Keith Keppel



**Magical** 2008 by Joe Ghio



**Black Magic Woman** 2008 by Rick Tasco

**The Knowlton Medal** (BB)



**Lady of the Night** 2008 by Paul Black

**The Hans & Jacob Sass Medal** (IB)



**Dazzling** 2008 by Paul Black

**Williamson-White Medal** (MTB)



**Rayos Adentro** 2007 by Carol Morgan

**Cook-Douglas Medal** (SDB)



**Eye of the Tiger** 2008 by Paul Black

**Carparne-Welch Medal** (MTB)



**Icon** 2008 Keith Keppel

**Clarence G. White Medal** (AR&AB)



**Kalifa's Joy** 2006 Robert Annand

**William Mohr Medal** (AB)



**Octave** 2008 by Tom Johnson

**Founders of SIGNA Medal** (Spec)



**Caitlin's Smile** 2004 by Jim Waddick by Kevin Morley

**Randolph Perry Medal** (Spec-X)



**Wooly Bully** 2006 by Jill Copeland

**Sidney Mitchell Medal** (CA)



**Rodeo Gulch** 2004 by Joe Ghio

**Mary Swords DeBaillon Medal** (LA)



**Edna Claunch** 2007 by Harry Wolford

**Morgan-Wood Medal** (SIB)



**Tree of Songs** 2006 by Marty Schafer & Jan Sacks

**Eric Nies Medal** (SPU)



**Golden Ducat** 2004 by Anna & David Cadd

**Payne Medal** (JI)



**Lady in Pink** 2006 by Terry Aitken

**Walther Cup** (Most HM Votes)



**Holiday in Mexico** (MTB) 2012 by Riley Probst

*Congratulations to Region 17's Tom Burseen for 2 Award of Merit winners:*



*Notta Lemon, 2010*

*And*



*Trumped, 2008*

*and 2 Honorable Mention winners:*



*Beth's Blessings, 2010*

*and*



*Gloriafied Glenn, 2012*



## AIS Region 17 Meeting in Amarillo, August 22-23 by Ken Fuchs

This year's annual American Iris Society Region 17 meeting was an awesome event. The first challenge was simply getting there, since the meeting was held in Amarillo.

Jaime Hadley and Dara Smith, fellow members of the Iris Society of Austin, joined Jim Landers and me in Lometa early Friday morning for the long drive up to the Texas Panhandle. A few miles up the road, near Goldthwaite, we had our first glimpses of a wind farm, but when we drove past Sweetwater, and then turned onto Highway 84 at Roscoe, we found ourselves in a forest of the gigantic windmills. We stopped in Snyder for a photo op at the White Buffalo monument on the Scurry County Courthouse square.

We arrived in Amarillo 4:30, to be greeted by intense dry heat. The Holiday Inn Amarillo West Medical Center was an excellent location for the meeting. It was spacious and elegant with lots of Western art and decorations. The bar stools were shaped like saddles and black metal tissue boxes in the bathrooms had cowboy cutouts on them.

The North Plains and South Plains Iris Societies hosted the meeting. RVP Dawn Boyer and Debra Strauss were there to greet us. At-

tractive silent auction items covered tables on three walls of the meeting room. The Friday evening Welcome Dinner was a buffet featuring chicken fried steak, a green salad, and mixed vegetables. Following the dinner we had a fun time playing Dawn Boyer's game "Name That Iris." Six teams competed as we



scanned three pages of lists of iris names as Dawn called out clues to identify the irises.

After an excellent breakfast buffet Saturday morning, we gathered for Judges Training. Al Elliott presented a very interesting program on Exhibition

Judging of Collections, English Boxes, and Bulbous. He and his wife Barbara gave out a number of door prizes. We then formed a caravan to the Amarillo Botanical Gardens located just a few blocks from the hotel. A beautiful wrought-iron gate with iris cutouts was the first attraction. The gardens are terraced and the pathways led us past a butterfly garden and a multitude flowering plants. One bed has newly planted irises. There is a Palo Duro Canyon garden with a magnificent mosaic mural as a backdrop. The Japanese Garden evokes peace and meditation. The real masterpiece of the Gardens is the Conservatory, a large diamond-shaped glass enclosure

which contains a miniature rain forest. Besides the many unusual flowers, bunches of bananas and papayas caught our attention. Outside, we could imagine being serenaded by the large "Melodious Toadious" playing his violin.



We were on our own for lunch, and many of us found our way to a nearby Taco Bell. Following the Region 17 Business Meeting, Gordon Carver served as auctioneer for the Rhizome Auction. Following the auction, several of us drove a few miles west to see one of Amarillo's most popular tourist attractions — Cadillac Ranch. The ten half-buried Cadillacs are in bad shape and are almost held together by many, many layers of spray paint. Several young people were spray painting cars while we were there. Afterwards, we drove back to the Botanical Garden area to visit the Helium Monument, which celebrates Amarillo's most famous product — helium. The monument features a large metal pole standing in the center of a large circle. It is in fact an enormous sun dial. We were there at 6:10 p.m., and the pole's shadow fell exactly on that spot on the circle.

The banquet was casual yet elegant. There was a small white paper sack at each place setting with a colorful image on it of the Region 17 logo, a year, and the words "1960 2014, Celebrating 55 Years." Each sack held an iris from one of those 55 years - 1960 through



# 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.

West Waco Library (Unless stated  
otherwise in newsletter)

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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

**MARK THESE DATES**

**September 20**  
WIS Meeting-Iris Giveaway,  
Exchange and Auction  
Crestview Church of Christ Community  
Center, 7129 Delhi Rd., Waco

**September 27**  
WIS Iris Sale  
GreenLife Nursery-New Rd.@Bosque

**November 15**  
"Iridaceae - The Iris Family" by Rodney  
Barton  
West Waco Library, 5301 Bosque Blvd.






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We're on the Web:  
[http://www.kenfuchs42.net/  
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## AIS Region 17 Meeting (cont)

2014. The entree for the dinner was Italian chicken breast wrapped in prosciutto followed by molten chocolate cake. There were door prizes for everyone. Dawn Boyer held a roll call. Eleven Region 17 Societies were represented with forty-seven members being present. The guest speaker was Craig Edwards from the Lubbock society. He represented Blue J Iris Gardens and showed beautiful slides illustrating the topic "Space Age Innovations and More." Jim Landers presented Dell Perry a Special Award "in recognition for winning five top show awards in Region 17 in 2014." After attendees picked up and paid for their Silent Auction items, some of us gathered in the hotel dining room for relaxation and chatting. Overhead on the



wall was a row of ceramic cowboy hats, which completed the hotel's Cowboy theme. They stated clearly: "You are in Amarillo!"

After an early breakfast in the dining room, we said our farewells and headed back home.

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