



Waco Iris Society News

Website: http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html E-mail: wacoiriss@gmail.com



2016 Dykes Medal Winner

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An affiliate of the American Iris Society

July 2017

Summer Break Newsletter by Peggy Cathey

Dan and I were sorry to miss the May meeting and luncheon. We have heard it went well and everyone had a good time. We generally don't have a newsletter in July, but there are just a few things I wanted to let everyone know before we start back up in September.

2017 Region 17 Meeting

I hope many of you will plan to attend the annual Region 17 Meeting August 4-5. This year we will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of Region 17. The meeting hotel will be the *Courtyard by Marriott Dallas Northwest*, 2930 Forest Lane, Dallas. The deadline to receive the group rate of \$75 per night + taxes for the hotel is **July 21st**. The meeting registration fee is \$60 if paid by **July 25** and will go up \$10 if paid after that deadline. The registration fee includes Friday and Saturday evening meals, Saturday breakfast and lunch and hospitality room wine and hors d'oeuvres. If you would like to attend the Judges Training, it will be an additional \$10.

Saturday will be Judges Training in the morning: *What Would You Do?* - 1 hour *Ethics* and 2 hours *TB garden and exhibition judging*, the Regional business meeting, and the ever popular IRIS AUCTION, followed by the banquet and program - *Sex in the Garden...a Dauber's Guide to Hybridizing*. Our guest

speaker and judges training instructor will be Cheryl Deaton of Canyon Country, CA., hybridizer and AIS Youth Chair. There will be a Silent Auction.

All events will take place at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, a very short 1.5 mile drive from the hotel, at 11425 Marsh Lane. Transportation will be available for those without a car.

The registration form is attached. Hope to see you there.

TB Symposium Ballot

Everyone who is an AIS member should have received a copy of the blue *TB Symposium Ballot* with the last *IRISES, the Bulletin of the American Iris Society*. As the Region 17 RVP, the ballots are to be sent to me to tally before sending on to AIS. So far, from our region of 335 members, I have received only 25 ballots. A copy of the ballot is attached and includes my mailing address and e-mail address. Please vote for as few as one or up to 25 of your favorite irises from the list. You can mail your ballot to me or just e-mail me a list of just the numbers for your favorites. At the 2017 AIS Convention held in Des Moines, IA, the rules were changed.



Now, ANYONE can vote the TB Symposium ballot. You do not have to be an AIS member to do so. Please take a few minutes to look over the list, pick your fa-

vorites and send them to me before the deadline of September 1.

September Iris Auction Giveaway, & Exchange

Mitchell has ordered irises from both Superstition Iris Gardens and Mid-America Iris Gardens and we have received confirmations for our orders. The plants will start arriving the end of August, so we will get them sorted and put in a dark and cool bedroom to keep until our meeting September 16. Both of these growers always send us great plants and lots of them.

Sometime in Mid August, all members will receive a letter to let you know if you qualify for the free gift iris to be chosen from all the irises we

received from the growers. Our club bylaws state to qualify for the gift iris:

1. Dues must be paid and current
2. Must attend 3 meetings during the past year
3. Must have helped with either the Iris Show or Rhizome sale
4. Must be present at the September meeting.

We will have more details in the September newsletter. Yearly club dues (\$10 per person) will be due at the September meeting.

Reblooming Irises

Many iris growers in our area have been experiencing a better than usu-



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.

Crestview Church of Christ
Community Center
7129 Delhi, Waco

Dan Cathey, President
wacoiriss@gmail.com
Peggy Cathey, Newsletter Editor
natvtxn1@windstream.net
Ken Fuchs, Webmaster
kenfuchs42@hotmail.com

MARK THESE DATES



August 4-5, 2017
AIS Region 17 Meeting
Dallas, TX



September 16, 2017
WIS Meeting-Iris Giveaway,
Exchange & Auction, Crestview Church of Christ



September 30, 2017
Annual Iris Rhizome Sale
GreenLife Nursery, 1312 N. New Road, Waco



November 18, 2017
WIS Meeting-Program to be announced
Crestview Church of Christ



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



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We're on the Web:

http://www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html

Rebloomers (cont.)

al iris rebloom this summer. This can be attributed to more than average rainfall the past few months. Whatever the reason, we are enjoying iris bloom when we don't usually have any. If you have irises bloom, please write down the date and the names of the irises and send this information to our Southern Area Director for the **Reblooming Iris Society**, Gailmae Suite, metex65@yahoo.com, or you can send them to me and I will pass them on to Gailmae.

I recently received a newsletter from Jim Hedgecock of **Comanche Acres Iris Garden** in Missouri. He had a very interesting article on how to grow reblooming irises. Here is what he had to say:

"If you do not give reblooming irises extra fertilizer and water through the summer months, you probably won't get rebloom. Reblooming irises produce 2 sets of rhizomes a year. One for the spring, and one for the summer or fall months. With this in mind, you need to give them extra fertilizer. We fertilize all irises in the spring and fall. Here in the Midwest we fertilize in March and October. If you want rebloom a third application should be about 45 to 60 days after spring bloom. The other factor is water. If the plants are to make 2 sets of rhizomes they need extra water through all summer months. You don't need to water every day, just be sure that the soil does not dry to a hard baked condition. One other caution, regular once blooming irises

should not be watered or fertilized in the summer on a regular basis. So with this in mind, do not plant your once blooming irises with the rebloomers. Watering regular irises in summer will often cause rot."

Jim continues, "Even if you have completed every suggestion I have made, they may not rebloom every year. Reblooming irises sometimes just don't produce fall bloom. If you do the extra things I have suggested they will rebloom on a regular basis, but maybe not every year."



Celebrating Bearded Iris Rebloom