



# 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 10, Issue 5

An affiliate of the American Iris Society

April, 2018

# IT'S SHOWTIME

## Presidents Message by Dan Cathey

Hard to believe, but our 2018 Show is almost upon us. Our Show is early this year and the iris bloom seems to be a little reluctant but I am seeing more blooms every day in our garden and I am confident there will be plenty to pick from. Even if you have only one or two bloom stalks, *please* consider entering. It only takes one to win "Queen of Show". If you are reluctant because of concerns about how to groom



or have other questions, bring your entry in a green bottle and someone will be happy to help you enter it. Unnamed blooms can always be shown as "for display only" and your entries will help make our Show a success and give the public more great blooms to see.

The show will be held in a new venue this year. We will be at the LaQuinta Inn & Suites Woodway/Waco South, 6003 Woodway Dr. (*this is on the NW side of Hwy 84 just SW of Hwy. 6, near Providence Hospital*). Entries should arrive between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. on show day. Judging will begin at 10:15 and only Judges, Clerks, and necessary Show Attendants will be permitted in the room during the judging. The show will open to the public from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Show Schedules (Rules) were distributed

at our last meeting and will be available at the show. You may also download a copy from our website: <http://www.kenfuchs42.net/Waco/Waco%20Iris%20Society%20Show%20Schedule%202018.pdf>

### Iris Sale

We will have potted irises for sale between 1 & 4 during the show. Any one who will be bringing irises for the sale, please call or e-mail Peggy with a list of what you will bring so photos of all sale plants will be available.

### 2018 Region 17 Meeting

The Regional meeting in Cleburne is coming on August 3rd and 4th and registrations are already a little over half full so if you are planning to attend (and I hope that you will) best to get your registrations in quickly. A copy of the registration form may be found on our website: <http://www.kenfuchs42.net/Waco/R17%202018%20Meeting%20Registration%20Form.pdf>

Historically, the Waco Iris Society has given a \$200 donation to the club sponsoring the regional each year to show support for Region 17. I feel that we should do this again this year and I will take a poll at the Show to see if we are in agreement as this needs to be sent out soon.

### WIS Gift Basket

We would also like to provide a Waco Iris Society gift basket for the Regional meeting boutique raffle. Many clubs do this and it is a good fundraiser. We will be collecting items to fill the basket at the show. Please bring your donations to make the Waco Basket the one everyone wants! Suggested items include: garden gloves, hand tools, yard art, irises, "Waco/Heart of Texas" related items-Dr. Pepper, local wine, Snickers, other items made in Waco, anything you would like to receive if you won the basket.

### 2018-2019 WIS Officers

Our slate of officers is almost complete for next year and a big "THANK YOU" to our current officers who have agreed to serve one more term. Ken Anderson has been our show chair for several years and has expressed his wish to step down for 2019. Please be thinking about volunteering for this most important position. I am sure that Ken will be happy to work with you in becoming familiar with the duties of this office. We cannot have a Show without a show chair! It is possible to have co-chairs or even chaired by committee but regardless we **MUST** have this position filled. If you think you might be interested, let Ken know at the Show and he can start training during the Show.



## Irises and Childhood Memories by Ken Anderson, Show Chair

Please consider doing an Artistic Design for our show on April 7. There are still openings in three of the classes.

### Class 1: Children's Songs

1. Bill Calhoon
2. Dan Cathey
3. Don Peterson
4. \_\_\_\_\_



### Class 2: Fairy Tales

1. Peggy Cathey
2. Frances Peterson
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



### Class 3: Nursery Rhymes

1. Jean Richardson
2. Bill Calhoon
3. Peggy Cathey
4. Ken Anderson



### Class 4: Saturday Morning Cartoons (Novice)

1. Oliver Earl
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_



Please give Ken a call if you want to enter any of the classes above: 254-223-3161



## Artistic Design Tips by Peggy Cathey

Getting volunteers to make Artistic Designs for our Iris Shows is always the hardest thing the Iris Show Chair has to do. Everyone is terrified to do one. I hope the following tips will make things easier. Give it a try.

**Supplies: Gather all your supplies in the week(s) prior to the show.**



1. Container—flat is better than tall and vertical. Not too big, not too small.
2. Niche—Be sure to purchase the size designated in the show schedule (24" wide not counting "wings"). You can now find them in many different colors. You may also cover the back section with cloth. You want the color to show off your flowers, not over-power them.
3. Some way to hold your flowers in the container—wetable foam (like Oasis®) (do not get dry foam for artificial flowers) or a pin frog.
4. Florist clay or Stickum® to hold the pin frog in place.
5. Figurine to help tell your "story" (not too big and not too small)

**Plant material: Gather your line**

**and filler material the day before and "condition" by soaking in a bucket of lukewarm water overnight.**

1. Line material—use odd numbers. Should come close to 1" from the top of your niche. (If too short, you could use a riser to lift the container from the base of the niche.) Think about the 3 bears—Poppa bear (tallest) Momma bear (middle) and Baby bear (shortest)
2. Iris—use odd numbers of blooms. Could all be on 1 stalk or on multiple stalks. Three is a good number. (Use same 3 bear idea as above) Don't over do. For proper balance, have your **smallest flower at the top** (could even be a bud) and your **largest flower near the bottom**. Also, don't mix colors if possible. They don't all have to be the same, but should be harmonious. **Lightest flower on top, darkest on bottom** to give balance.
3. Filler—use to complete your design. You need to cover your "mechanics" (the pin frog or foam) and some to fill in open spaces in your design.
4. Add your figurine. If it has a face, it should be looking into your design to make it a part of it, not just something stuck in. You should only use 1 figurine.

You are not building a "scene", you are making an artistic design and your figurine should be part of the design. Use a 3X5 index card with the title of your design and a brief description of what you are trying to convey to the judges.

WIS has always used National Flower Show judges to judge our shows. What they look for are simple designs, not FTD® like flower arrangements. Don't over do. (I am bad to keep adding more and more filler—don't do that). I was told to step back and look at your design.



*Gone With the Wind*

Check for balance (nothing leaning that shouldn't be), all fresh material (nothing limp or folding), and before you are done, remove something. Keep it simple.

For a more in depth tutorial on Artistic

Design, please go to the AIS website [http://irises.org/Member\\_Services/ais-toolbox-design-tutorial.html](http://irises.org/Member_Services/ais-toolbox-design-tutorial.html)



## Show Preparation Begins in the Garden by Glenn Huddleston



When you hear the term “show prep”, you generally think of the night before the show and the time spent grooming the bloom stalk and positioning it in a container. Based on past experiences, I would say “show prep” begins in the garden ten days before the show. Actually, it starts earlier than that when you consider weeding, fertilizing, etc., but that’s another article.

This article will focus on the ten days leading up to the show.

- 10 Days before the Show: Begin with a prayer for warm weather and light winds. Now go into your garden and write down the names and locations of irises that have bloom stalks 12” tall or taller (for TB’s). These are the only irises that will have time to mature and bloom for the show. Also note things like straightness of the stalks and branching.



- Day 9—Daily, check on identified stalks. At the base of selected stalks, use an insecticide approved for chewing insects, if cutworms are suspected.



- Day 8—Daily check: Carefully inspect stalks, leaves, buds, and branching for insects, cracking, etc.



- Day 7—Daily check: If a stalk has a slight curve, you might try a stake attached to the stalk to correct the problem. Use padding between the stake and the stalk. Stalks are brittle and will snap if forced too much.

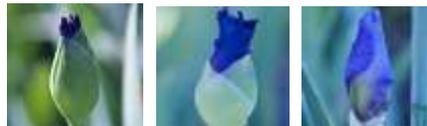


- Day 6—Daily check: Look at

branching and bud angle. Styrofoam wedges can be used to widen narrow angles. Bud color should be evident in irises with taller stalks.



- Day 5—Daily check: Start recording color in the bud, tip color, 1/2 bud color, and full bud color with tight buds. Full bud opening will generally occur 3 to 4 days after tip color.



- Day 4—Daily check: By now, get serious and eliminate from consideration bloom stalks not worthy of show competition.

- Day 3—Daily check: From this point forward it is up to you to make the call on cutting the irises since bright sunny days and warm nights will speed bud development. Fully developed buds can be cut early, however refrigeration is a must to slow the flowering process.



- Day 2—Daily check: Cut stalks that show promise, place stalks of all cut irises in fresh, clean water and hold at room temperature. Place a temporary variety label on each cut stalk. Bud openings should begin soon. Slow opening buds can be placed in a warm environment without direct heat to speed up the opening process. At 10:00 a.m. today, show judging is 24 hours away.



Tonight you will go through the final show prep of your entries.

- Day 1—SHOW DAY. Be careful how you transport your entries, try your best to eliminate movement of the stalks and never let the blooms touch. Have patience and good luck at the show.



### A few Grooming Tips

- Cut bloom stalks for exhibition as close to the rhizome as possible (this can be done up to 2 days in advance)
- Carefully wipe fingerprints from stalk with a soft cloth or tissue.
- Check for insects or spots on flowers and remove with moist cotton swab
- Complete the show tag—both top AND bottom and attach to bottle with rubber band (this is easier to do if done before flower is placed in the bottle)
- Place stalk in green bottle/vase with enough water to keep flower fresh
- You may use any unobtrusive material in the mouth of the bottle to hold the stalk straight (pieces of stalk work great)
- Best positioning in the bottle is 1/3 bottle, 2/3’s flower stalk. It should look balanced, not leaning, too tall or too short. If too short, use a smaller bottle
- Remove spent blooms, including the ovary located in the spathe, do not remove spathe
- If leaves have brown tips, you may remove up to 1/4”, keeping the same line of the leaf—no blunt cuts
- Do not remove a side branch unless it will be below the lip of the bottle



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

Peggy Cathey, Newsletter Editor

[wacoiriss@gmail.com](mailto:wacoiriss@gmail.com)

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:

Mitchell Whitley, Treasurer  
812 Dayton, Waco, TX 76706



<https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=waco%20iris%20society>



April 7, 2018  
Annual Iris Show  
LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 6003 Woodway



April 8-14, 2018  
American Iris Society National Convention  
New Orleans, LA.



May 19, 2018 2017  
Annual End of Club Year Luncheon  
Vegas Chinese Buffett, 505 N. Valley Mills Dr.



August 3-4, 2018  
Region 17 Annual Meeting  
Hampton Inn & Suites, Cleburne, TX



September 15, 2018  
Iris Giveaway, Exchange & Auction  
Crestview Church of Christ Community Center



September 29, 2018  
Annual Iris Sale  
GreenLife Nursery, New Rd. @ Bosque

Check out our website:

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

## Word Search: *2018 Dykes Bearded Iris Nominations* by Peggy Cathey

Ballerina Pink (BB)  
Black is Black (TB)  
Bright Blue Eyes (SDB)  
Cute as a Button (MDB)  
Gecko Echo (MDB)  
Haunted Heart (TB)  
Hot News (MTB)  
Keeno (MDB)  
Man's Best Friend (BB)  
Maui Sunrise (SDB)  
Meerkat Manor (BB)  
Niche (BB)  
Open Your Eyes (SDB)  
Reckless Abandon (TB)  
Red Hot Chili (IB)  
Sari's Dance (MTB)  
Sharp Dressed Man (TB)  
Snapshot (TB)  
Star in the Night (IB)  
Temporal Anomaly (TB)  
Tic Tac Toe (MTB)  
Tuscan Summer (TB)  
Zooboomafoo (SDB)

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

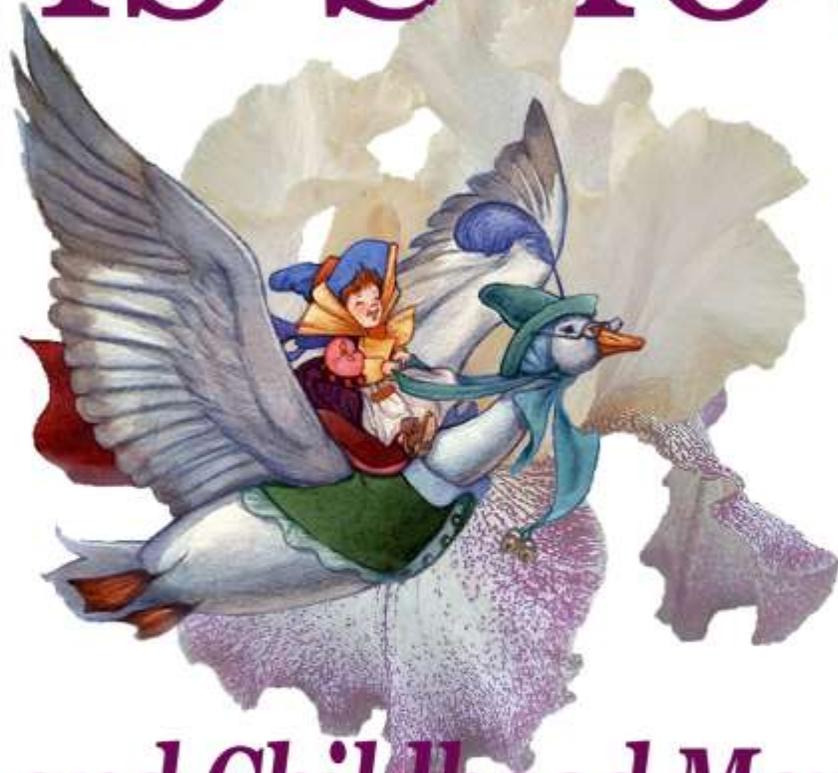
Two names were too long to fit on the puzzle. Also nominated are *Beauty Becomes Her* (TB) and *Money in Your Pocket* (TB). Puzzle for the Beardless Iris nominations will be in the May Newsletter.

# Waco Iris Society

An Affiliate of the American Iris Society

presents the 2018 Annual

# Iris Show



*Iris and Childhood Memories*

**Saturday, April 7, 2018**

**La Quinta Inn & Suites Woodway-Waco South  
6003 Woodway Dr., Waco 76712 (near Providence)**

**Open to Public 1-4 p.m.**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**\*\*\*\*\***

**FREE PARKING**