



# 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)



2018 Dykes Medal Winner

Volume 11, Issue 1

An affiliate of the American Iris Society

September, 2018



Once again, welcome to a new Club year! As you know, the upcoming meeting is one of the highlights for our Club with the annual iris giveaway, auction and exchange. This



event gives all of us a chance to add significantly to our iris gardens with access to many of the latest and best iris available and you will certainly not want to miss out. Mitchell Whitley has acquired some 90 excellent iris from Mid-America Gardens and Superstition Gardens with lots of 2018 introductions so there will be many to pick from and to bid on! The annual Iris Giveaway is just one of the benefits of being a member of the Waco Iris Society. To qualify for the free iris, according to our By-laws, your club dues must be current and you must attend 3 regular meetings through the club year and assist in either the club show or sale. Any new member who has joined since the last gift plant meeting, who is present, will be eligible to receive a gift plant. A list of qualifying members may be found in this newsletter. All irises not chosen for the Giveaway will then

be auctioned. The auction helps recover some of the money spent to purchase the gift irises, so please do your part and bid on your favorites.



The instructions for participation in the exchange is in this newsletter and everyone who wants to can take part (another easy way to add free iris to your garden). A list of the gift plant you received in 2016 is also supplied in this newsletter. If you have any questions about this meeting, please email me at:

[dannydayle@yahoo.com](mailto:dannydayle@yahoo.com) and I will do my best to give an answer.

Don't forget, our annual Iris Sale will be held September 29 from 9-2 at GreenLife Nursery, New Road @ Bosque Blvd,. Please be thinking about iris you can dig for our upcoming sale. Remember, this is the main fundraiser for our Club and is what helps make things such as this free iris giveaway and our Spring

Iris Show possible so your help in making it a great success will be gratefully appreciated. Here again, instructions for preparing your rhizomes for the sale and what to do if you wish to participate in our Member Bonus option from the sale are in this newsletter.



Waco Iris Society

Annual Iris Sale

Sept. 29, 2018

9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

GreenLife Nursery

1312 N. New Rd.

Waco, TX



## Meeting Minutes By Bill Calhoon, Secretary



Saturday, May 19, 2018, *Vegas Buffet Restaurant, Waco, TX*

Vice-President Ken Anderson called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. and welcomed members and guests to the annual membership luncheon. Seventeen (17) members were in attendance, including new member Sylvia Lemley.

Following a break for the meal, Secretary Bill Calhoon conducted Roll Call and read the Minutes from the Saturday, March 17, 2018, meeting. After no additions or corrections from the floor, Preston Floyd moved to approve the minutes as read; Glenn Huddleston seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Bill Calhoon then conducted the AIS Membership Drawing which was won by Linda Barnard.

Treasurer Mitchell Whitley presented the Treasurer's Report. Balance of the account as of April 12 was \$9,944.83. After no additions or corrections from the floor, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented. Mitchell then announced that due to health reasons, he had relinquished the Treasurer's materials to WIS President Dan Cathey.

No other old business was introduced.

In New Business, Ken reiterated that at the March meeting, all current officers had agreed to continue for the next club year. In light of Mitchell's announcement, Peggy Cathey had agreed once again to be Assistant Treasurer, therefore Mitchell Whitley, Peggy Cathey, and Dan Cathey would be authorized signers on the Waco Iris Society club ac-

count. The following slate of officers was presented:

*President:* Dan Cathey

*Vice-President and Show Chair:*

Ken Anderson

*Treasurer:* Mitchell Whitley

*Assistant Treasurer:* Peggy Cathey

*Secretary:* Bill Calhoon

Ken then opened the floor to other nominations. There were no nominations from the floor. Glenn Huddleston then moved to accept the slate of officers as presented, including the addition of Peggy Cathey as Assistant Treasurer; Naomi Nabors seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Ken then reminded club members of the importance of completing the 2018 AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium Ballot, which is an opportunity for all AIS members to vote for up to 25 of their favorite Tall Bearded Iris. In her role as Region 17 President, Peggy is encouraging all eligible WIS club members to complete a ballot. Additional information, plus a PowerPoint presentation, was included in the email newsletter. Ken also had copies of the ballot available.

Ken then presented options for the 2019 Iris Show date. It was discussed and agreed that the second Saturday of April (April 13, 2019) would be the optimum date to hold the WIS show. Leroy Nabors moved to set the date for the 2019 WIS Iris Show and Sale to the second Saturday of April (April 13, 2019); Frances Peterson seconded; the motion carried. Ken then asked club members if they would like to use the same location as the 2018 show, indicating that Peggy had already discussed the possibility with the hotel; there were no objections to holding the 2019 show at the

same location (La Quinta Inn & Suites). Ken then asked for suggestions for a theme for the 2019 show. "The Holidays" or "Special Days/Special Occasions" was suggested as a possible theme. Ken asked members to consider options and share suggestions.

Ken then opened discussion regarding the rhizome order for the Annual Giveaway, Exchange and Auction to be held at the September 2018 meeting. There was agreement to continue with orders from Superstition Iris Gardens and Mid-America Iris and to continue with \$300 orders from each location. Bob Alexander moved to place orders with Superstition and Mid-America for \$300 each; Leroy Nabors seconded; the motion carried.

Ken then presented the Show Report. In total, there were 107 entries, 95 cultivars, and 10 exhibitors in the 2018 show, which was an increase over previous years. Ken then presented the show awards and award certificates.

Following a suggestion that the date for the May 2019 annual luncheon be coordinated with Dan's and Peggy's schedules so that they could attend, no other new business was introduced.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m.

Next meeting will be Saturday, September 15, 2018. Location will be confirmed in the newsletter.

Submitted respectfully

William R. (Bill) Calhoon

*Secretary, Waco Iris Society*



## Iris Giveaway Qualifying Members by Dan Cathey

According to our club By-laws, there are three (3) requirements to qualify for the September Gift Iris Giveaway. Requirements are as follows:

- 1.) Annual dues paid by September meeting (may pay upon arrival)
- 2.) You must attend 3 regular meetings during the club year (September—May)
- 3.) You must assist with either the Spring Iris Show or Fall Iris Sale

The following members qualify for the 2018 WIS Iris Giveaway:

Bob Alexander  
Ken Anderson  
Linda Barnard  
Bill Calhoon

Dan Cathey  
Peggy Cathey  
Preston Floyd  
Ken Fuchs  
Daymon Graham  
Glenn Huddleston  
Jim Landers  
Michael Lowe  
Phil Nacke  
Don Peterson  
Frances Peterson  
Jean Richardson  
Linda Roper  
B.J. Wheeler  
Frank Wheeler  
Mitchell Whitley

The following NEW members are eligible to receive a gift plant, but must be present at the September

meeting to qualify:

Sherie Clarkson  
Bekki Gill  
Sylvia Lemley



## Iris Exchange by Dan Cathey

Everyone has a chance to participate in the Iris Exchange each year. The purpose is to share increases of the iris you received in the Iris Giveaway 2 years prior (2016 this year). To the right is a list of members and the iris they received. We give you two years before bringing back an iris for the Exchange to give your plant time to increase. If, however, your Gift plant did not increase, or if it died, you may still participate in the exchange. Simply bring an iris introduced +/- 1 year from the one you received. If you did not receive an iris in 2016, you may participate by bringing an iris introduced within the past 6 years.

*Gottcha Good*  
T. Johnson  
2016



Ken Anderson  
Jerrie Cage  
Bill Calhoon  
Dan Cathey  
Peggy Cathey  
Preston Floyd  
Ken Fuchs  
June Hivnor  
Glenn Huddleston  
Joyce Jones  
Jim Landers  
Michael Lowe  
Karen Moses  
Leroy Nabors  
Naomi Nabors  
Phil Nacke  
Frances Peterson  
Jean Richardson  
Ellen Singleton  
Jean Tomlinson  
Donnett Waight  
Bobbie Wheeler  
Frank Wheeler  
Mitchell Whitley

Velvet Valentine—2015  
After the Rain—2013  
Blushing Grapes—2016  
Voulez Vous—2015  
Gambling Man—2014  
Peppito—2016  
Hearts on Fire—2014  
Al's Gal—2014  
Mystic Image—2016  
Raindrops Keep Falling—2016  
Risk Taker—2014  
Mayan Sunrise—2016  
Gotcha Good—2016  
Double Chocolate—2014  
Under My Spell—2016  
Call to Danger—2016  
Triple Dip—2014  
Born This Way—2015  
Forever and a Day—2015  
Taking Chances—2013  
Deal or No Deal—2014  
Double Chocolate—2014  
Golden Legacy—2014  
Jungle Mist—2016



## Treasurer's Report by Peggy Cathey, Assistant Treasurer

We had a little activity in May, with the purchase of our show awards, the May luncheon, and the purchase of our irises for the September Give-away and Auction. We sent both Mid-America Gardens and Superstition Iris Gardens \$300 each, plus shipping. The irises have already arrived and I don't think anyone will be disappointed. Hope everyone will be in a "bidding mood" to purchase all the irises which aren't chosen from the "giveaway". Please remember, dues will be collected at our September meeting. Dues are \$10 per member.

Beginning Balance May 1, 2018		\$ 8,923.24
May Disbursements		
Show Awards	\$ (50.30)	
Irises for September meeting	\$ (600.00)	
Postage	\$ (60.00)	
May Luncheon	\$ (220.80)	
Total Disbursements for May	\$ (931.10)	
May Income	\$ 32.00	
Bank Balance May 31, 2018	\$ (899.10)	\$ 8,024.14
June		
No transactions		
July		
No transactions		
August		
No transactions		
Bank Balance August 31		\$ 8,024.14

## Memorium



Perry Dyer

It was with great sadness to learn of the passing of Perry Dyer on September 3, 2018. Perry was from Oklahoma,

Region 22, but was a great friend to Region 17 as well. Perry was one of the judges for our 2015 Iris Show and our guest speaker and judges trainer when we hosted the 2016 Region 17 Meeting here in Waco.

Perry had a long history with irises and with AIS. Everyone speaks of his wealth of knowledge about all things iris.

Perry became interested in irises when he was 10 and began hybridizing irises while in Jr. High School. In 1973, at age 18, he was the first recipient of the **AIS Clark Cosgrove Youth Achievement Award**. That same year, he also became the youngest AIS accredited judge. His first iris introduction was named for the local elderly lady who got him interested in irises originally, **Carrie Kolh**, released in 1977.

In 1979, he won the **Sass Medal** for his IB-**Silent Springs** and in 1980, the **Knowlton Medal** for his BB-**Soft Spoken**. He received the **Cook-Douglas Medal** for **Serenity Pray-**

**er**, an SDB and 2015, the **William Mohr Medal** for **Prince of Egypt**, an Arilbred median.

The AIS Board named him an **Emeritus Judge** in 2009 and also awarded him the **AIS Distinguished Service Medal**. In 2017, he received the **Bennett C. Jones Award for Outstanding Median Hybridizing**. Paul Black of Mid-America Iris Gardens, introduced **Perry Dyer**, a median AB in honor of Perry in 2017.



He will be greatly missed.

## Region 17 Meeting, 2017 by Peggy Cathey

The Region 17 Meeting held in Cleburne, TX in early August was well attended by Waco Iris Society members with 13 in attendance. Everyone went home with a sack full of irises, 2 from registration, 4 from the bingo games, and even more from the sale and auction.

The guest speaker and Judges Train-

ing Instructor did a super job of keeping us entertained and there was always food available.



WIS President, Dan Cathey, gave a report of how WIS is doing and Bill Pittman, Region

17 Membership Chair, presented Waco Iris Society with a **Region 17 AIS Silver Medal** certificate for having 75 % of our members as AIS members. Let's work hard in the coming year to be the first to win the **Platinum Medal** certificate for 100% AIS membership. Don't wait to win it, join now! Ask me how.



# Members Do Well in Area Shows

One of the best things about growing irises is sharing them with others. We do this in our club many times throughout the year with club auctions, iris shows, and 2-3 sales per year, just to name a few. We all love to share the beauty of irises. When the time rolls around for our September sale, we want to share the best rhizomes we can with our friends, both old and new.

Up to two weeks before the sale, walk your garden and choose which irises need to be divided. Usually after three years, most clumps will be due. They start to become over crowded and won't bloom as well when the rhizomes start to crowd and crawl all over each other.



When you are ready to dig, take your list, a marker and some plastic bags into the garden and get busy. You may choose to dig just from the edges so as not to disturb the entire clump, or you may want to move the clump, therefore deciding



to dig it all. Lift the rhizomes gently with a spading fork or shovel, being sure you are digging irises from the clump you want. Sometimes, it can be difficult, but if the clumps are crowded, follow the rhizome back to the main "mother" rhizome if possible. Be sure to immediately write the name of the variety on a center leaf and put all into a plastic bag. Keep each variety in separate bags. Once they are all dug, find a shady spot and working with only one variety at a time, break the rhizomes apart so each

- Break or cut apart increases

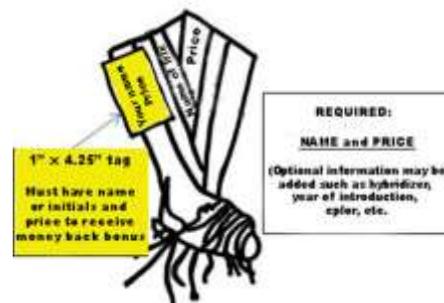


one has a nice size fan. Next, start to trim the leaves into an inverted V to about 6 inches. Grab the roots under the rhizome and trim them below your fist. Write the **name of the variety on a CENTER leaf**. Please do not write on an outside leaf or across multiple leaves. If you know the hybridizer and the year introduced, you may write that on a leaf as well. Be sure to **price each rhizome**. A pricing guide is attached. Remember, this is only a guide and is suggested for "bloom size" rhizomes. If you have a small rhizome, ask yourself "How much would I pay for this rhizome?" and price accordingly.

Once all your rhizomes are trimmed and labeled, mix up some water and bleach in a big tub. Use a 10% bleach to water ratio (1 c. bleach to 1 gal. water). Put a squirt of dish soap in as well. Let the rhizomes soak for about 10 minutes, then use a brush to scrub them up good and make them look pretty. Put into another tub of clear water to rinse

them off, then spread them out in a shady spot to dry.

Once all the rhizomes are good and dry, you may bag each variety separately or just put all the A's, B's, C's, etc. together. We are considering doing the sale a little different this year, much like how it was done at the August Region 17 Meeting. Each variety will be in it's own paper bag with a photo attached, so make this easy on yourself.



The most important thing about the whole process is to call or e-mail Peggy with a list of what irises you will have for the sale. Please send your list no later than the Thursday before the sale so I will have time to print any photos we don't have and to get them all pulled and put on the paper sacks. If there is no paper bag and photo of your irises, they probably will not sell. You may call your list in to 254-854-2558 or e-mail:

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

*On a more urgent note, we may not*



*be able to hold our sale at Green-Life Nursery this year. If you have any ideas of a suitable place for the sale, please let Dan know asap—same contact information as above.*



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>



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)

## 2018 American Iris Society Awards by Peggy Cathey

Each year, AIS Garden/Exhibition judges perform their most important task—casting their ballot for the best irises. The results of the votes has recently been published. The winner of the 2018 Dykes Medal is *Haunted Heart*, by Keith Keppel, introduced in 2010.



Any variety of iris has a chance to become a Dykes Medal Winner. It must first receive an Honorable Mention award. After 2 years, it is then eligible to earn an Award of Merit. The next award must be the special award for whatever section it

belongs to, for example, a Tall Bearded iris must win a Wister Award (TB's are the only class of irises which awards 3 section awards each year). We are proud of our friend and hybridizer, and fellow Region 17 member, Tom Burseen for receiving a **John C. Wister Medal** for his 2010 introduction: *Notta Lemon*. Tom also received **Award of Merits** for his TB's-*Cow Patty*, *Dewuc Whatic*, *Gloriafied Glenn & Prissy Christy*. We also have another friend, hybridizer and fellow WIS member who won an **Award of Merit**, congratulations to Hooker Nichols for



his LA, *Watermelon Wizard*. Tom received **Honorable Mention** awards for: *Go Berserka*, *Spring Starter*, *Al's Gal*, *Sweetwater Pie Burns*, *Frozen Margarita*, *Walk that Walk*, *Decked Out* and *Ruby Baby*. Hooker received **Honorable Mention** awards for his TB *Honky Tonk Rumble* and his *Heartbreak Warfare* Louisiana. Hooker also won the **Franklin-Cook Cup** for *Watermelon Wizard*, **Best Out of Region Iris** at the 2018 National Convention in New Orleans. Congratulations to these two great hybridizers. We are very proud to have them in our club and in Region 17.

