



Waco Iris Society News



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An affiliate of the American Iris Society

November, 2019

“The Sun Sets on Rainbow” in San Ramon, CA – The 2019 A.I.S. National Convention by Ken Fuchs

Please join the Waco Iris Society this Saturday, November 16 at 10:00 a.m. at the Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 7129 Delhi (Sanger changes to Delhi by Providence Hospital).

This month’s program will be a Slideshow review of the 2019 American Iris Society National Convention in San Ramon, CA.

who stayed home in Temple and later put them together for the video you’ll be viewing. Representing the Waco Iris Society were members Jim Landers and Bonnie and Hooker Nichols.

On Wednesday, April 24, following the section meetings, there was a judged iris show. There were many entries in the artistic design and horticulture divisions, but because of the limited available shelf space in the hotel and some weird-looking sculptures in the background, the winning entries on display were very crowded, and viewing was awkward.



Frannie’s Garden, Elk Grove, CA

gardens, and they are included in our program. Friday was spent in wine country at the *C&L Vineyard* in Sonoma.

This garden was the Master Planting. Two more gardens were visited on Saturday.



Bonnie Nichols and Jaime Hadley at *C&L Cummins Garden Vineyard*, Sonoma, CA in Scotts Valley was chosen as the most popular by attendees. It was definitely unique. They are



In April 2019, several Iris Society of Austin members attended the A.I.S. National Convention in San Ramon, California. On Tuesday, April 23, Jaime Hadley, Dara Smith, and Jim Landers took a side trip to visit *Nola’s Garden*, located near San Jose. Because of its location on a hilltop, convention buses could not make that trip. That day and throughout the convention, Dara and Jim took lots of beautiful pictures, which they shared with Ken Fuchs,



Iris Show held during the National Convention

On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 25–27, there were bus tours to five gardens in the surrounding area. On Thursday they visited *Frannie’s Iris Garden* in Elk Grove and the *Horton Iris Garden* in Loomis. A.I.S. 1st Vice-President Andi Rivarola took a few short videos in the



Cummins Garden, Scotts Valley, CA



2019 National Convention (Continued)

collectors of all sorts of garden equipment and garden art, but to some, it was just lots of clutter.



Dry Creek Myers Garden, Union City, CA.

The last garden on tour, The *Dry Creek Myers Garden*, located in *Dry Creek Pioneer*

Regional Park in Union City, is located near a hillside. There were many blooms in these gardens.

A special feature of this convention was the *Centennial Competition*. Next year, 2020, will mark the 100th anniversary of A.I.S., and hybridizers from across the country entered seedlings to be named as *Centennial Irises* in the bearded and beardless categories. Our own Hooker Nichols' entry won in the Beardless category.

President's Message by Dan Cathey

I was thinking back, trying to remember, the last time we had a freeze before Halloween. The best I could come up with was sometime in the 1980s, maybe one of you can put a better date on it. Here in the Covington area, we had 26 degrees, which was enough to put a stop to all the Fall blooming plants. This was a big disappointment since Peggy and I have quite a few perennials that really shine in the Fall, as well as the reblooming iris. Oh Well! At least I think all of us have had some much-needed rainfall after a terribly hot and dry August, September and part of October.

I hope we all got our fall fertilization done on the iris before the rains came, but there seem to be some ongoing rains in the forecast, so if you haven't gotten that accomplished, go ahead and fertilize a.s.a.p. Remember, low nitrogen is the best choice, possibly a 10-20-10 or an 8-8-8 or something similar and not too heavy, a tablespoon per rhizome is adequate. Organic fertilizer is always a good bet; any quality brand and analysis will work just fine especially when combined

with alfalfa pellets (think horse feed, not rabbit feed). A small handful around each plant will suffice. Scratch into the soil if possible, but even just laying on top is better than nothing. I feel that it is past the prime time for using pre-emergent products. I have seen henbit and chickweed coming up everywhere already, and those products have to be in place before the weeds germinate. Remember, the weeds that plague us in the Spring germinate in the Fall and the warm season weeds germinate in the early Spring so weed control takes some serious long term planning.

The fall rhizome sale was a rousing success once again! Total sales topped \$2300 with 10 members bringing plants to sell and over 18 members participating. A great big THANK YOU to all the members who participated, without you, there would be no sale. Top sales dog (no offense intended) was Frances Peterson, with 207 plants sold for \$811 total. Congrats Frances. Remember to pot up some rhizomes now for the Spring Sale during our Show in April. These

two sales are the main source of funds for our Club activities the most important of which is the Show!

Earlier in September, we had our annual iris give-away and auction with selections from Mid-America and Superstition Gardens, and, WOW, we had some great rhizomes to pick from. I hope everyone got their pick! This event gives members a real opportunity to add newer introductions to their garden at very reasonable costs (free is pretty cheap, right).

Just so you know, long-time member Jean Richardson has relocated to Oklahoma City to have her husband closer to the Veterans Hospital there. Peggy and I talked with Jean a couple of weeks ago, and she was her usual cheerful self. She wanted us to extend her goodbyes to all the membership and express how much she enjoyed being a Waco Iris Society member.



Minutes of September 21, 2019 Meeting by Bill Calhoon, Secretary

Held at Crestview Church of Christ Community Center

Club President Dan Cathey called the meeting to order. Peggy Cathey conducted Roll Call. Eighteen (18) members were present at the meeting.

Minutes of the May 2019 meeting had been printed in the WIS newsletter. After receiving no additions or corrections from the floor, the minutes were accepted as published.

Treasurer Mitchell Whitley presented the Treasurer's Report. The balance of the Club account as of September 12, 2019, was \$7,795.93. Assistant Treasurer Peggy Cathey reported that since April income was \$826; expenses (Iris Show, Iris orders for Giveaway & Auction) amounted to \$2,985; and \$100 was transferred to the PayPal account for AIS Membership drawings (remaining PayPal balance of \$91). After no additions or corrections from the floor, the Treasurer's Re-

port was accepted as presented.

Show Chair Ken Anderson reported that due to health issues he is resigning as Show Chair and asked club members to consider taking the role. Peggy shared that Show Chair can delegate responsibilities for the various show functions. A Show Chair is required in order to have a show. Ken will bring the show materials to the Annual Rhizome sale.

In New Business, Dan reminded members of the Annual Rhizome Sale to be held on September 28th. Members were asked to share the names of varieties they plan to bring for the sale to Peggy no later than Wednesday before the sale so that photographs can be made available. Setup for the sale will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Dan shared a message from Dawn Boyer asking Region 17 member groups to consider contributing toward an AIS Lifetime Mem-

bership for Peggy Cathey as Region 17 Vice President. Jim Landers moved that the Waco Iris Society contribute \$50 toward the Lifetime Membership for Peggy Cathey; Jerry Keeth seconded; the motion carried.

Dan then reminded members that a Nominating Committee for Officers for the 2020-2021 club year needs to be formed. Mitchell Whitley and Michael Lowe were appointed members of the Nominating Committee.

The AIS Membership drawing was conducted with June Hivnor as winner.

Following a break for refreshments, the annual Giveaway and Auction were conducted. The meeting was adjourned following the auction.

Submitted respectfully,
Bill Calhoon
Secretary, Waco Iris Society

Treasurer's Report, by Peggy Cathey (Assistant Treasurer)

Checking account starting balance: \$7,795.93. Expenses included donation to Crestview Church of Christ—\$25, donation to AIS Region 17—\$50, member sale bonuses—\$1,130.50, credit card fees—\$51.15, speaker stipend—\$25, newsletter, sale photos & yearbook printing—\$61.91 and postage—\$10 for total expenses of \$1,353.56.

Income included membership dues of \$230, Iris Auction income—\$792, Iris Rhizome sale—\$2289.50, and plant marker sales—\$81 for total income of \$3,392.50. Bank balance the end of October is \$9,834.87.

PayPal account started with \$90.87 less AIS membership dues

for June Hivnor of \$30, resulting with an ending balance of \$60.87.

We have a new shipment of plant markers for sale to club members for \$9 for 25 markers. Keep track of your iris names for our shows.





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**

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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:



<https://www.facebook.com/search/wacoirissociety>

Word Search: Iris Names that Begin with Fall by Peggy Cathey

*Words may be Forward, Backward,
Diagonal, Up or Down*

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| Beauty | Greenway |
| Bluebird | Harmony |
| Cheerfulness | Line |
| Days | Majesty |
| Décor | Moon |
| Dragon | Novelty |
| Enterprise | Patterns |
| Fantasy | Perfection |
| Favor | Rerun |
| Festival | Serenade |
| Fire | Sunset |
| Formal | Surprise |
| Goddess | Symphony |
| Gold | Velvet |

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*November 16, 2019—2019 AIS Convention Highlights
Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 10a.m.*



*January 18, 2020 Program TBA
Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 10a.m.*



*March 21, 2020 Program TBA
Crestview Church of Christ Community Center, 10a.m.*



April 11, 2020 Iris Show

Check out our website:

www.kenfuchs42.net/waco_index.html