



Society News



An affiliate of the American Iris Society and the American Hemerocallis Society

Volume 15, Issue 10

May, 2018

Your Vote Counts by Peggy Cathey



Our next meeting will be 10:00, Saturday, May 12 at at the United Cooperative Services community room, 3309 N. Main in Cleburne.

May Program: Each year you are given the opportunity to vote in both the AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium and the AHS Popularity Poll. These are both very important for establishing what irises and daylilies grow well and perform in a given region. Results are posted on the internet so anyone interested in finding out what will work best in their area will have easy access. If we want to share with others what we know grows well in our Region, then we must all vote so our voice will be heard. Ballots for both the AIS Tall Bearded Iris Symposium and the AHS Popularity Poll are due September 1 of each year.



TALL BEARDED IRIS SYMPOSIUM

As RVP of AIS Region 17, all of the Tall Bearded Symposium votes are to be sent to me—I tally the votes and send it on to AIS for the National list. As RVP, however, I can report what does best for members in our region.

After a short PowerPoint program on your responsibility to vote the ballot, we will be able to view all 478 irises which appear on this year's ballot. Everyone will be given a ballot and have a chance to vote for your favorites. The photos will refresh your memory of the favorites you have growing, and the rest of the photos will let you make a list of those you want to add to your garden in the future.

We will tally all the votes submitted by our club and publish a list of the top 25, 50 or 100. This is so important, I hope none of you will miss this meeting.

AHS POPULARITY POLL

As a service to its members and to the general public, the **American Daylily Society** (Note the NEW name) conducts a regional popularity poll among its members to determine the favorite daylilies from each region. It is hoped that the Popularity Poll will present a true picture of which daylilies perform well in a given area and which are best liked by the membership. The Popularity Polls are important to daylily growers, both members and non-members, who are wanting to

make daylily selections for purchase.

Region 6 has set aside the top performers which have won the Popularity Poll year after year. These are to be known as the Region 6 Hall of Fame. Future daylily shows are encouraged to have a special section just for entries of these favorites.

This year the Region 6 Daylily Popularity Poll is comprised of



the top 77 daylilies receiving at least 4 votes in last year's poll, less those who have been moved to the Hall of Fame.

You will have the opportunity to vote for your favorite 10 from this list, or write in up-to 10 of your favorites which didn't make the list. A total of 10 votes is allowed on the ballot. Also this year, Region 6 clubs with at least 95% of their members voting in the Popularity Poll will go into a drawing to receive \$300 from Region 6. Let's win this prize this year!

Officer and Committee Chair Reports

President's Report

by Vicki Howard



Congratulations to all our Iris Show winners and everyone who helped make the show a success. Hope everyone is enjoying this exceptional bloom season. Mine would be a lot better if the wind would ever stop blowing so hard.

A big thank you to our Show Chair, Karen Singletary and all the volunteers who work at the show. It is a big job and you all thank you to all the members who work at the show. This is a big job and you all did it wonderfully. With that being said, we need your help again. There are several officer positions that we will need to fill for the coming year. If we have no officers, we will have no club. We need fresh faces and fresh ideas. None of the jobs are hard and don't require intensive planning to accomplish. Please volunteer. This is a great club and we don't want to have to disband after the Regional Meeting is over. We desperately need your help. Please consider a position. None of the open positions have to be shouldered by a single person. Get a friend to co-chair with you. There are plenty of "old hands" to help if there are any questions. **New Officers + New Ideas = More Fun.**

Happy gardening.

Membership Report

by Anita Goodale



The Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society had their 28th Annual Iris Show and plant sale on Saturday, April 21, 2018 in the gym

located within the J.N. Long Cultural Arts Complex in Cleburne. The public had the opportunity to view the many beautiful show entries and purchase potted Irises from 1-4 in the afternoon after the official judging was completed. Nineteen members and one guest, Steve Barter, were in attendance to assist visitors. There was no club meeting, so a drawing for the AIS and AHS memberships will be done at the May meeting for those members who attended the show.

Treasury Report

by Dan Cathey



We began April with account balances of \$5,505.93 in checking, \$94.65 in PayPal and \$100.00 petty cash for a total of \$5,700.58. Expenses were: Judges honorariums for Iris Show \$200.00, motel costs for judges \$74.57, Iris Show supplies of \$306.00, room rental including sales commission \$200.00, Newsletter expense of \$36.44, postage \$11.50, Regional supplies \$108.67 and credit card fees of \$2.43 for a total of \$939.71. Income for April was \$1,647.00 from Iris Show income of \$592.00, Regional registrations and donations of \$655.00 and Region 17 income for the purchase of auction plants of \$400.00. Ending balances were: checking - \$6,213.22, PayPal \$94.65 and petty cash - \$100.00 for a total of \$6,407.87.

AIS Region 17 Meeting Update:

We currently have 39 registered to attend. Income from registrations totals \$2,535.00. We have received donations from three sister clubs: Belton Iris Society - \$250.00, Waco Iris Society - \$200.00 and Lone Star Iris Society

\$100.00. Regional expenses to date total \$108.00 for our "goodie" bags to be given to registrants. Additionally, we have received \$400.00 from Region 17 for the purchase irises for the Regional Auction. All proceeds from the auction will go back to Region 17.

Hospitality Report

by Gailmae Suite



Thanks to everyone who provided refreshments for the iris show. There was a nice assortment of goodies. No one has signed up for May, so please do your part to fill our tables.

Iris Show Plant Sale Report

by Gailmae Suite



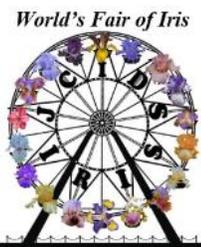
It was a wonderful and fast moving sale this year. There were about 50-60 pots of irises and almost all of them sold within 20 minutes. Something to keep in mind for next year—we need more pots of irises! Also, landscape irises sold first, so if you would like to put 12 irises in a bag for \$5 or 1 or 2 irises in a pot for \$2, that would be great. All named irises (2 or more) should be put in pots.

Thank you to the members who helped support the club sale by providing potted irises-Bill & Anita Goodale, Mary & Jerry Keeth, Dan & Peggy Cathey, Vicki & Ricky Howard and Gailmae & Wayne Suite.

No reports submitted from Program Chair (due to illness), Show Chair (see show report on pg 3) or Secretary (no business meeting in April)

2018 World's Fair of Irises by Peggy Cathey

The Johnson County Iris and Daylily Society hosted our 28th annual iris show Saturday, April 21 at the JN Long Cultural Arts Complex. Show Chair, Karen Singletary, chose for this year's show theme



World's Fair of Irises **The World's Fair of Irises** with 4 classes in the Artistic Division representing the New York World's Fair of 1964 (the Blue City), the Chicago Columbian Exhibition of 1893 (the White City), the San Antonio HemisFair of 1968 (the Sunshine City) and the 1962 Century 21 Exposition in Seattle (the Rainbow City). There were 4 entries in the Artistic Design division and 152 irises entered in the Horticulture Division with 12 entrants providing the show of colors. Winners were:

Peggy and Dan Cathey-Best of Show with – **Lady of Lometa**



Lady of Lometa

which was also named the **Best Louisiana Iris, Best Violet and Best Specimen by a Texas Hybridizer**-Jim Landers of Temple, TX. They also won the **Silver Medal** for the Most



New York-the Blue City

Blue Ribbons (19). Dan won the **Best of Show in the Artistic Division** with his interpretation of **New York-the Blue City.** Peggy and Dan's other winners were:

Teapot Tempest, Best Median Gladys Austin, Best Historic Poppa John, Best Spaceage Oil Painting, Best Banded Eagle Control, Best Blue Orinoco Flow, Best Plicata

Mary and Jerry Keeth received the **1st Runner-up** and **Best Black** with **Old Black Magic.** They will receive the **Bronze Medal** for the 2nd most Blue Ribbons (17). Mary and Jerry's other winners in the color classes include:

Virga, Best Amoena Tall John, Best Bi-Color Up In Flames, Best Bi-Tone Power Down, Best Blend Matt McNames, Best Purple Dazzle, Best Variegata

Brian Goodman received Best Color awards for:

Wild Sugar, Best Gray Wonderful News, Best Red Butterscotch Frosting, Best Yellow

Glenn Huddleston received Best Color awards for:

Loco Coco, Best Brown

Smoked Gouda, Best Green Cool Mist, Best Neglecta

Vickie Rigby received Best Color awards for:

Cheap Frills, Best Apricot Magical, Best Pink

Charles Wells received Best Color award for:

Orientalis, Best White

We had a wonderful turnout of guests wanting to share the beauty of the iris flower and many were able to take home pots of irises for their gardens.

We also want to congratulate Mary & Jerry Keeth for taking **Queen of Show** with **Yosemite Star** and **1st Runner-up** with **Christmas Present** at the Lone Star Iris Society Iris Show in Hico the following day. They also will receive the **Bronze Medal** for 2nd most Blue Ribbons in that show.



Mary Keeth- 1st Runner Up & Queen of Show



AIS National Convention-NOLA by Peggy Cathey

The New Orleans AIS National Convention, the “*Fleur-de-Gras*”, was 100% about Louisiana Irises. Five members of the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society attended the Convention.—Dan & Peggy Cathey, Kathy Wade and Hooker & Bonnie Nichols. Dan and I arrived on Tuesday, April 10th for the Opening Banquet. We were happy to note that 35 members of Region 17 were registered for the convention. The highlight of the banquet was seeing where everyone was from as



Virginia Keyser

each Region was recognized. There was also a birthday cake for Virginia Keyser who was celebrating her 100th birthday at her 53rd AIS Convention.

Wednesday morning began with a trip to the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden and Botanical Garden in New Orleans City Park where Louisiana irises embellished the banks of the lagoon which bisects the sculpture garden and then a short walk across to the Botanical Garden where more irises were growing. From there, we traveled to the Greater New Orleans Iris Society (GNOIS) “Island” where hybridizer Patrick O’Connor maintains most of the irises that are part of SLI’s



Louisiana Iris Species Preservation Project

Louisiana Iris Species Preservation Project. We had lunch at the Longue Vue House and gardens where there was a beautiful garden of Louisiana irises among the more formal gardens.

Thursday, we traveled to “A Louisiana Pond” which is a project by one of the GNOIS members in an upscale urban development.



The Pond

There were beautiful Louisiana irises in full bloom all around the pond. We then set off for the LSU Hammond Research Station for a Cajun lunch, followed by an “in garden” Judges Training on Louisiana Iris. Bonnie and Hooker were among the instructors for the training.

On Friday, we headed to the Burden Museum and Gardens near Baton Rouge. Here, Dan strolled through the LSU Rural Life Museum while I trekked off to the Black



I. giganteaerulea blooming in Black Swamp

Swamp to see the native irises growing in their natural habitat. Lunch was at the Oak Lodge Reception and Conference Center with Crawfish Etouffee and Bread Pudding on the menu. Our final stop was the Baton Rouge Botanic Garden which held the Master Planting of all the guest plants. This was the best of all the gardens and was in spectacular bloom. Unfortunately, all 4 buses



Baton Rouge Botanic Garden

were there at the same time and because we were running late, we were only there for 30 minutes.

We ended the AIS Convention with the awards banquet where the winners of the Dykes Medal and all the other awards were presented. Convention awards were also given and we want to congratulate Hooker Nichols for winning the **Franklin Cook Memorial Cup**. His La. iris **Watermelon Wizard** was voted



the best iris seen on the convention tour for “out of region” hybridizers.

We left New Orleans early Saturday morning. Half way between New Orleans and Baton Rouge, where there was construction and bumper to bumper traffic, it began to rain—HARD. Next, my phone starts blaring a weather alert saying “Tornado in area you are traveling. Take cover immediately!” Well, what are you supposed to do in that situation? We kept going with me watching the skies. We finally drove out of the storm. Next, our GPS decides we should go home through Shreveport and wouldn’t take no for an answer. We finally found some backroads that eventually took us to I-45. Our trip home took over 10 hours and it was a very stressful day, but we made it home safe.

AHS Region 6 by Peggy Cathey

Dan and I will be traveling to Pearland the 4-5 of May to judge the Lone Star Daylily Society Daylily Show and back to Lake Jackson, May 17-19 for the Region 6 Meeting. We always look forward to these trips and seeing our many daylily friends. As mentioned in our last newsletter, we would like to make some kind of donation to the host club, Brazosport Daylily Society, to help them with expenses. This could come in the form of a monetary donation from the

club, or a collection of items donated by members for a basket to be auctioned in the Silent Auction. It should be a yearly habit of our club to make a donation to any club in our Regions, either AIS Region 17 or AHS Region 6, who are hosting a Regional Meeting. For our Region 17 Meeting this year, we have gotten donations from Belton IS, Waco IS, and Lone Star IS in excess of \$500. A request was published in our last newsletter asking for donations for a club

basket. I received 1 donation at our show besides what I have to donate from Dan and I. The basket should be worth a minimum of \$150, and we are still a ways off from that goal. Please bring items to fill the basket to Saturday's meeting, or authorize club money so I may purchase items to fill the basket. I don't think this is asking too much from our club.



Give Daylilies A Try by Peggy Cathey

As a wonderful iris bloom season starts to wind down, the Daylilies are sending up multiple scapes in preparation for a superior daylily bloom season. What I love most about our club—Johnson County IRIS AND DAYLILY Society is that we have such a long bloom season. Iris start showing their colors in March and peak in April, then May starts the Daylily season and our color show carries on through June and beyond. Daylilies have more reliable rebloomers than the irises and some will keep throwing up scapes and bloom into the fall. I know many of you don't share my enthusiasm about the daylilies, but let me try and convince you to give them a try.

Pros for growing daylilies in your garden: Easy to grow. Most grow, thrive and multiply with little care. The crucial step is not to plant them too deep. If the crown of the plant (where the leaves meet the roots) gets buried, this can cause crown rot and loss of the plant

Daylilies can be mulched to help prevent weeds and to retain soil moisture. I can get away with

mulching my Louisiana and Spuria irises, but no matter how little I try to use on my bearded irises, even keeping it away from the base of the plants, I still have soft rot problems. I know people who can get away with mulching, but I am not one of them.

Many daylilies will continue to Re-bloom as long as the weather remains warm. I don't think there was a single day between February and November last year when there wasn't at least 1 daylily blooming.

Once a daylily blooms, that fan/plant doesn't die. In fact, most will just keep sending up more and more bloom scapes.

The daylilies' green, lush foliage is very attractive and an accent to any landscape throughout most of the year.



Fertilizer isn't as critical for daylilies. You can use the same fertilizer you use on your grass—just NEVER use a "weed & feed" type product.

Daylilies are very open to having companion plants among them. One problem with inter-planting with the bearded irises is the chance of overwatering them while trying to keep your companion plants alive.



While the number of flowers on most iris stalks is 8 or fewer, daylilies can have up to 30 or more flower buds on a single scape. The flowers may only be open 1 day, but there will be more buds opening to take that one's place as the days go by.





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And the American Hemerocallis Society

Meetings held 2nd Saturdays at 10 a.m.
United Cooperative Services
Community Room (in rear of bldg.)
3309 N. Main St., Cleburne, TX

Vicki Howard, President
Peggy Cathey, Newsletter Editor
iris.daylilies@gmail.com
254-854-2558

Join JCI&DS today!

Only \$15 per year (\$25 per couple, \$10 for youth). 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:

JCI&DS Membership
425 Granbury St.
Cleburne, TX 76033



<https://www.facebook.com/johnsoncountyirisanddaylilysociety>



- May 12, 2018
Voting Your Ballots
United Cooperative Services Community Room
- May 17-19, 2018
AHS Region 6 Annual Meeting & Garden Tours
Lake Jackson, TX
- June 6-9, 2018
American Hemerocallis Society National Convention
Myrtle Beach, SC
- June 9, 2018
In-Garden Daylily Garden Judging Class
PDC Gardens, Covington, TX (Dan & Peggy Cathey)
- July 14, 2018
Iris Giveaway, Exchange & Auction
United Cooperative Services Community Room

Check out our website:

<http://johnsoncountyirisanddaylilysociety.org/>

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)
- Zooboamafoo (SDB)

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Two names were too long to fit on the puzzle. Also nominated are *Beauty Becomes Her* (TB) and *Money in Your Pocket* (TB).