



# Society News



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

Volume 16, Issue 2

September, 2018

## Daylily Giveaway, Exchange & Auction

The next meeting of the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society will be held October 12<sup>th</sup>, at the United Cooperative Services community Room, 3309 N. Main in Cleburne, beginning at 10:00 a.m. This will be our annual Daylily meeting. Each member who qualifies for a free daylily by attending 5 meetings during the club year, plus assists with either the sale or show, is eligible to receive a free daylily purchased by the club. This year, daylilies were



Shady Rest Gardens

ordered from **Peace On Earth Gardens, Shady**



**Rest Gardens, and Smokey's Daylily Garden.** The daylilies were chosen based on the Region 6 Popularity Poll, the Region 6 Daylily Hall of Fame, Stout Medal Winners, and those whose beauty would enhance any garden.



The annual Giveaway, Exchange and Auction is a great way to add beautiful daylilies to your garden and landscape. Everyone is welcome to bring a daylily for the exchange. A list of the daylily you received



last year plus instructions on how the exchange works, may be found on page 3 of this newsletter. If you did not receive a daylily last year, you may still participate by bringing a daylily introduced since 2000. All daylilies remaining after eligible members have chosen their favorite, will then be auctioned. Everyone is welcome to add even more color to your garden by participating in the auction.



### Celebrate the Arts Festival by Peggy Cather

As an affiliate member of CFCA, (Cleburne Friends of the Cultural Arts), our club has been invited to participate in this year's annual festival, November 3rd, 10 a.m.—4 p.m. featuring affiliate clubs and members. It will be held in the gym of the JN Long Cultural Arts Complex. We will have an 8' X 10' booth. I plan to take several "landscape" irises and give one, with a club brochure, to everyone who stops by the booth. We also want to have a tub of soil to demonstrate how to plant an iris. If you have potted irises ready to

sell, you may bring those to sell. Members who are "crafty" will also have an opportunity to sell some of your art & craft items. The more "garden related" the better, but bring what you have. I think most of us could paint a few rocks for the "Cleburne Rocks" program. Dan and I spent some of the "rainy days" on this project and had a ball doing it. I even decoupage an iris on one.



There will be a follow-up get together for participants after the festival in the cafeteria.

### October is Fertilizer Month

Now is the time to get your irises and daylilies ready for the winter months. Remove as many weeds and debris as possible to eliminate hiding places for overwintering insects and diseases. They will also need a good dose of fertilizer to help them put down more roots during the winter months. Any good organic fertilizer will do or any good, low nitrogen chemical fertilizer. Put your plants to bed now and you can spend the winter months dreaming about next year's bloom season.



## Officer and Committee Chair Reports

### President's Report

by Vicki Howard



No report submitted.

### Program Chair Report

by Mary Keeth



The sale went well in spite of the rain.

Thanks to everyone who brought plants, food and helped with the sale. We are now looking forward to our Daylily Giveaway, Exchange and Auction at our next meeting, October 13. I have been busy potting and planting irises. Now it is time to pick a spot in our garden to plant daylilies. Thank you to Dan for potting daylilies that were shipped early.

### Membership Report

by Anita Goodale



The Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society hosted their annual plant sale Saturday, September 8, 2018 at the J.N. Long Cultural Arts Complex. Twenty members were present to assist visitors with making selections of their favorite irises, daylilies and herb plants. Tony Finck, Amy's husband and our special guest, assisted with clean-up.

### Show Report

by Karen Singletary



No report submitted.

### Treasury Report

by Dan Cathey



We began September with balances of \$6201.95 in checking, \$64.65 in PayPal and \$100.00 in petty cash. Ex-

penditures for the month totaled \$660.03 coming from \$38.79 newsletter, \$9.00 postage, \$283.00 members plant sale bonus, \$11.27 credit card fees, \$100 CFCA for sale commission & facility rent, \$106.13 print yearbooks, \$47.18 plant sale costs, \$24.62 daily giveaway expense, \$19.00 hospitality and \$21.04 office supplies. Income for the month was \$842.00 from our plant sale. PayPal expenses were \$16.00 for Youth AIS memberships. Ending balances were \$6383.92 in checking, \$48.69 in PayPal and \$100.00 in petty cash.

### Secretary Report

by Ricky Howard



No minutes submitted.

### Hospitality Report

by Gailmae Suite



Due to the plant sale there were no sign-ups for the October meeting. Everyone, please bring a dish or two to share. Thanks! At the plant sale, Amy brought some delicious peanut butter brownies. Maybe we can get her to share her recipe with us.

### Rebloomer Report

by Gailmae Suite



Rebloomers: This is the time of year to be checking your reblooming irises to see if any of them are going to bloom again. If they do, please report them to me.

### Newsletter Report

by Peggy Cathey



I am still looking for help getting articles for the newsletter. No special talent is needed, just a willingness to do a little research and sit down and write a short article on anything you think our members would enjoy reading about.

### In the Garden With Anita

by Anita Goodale



#### Aren't Kids Grand?

Our kids gave Bill and me a helping hand recently in the garden. Blaine, our son-in-law and grandsons, Ethan and Landon, assisted by adding mulch and metal edging to the area around the gazebo. The recent rain has produced a few nut grass plants popping up through the mulch. However, a formula of white distilled vinegar and Blue Dawn Dishwashing Liquid took care of these noxious weeds. I've discovered that by applying multiple applications of this environmental friendly weed killer, one may control unwanted growth without spending a lot of money. So, the next time you see weeds in your garden, simply zap'em with this homemade weed and grass killer.



## Members Who Qualify for Daylily Giveaway by Anita Goodale

Member	2017 Gift Plant	Member	2017 Gift Plant
Steve Barter*		Mary Keeth	<i>Violet Blue Fascination</i> —2013
Dan Cathey	<i>Star Over Oz</i> —2005	Gisele McCurdy	<i>Inviting Romance</i> —2011
Peggy Cathey	<i>Blue Delicious</i> —2009	Diana Medrano	
Alison Clemens*		Vickie Rigby	
Amy Finck*		Sue Ripley	<i>Calamity Jane</i> —2008
Anita Goodale	<i>For Aunt Marian</i> —2010	Karen Singletary	<i>Blue Pearl</i> —2011
Bill Goodale	<i>Tusawilla Snowdrift</i> —2000	Laura Smargiasso	<i>Blue Desire</i> —2007
Brian Goodman	<i>Texas Big Bend</i> —2007	Sharon Smith	
Janet Goodman	<i>Russian Temple</i> —2008	Gailmae Suite	<i>Bold Awakening</i> —2008
Vicki Howard	<i>Apricot Cream Truffle</i> —2007	Wayne Suite	<i>Magical Mystery Show</i> —2007
Ricky Howard		Isabella Velasquez	
Glenn Huddleston	<i>New Paradigm</i> —2008	Victoria Velasquez	
Jerry Keeth	<i>Piney Woods Blueberry Festival</i> —2015	Sue Walker	<i>Sunshine All Day</i> —2007

To qualify for the gift daylily, a member must attend 5 meetings plus assist with either the show or the sale. New members must be present to receive a free daylily. (\*indicates new member.)

If you would like to participate in the Daylily Exchange, bring an increase of the daylily you received last year. If your daylily did not increase or it died, you may still participate by bringing a daylily of

equal value (i.e. +/- 1 year) . If you did not receive a daylily last year but would like to participate in the exchange, please bring a daylily introduced since 2000.

## Some of the Daylilies Available for the Giveaway/Auction



*Affair D'amour*



*Chief Four Fingers*



*Cosmic Kaleidoscope*



*Eleanor Roosevelt*



*Gary Colby*



*Guadalajara*



*How Beautiful Heaven Must Be*



*Lone Star Wagon Wheel*



*Mississippi Memento*



*Patsy Carpenter*



*Picotee Rippled Ruffles*



*Red Chili Rendezvous*



*Roseate Stained Glass*



*Saber Tooth Tiger*



*Sidewinder Oh Seven*

## An Iris For Every Garden by Peggy Cathey

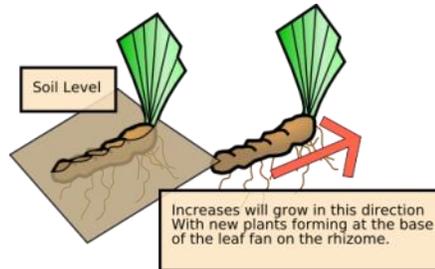
*(The following article was written for the Williamson County Sun of Georgetown, TX., October 10, 2018 edition.)*

There are 2 main types of irises recognized by the American Iris Society – “Bearded” irises and “Beardless” irises. I’m sure everyone is familiar with the Tall Bearded Iris, the most common type grown in our area. You see them start to bloom in mid March and some will continue through early June. They grow well in most gardens, aren’t fussy, and come in a rainbow of colors. There are irises which bloom extra early (EE) to very late (VL) and this information is usually available in iris catalogs or easily found on the Iris Wiki ([wiki.irises.org](http://wiki.irises.org)).

Modern Tall Bearded irises (TB’s), are at least 27 ½ inches tall, should have well branched stalks and produce at least 7 blooms per stalk. A good TB should produce a minimum of 2 increases per year. For this reason, it is good to divide your irises every three years to keep them blooming well and to prevent overcrowding. Dividing should generally be done in mid to late September through October, once the weather starts to cool and we get some much-needed rain. Break the rhizomes apart, keeping all which have leaves attached, and discard the “mother” rhizome (old rhizomes which have already bloomed and have no leaves). After amending the soil or preparing a new bed, plant the rhizomes back, spacing 18-24 inches apart, and shallow, or close to the soil surface. Because bearded irises are grown from rhizomes (a modified underground



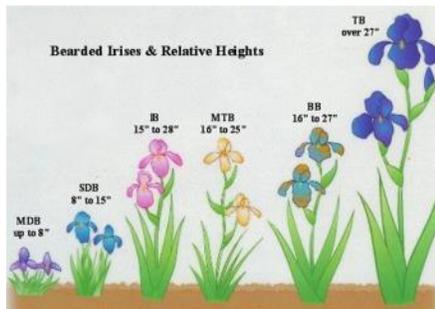
stem with roots and buds developing from the nodes), and not bulbs, they should not be planted deep. In fact, it is desirable if the



top of the rhizome shows. Water to establish, but do not keep too wet. Share the extra plants with your friends and family. Irises make great “pass-along” plants.



Bearded irises (beards are the conspicuous hairs borne on the center of the falls, or lower petals) come in many different sizes. The smallest and earliest to bloom are



the Miniature Dwarf Bearded (MDB’s). They can get up to 8 inches tall with dainty flowers 1 ½ to 3 inches wide. Some will start to bloom as early as late February. Next in size and to bloom are the Standard Dwarf Bearded (SDB’s) which range in height from 8 to 16 inches and generally produce more flowers per stalk than the MDB’s. The Miniature Tall Bearded irises (MTB’s) can reach up to 27 inches tall and have very slender, wiry, flexuous stalks and dain-

ty flowers. These generally bloom with the Tall Bearded (TB’s). Intermediate Bearded irises (IB’s) range in height from 16 to 27 inches and bloom between the time of the SDB’s and the TB’s with flowers smaller than the TB’s. Border Bearded irises (BB’s) are basically TB’s which didn’t reach the 27 ½ height requirement to be classified as a TB. They have a similar bloom season as the TB’s. So, as you can see, there is a wide range of sizes to fill any position in your garden. Some of the smaller varieties like the cooler temperatures of the northern states, but there are plenty which do well in our area.

There is one more bearded iris we haven’t talked about, the Aril. These irises originate from the Middle East and like drier, desert like conditions. These can be difficult to grow without a lot of special attention.



There is also a group called Arilbreds (AB’s) which are a cross between an Aril and other bearded irises and aren’t quite as fussy as the full Arils. Arils and Arilbreds are ideal for sandy, gravelly, very well drained areas.

Among the “beardless” (lacking the hairy beards) irises, some, such as the Siberian and Japanese irises, can be a bit tricky to grow in the Texas heat. These are spectacular flowers but prefer the cold and wet of the northern states. They can be grown here and will bloom but need a lot of special care and attention. Another beardless iris is the Pacific Coast Natives. Again, very beautiful and different, but like the name says, only grow in the Pacific Coast states. (cont. pg. 5)

## September Sale by Peggy Cathey

We had a good sale in September. Members and shoppers alike had a lot of favorable remarks about using the sacks with photos attached for the sale. Sales went very well until the rains started,

then it slowed down considerably. We still had a good time and a lot of irises exchanged hands. Total sales were \$842.



## An Iris For Every Garden (cont.)

There are two types of beardless irises that love our Texas weather and grow well here, Spuria iris and Louisiana iris. Spuria irises have long, strappy leaves and some can get quite tall. One of their best traits is once established, there is



never a need to divide unless you want to share them. The clumps just keep getting bigger. These do best in the back of

the garden, behind your perennials and annuals. Many will go dormant during the summer, so just cut back the dead leaves and with the first rains of September, they will begin to send up new leaves and increase in size. They can be a little temperamental when first planted but once established, they will reward you with beautiful flowers year after year.

We have discussed desert irises and irises for “normal” garden conditions, how about irises that will grow in a swamp or areas which stay moist. Louisiana irises are one of the native species in the US. There are 5 recognized species of Louisiana irises, some



preferring standing water, such as in a garden pond and others who would rather be on the edge of the pond or in slightly moist soil. Louisiana irises (LA's) are easy to grow, can be grown with other plants which like a little more water and they are a great addition to garden ponds. They can take much more moisture and humidity than the bearded irises. If you like



red flowers, you won't find a true red among the bearded irises, but you will in the Louisiana class.

Bulbous irises, those which grow from a bulb instead of a rhizome, are not officially recognized by the AIS. They are easily found in all the “Big Box” stores in the fall and do quite well in Texas. They usually start to bloom in January-February for the tiny Reticulatas, to early March for the Dutch adding early color to the garden.



Let's talk just a bit about “Reblooming” irises. There are several of the above-mentioned iris classes which will not only bloom in the spring but will bloom again. Some will send up a new bloom-stalk a month or two after the first bloom and others will wait until it cools in the fall. In a mild winter, I have seen them bloom from October until February when we received a hard freeze. For more information about which irises will rebloom, or which irises are best suited for your garden situation, contact members of an Iris Society in your area. The American Iris Society website, [irises.org](http://irises.org), has a listing of all the Iris Societies in the US and Canada.

To sum up, with all the different iris classes with their varying bloom seasons, multiple buds per stalk, and reblooming capabilities, you could have irises blooming over many months throughout the year. To increase blooming, apply fertilizer in mid-February and again in October.

Peggy Cathey is the Regional Vice President of the American Iris Society, Region 17, which is all of Texas. She is an accredited AIS Garden and Exhibition judge and a member and past president of the Waco Iris Society as well as the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society. She and her husband grow several hundred varieties of irises in their Hill County garden.



An affiliate of the American Iris Society  
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](mailto: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  
PO Box 2424  
Cleburne, TX 76033



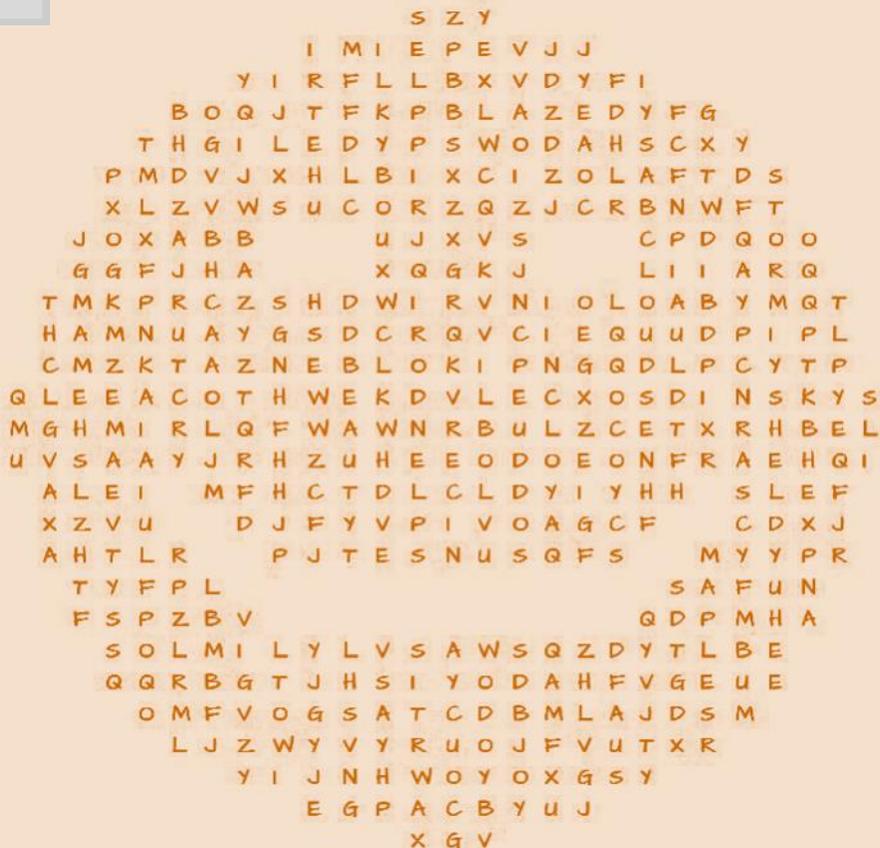
<https://www.facebook.com/johnsoncountyirisanddaylilysociety>

**Word Search** by Peggy Cathey

**Iris Names which begin with "October"**

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

- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Ale     | Gold     |
| Beauty  | Maples   |
| Blaze   | Ripples  |
| Clouds  | Shadows  |
| Day     | Sky      |
| Delight | Splendor |
| Frost   | Storm    |



**IMPORTANT DATES**

- October 13, 2018, 10:00  
Daylily Giveaway, Exchange & Auction  
United Cooperative Services Community Room
- November 3, 2018, 10-4  
Celebrate the Arts Festival  
JN Long Cultural Arts Complex Gym
- November 10, 2018, 10:00  
Growing Irises in Pots-Gailmae Suite  
United Cooperative Services Community Room
- December 8, 2018, Noon  
Pot Luck Luncheon \* Christmas Gift Exchange  
United Cooperative Services Community Room
- January 12, 2019, 10:00  
To be announced  
United Cooperative Services Community Room
- February 9th, 2019, 10:00  
Iris Preparation-Glenn Huddleston  
JN Long Cultural Arts Cafeteria

Check out our website:  
<http://johnsoncountyirisanddaylilysociety.org/>