



Society News

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

Volume 16, Issue 7

March, 2019

The “Art” of *Artistic Design*

The next meeting of the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society will be Saturday, March 9, at the United Cooperative Services community room, 3309 N. Main St., Cleburne, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Our program this month is one most of our members should be familiar with, **Artistic Design** by Peggy Cathey. Peggy has always been interested in entering the Artistic Design division of our Iris Shows. She tried and tried, and her entries were always a mess. Finally, she sought the help of her friend, mentor, and one who has won more Artistic Design Division and Sweepstakes awards than anyone else she knows – Hazel Haik of Waco. Hazel has been a member of the Waco Iris Society for more than 40 years. She is also an AIS Master Judge, now retired. Peggy went to see her a few years back and said: “Please show me how.” Here is what she learned:

First, you need to have an idea of the category or class you want to enter. As soon as you know the Design Classes, start looking for accessories that would fit the class you want to enter. That is half the fun. Go to garage sales, flea markets, antique stores, dollar stores, any place that has trinkets and knick-knacks, always looking for that “perfect” acces-

sory to tell your story. You will also need the proper size niche. Check your show schedule for the size. These can be found at Walmart and other places that carry school supplies. The niche should be covered with some kind of fabric or background material



that is neutral. You don't want something with a busy design that would distract from your work of art. It should be something

that will make the colors of your irises “pop.” Please iron your background material if it is wrinkled. Wrinkled fabric or fabric covered with lint does not make for a winning design.

Next, you need a container. This should be something big enough to hold your plant material, but not so big as to dominate your design. It should also be a color that will blend in. Shallow, dark-colored bowls which the heavy metal pin frogs can be firmly attached, are best. Sometimes, you can find a container which would go with your design and could also be used as an accessory (like a big sea shell for a beach theme). Oasis®

“wet” foam can also be used instead of the pin frog.

Now, it's time to check your garden, your neighbors garden, anywhere you can find line and filler material. Things that hold up well are Photinia, Sansevieria, Boxwood, Spuria Iris leaves, as do many others. Collect these the day before the show so they can be “conditioned.” Put them in a bucket, standing upright, in lukewarm water. You can add some Seven-Up to the water to add a little sugar to nourish the plant material. Line and filler plant material can also be found at your local florist and some grocery stores. Also, start collecting your irises. Try and gather more than you need. When making your design, you want to have odd numbers, and they should all be the same – or at least in the same color family. You would not want to have a dark

purple, a yellow and pink, for example. Also note—you do not have to grow any of the plant material or irises yourself for the Artistic Design Division.



Now to begin your design,

Artistic Design (continued)

start with your line material. (We will be discussing a simple line design for our purpose here.) Three is a (cont. on Pg. 2) good number. Think of the three bears – Papa (tall), Momma (medium), and Baby (short). These should go to the back of your container. You do not want any parts of your design taller than your niche. Nothing should touch the back or sides of the niche. Also, the sides of the niche should come straight out, not flared. Next, add your irises using the same three bear scenario. Start,

if possible, with a good, closed bud (should be showing color).

Next, add your just opened bud, fol-

lowed by the largest flower at the bottom (Papa is actually the bud, and the Baby is the largest flower.) More than 3 flowers are OK, but try and keep them in odd numbers and not too busy. Keep in mind, you do not want your design to look top heavy, that is the reason for starting with a bud. You would also not want to use dark flowers on top and light flowers on the bottom. Again, it is a matter of “weight”.

Now, fill in the gaps with your filler material. You don’t want big holes in your design. You also want to have smaller leaved plant material to hide your container and “mechanics” such as the pin

frog. Please keep in mind – you are not making a florist type arrangement – you are creating an artistic design. It should be simple. Step back and look at it from a distance, then go remove something. We all tend to keep stuffing more and more in until we have a big blob of plant material.

Some people like to make their designs at home and bring them to the show complete. This is fine, just be careful during transport. Others like to create their design “on site.” It doesn’t take very long if you have all your materials with you. Once you have the flowers arranged as you want them, it’s time to add your accessory. It should be big enough to be seen, but not overpowering. Too small is just as bad as too big. If your accessory has a “face”, it should be looking into the design. The accessory should tell a story, not make people wonder why it is stuck in there. You should also give your design a name and a write a short story on

a 3X5 card about what you are trying to say with your design.

Karen has come up with several ideas for the different design classes to help you with your quest for that perfect accessory.

Panhandle & West Texas think Palo Duro Canyon, desert, dry climate, The Marfa Lights, McDonald Observatory, Buddy Holly...

Coastal Texas think beach, vacation, snorkeling, deep sea fishing, hurricanes...

Piney Woods - East Texas think pine trees, Tyler roses, azaleas, Caddo River...

North Central Texas think Ft. Worth Botanic Gardens, Dallas Arboretum, Clark Gardens, Stock Show, State Fair...

All areas of Texas can relate to the Oil Industry—derricks, drilling, pump jacks or Ranching—cattle, horses...

Youth - **Vacation** - Texas has so many options, the Alamo, Ft. Worth or Dallas Zoo, camping, fishing, hunting, big cities or small town options, Terlingua...

Texas is part of the Monarch Butterfly migratory path.

Big or small, Texas has everything you can image, so just go for it.

We have 5 classes, so we should have 20 Artistic Design entries—4 in each class. Please talk to Karen and let her know you would be glad to do your part and sign up for one of the design classes. It’s fun and maybe a little scary at first, but once you try it, you will be hooked. We all want you to succeed and don’t be afraid to ask for advice.



Officer and Committee Chair Reports

President's Report

by Vicki Howard



I would like to thank Glenn for his program in Feb. He passed on a lot of valuable information we all needed to grow better gardens. Hope everyone got their irises fertilized in Feb. Now, it's time to feed the daylilies. I have one with a bloom stalk now that might just bloom if the weather would behave.

A big thank you to those who worked weeding and mulching the Iris Garden at Winston Patrick McGregor Park. Seems like every time a work day is planned, the weather doesn't want to cooperate. Thanks to the brave souls who have braved the cold to work.



Happy gardening.

Program Chair Report

by Mary Keeth



Our March meeting will be **Artistic Designs** for the April Iris Show. Peggy Cathey will be showing us just how simple and easy it is to create a basic design, add an accessory and background, and *voilà*, you have a beautiful Artistic Design to enter in the annual Iris Show.

I want to thank Glenn for his presentation of useful information for our iris gardens and also thank Gisele for her January talk about her life growing up in war-time Germany. It would be nice if she wrote a book about her experiences during those hard times.

With the fertilizing of the irises behind us, now we need some rain to water it in. Now,

we wait for the bloom season to begin.

I have sent in our iris order for the July Iris Giveaway and Auction. We have received confirmation from both Superstition Iris Gardens and Mid-America Iris Gardens and they will be shipping the plants in early July.

Membership Report

by Anita Goodale



The Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society met for their monthly meeting on Saturday, February 9, 2019 in the conference room located within the United Cooperative Services building in Cleburne. Twenty-five members were in attendance. Guests included: Linda Roper, Jacky Howard and Scott Tucker—grandsons of Vicki and Ricky Howard, and Kennedy, Austin and Aaron Goodman, grandchildren of Janet and Brian Goodman. All attendees enjoyed fun, food and fellowship.

This month's AIS/AHS membership drawing winners were: AIS - **Janet and Brian Goodman**, AHS - **Diana Medrano**.

Show Report

by Karen Singletary

The Iris of Texas



The show schedule has been sent to the American Iris Society as of Jan 31st. I have confirmed that Gordon and Happy Carver will be our judges for the show. I am working on extra rectangular tables for the plant sale. Does anyone have any of the

lightweight plastic tables that could be borrowed for two days? I have two that I can bring. Everyone stay healthy and happy.

Treasury Report

by Dan Cathey



Beginning balances were \$5,794.34 in checking, \$118.65 in Paypal, and \$100.00 in petty cash for a total of \$6,012.99.

Expenses for the month were \$10.00 for hospitality, \$587.50 to purchase irises for the giveaway & auction (includes postage), 2 \$100.00 donations to support the AIS & ADS Regional meetings, \$200.00 transferred to PayPal, and \$42.48 for newsletter printing and postage. Total outgo of \$1,039.98. Income for the month was \$70-\$22.00 from Raffle, \$32.00 from plant marker sales, and \$16.00 from the iris auction. Paypal activity included \$20 for ADS Youth memberships, \$25.00 for ADS membership for Diana Medrano, \$35.00 for AIS membership for the Goodmans, \$30.00 for ADS membership for the Keeths, and \$25.00 for ADS membership for the Club. There was no activity in the petty cash. Ending balances for February were \$4,824.36 checking, \$183.65 Paypal, and \$100.00 petty cash for a total of \$5,108.01.

Hospitality Report

by Gailmae Suite



March sign-ups were: Goodales and Keeths, sweet. Amy Finck, Vickie Rigby, Sue Ripley, Karen Singletary, Sue Walker, Janet Goodman, and Diana Medrano, non-sweet. Diana will bring drinks. A big thank you to everyone who provides refreshments for meetings.



February 9 Meeting Minutes by Ricky Howard, Secretary



President Vicki Howard called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

The minutes were approved as printed.

Membership—Anita Goodale announced there were 25 members and 6 guests, Janet and Brian Goodman brought 3 of their grandchildren, Kennedy, Austin, and Aaron Goodman and Ricky and Vicki Howard brought 2 of their grandchildren, Jacky Howard and Scott Tucker, and we had Linda Roper, member of the Waco Iris Society, visiting. Thank you all for coming.

Program Chair—Mary Keeth announced that our next program will be given by Peggy Cathey on Artistic Design.

Show Chair—Karen Singletary announced that she has submitted the Show Schedule to AIS and she needs some plastic folding tables for the sale.

Gailmae Suite made mention that there should be at least 2 rhizomes in each pot for the iris sale at the show.

The Youth Raffle was a hummingbird feeder and a picture of irises. Isabella and Victoria sold tickets, and the raffle was won by Alden Nellis.

Peggy Cathey donated a door prize which was glass garden art. It was also won by Alden Nellis who donated it back to the club to draw again. Laura Smargiasso won the second drawing.

AIS membership winners were Brian and Janet Goodman.

ADS membership winner was Diana Medrano.

Mary Keeth brought a pot of **Power Down**, Burseen, 2015 to auction. Karen Singletary won it with a \$16 bid.

President Vicki Howard announced the dates of the ADS Region 6 Annual Meeting, **Sandia Sunset Celebration** to be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, June 27-30. Everyone registered will receive a 2019 introduction of *H. 'Sandia Sunset'*, by Bill Maryott.

The AIS Region 17 Annual meeting will be hosted by the Fort Worth Iris Society and will be in Weatherford this year. Attendance is limited to 65 people, so if you plan to attend, you should send in your registration early. The theme is **Luau, Texas Style**.

Peggy Cathey mentioned when we hosted the AIS Region 17 Meeting last year, several clubs donated money to offset our expenses. It was suggested we should give \$100 to both the Fort Worth Iris Society and the Albuquerque Daylily Society to help them with their expenses. Gailmae Suite made a motion, Anita Goodale 2nd. The vote was unanimous.

The program this month was Glenn Huddleston on **Footprints in the Garden**. It was very informative and a great program.



I. 'Power Down', Burseen, 2015



FOOTPRINTS IN THE GARDEN

Glenn Huddleston provided an excellent program with many helpful tips on maintaining our irises, soil, and gardens. His main point to grow beautiful irises is that they need care all year long. By the photos he provided, you could see the beautiful irises he grows.

By Gailmae Suite

In the Garden With Anita by Anita Goodale

Why Do Some Iris Plants Have Purple Based Foliage?



I have often wondered why some Iris plants have purple based foliage while others do not. After a little research, I still haven't had my question answered thoroughly; but I have

learned a few facts that I will share.

In the Spring 1992 edition of *ROOTS*, an article entitled I.D. Groundwork by Phil Edinger lists 84 Irises from the earliest names through 1939 introductions. This list is, by no means, a complete compilation of Irises with the purple base foliage trait for this period. Breeding for this trait has been somewhat limited. When

trying to establish identification, especially in an historical Iris, examining the foliage for the presence or absence of color will, through the process of elimination, may be useful to use this list

as a beginning tool.

The best time to check Irises for the purple based foliage is just before the bloom season and into summer. Not all Irises will immediately show the color distinction. In our garden, we have both historical and newer Irises that exhibit this phenomenon. As an experiment, I chose one of Bill's favorite Irises, I. 'Main Street', 2009 by Larry Lauer. I used the AIS web site to look up the parentage and then compared those names to the list by Edinger. No match.

In conclusion, I'm left with another question: why hasn't the list of purple based foliage of Irises been extended to the present? I think it would be interesting to discover just how "far back" the parentage of some of my favorite Irises are recorded.

Happy Gardening!



I. 'Main Street', Lauer, 2009 showing purple based foliage and the bloom.

The Perks of Being A Member

Being a member of the Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society is building friendships with fellow Iris and Daylily lovers. Members who attend a certain number of meetings each year and help out at our annual shows and sales are rewarded with a free Iris and Daylily ordered just for rewarding our active members. Those members in attendance also have an opportunity to win a membership in our national parent Societies. We draw for one AIS membership and 1 ADS membership at each meeting. Now, for the benefits of

belonging to the national organizations. You will receive 4 national *Iris Bulletins* and 4 national *Daylily Journals* when you are a member.

These beautiful, full-color magazines offer lots of knowledge, advise, and vendor information for buying all the latest and greatest plants out there. New members, just joining either of the national organizations will receive vouchers for \$25 in free irises or daylilies, from certain vendors. Also, by being a member of the parent organizations, you



will automatically be a member of the Region in which you live. These regions also offer newsletters. The AIS

Region 17 Newsletter is provided twice per year. The printed version is in black & white, or you can get the full-color digital version delivered to your e-mail. The ADS Region 6 *Daylilies of the Southwest*

is printed in full color and mailed to your door 3 times per year. Both the ADS and ADS Region 6 have new editors, and I think you will be quite surprised in the quality of the newsletters.





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
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



-  March 9th, 2019, 10:00
Artistic Design
United Cooperative Services Community Room
-  April 20, 2019
Annual Iris Show
JN Long Cultural Arts Complex Gym
-  April 23-27, 2019
AIS National Convention
San Ramon, CA.
-  June 27-30, 2019
ADS Region 6 Annual Meeting
Albuquerque, NM
-  July 10-13, 2019
ADS National Convention
Middleton, WI
-  August 9-10, 2019
AIS Region 17 Annual Meeting
Weatherford, TX

Check out our website:

<http://johnsoncountyirisanddaylilysociety.org/>

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

Word Search: Daylily Names That Begin With Leprechaun

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

- | | |
|--------|---------|
| Eyes | Lace |
| Green | Panties |
| Love | Rainbow |
| Moon | Child |
| Prince | Lair |
| Curls | Luck |
| Gold | Wealth |

