



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc. Newsletter

Issue 61 April, 2017

www.wisconsindaylilysociety.org

Rhonda Veroeven, Editor

*A not for profit organization promoting the enjoyment, awareness,
and propagation of the genus Hemerocallis*

President's Minute

by RhondaVeroeven

Spring has sprung!!! It is such an exciting time to be a gardener! This is a time of renewal and hope! I walk my terribly messy gardens and wish I had time to prune, weed, and declutter...it will come, just like all things, time and patience will indeed prevail! Just as Spring provides our gardens with hope, we have a schedule filled with amazing activities in the daylily world, and I look forward to enjoying as many of them with you as I can. I am really looking forward to our upcoming speakers, playing in each other's gardens, touring regional and national gardens, and even visiting our neighbors to the north in Canada in the near future. So many exciting things! There is simply not enough time to do all of the things I want to do right now, and I know that I need to prioritize and make time to be in the garden...I always recharge when I am alone weeding and planting...it is where I have some of my best thoughts! Here's to a new season full of hope and love (and lots of weeding)!



Your WDS Board

President: Rhonda Veroeven, 6674 Windsor Ridge Ln, Windsor, WI 53598, 608-345-0395
purpleirises1@yahoo.com (Term ends '19)

Vice-President: Mike Stafford, 2521 Moland St. Madison, WI 53704 608-204-3824,
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(Term ends '19)

Web Administrator: R.Vaughan James, 207 Alden Dr, Madison, WI 53705, 608-218-9384
rvjames@wisc.edu

Upcoming WDS Events

May 20 1:00 PM Savannah Oaks School
Bob Faulkner-Natural Selection Daylilies
Dayton, OH
www.naturalselectiondaylilies.net

August 5 12:30 PM Savannah Oaks School
Adoption And Auction

October 21, 2017 Noon- Annual Meeting
Crown Plaza 4402 E Washington Ave., Madison.
Speaker will be announced soon!

Note-Average meeting times will be 2-2 1/2 hours. The Annual meeting tends to run longer than that.



2019 Convention Logo Design Entries Have Been Submitted

by Rhonda Veroeven

Logo Design Entries Have Been Submitted! We have two great submissions for our AHS National Convention logo. We will be voting at our monthly May membership meeting. If you are not able to attend that meeting, your vote can still count. I will need to receive your votes either via email (purpleirises1@yahoo.com), or call and let me know which logo you would like to vote for (608-345-0395) or send your vote in the mail (6674 Windsor Ridge Lane, Windsor, WI 53598) prior to our May meeting as we will be doing final calculations at that meeting! A huge thank you for our two submissions!



Submission A



Submission B



A BIG REMINDER and A GENTLE PROD

By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig

Hey everyone!! There are still seats available on the Badger Bus we hope to take to the Region 2 Summer Meeting in Michigan. Dates are July 14-17. Cost is \$88 and includes 3 days of transportation and tours of 5 Michigan gardens.

I will add a garden-centric stop or two along the way. Lunch will be out-of-pocket as will your hotel accommodations and meeting registration. Visit the Region 2 website for more information on the last two items.

If you are on the fence, take note that there is NO SUMMER MEETING scheduled in 2018. In 2019 it will be part of the AHS National Convention that WDS is hosting. There are no hosts from 2020 and beyond. This could sadly be the last time you are able to attend one of these great events.

To make this trip possible, we need 30 intrepid souls. Right now there are 19 eager daylily enthusiasts ready to welcome you aboard. Commit and come on along for another wonderful WDS adventure!!

Contact Wilma B-H at williebh96@yahoo.com to reserve your seat. Do not send money at this time. The deadline has been extended to April 30. You will be notified shortly thereafter if the bus will be going.



SIPPIN' WITH MIKEY AND THE WINOS

By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig

You might very logically ask, what, pray tell, does this strangely titled article have to do with daylilies? Well, actually quite a bit, it turns out. During the course of planning for a National Convention many aspects of the event must be considered, reviewed, critiqued, and vetted. The convention hosts (US) usually bolster interest and entice attendance by offering a pre-convention bus tour on Thursday. These auxiliary tours do not have to be garden-centric but should feature some of the best attractions in the area, especially those with a national presence. Sites need to be seen and evaluated.

Many suggestions have already been bandied about. The Henry Vilas Zoo, the State Capitol, Sassy Cow Creamery, Babcock Ice Cream, Wisconsin Dells, House On The Rock, Dr. Evermore's Forevertron, wineries, and micro-breweries have all come to mind. We have been in contact with Taliesin and have received very promising feedback from them. How wonderful would it be to show off one of Wisconsin's most distinct and prominent landmarks? Another tour would be designed for the Youth attendees --- about 25-30 of the under 18 crowd are expected. Our idea is to offer several different day trips prior to the Friday and Saturday garden tours. Obviously we have seriously considered a wine tour, hence the above headline (it got your attention, didn't it!!)

On a blustery, sunny, sloppy Saturday in January, seven WDS members involved with the planning of our National (and one intrepid guest) boarded a Vino-Van-Go (VVG) van to do some much needed research. VVG is a service that will take groups on excursions to area wineries and such for a fee that covers the chauffeuring and the cost of the tastings. It was a nice way to spend the day with fellow daylily peeps without having to worry about the driving.

Our female driver, seven women, and Mike S. (brave, brave man!) started off around 10:00 a.m. and returned near 5:30.....it was an arduous day, let me tell you!!

Our first stop was Wollersheim Winery across the Wisconsin River from Prairie Du Sac. It has a stellar reputation as vintners of award winning wines that are sold across the United States. A new brandy distillery graces the grounds and it can also be toured and the wares sampled. The setting is fabulous and is especially beautiful in the summer. It is a first rate, classy establishment that produces primo wines.



The "Research Team" takes their job very seriously as you can tell!

Then it was up into the Baraboo hills to a small winery that has been in business, out of their house, for three years. We arrived on the first day of the grand opening of their brand new building. We settled in for a rather lengthy tasting session. Some of the wines were delicious but interspersed among them were some clinkers. Several of us were getting rather gun-shy and I am surprised we didn't hear anyone say "Hey, let Mikey try it" during this rather uneven presentation. One of our group christened their pristine floor with its first broken glass....a little too exuberantly gesturing at the spectacular view perhaps? Landscaping projects are on their agenda and will dress the place up immensely.



SIPPIN' WITH MIKEY AND THE WINOS (Continued)

By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig

Back in the van and down to the banks of the Baraboo River. Right next to the Circus World Museum is Driftless Glen Distillery. It was clean, modern, and bright. Here we enjoyed a satisfying lunch. We were able to taste (knock back??) smidgens of brandy, gin, whiskey, and a white-lightning type spirit which I have forgotten the name of because my head began spinning like one of those 'dinner plates on a dowel' circus acts. "Potent" seems such a tame word for what we downed. This venue might serve as a very nice lunch stop should one of the tours we put together be in the vicinity.



Lastly we headed off to the countryside just north of Poynette. Here was another small winery, aptly named Rock N Wool....lots of rocks in the fields and they raise sheep. It had a pleasant but unremarkable setting, meaning simply that it had no river or bluff to add to the mix. The rows of vines were neat and tidy, the buildings well-maintained. The converted barn was quaint and the wine was most certainly palatable. Many in our group found the reds were very nice, but as I am not a red aficionado you will have to take their word on the matter. The tasting list was long and one co-owner

was on hand to educate us on each offering. I believe they have fun events that include picking grapes and stomping them with your bare feet. Sadly that's later in the season than our convention. Seeing fifty hemerocallis lovers enthusiastically mashing those plump purple globes would be a hoot. Maybe this venue is not for our event, but you should visit if you are in the area.



This little outing might seem antithetical to the planning of a convention, but it actually brought into focus what we want our daylily friends to take away from their time in Wisconsin. Topnotch, memorable, tasty, unusual, distinct all seem to be pretty decent goals we will be striving for. The Executive Committee would be grateful for your ideas, too, so pass them along to any one of us.

And just to clarify, this tour was paid for by the participants, and NO, we could not use our WDS dollars, darn it all.



Evelyn Thompson

In Memoriam

by Rhonda Veroeven

Our long time member Evelyn Thompson passed away on Feb. 12th at age 92. She was a member of WDS from its earliest days. She was always willing to open her beautiful garden to WDS and any individuals who were interested.

Thinking back to my very first WDS meeting, Evelyn was one of the first people to come up and welcome me. I was scared as I am not a "joiner," and she made me feel welcomed from the beginning! Evelyn's cheerful smile and kind heart will be greatly missed!

A donation to our region has been sent in Evelyn's name.



Membership News

by: Gene Dewey

The staff at the WDS Booth at the Garden Expo were enthusiastic salespeople! We gained 23 individual & family members and one business member that weekend!! They are grouped by their hometown.

Cottage Grove: Leani Schhoor;

Edgar: Castagrow, a business member operated by Susan Joy and Gary Waters;

Lodi: Dana Slowiak; Natalie Westegard;

Madison: Margaret Andrews, Mary Benes, Robert Cole, Dana Denny, Gayle Gustafson (back with us after a brief hiatus), Gail Jaeger, Karen Nelson, Kristie Roller, Mary Jo Schiavoni, Laima Rozkalns;

Markesan: Donna Frederick;

Middleton: Margaret Bucholz;

Monona: Esteban Zandate;

Mosinee: Theresa Brown;

Oregon: Sandy O'Malley;

Poynette: Wayne Clark;

Stoughton: Janet Aaberg;

Verona: JoAnn DeMuth;

Wauwaukee: Mary Kaye & Joe Lashock, & Diane Rak

Woodstock, IL: Susanne Eck (also back with us after a brief hiatus).

LaValle: Kelly Bryant and

Park Falls: Elizabeth Barr (both after a few years hiatus)

Membership updates:

Bobbi Raasch's new address is 405 Robin St., Rockland, WI 54653

The Mezeras new email: 2pamamez9@frontier.com

Sally Yaeger's email: Sayaeegs@gmail.com

As you see new faces at future meetings, please introduce yourself and share your daylily experiences.

Gardening and Daylilies with Snow on the Ground

by Rosemary Kleinheinz (and a little added by Rhonda)

Our January meeting at Madison West Ag Station satisfied our need to come out of hibernation, mix with friends we hadn't seen since last fall, and above all, look at some beautiful daylily pictures. What could possibly be better than that???

Ritchie Rheaume introduced us to the concept of Square Foot Gardening. Building a raised bed at least four feet deep, dividing the bed into square foot sections, and planting each square with a different veggie will produce lots of fresh veggies with a minimum of effort - less watering; easier weeding from around the bed; and easy access to your crops. Now all we have to do is decide which daylilies would have to leave to make room for veggies! Never gonna happen!!!

In past years our February meetings were getting longer and longer. Between the photo contest and a very busy, active hybridizers group that just keeps growing, it had become obvious that changes needed to be made. So, changes were made and in January we were able to view the beautiful progeny of Genni Kleckner, Paul Pratt, and Carole Hunter. They have made great strides in their programs. Thanks for sharing them with us, Good changes!

Then in February we viewed the seedlings of Jim, Sharon, and Doug Prochaska, Pat Sturdevant, Bobbi Johnson, Bob Keitzman, and Jean Bawden. Of course it wouldn't be a February meeting without the amazing compilation, put together by Conrad, of all of the amazing photo contest submissions. It just keeps getting harder and harder to possibly vote!!! Such a great problem to have!

As has become a very good habit, Sharon Longergan and her many, many door prizes rounded out our first two meetings of 2017. Now I am eager to see what the rest of the year has in store for us..



The Dazzling Daylily Show Returns

by Barry Rowe

The Dazzling Daylily Show is returning, bigger than ever. How much bigger? We'll be moving from the West Ag Station (technically in Verona) to Olbrich Botanical Gardens. And there should be many more blossoms to admire, unless it hails again just before the show!

Here's a refresher on what happens. Before the show, members bring in blossoms, which are labeled and placed by category. At the show, a greeter hands out ballots, raffle tickets, club brochures, and Daylily Sale coupons. Guests wander around the main hall, which is full of dazzling daylily blossoms. If

they wish, WDS helpers are available to guide them and help them vote. Raffle ticket winners receive free daylilies every half hour.

One section of the hall has daylilies that will be available at the August sale. All other daylilies are arranged and voted on in five categories:

- 1) Self (solid color)
- 2) Double
- 3) Spider and Unusual Form
- 4) Small and Miniature
- 5) Edge, Eye and Pattern

Votes are tallied, and winners receive awards immediately following the show. Finally, an

informal pollen exchange precedes clean-up.

The show will be at Olbrich from 11:00 – 3:00 on July 9. Lots of dazzling daylily blossoms will be needed, so please consider entering some of your prized possessions.

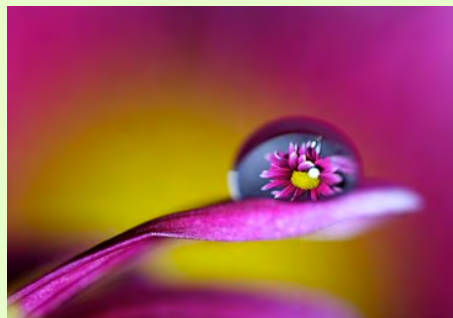
There is a good core of 2015 volunteers returning, but we will need many more of you before, during and after the event. It is especially true this year, since we are expecting a great increase in attendance. If interested in helping, contact Barry or come to our meeting right after every regular WDS meeting.

Winners of the Twelfth Annual WDS Photo Contest

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

The votes are counted and winners have been selected in the Twelfth Annual WDS Photo Contest. Since the inception of the first WDS Photo Contest in 2006, the entries have become more varied and creative. The 2017 photo contest was no exception.

The contest format featured three categories. Each WDS Member could submit a maximum of three photos. The three photos could all be submitted in one category or distributed among the three categories, which are described below.



Category 1 - Close up of a single bloom without companion plants or other daylilies prominent in the background. Category 1 proved the most popular with 28 entries.

Category 2 - Group of two more daylily flowers without companion plants, or other daylilies prominent in the background. Category 2 had 21 entries.

Category 3 - A daylily with companion plants or a garden critter landing on or nestled in a daylily flower or daylilies featured in garden or landscape setting. Category 3 had 20 entries.

WDS Members attending the February meeting voted for their favorite photo in each category. Two winners were selected in each category by the top votes received.

Winners announced and shown on following page! Prepare yourself! They are beautiful!

Winners of the Twelfth Annual WDS Photo Contest Continued

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

In **Category 1** Dana Baiu had a winning photo with a close up photo of the daylily 'Swirling Waters' and Rita Thomas with a close up of the daylily 'Changing Seasons'.

Single Bloom Winners



Dana Baiu
H. 'Swirling Waters'



Rita Thomas
H. 'Changing Seasons'

In **Category 3** the two winners were Thomas Rocheleau with a photo of 'Rita Willem' in garden setting with an accenting perennial companion plant backdrop and Pat Sturdevant with a bright blue wicker chair surrounded by daylilies and companion plants.

Daylilies with Companion Plants Winners



Thomas Rocheleau
H. 'Rita Willem'

In **Category 2** Tom Kleinheinz's winning entry featured a striking photo of two close up flowers of the toothy daylily 'Beastman'. Karen Watson-Newlin's winning entry featured a large clump of the daylily 'Hurricane Bob' accented by a pond scene in the background.

Group of Two or More Blooms Winners



Tom Kleinheinz
H. 'Beastman'

Karen Watson-Newlin
H. 'Hurricane Bob'



Pat Sturdevant
Becky Robinson's Garden

Each Contest winner will receive a certificate for a free plant of their choice at the WDS Daylily Sale in August at Olbrich Botanical Gardens and their choice of a mug or tile artistically imprinted with their winning photo by WDS Member R. Vaughn James. The winning photos are featured on the WDS web site (www.wisdaylilysoc.org).

WDS Members are encouraged to photograph their favorite daylilies this summer for entry in the Thirteenth Annual WDS Photo Contest, which will be held in 2018.

Northern Lights Put on a Great Show!

by Rhonda Veroeven



Francis Kleckner really has done an amazing job when determining who our presenters will be for our monthly meetings. His duties of procuring speakers isn't an easy one, but wow, he really comes through with amazing variety and talents! Our March meeting was no exception! We were delighted to have a dynamic duo of Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossman of Northern Lights Daylilies in West Concord, MN.

After our brief business component to our monthly meeting, we were joined by Kathleen Nordstrom. While she is newer in the hybridizing world, her work is really quite impressive. As a Radiation Oncologist and Garden Judge, she knows the importance of hard work and great plant habit and puts those attributes to work! While she has many impressive titles, including Director of Region 1 and Chief Weeder at Northern Lights Daylilies, her favorite is Grandma! She started out her story and had my attention from the beginning. She shared their love story and discussed that through tragedy and hard times, you really learn what is important in life. I couldn't agree with her more!



She has simple hybridizing goals...1) Be Outside and 2) Have fun. While that might sound simple, she has rigorous standards. They do not use mulch and all seedlings are tested for Northern Hardiness. She loves patterns, small flowers, UFs, polys, color changers, and her focus is mostly on diploids, but does dabble in tets.

While she has only started hybridizing since 2011, she will have her first introduction this Fall.



After she shared her program, we were able to enjoy her other half, Mike Grossman, a retired Molecular Biologist that worked in Breast Cancer Research. While I find his daylily work impressive, he also plays with making his own wine and ciders...Hello...you have my attention now!!!

He has an absolutely large greenhouse and it houses many of the breeding stock plants which may be tender as well as 10,000 seedlings per year. He then plants his seedlings outside and they both have a four year plant rotation cycle which I find interesting. He has been focusing on toothy tets with eyes and edges. He is also playing with UFs. His focus is on fancy, southern-looking flowers that are northern hardy. He really is succeeding!

After their presentations, a energy-filled auction occurred... and I know of one 11 year-old hybridizer that is super excited to get one of Mike's introductions into his hybridizing program!



A Grossman Seedling

Midwinter Symposium Filled with Learning and Fun!

by Rhonda Veroeven

The Region 2 Midwinter Symposium has become a staple of my Winter meeting agendas, but this year was the first year since I have begun going that it was moved out of Wisconsin. So there was a trip to Indianapolis on the Horizon!

Upon arriving at the registration table we were joined by none other than Dr. Arlow Stout...or that is what he said his name was when registering...it was actually the ever-hilarious, Richard Norris...such a character! I would say that was a great way to begin!



Wilma, Richard Norris, and Rhonda

The first presenter was Mike Holmes of Riverbend Daylilies. Mike talked about his and Sandy's programs. He has been playing with tet conversions, working on tet patterns, teeth, tall scapes, and really is beginning to focus on color changers. (I really want to like color changers...I just am not a fan...but the science is intriguing!)

The next morning, we enjoyed a business meeting and I even took the mic for a few minutes to ask for guest plants and

Englerth Garden submissions. Sandy's big message was that we do not have a regional scheduled for the Summer of 2018 and the National is 2019...this could really leave the region in a financial mess...

First up was Mark Carpenter from The Lily Farm in TX. He likes to focus on patterns on tet and big whitewashed eyes. It is never a dull moment with him, that is for sure!

Next we enjoyed Chris Wilhoite. He shared True Lilies from Queens of the Garden in Indianapolis. He shared what True Lilies are, the conditions that they need, and the different types. I know I need some more in my garden...such an informative presentation!

Next up were the always entertaining duo from Brownsferry Gardens, Charles and Heidi Douglas. Even laryngitis didn't stop Heidi from being hilarious. Heidi loves her appliques and midribs while Charles loves his red patterns, strong legs, watermarks and big edges.

Next up was Ashley Holmes (No relation to Mike and Sandy). She was from the Purdue Extension. Her presentation was on native grasses, why they are important to use, how to use them. and their needs.

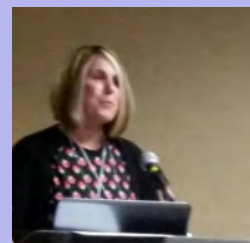
The Energizer Bunny Paul Owen, from a Slightly Different

Nursery in NC was up next. I was exhausted just listening to him...how is it possible to have that much energy in one body? His nursery looks like a garden. He also shared significant historical work he is doing in town.

Sunday we were entertained by Bret Cemet from IN. He started growing daylilies because of a landscaping problem. He has really rough conditions, so he knows his plants will do well when actually given proper care! The highlight for me is his crazy names. His Soap Opera Cat line had me in stitches...I also like his silly homage he makes to Kurt Hanson with using his names and substituting the word Hobbit into the name...fun!

Lastly we were treated with Bob Faulkner's interpretation of a presentation, but I do not want to spoil what you will see in May, so I will leave you in suspense for now.

Most importantly, bonds of daylily friendship and camaraderie were forged! Such a great and memorable weekend! I encourage you to attend next year if you can!



Clearly they don't know I shouldn't be given a mic!



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"With the coming
of spring, I am
calm again."

- Gustav Mahler

