



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc. Newsletter

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Rhonda Veroeven, Editor

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

President's Minute

by Rhonda Veroeven

While Mother Nature isn't sure which season we are in, I walk my gardens looking for hope of coming spring! I see glimpses of flowers to come and tiny bits of greenery and buds showing hopeful promise! Winter was filled with activity in our club, and I can only imagine what will come this season! More amazing speakers and blooms, more celebrations of amazing good news and accomplishments of our members, and more friendships forged. This club is filled with promise and amazing generosity! When I speak to other clubs or non-gardeners, I speak with pride as a representative of such a prosperous, generous, and caring club. We are on the cutting edge of amazing greatness and can't wait to see what comes. Just like my garden filled with promise, our club also is filled with promise! It is with gratitude and humility that I welcome yet another season as your president and as always, I know I get so much more than I give as a member of this amazing organization! Please let me know how I can serve YOU!

Your WDS Board

President: Rhonda Veroeven, 6674 Windsor Ridge Ln,
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Vice-President: Mike Stafford, 2521 Moland St.
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(Term ends '20)

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

Upcoming WDS Events

**April 28, 2018- 1:00 Savannah Oaks-
Rich Howard-CT Daylilies** Wallingford, CT
<http://www.ctdaylily.com/>

**May 19, 2018- 1:00 Savannah Oaks-
Bryan Culver-Culver Farm Daylilies**
Waterford, ON Canada [http://
www.culverfarmdaylilies.com/](http://www.culverfarmdaylilies.com/)

July 6, 7, and 8, 2018 -Northern Mecca
<http://www.northernmecca.com/>

July 14th-15th, 2018-WDS Summer Tour
See article in this issue of the WDS newsletter
for more information!

**August 4, 2018 12:00 PM WDS Adoption
Auction-Place TBA (Most likely Glacier
Creek Middle School in Cross Plains)**

**August 18-19, 2018 WDS Plant sale Olbrich
Botanical Gardens**

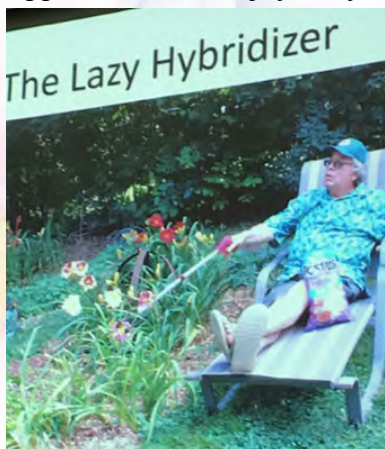
**October 27, 2018 -11:00 am WDS Annual
Meeting-Rex's Inn Keeper Waunakee
Speaker TBA**

WDS Hybridizers Wow with Amazing Blooms and Programs

January Edition

By Rhonda Veroeven

After a long winter, it was certainly wonderful to gather again with our daylily friends. At our monthly meeting in January, we met and were wowed by the Wisconsin Hybridizer's Group presentation of their work and new seedlings. Everyone had such different focuses, which was refreshing and fun to see. Each of their talents were appreciated and enjoyed by all attendees!



Barry Rowe

The hilarious Barry Rowe started us off and shared the lazy-man's hybridizing show...nothing like sitting with a cocktail in one hand while lounging in a reclining chair in the garden and hybridizing with the other! His blooms were fantastic, and his

humor was infectious. It was a great kick off to a wonderful day of presentations!

Next up was Bruce Christoffersen. He is a humble and quiet man of few words, but was able to captivate the club with a wide variety of seedlings. He showed futures, and "for sure nots." Whatever he was showing, the audience enjoyed and for that we are grateful. Maybe someday he will see how cool his flowers are, until then, we will all continue to remind him of this simple fact!



Bruce Christoffersen

We then had Bob Keitzman's program shared by Bobbi Johnson. We all know that the Nu-Era daylilies are fancy with fun eyes. We all wish Bob could have been there to share, but Bobbi did a fantastic job in his place!

Then Bobbi Johnson and our amazing youth member, Gwyn, shared their programs. Bobbi has some really cutting edge introductions and seedlings. With all of their moving that they had

to undergo recently, it is amazing to see how incredible the seedlings and introductions fared through the change of placement. It is a testament to her tenacity and drive for excellence!



Bobbi Johnson & Gwyn Duray

Gwyn's personality shined though her entire presentation! I will not give away names of her daylilies (which are all amazing!!!), I will let her share them and the stories of why she had to choose the names that she did. Such an amazing young lady with an incredibly bright future in hybridizing ahead of her. Watch out for her...she is truly an up-and-comer who will knock your socks off!

Then we wrapped up with our own head of the Wisconsin Hybridizers, Carole Hunter. She shared the history of her program, the moving of her program, and all of the work she is doing with northern instant rebloom as well. She has worked hard to get great plant habit, instant rebloom and pretty faces. It seems as though all of that hard work is really paying off now! She has some fantastic plants!!!



Carole Hunter

WDS Hybridizers Wow with Amazing Blooms and Programs February Edition

By Rhonda Veroeven

As always, February brings our photo contest and this year did not disappoint! See amazing article in this edition of the newsletter for the highlights and results of that fun part of the meeting!

The eye candy was abound in our hybridizer presentations this month. Last month was fantastic, and the February group shined just as bright!



*Francis and Genni Kleckner
with Jordan and Julian Kleckner*

First up, Francis and Genni Kleckner shared their program and we all know how amazing their beautiful introductions and seedlings are. They have standard bagel shaped daylilies with such intricate and subtle varieties. They are individual and unique! They also have very impressive growing habits with great bud count and branching! (Future youth members, their twin grandsons, also made their first appearances as well)



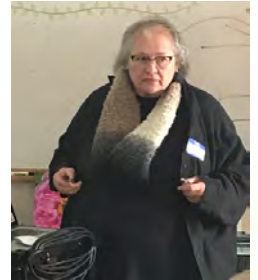
Barbara Nickel

Next up we saw the maiden voyage of Barbara Nickel. Her beautiful presentation wowed the audience and since many haven't seen her introductions before we were blessed to get a chance to see her beauties. She names them after people that are special in

her life. I think I need a few added to my garden. She is so humble, but her daylilies are amazing with impeccable growing habit, especially for beauties in the north! I hope she shares more

often!

Sharon and Doug Prochaska were up next and they always impress with their HUGE blooms and vivid rich colors. They go for size and height and they didn't disappoint this time! Many of us grow their beauties and they are incredibly showy and vigorous! Their spiders/UFs are bound to be up for awards in the near future!!!



Sharon Prochaska

Jean Bawden made a comeback appearance to our group which was such a treat! She has cut back on her hybridizing program, but you sure couldn't tell with her amazing beauties!!! So many bold and rich UF's and then the stunning eyes on her round forms were a treasure! She knows what she is doing and we are so fortunate to still have her in our wings!



Jean Bawden

Becky Robinson made her debut as well and showed not only her program, but the evolution of her garden. Her blooms are reminiscent of her bubbly personality and can't help but put a smile on your face when you look at them. She has a magical garden and her introductions and seedlings are tucked beautifully into her little piece of heaven. It was nice to see a snapshot into her garden!



*Becky Robinson
(and Conrad giving
technical support)*

Region 2 Winter Meeting---Something for Everyone

By Rhonda Veroeven

There was a great group of Wisconsin Daylily Society members that braved the elements and drove to Indianapolis, IN for the 2018 Region 2 Winter Meeting on February 23-25.

We arrived and got registered without incident. Then headed over to a local bistro for great soup and sandwiches. Met some great people and couldn't wait to get into the meeting.



Gail Braunstein (The lighting was dark, so it was the best picture I could get)

After dinner we went back to the hotel and were wowed by the amazing Daylilies of Gail Braunstein from Morrow, OH. She specializes in very saturated colors on tetraploid tall plants. Her *H.Hell on Wheels* has been added to my wish list after seeing how it looked in a clump!!!



*Gail Braunstein's H. Hell on Wheels
Photo from AHS Data Base*

After Gail's marvelous presentation we had a super fun evening of an auction to benefit Region 2. Of course, there are many wonderful plants that WDS members will be adding to their collections.



Monique Warnke and Rhonda Veroeven enjoy the hospitality room with Bret Clement and Paul Owens- Photo by Barb Buikema

In addition to the wonderful evening festivities, we enjoyed the hospitality room which made me smile. So many wonderful connections. As we always say, you come for the daylilies, but you stay for the people!



Sandy Holmes and Barb Buikema sharing the state of the Region

After a very short evening, we got up bright and early for breakfast and began with a presentation with the ever-fabulous Sandy Holmes, AHS

Region 2 President. The big message is that due to very gracious donations, the region is actually doing very well, and with the introduction of a facebook auction, they are hoping that it will keep the funds in a positive direction since we don't have a summer meeting this year, and the national, held by us, will be the summer meeting in the following summer, so there isn't a summer meeting possible.



Rhonda Veroeven Sharing the promotional video

I was then able to share the promotional video for the 2019 which was greatly received. I received many comments on how impressed people were, and how they couldn't wait to attend. I think we will have great attendance from our region! I know of two different groups that are interested in bringing bus loads to the national, so that is a great indication!

We were then delighted by the very impressive program of Eric Simpson of Blue Ridge Daylilies in Asheville, NC. Eric has amazing variety and wonderful vibrant colors and a

Region 2 Winter Meeting---Something for Everyone- Continued

By Rhonda Veroeven

His lilies have wonderful eyes and edges. The evolution of his program is quite impressive!



Eric Simpson and Monique

After the great daylily presentation we were delighted by a wonderful presentation on roses by Teresa Byington from Brownsville, IN. She shared information about different varieties as well as basic care of roses. My favorite was her video of pruning information. I know that when I have pruned roses I have been super careful. Her hilarious video showed just taking loppers and cutting them viciously.



Teresa Byington

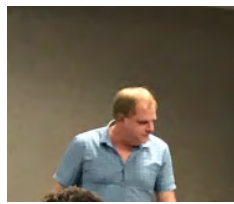
Next up we returned to the daylily world with a fantastic presentation by Richard Norris of Ashwood Gardens from Glouster, OH. Richard is exceptionally intelligent and knowledgeable of all things daylily! He shared his program and focus. He showed some color changing daylilies and gave a great discussion on rebloomers. My favorite part of his presentation was when he shared the history of his brother. He is generally funny

and a bit snarky, but was very stoic in talking of him. You could tell he was very proud!



Richard Norris

Jamie Gossard then shared a very informational presentation on daylily science. He is definitely cutting edge on all of the scientific procedures. He discussed ploidy, some of the amazing conversion techniques, and my favorite part was when he shared pictures of him being a family man and then of course the fantastic seedlings and upcoming intros. There are some very impressive things coming soon for sure!



Jamie Gossard

The energizer bunny, Paul Owen of Slightly Different Nursery in Shelby, NC then took a break from daylilies and shared his travels across Europe. I always wonder how that much energy can possibly exude from one human! His travels were enjoyable and made me want to book a flight!



Paul Owen

In the evening we had the second half of the auction and fully enjoyed it. More shenanigans in the hospitality room as well. This again made for a very quick evening.

Sunday we started the day off with the amazing daylilies of Bill Waldrop of Kennesaw



Bill Waldrop

Mountain Daylilies in Marietta, GA. He shared his program, the history of his program and his amazing

daylilies. My favorite part was seeing his beautiful granddaughter Lily Rae in so many of the slides following her grandpa and grandma's footsteps.



Mike Grossman

Lastly, Northern Lights daylilies of Mike

Grossman

from West Concord, MN shared his amazing tetraploid program. His impressive greenhouse and converting southern daylilies into northern hardy daylilies is his specialty. I just may have ordered a few to adorn my garden this year. I can't wait for them to arrive!

If you haven't had an opportunity to attend a regional event, please consider it! It is most certainly worth the trip, money, and time! But be forewarned...you will be addicted!

Two Daylily Anomalies

by Conrad J. Wrzesinski



H. Dancing on Air

Photo by Conrad Wrzesinski



H. Destined to See

Photo by Conrad Wrzesinski



H. Hyperion

Photo by Cynthia Wadsworth



H. Forsyth Paleface

Photo by Rhonda Veroeven

At first glance we are accustomed to seeing a daylily bloom with three petals and three sepals. Sometimes an anomaly will occur in which the bloom will defy that pattern. Fused flower and polymeric bloom are two of the striking daylily anomalies.

During their development two adjacent buds become conjoined forming a fused flower. The resulting flower will have more than usual three petals and three sepals. There will also be more than one pistil and more than the usual stamens. This fused flower trait is not genetic, and therefore would not be the focus of a successful hybridizing program.

In the author's experience the fused flower mutation is quite unusual. In all the gardens he has visited over the years, he has only witnessed this phenomenon twice. The first was in the garden of Ruth Horrall during one of her open gardens and the second was in his own garden on a flower of Pat Stamile's 'Ruby Spider'. You can image his surprise when he opened the email of entrants in the WDS Photo Contest and saw Rhonda Veroeven's submission of a fused flower on Wyatt LeFever's 'Forsyth Paleface', as pictured. This is the first time this has occurred in the 12 years of the WDS Photo Contest. After fused flower was mentioned at the WDS meeting Cynthia Wadsworth, sent me a photo of fused flower on Mead's 'Hyperion' she had taken. Both 'Forsyth Paleface' and 'Hyperion' illustrate the characteristic of a fused flower.

The second anomaly is a polymeric bloom. Previously a polymeric bloom was often call a polytepal flower. The American Hemerocallis Society has adopted the term polymeric to align with botanic terminology.

Polymeric describes a daylily bloom from a single flower bud with more than the normal number of three sepals and three petals. Polymeric daylilies will usually have the same number of extra sepals and petals. The bloom will also have extra stamens, but only one pistil. These characteristics are illustrated in the image from our garden of Pat Stamile's 'Dancing on Air', which has four sepals and four petals, but only one pistil. Another example are two flowers on Larry Graces' 'Destined to See'. On rare occasions a polymeric daylily can exhibit as many six sepals and six petals.

It is not uncommon for some daylilies to have a flower that is polymeric, but the polymeric blooms are not consistent. 'Destined to See' has not exhibited another polymeric flower since the picture of the two blooms was taken.

Since the trait is genetic, a few hybridizers have focused on making the polymeric blooms more consistent. Notable among them is Don Herr, who spoke to the club in 2011. Example of his polymeric daylilies, some of which he indicates are as high as 95% polymeric, can be seen on his web site (<http://donherrdaylilies.com>).

Both fused flower and polymeric blooms provide something intriguing to look for during the upcoming daylily season.

Winners of the Thirteen Annual WDS Photo Contest

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

The votes are counted and winners have been announced in the Thirteen Annual WDS Photo Contest. In all 56 members voted for their contest favorites at the WDS February meeting. The contest format featured three categories. Each WDS Member could submit a maximum of three photos. The three photos could all be assigned to one category or distributed among the three contest categories, which are briefly described below.

Category 1 – Close up of a single. This category proved the most popular with 35 entries compared to 28 last year.

Category 2 – Group of two more daily flowers without companion plants. This category had 29 entries compared 21 to last year.

Category 3 – A daily with companion plants or a garden critter landing on or nestled in a daily flower or daylilies featured in garden or landscape setting. This category had 27 entries compared with 20 last year. Though the contest is designed to select the top two vote getters in each category, the quality and creativity of the entries made this year made this impossible in the Category 1 and Category 3. There was a five-way tie in Category 1 and a three-way tie in Category 3. Only the vote count in Category 2 produced two top vote getters. With advances in technology and an eye for a good picture, entries have become more varied and creative since the inception of the first WDS Photo Contest in 2006.

Category 1 Winners



#1660
Genni Kleckner



Strawberry Cream
Monique Warnke



Infinity and Beyond
Gwyn Duray



Nu-Era Brynd New Look
Bob Kietzman



Odell
Wendy Benz



Winners of the Thirteen Annual WDS Photo Contest

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

Category 1: Bob Kietzman was a winner with a photo of his hybrid patterned daylily, 'Nu-Era Brand New Look'. A lighter pink daylily flower with a deep colored watermark and edge and capped with a prominent yellow piecrust edging was Genni Kleckner was a winning entry with a photo her seedling #1660. Gwyn Duray, a WDS Youth Member, submitted a winning photo of the patterned daylily, 'Infinity and Beyond'. A close up of the daylily, 'Strawberry Cream' accented with droplets of water was Monique Warmke's winning entry. A striking photo of the daylily, 'Odel' set against a blurred background was Wendy Benz's winning entry.

Category 2: Pat Sturdevant's winning entry featured a striking close up photo of two matched flowers on the daylily, 'Rose F. Kennedy'. A close up of two flowers on the daylily, 'When Stars Align' was the subject of the winning entry from Bruce Christoffersen.

Category 3: The winning entry from Becky Robinson featured a garden scape of daylilies accompanied by companion plants providing a sun-drenched plethora of color. Carol Hunter's winning entry drew the viewer's eye to a smiling little frog nestled in the center of a daylily flower. A photo of a bright yellow daylily clump accented by colorful perennials was Joanne Rowe's winning entry.

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). Check them out!

WDS Members are encouraged to photograph their favorite daylilies this summer for entry in the fourteen annual WDS Photo Contest, which will be held in 2019.

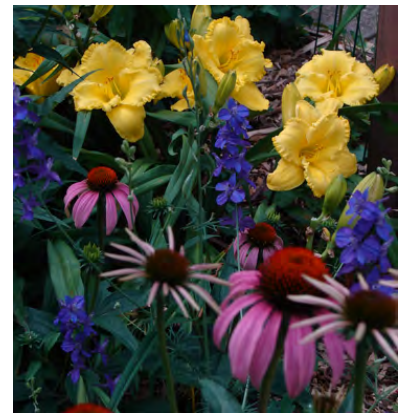
Category 3 Winners



*Garden Shot
Becky Robinson*



*Seedling with Smiling Frog
Carole Hunter*



*Garden Vignette
Joanne Rowe*

Category 2 Winners



*Rose F. Kennedy
Pat Sturdevant*



*When Stars Align
Bruce Christoffersen*

WDS is Now on Instagram!

By Carolyn Zilinski

Thank you for electing me to the WDS Board during the Fall 2017 annual meeting. I have been enjoying getting to know the Board members, processes and helping to assist our resourceful, hardworking team. This year, I'm planning on increasing the media visibility of our club, as well as sharing the beauty of our members' fabulous flowers. To that end, I've created a public Wisconsin Daylily Society Instagram site.

You may not be familiar with Instagram, so I will give you a little background. Instagram is a social media sharing platform available to anyone who has internet access. Like Facebook, Instagram is free of charge. However, Instagram users add photos to their account from mobile platforms (smart phones), and most of the content is photographs, videos or illustrations. They can be viewed on a desktop, laptop, or smart phone if one has the desired web address, and the content is colorful, immediate and

brief. Millions of people use Instagram every day to share photos and ideas, along with "hashtags" that are used much like a subject search for a library book. Want to see lots of photos of awesome gardens? All you need to do is click on the #flowergardens hashtag, and the search is done for you. It's a great way to involve and interest many potential members and gardening fans that aren't familiar with WDS.

That's where you come in, members. I would like to feature photos of your gardens, cultivars, seedlings, and any other photos that will teach the public more about our favorite perennial – my aim is to increase our visibility with a younger, urban demographic, as well as provide outreach and education. I need your content! Pictures of your gorgeous beds, plants, or any other daylily high-interest photo would be terrific.

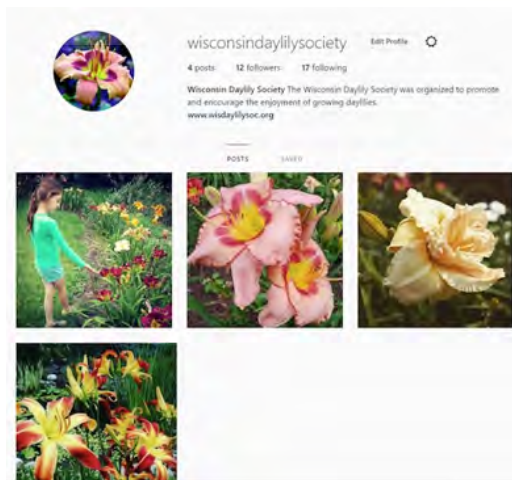
Want your photos featured on the WDS Instagram site? It's easy to share them! Using your favorite

email browser, attach your photo to an email and send it to me at the following email address:

Instawisdaylilies@gmail.com

I'll do the editing, create the copy and add those crazy hashtags! If you have a username at Instagram, please include it as well as the cultivar name of any hems in the photo. This will help Instagram users find, share and appreciate your best photos. I hope to add a great deal of followers on this, our first public social media feed! Sending your photos to this account implies your permission to use them in this public space.

Please send high-resolution photos (jpgs) to the above email address – and ask any questions there as well – I'm here to help. The warmer weather is almost here, so go through those cameras and cell phones, and send me your favorites! Soon we'll all be outside pulling weeds, mulching and watching for those scapes to appear!



Garden Expo 2018 a Smashing Success

By Sue Hill

The 2018 Garden Expo battled for attention with the snowstorms that rolled in just as the doors opened up to welcome excited patrons itching for a glimpse of Spring. It most likely impacted the numbers of attendees over the entire weekend, but nonetheless, those that did come out were treated to a wonderful event that highlighted several new vendors along with the usuals that many of us look forward to seeing each year.

One of my favorite booths is the one where I can start my trek around the showroom after grabbing a sample cup of tea with a flavored honey of my choice. What a wonderful thing!

Our booth had a few new items for interested Expo guests to see, which then led them to engage in conversation with WDS members about their gardens and plants. We had two of our bigger binders from the sales to highlight some of the various cultivars we've offered at our big sale in August.

The goal this next year is to bring in some fresh ideas to draw attention to what we do as an

organization, focus on education on the daylily and it's care, and then highlight the pictures of the winners of our photo contest. We are planning to revamp our handouts on daylily care and what our club does in hopes of bringing it more up to date. If anyone is exceptionally good with a camera, we have a couple projects we'd like to run by you. Please contact me (Sue Hill) at bunnisoo@aol.com.

A huge thank you to those of you that were able to come out and help! I enjoyed standing back and seeing everyone talking to Expo attendees. Our friendly group was one of the more popular spot as evidenced by the multitude of people stopping by to chat.

That candy dish we use for bait is working just like we had hoped! 😊



Judy Schaefer talking to potential new members

Membership News

By Gene Dewey

The Garden Expo encouraged a number of buyers from hither and yon to join WDS: Barneveld: Sue Serliger; Brooklyn: Linda Welch; Deforest: Carrie Wilkey; Janesville: Rita Stubbe; Madison: Sandi Kindig-Oguzlu; Marshall: Paul & Jo Prost; Mazomanie: Maria Van Cleve; Merrimac: Barbara L. Ertel; Mount Horeb: Jessica Killingbeck; Verona: Joseph Hill, Cheri Kenney, Ann Neviaser; Waunakee: Cindy Gillis

Our first youth member, Gwyn Duray in Rockland Renewals after a few years' lapse: Cynthia Bauer of Middleton and Marjon Ornstein of Madison.

Paul Pratt also renewed his membership: 13944 Reed Road, Byron, MI 58518
muskie@frontier.com

Bobbi Raasch's address has changed to 405 Robin St, Rockland

Valeria & Ed Sutter's email address is now

evsutter@mhtc.net

Pat Sturvevants's new email is
patsur004@hotmail.com

Welcome to all of you. We look forward to meeting these new members at upcoming meetings.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS: Please check your information in the WDS Roster recently mailed to you. If your membership was paid through 2017, NOW is the time to send your renewal.
Individual: 1 yr, \$5; 3 yr, \$13; 5 yr, \$20; Family: 1 yr, \$8; 3 yr, \$20; 5 yr, \$30. Business: &15 per year.

AHS Membership: If you join the American Hemerocallis Society since you joined the WDS, please notify me, so that I can update that information on the next edition of the Roster.

WDS Summer Bus Tour Opportunity for 2018!!!

By Sue Christoffersen

On July 14 and 15, 2018, we have the opportunity to see six of the seven gardens that will be on display during the AHS National Daylily Convention, which we are hosting in 2019.

Our club is willing to subsidize the Saturday, July 14, 2018 cost for a bus to see the three gardens that are the farthest away from Madison. We need a minimum of 40 people to do the bus trip.

The bus tour will include Francis and Genni Kleckner's Work-In-Progress daylily garden near Muscoda; Diane and John Goodman's garden near Prairie du Sac; and Rick and Barb Kaja's Lilies of Lodi daylily garden near Lodi.

After visiting Kleckner's garden, we will have lunch in Prairie du Sac.

After lunch, we will visit Diane and John Goodman's daylily garden and will be able to see the Englerth seedlings bed on their property in rural Prairie du Sac, on Lake Wisconsin. The last garden we will visit is Kaja's Lilies of Lodi.

If you have any questions about the trip, please phone Suzanne Christoffersen ((608) 221-0925) or email Sue at suzannechristoffersen@yahoo.com.

WDS budgeted a substantial dollar amount for this trip, so the cost per person will be reasonable. The budgeted amount will pay toward the bus ride, lunch, bottled water, and tips. WDS\$ dollars will not be accepted in your payment per person.

Badger Bus requests a commitment from our group no more than thirty days from now. The deadline for signing up for the trip will be April 28, 2018, which is the date of our next WDS meeting at Savannah Oaks School. Again, we need 40 people minimum, to make the trip happen.

Remember, our garden hosts will have a full year after our visit, to work on and improve their gardens before the AHS National Convention next year; so do not expect the gardens to be in 'perfect' shape, but they will be a work-in-progress.

On Sunday, July 15, 2018, we can tour the remaining three gardens on our own. The three are the Jim Herwig and Wilma Brower-Herwig garden in Deerfield, the Conrad and Mary Wrzesinski garden in Middleton, and the Tom and Rosemary Kleinheintz garden in Madison.

Since we are hosting the AHS National Convention, we won't have the chance to tour the daylily display gardens in 2019, because we will be busy working at the Marriott Hotel, and there won't be room on the buses. This is our chance to see the gardens exactly one year before the big event!

Let us thank our tour garden hosts for putting in all the extra work to upgrade and present their gardens, for the 2019 AHS National Convention.

More details will be sent via general membership emails! Be on the lookout!

Crimson Tide Meets Badger Pride at March Meeting

by Rhonda Veroeven

On a very cold evening in March, even for Wisconsin standards, Will Marchant disembarked from his plane. Imagine the shock coming all of the way from warm Douglasville, GA! While the weather wasn't cooperative, the evening conversation with a small group of people at North & South was warming. He wasn't bothered after the initial shock of cold. A fun evening of laughter and camaraderie was had by all in attendance.

He arrived at our meeting at Savannah Oaks Middle School ready to jump in to help set up. I think this elementary principal knows the meaning of hard work and can't just sit still when he sees something that needs to be done. One thing that made me smile was when WDS member, Lloyd Ravet, went up to introduce himself to him and asked if he was a new member. I was so proud of our club in that moment. I felt that was the epitome of what we hope we stand for as a club---warm and welcoming of all who join our ranks!!! I know that stood out to him as well! We were not sure how the turnout would be since it was the Saturday of Easter weekend, but the turnout was fantastic!



Will Marchant

Photo by Rhonda Veroeven



Will Marchant was hilarious

Photo by Genni Kleckner

dormant plants which thrive in the north. If ever he thinks one would be too tender for up here, he is sure to share that as well! He works with both diploid and tetraploid lilies, so there is something for everyone! I felt that most of his forms were more open and many were UFs, but he dabbles with a little bit of everything! I about fell over when I saw his 2018 introduction of Purple Leopard. I NEED that plant--- and I know I am not alone in my interest at all! After his presentation I had several people come up to me and say how much they enjoyed his presentation, and one member even sent an email sharing how she felt his smile lit up the entire room. We love it when we get such positive reviews from our speakers. A huge thank you to Francis Kleckner for procuring Will as a speaker.

Will was exceptionally generous and provided many plants which are sold out and unavailable to the public for our members to bid on!

I had to have a few of them, and while I wanted them all, I had to let other people enjoy them as well! (continued on next page)



Will Marchant with Rhonda Veroeven
Photo by Genni Kleckner

Crimson Tide Meets Badger Pride at March Meeting Continued

by Rhonda Veroeven

In the evening, there was a rather large group of members that joined us in having dinner at Quivey's Grove. It was a ruckus and rowdy crew by the time the National Board Members finished their meeting and were able to join in on the fun. I haven't laughed that hard in as long as I can remember. Will was like a silly member of the family and everyone joined in on the frivolity much to the dismay of some other casual diners! That is not to say that it was all goofy fun and games, conversations flowed from education (his passion and mine), hostas and other plants, his Koi pond, and of course the silly jokes and fun! I know I am not alone in wanting to go make a trek to GA to see his beautiful program and his converted swimming pool filled with Koi! Who wants to join me?

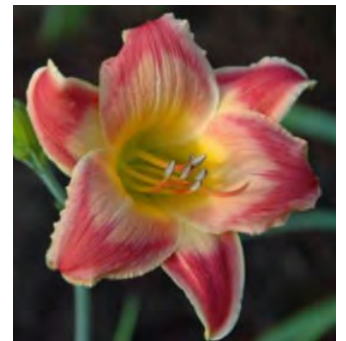
Such a fantastic meeting filled with memories and friendships...who could ask for more? Will is hoping to be back to visit us during the 2019 national, and was very impressed by our club. I do believe we made a lasting impression on him, just as he did for us!



New Newsletter Feature!!! WDS' Most Wanted!

by Rhonda Veroeven

I am very excited to introduce a new feature to our newsletters!!! After having a conversation with Gene Dewey, we thought it would be a wonderful idea to have a section in our newsletter for members to share daylilies that they are wanting to add to their collection. If you have some of the cultivar that you are willing to share, please let the member that is searching know (you can determine if you are going to give it away or charge...WDS is in no way responsible for the exchange!)



August Cheer

Our first cultivar search is AUGUST CHEER, an old (1990) intro by Goldner. Please see Gene Dewey if you have any of August Cheer that you can part with!





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*Spring: A lovely reminder of how
beautiful change can be!*

