



# Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc. Newsletter

Issue 70 Summer, 2019 [www.wisconsindaylilysociety.org](http://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 Rhonda Veroeven*

At the time of writing this, we are a month away from the WDS sponsored American Daylily Society's National Convention. We are in the trenches really finishing the details and hammering away with so many items. I have found my balance by spending a few hours a day in the garden weeding, planting, adding gardens, and shopping for new garden art. I do not know how the national tour garden hosts are keeping it together. I am only an open garden and am stressed by that...a huge thank you to those that volunteered to have our attendees go through their gardens. I have no doubt that their gardens will shine and really make Wisconsin super proud! I also would be remiss if I did not thank everyone that is working to make the convention go as smoothly as I am sure it will! My sincerest hope is that you all get to spend a lot of time in your gardens and that the bloom season is filled with nothing but beautiful blooms and beautiful color! This time of year is always exciting as scapes are starting to tease us and give us hope of this upcoming bloom season. There are many events throughout the summer and into fall, and I hope you are all going to attend as many of them as you can! In the meantime, I will be found in my garden, on the computer planning convention details, or spending time with my amazing family! Happy Summer!

## Your WDS Board

**President: Rhonda Veroeven**, 6674 Windsor Ridge Ln,  
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**Treasurer: Sue Hill**, 8495 County Rd G, Verona, WI  
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## Upcoming WDS Events

**July 10-14, American Daylily Society National Convention** hosted by WDS see <https://ahs2019national.com/> for details. You must have registered prior to June 1st to be able to attend.

**August 15-18-WDS plant sale and prep.** Prep 9-5 Thursday and Friday, Sale Saturday (10:00-4:00) and Sunday (11:00-3:00). This year's sale will take place at Olbrich Park (across the street from Olbrich Botanical gardens).

**September 21 WDS Adoption Auction Program** 12:00 PM, Savannah Oaks Middle School, Fitchburg **Note date change**

**October 26, WDS Annual Meeting** - Noon, Buck and Honey's 800 W. Broadway, Monona  
Speaker has been obtained, but will be announced in the September Newsletter!!! **Save the date!!!**





## April Showers Bring Darrel Apps' Flowers

By: Rhonda Veroeven



*Darrel Apps Speaking*

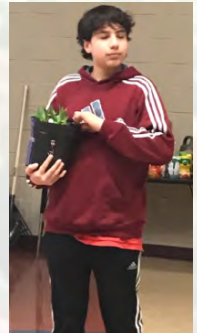
Our April speaker was another Wisconsin treat! Francis outdid himself by getting Darrel Apps. Darrel Apps began breeding daylilies during his time at University of Kentucky. He made his first cross in 1969, which is over fifty years of hybridizing! He discussed the challenges of making a living with daylilies and that things are different today than they were when he started. He had several trademarks on a few of his plants so royalties from sales were made possible. He also shared that the database makes hybridizing easier for hybridizers today.



*Darrel Apps and his wonderful program*

He still makes many seedlings a year which he said is scaling it back. His focus on tet rebloomers and northern hardy varieties made it hard not to have a large wishlist from his introductions. His focus continues to be on northern hardy plants and he prefers dormant plants. He likes dormant because he feels they are easier to clean and better for rust resistance. He liked to incorporate genetics from southern tender plants because of their beauty. He worked hard to make pretty dormant northern hardy flowers.

He ran his nursery, Woodside Gardens, in Bridgeton, New Jersey and then he returned to Wild Rose, WI. He has introduced over 450 daylilies and earned the Betrand Farr hybridizing award from the ADS. He now sells his daylilies through Graziano Gardens.



*Youth auction runner, Andrew*



*Darrel and his lovely wife, Marilyn*

He was super generous and we had a great auction with his beautiful plants. It was wonderful to have actual live plants when so few of ours were even coming up green yet. I did have to go home with one of his future introductions! I can't wait until it blooms...which since it was a clump, should be this year! It was a fantastic way to complete our April meeting!

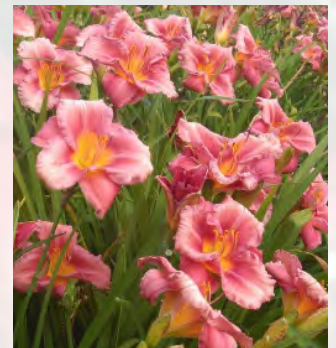
If you are interested in visiting his gardens, he will be an open garden during the 2019 National Convention. I would highly recommend that you make the drive if you are available. I know that if my garden wasn't an open garden, that I would be making the drive for sure! Such a treat it will be. I am sure that those of you that go will be wowed by the beauty that we were only able to see in pictures!



*h. Happy Returns*



*A portion of the view of our amazing club that our speakers get to see. Quite an active crew!!!*



*h. Rosy Returns*



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## Help Promote Our Daylily Sale

*By Marilyn Leceese*

"What can I do to help promote our daylily sale?" you ask.

Everyone knows people have multiple ways that they can promote the sale. Consider one or more of the following ideas --

- Print the sale flyer (from the WDS website) and post it at your favorite coffee shop, lunch spot, gym, church, gas station, etc. (If all our members printed even two flyers and posted them, we would have hundreds of flyers out there.)
  - Share information about the sale with your neighbors when they comment on your beautiful flowers.
  - Use the sale information cards (available from Marilyn Leceese, mleccese1200@gmail.com, 608-449-6978) to promote the sale with your coffee group, book club, and other groups that you are part of.
  - If you are a member of another "plant" group (e.g., Hardy Plant Society, Iris Society, Dahlia Club, Master Gardeners, etc.) share the information with them or let Marilyn know the name of the group's contact person and she will get the information to them.
  - Post the information about the sale on your Facebook page and/or share posts from the WDS Facebook page.
  - If you are a "Tweeter", share info -- #daylilies, #plant sale, #gardenflowers, #perennials
- If you have questions about promoting the sale, contact Marilyn.



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## WDS Motion to Change Membership Bylaws Notice

*By WDS Board of Directors*

WDS Motion to change Membership Bylaws:



While updating our current members list it was noted in recent years, when new members signed up at the yearly sale, the membership was extended through the following year. According to our bylaws, the new membership should only extend through December 31st of the current year. To resolve this problem we are making a motion as a board to revise our bylaws.

A motion has been approved by our board to read, "New Memberships shall extend through the following calendar year when purchased on or after the official sale dates for the current year. Any new memberships paid before the sale dates shall be for the current calendar year. Renewals paid anytime during the current calendar year shall be only for the current calendar year." We are also interested in offering a lifetime membership.

Please be prepared to vote on this proposal at our Annual Meeting in October.

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## Plant Sale Dig Information

*By Marilyn Leceese*

We will be digging on Tuesday, August 13 at West Madison Ag Station and on Wednesday, August 14 at Francis and Genni Kleckner's. If members need help in digging plants at their house, please have them contact -- Marilyn Leceese, mleccese1200@gmail.com, 608-449-6978 -- to schedule a time on Monday or Tuesday.



# CanAm Classic Impresses Yet Again

By Rhonda Veroeven

For the third year in a row, four brave WDS members made the trek to the arctic blast of Ontario, Canada...it wasn't very cold, actually...just a little drizzly...for the CanAm Classic sponsored by the Ontario Daylily Society. Each year we attend and come back and tell everyone that they need to attend this meeting. There is something special about this meeting, and our Canadian friends are always so welcoming! We see (and maybe purchase) flowers that we have never seen in the states, make new friends and deepen bonds with old friends. While these are enough reasons to attend, we also learn so much and simply have a blast! This year was no different!



Kathleen Nordstrom

We arrived in Toronto, and joined a whole restaurant filled with daylily lovers and enjoyed a dinner together at restaurant near the hotel. The food and beverages were delicious, but the camaraderie was the best! After dinner we went back to the hotel and registered, took our seats and were ready for an evening of speakers.

First up was Kathleen Nordstrom from Northern Lights Daylilies in West Concord, MN. Our club has seen her program before, but her new introductions were drool inducing! She loves mini flowers, and packs some amazing patterns on those minis. She works with both dips and tets, and was going to give up her tet program, but just when she decided that she was going to quit that program, she had some amazing seedlings bloom in her tet program. Her Rose F. Kennedy babies are pretty amazing as well. I had to order two more of her introductions after her program and they are already in my garden...seriously, you need to check them out...WOW!

Following that presentation was a presentation by Dave Mussar from Hillside Daylilies in Puslinch, ON, Canada. He loves extra early tets and has been working to perfect those, and recently, he has been focusing on spots, stripes, stipples, color breaks, and

eyes and edges. He went beyond his hybridization program and shared some great information on converting diploids to tetraploids. There are some people that really are into conversions, but for me, the chemicals scare me...so if there happens to be one that I need, I will just purchase one.



Dave Mussar

The evening program ended with an exceptionally active live plant auction. Those Canadians love their auctions. I bid a few times, but goodness, there was no hope for me! The evening concluded with a great hospitality suite meet and greet. That is always a wonderful time to make new friends and learn so much!

The next day, we started with breakfast, a plant sale, and silent auction...and then had a full day of speakers. The Canadians take their plant sales very seriously, and they had a great sale and silent auction. I was able to get an amazing plant at their sale which I was coveting for a while. When I saw the price (exceptionally reasonable), and then found out it was in Canadian, it was a no brainer for me...I purchased one that had been on my wishlist for a few years at an exceptionally low price! Score!!!



Karol Emmerich

Next up we were able to enjoy an exceptional presentation by the Stout Award Winner, Karol Emmerich of Springwood Gardens in Jordan, MN. Listening to a presentation from the current master of daylilies was such a treat, and the thing I liked most was that she did not gloat at all about her program. Her program is filled with humility and grace.





# CanAm Classic Impresses Yet Again Continued

By Rhonda Veroeven



*Francis Kleckner and David Jewell  
up to shenanigans*

Her program focused on the lessons she learned about life from working in her garden. A few of her notable lessons were “Everything to have in a great life or great garden might be right in front of you,” “Have a garden/life that reflects your personality, look beneath the surface-you need to give plants and ourselves what we need, but not too much manure,” “Be aware of weeds that look like flowers,” and “Beware of the pretty face with no substance underneath.” These were just a few of my favorites, and there were many, many more. She shared stories of her hybridizing program, loads of amazing eye candy, and her spiritual advice. It was simply lovely!

I would not ever want to have to follow Karol’s program, but someone had to...and Allan Banks from Jeddore, Nova Scotia took to the task. I was told that his presentation was amazing and engaging. I was sad to have missed it, but Karol agreed to sit down with me for an interview for my podcast. When given an opportunity to sit with a legend like Karol, you take it! I sat with her 1:1 for almost an hour talking about daylilies, her history, and her evolution as a hybridizer. I walked away on cloud nine after having that amazing experience. She is truly one of a kind. After our interview, I was surprised to meet David Jewell’s new baby Siberian Husky, Snowmist Obi Wan Kenobi who had visited us. He filled anyone’s faces that wanted kisses with copious amounts of love! It was such a treat! Then, as if that wasn’t enough, we had an amazing smorgasbord of a lunch!



*Mike Grossmann*

After lunch, we were entertained by the amazing Mike Grossmann Part 2 of the Northern Lights Daylily duo. The thing that is so funny is that he and Kathleen have completely different programs. His program focuses on big eyes and edges, bold saturated colors, and loves toothy daylilies as well. He shared how he uses his amazing

greenhouse to take southern genetics and infuse them into his program to make the genetics northern hardy. He shared a load of pictures, because he loves photography, and then he shared the secret that he grows grapes and makes his own wine and beer. He was a perfect person to present after lunch! He kept our interest the whole time.

The last presenter for the day was Jamie Gossard, also a Stout winning hybridizer. He shared his program and that he grows about 30,000 seedlings in his basement. He shared his new intros and his spacecoast daylilies (his Florida program) as well. The remainder of his program focused on genetic ploidy and his findings on ploidy using his flow cytometer. It was an interesting scientific presentation.



*Jamie Gossard*

Wrapping up the evening, we participated in a major live plant auction. As I mentioned earlier, the Canadians take their auctions very seriously. They have very limited opportunity to obtain plants from the US...so their bids are crazy! Following this we had a cocktail hour and had time to change for a beautiful evening meal. The meal was fantastic, and the friendships were the best.

I have said it before, and I will say it again, dust off those passports and join the fun next year. You will not regret it! It has become an annual tradition for me, and worth every minute of travel! You will not regret it!



*Elaine Smoulder, Monique Warnke,  
Adele Keohan, and Rhonda Veroeven*



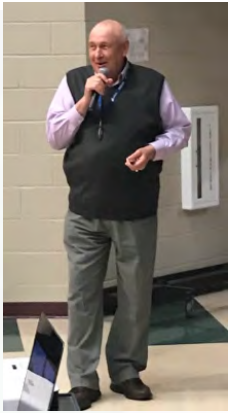
*Rhonda Veroeven and Genni Kleckner  
get kisses and love from a gentleman*





## Culver Daylily Farm Brightened Up Our May

By Mike Stafford



*Bryan Culver*

On a cool, rainyish Saturday (what else is new), the Wisconsin Daylily Society was treated to an almost 60 minute presentation by Bryan Culver of Culver Farms Daylilies. Bryan was originally scheduled for last year in May, but had to cancel for health reasons, but boy did he ever make up for it. Comfortably ensconced on his 7th generation family former dairy farm (with great soil to boot), Bryan has used his background interest in genetics (he was a registered Holstein breeder), to craft a program for those of us living in the north. His motto, “To get ahead, you have to see what’s behind,” drives a goal to have great plant habit, along with bold colors and striking eyes. What good is a beautiful flower if the plant is “crap?”

With his location in southern Ontario, Canada, just north of Lake Erie, his seedlings/plants are grown in field conditions, sometimes without snow cover, so the freeze/thaw cycle will weed out the weak and unsuitable plants for our northern growing area. Bryan says that his plants that survive his southern Ontario winter, still need to have good plant habit. He prefers his plants to be at least 32 inches high, have a reasonable bud count, and good branching. As much as the beautiful faces, Bryan also emphasized his branching in his slides. Also in his slides there was a notable bias to round form and ruffles---lots of Stamile and Salter genetics at play, he noted. This was confirmed by checking out previous introductions on his website and by the cultivars provided for the auction. Going forward, Bryan is also working with orange crosses, one of which, the exquisite “Mr. Carrots,” caused an audible reaction from the very appreciative crowd. I think speaking for the group, we were all very impressed with what product is currently coming out of Waterford, Ontario and we look forward to what may be coming out in the future.

Of course, after a great presentation, there were more treats to come. Bryan and his travel buddy, Mike Georges of Quintessential Daylilies, brought an outstandingly generous 26 plants, representing 22 cultivars for auction for the lucky members of our club present, to bid on. There were numerous recent intros and even some of Mike’s 2019 intros (which were not available otherwise). Needless to say, the crowd was ready and the bidding, was fast, sometimes furious, and overall VERY generous. “Mr. Carrots,” and the aptly named “Sonic Boom” drew tremendous interest, as did “Eye Pod” and “Midnight Love Affair.” The strength of interest in cultivars from these Canadian hybridizers was such, that a club order was organized---and an email was distributed to inform the whole club of this. For those interested, google Ontario Daylily Society click on Member Websites, and check out Culver Farm Daylilies and Mike Georges at Quintessential Daylilies. The eye candy was a great reliever for this miserable “Spring” weather!



*h. Mr. Carrots  
hybridizer photo*



*h. Eye Pod  
hybridizer photo*



*h. Sonic Boom  
hybridizer photo*



*After the National Executive Board meeting, a group of WDS folks met our speaker and Mike Georges for Dinner*



*Bryan Culver, Genni Kleckner, Mike Georges,  
and Francis Kleckner*



*h. David White  
hybridizer photo*



## WDS Sale Will Be One to Remember

By Rosemary Kleinheinz

This year's plant sale will be held at Olbrich Park located next to the biergarten. The dates for prepping plants will be Thursday and Friday, August 15-16, and the sale will be held on August 17-18.

As you know, we need all the plants and volunteers we can get. During the next couple of months keep your eye open to see which plants you will need to divide or take out to make room for new ones. After the convention is over, you will be receiving a notice of when and where your help will be needed.



With a new location and what is expected to be a larger-than-usual number of plants, this sale should be an exciting event and a smashing success.

## WDS Member Receives Recognition for Her Art

By Rhonda Veroeven



*Karen Watson Newlin with her award winning painting*

Karen Watson-Newlin may be upset that I stole this information from her social media page, but it was just so impressive, that I just had to share the information with the group! We all know that she is a talented artist, and all around great person, so it was fitting to see her get recognition for her amazing talents. Her painting "In The Midst Of It All" was selected as Best In Show for the Madison Art Guild 2019 Salon Show. The exhibition is at UW Hospitals until August 3. Ninety-three artists participated this year. Congratulations, Karen! A worthy honor!

## You are Invited

By Thomas Rocheleau

My upcoming show "Flower Girls and Electric Ladies" is from July 2nd through the end of August at the U Frame It on E. Johnson St at the corner of N. Paterson St.



*A Thomas Rocheleau original work*

There will be an opening for the show on Thursday July 25th from 6-8 PM. I showed the store manager the new flower girls and when she saw Iris she let out an involuntary Oooh! I hope you will consider attending.

## Summer Haiku

By Rhonda Veroeven

Which is your favorite? Something for everyone I chose distinction	Hybridization Not something that I would do No patience for it
Daylilies will come Their blooms and scapes will show off Summer is their time	
Gardens are ready National Convention Time Hard work will pay off	Dirt-Stained fingertips Mulching, edging, planting too A labor of love







**"We might think we are nurturing our garden,  
but of course it's our garden that is really  
nurturing us." -Jenny Uglow**

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