

The Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc.

December Newsletter- December 28,1998

Jean Bawden-Editor

Well, as you can see, my other computer is still not ready to roll! However, I am finally ready to roll.....I'm in my new house.....I'm ready to spend some of these winter months dreaming about my new gardens-to-be.....and I'm ready to learn more from Stan Duke about plants. Stan's last talk to the WDS was fascinating.....he spoke on what happens to plants under freezing conditions, and what things either help or hinder their survival. This time, he's going to talk on fertilization.....a topic of interest to not only daylily gardeners, but also to gardeners of all sorts. You are probably going to want to bring your notebooks to this meeting!

1998-99 Calendar

Jan. 14,99- Thurs. 7pm-Fertilization-
Stan Duke
Feb. 14,99-Sun. 1pm-Companion Plants-
Jean Bawden
Mar. 11,99-Thurs. 7pm-Hybridizing-
Kevin Vaughn
Apr. 18,99-Sun. 1pm-The Elusive Blue
Daylily-Gus Guzinski
May 13,99-Thurs. 7pm-Golden Oldies
and Southern Daylilies for
Wisconsin Gardens-Jerry Benzer
July 9,10,11-Region 2 Meeting-
Columbus, Ohio
July 25,99- Sun. Daylily Show
Aug 21,22,99-Sat/Sun-Sale
Oct. 17,99-Sun 1pm -Annual Meeting-
Ted Petit of Florida
??? Summer Picnic
???Garden Judging Clinic

Light Years Away!!!!!!

Ted Petit, owner of Le Petit Jardin and creator of the gold-edged, ruffled pinky-lavender daylily called LIGHT YEARS AWAY, will be the speaker for the October 17, 1999 Annual Meeting. A photo of this daylily graces the front cover of the 97 spring edition of The Daylily Journal. This daylily has a deep, pie-crust edging of gold, and many of Ted's other intros also carry that gilt edge. I will give you more info as the date gets closer, but one of the things that Ted will probably talk about is how it feels to have most of your new intros swallowed up by a giant sinkhole.....one of the not-so-nice benefits of living and working in Florida.

Thanks to Old Guard; Welcome to the New!

The annual meeting brought three board members' terms to an end.....Lloyd Ravet, Evelyn Thompson, and Phyllis Sanner finished their second terms after wonderful service to the organization in all sorts of ways. The people who were elected by the general membership at the annual meeting for replacement on the board were Sally Yeager, Linda Ball, and Jean Bawden.

At the first board meeting, Hiram Percy was elected President, Jean Bawden elected Vice-President, Ruth Horrall elected Secretary, and Stan Duke re-elected as Treasurer.

The President's Corner

by Hiram Pearcy

Ten "falls" ago on October 4, 1989, our founders met and created a society of gardeners dedicated to growing daylilies, now known as the Wisconsin Daylily Society. By January of 1990, the society had embarked on a nine-month series of interesting meetings, a show, a sale, and a tour of members' gardens. Nine successful years passed.

In the ensuing months of 1999, the society's tenth anniversary year, some of the most celebrated and informed daylily enthusiasts of our time are scheduled to meet with us to dazzle, entertain, and educate us about daylilies.

With every writing of the word "daylilies", a great surge of anxiousness permeates my body. A picture of Stamile's dormant, lovely yellow OMOMUKI (91) with flowers covering the plant, or Hanson's SATANIC MAJESTY (94), with its deeply-saturated violet and satin-smooth finish, flash through my mind, interrupting my current train of thought. I loved PORCELAIN RUFFLES (Soules-92), a 5.5" round, ivory, slightly blushing pink. It is well-branched and opens flat. Then to top it off, there are visions of the newly-planted cultivars. I can't wait to find out if IN THE NAVY (E. Salter-97) survives the winter after having been stepped on by a visiting garden photographer. Will BROOKWOOD OJO POCO and BROOKWOOD WOW (both Sharp-95) smile at me again next summer?

Back to reality.....a small entry on your '99 calendar (saying WDS 7pm or WDS 1pm) will help insure your presence at each meeting. Jean, our

invaluable editor, has published when and where elsewhere in this issue for your use in marking your calendar to avoid conflicts. Don't miss a one! Vive le WDS!

Label Maker Available

The WDS has purchased a label maker, which all members may borrow to make daylily labels for their gardens. The individual member is responsible for purchasing the tape needed. Please contact Hiram Pearcy to borrow the Label maker.

The Quick "Speaker Synopsis"

Stan Duke starts the year off in the right direction by educating us on fertilization of plants. Stan is a member of the Agronomy department at the University of Wisconsin, and gave a wonderful talk several years ago on winter's effect on plants at the cellular level, and what that means in growing daylilies. That meeting is a THURSDAY.

Jean Bawden will talk about daylily companion plants in February. Jean works at the Flower Factory and has a serious addiction to plants of all sorts. Her talk will give you some possibilities of plants for in front of your daylilies, behind your daylilies, and things that bloom before and after. This meeting is a SUNDAY.

Kevin Vaughn is the March speaker. He hasn't listed a specific topic at this point, but he works with hostas and daylilies to create new cultivars.

Our April speaker is Gus Guzinski from Michigan.....some of you may remember him from the Point/Counterpoint presentations at the Region 2 Symposium. He is funny and knowledgeable about plant genetics, and

his topic is 'Why Are There No Blue Daylilies'?

In May, Jerry Benzer of La Crosse will share what he's learned about southern daylilies that will survive and thrive in Wisconsin. Jerry moved a collection of 800+ daylilies from Alabama to Wisconsin several years ago, so he speaks from experience. He has a wonderful collection; his lot is virtually wall-to-wall daylilies.

Benzer wins Mildred Schlumpf Photo Award

Jerry Benzer of La Crosse won the National Photo Award (the Mildred Schlumpf Award) for his photo of Byron Annis' Garden in the landscape division. It's a dynamite photo of a wonderful garden. The photo is on page 411 of the winter edition of the Daylily Journal. Byron's garden is an absolutely lovely hillside garden with a wide variety of plants and several water features. Congratulations to Jerry!

AHS Daylily Cities

In 1999, the AHS will begin designating cities as Daylily Cities if they meet certain qualifications (qualifying criteria are on page 389 of the winter edition of the Daylily Journal. One of the members of the committee that designed the program was Maradel Sager of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin. She has been instrumental in getting Wauwatosa to plant large public displays of daylilies, so she was well-qualified to help create a national program. Congratulations, Maradel!

Anyone interested in doing a plant exchange in May, talk to Sally Yaeger.

Cleaning up the Garden

by Sharon Fitzpatrick, Ohio

Stuff to remember not to do when cleaning up the garden

1. Pruners and clippers added to the compost pile do not speed the decomposition process.
2. Never try to cut back daylilies with a weed eater. Gunks up the trimmerwheel.
3. Never leave fresh dug daylilies laying in 90 degree heat over three days.
4. Never leave dug daylilies in a skunky bucket of water for over a week. Smells bad!.
5. Make sure all snakes are out of groundcover before running the lawn mower over it.
6. Daylily foliage is not meant to be run through a chipper. Plugs the thing up.
7. Crab grass is not an acceptable mulch.
8. Stella D'Oro will grow and flourish in a stump.
9. Ugly seedlings survive high heat of the compost pile unless thoroughly masticated before adding to the heap.
10. Weed seeds still germinate after being run through a horse unless manure is thoroughly composted.

AHS Editor is Reg. 2 Member

Leslie Fischer of Region 2 is the new AHS Newsletter Editor. See the Journal for her address. p3

1999 Region 2 Symposium

The Region 2 Symposium looks to be another blockbuster of wonderful information offered by some great speakers. The speakers include David Kirchhoff, Mort Morss, Leo Sharp, John Benz of hybridizing fame. Tim Fehr will add information on the daylily websites, Melanie Mason will talk about manure and its place in the garden, Jon Fowler will do an interview with David and Mort, Dan Bachman will show 1999 introductions, Pat Henley will talk about breeding for adaptability, and Melanie Mason will talk about winnowing winning plants. The meeting is held March 5-7 in Indianapolis, Indiana at the Wyndham Garden Hotel. Registration is \$70 per person, and room rates are \$64 plus tax. If you want to know more about daylilies, this is a 'must not miss' affair. For more information, call/e-mail Greg McMullen at 317-815-0288/ watpark@indy.net.

Garden Expo-1999

Sign up now to be a part of Garden Expo 99!!!! If you've never been to the Expo, you are missing a real treat.....tons of gardening 'stuff' from almost every vendor around blended with the knowledge and enthusiasm of gardening groups from around the area. The WDS has taken part since the Expo's inception, and we have gained many new members from the exposure. To volunteer, call Cynthia Henson at 837-6467. All you need is enthusiasm and a couple of hours to volunteer. You don't have to know everything there is to know about daylilies.....it's really fun! Cynthia would also love having help setting up or taking down. Expo dates are Feb. 19,20,21. Friday's from 4-8, Saturday 9-5, and Sunday 10-5. p4

WDS Leaders

At the first board meeting, several people volunteered to help the society in its many activities. The following positions have people who could really use your help if you're interested in helping. Sally Yaeger and Jean Bawden are going to work on the Annual Meeting. Janet Gordon has volunteered to chair the Daylily Show. Linda Ball has volunteered to take on the hospitality job of obtaining treats for meetings.....if you can bring something to a meeting, she would really appreciate it. Cynthia Henson is in charge of the crew for the Garden Expo. Karen Watson-Newlin is responsible for the garden tours. Gene Dewey will get the newsletter to the printer and mail it out. Jean Bawden will continue to write the newsletter. Lloyd Ravet and Judy Ravet will work the Sundae in the Park at the Daylily Booth. Sally Yaeger will be in charge of publicity for events.

You Know You're Addicted When.....

1. You often lose count of how many daylilies you have.
2. You worry all winter that your evergreens are growing and dying.
3. You tell your spouse that you can stop thinking about daylilies for the winter.
4. You promise your family that you won't deadhead this morning, and two hours later, you pick off the last one.
5. You schedule yourself to the afternoon shift so you can hybridize in the morning.
6. You go to K-Mart to get some peat moss, and come home with two daylilies because they 'sounded' good.
7. You tell yourself you're going to only have one daylily garden and then find yourself planning another and another.

Please fill out this membership form and send it in to: Stan Duke, 3713 Festival Way,
DeForest, WI 53532-2803 to continue your membership in the WDS

1999 MEMBERSHIP FORM

WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY, INC.

Please enroll me as a member of the Wisconsin Daylily Society for 1999
(January 1 to December 31)

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone () _____

E-mail address _____

Type of membership: (Please check one)

___ Individual \$5.00

___ Family \$7.50

___ Business \$15.00

I enclose \$ _____ payable to the Wisconsin Daylily Society.

Are you a member of the American Hemerocallis Society? ___yes ___no
(AHS membership required for hosting plants)

Would you be willing to help with any of the following activities? (You may
check more than one! :))

___ Daylily Show

___ Daylily Sale

___ Newsletter editor

___ Addressing, mailings

___ Picnic

___ Label maker chair

___ Garden Expo

___ Display Gardens (weeding, etc)

___ Annual meeting

___ Obtaining speakers

___ Garden tour chairman

___ Tour garden

___ Speaking on gardening

___ Board member

___ Transportation to Region 2

___ Hospitality (bring treats!!)

___ Mail-in Auction Chair

___ Slide chair (get slides from
hybridizers)

___ Judge

___ Sundae in the Gardens

___ Olbrich liaison

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open
ASAP