



# Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc

Issue 38

June, 2011  
www.wisdaylilysoc.org

Rosemary Kleinheinz, Editor

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

## IT'S ALMOST DAYLILY SEASON!

Despite all of Mother Nature's shenanigans the past few weeks, our daylilies will be blooming soon!! Really!! At this time last summer we were reporting "a gazillion scapes" on our beloved plants. This summer still holds out a promise of many scapes - just not quite yet! We still need summer's warmth.

Are you gearing up for a busy few months with all the activities WDS members live the rest of the year waiting for - bus trips, garden tours, picnics and of course, the Plant Sale in August?

This summer's activities begin with.....

### **The Annual WDS Garden Party in Chuck & Gudrun Haynes' Garden 209 Portland Ave Beloit WI, Sunday, June 26th, 1:00 to ?????**

When you come upon a beautiful hillside right on the main street of Beloit, you will know you have arrived. There's no mistaking it! Since 2004 the Haynes have created their own little piece of Heaven with terraces, vegetable plots, and that hillside filled with so many beautiful perennials. And ever since they agreed to host our Garden Party, they have been working feverishly to complete their dreams and plans for us to enjoy. See photos below.

A tent and tables will be set up on one of the new terraces and will be filled with food - if you will each bring a dish to pass. WDS will provide tableware and beverages. There's no doubt that we will have plenty to eat.

Let's start the party on a big red and white Badger bus. Just sit back, enjoy the view and don't worry about reading maps - and paying for GAS. We'll have ice and coolers on the bus for those needing to keep their dishes cold. Simply arrive at the Dutch Mill Park & Ride near the Beltline and Hwy 51 before 12:00 PM and get on board. No reservations need. Just be there! **The bus will be leaving promptly at 12:00 Noon.** We are planning to stop at Bob Kietzman's garden to see his babies. Will be back at 5:00 PM.

Due to the distance and logistics, no plant exchange will take place this year, but we will have some special door prizes.

Directions if you are driving: Take the Hwy 81 exit off of I90-39 toward Beloit and stay on Highway 81 until you see that hillside!

## WDS Officers & Board Members

**President:** John Sheehan, 5656 Barbara Dr, Madison, WI, 53711  
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## Calendar of Events 2011

June 26th (Sunday) **Garden Party**, 1:00 pm Haynes Garden, Beloit **Ride the bus!**

July 15-17th, **Region 2 Summer Meeting**, Troy MI **Ride the bus!!**

July **Garden Tour**, Saturday, July 23rd

July 31st, (Sunday) 1:00 pm, **Potluck, Auction, & Adoption**, Savannah Oaks Middle School

Aug 13-14th (Sat & Sun) **Annual Daylily Plant Sale** Olbrich Gardens

October 22nd, (Saturday), 1:00 pm **Annual Meeting**  
**Speaker: Dan & Jane Trimmer, Enterprise, FL**  
Savannah Oaks Middle School

**Be sure to check our web site for updates.**

## **TOM POLSTON & DOUG STERLING VISIT MADISON**

*By John Sheehan*

On Saturday, May 14, 2011, Tom Polston & Doug Sterling drove out from Pleasant Valley Gardens in Dayton, OH to visit the WDS. On Saturday afternoon Tom described the daylily hybridizing program in place at Pleasant Valley and used a Powerpoint Presentation to show us images of his beautiful plants. For about 10 years Tom has been hard at work to “put southern faces on northern hardy daylilies with great plant habit.” In the past 5 years or so, he has been focusing on producing toothy daylilies. This focus is what drew my interest to his hybridization program.

For those who were not able to attend the May 14 meeting and have computer access, you may visit his website at [www.pleasantvalleygardens.net](http://www.pleasantvalleygardens.net).

Tom spent the first part of his presentation describing the different seasonal challenges which face him in Ohio as well as showing us the unique way he plants his seedlings in black plastic sheets with circular holes. This technique keeps weeds in check and slows down evaporation of moisture.

Next Tom showed us his fourteen Tet 2011 daylily introductions, seven of which are toothy and seven are ruffled. For me H. ‘Swimming with Barracudas’ and H. ‘Carnivore’ were the most interesting toothy flowers while H. ‘Portrait of an Angel’ and H. ‘Pink Hawaiian Sunset’ were beautiful ruffled blossoms. Tom then showed images of his older introductions which included H. ‘Red Ragamuffin’, H. ‘Wild Hair’ and H. ‘Lady Stephanie Victoria Redding’. These three toothy introduction help to produce Tom’s nickname, the “Daylily Dentist.”

Not only do Tom & Doug grow beautiful daylilies at Pleasant Valley, they also raise Clydesdale Horses on their 38 acres of rolling farmland (good fertilizer!).

If you have the opportunity to visit the Dayton, Ohio area, you could have a great time visiting the gardens of the Northern Mecca Region—including Pleasant Valley.



*Our speaker, Tom Polston  
Photo by K. Dwelli*



*Tom's Intro  
H. 'Forever Blowing Bubbles'  
Photo by C. Wrzesinski*



*Sharon Prochaska won the first door  
prize (donated by Bob Kietzman)!  
Photo by K. Dwelli*

## **STOUT'S WISCONSIN IDEA**

*Here's a follow-up to an article published last summer in our Newsletter about Arlo Stout's connection to Albion. That piece piqued Barry Rowe's curiosity and prompted some research and the following story. Thanks Barry!*

A puzzled young farmboy is staring at his mother's clump of *Hemerocallis fulva*. The boy is Arlow Burdette (Bert) Stout, and he is on the family farm near Albion, Wisconsin, in the 1880s. This is a defining moment for him in particular, and the defining moment for daylilies in general.

H. *fulva* is known as the “ditch lily” in modern times, and was the “homestead lily” back in Bert's youth. It is a native of Asia, and was in Europe by the sixteenth century. It came to America with the pilgrims in the seventeenth century, and moved west with the settlers. One example was the clump of homestead lilies that Bert's mother brought to Wisconsin from Ohio, where he was born.

Bert developed an early interest in plants, and was familiar with Asa Gray's “How Plants Grow.” According to the book, daylilies should produce seed pods from pollinated flowers. But his mother's homestead lilies never developed any pods. Where were the seed pods?

The botanist was born. Bert pursued his interest in plants at Albion Academy and Whitewater State Normal School. He received a bachelor's degree in botany from the University of Wisconsin in 1909, and began teaching there. Two years later, the New York Botanical Garden offered to make him Director of Laboratories.

In New York, Bert focused his studies on plant sterility and the reproduction process. The first problem he tackled was the puzzle of his mother's daylilies. He assembled all the important daylily species and cultivars, about 100 at that time, and crossed them with H. *fulva*. After fifteen years and 7,000 crosses, he had seven viable seedlings.

In the course of his experiments, Bert created over 50,000 hybrids. The genetic material of most modern daylilies can be attributed to his original crosses. He also made the conceptual breakthrough that colors could be “broken up, recombined, and even intensified through hybridization.” Bert is widely recognized as the father of modern daylilies, embodied by the Stout Silver Medal Award.

You can relive Bert's moment of puzzlement by visiting Old World Wisconsin. About 30 miles east of Albion, it is an authentic recreation of an 1880s settlement. In it you will find farmhouses similar to the one where Bert grew up. In the gardens you will find daylilies exactly like the Stout clump. But where are the seed pods?

## The WDS Plant Sale Will be at Olbrich Gardens Sat. & Sun., August 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup>

It will soon be Plant Sale time again - a busy, profitable, and fun-filled week for everyone.

The sale, of course, requires many hours of labor and promises much enjoyment for those who join in. Special note to our new members: working at the sale is a great way to get to know your fellow members better and have a very enjoyable time. Why else would 111 members volunteer more than 1500 hours last year?? Here's another reason: you will earn WDS \$\$ for each hour you help. These can be used just like cash for purchasing plants at the sale, paying membership dues, or annual meeting costs.

We will again be preparing the plants for sale in the "Prep Tent" on Thursday and Friday until all the plants are in the big yellow and white tent. Working on Friday gives volunteers the opportunity to purchase cultivars they want prior to the sale opening.

Diane Goodman has agreed to organize our volunteers. Please give her a call now to volunteer at 608-643-8021 or email her at [jrgoodman@charter.net](mailto:jrgoodman@charter.net).

Genni Kleckner will see to it that we have plenty of food to keep us nourished. Last year's Hospitality Tent proved so popular that Genni has asked for a larger one this year. Her wish will be granted. (By the way, if you want to contribute to the food supply, please let Genni know.)

Again this year we do ask for donations of plants from your garden. If your daylilies have reached huge clump size, or if you just want to create more space for your newest acquisitions, plan to bring them to the Daylily Sale. All donations are tax-deductible.

As I've written in my Sale Report the last few years, I've wished for a way to control the number of plants our volunteers must prepare for sale. Not enough plants knocks down our profits, and too many means we are working in the dark on Friday night to have them ready! The ideal would be to go home at 5:00 on Friday with 5,000 plants for sale. How to accomplish this?

During the winter I requested ideas from prior donors. Several of us then sat down with those suggestions and came to this conclusion: We will accept most cultivars - but only one or two clumps of each. As the lists come to us, we may ask you not to bring in certain cultivars if we already have that one. Let's give this a try this year and see how it works. Your comments will be welcome.

As soon as you determine which ones you will be bringing, please forward the list to Tom & me by snail mail or e-mail [trkleinheinz@att.net](mailto:trkleinheinz@att.net) so we can enter them in the database and be sure we have pictures. The earlier we can get those lists, the better for all concerned.

A preliminary list of plants for sale will be posted to our website two weeks before so, if you let us know by then, your plants can be included.

*Continued.....*

## YOU'RE INVITED TO.....

Here's another chance to walk among more daylilies. The following members are planning to host Open Gardens for family and friends this summer - and you are invited.

The Windsor area garden club is hosting its annual walk July 15-16. Friday from 12-6 and Saturday from 10-3. Tickets are available at Country Bloomers in Deforest and "DeFlorest" in downtown Deforest. If you need any information please call Monique at 608-846-5299.

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Carol and Roger Popelka plan to have an "open garden" again this year on Saturday, July 16 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There are approximately 850 named varieties and a large number of seedlings. Address is 4827 Stanley Court, La Crosse, WI. Phone is 608-781-4961. Visitors are welcome anytime during the bloom season with advanced notification so that someone will be here to meet and greet you.

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Jean Bawden is planning on having a seedling open house each day the week of July 18th from 4PM-7P, at 4385 Oak Hill Rd in Oregon. One day you will be able to say (regarding a new introduction of Jean's) "I knew it when it was just a baby!"

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Tom and Rosemary Kleinheinz will be hosting an Open Garden on Sunday, July 24th from 10:00 to 4:00, at 104 West Lakeview Ave in Madison. In the past year they've added a new point of interest and new daylilies and hostas for your enjoyment.

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Jim and Sharon Prochaska's Fox Woods Gardens in Abrams, WI, will be open on July 13-17, July 20-24, July 27-28, and August 3-7. (Wed - Sat from 9AM- 5PM and Sundays 10AM-4PM)

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Vaughn James is planning "open garden" times from 11-3 on two Sundays - June 12 and July 10, at 207 Alden Dr. in Madison. Vaughn has a very interesting garden no matter the day or the month. There's always something in bloom.

### *Plant Sale continued:*

Would you like a digging crew to help? If the job seems overwhelming to you, we have members willing to help. Mike Alvin and Diane Goodman are scheduling the digging events. They ask that, if you do want help, **YOU LET THEM KNOW SOON.** Call Diane at 608-643-8021 to schedule a time.

Plants will be dug the week of August 7th and transported to Olbrich. In order to have lots of plants to sell, they all have to be dug, and that takes a lot of work - both in your garden and by our digging crews. (By the way, we really could use some new diggers!) To say thank you for your efforts, you will be given 5 WDS\$\$ for each hour spent digging, travel time included.



***HERR-AY for DON HERR****By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig*

A room full of eager WDS members greeted retired veterinarian and daylily hybridizer Don Herr who traveled all the way from Lancaster, Pennsylvania to tell us about his program. Don readily admits to having a very small operation, as he does not want hybridizing to “run his life”. He dedicates only two modestly sized kidney-shaped beds to his efforts even though he has 5 acres of land that he enjoys with his wife. When he is not involved in his daylilies, the Herrs run an antiques booth filled with pewter and textiles. Though technically retired, Don also continues serving pets and their people by offering an advanced animal dentistry practice. He has used his skills for a wallabee root canal and to tend to a cat co-starring with Angelina Jolie in “Girl Interrupted”. Maybe this explains his fascination with daylily teeth!

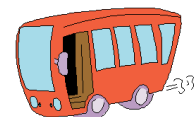
Don starts his seeds in January on two ping-pong tables under fluorescent lights in his basement. By mid-April they are nearly 18 inches tall and big enough to be moved outdoors into his Zone 6 yard. Only 700-800 seeds are started each year and it's been so since his first venture in 1992. Don selects his “keepers” the year they first bloom and moves them to the evaluation beds. His first intros were offered in the mid-1990's (he couldn't remember the exact year) and has had a steady stream of them ever since. Cold-hardiness, bud count and/or bud-building traits, vigor, branching, and rebloom are what he wants in his daylilies (we do too!!). He dabbles in teeth, ufo's, polytepals, small flowers, ruffles, appliquéd throats, eyes, and spiders. His tastes are eclectic and he lets the daylilies dictate the direction.

You will find a lot of his babies are named after animals, friends, or family members such as Roger Herr (fuschia with yellow edge), Trish Herr (coral with yellow edge and teeth), and Beth Herr that is named after his daughter and like her, “holds up well at the end of the day”, he chuckles. Other of his names begin with ‘Her’, as in Her Little Bloomers, Her Best Bloomers (HM and AM winner), Her Marvelous Eyes, and Her Purple Eyeliner (this one is a WOW!!!!). Don would have preferred to use ‘Herr’ in these names, but it was apparently against the AHS rules. In Pennsylvania, Herr is a common moniker and Don named one of his more famous daylilies after an episode of some confusion at his car dealership. He had taken in his auto for routine maintenance but his wife was picking it up later that day. When she asked for Don Herr's car, they wanted more details because two Don Herrs had cars there that day. After a moment of her silence, the service rep supplied a description of one of the Dons “the tall, dark, handsome one??” She laughed out loud and said “no, obviously then the other one”. Her Don delights in telling this story and has commemorated it with a daylily called ‘Tall Dark And Handsome’.

The packed room at the West Madison Ag Research Station listened raptly to Don's talk and was given a big and generous surprise at it's end. This gentle gentleman donated six of his creations to our Auction and Adoption program!!!!!! They are ‘Candy Colored Curls’, ‘Jolly Poly’, ‘Tiger By The Tail’, ‘Downtown Thad Brown’, ‘Aaron Brown’, and ‘Jelly Dancer’. To drool and to dream, you can look these up on Don's website [donherrdaylilies.com](http://donherrdaylilies.com) and while you are there, drop him a line or two of

*Tom K. & Don Herr**Photo by K. Dwelli**H. 'Aaron Brown'**H. 'Her Purple Eyeliner'*

**THE BUS IS GOING TO THE 2011 AHS SUMMER MEETING.  
WE HOPE YOU'RE ON IT!!**



One of the highlights of daylily season is our Region 2 Summer Meeting. It's a weekend filled with daylilies, beautiful gardens, friends, food, and more daylilies.

Twenty-six WDS members have signed up to “leave the driving to us”, for a cost of only \$30 per member. With the price of gas today, that's a real deal!! This includes a boxed lunch on the way to Troy, MI, provided by B'Tayavon Catering as well as lunch on the trip back. (The WDS is able to provide this trip for WDS Members with profits from our successful Plant Sale last year.)

We still have room on the bus and, the last we heard, there is still room at the meeting. So if you have not yet made reservations, it's not too late. Genni Kleckner needs to hear from you by July 1st so that she can order lunch. You can find reservation forms for the meeting on our website or by contacting John Sheehan.

The bus will be leaving the Dutch Mill Park & Ride (at the Beltline and Hwy 51 intersection) on Friday, July 15th at **6:30 AM** and will arrive in Troy between 4 & 5 PM. We will re-board the bus at ABOUT 1:15 PM on Sunday, July 17th and return to Madison ABOUT 10:15 PM.

You will never be disappointed; it's always a wonderful weekend. In fact, once you've gone to one Summer Meeting, you never want to miss another. Right Wilma??

## 2011 WDS ADOPTION/AUCTION MEETING

*By John Sheehan*

On Sunday, July 31, 2011 at 1:00 PM we will hold our annual WDS Adoption/ Auction meeting at the Savanna Oaks Middle School located at 5890 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, WI. At this meeting approximately 65 newish daylily plants will be handed out to our WDS members who also belong to the AHS. The purpose of this WDS Adoption Program is to place desirable daylily plants into the gardens of our members as well as to encourage our WDS Members to join the AHS.

After 3 years or so, the adoptive parents will be allowed to keep a double fan of their plant and the rest of the plant is returned to the WDS to be sold at auction to our WDS Club Members. This auction allows the Club to get back some of the money originally used to buy the adoption plants. The Adoption Plant Program is partially funded via this auction event.

To assist the potential adoptive parents and auction bidders, Adoption and Auction Plant descriptions will be provided to attendees of the meeting and slide shows of the Adoption and Auction plants will be shown at the meeting. In the meantime, below is an approximate list of plants that will be available, giving you a chance to look them up on the web before the big day.

Look for a fabulous array of food to eat!! That is, if everyone will BRING A DISH TO PASS. Our club will provide plates, etc., along with the beverages. From past experience, we can promise you won't go home hungry,

Doors will open at 12:30 pm and we will eat about 1:00 pm. Program to follow.

See you at the big event.

### ADOPTION PLANTS

Atomic Glow	Karen Barnes
Aunt Ethel	Larry's Obsession
Barb Clark	Later Dude
Bare Necessities	Lemon Fringed Pastel
Bobby Gratz	Linda Spooner
Bubba on Tour	Magical Mystery
Buddy's Wild & Wonderful	Mint Octopus
Cabernet Cabaret	Miss Nettie
California Kid	Monster Magic
Canyon Colors	Nekkid Woman Paddling a Canoe
Charlie's Loss	Ocean Spirit
Country Cool	Over the Mountain
Crystal Leeann	Pistachio Eyes
Dancy Nancy	President Ronald Reagan
Dan's Paradise Pink	Purple Peace
Dragonfly in Flight	Red Eye Morning
Eleanor Sparrow	Relay for Life
Elfin Magic	Sandra's Smile
Elvis	Santa Catalina
Eyes of Maine	Sinister Minister
Fringy	Spacecoast Fringe Benefit
Goldner's Bouquet	Starry Eyed Piranha
Hitching Post	Steve Moldovan
Italian Kaleidoscope	Sweet Ole Man
Janet's Glory	Tropical Hot Flash
Jazz at the Wool Club	Tusk
Join the Party	Waxed Legs

### AUCTION PLANTS

Angels Realm	Lilac U Care
Azure Wings	Lasting Memory
Blue Inspiration	Lillian's Little Joe
Bound For Glory	Memories of Saratoga
Carolyn Mann	Mike Longo
Cary Grant	Midnight Dreamer
Charlie	Mississippi Memories
Circle Of Fire	Moment In The Sun
Coronal Light	Morning Colors
Daddy's Little Girl	Ode To Faith
Dick Wicke	Patriots Passion
Flight Into Egypt	Ruffled Strawberry Parfait
Fox Hunter	Smile Again
Helen Shooter	Spacecoast Small Talk
Hidden Agenda	Summer In Versailles
I Told You So	Jerry Hyatt
Jim's Dreamsicle	Trifecta
Judy Farquhar	Walking Hand In Hand
Kalahari Jewel	Webster's Pink Wonder
Kona Coast	Wild And Free

### A NOTE FROM GENNI K.

Adoptive parents from 2008, please count the fans from your plant as I will be contacting you within the next few weeks to learn how many will be coming back this year. Thank you!!

### OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU

We extend our sincerest sympathy to Kay Allen whose husband, Dr. James C. Allen, passed away on Sunday, April 10, 2011, at his home in Madison.

WDS will be sending a donation to Region 2 in his memory.

### Membership News

The news is that there are two corrections for the Membership Roster: Bob Kietzman's business is Nu-Era Daylilies, and the correct email address for the Kleinheinz is [trkleinheinz@att.net](mailto:trkleinheinz@att.net)

*Gene Dewey, WDS Membership Registrar*

***A DAYLILY MYSTERY IN SEARCH OF A SOLUTION****By Conrad J. Wrzesinski*

In the spring of 2010, as I was walking by the historical daylily collection at West Madison Agricultural Research Station, I unexpectedly noticed a daylily in flower. This would not have been that unusual except the date was May 1st. A daylily in flower in USDA Zone 4b/5a on May 1st was intriguing. To my disappointment the daylily was not labeled. Records regarding the identity of this daylily at West Madison Agricultural Research Station were inconclusive.

Over the next several weeks I returned to observe and photograph the flowers. The scapes vary in height with the tallest measuring 17 inches. The fragrant bright yellow flowers are 4 inches across, and begin to open late in the afternoon and are fully opened by the next morning. The flower buds, which are encapsulated in a compact cluster, are strongly tinged with a reddish brown color, as illustrated in the accompanying picture. Though there is no branching, the daylily was quite floriferous with many scapes extending from the clump. There was a flower in bloom during my last observation on May 29th.

With each observation I realized the identity of this daylily was mystery in search of a solution. This mystery had to be solved and so began my search. With the help of Karin Wrzesinski detailed images of the flower and the unusual flower bud cluster were placed on a web site dedicated to the search. Members of the Daylily Robin were asked to visit the web site to help with the identity of the mystery daylily. In addition I also contacted Ken Cobb, Chair of the AHS Archives and History Committee, Linda Sue Barnes, Kathleen Lamb, LaVere Webster and others with knowledge of historical daylily collections for their suggestions. Over next the year suggestions were received often with accompanying images. Comparing the images received through these inquiries with the images I took of the mystery daylily proved particularly helpful. The culmination of this effort finally resulted in the desired outcome.

The mystery daylily has been identified as *Hemerocallis dumortierii*. This daylily was brought from Japan to Ghent, Belgian in 1832. During the 1800's and early 1900's intrepid plant collectors brought specimens of various plants from Asia to Europe and later to the United States. Often botanic gardens and wealthy private collectors sponsored these plant-collecting expeditions. An article in the AHS publication, *The New Daylily Handbook* mentions that *H. dumortierii* is an ancestor of many early-season hybrids. A good example is George Yeld's 'Gold Dust' from 1906, which is a cross of *H. flava* and *H. dumortierii*.

*H. dumortierii in bud**H. dumortierii in full bloom**Photos by C. Wrzesinski*

**With all of the pictures in this issue, it's a good time to find the Newsletter on our website [www.wisdaylilysoc.org](http://www.wisdaylilysoc.org) and view them in color!**

**STAY TUNED**

Be sure to stay tuned to Wisconsin Public Radio at 11:00 AM on August 9th. Jean Bawden and Rosemary Kleinheinz will be on the Larry Meiller Show answering questions from callers about the growing of daylilies - and of course promoting the upcoming sale!! June Johnson had been approached at Garden Expo by a WPR rep asking if we would like to advertise our sale on the Larry Meiller Show. Of course she said "Yes!"

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Both the Flower Factory and K&A greenhouses each donated two \$25 gift certificates for our monthly meeting prizes. Thank you so much; it was very generous of you. They were some of our most coveted prizes

*H. 'Charon the Ferryman'**H. 'Willow Dean Smith'***CONGRATULATIONS MARK**

A big hand to our own Mark Jankowski who won a national award for the Best Article About a Hybridizer. Mark described Nick Balash's "Love Affair of a Lifetime" in the Winter 2010 issue of the Region 2 Newsletter. Nick is a lifetime member of the Southern Michigan Daylily Society, but we can claim him as one of our own as well. We look forward to seeing Nick in Troy this summer.

**GARDEN EXTENDERS**

Before the sale this summer, be sure to stop at the West Ag Station to see the WDS display beds in bloom, especially the largest bed - the first one you see. All of the plants in the big bed will be for sale in August, and include thirteen early bloomers and fourteen mid-late and lates. Last August when we were out there digging in other beds, this particular bed was ablaze with color. The two pictures above were taken at that time.



## WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY 2011 GARDEN TOUR SATURDAY, JULY 23 from 9:00 to 4:00 Free to All, Self-Guided, Rain or Shine

*By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, Tour Chair*

Pick your own starting point and wend your way through six lovely daylily gardens. Carpool with a garden-loving friend or two, pack a lunch, and make a day of it!

Please note: all directions are from a major road. You will have to plan your own garden-to-garden route as the possibilities are endless. There will be no arrow signs.

**A - Hosts:** Karen Watson-Newlin and Rob Newlin, 7699 Almor Drive, Verona (west of Middleton, off of Mineral Point Road)

Enjoy a pond with waterfall, a dry streambed lined with daylilies and perennials, a small orchard, plus thematic gardens that include the playfully named Artist Bed, Dance Bed, and Candy Bed. Featured are over 500 varieties of daylilies, numerous perennials and specimen trees that flow around all sides of the house. Windswept Garden is an AHS Display Garden.

Directions: Beltline west to Mineral Point Rd/Hwy S. Turn left (west) onto Mineral Point Rd/Hwy S. In 3 miles pass Kwik Trip, K&A Greenhouse, a school, and Tumbledown Golf Course on the left. Turn right on Welcome Drive, left on Sonnet Drive, right on Almor Drive to the first house on the right.

**B - Hosts:** Wendy Benz and Bryan Biggers, 2880 Trail View Road, Verona (west of Verona, off of PD)

Three garden areas hold over 100 daylilies as well as other perennials and annuals. As a beginning hybridizer, I also have a seedling bed. Our property includes a field of winter wheat that is harvested in July, several acres of wetland prairie, and a spring that flows into the nearby Sugar River. The far edge is bordered by the Military Ridge Bike Trail.

Directions: From Beltline go south on Hwy 18/151 to PD. Go west on PD for 4 miles. Turn right on Trail View Rd., which is just after the "Max's Muffler, Auto Repair" sign. Our house is tan, with a red "barn" next to it. The road is a dead end and has a turnaround.

**C - Hosts:** Jane and Hiram Percy, 407 Lincoln Street, Verona

The gardens feature more than 700 daylilies, including both older types and newer cultivars. Companion plants and many hostas are prominent, but daylilies are definitely the stars. Don't be fooled by the front beds as hundreds of beauties grace the hidden back yard. The Percy Garden is an AHS Display Garden.

Directions: From Beltline go south on Hwy 18-151 to the first Verona exit (Verona Avenue). Go past the Dane County Hospital & Home, McDonalds, and Park Printing. As you see Culvers on the right, prepare to turn left onto Lincoln Street. Continue to the 4th block and the house is on the left.

**D - Hosts:** John and Donna Sheehan, 5656 Barbara Dr, Fitchburg

You will find over 600 daylily varieties here. The focus is on newer introductions with unusual edges, eyes, sizes, and forms. Also spy garden art nestled in between these belles of the yard. Keep your eye out for the dragon! Fitchward Garden is an AHS Display Garden.

Directions: From Beltline go south on Fish Hatchery Road, right onto Lacy Road. Take the first right on Tower Hill Drive and take an immediate left on Barbara Drive. Continue for two blocks to the corner of Barbara and Jacquelyn Drive. The house is a green raised ranch on the right with a large flagpole out front.

**E - Host:** Rita Thomas, 5586 Cheryl Drive, Fitchburg

My garden is designed to accommodate most of my gardening interests. There is an area to grow vegetables, a small rock garden, sunny and shady areas, lots of shrubs, feeding and nesting areas for birds, a potting shed and last but not least, a screen porch with my favorite place to relax, a hammock. I learned how to garden here, starting with every invasive plant that friends shared with me. My first 16 years were spent collecting plants and redoing gardens. I retired in 2003 and added the fences, paths, buildings, patios and defining beds with rock and brick. I only had a few daylilies back then and really only "discovered" their diversity and beauty in the last 5 years. Since then I've managed to shoehorn in about 170 different varieties. The gardens are ever-changing. I think most of the hardscape is finished now, but I will always be tweaking the design and plant combinations.

Directions: From Beltline go south on Fish Hatchery Road, right on Cheryl Drive. Go one block. The house is on the right just past Lyman Lane.

**F - Host:** Hospice Care, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Fitchburg

A 15-acre woodland setting provides the HospiceCare facility a peaceful backdrop for their gardens. The gardens are placed throughout the property to enrich and renew all who come to visit. The grounds are home to a woodland garden, a pond garden, a rose/peony garden, rain gardens, a kitchen garden, a dry riverbed area and a conifer garden. Each patient room has its own patio garden and a view of some part of our extended garden area.

The gardens are designed and maintained by Ruth Miller, landscape coordinator, and a volunteer crew of about 25 individuals. Over the past five growing seasons, an array of trees, shrubs, bulbs and perennials have been added to the grounds to create diversity and a "homey" feel. Many of the plants have been in-kind donations from various individuals and garden clubs, some of whom you might know: Jean Bawden, who donated truckloads of peonies and daylilies from her collection; John Sheehan, daylily hybridizer; and Rita Thomas, who shares time as a volunteer and donates perennials. The Wisconsin Daylily Society has also been a generous contributor to the vision of the gardens.

Directions: From Beltline go south on Fish Hatchery Road, left on Cheryl Parkway (Cheryl is Parkway east and Drive west). Continue 1/2 mile to facility on the right. MapQuest Tour Route: <http://mapq.st/IEk7hP>

