



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc

Issue 51

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www.wisconsindaylilysociety.org

Rosemary Kleinheinz, Editor

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

WDS ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18th @ 1:00 PM CHEROKEE COUNTRY CLUB 5000 N. SHERMAN AVE, MADISON

By Francis & Genni Kleckner



H. "WDS 25th Anniversary"

The 2014 WDS Annual Meeting commemorates the 25th Anniversary of the WDS. A lovely sit-down meal, provided by the staff of Cherokee Country Club, will be the start of the festivities. A cash bar will be available for anyone wishing to have a social drink. While enjoying your meal you can vote for your favorite top 10 daylilies and the nonprofit group you would like to receive 5% of the 2015's Plant Sale proceeds.

Four WDS Board members will be elected at the business part of the meeting. Any other business can also be discussed.

Curt Hanson from Gates Mills, Ohio will be our guest speaker. Many of you grow his northern hardy plants. Curt's introductions feature very clean colors and good branching. You can view his newer introductions at www.crintonic.com.

The next part of the meeting will be devoted to the WDS's 25th Anniversary. The WDS members who signed the original Charter and have been members for all 25 years will be honored at this time.

Another highlight will be the auctioning of H. "WDS 25th Anniversary". This plant was hybridized by Genni Kleckner and selected by the WDS Board to represent our 25th Anniversary. The plant is a 2014 registration by Kleckner/Wisconsin Daylily Society. There will be eleven pots of double fans or better for the auction. Also we will be auctioning off the beautiful table runners designed and crafted by Phyllis Sanner for this event.

Vaughn James will be taking orders for WDS 25th Anniversary memorabilia that he has designed for the club. Some of these items will be included as door prizes. Along with various other door prizes, Conrad has collected and potted daylilies for you to take home if you have one of the lucky numbers.

To attend the Annual Meeting, please read, fill out and mail in the Annual Meeting reservation sheet located on the last page of this newsletter. YOUR RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 8th.

NO LATE RESERVATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED!!

WDS Officers & Board Members

President: Francis Kleckner, 32494 Bogus Valley Rd, Muscoda, WI 53573
608-739-9160, f.g.kleckner@gmail.com,. (Term ends 2014)

Vice-President: Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, 117 S High St. Deerfield, WI
53531, 608-764-2515 williebh96@yahoo.com (Term ends 2014)

Secretary: Mike Stafford, 2521 Moland St., Madison, WI 53704
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Treasurer: Paul Pratt, E2960 Phylene Rd., Lone Rock, WI 53556
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Lane Revenal, 1242 Nevada Rd, Madison, WI 53704, 608-244-8007
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This is just one of the many pieces Vaughn has designed to celebrate our 25th anniversary.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014

Oct. 18th, Saturday 1:00 pm, Cherokee Country Club,
Annual Meeting, Speaker: **Curt Hanson**,
Crintonic Gardens, Gates Mills, OH

Be sure to check our website for updates.

2014 DAYLILY ADOPTION/AUCTION

By Rita Thomas

The lucky WDS members who are also members of the American Hemerocallis Society had around 119 daylilies that were available for adoption. There were enough plants so that each person had the opportunity to go home with about 2.3 plants. Raffle tickets were drawn to determine who got first pick and with the huge variety of colors and forms available, the comments I heard were from people who said they got their most desired plants in round one and even again in round two. The daylilies have an estimated value of between \$75 and \$125 each. The recipients get to grow these glorious specimens for 3 years, then keep 2 fans and return the rest for auction.

The pursuing auction had around 125 plants from which to choose. Conrad W. really kept things moving as he auctioned them off one after another. There were some great deals to be had. If you're interested in seeing what you missed, photos of both the auction and adoption plants are still on the WDS website for a limited time and photos of the event itself can be seen on our Facebook page.



Some of the auction plants Photo by Rita Thomas



Genni's H. 'Prickly All Over' Photo by G Kleckner

BRAVA FOR GENNI

By Ruth Horrall

Imagine the clamor of bidders at the 2014 AHS June 25th national meeting in Asheville, N.C., when auctioneer Nikki Schmith finally closed bidding. Hybridizer Dan White's three hundred dollars won for him our own Genni Kleckner's Hemerocallis 'Prickly All Over.' She modestly describes her cultivar as "a creamy yellow double with teeth all over; a 5-inch flower; not particularly great bud count or branching." Huh? That's our taciturn Genni speaking, isn't it? WDS and Region 2 are proud of her honor achieved at a national meeting. However, when asked how she felt, she said, "Very excited."

Genni (not her given name but I promised not to reveal the real one), lived "all over" as a child. Her family moved frequently, settling in cities, not on farms, so she did not garden in her youth. Genni and husband, Francis, moved from Ingram, WI, (near Lady-smith) to rural Muscoda in 1996, and both joined WDS along with their younger son, Jake.

She's not sure when she began hybridizing, but she told me why: Curiosity. Her hobby demands a lot of time and her daytime job necessitates that Francis must do the actual hybridizing in her absence. While viewing Kleckners' garden, members of the WDS July 19 tour group were very impressed by their joint efforts. For easier tending and viewing, her seedlings are grown in an east-facing raised bed. The flowers are stunning. Her primary aims are producing patterns, eyes, doubles and "b and b." She uses her own seedlings for crosses and also favors Paul Owen and Curt Hanson's work.

Our club has benefited from Genni's dedicated management of various jobs, especially as Hospitality chair for the last 5 years. The Kleckners donate many cultivars yearly to WDS to boost the number of plants at the annual sale; one more example of the many contributions Genni and President Francis make to our club.

A BEAUTIFUL SUNNY DAY FOR A PICNIC IN THE GARDEN

This year our Garden Party/Picnic was held at the always-welcoming West Madison Ag. Station. The star of the garden that afternoon was a beautiful patch of peonies in full bloom. Other beds were filled with a promise of colorful gardens to come the rest of the summer. Of course, the best part of the day was all the delicious food everyone contributed. No one went home hungry.

The event ended with a drawing of donated plants. I do believe everyone left with at least two additions to their gardens.



All Photos by Rita Thomas

IT'S ELECTION TIME AGAIN!

At the upcoming Annual Meeting, you will again have an opportunity to elect your board members for the coming year. Currently we have three board members who have served for a total of four years. They will need to step down. Our sincere thanks go to our current Vice-President, Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, Secretary Mike Stafford, and Rita Thomas who has served as Historian and Purchaser of Door Prizes. Our President, Francis Kleckner has served one term of two years and is willing to serve another two years. Our new slate of candidates includes Monique Warnke, Sue Hill, Cheryl Solaris, and Francis K. A short introduction of each candidate follows. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting. (You can even nominate yourself!!) **BE READY TO VOTE FOR 4 INDIVIDUALS.** Our thanks go to the candidates for being willing to serve.

FRANCIS KLECKNER: What began 15 years ago with a few daylilies has expanded to over 1000 registered cultivars, 100's of my wife's seedlings, and a great variety of companion plants. New cultivars are added every year with the ones being replaced going to the WDS sale.

It has been a privilege to serve as your president the past two years, and I would like the opportunity to continue on the Board for another two years.

MONIQUE WARNKE: I'm very excited about this opportunity to serve on the WDS board. I have been a Member of the WDS for five years and have been active for the past three. I'm a Master gardener, and a second degree black belt in Karate. I am married to Grant Hetherington and I have a beautiful 18 year old daughter, Teya. I'm self employed as a landlord in the Portage/Pardeeville area. I've have served on the Lake Windsor Property Association's board and I am currently on the Windsor Area Garden Club's board.

CHERYL SOLARIS: I love daylilies and have been a WDS member for several years now. Going to the meetings, making new friends, working at the daylily sale, and traveling to the beautiful gardens have been a real joy for me and something fun to look forward to. It's really nice to share something in common with so many people. With all that being said, I would now like to further my experience with WDS by being of service as a board member. Even though I feel that I have much to learn, I also have something to offer as I have served as a board member for one of the largest and most active neighborhoods in Madison for 4 years. I will do my best to serve WDS as well.

SUE HILL: I've met several of you within our organization at the meetings, the daylily digs, the big sale or at the annual meeting, and I am throughly pleased with the welcoming hearts the Wisconsin Daylily Society members have toward new faces that join their organization. My name is Sue Hill and I was asked last year to consider running for a board position within our club, but due to obligations I have had with another club I am very active with, I felt it best to wait until my position there was coming to an end. At this time I am sending in my petition for a position on the board of the WDS, an organization I have very much come to enjoy and respect.

I became a member in 2010 when my husband purchased a subscription to the WDS for my Valentine's Day gift. I'd been to the Garden Expo that year and stopped at the Daylily booth after seeing some of the information they had on the table. From that very first meeting, I was welcomed to the group with friendly faces. I've enjoyed the quest for knowledge that the members share and have truly enjoyed seeing how much fun this club has together. I am keenly aware that the best of meetings are complimented by great speakers and topics for discussion, and anticipating how many home baked goodies will end up on the table for sampling during the break.

My goal as a board member will be to help out however I'm able and to help encourage more to become involved as they can. I am far from an expert with the daylily but one of the best things I've done in my years of gardening is to join the WDS to rub gardening gloves with those that do wear that hat. I'm honored to currently hold the position of President of the American Dutch Rabbit Club, an organization of 750+ that has been in existence for over 80 years. Prior to that I was Vice President and a Director within that organization. I've helped put on six National rabbit conventions and am very familiar with what it takes from the inside to keep a club moving forward and keeping the membership a key part of that process. I've been a nurse at UW Hospital in the Outpatient Surgery Center for the past 13 years. It is very fast paced and demanding of one staying well organized, a trait that I work to bring in to my every day life and club involvement (unless you count having all the daylilies in my yard identified).

I would be very pleased to represent the members of the Wisconsin Daylily Society and look forward to growing as a daylily enthusiast along side the many wonderful people that make up this club!

ENGLERTH AWARD WINNER!!

Each year, Region 2 hybridizers send seedlings to upcoming Region 2 tour gardens to compete for the prestigious Englerth Award. The seedlings are grown in a Region 2 Tour Garden, and visitors to the garden during the meeting can vote on which seedling they believe to be the most worthy of the award. They consider the flower of course, but also the branching, bud count, and strength of the stems.

This year it was so difficult to decide which among so many beautiful flowers was the best. In fact this year's winner in Green Bay only won by a few votes. The award went to JoAnn Jankowski, one of our own members. We are so proud of her! Love that flower.





ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SALE!!

And lots of happy volunteers who stayed to the very end.

Gene Dewey and his successor, Vaughn James.

Photos by Rita Thomas



Oh my goodness! We really did it again. Last year's record of \$33,600 is down the drain. Now we will have to come up with more than \$37,253 next year!! You've certainly proven that records are meant to be broken.

The amazing part is that we did that with only 6 more plants than we had last year and prices were lower. What's the secret? Lots of very happy customers who keep returning with new friends in tow who buy a lot of plants. One lady told Diane Goodman how much she really looked forward to this event every year!! A special thanks to June Johnson for making sure everyone in southern Wisconsin knows about our sale. Just look at the line of customers waiting for us to let them in on Saturday morning.

Gene Dewey requested that someone plan to take over his responsibilities, shadowing him next year. Vaughn James stepped forward immediately. Thanks Vaughn. A big thanks, too, to Genni Kleckner for seeing to it that we were adequately nourished over the weekend. Thanks also to the wonderful ladies who brought such delicious salads. I must not forget to thank Diane Goodman for coordinating all our volunteers. Speaking of volunteers, another new record was set. 114 volunteers helped out, many who were there working all four days. All of you make this event run like clockwork. Words cannot express how grateful we are to all of you for your willingness to pitch in and just do it. Each volunteer will again be receiving a Certificate of Appreciation giving them \$10 toward their meal at the Annual Meeting in October. These certificates will be mailed to you next week. Let me know if you volunteered and didn't receive yours.



The early birds.

A BRAND NEW MEMBER'S REFLECTIONS

By Marilyn Lecsse

A member for only a few months, I was excited to volunteer for the annual sale when I saw the opportunity presented in the newsletter. From digging to preparing the sale plants on Thursday and Friday, to working at the sale on Sunday I met and talked with the greatest people and had lots of fun. With that, Rosemary asked if I would share my impressions of the sale in this article. The things that stood out to me most are --

Friendly, welcoming people – I've joined many groups over the years and I have to say, without doubt, that these daylily lovers are the friendliest, most welcoming group I've ever joined. I was welcomed in the car with Rosemary and Tom as we headed for digging at Genni & Francis Kleckner's garden. Everyone helped teach me what needed to be done and how to do it. And, to know that one member was donating 175 clumps.... I soon realized that the sale was going to be huge! Separating plants on Thursday and Friday – I met more friendly, welcoming people and we all loved the same thing. The conversations with the variety of individuals certainly made the time pass quickly.

Number and variety of plants for sale – I've never met a daylily I didn't like! My husband and I moved in to a new house in January and I am working on getting flower beds established. And, since we are on a city lot, I have very limited space. Lace Cookies...Butter Pecan ...Carved Pumpkin PiePaprika Velvet Mango Chutney ...Buttered Popcorn How would I ever decide what plants needed to go home with me? I had reviewed the list of plant names that were going to be available and knew I needed to narrow my choices. Since my husband is a chef, I decided to go with food names. (I know that some would say I should pick based on color, bloom size, height of bloom, bloom time, etc. and be sure to get a mix...I will work on that in the future.) In the meantime, I am excited to have Mango Chutney, Pumpkin Pie Spice, Roses with Peaches and Buttermilk Moon in my garden. (And, in honor of our Italian last name, I couldn't pass up Italian Kaleidoscope!)

Organization of work – People knew what had to be done, pitched in and got it done! I was amazed that when I arrived at the work tent on Thursday, everything was set up and ready for us to start dividing plants. I was quickly paired with an "experienced divider" and we went to work, getting to know each other along the way. The planning and organization, volunteers taking leadership for the various responsibilities and willingness to do whatever needed to be done, ensured that things would be ready Saturday morning. The willingness of volunteers to get things done was also evident on Sunday as the sale wound down, tables were taken down and a wrap was put on another successful sale.

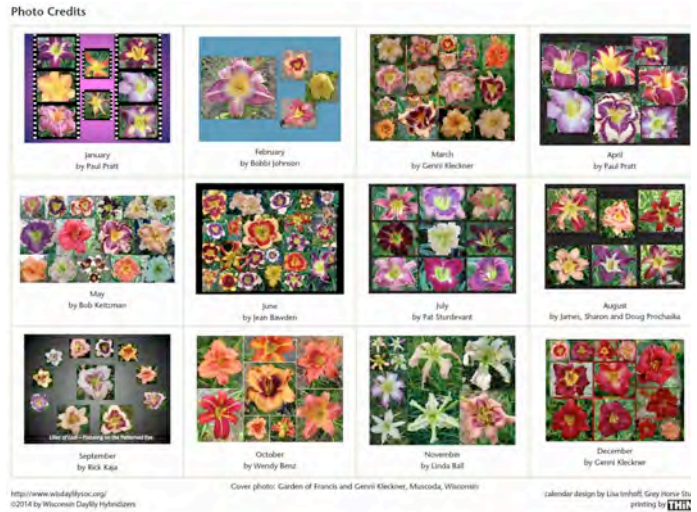
When I sent my first "I would like to volunteer at the sale" e-mail to Diane Goodman, I had no idea that I would have such a great experience. I look forward to seeing many of my new friends at the annual meeting in October.

GET YOUR 2015 HYBRIDIZER CALENDAR BEFORE THEY ARE GONE!!

The 2015 WDS Hybridizer Calendars are available for purchase. If you would like to order one please contact Genni Kleckner. 608-739-9160 or f.g.kleckner@gmail.com.

They make wonderful gifts for the flower lovers in your life. They are great to gaze at during the cold winter months while we are all missing the bloom in our own yards!! You can see first hand the beautiful seedlings that your own club members are creating! Each month features a WDS hybridizer's creations. Advertisements in the back from 4 Northern Hardy places to purchase daylilies and an amazing cover photo from a club members yard. (can you guess who's yard it is??)

Cost is \$10 each and they can be delivered to the annual meeting or shipped for an extra \$5 (for up to 2)



NOMINATIONS FOR 5% OF 2015's PLANT SALE PROCEEDS

After the August daylily sale the Wisconsin Daylily Society makes a Charity Recipient award consisting of 5% of the sale proceeds. WDS members nominate the candidates for this charity award. The winner is selected by a vote of the membership at the annual meeting.

For 2014 our sale proceeds have generated \$1863 for the Longnecker Horticultural Gardens.

At the annual meeting you will again be asked to vote to select the recipient for 2015. Now is the time for you to nominate the organization you would like to see receive this award.

To be considered for the Charity Recipient Award, a nominated organization must meet the following criteria.

1. They must be a Wisconsin based nonprofit and must either have a horticultural mission or use the funds for a garden related project.
2. They cannot receive it two years in a row.
3. A brief one paragraph description about the organization must accompany the nomination, describing how the organization meets the first criterion.
4. Nominations will not be accepted at the annual meeting.

To nominate an organization to receive 5% of sale proceeds from next year's sale, submit nominations to Francis Kleckner by October 8TH

A MESSAGE FROM GENNI

I would like to thank everyone who brought meeting treats this year. I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the food tent and brought treats to the sale.

We are so lucky to have such generous GOOD cooks in our club.

Membership News

We welcome a number of new members who have joined during the summer months, mostly via the WDS Webpage and our Plant Sale. They are grouped by their locality: Barron: Karen SchAAF; Blue Mounds: Katie McKinney & John Kleckner; DeForest: Marilyn & Rick Leccese, and Stephanie-Reneau & Jocelyn Reneau; Edgerton: Julie Smith; Evansville: Shannon Meyer; Madison: Susan Marks Francis, Diane Peltin, Joan Peterson, Sue & Jeff Winer, and Caroline Zelinka; Marshall: Jo & Paul Prust; Middleton: Tom Cottingham; Sauk City: Katherine Halley & Deb Martin; Spring Grove, MN: Harvey Buchite; Verona: Louise & Dave Stephenson, Emily Strandwitz; Wisconsin Rapids: Bob Cohen. We extend a special invitation to all new members to join us for the Annual Meeting (details elsewhere).

Email Address Changes:

Barb Kasper: barbarak@tds.net

Terry Conklin: teconklin1@gmail.com

Gene Dewey, WDS Membership Registrar

2014 AHS REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING IN GREEN BAY, WISCONSIN*By John Sheehan*

The AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting was hosted by the Bay Area Daylily Buds in Green Bay, WI. Their main focus was to show visitors how the daylily gardens of the area defined the "Beauty by the Bay". Event Chairman, Phil Korth, and his band of tireless cohorts, gave us a weekend of entertainment rivaling any AHS National Convention.

As usual, for me the tour gardens dominated my interest. As I got off the bus at Angelic Acres, Abrams, the meticulously cared-for garden of JoAnn and Mark Jankowski, I was beckoned to the back yard by two attractions: the tall tree supporting the massive wind chimes and nearby the beautiful arrangement of the Englerth Award Seedling Candidates. The solemn bass voice of the chimes seemed to call everyone to the Englerth Bed-many folks quickly joined me. As I walked the perimeter, I was impressed by the spacial logic used by the Jankowskis in arranging the plantings as well of the maintenance of these plants. The hundreds of plants in other beds were as pleasing to the eye. No hint of local drought conditions here.

The Gardens of Barb and Bob Klicka in Green Bay, WI had a very relaxing effect on me. As I walked down the path on the left side of their property toward the back yard, the gurgle of running water attracted me; soon I came upon a koi pond with many colorful fish swimming lazily around expecting to be fed. As I looked up, a most interesting system of zig-zagging paths appeared functioning as mini-switchbacks allowing one to negotiate the formidable trail down the slanted back yard. Wow, that is a mouthful! After carefully following the path that eventually led to the right, rear side of the house, I decided to sit for a bit in a chair just behind the house. There was a gentle breeze and after being given a cool drink by a lovely 3-4 year old angel, I observed the flowers and listened to the muted sounds around me. My brief rest extended to 30 minutes. I had not experienced such a relaxing atmosphere since a tour of the Little Shaw Garden near St. Louis years ago. I then heard (perhaps dreamed) that I heard the bus captain's whistle and hustled around the house to re-board my bus.

Mine was the Garden Judge 2 Bus and Gus Guzinski was scheduled to teach that class at the Pinewood Gardens of Luel and Phil Korth in Suamico, WI. I was afraid that our whole visit at the Korth Garden might be spent retaking the Garden Judge 2 Class; however, Gus was quick and yet complete, getting everyone to learn what was on the agenda.

I shifted into third gear and checked out the Korth Plants. There was *Hemerocallis* 'Beauty by the Bay', the lovely, pinkish, , 7 1/4", Tet, Korth Introduction which was given to each 2014 Summer Meeting Registrant; also right there was 'Arnos Bow Tie' with its stunning green eye and bitone look; unfortunately, for this TET hybridizer, it is a DIP! My final look around was at the Korth Seedling Bed where a great deal of green was visible. Alas, more DIPS.

Next, our bus off-loaded at Fox Woods Garden, artfully maintained by Sharon, Jim, and Doug Prochaska in Abrams, WI. As I got off the bus Sharon mentioned that her son, Doug, was interested in crossing patterned daylilies with tall UFOs. Sharon guided me to the UFO seedlings and I peered over the "Keep Out" ribbon to see if I could catch a glimpse of pattern-UFO kids. I could not. However, I was given the idea to go home and use my TET, UFO plants as pod parents with some of my patterned daylilies. It is funny how one's mind works. Before visiting the Prochaska Garden, I was content missing a few days of crossing daylilies in my backyard; however, when I got back on the bus, I was eager to get home to plan which TET plants to use as pod parents.

Our Bus reached the Garden of Leo Bordeleau, Rose-Hill Garden, in Oneida, WI at the warmest time of the day. The almost cloudless afternoon brought out the hats and slowed down the pace of touring. Also, the sloped property dissuaded many of our group from checking out the gardens. Competition began to find and occupy the few available chairs.

I could see quite a few trees grafted on standards up the hill toward the house. I began my trek upwards and found many plants that were suffering the effects of the area's long-standing drought. I cringed! Our garden in Fitchburg has about 20 plants on standards and my wife and I pamper them with a weekly, deep watering.

I returned to the sales area and bought a "Lithops" plant as well as a permeable clay pot and packed it away. Everyone else was also shopping in the shady sales area. The bus headed back to the hotel about 30 minutes later with the dozens of plants purchased at Leo's.

Sunday morning brought us to the Gardens of Pat and Bob Grathen in Green Bay. These folks were bitten by the daylily bug in 2008 and since then have transformed their property into a daylily showcase. Even though Bob was expecting to be a bystander, he has played the major role in preparing daylily beds and planting the daylilies.

Recently, they have joined many of us in making crosses and have had the joy of walking the seedling areas in the morning looking for potential Stout Award winners.

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The gardens of Mary and Terry Vertz are situated in De Pere and in contrast to the Grathens have been developing their gardens since 1986 with an acceleration phase since 2000. Their property has various contrasts in light allowing them to grow more than 800 named varieties of hosta and 700 registered daylilies. Of keen interest to me were the raised beds with the hosta seedlings; another for young divisions of hosta; and most importantly, a third for daylily seedlings. If you were not careful, you might have focused on the frogs, angels, and other whimsical creatures scattered about. Well thought out was the placement of their limestone bench placed in what they call their "wild", a secluded spot for contemplation.

Lastly, Solaris Farms, located in Reedsville, is operated by the Bremer family (Nate, Kim, Emma, and Ethan) and for years Nate has specialized in growing and selling northern hardy and yet beautiful daylilies (more than 165 Bremer Introduction to date). The goal is that these plants will thrive in your garden, not just hang on.

As usual I enjoyed walking about the Solaris daylily beds looking for Nate's Introductions that I have bought over the years as well as his newest plants to add to my wish list. With about 3000 registered daylilies on display at Solaris Farms, this place is worth an all-day visit. They even have spots for you to picnic on site.

Two Solaris Introductions catching my eye were *Hemerocallis* 'Weathering the Worm' (2014) Pink flower with rose eyezone and stunning light green throat and Nate's 2011 Introduction, 'Distress Call', a TET purple, patterned flower.

This is the second time that the Bad Buds have hosted a Region 2 Meeting headquartered at the Radisson Hotel adjacent to the Casino in Green Bay. As in 2004, the site proved to be first rate in 2014. The hotel staff was very helpful. The meeting sites were easy to find; the food top of the line and access to the auction-banquet room was unimpeded. For me though, the stunning success of this 2014 Summer Meeting was due to the efforts of the Bad Buds volunteers. Visitors to meetings do not see and perhaps forget efforts such as gathering and arranging daylily blossoms for the tables; preparing and serving treats at gardens; dead-heading plants each day; soliciting gifts for registration packets; digging, cleaning and labeling bargain plants; obtaining, processing and labeling auction plants, typing up and Xeroxing the auction list. That is enough! Those kinds of efforts make the Event a success (or not).

Thank you Bay Area Daylily Buds.

WE HEADED WEST

On a beautiful, sunny day in July, 37 folks traveled west on a Badger bus, visiting 4 lovely gardens on the way.

Rick and Barb Kaja's garden outside of Lodi was our first stop. Rick was especially proud of his many seedlings, as well he should be.

John and Diane Goodman's garden flows down a hill towards Lake Wisconsin - a beautiful backdrop for a beautiful garden.

Genni & Francis Kleckner have built (and are still building) their own paradise on a farm outside of Muscoda. Everywhere you look there's another bed of daylilies with interesting companion plants in each bed.

Have you ever noticed that Paul Pratt has lots of enthusiasm and energy? He has to in order to accomplish all he's done on his 2 acres. Surprises everywhere - and lots of Paul's interesting seedlings.

A great big Thank You to each of our hosts. It was a joy to visit your gardens. More than one member has commented on how much they enjoyed the day. Another big thank you to Wilma B-H for putting it all together.

OUR THOUGHTS ARE WITH YOU

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Wilma Brouwer-Herwig and Jan Brouwer on the passing of their mother and mother-in-law from a recent and very sudden heart attack. May her soul rest in peace.

WDS MEMBERS TO SELECT THEIR TOP TEN FAVORITES

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

In the 2013 WDS Top Ten Poll 'Primal Scream' regained first place after coming in second for the two previous years. Will Curt Hanson's 'Primal Scream' make it three years in a row? At the Annual Meeting WDS members will again have the opportunity to select their ten favorite daylilies in the 2014 WDS Top Ten Poll.

Below is a complete list of the WDS 2013 Top Ten favorites.

1. 'Primal Scream' Hanson – 1994
2. 'Ruby Spider' Stamile – 1991
3. 'Moonlit Masquerade' Salter – 1992
4. 'Heavenly Angel Ice' Gossard – 2004
5. 'Paper Butterfly' Morss – 1983
6. 'Bela Lugosi' Hanson – 1995
7. 'Jerry Hyatt' - Hanson – 2004
8. 'All American Chief' Sellers – 1994
8. 'Red Volunteer' Oakes – 1994
8. 'Strawberry Candy' Stamile – 1989

CHANGE IN WDS DUES.

The WDS Board will be asking you to vote for a very slight adjustment of memberships dues at the Annual Meeting. We would like to raise the cost of a one year family membership from \$7.50 to \$8.00. With sale prices now in even dollars this \$7.50 is the only reason to have change at the Sale. Raising the dues to \$8.00 would eliminate having change altogether. Also, if you pay in WDS Dollars you already have to pay \$8.00.

PAST PREZ TELLS ALL!!! Or HIRAM'S SILVER AND GOLD

By Barry Rowe

2014 marks the silver anniversary of the Wisconsin Daylily Society, and the golden wedding anniversary of the Pearcys. Joanne and I recently met with Hiram Percy, the founding father of WDS, and his wife Jane. Hiram was his usual soft-spoken self, while Jane bubbled over with a desire to get Hiram to speak. We discussed Hiram's history and the history of WDS over blueberry pie a la mode. Here is a transcription of our conversation.



Hiram Percy



The Percy gardens

Q: Tell us about the family you grew up in and your family now. A: (Hiram) We bought our grandfather's farm when I was nine. It was the oldest homestead in the county. The farmhouse was a gem – It was small and tall, with pillars. I had a brother five years younger. He was a mechanical guy, and a hunter and fisher, too. I had music. My brother and I had to work the garden. It was half an acre, and it was a chore. But I didn't have anything to do with daylilies then.

(Jane) We have two boys. John, the older son, is living in Stoughton. Joe came two years and ten months later. He works for Dean Clinic here in Madison. Our kids come every Sunday for dinner, both of our boys, and they bring friends. (Hiram) They both worked in the yard. They worked pretty hard on the daylily beds and were excited about it.

Q: What is your educational background? A: My mother was a music teacher and a musician. She was a singer and played piano, too. She had a beautiful voice. That was part of my education. I started taking violin lessons not long after we moved. My aunt was a violinist, so I studied with her. She lived thirteen miles away. We drove there and back when the speed limit was 35. We stayed for supper, so she gave lessons, she cooked, she did everything.

The closest town was Martinsville, about thirty miles from Indianapolis, and we had artesian wells. Not only artesian, but they were sulfur. There were thirteen spas in that little town of 5,000. People would come to take the waters. The school had a band and orchestra. We were close to Indiana University, and all our teachers were from there. During my senior year, a student teacher transcribed a concerto, which I played with orchestra.

I went to Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music for one year. Then I went to Indiana University in Bloomington and stayed there five years. I had a bachelor in music with violin as a major, a bachelor in music education, and a masters in music for violin. And then came the army in 1953.

Q: What was life like in the service? A: After I graduated they were still drafting, so I volunteered for two years. I ended up in food service at Fort Eustis, Virginia, near Williamsburg. After one year, I transferred to Seattle, a wonderful city, to play third clarinet. I had clarinet techniques in college, just to learn how to hold it. I had some squeaks when I started, but I got rid of that.

Seattle always had a fair, Seafair, and our band always marched in it. It was during the night, so you couldn't see where you're going. One night I stepped in a hole while we were marching, and I bit my clarinet reed. So I just pretended to play after that.

Of course I took my violin with me, and I met a good pianist and horn player. We worked up a horn trio – horn, violin and piano. We played Brahms Horn Trio. After my father died, I was transferred from Seattle to Indianapolis. I found a new pianist and a new, very fine hornist.

Q: What is your teaching experience? A: I have taught violin since I was in high school. I took a job as a public school music teacher and taught little kids (fourth grade, fifth grade and sixth) to play in regular classes at ugly Danville, Illinois. Danville was a big railroad center, not far from Champaign, Illinois. I became attached to the students there, had a trio, did some sonata recitals. I met a very wonderful professor of violin concertos, Paul Rolland.

Q: How did you meet Jane? A: (Hiram) I was there for ten years and Jane was there the tenth year as a French teacher. She was beautiful, and we fell in love, and we got married. (Jane) We started dating at the end of September, we were engaged at Halloween, and got married before Christmas. If we last until December, we will be married fifty years.

Continued on Page 9

Q: How did you end up in Madison? A: (Jane) Our superintendent was moving. He left Danville and moved to Madison to become associate superintendent. He said, "If you ever decide you want to leave, just let me know." So we did. It was a financial disaster back in Danville. And Madison was a university town, so...

Q: What is your professional experience here? A: (Hiram) I taught at just about every school you can name, but I was orchestra director at West High School. Teachers would retire, so I would have to take some of their jobs. Part of the day I would go out "in the field" and teach at the other schools. I played with the Madison Symphony for a long time, 35 years. I'm retired.

(Jane) I ended up teaching French at Orchard Ridge Middle School. I quit teaching in Madison when I got home and got a call. "Do you still want him? A boy was born this morning and if you want him you can have him." So I didn't go back. And then we had a surprise baby later.

Q: What do you feel are your greatest accomplishments? A: I was always proud of my orchestra at West High School. We tried hard to do good programs. My goal was to teach them good music. You know, to have them play good music and enjoy it. A lot of students have gone on to national orchestras, like Dallas Symphony and Houston Symphony.

Q: How did your interest in gardening start? A: I bought a package garden from Wayside Gardens. We put it in our garden in Madison. There was only one daylily, but I didn't have any interest in daylilies at that point. So that was our first gardening experience. Then we got our own land here. We let a nursery take care of the shrubbery and such, then the boys helped me build this garden. We built the odd-shaped bed in the center first. They were enthusiastic about something we could do together.

Q: How did you get interested in daylilies? A: I had a cousin whose wife had a mother who hybridized daylilies in Florida. She knew David Kirchhoff's father. It was just so strange to hear her talk about these people she knew in Florida. Her daughter there gave my mother many, many seedlings.

Q: How did the idea for WDS get started? A: It just happened, really. We got to the regional (Region 2 Convention) and they all wanted to know why there wasn't more activity in Wisconsin. I tried to tell them, but I didn't know anything about it. So it became my job to scour around and find like interests. I wrote letters to the Wisconsin members of the AHS, asking them if they'd be interested in an organization. Leo Sharp was the person who really, really encouraged us. He gave us daylilies to get it started. He drove up here for meetings and we asked him to speak. He was responsible for a lot of things.

I called Olbrich to find out if they had any organization at all. Well, they had some "old women" who had a garden but had just dug up the one daylily bed, just a patch. So I found out the names of the "old women." One of them decided we should have a society.

We had our first meeting in '89. Olbrich was good enough to let us have our meetings there, since they already had the Hardy Plant Society and Iris Society. We got a little plug in the Olbrich newsletter. The first meeting attracted probably a dozen people.

We had everything the first year: we had a meeting every month with a speaker or with an idea, and the sale, and a garden tour. We even had a newsletter that first year. We had an adoption program, but we didn't have an auction yet. We had a secretary who would not take notes. We never did have any notes to look back on or refer to. Money was hard to get. We didn't pay our speakers. Our first money came from the sale. I think we got about \$400. We didn't have a lot of daylilies.

Q: Tell us about the daylilies named for you. A: (Jane) "In Jane's Honor" was done by Genni Kleckner, but "Lady Jane Pearcy" came first. Paul Owens was our speaker and he had this daylily. For a certain amount you could buy the daylily and name it, and John Sheehan bought it and named it for me. "In Jane's Honor" came the next year. Genni wanted to name her's "In Honor of Jane Pearcy", but they wouldn't let her, as my name had already been used in another. (Hiram) "Hiram Pearcy" is from my cousin's wife, Sally Walters.

Q: Describe your original and current interests in daylilies. A: I don't think my tastes have changed. I have what you call "old" daylilies. They don't deteriorate; they don't get smaller; they don't change color.

Q: Although he jumped into daylilies with both feet, working with like-minded people to build an organization, develop gardens, and spread the word about love and appreciation for hemerocallis, his answer to the final question was surprising. Anything else you'd like to add? A: When I think of myself, I think I'm a violinist.



In Jane's Honor



Lady Jane Pearcy



Hiram Pearcy



VOLUME 1 EDITION 1 WINTER 1990

NEWSLETTER

The Wisconsin Daylily Society

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last summer, during those many hours spent grooming my daylilies in the quietude and exquisite beauty of my garden, the idea of a daylily society for Wisconsin never entered my mind.

Six months later, after three planning meetings with a small group of "hem" lovers, encouragement from Olbrich Botanical Gardens staff and the interested, watchful eyes of the American Hemerocallis Society and its Region 2 Great Lakes Division, THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY has emerged.

Our purpose, as stated in the bylaws, is to promote enjoyment, awareness and propagation of the genus Hemerocallis by all appropriate means. Our sincerity in this statement is expressed by our intent to become involved and to cooperate with Olbrich Botanical Gardens staff and the Olbrich Garden Club to develop a daylily garden second to none. We anticipate a mature garden in three years. Lectures, garden tours, a plant sale and show, will begin to achieve our mission.

Given nine months of programs and events which celebrate the genus Hemerocallis, 1990 will be a truly memorable inaugural year for THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY.

Hiram Pearcy

President

Hiram Pearcy
845-9249

V. President

Stephen Lesch
273-4027

Secretary-Treasurer

Marianne Schumacher
837-5849/266-4698

Director

Betsy Trowbridge
251-4570

Director

Reynold Peterson
231-1509/266-6550

THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY is a not-for-profit organization promoting enjoyment, awareness and propagation of the genus HEMEROCALLIS by all suitable and appropriate means.

THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY Display Garden is being created to reflect all aspects of daylily culture for our northern climate and to display the very best new and old cultivars for reference by any daylily enthusiast via perpetual updating of the plant collection and planting methods.

THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY Display Garden will be open to members and the public, admission free.

WDS members meet at Olbrich, 7:30, the first Wednesday of each month except the months, November, December and January.

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BECOME A CHARTER MEMBER
JOIN 1990
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Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc. Membership Renewal

Check the March Membership Roster to determine when your membership expires, or call or email Gene @ 230-3373, gldewey@wisc.edu

To renew your membership in the WDS for 2015 or beyond, simply complete all the information below and return with your payment.

Name (s) _____

Are you a member of the American Hemerocallis Society?

Business name (if needed) _____

Yes ___ No ___

Street Address _____

(Note: Only members of the AHS are eligible to adopt a guest plant as part of the WDS adoption program.)

City _____ State _____

Zip +4 _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Type of Membership (Please circle one)

To reduce administrative time and overhead, we encourage you to renew for multiple years. Memberships run from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31.

Individual	Family	Business
1 year - \$5.00	1 year - \$7.50	1 year - \$15.00
3 years - \$13.00	3 years - \$20.00	n/a
5 years - \$20.00	5 years - \$30.00	n/a

Number of years: _____ Total due: \$ _____

Payment method(s):

___ check payable to **Wisconsin Daylily Society** for _____

___ WDS dollars; amount _____

Mail this form with your check &/or WDS dollars to: **Gene Dewey**
6225 Mineral Pt Rd, Apt C-57
Madison WI 53705-4571

----- CUT HERE -----

MEAL RESERVATION FOR ANNUAL MEETING, SATURDAY, OCT. 18
1 P.M. CHEROKEE COUNTRY CLUB, 5000 NORTH SHERMAN AVE., MADISON
NO LATE REGISTRATIONS

Reservation forms, Certificates of Appreciation and Payment must be received no later than Wed. Oct. 8

Name: _____ **Baked Cod Almandine** **Black Forest Chicken** **Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian)**
 Cheesecake with Chocolate Sauce **Raspberry Sorbet**

Name: _____ **Baked Cod Almandine** **Black Forest Chicken** **Pasta Primavera (Vegetarian)**
 Cheesecake with Chocolate Sauce **Raspberry Sorbet**

# of Meals @ \$15	Total Cost	Less ___ Certificates of Appreciation @ \$10.00	Enclosed Ck Amt (NO WDS \$)
\$	\$	\$	\$

Mail this form & payment to

Francis Kleckner
32494 Bogus Valley Lane
Muscoda, WI 53573-5559

Any Questions? Call Francis @ 1-608-739-9160 or email @ f.g.kleckner@gmail.com

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Wisconsin Daylily Society Newsletter
Rosemary Kleinheinz, Editor
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Madison, WI 53716



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc