

# WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY

[www.wisconsindaylilyociety.org](http://www.wisconsindaylilyociety.org)

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

Something Bold



## President's Minute

by Monique Warnke

Hello fellow gardeners!

The daylily season is finally upon us. I had the wonderful opportunity this year to travel to Florida to tour Mecca, a bucket list item that I can scratch off my list. From there, Rhonda Veroeven and I traveled to the AHS national convention in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. It was a wonderful time, the gardens were gorgeous, it was so nice to visit with old friends and make new ones along the way.

Another bucket item is to visit Northern Mecca, I am anticipating a good time! There are many opportunities within our club to visit some outstanding gardens. I encourage everyone to get out there and visit them! Many members will have open gardens on the 17th of July, please take the time out of your day to visit our friends from WDS. Enjoy this precious time of the year, smell the flowers and enjoy a laugh or two.

Monique

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**Web Admin: Rhonda Veroeven**

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608-345-0395, purpleirises1@yahoo.com

# UPCOMING WDS EVENTS

**July 17th 2021** – Open Garden! Cynthia Wadsworth is having an open garden and garden party from 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Her address is 194 Dixon Street #2A in Madison Wisconsin. [cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)

**July 18th 2021** – Open Garden! The Kleinheinzes are having an open garden from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The address is 104 West Lakeview Avenue in Madison Wisconsin. Their garden has daylilies and other easier to care for perennials and conifers. Tom will be providing lime sugar cookies!

**August 7th 2021 – Noon** – The WDS Annual Adoption Auction will be at SOMS. Please arrive by 11am with your previously adopted plants to allow the set up team to be ready by 12pm.

**August 21st and 22nd, 2021**– The WDS Plant Sale will be on Saturday from 10AM to 4PM and Sunday from 11AM to 3PM in Olbrich Park.

**October 2nd , 2021**– The WDS Annual Meeting will feature David Kirchoff and Mort Morss of Daylily World from Lawrenceburg, Kentucky.  
WDS Apparel

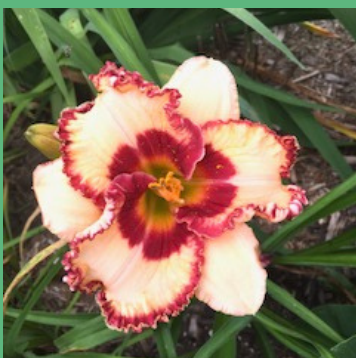
## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Articles for Upcoming Newsletters

Do you have ideas for articles you would like to see in an upcoming newsletter? Would you be willing to write an article for the newsletter? Do you have a photo of a daylily with a fall name that you'd like to see included? If you can answer yes to any of these questions, please email Shannon Meyer at [solcottster@gmail.com](mailto:solcottster@gmail.com)

### Changes in ADS Membership

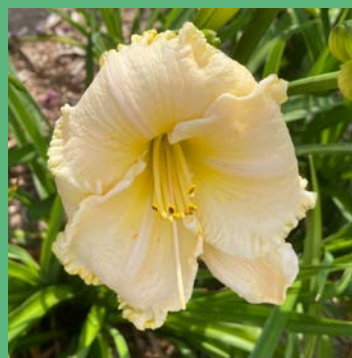
There was a major membership change in bylaws enacted during the National in Hattiesburg. Members will now get a full year membership based on the month they join. Prospective members can now be offered a full year membership during a show or sale, regardless of the date. Previously, if you joined at a late summer sale, you owed \$25 again at the end of the year. Also because they were promised 4 journals, they were mailed two journals printed earlier in the year. Now they will get four journals going forward. Garden and Exhibition judges will remain on 12/31....AHS will extend membership to that date upon completion of course requirements. Current members remain on 12/31. Please make sure your membership is up to date. If your membership has lapsed or is getting close to expiring, please go to the WDS website to print off a form to renew your membership today.



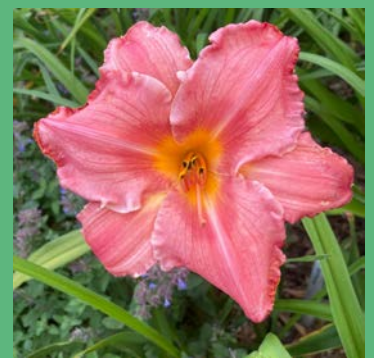
'Triple Cherries'



'Fried Green Tomatoes'



'August Wedding'



'Watermelon Luminosity'

# WDS Annual Adoption - Auction

**When:** August 7, 2021 @ 12:00 pm – 3:00 pm

**Where:** Savannah Oaks Middle School  
5890 Lacy Rd  
Fitchburg, WI 53711

**\*\*We request that you bring your auction plants to the school by 11am so that we can get organized in time for the event.\*\***

This year we're trying something new in order to try to prevent the spread of pests and disease:

1. Plants are requested to come back **bareroot**
2. Wash dirt off of all plants.
3. Trim back foliage and scapes to 8-10 inches
4. Divide and bundle the fans together.  
i.e. If you were asked to bring a pot with 4 fans, bundle the 4 fans together.  
If you were asked to bring two pots with four fans, make two bundles of 4 fans, etc.
5. Make sure each bundle is well labeled with the name of the cultivar.
6. If you are bringing more than one different cultivar, please have each cultivar in a separate bag to keep them from getting mixed up. The same cultivars can go in the same bag. Thank you in advance for helping with this!

If you would like to bring a snack or a dish to share for the meeting, please contact Genni Kleckner to let her know.

This is the first big event we've have for some time to enjoy our friendship and hobby! We are very much looking forward to seeing everyone who can make it!

Any questions? Please feel free to contact me.

Genni  
608-739-9160  
f.g.kleckner@gmail.com

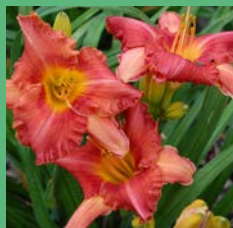
Cultivars available at 2021 Adoption or Sale



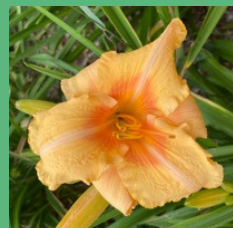
'Tart of Darkness'



'Simply Michigan'



'Ready for Love'



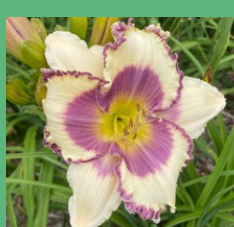
'Creamsicle Cool'



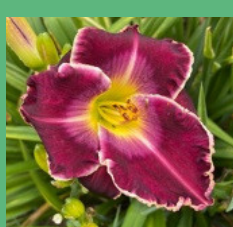
'Quasar Cutie'



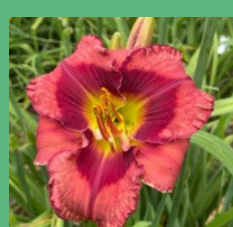
'Heman'



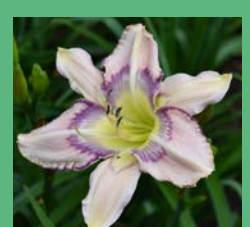
'Jacob's Well'



'Approaching Storm'



'Because I Like It'



'Rainbow in the Clouds'



# DOUBLE THE FUN

## APRIL AND MAY WDS MEETINGS

### FEATURING DIANNA'S DOUBLES AND TOPGUNS DAYLILIES

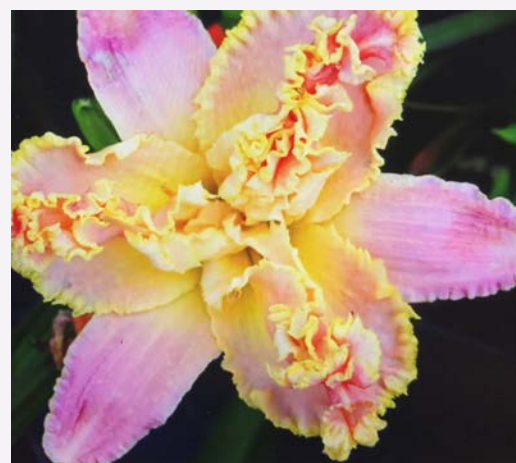
*by Shannon Meyer*

As Wisconsin SLOWLY transitions from winter to summer this year, WDS members were treated to two fantastic spring meetings in April and May. Members gathered via Zoom to temporarily escape the frustratingly chilly weather by being treated to presentations by Dianna Gossard and Bobby Scott Junior. Both Bobby and Dianna showed us an array of beauty and color that brightened up these cloudy days.

Dianna Gossard of Dianna's Double Daylilys joined the meeting from her home in Galloway Ohio. Initially, she wasn't very interested in doubles, but soon she found herself drawn to them and now they are her primary hybridizing focus. Dianna likes to keep her daylilys in a small space so she doesn't have to trek all over her property to enjoy and work with them. She also keeps her program small, working only with Tets and producing about 18 rows of 20 plants a year.

Dianna says even with her relatively small program, she gets lots of "keepers" from her targeted and focused hybridizing. It was easy to see from the pictures of her beautiful flowers that her "quality not quantity" attitude is paying off. Her program has had obstacles though, doubles are notorious for not producing very much pollen and it can be difficult to get plants with a lot of branching. She also has to contend with hungry cows that got a taste of daylilies after being given daylily scraps to eat!

As we could see from her daylily photos, Dianna has a lot of exciting things going on. She has several doubles with teeth and some flowers that are "crested", which have a ridge down the middle of the petals. Though the pictures of her flowers are beautiful, seeing them in person would be even better. Luckily, Dianna's Doubles will be part of the Northern Mecca Tour on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd this year! For details, you can visit [www.northernmecca.com](http://www.northernmecca.com).





## DOUBLE THE FUN CONTINUED

On May 8th, Bobby Scott Jr. joined us via Zoom to talk about what he's been working on at Topguns Daylilys in Yukon Oklahoma. Bobby focuses on doubles but does work with single flowers as well. He takes a "tough love" approach with his plants, they are grown outside with no mulch and no fertilizer so that only the strong survive. Bobby wants his plants to have a "natural experience" and does not use pesticides, but instead waters heavily to deter pests.



Doubles sometimes have weaker plants with poor branching so Bobby uses strong plants in his program to avoid these issues. He does not store pollen and instead only crosses what is available to work with on any given day. The photographs in his presentation showed a beautiful array of flowers, including vibrant reds, toothy doubles and amazing patterns. He was kind enough to pass on some of his daylily wisdom with the following "rules":

1. Don't pursue a focus because it is the "in" thing.
2. Don't let others discourage you from doing something out of the box.
3. Trust your seedlings.



Bobby is much more willing to share his plant's genetic backgrounds than his father, Bobby Scott Senior. He has learned that not all good flowers have good offspring, and even the prettiest flowers can produce nothing of interest no matter how many times you cross them. He is working on bi-tone and patterned doubles as well as doubles with watermarks. He is also interested in whites, polychromes and flowers with edges but no eyes.



Both Bobby and Dianna's presentations ended with action packed auctions for a handful of their amazing plants. The competition was fierce and kept our intrepid auctioneer and spotters on their toes. Thank you so much to Bobby and Dianna for sharing their flowers with us both virtually and in the auction! And thank you to everyone in WDS for continuing to meet and participate despite all the obstacles before us. Better times are just around the corner and I know we can't wait until we can meet and talk and share stories and treats again in person. The region 2 Summer Meeting and our own plant sale are coming up quickly and I can't wait to see you all there. Stay well and see you soon!



# MEMORIES IN MISSISSIPPI

## 2021 AHS Nationals in Hattiesburg, MS

BY SUE HILL

This was a highly anticipated trip, partly due to the last year preventing so many people from gathering to enjoy outings and their usual planned trips. We were vaccinated and ready to roll! It was time to move on and SEE people again!

Rhonda and Monique started their trip with multiple stops before ever getting to Hattiesburg. Several gardens in Florida called to them to stop by. They attended the famed “Breakfast in the Garden” at the home of Nicole DeVito, and then did whirlwind visits at Dan Hansen’s Ladybug Daylilies, Pina Reilly’s garden, and Guy Pierce’s Floyd Cove. Somehow, they managed to stuff their rented vehicle with multiple plants to come back to WI. Imagine that.

On Monday of convention week, Rhonda, Monique and I met up at the home and gardens of Mr. James Smelley. This well-maintained garden was greatly loved by Mr. Smelley’s wife, Elaine. After her passing, he continued to keep the gardens going. There were multiple beds of daylilies in peak bloom to enjoy. Island beds contained huge plantings of Elephant Ears in all shades of green and purple,

as well as countless more tropical plants that looked like they were fed steroids. Mammoth annuals in intense, bright colors were scattered along the borders. He had rows upon rows of potted Camellias in various stages of growth. Mr. Smelley happens to be the top hybridizer of Camellias east of the Mississippi. We were given a royal tour by golf cart, and even managed to head home with a few southern plants in hope of keeping them growing in pots in our climate. I even got to play on Jim’s lovely Kubota tractor while there, so all the stress from traveling the prior day was thrown to the wayside once that engine roared to a start.



Watts Garden

After prepping plants that had been growing to be given out on the “Fun Bus”, we relaxed a bit before heading to the famed home and gardens of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Watts in Hattiesburg. It was breathtaking to turn in to the driveway that was flanked on either side by a mass planting of his beautiful big red daylily, “Suburban Nancy Gayle”. It was quite hard to focus on the task at hand, which was to get all the convention plants ready, because we all wanted to sneak out to the gardens to peek at what was blooming and look at every single gargantuan rose bush on the property.



Scott Elliott, AHS President, (left)  
and Jim Smelley (right)

## Memories in Mississippi, continued

With the help of their other Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society members, as well as our AHS president, Scott Elliott, we settled in to start splitting, washing, labeling and drying the plants to be given out by the Nationals attendees. Every once in awhile, Mr. Watts would toddle on down to the worksite on his golf cart to check our progress. I was granted permission to use his special shears to clip back the tops of the plants with the understanding that he was to see it again. The pots of plants were unearthed from their temporary homes, the plants separated from their soil. That pile of soil grew, and grew and grew, and it got harder and harder to work. We gave up on wearing our garden shoes and finished our jobs barefoot. A thin river of plant wash water made it's way down the hill, seeping into the collection of potting soil, making a glorious mucky mess to work in. Still, we plodded on, slipping and sliding more times than we cared to count. When the predicted storm came, we were so full of dirt that the rain was almost a welcome relief.



Earl Watts and Sue Hill

After a very nice lunch the group had ready for us, a few of us went to finish our Garden Judges class under the guidance of Mr. Watt's daughter, the well-known hybridizer, Elizabeth Salter. She had some extremely nice small daylilies growing in the one bed that may be future introductions and were appreciated by many people later on in the tour. It was a nice way to end the day.

As the various meetings commenced in the next few days, the three of us had a chance to sneak away to the University of Southern Mississippi campus. I had heard about their rose garden, and it didn't take too much convincing to get Monique and Rhonda to join me. We looked forward to seeing the 32 gardens that were planted back in 1973 with various hybrid roses. It is tradition for the Southern Miss students to be in cap and gown standing within the beds for a picture on their graduation day.

Unfortunately, we had a hard time finding the rose garden, even after asking for directions several times from campus workers. Everyone seemed to think it was in a different part of the campus and pointed us in opposite directions. We finally lucked out after spying a gentleman (on yet another golf cart!) who looked like he might do grounds work.

"Hop on the cart, ladies! I'll take you there!" We would finally see the roses!

We jumped on and away we went with our personal guide. We filled him in on why we were in Hattiesburg along the route. He took us right to the gardens, dropped us off and wished us well. We saw quite a few roses we loved for their intense colors. There had been a dry weather spell, so the gardens were not in their usual glorious state, but it did not stop us from appreciating the beauty before us.

As we started walking back through the campus toward our car, we spied our guide driving toward us with an amused look on his face. He stopped to see how we were doing and if we had enjoyed the gardens. Apparently, he called his wife to tell her he had met "three woman from Wisconsin on campus" and was helping these "damsels in distress". He had taken it upon himself to spread the word to his co-workers to watch for us should they see three women walking around, looking lost. Seems we made an impression upon him.



## Memories in Mississippi, continued

The tour gardens we saw on Friday and Saturday helps to quench our thirst for blooming daylilies. The Watts' gardens were all outlined by tens of thousands of Arkansas fieldstone that Mr. Watts had placed there by himself in years gone by. During the tour, Mr. Watts celebrated his 90th birthday and just about every visitor was insistent upon getting a picture taken with him.

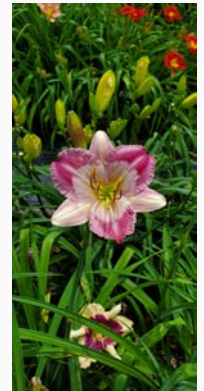
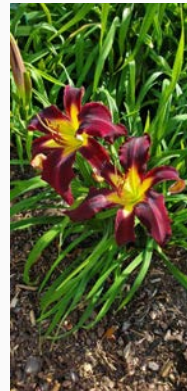


We were impressed with the variety of gardens on tour and the work that went in to getting them ready. We remembered all too well the work that goes in to prepping for a convention from our involvement in hosting the 2019 AHS Nationals in Madison, WI.

Kenny and Debbie Hatten (Chisel Ridge Gardens) have a magnificent ancient red oak tree as a focal point in front of their home and an expanse of gardens that made it hard to see within the allotted touring time. At Penny's Daylily Patch, we were able to vote on our favorite flower in the Sally Lake Bed, comprised of seedlings on display from Region 14. Penny has a fun yard in which to meander around.



The gardens of Kay and Jerry Cline (Rolling Oaks Daylilies) were nothing less than incredible. Their garden had the most plants in bloom and visitors delighted in seeing the carpet of color awaiting our tour buses. They had some super upcoming seedlings that will be hopefully introduced in the future.



'Cloud Chaser' - Gossard 2006  
Miss Burkett, 107-year-old member  
Seedling in Cline garden

Janet and Kurt Green (Firefly Daylily Garden) made it a family affair to greet everyone warmly as we exited our buses. There were some very nice clumps in full blooming splendor in their gardens. It was during this stop that I ran into WDS member Jeanne Murphy, who was at the convention with her husband. It was so nice to visit with her and catch up on all that is happening in her life. WDS members are the best!





## Memories in Mississippi continued

Other highlights:

1. Driving through Hattiesburg and seeing a giraffe near the road in a little zoo. We all thought it was a statue until we looked back at it, and it had moved 20 yards.

2. Monique driving over and dragging an orange cone set up for Covid testing in the convention parking lot.

3. Breaking bread with multiple friends on multiple occasions. We worked on getting our fill of seafood while there!

4. Seeing our beautiful bucket of goodies and our very own youth WDS hybridizer donations on display in the raffle area, collecting lots of tickets. We were proud!!

5. Getting to know more great people within our great organization.

6. Have WDS members as tour guides for FOUR of the SIX tour buses! That shows our level of involvement in promoting our main organization!

7. Meeting the oldest member of the AHS on Sunday before we flew out. Miss Burkett is 107 years young and still gets out to tend her gardens. What a sweet soul!

8. Winning the raffle item EVERYONE wanted...a collection of ceramic birdhouses, a bird bath and bird hang out "caves" and letting EVERYONE know I won them.

Even though we all were tired from the trip and the unending visiting with friends, we are already looking forward to attending the convention in Asheville, NC next July to add to convention memories!

## The Daylily Sale Needs Your Help!

The WDS Daylily Sale is August 21 and 22 and Olbrich Park, Madison.

We know that, because we didn't have a sale last year, we expect that this year's sale will be one of the largest in history!

So -- we need your help.

With record numbers of plants expected, we need record number of daylily lovers as customers!

You can help by

- printing and posting (in diners, gas stations, coffee shops, beauty shops, libraries, grocery stores, churches, and who knows where else) the Daylily Sale poster, now available on the WDS website
- sharing the dates of the sale with friends and neighbors when they comment on how amazing your flower garden looks
- handing out sale information to groups and/or individuals (Are you involved with plant sale? Do you talk to gardening groups? Are you hosting a garden tour?)
- "sharing" sale information that is posted on the WDS Facebook page.

Contact Marilyn Leccese,  
mleccese1200@gmail.com  
608-449-6978  
for printed handouts.



A group of WDS folks out to dinner

# JOINING THE DISPLAY GARDEN GANG

BY SUE HILL

One of the greatest joys the daylily lover has each summer is seeing the gardens come into to peak bloom and watching daily beauty in the form of a newly opened flower. We weed, water and fertilize our plants to bring on their best show. So, why not think of sharing your beautiful gardens with other fellow-admirers by becoming a recognized American Daylily Society Display Garden?

What is the process?

**Labels, labels, labels!** Your first step is to work on labeling your daylilies in your garden. They can be either handwritten or printed from a label maker, as long as the name is legible to the reader. The name of the cultivar/species and the hybridizer should be listed. Some people prefer to include more information, too, and that is certainly acceptable. The markers themselves can be commercially purchased or homemade. If they are placed in such a way for the visitor to see the information fairly easily, that would be optimal.



**Have a Heart to Heart with those weeds...** Tell them they are not welcome! Doesn't it seem like you finish weeding a flowerbed, only to stand back to admire your handiwork and see ten you missed pulling? It's a marathon growing event between the plants we want to grow and those we don't. How many times has that pet thistle

tried its hardest to blend in and flower right alongside your newly purchased daylily? It's WORK keeping your display beds as free of weeds as you can. Mulching will help act as a weed barrier to keep them more in control and to retain moisture for the plants as the warm days of summer roll in. We all have weeds as companion plants and gardeners overlook the pesky little guys hiding under the canopy of foliage. The bigger, braver weeds who ache to make their own statement should be history in a pile of unwanted.



These weeds are not from Sue's garden!

## Variety is visual eye candy:

A recognized ADS display garden would ideally have a variety of the accepted daylily forms within your garden. If you are totally crazy over large flowers, great! Love those unusual forms? Or minis, or doubles? Wonderful! Having examples of all the forms and colors is a sure way to have visitors exposed to the wide diversity present within daylilies; it is a wonderful way to educate others on our favorite flower.





# DISPLAY GARDEN GANG CONTINUED



Now that you've taken the three big steps of labeling, weeding and diversity, the rest of the process is the easy-peasy part.

1. Visit the ADS website at [daylilies.org](http://daylilies.org)
2. Click on "Daylilies" in the banner and a menu will drop down. Click on "Gardens", which will bring you to the display garden area. It is here you will find the forms for application and renewal forms for Display Gardens (the latter of which is done annually and super easy to do). You will have the opportunity to apply for display garden and/or historical garden status, or renew your current display garden status for the coming year, depending on your situation.
3. Once the form is filled out, take a few minutes to write about your garden so it is as appealing as possible with your description of it—send it to me and I will then get in contact with your regional president for a garden evaluation. That person will then contact you to set up a date.
4. After the evaluation is finished, the paperwork will be filed by the garden evaluator, and sent to me. You will need to submit up to five digital photos for display garden recognition directly to

the display garden chair. These will be included in your display garden listing. Your garden will be under the general listing as well as by your designated region.

If your garden meets the requirements, you are notified by email. At that time, there is an optional official display garden sign offered for purchase; information will be sent to you should you want to take advantage of it; it truly adds a splash of "look at me!" in your garden!

Other things to consider:

1. Be thinking of when your peak bloom season is so visitors can plan to see your garden during that time.
2. What is your garden terrain like? Is it fairly flat or do you need a mountain goat to get from one side to the other? Are there nice walking paths to admire the gardens from? Is the yard sloped with gentle changes in grade?
3. How do you want to be contacted for a visit? Email, text or by phone?
4. Do you have any fun features in your garden or yard? A koi pond, stream, fountains, gazebo, or any collections of art?
5. Did you design some beds with themes? Are you a sci-fi nerd and have a collection of sci-fi-named daylilies? Do you have a Stout Silver Medal collection? Are you a dog or cat lover and have an impressive collection of furry-friend-named daylilies?

## Display Garden Gang continued

It really is not that difficult to take the small step to earn the title of an official "ADS display garden" and show off your gardening prowess!

By being recognized as a display garden owner, you are essentially become an ambassador for the American Daylily Society. You have taken good care of your plants. You've planted the various colors and forms of daylilies you like to make an impact on garden visitors and are now giving others the opportunity to see why our hobby is so addicting and fun. You may be the link that was needed for someone to learn about and join our organization!

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at [displaygardens@daylilies.org](mailto:displaygardens@daylilies.org) or my personal email, [bunnisoo@aol.com](mailto:bunnisoo@aol.com)

Sue Hill  
ADS Display Garden Chair



## WDS ANNUAL PLANT SALE

This year will be a great year for our sale; everyone is itching to purchase daylilies! The club is going to do a few things a little differently this year, so please read carefully.

I know it seems too early to think about which plants you will donate to the sale, but now is the time to start sending your list of donations to

**[WDSclubsale@gmail.com](mailto:WDSclubsale@gmail.com)**

The final day to send this information is August 15th, 2021. This is a strict deadline we must abide by due to the volume of donations we are anticipating. Please do not bring plants to the sale that have not been listed, as they will be refused.

At this time I am asking that you leave as much dirt at home as possible, and please trim your plants to 6-8 inches. This will help keep cleanup at the park to a minimum.

The sale will be held at Olbrich Park. Set-up will be slightly different this year because the positioning of the tents needed to be changed. Both tents will stay up the entire duration of the sale and pre-sale.

The dig begins the weekend before the sale he prep is Thursday the 19th and Friday the 20th of August, beginning at 9 a.m.

The sale is Saturday the 21st and Sunday the 22nd of August. Conrad will be sending out emails asking for volunteers for the sale. I am looking forward to seeing all of you!

Monique



# DAYLILIES ON DISPLAY

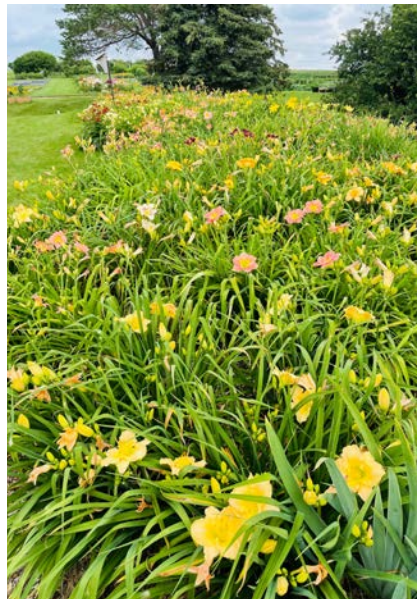
*By Rosemary Kleinheinz*



For many years, WDS has been fortunate to have a great relationship with Madison's public gardens, Allen Centennial & West Madison Ag Station, who have been willing to let us grow plants for our sales – and even take care of them! In exchange, we have provided them and their guests with a palette of new daylilies to admire.



2021 has brought some changes to this arrangement. At West Madison Ag Station we have acquired another three beds. At the Allen Centennial Gardens, they are in the process of remodeling the historic home on site and our daylily bed was in the way! This meant that WDS has had to remove our plants for the time being, with the expectation that there will be another place to establish a daylily display garden for all to enjoy in the future.



Are you one of those who, like me, prefers to buy daylilies that you've actually seen in bloom? If so, don't miss the great opportunity to see lots of those that will be at the sale in August. Head over to West Madison Ag Station on Mineral Point Road for a sneak peek. The two beds to be dug will be so marked. Be sure to notice how many in the big bed are late bloomers!



Early in May, Marilyn Lecesce recruited a large group of volunteers to dig all those plants and replant them in two of the new beds at West Madison. The third new bed will be filled with National Guest Plants left over from the June sale that was held online.



Wisconsin Daylily Society Newsletter  
Marcie Johnson, co-editor  
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**Just living is not enough...  
One must have sunshine,  
freedom, and a  
little flower.**

**Hans Christian Anderson**