

# 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*

Claudine's Charm



## President's Minute

*by Monique Warnke*

Hello fellow WDS Members!

I am looking forward to this spring as I'm sure most of us are! The black birds and robins are on their way back from their winter homes. Soon crocus, daffodils and tulips will be in our yards calling for spring. This year, I am looking forward to a new beginning in the health and welfare of the world. As gardeners, we have a love affair with the earth, and I can't wait until she thaws and is ready to nurture the blooms of that love. I am looking forward to the opportunity to wander out into my garden to hear the bird songs and see the fruits of my labor. We are scheduled to have meetings with some wonderful hybridizers this spring to look forward to. In order to keep up to date on upcoming events, check out the WDS website!

As always, keep your shovel in the dirt.

Monique

# UPCOMING WDS EVENTS

**April 23rd, 2022** – The WDS April Meeting will start at noon at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station. Scott Elliott of Maneki Neko Gardens-Scott Elliott Daylilies, Ellabell, GA will be our speaker.

**May 14th, 2022**- The WDS May Meeting will start at noon at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station. The meeting will feature guest speaker Bret Clement of Clement Daylily Gardens, Caramel, IN.

**July 6th – July 9th, 2022** - The 2022 National Convention for the American Daylily Society will be held in Asheville, North Carolina, at the Asheville Crowne Plaza Resort and Expo Center. All of the details are available through the convention website:  
<https://ahs2022national.com/>

Registration is now full, but you can ask to be put on a waiting list. Unfortunately, WDS is unable to provide a bus to and from the convention.

**July 15th – 17th, 2022** – The 2022 Region 2 Summer Meeting will be held at the Coshocton Village Inns and Suites at 115 N Water St. in Coshocton Ohio. There are 5 gardens to tour and Curt Hanson is the special guest. For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting/>.

**August 6th, 2022 @ 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm** - Adoption Auction Program at Savannah Oaks Middle School

**August 20th - 21st, 2022** - Plant Sale at Olbrich Park



'Awaken the Dawn'



'Chinese Water Lily'



'Dragonfly Dance'



'Pins and Needles'

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Howard Hite Award

It's that time of year again! Time to nominate a hybridizer that has "contributed notable achievements in the field of hybridizing". Please find the nomination form for the Howard Hite Award in the following pages.

## 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)

We are truly fortunate to have several WDS member gardens that are also recognized **AHS display gardens**! We will be highlighting them over the course of our upcoming newsletters. Garden owners who have been AHS members for two or more years have gone through the process of submitting their application and having an onsite visit by someone designated by the Regional 2 president to determine if their gardens fall within the established guidelines for display garden status. It is a wonderful way for them to share their love of daylilies with visitors throughout the growing season. Should you have any thoughts of working toward having an AHS display garden, feel free to contact me at [displaygardens@daylilies.org](mailto:displaygardens@daylilies.org). Enjoy the article on the next page by Becky Robinson and future articles from your fellow garden lovers!

Sue Hill  
AHS Display Garden Chair

**Welcome to our new members!**

Kat Jackson  
Tammy Damon  
Lynn Stegner

# BOARD MEMBERS:

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847-502-1370, [mljohnson19@yahoo.com](mailto:mljohnson19@yahoo.com)



'Border Blessed'



'Mountain Wildflower'



# DAYLILY DREAMS

*by Becky Robinson*

I have loved daylilies since I was a little girl. Even though they were just ditch lilies, growing near a literal ditch by our house, they were the one flower I would wait in anticipation of each summer. It wasn't until nearly 50 years later that I discovered hybrid daylilies – I fell in love and knew immediately that I was going to grow a garden full of them. I started by going to small, local daylily farms and gardens. My little garden was growing, and I was so proud of my collection. A few years later, my daughter took us to the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, and I got my first look at an actual display garden. I had a new dream; I was going to create my own display garden.

Sitting next to my husband while vacationing on a beach in Mexico, I told him all about my dream of creating a daylily garden in our big, empty side-yard. We had lived in our home for over 25 years by then, and in that time, the side-yard had always been full of dreams. When my children were little, it was where they played hide-and-seek and pretended to be pirates or knights or karate masters.



As they got older, it transformed into a football field, volleyball court, or whatever other aspiration they wanted to pursue. With them grown and out of the house, it was my turn to dream something up for that space. And boy did I dream. Come early spring, John and I sat outside in the chilly Northern Illinois weather, and we laid out plans of what was to become Becky's Daylily Village.

I dug into research, collecting books, information online, and as much as I could learn at Daylily auctions. I was so overwhelmed with all the varieties - there were big ones, double ones, little ones, spiders, and on and on. That is where the idea of a village came in. I decided I would have different beds for different variety of lily and planned the layout of each bed. As I continued my research, I started to read more and more about hybridizing, and became enamored with the idea of creating my own daylilies. So now I needed more beds for all the seedlings. I have told John, and all my friends I won't be digging any more beds. No more! But as people have visited over the years, I continually hear "but look at all that grass you still have."





# Daylily Dreams continued

For now, I'm sticking to my declaration and focusing on cutting my named cultivars back to a more manageable number. I would be extremely happy if I could cut it down to about 700.



Robinson seedling



'Tiffiney Wyn'

You all know that with hybridizing, we have thousands of daylily seedlings, and everything is vying for limited space. My goal is to strike a balance so I can have both dreams: seedlings and a display garden.

Late last summer, my garden had an uninvited visitor – a drunk driver ran his car through the main display beds and irreparably damaged the pergola my husband and son had built by hand years ago. Over the past 15 years, the garden has grown beyond just my dream to become an integral part of our home, almost like another member of the family. It has played host to big life events, photo shoots, painting lesson, and yoga classes. The damage felt devastating. After some clean-up (and more than a few tears) it has become an opportunity to, again, nurture my dream. Some things will stay the same, but the pergola and grand entrance I had always envisioned will need to be reconsidered...we will still have an archway though, so maybe a still (a little) grand!

As the years have gone by, my favorite part of the summer is always showing my garden to visitors - from people who didn't know what a daylily was before stopping by, to talking shop with other collectors, I have such a passion for sharing my love of gardening. I hope you can come and visit sometime as I continue growing my dream.



## 2022 Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence Nomination Form

During the 1989 Region 2 Summer Meeting, the Southern Michigan Daylily Society announced their sponsorship of the Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence. The award is a free-form, sand-etched glass plate with an engraved image of Howard Hite's H. 'Indonesia'. **THE AWARD IS NOT BASED ON THE QUANTITY OF NOMINATIONS FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL, BUT IS BASED ON THE QUALITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S YEARS OF HYBRIDIZING EFFORTS TO IMPROVE DAYLILY CULTIVARS. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO DESCRIBE WHAT THE INDIVIDUAL HAS ACCOMPLISHED. CONSIDER LISTING THE # OF REGISTRATIONS, NEW DIRECTIONS OR PROCEDURES ATTRIBUTED TO THE NOMINEE; AHS/REGION 2 HYBRIDIZING HONORS AND NOTABLE SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS TO HYBRIDIZING.**

The criteria for selection of a recipient are as follows:

1. **The award is to honor a Region 2 AHS member who has contributed notable achievements in the field of hybridizing. These achievements have been the results of years of a dedicated hybridizing program, and have greatly influenced the world of daylilies.**
2. The award may be given each year only if a recipient is selected.
3. A person may receive the award only one time.
4. Deceased hybridizers may be considered for the award.
5. Any **AHS Region 2 Member** (including committee members) **may submit names of possible recipients** to the Awards and Honors Chair before April 15, of each year. **The final selection will be determined by the Hite Award Committee** composed of four members and the Regional President representing the five states in the Region.
6. Names of past nominees may be considered as possible candidates for future years.

### Previous Howard Hite Award Recipients

1990 Dr. Charles Branch  
1991 No Award  
1992 Bryant Millikan  
1993 Charles Rekam  
1994 Steve Moldovan  
1995 Howard Hite  
1996 Dr. Robert Greisbach  
1997 Dennis Anderson  
1998 Curt Hanson  
1999 Margie Soules

2000 John Benz  
2001 Leo Sharp  
2002 Walter Jablonski  
2003 Charles Applegate  
2004 Dan Bachman  
2005 Dottie Warrell  
2006 Don Jerabeck  
2007 Richard Norris  
2008 Roy Klehm  
2009 Jamie Gossard  
2010 Robert Ellison

2011 Joel Thomas Polston  
2012 James Marsh  
2013 Martin Kaminski  
2014 Sandy Holmes  
2015 Bret Clement  
2015 Phil & Luella Korth  
2017 Bob Faulkner  
2018 John Kulpa  
2019 Mandy McMahon  
2020 No Award  
2021 No Award

### 2022 Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence Nomination Form

Nominations for the Hite Award are made by Region 2 Members. Use this form and attach any additional documentation, to support your nomination if desired. **YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO GIVE DETAILED REASONS FOR YOUR NOMINATION.** This form may be photocopied, and you may send attachments.

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

For the following reasons \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please Print Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Are You an AHS Member Yes No

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete this form by May 1, 2022, and mail or scan / email to:**

Gail Braunstein, Region 2 Awards and Honors Chair  
3010 McIntire Road  
Morrow, Ohio 45152  
gailbraunstein@hotmail.com



# Winners of the Seventeenth Annual WDS Photo Contest

*By Conrad J. Wrzesinski*

The Seventeenth Annual WDS Photo Contest greeted WDS members with a plethora of eye candy at their February Zoom meeting. Since the inception of the first WDS Photo Contest in 2006, the entries have become more varied and creative. The 2021 photo contest was no exception. This year the contest had a total of 106 entries. The WDS Photo Contest has come a long way since the first contest was held in 2006 in which there was one category and with 45 entries.

The contest format featured four categories. Each WDS Member could submit a maximum of four photos distributed in any fashion among the four categories. Photos could be of a named cultivar or a seedling. The four categories are described below.

- Category 1: Single Flower – Close-up of a single bloom without companion plants or other daylilies prominent in the background.
- Category 2: Clump – Group of two more daylily flowers without companion plants, or other daylilies prominent in the background.
- Category 3: Daylilies in the Landscape– A daylily clump with companion plants or multiple daylilies in a garden or landscape setting.
- Category 4: Creative Artistry– A daylily viewed from a different perspective or a garden critter landing on or nestled in a daylily flower.

Each contest winner will receive a certificate for free plant of their choice at the WDS Daylily Sale in August. The winner will also receive a \$25.00 credit toward the purchase of an item(s) of their choice imprinted with their winning photo from The Daylily Addicts.

<https://daylilies.online/shop/product-tag/wds/>

Have your camera ready to capture the upcoming summer blooms to enter in the Eighteenth Annual WDS Photo Contest in 2023.

In Category 1 Sue Hill's entry featured a closeup of the yellow daylily 'Cat Scratch Fever' with a purple triangular eye and triangular yellow green throat. Judy Schaefer had a winning photo with a close-up of a white daylily seedling with a purple eye, white midribs and bright green throat.

Sue Hill's entry of 'Cat Scratch Fever'



Judy Schaefer's entry





Barb Buikema's entry 'Cosmic Blast'

In Category 2 Barb Buikema's entry was an eye-catching clump of the daylily 'Cosmic Blast'. Sharon Prochaska entry was a clump of her late 7-inch flowered pale coral and red orange daylily, 'Autumn Dancer'.

In Category 3 the two winners were Becky Robinson with an entry entitled, 'A Little Fairy Time in My Garden' and Theresa Schwandt's entry of a garden scene of daylilies accented by colorful cone flowers (*Echinacea purpurea*) with a backdrop of shrubs, trees and a prominent bird feeder.

In Category 4 Pat Sturdevant's winning entry featured a large moth hiding under a daylily bloom. Rhonda Veroeven's photo had a little frog with a laughing like expression prominently nestled in a single daylily flower.

Becky Robinson's entry entitled 'A Little Fairy Time in My Garden'



Theresa Schwandt's entry



Sharon Prochaska's entry 'Autumn Dancer'



Pat Sturdevant's entry



Rhonda Veroeven's entry



# WDS HYBRIDIZERS' SHOWCASE 2022

By Carole Hunter

The WDS membership was treated to some summer candy, via our friend Zoom, in January and February this year. Four of our hybridizers put together power points to share with us what they are working on to make the world a more beautiful place

**Shannon Meyer**, new to the hybridizers' group, took the plunge both in sharing her work and registering her first successes. Shannon says that she hates mornings, so maybe hybridizing is a way to get her out there to find some pleasure in being an early riser. Her focus is on color and size, and she is particularly drawn to bitones.



Shannon Meyer's  
2021 intro  
'Gangnam Style'



Meyer's 2021 intro  
'Is It Luck'

Shannon admits to being OCD about record keeping, a trait that many (but certainly not all) of us hybridizers share. She likes to name her plants after songs, and registered her first cultivars in 2021....6 of them, no less! Shannon's garden (and Shannon), 'Pure Morning Daylilies', is located in Union, Wisconsin.



Shannon Meyer's  
2021 intro  
'Bodack Yellow'

**Genni Kleckner**, the pollen dabber at Work in Progress Gardens, has introduced 87 cultivars since her first one in 2009. The spokesperson for the family-operated garden, **Francis**, brought us up to date on what has been going on there in recent years. We saw a lot of lovely garden shots of their property in Muscoda, Wisconsin.



Genni particularly likes toothies and doubles, and has progressed to using mostly her own seedlings and introductions for hybridizing.



A Kleckner seedling

# Hybridizers' Showcase continued

As a comment on how hard it is to make any money as a small hybridizer, a registration for 2022 bears the name **FLAT BROKE. LOW BUDGET** was introduced in 2021 and **MONEY FOR NOTHING** in 2020. Planned for 2023 is **DIRE STRAITS**. It helps to have a sense of humor in this business! See it all for yourself at

[workinprogressgardens.com](http://workinprogressgardens.com)



The 3 pollen dabbers in the **Prochaska** family each have their own focus in hybridizing. **Jim** works on big & tall (makes sense...tall people don't like bending down over dwarf daylilies to pollinate).



'A Dentist's Dream' (Prochaska 2022)

**Doug Prochaska** likes UFs, patterns, green throats, and watermarks.



'Tidepool' (Prochaska, D. 2022)

**Sharon Prochaska** tries to elbow in wherever the other two leave her space to plant!



'Frankenstein's Bride' (Prochaska, S. 2022)

We saw a lot of really exciting seedlings that are perfectly comfortable in the cold of Abrams, Wisconsin, which is even further north than Green Bay. Jim says that they register the statistics of their plants as they perform in their Fox Woods Garden, and that they will likely have higher branching and bud count further south.



# Hybridizers' Showcase continued

Together, Jim, Sharon, and Doug have registered 44 daylilies. This year they introduced 8 plants. Copy and paste the address below into your search engine to see their creations, plus the other 500 or so daylilies that they have for sale!

<http://www.plantstep.com/FlowerCatalog.psl?action=11024>

**Prairie's Edge Gardens** is located 20 miles south of the Wisconsin/Illinois border, in Rockford, Illinois, and is subject to the same challenging climate as southern Wisconsin. **Carole Hunter** is the pollen dabber and pretty much a one-woman-show when it comes to gardening. However, she is working to cultivate an interest in her 4 granddaughters.



Aurora tagging her crosses

They are old enough to dab pollen, and hopefully in a couple of years will be big enough to handle a culling spade (culling is the hardest work that this hybridizer does because she does it by hand).

All 4 of them hybridized with their own seedlings this year, a mindset that took their granny 8 years to adopt. Carole's main hybridizing focus is northern rebloom, since that is something that we are missing in this part of the country. It is a difficult goal to attain, but she is free to work with any color, shape, height, or size that might show that attribute.



'Meteor Shower'  
rebloomer, CMO

This is evident in the 15 plants that she has registered, which include an extra large (7" or more), several larges (4 ½"-6 ½"), 2 smalls (3-4"), a UF, and a double, in addition to several full forms. A cristate may get lined out this year for introduction. Half of her registrations rebloom reliably for her. Visit her website to see her creations, plus plants from other hybridizers that she has available.

[prairiesedgegardens.com](http://prairiesedgegardens.com)



possible 2023 intro

Wisconsin Daylily Society Newsletter  
Marcie Johnson, co-editor  
3028 W. Main St.  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590



That is one good thing about  
this world... There are always  
sure to be more springs.

L. M. Montgomery