

GREAT LAKES

Daylily

ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN OHIO WISCONSIN

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'Gigantic Ray of Sunshine'
(Holmes-S., 2019)

Sandy is one of our
seven amazing
Winter Meeting speakers.
See page 15.

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American Hemerocallis Society

Membership Rates

Individual (1 year)	\$30
Individual (3 Years)	\$84
Dual Membership (1 year) *	\$36
Dual Membership (3 years)*	\$99
Life Membership	\$500
Dual Life Membership	\$750
Youth - Individual (1 year)	\$12
Youth - Institutional (1 year)	\$25

12 month memberships begin on the first of the month after payment is received.
Make checks payable to the AHS.

Mail to: Mary Gunter
PO Box 65
St. Matthews, SC 29135

* Dual Membership means two persons living in the same household.

Editorial Policy

The American Hemerocallis Society is a nonprofit organization. The *American Hemerocallis Society Region 2 / Great Lakes Newsletter* is published for the benefit of American Hemerocallis Society members residing in Region 2. As such, the editorial focus of the publication centers on:

- The genus *Hemerocallis*.
- AHS and Region 2 events.
- Region 2 members and hybridizers.

Submissions are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and content for the three criteria cited above.

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Out-of-Region
Subscriptions
\$20 per year in USA
\$30 per year overseas

Make checks payable to
AHS Region 2 and send to
AHS Region 2 Treasurer.

Advertising

Rates for inside pages

Full Page.....	\$200
Half Page.....	\$100
Quarter Page	\$50

Make checks payable to
AHS Region 2 and send it with your
request to the Editor.

Content Deadline for

Winter Edition:

April 15, 2025

Region 2 Website: www.adsregion2.org

Important Notice:

The AHS is actively promoting the use of
American Daylily Society in place of
American Hemerocallis Society.

This should add clarity when sharing
information with the general public.

You will see Region 2 follow their lead, using
the names interchangeably going forward.

Top to bottom:

A true *Lilium*

Jerry Marlatt and
grand-daughters
with Fred Sheill

Angie Maly, MCDS
multi-award winner

On The Front Cover: ‘Gigantic Ray of Sunshine’ Photo by Sandy Holmes
On The Back Cover: Variegated seedling Photo by Mike Holmes

Region 2 Director Message

Rhonda Veroeven, Region 2 Director, President American Hemerocallis Society



Winter, the great time of reflection for gardeners. I have been reflecting on many things and have been busy making plans for additions and changes I hope to make in my garden this year!

In late October, the fall Board of Directors meeting was held in Kansas City, KS. It was an incredibly full and productive meeting. Your Board discussed some fantastic long-range plans specifically around the Vision and Mission Statements. Such powerful work.

AHS has received a surprising and significant donation of over one million dollars to be used on two projects. One is to create an Endowment Fund, which we are currently working on with the donor and our financial team. This sizeable donation will take a bit of time to handle appropriately and carefully. The donation will also fund a “new” website. Specifically, we will be updating a lot of the behind-the-scenes portions and make much-needed improvements on the front end of our website. Database updates and improving functionality of the registration process will be paramount. What a benefit this change will mean for all members—and especially hybridizers. We are so excited!

As you are all aware, we had a committee working to create Policies and Procedures for a formalized Test Garden Program through AHS. The committee met many times, and established procedures for hybridizers interested in using the test garden program, as well as those interested in being a test garden.

There were also several changes made to our Garden Judges’ requirements. First, there will be no charge for taking classes in person any longer. The Board agreed that since most paperwork is sent digitally, which eliminates shipping costs, there was no need for a fee. This reduces the workload for instructors as well as reducing costs for members. There is still no fee for online classes. We will be offering Garden Judges Workshop 1 and 3 online as well as Exhibitions Workshop 1 and 3 online multiple times throughout the year. If you ever need an instructor to teach a class at a different time,

simply ask and if it is possible, we will make it happen. Any instructor can teach a class online for you.

There were some other changes made to Garden Judge renewals that will be published in the updated *Judging Daylilies in the Garden* book. One very noteworthy change, however, is that we have decreased the number of required garden visits from 25 in a typical five-year renewal period to 15 for Garden Judges having served a minimum of 20 consecutive years. Those judges will earn the title of “Distinguished Garden Judges.” We are hoping that this will reduce the stress of traveling and visitations for our most experienced judges, leading to increased retention. We value their experience and honor their years of service.

We are currently looking for someone who would be interested in being our Daylily Dispatch Editor. This is not a position that should take a large amount of time. The Publications Committee has wonderful ideas on how to proceed with this position and would make this position very doable with minimum time commitment. Please let Lois Hart, our Publications Chairperson, know if you are interested or have any questions. Contact Lois at publications@daylilies.org.

This past summer I had the amazing opportunity to preview the 2025 convention in Seattle, WA. If you haven’t registered yet and are considering attending (which you absolutely should), do not delay. Registration is filling up. The auxiliary tour is also filling up and you certainly do not want to miss that! The tour gardens and the Seattle area will provide all the attendees of the 2025 convention with a trip to remember. Use this link to get to the convention website and register: ahs2025national.com

Awards:

Region 2 did an amazing job in the 2024 Awards this year! Jamie Gossard earned three Awards of Merit for ‘Heavenly New Frontiers,’ ‘Cliff Jumper,’ and his dual registration of ‘Spacecoast Scarlet Desire.’ Steve Williams also earned the Don Fisher Memorial Cup Award for his introduction ‘Bedbug.’ Congrats to our winners!!!

(continued on next page)

Region 2 President Message

Monique Warnke, Region 2 President



Happy New Year Region 2 members!

We are in the middle of winter, but luckily there is relief from the winter blues—the Mid-Winter Symposium! This meeting will be held February 21st through the 22nd in Lafayette, Indiana. There is such a variety of speakers for this winter meeting that it has something for everyone! I would recommend making reservations as soon as possible because this one is likely to be popular!

The next big event for Region 2 will be our Summer Meeting which will also be held in Lafayette, July 18th through the 20th. There is a wonderful lineup of beautiful gardens to wander through, as always!

On an exciting leadership note, Region 2 is in need of a new director! The term for this position would run from January 1, 2026, until December 31, 2028. If you are interested in this position to represent Region 2 at the national level, contact me at mwarnke77@gmail.com. For more information about the requirements of this position, please see page six of this newsletter.

The 2025 American Daylily Society National convention will be held in Seattle this year from July 9th through the 12th. This is the first and the only time

Seattle will participate in hosting the national convention. The gardens are simply stunning and worth the time and effort to attend. With a different climate than Region 2, this convention will allow attendees to see plants that we may not be able to grow within our own region!

The filming crew of Pop Plant will be attending the convention in Seattle and will be showing their documentary about daylilies that they filmed in selected gardens in 2024. The crew of Pop Plant expressed interest in continuing their journey into the wonderful world of daylilies and will be filming portions of the convention in Seattle. They have decided this would be a terrific opportunity to have the complete story of our dear daylilies and those who love them. So, if you have ever been interested in becoming a part of the world of film, this is your opportunity!

Due to a recent accident, I had a brief stay in the hospital (luckily not during gardening season). During my stay, I chatted with the hospital staff about my family, work, and my love for gardening. I want to express my gratitude for all of you and our love for the daylily. I feel so fortunate to be a part of this community. You helped me get through a rough time.

Keep your shovel in the dirt.

Region 2 Director Message continued

Convention Hosts Needed:

The Conventions chair is currently accepting applications to host the ADS National Conventions in 2028 and 2029. The convention team is available to help with all aspects of hosting a convention, including an experienced team of hotel and food contract negotiators. If you are interested or have questions, contact Caroline Zebroski at conventions@daylilies.org for more information.

Upcoming National Conventions:

July 9-12, 2025: Seattle, Washington

May 20-23, 2026: Valdosta, Georgia

June, 2027: Tidewater, Virginia

Looking forward to seeing everyone in Indiana for our Winter Meeting!

Region 2 Howard Hite Award 2025

by Gail Braunstein, Awards and Honors Chair

2025 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 May 1st, 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 Recipients

1990 Dr. Charles Branch	2003 Charles Applegate	2015 Bret Clement
1992 No Award	2004 Dan Bachman	2016 Phil & Luella Korth
1993 Bryant Millikan	2005 Dottie Warrell	2017 Bob Faulkner
1994 Steve Moldovan	2006 Don Jerabck	2018 John Kulpa
1995 Howard Hite	2007 Richard Norris	2019 Mandy McMahan
1996 Dr. Robert Griesbach	2008 Roy Klehm	2020 No Award
1997 Dennis Anderson	2009 Jamie Gossard	2021 No Award
1998 Curt Hanson	2010 Robert Ellison	2022 Gerda Brooker
1999 Margie Soules	2011 Joel Thomas Polston	2023 Steve Williams
2000 John Benz	2012 James Marsh	2024 Mike Holmes
2001 Leo Sharp	2013 Martin Kamensky	2025
2002 Walter Jablonski	2014 Sandy Holmes	2026

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, 2025, and mail or scan / email to:

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

In Search of Region 2 Director for 2026-2028 Term

We are in need of a Regional Director for the term of January 1, 2026 through December 31, 2028. A nominating committee was not formed at this past summer's regional meeting. The AHS bylaws provide for an alternative procedure in such an event. Any person who meets the requirements to be a Director set forth in the AHS bylaws who wants to have their name included on the ballot must notify the Regional President, Monique Warnke, in writing or by email (mwarnke77@gmail.com) of their desire to be included on the ballot. This communication must be received no later than fifty (50) days prior to the date of the regional members meeting which will be held on July 21 or 22 at the Summer Meeting in Lafayette, Indiana. The notification of your desire to be placed on the ballot should include a statement that you meet the requirements in the following paragraph:

Under the AHS bylaws, in order to serve as a Director a person must have attended at least two National Conventions and two Regional Summer Meetings. The term of a Director is for three years and a Director is required to attend two Board of Directors meetings each year. While the Region provides for a limited amount of reimbursement, attendance at the required Board meetings involves a financial commitment and any person elected is required to sign a statement the person has the financial resources to meet this commitment. The AHS bylaws permit the AHS to waive the convention and regional meeting attendance requirements if no person who meets these requirements is willing to serve as a Director, provided that person has served a full term as a regional officer.

Request For Live and Silent Auction Donations

Mike Anders and Greg Beavers have begun soliciting daylilies for the Live Auctions at our upcoming 2025 Winter Symposium and Summer Meetings, both in Lafayette, Indiana. Rusty Neal and Jane Herr will be coordinating the Silent Auction for the Winter Symposium. Contact information for each of them is listed below. Summer Meeting Silent Auction coordinators will be shared in the spring newsletter.

The generous bidding from the Live and Silent Auctions last year helped to fund several Region 2 projects, including the Public Garden Grant Program, covering youth registration fees, and producing our award-winning Region 2 newsletter.

There are a variety of ways for hybridizers and collectors to donate:

- Plants from all years of introduction will be accepted. The plants to be auctioned live will be determined depending on the total number of donations.
- Other Silent Auction items are so wide-ranging that it is hard to list them all here, but have included garden sculptures, floral-themed jewelry, garden prints and photographs, food and beverage items, bird baths, and so many other creative donations.

Please contact any of the organizers below to make donations. Thank you!

Mike Anders, 419-889-8827, anders@findlay.edu
Greg Beavers, 812-345-2299, bluebirdbox@gmail.com
Rusty Neal, 812-327-0593, rustyneal49@aol.com
Jane Herr, 812-320-2340, jane@rjherr.com

Region 2 2024 Cash and Fund Balance Report

Bobbi Johnson, Region 2 Treasurer

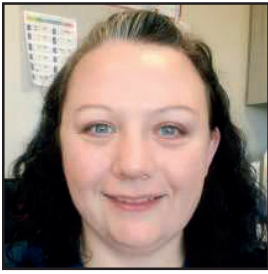
Cash on Hand	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals
Checking Account	\$ 20,300.56	5,751.55
PayPal	---	---
Money Market Account	25,219.93	15,750.85
Certificate of Deposit	50,000.00	52,634.82
Total Cash On Hand	\$ 95,520.49	74,137.22

Fund Balances	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals
General Fund	\$ 87,011.49	62,484.22
Restricted Funds	---	---
Youth Fund	6,709.00	10,253.00
Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship	1,800.00	1,400.00
Total Cash On Hand	\$ 95,520.49	74,137.22

Recent Memorial Donations To Region 2		
In Memory Of	Donor	Amount
Tom Hunter	Chicagoland Daylily Society	\$ 100.00
Mike Fawkes	Central Illinois Daylily Society	100.00
Total Memorial Contributions		\$ 200.00

Recent Newsletter Contributions	
Donor	Amount
Jim Brewer (extra copy)	\$ 10.00
Total Newsletter Contributions	\$ 10.00

Recent Donations to Region 2	
Donor	Amount
Ohio Daylily Society - Youth Fund	\$ 1,000.00
Total Donations to Region 2	\$ 1,000.00



Region 2 2024 Year-End Summary

Bobbi Johnson, Region 2 Treasurer

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY - REGION 2

Income Statement

January 1st through December 31st
12/31/2024

Revenue	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals
Summer Regional Meeting Registrations	20,906.00	
Summer Regional Meeting Auction	17,569.00	10,256.45
Summer Regional Meeting Misc. Revenues	566.00	
Online Auction	7,931.00	8,982.00
Youth Fund Donations	150.00	1,000.00
Contributions	2,900.00	900.00
Newsletter Advertising	275.00	85.00
Newsletter Postage Reimbursement	1,476.45	1,078.35
Interest	659.65	2,335.35
Winter Symposium Registrations	9,360.00	8,875.00
Winter Symposium Auction	11,688.00	10,908.00
Winter Symposium-Next Year	2,925.00	2,831.00
Miscellaneous	109.38	
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 76,515.48	\$ 47,251.15
	<hr/>	
Expenditures	2023 Actuals	2024 Actuals
Newsletter Printing	15,417.65	27,804.62
Newsletter Postage		2,009.06
Newsletter Editor Expense	3,053.07	2,438.39
Winter Symposium-Current Year	8,370.99	14,436.28
Winter Symposium-Auction/Raffle	233.34	
Winter Symposium-Next Year		1,586.28
Summer Meeting Expense - Current Year	25,641.11	4,388.72
Summer Meeting Expense - Prior Year		2,156.25
Summer Meeting Expense - Next Year		300.00
Summer Meeting Auction Expense	1,135.96	
Online Auction Expense		826.74
Merchant Processing Fees	1,120.63	555.82
Office Supplies	2,943.05	364.68
Printing & Postage	195.40	68.00
Regional Director Expense	3,364.26	2,269.38
Officer Meeting Reimbursement	5,851.76	3,930.49
AHS Liability Insurance		
Software/Website	282.96	17.99
Faulkner Scholarship Awards	-	400.00
Public Garden Grant	-	3,400.00
Youth Fund Expenses		1,276.84
Miscellaneous		404.88
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 67,610.18	\$ 68,634.42
	<hr/>	
NET INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ 8,905.30	\$ (21,383.27)

Footnotes: 1. The Region reports financials using cash basis accounting. Under cash basis accounting, revenue is reported on the income statement only when cash is received. Expenses are recorded only when cash is paid out. 2. Public Garden Grant awards for grant applications received in 2023 were issued in 2024. Applications received and awarded in 2024 were awarded in 2024 and 2025. 3. Insurance invoices for 2023 and 2024 were received from ADS and paid in January 2025

Region 2 Youth Update

By Pat Titus, Regional Youth Chair



Youth members, are you on a countdown until spring? I sure am!! As I await the next “snow-mageddon” for our area, I am thankful for some of the moisture we have received this fall/winter. Even though our gardening activities have slowed down, there are

still plenty of garden-related activities for you (and adults) to do.

1. Maybe you saw a specific daylily at a garden tour last summer that caught your attention. It is always nice to see them in person. I usually make note of those and try to locate them for purchase during the winter months.

There are plenty of talented hybridizers and growers in our region! I love the hardiness of northern-grown daylilies. And if I want to dip my toes into some southern-bred genetics, I look to see if someone has it in our area. Hmm, I need to get shopping.

2. Many folks break the winter doldrums by starting daylily seeds. There are quite a few offered on Facebook and the Lily Auction if you didn't harvest any of your own. I crossed a few last summer, so I will start growing them soon.

3. Plan a new daylily bed! That's always exciting! Do you have a bed of your own or are your acquisitions scattered in various beds around the garden? If you have attended the regional or national summer meetings, you know how generous daylily members are to the youth!

Take a look at the daylilies you have been gifted or

have purchased. Maybe you want to organize them by height or by color. Look up their characteristics by searching on the ADS Database and decide how you want to plant them. And even if you plant them into your own garden this spring, they can always be moved around until you find the right spot for them later.

4. Did you get a gardening tool for Christmas or your birthday? My birthday gift was a small electric chain saw. Although I won't cut down any big trees, it will sure help eliminate some ornery saplings that have gotten out of control in the daylily beds (those maple seedlings. Grr!). Christmas also brought a small garden art pole under my tree. This one pays tribute to grandchildren.

5. Do you plant your daylilies together or are they scattered among perennials and annuals? My mailbox is full of seed catalogs this month. I think I must be on a catalog mailing list somewhere!! Catalogs from tried-and-true businesses that I have previously bought from are kept to pour over this winter while the new ones are sifted through but mainly trashed.

Like most daylily enthusiasts, I like to grow vegetables and other flowers on our farm. I always enjoy planting something new or unusual. I wonder what it will be this year?

I would like to challenge you to pick out something you have never done before in the garden and try it this year. Let me know what you decide to do and take a few pictures of it for a future *Great Lakes Daylily* newsletter.

Hybridizers, would you like to have your babies shown in the hybridizers' presentation at the Region 2 2025 Winter Symposium? Please send no more than 10 seedling photo slides and one slide with your garden name to treasureradsr2@gmail.com by February 15, 2025.



Youth Gardening Page

by Sandra Dunn

Kids and teens, this page is especially for you! I found this great design in the Region 2 archives. Have fun coloring this newsletter cover from 37 years ago! Or get really creative and draw a new Region 2 design that we can publish for others to color.

Send me a photo of your completed creation and I'll put your name in the next newsletter. If you don't use email yet, ask an adult to send it for you: greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com. I'll also enter you in a drawing for a free daylily.

Great Lakes Daylily Newsletter spring summer 1988

Region



Region 2 Editor Notes

Sandra Dunn



My 2025 wish for each of you is that you are routinely able to make the time to do something that brings you joy. Gardening fills that role for many of us. I hope that settling in on a winter day to look through this colorful newsletter also brings you some gardening happiness.

There is a lot to love in this newsletter, from the diversity of articles to the gorgeous photos of some of the newest registered daylilies coming out of our Region. Another hope I have is that as you look through this issue, you get ideas for articles you could write or photos that you could share in an upcoming newsletter. We each have a daylily story to tell! You can share yours by emailing me at greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com.

What are YOUR favorite early blooming cultivars?

Most of us are eagerly anticipating spring and the start of another gardening season. What are the first daylilies to bloom in your garden? Which ones are your favorite and what do you love about them? In the Winter 2024 issue we had great reader participation in compiling a list of favorite late-bloomers. Adding more early-blooming cultivars is another way to extend the growing season. Please send me a bit about your favorite early blooming cultivars so that others can learn about them. If you have a photo, that's a bonus. I would love to have your contributions by mid-March.



Winter and Summer Meeting previews

I am so excited about the line-up of speakers for our Winter Meeting in Lafayette on February 22 and 23. There is a preview of their presentations on pages 13-15, as well as the schedule and registration form (which you can also complete online at our Region 2 website). If you do attend the Winter Meeting, please consider writing an article about your experience for our spring newsletter. If writing is not your thing, talk with me about your highlights and I'll write a draft for you to look over.

You will also find colorful glimpses of our upcoming Summer Meeting tour gardens on pages 28-32. We are in for another treat in Lafayette in July with this mix of collectors' gardens and hybridizers' gardens, and all of the other Summer Meeting activities. We'll share more about Heidi and Charles Douglas, our guest speakers, in the spring issue.

Owning my mistakes

As much as I love gathering content and trying to make it look pretty here, I have ongoing anxiety about messing something up. I'm not talking about typos or other small stuff. Our proofreaders find almost all of those. My worries are things like forgetting to include a club report I received early or miscrediting someone's pretty photo (both of which I have done). There are two big recent errors that I am correcting in this issue.

My sincere apologies to Nikki Schmith that I did not include recognition of her lovely article about her personal daylily show when I listed our award-winning articles in our late summer newsletter. The award was presented to her at the National Convention, which I did not attend, and I sadly missed including her award here. That correction is made on page 23.

This issue also includes a reprint of an article by Carole Hunter about her hybridizing program, presented on page 26. This was originally published in the Spring 2024 newsletter. But through a baffling printing error, the text of the first page was reprinted on the second page. The article is just too interesting not to be read in its entirety, so we are publishing it again.

Other intriguing articles

There are three other feature articles in this issue. The first is another selection in our "Digging Up Daylily History" series—the story of Michigan's "Daylily King." The second also includes a bit of history, as well as the results of the Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society's 2024 show. Finally, there is a succinct clarification of the distinctions between true lilies and daylilies.

One of the many things I appreciate about each of these articles is that the authors had a topic they were passionate about, dove into learning more, and shared the results with us. I hope there is a topic that intrigues you enough to do the same!

A feast of photos

Sharing results of the Region 2 Photography Contest is one of my favorite parts of being the Great Lakes Daylily editor. They simply cannot be contained to just one issue. So I've included three more pages of photo entries in this issue, starting on page 17. The guidelines for the 2025 contest are on page 20. Read carefully because there is a change in one of the categories—changing the Creative category to Artist's Choice. You will also want to check out the stunning prize donations from the Prochaska family of Fox Woods Garden in Wisconsin.

In the past two issues of this newsletter, I encouraged Region 2 hybridizers to send me a photo of one of their most recent intros to include in a feature for this issue. The result is an absolutely gorgeous collection of photos on pages 39-41, representing wonderful diversity of hybridizing directions within our region. If you are a hybridizer realizing that request is still on your "to do" list, I am happy to share another page of photos in the next newsletter.

Ways to contribute to upcoming newsletters

If there is a theme within my notes here, it is that while I spend a lot of time pulling this newsletter together, it is really a group effort. There are a number of ways that you can contribute:

- * Send me your "early bloomer" nomination mentioned above
- * Contribute to our "What's In A Name?" series by sharing the stories of your daylily names
- * Give us ideas for upcoming features of our "Hybridizer 'How-To' Hints and Tips
- * Write an article about a topic of interest to you
- * Share with me any ways you are using Artificial Intelligence (AI) in your daylily efforts. Yes, you read that correctly! Jamie Gossard and I have been kicking around ideas for an article about the potential uses of AI in the daylily world. I would love to include some of your experiences in that article.
- * Become a proofreader. No *GLD* issue is complete without an expression of my true gratitude to the team who reads and "betters up" every article. Thank you Barb Brevick, Barb Bischoff, Charlie Harper, Ginny Pearce, JoAnne Frederick,

Lezlie Myers, Marietta Crabtree, Mary Kwas, Nancy Cooper, Nancy Secrist, Rich Rabeler, Sharon Vanderwilp, Sue Bergeron (ADS Scientific Committee), and Trinity Love (our newest reviewer!). I also appreciate each author rereading their contributions once a layout is done. It is amazing how many things you can read right over when you have looked at it for too long!

Para 4, line 1: change "trainings" to "training sessions";

This paragraph also seems to be missing one or more lines beginning on line 3;

And the 2nd sentence is awkward, try: "Taking the information gained from this experience (you know ...), she plans to bring this information and these policies society."



'Itchin' to Shine'
37, 6.5, MRe, SEv, Dip
Kirsten Hatfield, 2024
dorsetndaylilies.com

Note: Please refer to the ADS online datz

den was established by Pete and Angel Webb 20 Indiana. The garden is a hybridizing/sales garden Webb's Daylily Garden introductions, but does inons from other northern hybridizers. The garden st outside of Frankfort's city limits. Plants will be uring the Summer Meeting. es for edged and pleated unusual form daylilies. s approximately 4,000 to 5,000 seedlings annual-their own introductions and seedlings along side

First para - "Besides those on the previous (doe three pages, you can find more stunning photos Region 2 website for inspiration.

Above: Examples of just a few of the many error catches and suggestions that our proofreaders make before the newsletter ends up in your hands (or on your computer screen). From double-checking websites and cultivar registration information to fixing awkward sentences, I appreciate them!

Garden and Exhibition Judging Winter Online Class Schedule -->

A great time to renew your certification or explore a new area of learning and service!

To register, reply to:
judgeseducation@daylilies.org

Exhibition Judges Clinic 1
Feb. 25, 7:00 pm EST

Exhibition Judges Clinic 3
Feb. 27, 7:00 pm EST

Garden Judges Workshop 1
Feb. 18, 7:00 pm EST

Garden Judges Workshop 3
Feb. 20, 7:00 pm EST





2025 Region 2 Winter Symposium Agenda

Lafayette, Indiana – February 21-22, 2025

Friday, February 21, 2025

12:00 p.m.	Registration begins
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Hybridizers' Forum – Bobby Scott, Moderator
4:00 p.m.	Silent auction opens – for the benefit of Region 2
4:00 - 4:30 p.m.	State of the Region – Region 2 President Monique Warnke
4:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Region 2 Awards - Gail Braunstein, Chair
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner - on your own
6:00 – 9:00 p.m.	Cash Bar in the Lobby
6:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Welcoming statements
6:45 - 7:45 p.m.	Bobby Scott - “Back for the First Time”
8:00 - 9:30 p.m.	Mike Anders/Greg Beavers – Live Auction to benefit Region 2
9:30 –11:00 p.m.	Hospitality Room open – Suite #102

Saturday, February 22, 2025

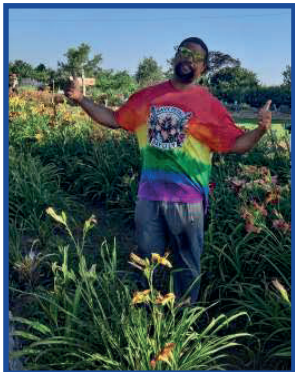
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast - included with your room if you are staying at the Courtyard
8:30 – 8:45 a.m.	Welcoming statements
8:45 – 9:45 a.m.	Rich Crider - “Buddy Up with Nature’s Predators: Incorporating Carnivorous Plants”
9:45 – 10:45 a.m.	Mike Holmes - “A Botanical Dream”
11:00 - 12:00 p.m.	Dianna Gossard - “Making Hybridizing Fun”
12:00 -1:30 p.m.	Lunch on your own – light food in hospitality room
1:30 – 2:30 p.m.	Nancy Rold - “Letting the Daylilies Lead You Down a New Path”
2:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Peter Donato - “Steve Todd: All About the Pants”
3:45 - 4:45 p.m.	Sandy Holmes - “I’m Getting There”
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Cash Bar in the Lobby
5:50 – 6:00 p.m.	Invocation
6:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:15 – End	Mike Anders/Greg Beavers - Live Auction to benefit Region 2 continues
Auction end to 11:30	Hospitality Room open – Suite #102

Sunday, February 23, 2025

7:30 – 8:30 a.m.	Breakfast – included with your room if staying at the Courtyard. Safe travels.
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Region 2 Winter Symposium Speakers

February 21-22, 2025 in Lafayette, Indiana



Bobby Scott, Jr., Young Gun Daylilies, Mustang, Oklahoma

“Back for the First Time”

I began my journey with daylilies when I was five years old. My father, Bob senior, was already hybridizing and introducing ‘Topguns’ daylilies. I was “voluntold” to plant the seedlings every spring—a Scott family tradition. Needless to say, my initial impression of daylilies was not positive.

I left home, as most young men do, and worked outside of the horticulture industry for several years. I had many different jobs, with the most beneficial being those in the sales and customer service industry. I was happy enough, but there was something...missing.

My father drew closer to retirement, and I returned home to help him. At first I did everything BUT the daylilies. Then one day I went out and walked the seedling fields with him. I was immediately hooked once again. I have not looked back since. Topgun Daylilies is officially retired, so all of your ‘Topguns’ are officially collectors’ items. From here on, the prefix will be ‘Swirl City,’ paying respect to living in Tornado Alley. So begins the journey.



‘Swirl City My Friend Patti’ (2024), named for R11 hybridizer Patti Waterman



Nancy Rold, Glory Be Gardens, Hallsville, Missouri

“Letting the Daylilies Lead You Down a New Path”

I hybridize on a five-acre property in zone 6b Hallsville, Missouri, where the hardiness of seedlings can be challenged by drought, flooding, hot summers, or freeze-thaw winters with little to no snow cover. My current focus is on diploid cultivars with pigmented scapes. My goal is to change the size, color and form of blooms with dark scapes and colorful bracts. To me, hybridizing is a way to participate in creation. Gardening connects me to the farmers in my past and fills me with hopeful anticipation every spring. I view hybridizing as both a science and an art. My analytic side loves to keep spreadsheets of seedling data and anticipate genetic combinations. My artistic side loves to photograph and share the beauty of the results.

I am an ADS member, Garden Judge and past president in my local club—Central Missouri Daylily Club (CMDC). This club has a great hybridizing tradition in Rosemary Whitacre, Frank Kropf, Bob Tankesley-Clarke and Brian Mahieu. I have been a reporter and contributor to Region 11’s publication—*The MoKanOk*—receiving the AHS national award for Best Article on Hybridizing in 2006. The original title of that article was thought too risqué for publication in the regional newsletter. Find out what it was during my presentation!

I have attended Region 2 events in the past and know what a fun group you are. I am eager to share my hybridizing experiences and excitement about pigmented scapes with you at the 2025 Region 2 Winter Meeting. I am also delighted to be speaking at the same event as fellow Region 11 hybridizer and good friend, the talented and entertaining Bobby Scott.

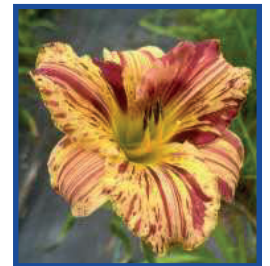


‘Refined by Fire’ (2018), garden tour winner at 2022 Region 11 Summer Meeting



Mike Holmes, Riverbend Daylily Garden, Xenia, Ohio “A Botanical Dream”

Hybridizing daylilies is like nature’s magic trick for gardeners—selectively crossbreeding plants to create new, beautiful variations. You get to pick and mix their best traits. Imagining the unique, distinctive blooms you can create is a botanical dream. My 30-year journey began with a fascination for edged daylilies, which eventually blossomed into a passionate focus on Variegated Daylilies. Join me as I unveil this journey.



Seedling showing variable splotches, flecks, and stripes (ADS definition of “variegated”)



Dianna Gossard, Dianna’s Double Daylilies, Galloway, Ohio “Making Hybridizing Fun”

I was raised on the farm alongside my brother, where I developed a love for showing animals at the fair. Now as a parent of three children, I’ve shared that same passion for farm life on our five acres. They’ve participated in 4-H, showing a variety of animals. I also have six grandchildren and I believe they will have many agricultural interests as well.

I am the owner of Superior Laboratories, Inc. in Columbus, Ohio. Superior Labs has been dedicated to food, water, and environmental testing for 34 years.

I’ve been hybridizing daylilies for many years, but my excitement for the process truly took off when I discovered Tetraploid Doubles. Since then, I’ve focused exclusively on them, introducing 88 named varieties. I’m proud to have received four Honorable Mention awards and two Awards of Merit. My goal is to inspire a renewed interest in Tet Doubles.



‘Cheddar Explosion’ (2013), Award of Merit winner in 2022



Peter Donato, The Cattery Daylily Works, Coopersburg, Pennsylvania “Steve Todd: All About The Pants”

About me: I’m from a Zone 6b garden in Pennsylvania. My wife Shayna of 11 years and I have been “doing daylilies” since 2015. Our current setup is a 2.2 acre plot with about 400 named cultivars and 2500 seedlings. I own two automotive recycling businesses and am also very heavy into cars. Shayna is an RN Clinical Coordinator. Shayna and I have 10 cats at home. We also operate a non-profit named “Pumpkins Place Kitten Rescue.”

About my talk: I will be talking about the daylily program of Steve Todd—creator of “Clown Pants.” Steve has been creating daylilies from his 1/3 acre Chicago suburb for over 15 years, quietly and privately. Most only know Steve as a wonderful presence on Allthingsplants and a seed seller on the Lily Auction. I will be talking about some of the great plants Steve has hybridized and about how great of a daylily mentor and guy he is!



‘Clown Pants’ (2015), where striped sepals began



Rich Crider, Three Shovels Farm, St. Matthews, South Carolina

“Buddy Up With Nature’s Predators: Carnivorous Plants And How To Incorporate Them Into Your Garden”

By day, I manage large-scale information technology projects for federal government customers, with a career spanning more than 25 years. I have done work for the Army, Coast Guard, Library of Congress, NASA, and others. When I’m not handling IT challenges, you’ll likely find me digging in the dirt, pursuing my lifelong love of gardening.

I serve as Vice President of the American Daylily Society, where I merge my technology skills with my passion for plants to benefit the organization. Alongside my work with daylilies, I am an avid enthusiast of irises, carnivorous plants, and practically anything green and growing. My gardening journey began as a child, influenced by my green-thumbed grandmothers, and has only deepened over time.

I currently split my gardening time between my home in Maryland and South Carolina, where I operate Three Shovels Farm—my “hobby” that got out of control. I cultivate over 2,500 daylilies, 1,500 iris varieties, and more than 1,000 carnivorous plants.



Sarracenia-
one of many carnivorous plants to learn about in this talk



Sandy Holmes, Riverbend Daylily Garden, Xenia, Ohio

“I’m Getting There”

I started as a back yard hybridizer in 1995. In 2003, after Mike and I moved Riverbend Gardens to its current location just outside of Xenia, OH, hybridizing became a serious obsession. With so much land, good sense was the only restriction. My first introductions were in 2005. I considered Steve Moldovan my mentor because he had a significant influence on my hybridizing. I focus on large tetraploid unusual forms but that doesn’t stop me from being distracted by other sizes and looks. Currently my favorite seedlings are 10 to 12 inch unusual forms with interesting eyes and edges.

In 2007, I became a Garden Judge, followed by Garden Judge Instructor in 2011. From 2016 thru 2020, I was Region 2 President, and I have served in several volunteer positions with the ADS. I was honored to receive the ADS Region 2 Service Award in 2021, the Moldovan Mentoring Award in 2023, as well as the Howard Hite Award for excellence in hybridizing. Since 2004, I have had the privilege to coordinate the Shirley Farmer Midwest Hybridizer’s meeting.

I was thrilled when ‘Walt Lowry’ (named for my father) won the Ned Roberts Spider/ Unusual Form award in 2016 and even more excited when it won an Award of Merit in 2017. ‘Tidewater Elf’ won the Presidents Cup followed by the Award of Merit in 2020. Thanks to a beautiful clump of ‘I Lava You’ in the Sterrett’s garden at the national convention, I received the Stout Silver Metal in 2020.

Every year we say we will downsize only to make way too many seeds the next summer. Daylilies have given my imagination a goal and allowed me to meet many great people who will be friends for life.



A favorite seedling
from summer 2024

**2025 American Daylily Society Region 2
Over the Moon for Daylilies
Winter Meeting Registration
February 21st-22nd, 2025**



Please send this form and your check made out to **ADS Region 2**. Mail payment to:

Patti Byerley, Registrar
3680 E Old Goshen Road SE
Laconia, IN 47135

Registration can also be completed online at the Region 2 website:

<http://adsregion2.square.site>

Attendee Information:

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____ Region: _____

1. May we publish your contact information on the attendee list? _____ Yes ___ No
2. Is this your first Region 2 meeting? _____ Yes _____ No
3. Are you or your guest an ADS Youth Member? _____ Yes _____ No
 - a. If yes, who is the Youth Member _____

Conference Registration: *Registration fee includes Saturday dinner. Friday night & Saturday lunch is on your own. **Hotel is not included.***

\$149/person (before January 31st) \$ _____ \$199/person (February 1st - February 14th) \$ _____

(Includes a \$25.00 non-transferable voucher to be used on Live or Silent auction. Late registrations may be placed on a wait list)

If you have a guest attending the Saturday night dinner, fill out the area below.

Saturday dinner guest name(s): _____ \$50 per guest

Please note any dietary or mobility/accessibility needs for you or your guests: _____

***** Total check amount (registration fees and guest dinners) \$ _____ *****

Cancellation Policy: Full refund if notice is received by 1/15. Refund of 50% if received after 1/15 or you may transfer your registration to another attendee. Please let the registrar know ASAP of any changes to your registration.

Hotel Information: The conference will be held at **Courtyard Lafayette** 150 Fairington Ave Lafayette, Indiana 47905. Book your hotel room before TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2025, at the rate of \$129.00 Breakfast included. Hotel phone (765) 449-4800 **MAKE SURE YOU MENTION YOU ARE WITH THE DAYLILY SYMPOSIUM!**



Scan the QR Code to book your hotel room!

MORE LOVELY PHOTOS FROM THE REGION 2 CONTEST: SINGLE BLOOM CATEGORY (continued from the Late Summer/ Fall 2024 edition)



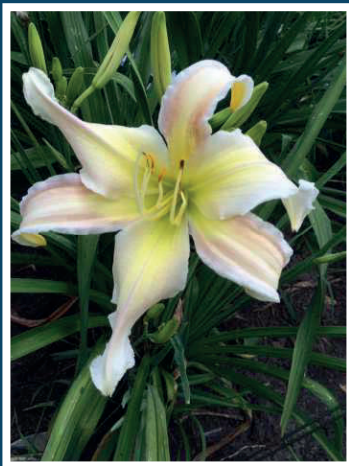
Jason Coleman
'Bright Hope for Tomorrow'
(Marlatt-J., 2020)



Nancy Sniff
'Kennesaw Mountain
Lemon Sorbet'
(Waldrop, 2007)



Sandra Shull
'Becky Adams'
(Selman, 2010)



Bobbi Johnson
'Charting New Waters'
(Shooter-E., 2007)



Alice Sanz
'The Dark Side'
(Stamile-Pierce, 2010)



Debbie Scheckel
'Helen Shooter'
(Shooter, 1998)



Kelly Aschenbach
'Raspberry Eclipse'
(Meyer-C., 2019)



Barb Buikema
'Soundtrack to your Escape'
(Robinson-D., 2018)

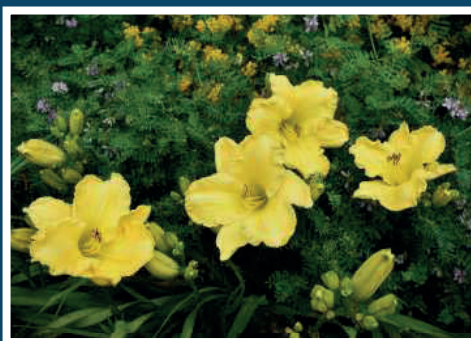


Barry Rowe
'Not Guilty'
(Emmerich, 2012)

MULTIBLOOM CATEGORY (continued from the Late Summer/ Fall 2024 edition)



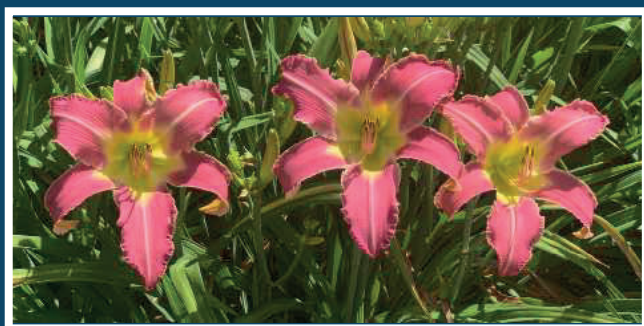
Sandy Gabriel
'Nick Balash'
(Kulpa, 2017)



Genni & Frank Kleckner
'Hello Yellow'
(Veurink, 2009)



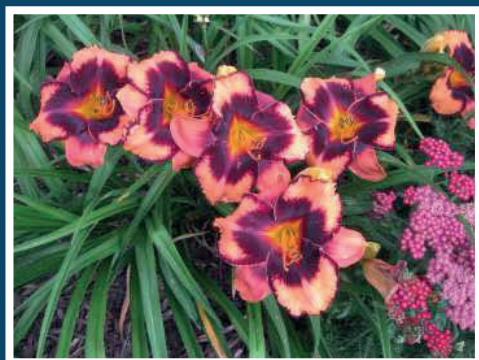
Lezlie Myers
'Great Mercies'
(Bell-T., 2007)



Kelly Williams
'Autumn Lavender'
(Holmes-S., 2014)



David Winter
'Eileen and Bob'
(Winter, 2021)



Shirley Toney
'Halloween Masquerade'
(Payne-L.H., 2003)

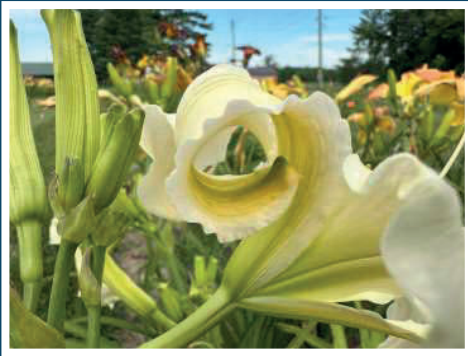


Gloria Finnerty
'White Lined Tuxedo'
(Prochaska, 2019)



Pat Titus
'Topguns Checkmate'
(Scott-B., 2012)

CREATIVE CATEGORY (continued from the Late Summer/ Fall 2024 edition)



Bobbie Craig
'Defrost'
(Murphy-J.P., 2023)



Paula Currie
'Sue Shaw Cross' with little bee
(Shaw-P., 2017)



Christine Haynam
'Green Icon'
(Doorakian, 2012)



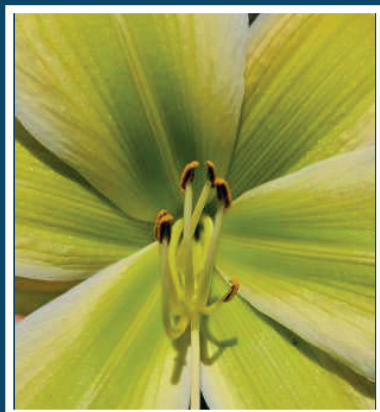
Debby Colvin
'Cherish Your Loved Ones'
(Joiner-J., 2015)



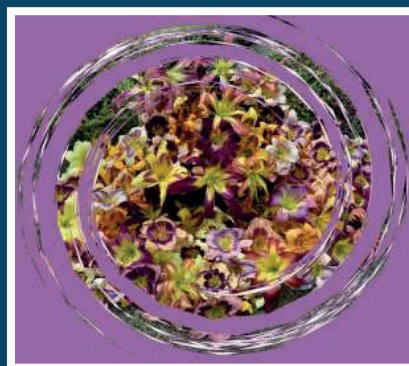
Greg Beavers
'Mount Herman Treasure' with bee
(Carpenter-J., 2003)



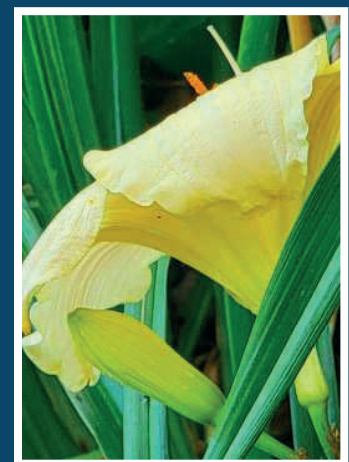
Bob Buikema
Bobby Scott seedling



Mary Ann Cleary
'Green Icon'
(Doorakian, 2012)



Richard Stevens
Twisted Blooms



Jill Ann Ladrick
'Elizabeth Salter'
(Salter, 1990)

2025 Region 2 Photo Contest

Winter is a great time to look through daylily photos. And it is also a good time to study last year's winning images from our Region 2 Photo Contest and decide how to improve your own photos for the upcoming season. Besides those in the past three pages, you can find more stunning photos in the last issue of *Great Lakes Daylily* and on our Region 2 website for inspiration. This year the categories are Best Single Bloom, Best Multi-Bloom/Clump and a new Photographer's Choice category for those photos you want to share but they don't quite fit other categories. These could still be creative or artistic. Or they could include a garden critter or insect, or daylilies with companion plants. As the name suggests, it is up to the photographer to decide. In each category, composition, lighting, color accuracy, perspective, uniqueness, and artistic quality count!

First place winners in each category will receive a generously donated Fox Woods Garden introduction. Please visit the Fox Woods Garden website to learn more about these gift plants and other lovely Prochaska family introductions (www.foxwoodsgarden.com).

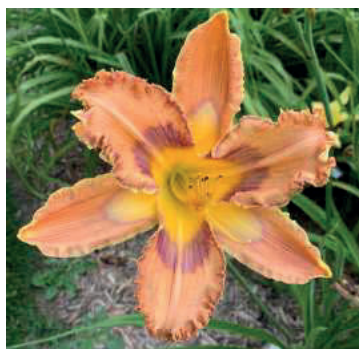
General Contest Rules

- Any AHS Region 2 member of any age can enter up to two entries per category for a total of six entries.
- The entries must have been taken by the member submitting them.
- The photos must have been taken in 2025.
- High resolution digital files in .jpg format are preferred (not to exceed 7 MB), but film prints are accepted.
- Submissions must be emailed by September 1, 2025 to Region 2 Editor Sandra Dunn at greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com or mailed to 3035 Parman Road, Dansville, MI, 48819 in time to arrive by September 1, 2025.

Photo Guidelines

- All submitted images must include all or part of a daylily bloom and may also include other types of flowers, garden art or garden critters. Images should not include people.
- **Please rename image files to include your name, category, and cultivar name.** Include the hybridizer and registration year (if applicable) in your email (or letter if mailing prints).
- Minor photo editing, such as cropping and minor color and light correction, is allowed. Please use caution to avoid overmanipulation and enhancement of images. No borders or text should be used.
- Submitting an entry grants the American Daylily Society (ADS) and its Regions the right to reprint or republish submitted photograph(s) in any of the newsletters or journals published by ADS or any of its Regions; to publish such photograph(s) on any website maintained by or on behalf of ADS or any of its Regions; and to publish such photograph(s) in any other publication published by ADS or any of its Regions.
- Images will be judged by an independent panel of three to four judges. Selections will be made on the basis of photographic quality including light and color accuracy, focus, composition, visual appeal and originality.
- A prize will be awarded to the first and second place winners in each category.
- In addition, the winning photos (and others) will be included in a future issue of the Region 2 *Great Lakes Daylily*.

Awesome Prizes !



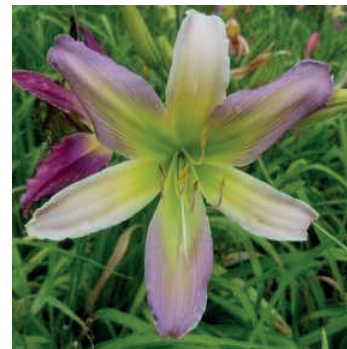
'Frankenstein's Bride'
(Sharon Prochaska, 2022)

Donated by Fox Woods Garden
BEST SINGLE BLOOM PRIZE



'Scarlet Slow Cooker'
(Jim Prochaska, 2024)

Donated by Fox Woods Garden
BEST MULTI-BLOOM PRIZE



'That's the Way the Pickle Squirts'
(Doug Prochaska, 2024)

Donated by Fox Woods Garden
BEST PHOTOGRAPHER CHOICE PRIZE

Runners-up in each category will receive a \$50 gift certificate from Along the Fence Daylilies in Dansville, Michigan

Region 2 Recipients 2024 ADS Newsletter Awards

Best Article About Outreach: Written by Nikki Schmith

'Great Expectations, Better Reality'

Great Lakes Daylily, Late Summer, 2023



Great Expectations, Better Reality.

Article and photos by Nikki Schmith

The obsession I have with daylily exhibitions goes back almost 30 years now. My personal goal has been to accumulate TEN Best in Show wins and as of this year I'm only one away! I am proud to say that I helped "write the book" on the subject throughout the early 2000s. And I served on the Exhibitions Committee just before the turn of the century under David Kirchhoff was the first official job I ever did for AHS. I've judged, taught classes, attended and hosted shows in many regions in my time and often my "jobs" around making shows happen



Sincere apologies to Nikki that this recognition was not included in the Late Summer/Fall *Great Lakes Daylily* when other award winners were recognized. This engaging article can be read at <https://adsregion2.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/GLD-Late-Summer-Fall-2023.pdf>, page 34.

Region 2 Recipients 2024 ADS Personal Awards

Mabel Matthews Scholarship and Bertie Ferris Youth Fund Recipient:
Andrew Veroeven



These two honors were noted in the article about Andrew's winning of the Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Award, published in the Late Summer/Fall *Great Lakes Daylily*. But they really should have celebrated in their own right with the other ADS awards. Congrats, Andrew!

Please Don't Call Them Lilies!

by Charlie Harper

As members of the ADS, we all know what a daylily is. But some don't know what they are not. So, let's take a few minutes to go back to basics. And please don't call them lilies.

I gathered these observations last summer when I had just co-chaired the Summer Regional Meeting and had hosted numerous visitors to my Display Garden. I was frequently faced with one of my pet peeves—gardening folks calling any trumpet-shaped flower on a stalk a lily. It ranks right up there with “Day Lily” on my irritation scale. It makes me wonder if the North American Lily Society ever hears their favorite flowers called daylilies. Why do we mix up the names so easily? Maybe it's because we called the common daylily of our childhood “Tiger Lilies.” Today, *Hemerocallis fulva* is often called the “Ditch Lily.” And lest we forget, one of the earliest and still most popular online marketplaces is called “The Lily Auction.” A refresher course on the differences might be helpful in sharpening our focus.

What is a True Lily?

Here's one definition: any scaly-bulbed plant of the genus *Lilium*, (Family Liliaceae), having showy, funnel-shaped or bell-shaped flowers. Most garden species have paired, slender, grass-like leaves, alternating the length of the flower stalk (sort of like a bottle brush). One central, unbranched stem grows from each lily bulb. Single flower buds branch off from the top of the stalk. When open, most types of lily flowers point downward and have recurved tepals, although there are some variations. Individual flowers generally last several days. Many varieties are very fragrant, alerting the visitor to their presence. Because they grow from a bulb, gardeners can find lily bulbs in plastic bags for sale at box stores along with the tulips, daffodils and other bulbed plants.



One central, unbranched stem grows from each lily bulb.

Photos by Charlie Harper unless noted



Slender, grass-like leaves alternate the length of the stalk, with flower buds forming at the top.

What is a Daylily?

Daylilies are in the genus *Hemerocallis*, (Family Asphodelaceae). They are NOT in the Lily Family (and incidentally, neither are Lilies of the Valley, water lilies, nor Calla lilies). Growth of leaves and roots arise from the crown, which is the small white core between the leaves and roots. Growth from the top of the crown produces alternate leaves and a naked flower stalk called a scape. The arrangement of the arching, lanceolate leaves produces a fan shape. A single daylily plant is referred to as a 'fan.' Multiple buds arise from branches that form at the top of each scape. Flowers face outward or slightly upward. Flowers have three petals and three sepals, that are similar in general form to lily flowers. However, daylily flowers can have a variety of quite distinct shapes that differ from the typical lily form. Each flower remains open for only one day, hence the name 'daylily.' Nearly all daylilies have little or no fragrance.



The arrangement of the arching, lanceolate leaves creates a fan shape.



Multiple buds arise from branches that form at the top of the scape.



This photograph illustrates the contrast of the shorter grass-like *Lilium* leaves in the background with the long fanned *Hemerocallis* leaves in the foreground.



A clump of daylilies putting on today's show. While these specific flowers will die overnight, some of the fat developing buds will put on a new show the next day.

Photo of 'Eileen and Bob' by David Winter



Asiatic lilies make great borders. Unlike most lilies, their flowers face upward.



Tree lilies are a spectacular addition to any garden, with many growing over six feet tall!



Charlie Harper: "A lily gardener is unlikely to remove true lily flowers from the stalk. But for a fanatic daylily gardener, this could be any day in mid-July, day after day. Just look at the diversity."



Martagon (Turk's Cap) lily buds are spread through the top half of the stalk, creating a curtain of color.



Exotic, striking, colorful and most often fragrant, true lilies are a welcome addition to any garden. For more information on lilies, check out this web page: <https://trulyexperiences.com/blog/types-of-lilies/>



Snapshot of a flowering daylily scape showing spent, current, and future flowers. To "deadhead" you remove spent flowers. To "livehead" you remove today's bloom (typically in the evening in preparation for a fresh-looking garden in the morning). Each bloom lasts only one day!

What's Hiding In Those Jeans Genes?

by Carole Hunter, Prairie's Edge Gardens

This article is being reprinted due to a significant misprint of page two in the Spring, 2024, issue of *GLD*

Living in northern Illinois, we are challenged with extreme and unpredictable weather. Nevertheless, the daylilies prosper, despite subzero winters, spring in February followed by winter in April, and high temperatures and drought in the summer.

Thirty-five years ago, as a new hemeroholic, I spent the winter months shopping for the perfect plants to add to my collection. I was attracted to cultivars that were registered as rebloomers, because I liked the idea of more blooms per square foot in my garden over a longer period of time. Unfortunately, I never saw that characteristic demonstrated by any of my MANY purchases.

During my annual shopping activity, in the early spring of 2010, I made a discovery that literally changed my life. Why didn't the 'reblooming' plants that I'd purchased rebloom for me? Answer: They were likely hybridized in the south.

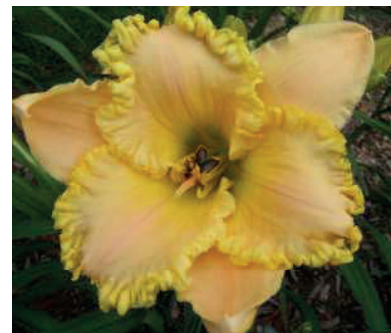
I had discovered the website of Richard Norris, a hybridizer from Ohio. In a detailed article, Richard explained that because northern growers have a much shorter season, cultivars created in the south don't get the time they need to put up a second round of bloom, which is produced by new fans that develop around the perimeter of the clump. He said that if northern daylily lovers wanted rebloom, they had to breed for it themselves and work on 'instant' rebloom, where a new scape emerges from the same fan that has a scape already blooming. Hmmm. I'd never dabbed pollen, but it didn't seem like it would be too difficult, so I decided, "I'm in! And think of all the money I'll save by creating my own plants."

I purchased 'Belle of Ashwood' (Norris-R., 2005), which Richard said showed instant rebloom and passed that characteristic on to its progeny. Amazingly, I got reblooming seedlings the



Example of 'instant rebloom' 'Take a Bow, Prairie's Edge' (Hunter, 2021)

first year, even though the plants that I used Belle's pollen on had never rebloomed for me. I eventually registered two reliably reblooming cultivars from that first year, and one more from the second year of my hybridizing.



'Just the Beginning' (Hunter, 2019)

The 'saving the money' idea went out the window when I began purchasing plants from other northern hybridizers in order to augment my 'rebloomer bull pen.' I needed to cross plants that rebloomed in the north with others that did the same to increase my rate of success. The genes that are responsible for rebloom are recessive, so in order to get a second set of blooms, you need to get 'rr', not 'Rr' (remember that old Punnett square from Biology 101?). Those little 'r's can be hanging out in a plant's genotype, but won't show up unless that plant gets crossed with one that also has them. Even then, there is no guarantee. Cross Rebloomer Plant A with Rebloomer Plant B, and out of 10 seedlings, maybe only 2 show rebloom. There are many other factors that affect rebloom (water, nutrients, sun, heat degree days), but if you don't have the genetics in there, you will be disappointed.

The same year that I planted my first 'Belle of Ashwood' seedlings, I was introduced to another northern hybridizer who worked for rebloom. Mike Huben spoke to my Chicagoland club and gifted us with some of his extra seeds as long as we promised to plant them and send him a division if we got something worthwhile. I told him I was working for rebloom, and he gave me crosses that he thought could give me that. Two of the resulting 'whitish' seedlings had exceptional rebloom, so I began working with them.

The seedlings I saved were numbered 11D01 and 11D03. I crossed them with large whites so that I wouldn't be copying Mike, who was working with smalls. Two of them-- 'Margo Reed Indeed' (Murphy-J.P., 2004) and

an unregistered Benzinger seedling that had rebloomed some for me. The third was one of my own seedlings which never rebloomed and had terrible top branching, but a beautiful flat white face with a green throat. What could I lose but time and garden space? I also crossed 11D01 and 11D03 with some small non-reblooming patterned cultivars that I liked. The next spring I planted 242 seedlings with 01 or 03 as one of the parents. The following summer, I couldn't believe how many of them rebloomed. I don't water except

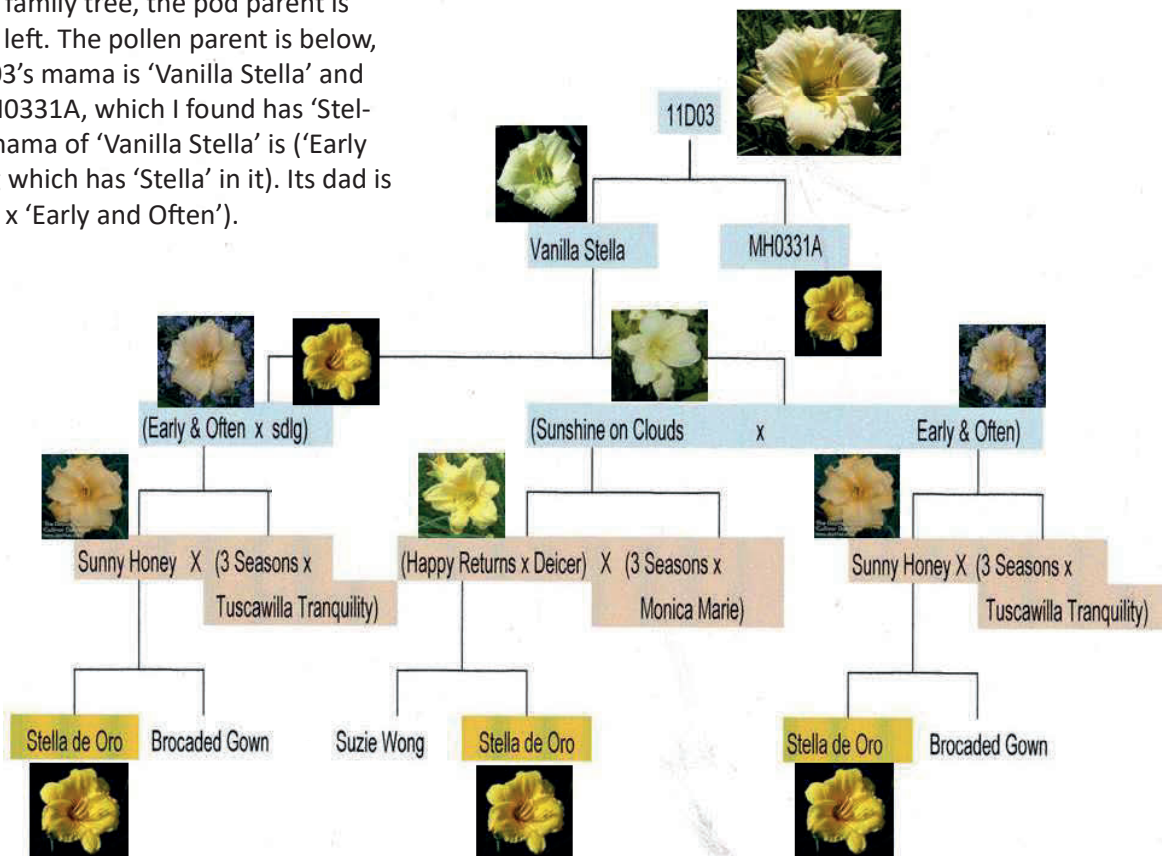
when I first plant the seedlings, and I don't fertilize, so they did this on their own. I flagged 51 of those seedlings that were reblooming, and that was after they'd been in the ground just one year....in northern Illinois!

It was clear that 11D01 and 11D03 were passing on rebloom, just as 'Belle of Ashewood' did, but the numbers were shocking to me. Because Mike Huben keeps such good records, I was able to look into their genetics. The family tree of 11D03 (below) shows how imbedded rebloom is in this seedling because of the line breeding of 'Stella de Oro' (Jablonski, 1975), its children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



Rebloom on seedling 11D03

For each cross in this family tree, the pod parent is shown below, on the left. The pollen parent is below, on the right. So 11D03's mama is 'Vanilla Stella' and daddy is seedling MH0331A, which I found has 'Stella de Oro' in it. The mama of 'Vanilla Stella' is ('Early and Often' x seedling which has 'Stella' in it). Its dad is ('Sunshine on Clouds x 'Early and Often').



The fact that Huben seedling 11D03 produced so many reblooming offspring demonstrates its prepotency (the quality of possessing greater power, influence, or force) for rebloom. In other words, it has the capacity to transmit more of its genetic characteristics (rr) to its offspring than the other parent.

This is not the 'instant' rebloom that I was working with when I started with 'Belle of Ashwood,' which is a tetraploid. 'Stella de Oro,' a diploid, shows what is referred to as 'continuous' rebloom. It continues to send up new scapes throughout the bloom season. However the scapes aren't coming from the same fan, but from different 'ramets'. A ramet is a genetic clone of the parent plant. I like to compare it to the way quack grass spreads by sprouting up from a node on a root, although I'm not sure that is a biologically accurate

comparison. Bearded iris similarly send up new shoots from a different node on the rhizome.

As I further studied photos of 11D03's seedlings, I was thrilled to discover that it was also prepotent for good branching. An impressive number of the babies have 4-5 way branching, even those from that pretty flat-faced 2-3 way top branched seedling. Icing on the cake!

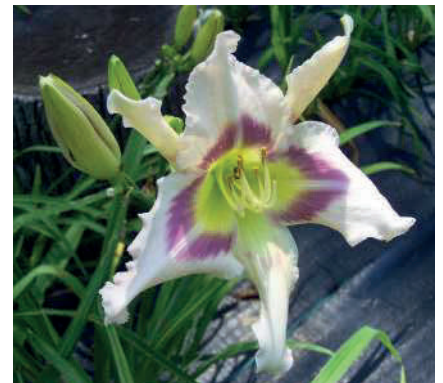
To date, five of the seedlings from 11D01 and 11D03 have made the cut to be registered. Two of them—'Meteor Shower' and 'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel'—are reliable rebloomers for me. I am seeing some promising seedlings from both of them, as well as other offspring from 01 and 03. Following the advice of a hybridizer friend, I am finally using mostly my own genetics, and I think this is where I start saving all that money!



'Meteor Shower' (Hunter, 2020)



'Meteor Shower' branching



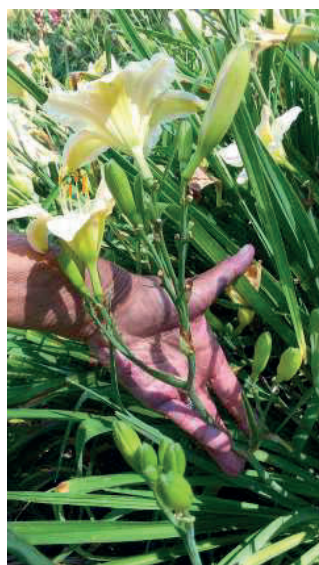
'Meteor Shower' reblooming seedling



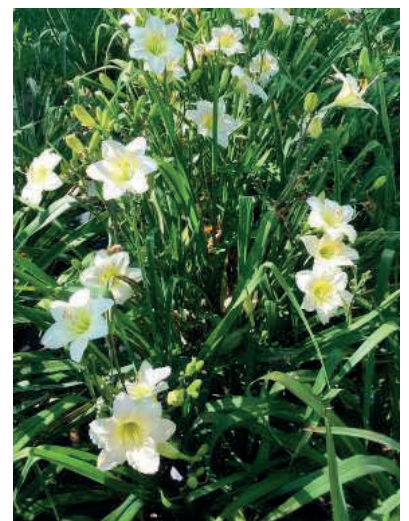
'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel' (Hunter, 2023)



'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel' miniature reblooming seedling



'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel' branching



'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel' lined out

<https://prairiesedgegardens.com/>

“Back Home in Indiana”

2025 Summer Meeting Preview

July 19-20, 2025



Please join us July 19-20 for visits to beautiful gardens, an auction of fantastic new daylily varieties from top hybridizers, a silent auction of daylilies and other assorted goodies, a robust Englerth Bed, a hospitality suite, and the insights of our key-note speakers Heidi and Charles Douglas. Below is some preliminary information. The following pages give a brief overview of the glorious gardens that will be on tour. The schedule and registration information will be posted on our website soon: <http://www.adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting/>.

Open Gardens

Many folks enjoy stopping at other gardens and local attractions on their way to and from the Summer Meeting. If you are willing to open your garden for visitors before or after the meeting, please send the following information to great-lakesdaylily@gmail.com. We will be compiling a list to include with registration materials.

- * Your name and garden name (if applicable)
- * Your address
- * Date(s) and times your gardens will be open
- * The best way for people to contact you (e.g. email address and/or phone number)
- * Any other details you would like to have included
- * One or two photos- to entice people!

We are also compiling a list of local attractions so that Summer Meeting attendees can make a true vacation of the experience if they choose.

Garden and Exhibition Judges Workshops

The specific offerings and times will be included in the registration materials once the overall schedule is finalized. These will be posted on our regional website and published in the spring newsletter.

Stay tuned for more information!

Youth Registration Fees To Be Reimbursed From The Youth Fund

One of our Region 2 goals is increased youth involvement. We have dedicated proceeds from the past two regional auctions to the Youth Fund.

To facilitate greater youth participation in the Summer Meeting, their registration fees will be reimbursed from the Youth Fund when they check in at the event. Youth attendees simply need to check a box on the registration form to request that their registration be reimbursed from the regional youth fund. Please note that hotel costs are not covered.

What young person will you invite?!?

Two Club Plant Sale!

This Summer Meeting is being sponsored by Region 2. As such, proceeds from the live and silent auctions will benefit regional activities, such as the printing of this newsletter. Two Indiana daylily clubs—Hoosier Daylily Society and Indiana Daylily-Iris Society—are combining their efforts to host a plant sale for us. The proceeds from this sale will benefit their clubs.

The specific times of operation will be shared as soon as our overall schedule is finalized. What a great way to add some new cultivars to your garden at very reasonable prices.

“Back Home in Indiana”

2025 Summer Meeting Preview: July 19-20

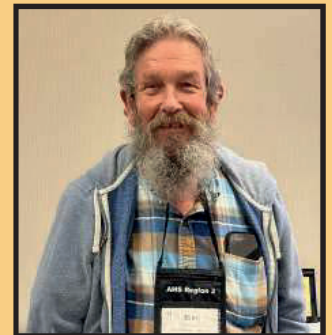
Clement Garden

Bret Clement/ Clark’s Hill, Indiana

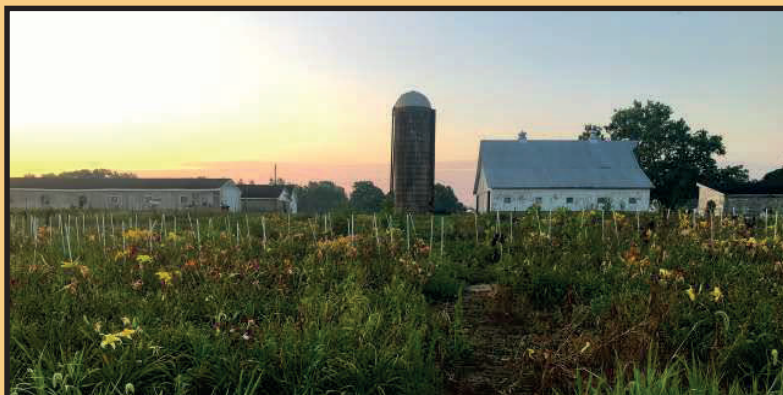
Bret Clement, a winner of the Region 2 Howard Hite hybridizing award, has spent his summer mornings for the past 25 years or so spreading pollen. In 2016, Bret learned that the owner of the property where he grew his seedlings and intros needed his land back for his expanding business. Greg and Linda Sutter graciously allowed Bret to move his program to their property and dedicated approximately 3/4 of an acre for his use.

Here you will find all of his 280+ intros as well as many, many thousands of seedlings. There are also several hundred cultivars, primarily from other northern hybridizers, used in his hybridizing efforts. While many of Bret’s seedlings involve recent intros from other hybridizers, many others are derived from his own intros and seedlings, some of which trace their lineage back to his earliest hybridizing efforts.

Most of Bret’s intros are narrow form diploid cultivars. But he also hybridizes narrow and round form tetraploid daylilies as well. Bret is known for the unusual names he gives his introductions many of which feature cats or legal names reflecting his career as an attorney. Orders will be dug if time permits, otherwise for fall shipping. Bret’s website is <https://clementgarden.com/>



Above, left to right: ‘A Street Cat Named Desire’ (2024), ‘Tell Tchaikovsky the News’ (2024), ‘Kittyshack’ (2024).
Photos by Bret Clement.



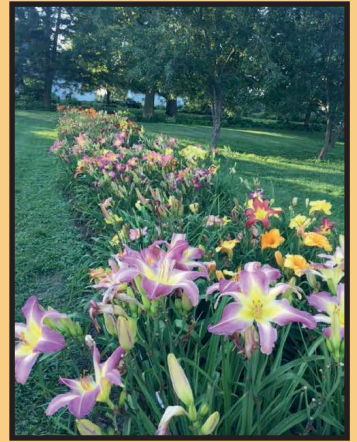
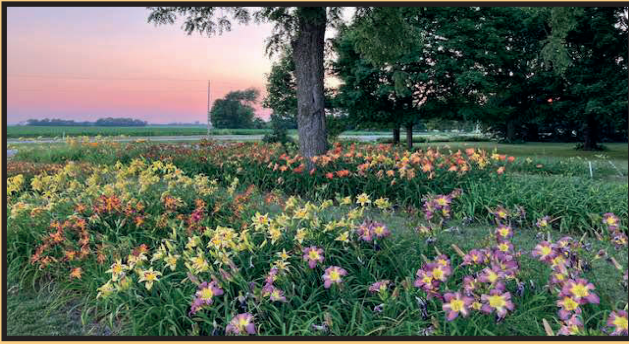
Sutter's Daylily Farm

Linda and Gregg Sutter/ Clark's Hill, Indiana

Gregg and Linda Sutter's farm is truly a colorful landmark on busy Highway US 52 south of Lafayette. The homestead was built pre-Civil War, in 1848, and has been a working farm ever since. In its history, it has produced corn, soy beans, alfalfa, hogs, prime beef cattle, and race horses. Now the land nurtures fields of crops and 10 acres of daylilies that bloom from early June through the end of October. It's truly a remarkable site in southern Tippecanoe County.

The Sutters do not sell or hybridize; they just collect and divide and enjoy the vista of color throughout the entire summer months. Along with the daylilies are mixed perennial beds of hosta, dahlias, hydrangeas, butterfly bushes, true *Lilium*, and a variety of other perennials in their expansive homestead yard.

Local garden club tours are frequent during July. There have been photo ops with high school seniors, babies, and brides. Two Plein-Air watercolor paint-outs were done this past summer with beautiful results. For Gregg and Linda, sharing the beauty of their farm with others is an ongoing goal they pursue with joy.



Photos by Linda and Gregg Sutter



Please see the Spring 2022 edition of *Great Lakes Daylily* for more about the Sutters' farm and the Winter 2022 edition for more details on some of Bret Clement's introductions.:
<https://adsregion2.org/newsletter/>

Sugar Creek Daylily Gardens

Jayne and Greg Lough/ Darlington, Indiana



Greg and Jayne Lough had no intention of starting a retail daylily garden 25 years ago. A quick stop at Soules Garden to freshen up a landscape project started their journey into the world of daylilies. Their enthusiasm and willingness to share plants unintentionally lead them down a new path. While Greg enjoys maintaining a beautiful garden and hybridizing toothy daylilies, Jayne happily hosts visitors, garden clubs, and tours throughout the summer. If time permits, they are more than happy to dig plants for visitors during the regional tour. For those interested, a pdf of their collection of 2500 varieties is available. To request their listing or to preorder plants, email Jayne at screekdaygardens@gmail.com.

The garden is situated on the fourth generation grain farm, providing a charming rural backdrop for the stunning display of colorful daylilies. They acquire their hybrids from all over the country, making their garden a diverse and unique collection. Come visit and see for yourself the beauty and variety that Greg and Jayne have cultivated in their daylily garden. The Loughs maintain a standard of hearty, well-performing, and unique daylilies for their hybridizing program and garden varieties.



Left to right,
top to bottom:
'Kristen's Echo on the
Horizon' (Lough, 2024),
Lough seedling,
'Patricia Ann Lough'
(Lough, 2024),
Lough seedling
Photos by Jayne and
Greg Lough



Webbs Daylily Garden

Angel and Pete Webb/ Frankfurt, Indiana

The Webb's Daylily Garden was established by Pete and Angel Webb 20 years ago in Frankfort, Indiana. The garden is a hybridizing and sales garden primarily focusing on Webb's Daylily Garden introductions, but does include recent introductions from other northern hybridizers. The garden sits on a half acre lot just outside of Frankfort's city limits. Plants will be available for purchase during the Summer Meeting.

Pete primarily hybridizes for unusual form edged and pleated daylilies. He plants and evaluates 4,000 to 5,000 seedlings annually. They find that using their own introductions and seedlings along side other northern daylilies that they have acquired promotes strong-growing northern plant habits, which is the primary focus of the garden.

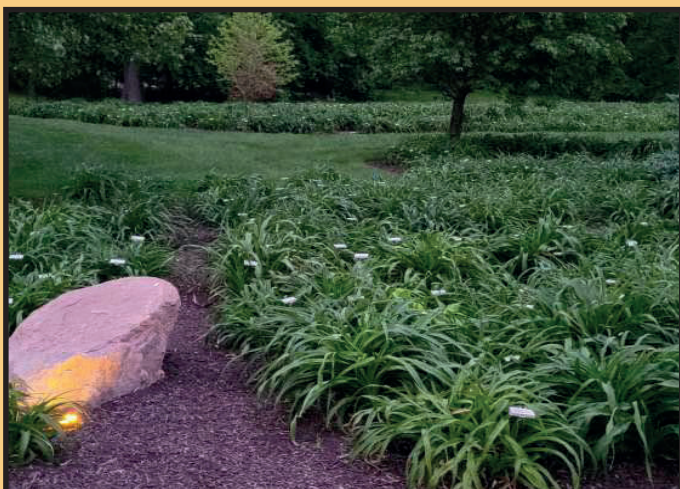


Left: Webb seedlings. Below 'Angel Webb' (2022)

Photos by Angel and Pete Webb

Follow them on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/webbsdaylilies/>



2025 American Daylily Society Region 2
Summer Meeting Registration
July 19-20, Lafayette, Indiana



Please send this form and your check made out to **ADS Region 2** to
Patti Byerley, Registrar
3680 E Old Goshen Road SE
Laconia, IN 47135

Registration can also be completed online at the Region 2 website:
<https://adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting/>

Attendee Information:

Attendee Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____ Region: _____

May we publish your contact information in the attendee list? ____ yes ____ no

Is the first Region 2 meeting you have attended? ____ yes ____ no

Conference Registration: Registration fee includes Friday dinner and Saturday lunch and dinner. **Hotel is not included.**

\$159/person (before June 1) \$ _____ \$179/person (June 1 – July 15) \$ _____

(Note: With late registration, we can't guarantee a seat on the bus)

Check here for youth (18 & younger) to request that their registration be reimbursed from our R2 Youth Fund.

Name of youth member(s): _____

If you will have a guest attending the dinner either Friday or Saturday night, fill out the area below.

Friday dinner guest name(s): _____ \$ _____ \$30 per guest

Saturday dinner guest name(s): _____ \$ _____ \$45 per guest

Please note any dietary or mobility/accessibility needs for you or your guests: _____

***** Total check amount (registrations, extra dinners) \$ _____ *****

Cancellation Policy: Full refund if notice is received by 5/15. Refund of 50% if received 5/16-6/15. No refund after 6/16, but you may transfer your registration to someone if you can't attend. Please let the registrar know ASAP of any changes.

Garden and Exhibition Judging Clinics: If you would like to participate in one or both clinics, please write the name(s) of the person attending below. We need to know in advance to determine which classes will be offered.

Garden Judge #2 _____ Exhibition Judge #2 _____

Hotel Information: The conference will be held at Courtyard Lafayette, 150 Fairington Ave., Lafayette, Indiana, 47905. Hotel phone: (765) 449-4800. Make sure that you mention that you are with the Region 2 Summer Daylily Meeting. The rooms include a complimentary breakfast. Attendees must book their own rooms. It is advised to book early. Cancellations can be made until 24 hours of your reservation.

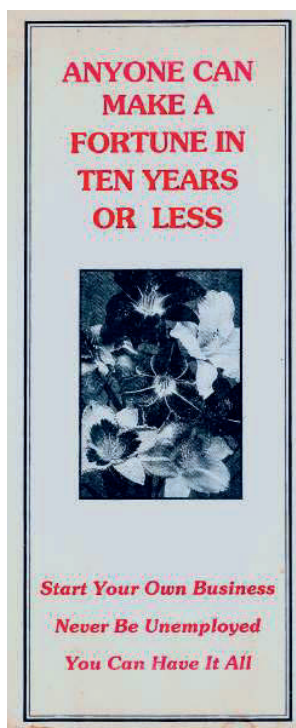
Digging Up Daylily History: Fred Sheill, The Daylily King

by Bob Mainfort

In mid-February 1994, Bob Talbert, long-time feature columnist with the *Detroit Free Press*, encountered an 85-year-old gentleman at the Birch Run outlet mall, located between Flint and Saginaw, Michigan, who was putting “How to Grow the Hybrid Daylily” brochures on car windshields. The man was Fred W. Sheill, the self-styled Daylily King. He told Bob that he had just planted 50,000 daylilies representing 500 varieties, and that in May and June, he sold his plants for the special price of \$2.00 before they started blooming, and \$4.00 (retail) once they bloomed. Mr. Sheill recounted that he spent his two-month “vacation” driving across Michigan, and leaving over 10,000 brochures. Logging over 3,000 miles, he traveled “as far as Ann Arbor, west to Niles and north, crisscrossing the area” (*Detroit Free Press*, February 18, 1994 and June 17, 1994).

Like me, perhaps you are wondering “Who is this guy and why haven’t I heard of him?” What follows is a tale of a remarkable gentleman who just might have done more for popularizing daylilies in the upper Midwest than any other individual or organization. But Fred didn’t become the Daylily King overnight. He had a lifetime of experiences before launching into daylilies in retirement. I hope you enjoy the story of Fred Sheill, the Daylily King.

Frederick W. Sheill (pronounced “sheel”) was born in Detroit on October 31, 1908, and lived in the Detroit area for the next 77 years. His father, William Ignatius,



Cover of brochure, circa 1994.
Courtesy Pete Motz and Sandra Dunn.

was largely self-taught and operated a laundry route for many years. By the time Fred was seven years old, he assisted his father every Saturday while school was in session. Though he was still a child, Fred soon came to appreciate the value of being his own boss so that “no one could put a limit on the amount of money he could earn.”

Fred had always been interested in plants and in 1920, at age 12, he joined the Detroit Garden Club “just for children.” Among their activities, the youngsters were tasked with planting and maintaining a garden, as well as keeping records of the amount of time spent working in the garden, income from sales, and expenses. Accordingly, Fred planted a 20 x 20 foot garden, and grew lettuce, beans, beets, cucumbers, and pumpkins, much of which he sold door to door. It was around this time that Fred planted his first “wild tiger lilies” (i.e., *H. fulva*) and observed that the plants doubled each year. As Fred put it, “Well, that’s a 100 percent profit, so I’m going to be a nurseryman.”

In 1922, the Sheill family purchased a two-acre farm about three miles north of Farmington, at the time a country suburb of Detroit. Fred’s father told the budding horticulturalist that he could do “anything that he wanted to do with the two acres, except that the family had first choice of everything produced.” Fred’s father “talked a great deal,” and through barter he obtained a variety of animals and plants from folks on his laundry route and brought them to the farm. The Sheill family soon had “just about every animal and plant you can imagine” on their small farm, including Fred’s flock of over 100 pigeons of various breeds, as well as 90 apple trees purchased from a nurseryman on the laundry route.

When Fred was 14, his father asked him if he wanted a hive of bees that a laundry customer offered in lieu of a \$5 debt. Fred enthusiastically accepted the offer and immediately began reading everything he could find about beekeeping. Within four years, he had started his own apiary business, the Honey Cabin Bee Farm,



Frederick W. Sheill high school graduation photo, January 1927. Courtesy Farmington Community Library Heritage Collection & Historical Archives.

that at one time contained 205 colonies and produced over ten tons of honey per year. Fred used the profits to fund his college education.

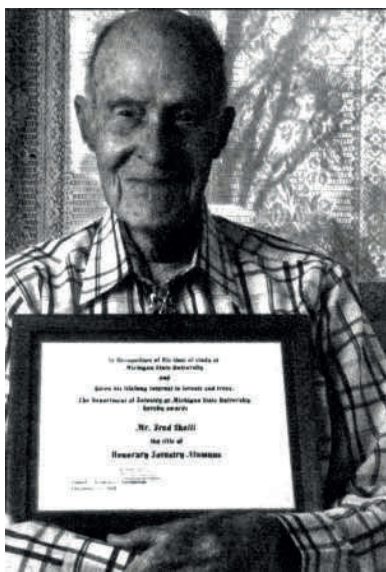
Not long after graduating from Farmington High School in January 1927, Fred enrolled at Michigan State College (now University) where he took “chemistry, math, physics, bacteriology, animal husbandry, farm crops, orcharding, and marketing.” Each term, Fred carried extra credits, with classes that included greenhouse management, floriculture, and flower arranging. He also was a member of the MSC Beekeepers Seminar, and served as Secretary and Treasurer of the group in 1929. As an indication of Fred’s expertise in beekeeping and honey production, in September 1930 he received nine ribbons for a total of \$67 (roughly equivalent to \$1200 in 2024).

graduation. Seventy-seven years later, when Fred was 100 years old, he was awarded the title of Honorary Forestry Alumnus by MSU, thanks to the efforts of a local state representative.

Upon leaving MSC in the spring of 1933, Fred was ready to start his own nursery. During the Great Depression, demand for honey steadily decreased, so Fred reluctantly sold his bee colonies and equipment to fund the purchase of land and basic infrastructure. He bought an acre of land for his nursery on the new Northwestern Highway, halfway between Farmington and Birmingham, as well as two abandoned houses that he moved to the nursery. Several months later he added another acre. Fred continued working the laundry route that he inherited from his father, and some of his customers gave him irises and daylilies in lieu of monetary payment. Fred also started 600 yellow weeping willow trees, some of which grew very large and served as an easily spotted landmark for the Sheill Nursery.

In 1934, Fred married his high school sweetheart, Gladys Wood, who was instrumental in managing the fledgling nursery. Although the business attracted a fair number of customers, the profits from sales did not meet the needs of Fred’s growing family. As Fred put it: “All these years I had been my own boss and never had a real job. We were married, had two boys, a nursery started, and had gone through the depression, and now I was going to work for Pontiac Motor Company. My plan was to work for ten years and then quit so as to devote full time to my nursery. At the end of ten years, I was needed to work in the war effort, so I continued two years longer, and then quit [in 1946].”

During the post-war era, the Sheill Nursery thrived, allowing Fred and Gladys to retire in 1964 at age 55. In retirement, the couple became active in square dancing, and Fred established a reputation as a very good caller. Gladys passed away in March 1985, and later that year Fred moved to Au Gres, a small town on Saginaw Bay, about 50 miles north of Bay City, that for many years had been a favorite vacation spot for his family. In early 1993, when he was in his 80s, Fred purchased a ten-acre farm just north of town and planted 50,000 daylilies there. Soon after the purchase, Fred placed ads for his new daylily farm in several small-town Michigan newspapers. These ads promised “**Change Poverty To Riches** — Grow Daylilies and turn spare time into your fortune. Send stamp today — Don’t delay.”



Fred proudly showing his Honorary Forestry Alumnus Certificate from MSU. *Grand Haven Tribune*, January 20, 2009.

In 1932, America was reeling from the Great Depression, and like most folks, Fred was not spared from the effects. As Fred told a reporter from the *State News* in 2009, “I just couldn’t afford to go that last little bit to graduate. I knew I wouldn’t need a diploma because I was going to be my own boss.” Although he had completed more than the 205 credits necessary for graduation, he was still a few credits short of receiving a degree because some of his credits didn’t count toward

**Change Poverty To Riches -
Grow Daylilies and turn spare
time into your fortune. Send
stamp today — Don't delay.
Sheill, Box 552, Augres, MI.
48703.**

Fred Sheill newspaper advertisement.
Cass City Chronicle, February 24, 1993.

Bob Talbert (the *Detroit Free Press* columnist mentioned above) always had a nose for a good story and paid Fred a visit at his farm in June 1994. He found that since February, Fred had planted an additional 25,000 daylily plants, bringing his total holdings to 75,000. During the visit Fred told Bob that he sold to other nurseries and to “people who want to start a business of their own.” Fred was “proud of putting 75 people in the daylily business by wholesaling large lots at \$1.30 a plant. Invest \$65 in 50 plants,” he says, “and let nature go to work for you. Those 50 plants will make 100, then double to 200, etc., to where in five years you’ll have 1,600 worth \$5,000.” Charles Ponzi undoubtedly would have admired Fred’s schtick! But of course Fred was not trying to scam anyone. He genuinely wanted to help folks make some money.

Thanks to the foresight of Pete Motz, the retired founder and owner of Plum Line Landscape & Design, and Sandra Dunn, I received copies of three documents that together represent Mr. Sheill’s “infopack” that he sent to folks who responded to one of his newspaper ads or one of his direct marketing brochures. The packet included a nicely printed tri-fold brochure (image page 36) titled “Anyone Can Make a Fortune in Ten Years or Less,” a two-page mimeographed list of plants available at “wholesale” prices, and a “wholesale order” form that included general information about Fred’s plants and his pricing structure.

So what plants did Fred grow? His “1994 Wholesale List of Daylilies” provides names and descriptions of 60 plants, all of which were introduced between 1959 and 1984. The vast majority, 50, are Gilbert Wild cultivars, and five of the remainder are David Hall introductions. Several plants Fred offered were award winners. The best known example on Fred’s list is the 1965 Stout winner, ‘Luxury Lace’ (Spalding 1959),

which by 1994 looked rather dated. ‘American Revolution’ (Wild, 1972) and ‘Jim’s Pick’ (Wild, 1971) both received Honorable Mention awards, while ‘Ben Arthur Davis’ earned a Junior Citation, as well as an Honorable Mention and Award of Merit. Of the Wild introductions on Fred’s list, only ‘Mauve Wonder’ (Wild, 1983) was offered for sale by Gilbert H. Wild and Son in 2024.

The bottom two-thirds of the brochure includes suggestions for purchasing plants for resale, and a description of Fred’s operation: “I recommend that you include some “Old Timers” in your order at the special low price of 25¢ each. I run ads and price my plants at 25¢ to \$4.00, and the curious come to see what is offered at only 25¢. They are the orange, Mikato (sic), the Kwanso double, the lemon and the star. Unnamed in the mixture, and I recommend these for planting large natural areas at low cost. Some order these and sell for 50¢ to \$1.00 as a come on.”

Fred continued: “I have about 500 varieties, but many are in small quantities and not advertised in my list. They are available to those who visit the Nursery and Farm during the summer. More plants will be set this coming summer. I have grown daylilies for seventy years, and know that they are a money maker. Let me help you make money. Let me help you start your own business.”

The accompanying “PRICE LIST AND ORDER BLANK, Wholesale January 1 – thru May 1” gives a somewhat more nuanced version of Fred’s price structure, as well as his suggested retail prices for plants.

PRICE LIST AND ORDER BLANK
Wholesale January 1 - thru May 1

Wholesale Price		Suggested Retail Price	
Named Hybrids	\$1.30 ea.	Named Hybrids	\$4.00 - 3 for \$10.00
Mixed Hybrids	\$1.30 ea.	Mixed Hybrids	\$4.00 - 3 for \$10.00
"Old Timers"	Mixed 25¢ ea.	"Mixed Old Timers"	25¢ to \$1.50

All Named Hybrids are packaged (5 of same variety) per package.
Each package is labelled with name, color and description.

Mixed Hybrids are a mixture of hybrids, reds, pinks, yellows, blends, etc.
They are not named. You get a lot of different varieties-mixed.

* Mixed "Old Timers" are a mixture of wild orange, lemon, star, two-tone mikato, and small reds, including some doubles. I advertise these locally at low price to attract customers. They use these to plant large wild areas, and for naturalizing. Once the customers come and see the Named Hybrids, they always add to their purchases.

The more varieties you grow, the more choice you give your customers and they buy more.
Plus you have more flowers in bloom at all times.

When you order 50 Hybrids you get 10 of my best varieties	\$65.00
When you order 100 Hybrids you get 20 of my best varieties	\$130.00
When you order 200 Hybrids you get 40 of my best varieties	\$260.00
When you order 500 Hybrids you get 100 of my best varieties	\$650.00

All orders are Shipped in May. After May all plants are \$2.00 each and you pick up at the nursery.

Fred Sheill’s price list, circa 1994.
Courtesy Pete Motz and Sandra Dunn.



Fred Sheill newspaper advertisement.

Saline Reporter, April 8, 1998.

In 2007 Fred Sheill was featured in one of the *Detroit Free Press's* popular "YOU HAVEN'T LIVED IN MICHIGAN UNTIL . . ." columns, reporting that, "His customers come with shovels (or use his) to dig lilies: \$5 for a small clump; \$8 for one that's shovel size." Why the change in his marketing strategy just 13 years later? As noted by Jerry and Lisa Marlatt (see page 40), sometime between 1998 and 2007, Fred's daylily field was vandalized by someone who removed all of his plant labels. His life experiences had taught him to be adaptable, and seemingly undeterred, he continued selling daylilies.

So, what of Fred's glowing promise that one could make a fortune by growing daylilies? For the sake of argument, let's assume that a customer purchased 100 fans of *H. fulva* from him for 25¢ each (to be sold at retail for 50¢ per fan), and that they doubled in number every year for ten years. This would give the daylily entrepreneur 51,200 plants valued at \$25,600 retail. What if one wanted to splurge and purchased 500 (100 of Fred's "best varieties") for \$1.30 each (to be sold at retail for \$4.00 per fan), and again assumed that these would increase as above? After ten years, you would have a whopping 512,000 plants with a retail value of over \$2,000,000. Now that's more like it, right? Sure, IF you could sell all of these at your desired retail price, and IF you had the time, energy, and space to grow the plants and had no overhead.

Back to reality. Barbara Badder, a self-described "daylily addict," found one of Fred's brochures at a rest stop

Although Mr. Sheill clearly favored direct advertising, in April 1998 he again ran a small ad in some small local newspapers. Unlike his earlier ads, these used his honorific title of "Daylily King" in the text. These read: "Start your own business. GROW DAYLILIES. The miracle plant that makes people rich. All information is FREE! DAYLILY KING, Box 552, AuGres, MI 48703. Free Variety Brochure"

in 2002 and purchased plants from his farm for several years. After talking extensively with Fred, Ms. Badder decided to start her own daylily business. In one of her posts on HubPages, she mentioned that Fred shared with her that he was making about \$10,000 a year. Not quite a fortune!

Fred continued working at his daylily farm through 2012, retiring from the business at the age of 103 years. The secret of Fred's remarkable longevity? "I don't smoke. I don't drink. I talk and listen to nice things. I leave my barn door open at my farm, and I trust people." Fred Sheill passed away on September 23, 2014, five weeks before his 106th birthday. A remarkable man that I wish I had known.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The staff of the Clarke Historical Library (Central Michigan University) graciously scanned a copy of Fred Sheill's *The Memory Train* for me. Most of the pre-1995 quotes used above are taken from this 46-page publication. As mentioned above, Pete Motz saved the material included in Fred's infopack for a number of years and later gave the documents to Sandra Dunn, who scanned them for me. Melodye Campbell (AHS Archives and History Chair) checked the ADS membership materials from the 1990s, as well

as the Region 2 newsletter archives for references to Mr. Sheill. Her research found no evidence that Fred was an ADS/AHS member and that he was never mentioned in the newsletter. As usual, my wife and colleague, Mary Kwas, made a number of helpful editorial suggestions.



Fred Sheill in his daylily field, 2009. Photo by Adam Baudoux.

Reflections of Fred Sheill

by Jerry and Lisa Marlatt, Ogden Station Daylilies

In 2007 we had no intention of starting a daylily business until Fred Sheill entered our lives. We were at Deer Acres in Pinconning (about 25 miles south of Au Gres), and our two-year-old granddaughter Ella saw a brochure with a goose on it. The brochure stated that you could feed the geese as well as buy daylilies from the Daylily King, born in 1908. We were intrigued, so we wanted to see if the business was still there in Au Gres.

When we arrived, it was a very hot day. As soon as we stepped out of the car, a man came out to greet us. It was Fred Sheill himself, and at 100 years old he was out digging by himself an order that filled two eight-foot tables and he had not broken a sweat. We were impressed by his gentle manner and broad smile. The first thing he said was, "Little girl, would you like to feed my geese?" He called the geese and they came running. Ella was delighted. He picked up some soil and said, "This soil and these daylilies and the good Lord are what keeps me alive."



Daylilies were on sale for just 50 cents per double fan, so we ordered 400 to fill in a space along our field where the woodchucks were eating the soybeans. We picked them up on our way home from Traverse City about a week later, and Ella was surrounded in the back seat by plants on the ride home.

We knew nothing about daylilies and the significance of their names. Although these were registered cultivars, they weren't labeled because when Fred was in



his 90s someone had vandalized his farm and removed all of the plant markers and left them in a pile.

We now have over 2,000 registered cultivars at Ogden Station Daylilies, but have kept a row of Fred's plants that we sell by the clump in honor of the man who got us started. We stopped to visit Fred every summer on our way Up North. He was so interesting and had great stories to tell. He told about how as a boy, he dug up some orange ditch lilies for his mother for her birthday. He said that he and his wife danced their way to and from Florida every fall. He went on to explain that he called square dances every year. He also took cut daylily scapes to the hospital and nursing home to brighten the days for patients.

Had it not been for Fred Sheill, we would most likely never have begun raising and hybridizing daylilies.



Celebrating Our Region 2 Hybridizers!

We are so fortunate in Region 2 to benefit from the amazing hybridizing of so many of our members. They are working in many different directions, creating new beauties each year and expanding our vision of what a daylily looks like. I asked each hybridizer to send a photo of one of their most recent introductions so that we can celebrate the diversity of talent within Region 2. I also want to gratefully acknowledge that their plant donations to our auctions are the primary source of funding for this newsletter.



'Memories of Beautiful People'

36, 5, M, Dor, Tet
Genni Kleckner, 2024
workinprogressgardens.com



'Crazy Hot Pink'

24, 5.5, M, Dor, Dip
David Winter, 2024
anolmsteddaylilygarden.
wordpress.com



'Healer of Nations'

32, 5.5, EM, Dor, Tet
Phil and Luel Korth, 2024
pinewooddaylilies.com



'Itchin' to Shine'

37, 6.5, MRe, SEv, Dip
Kirsten Hatfield, 2025
dorsetsndaylilies.com



'Just Walk on By'

40, 11, M, Dor, Tet
Jim Prochaska, 2024
foxwoodsgarden.com



'Brokenness Is What I Long For'

36, 6, L, Dor, Tet
Jerry Marlatt, 2024
ogdenstationdaylilies.com

Note: Please refer to the ADS online database for more information about each of these lovely recently registered daylilies.

Or better yet, visit each hybridizer's website or social media pages and look around!

In the descriptions here, height and bloom size statistics are listed first (in inches), followed by season, foliage type, and ploidy.

My appreciation to the Region 11 *MoKanOk* newsletter for this idea.



'Chief Inspektor'

23, 4.25, EM, SEv, Dip
Steve Williams, 2024
obannonsprings.plantfans.com



'Char Shark'

35, 7, M, SEv, Tet
Ed Wheeler, 2024
43 North Daylilies on Facebook



'Petit Four a la Prairie's Edge'

32, 5, MRe, SEv, Tet
Carole Hunter, 2024
prairiesedgewardens.com



'Ballet Pointe'

30, 4.4, ERe, Dor, Dip
Gus Guzinski, 2023
drbeaugus@yahoo.com



'Gem City Inferno'

40, 8.5, MLRe, SEv, Tet
Pete Webb, 2023
Webb's Daylily Gardens on Facebook



'Valeri Marie'

29, 5.5, M, Dor, Tet
Chad Bush, 2025
colorfulchaosdaylily.weebly.com



'Peter Pan's Kiss'

30, 2.25, M, SEv, Dip
Nancy Watson, 2024
cherryhillgarden.plantfans.com



'Emma's Lil Froggies'

28, 5, EM, Dor, Dip
Elaine Seifert, 2024
petalpusher.plantfans.com



'Madame Cheeseball'

40, 7, M, Dor, Tet
Bob Watson, 2024
cherryhillgarden.plantfans.com



'Basic Instinct'
28, 6, MRe, Dor, Tet
Mike Holmes, 2024
daylily.ws



'Never Give a Cat a Chainsaw'
26, 6.5, M, Dor, Dip
Bret Clement, 2024
clementgarden.com



'Regal Ballerina'
34, 6.5, EMRe, Ev, Tet
Matt Meadows, 2024
regaldaylilies.com



'Teacup Simple Truths'
10, 1.5, MLRe, SEv, Dip
Gayle Menges Story, 2024
naturesedgedaylilies.plantfans.com



'Mizzen Moonsail'
36, 7, ML, Dor, Tet
Ginny Pearce, 2024
gardenpathperennials.com



'Frankenstein's Bride'
38, 7, ML, Dor, Tet
Sharon Prochaska, 2022
foxwoodsgarden.com



'Kindness Counts'
33, 7.5, M, SEv, Tet
Sandy Holmes, 2025
daylily.ws



Ric Adams seedling
'Birthday Wishes' x
'Sandhill Sunshine'
Laidback Gardens on Facebook



'That's the Way the Pickle Squirts'
33, 6.5, ML, Dor, Dip
Doug Prochaska 2024
foxwoodsgarden.com

The Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society Shows—Past and Present

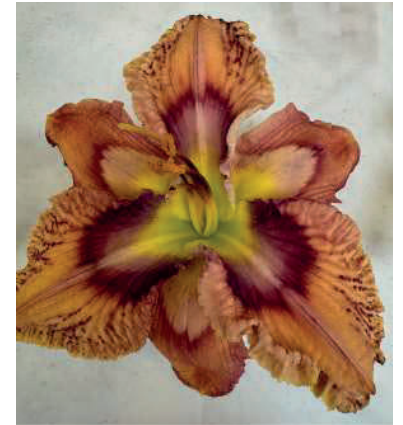
by Debby Colvin, with photos by Jeff Kerr and Debby Colvin

On June 29, 2024, the Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society (MCDS) held an accredited daylily show in the Upper Arlington Library atrium. Nearly 200 on-scape blooms were judged, and nearly 100 off-scape blooms were displayed. The Upper Arlington location has proven to be an excellent venue for our show. The light streaming through the floor-to-ceiling windows in the atrium creates the perfect setting to show off the blooms. This was our second show at this location. MCDS has sponsored dozens of daylily shows over the years, in several different venues. Our club was initially founded in 1985 for the purpose of hosting an accredited daylily show, and our first show, titled “New Beginnings,” was held at Inniswood (a botanical garden and nature preserve in Westerville, Ohio) in 1986. That original show program was a far cry from the full-color programs we now provide our visitors (see sidebar on page 46). The next year, 1987, the club decided to begin their guest plant program as a way to provide newer daylily varieties to members at a reasonable cost. In this way, the members could have newer and better varieties for the daylily shows.

Our club has been very fortunate to have many willing volunteers for our shows to handle the many aspects of producing a show—such as initial planning, finding a venue, scheduling judges, assigning clerks, set-up, obtaining show ribbons, and producing the show program, to name a few. It takes a lot of volunteers to check the entrance tags, move the entries to the

correct sections on the display tables, and act as clerks during judging and ribbon placement. In addition to the AHS ribbons, the club has sponsored awards for best novice entry, a “Bill Johannes Sweepstakes Award” pewter bowl (for most blue ribbons earned) given in honor of a long-time member, and a “King of Show” award for runner-up to “Queen of Show.” All award winners and people’s choice winners (favorite design, favorite on-scape and off-scape daylily) are presented with gift certificates to be used at future club sales/auctions. The chance of winning a gift certificate is an added incentive for members to bring entries for the show.

Prior to the show, “How-To” sessions are made available where new members can get instruction on how to properly groom a scape for entry into the show. There are also emails sent to members suggesting ways to safely transport their entries. (Note: Very detailed articles on these subjects are available on the American Daylily Society website. On the home page choose “Get involved” from



People’s choice off-scape winner ‘Italian Summer’ (Bell-T., 2018), grown and shown by Bob Chocran.



Head Table, June 2024 show



the menu and then choose “Transporting daylilies” and/or “Preparing – grooming scapes.”)

On the day of the show, visitors are greeted by a manned membership table with lots of pictures and information about daylilies. Visitors can learn about the programs supported by the local club such as plant sales, member garden tours, and the daylily beds maintained by the club on the Franklin Park Conservatory grounds. Show programs and a club brochure are available as take-aways, and there is information available about the American Daylily Society. Individuals joining the local club are encouraged to also join the national organization.

The design section is always popular with visitors, and previous shows have had as many as sixteen designs displayed and judged (see photos, right, of this year’s entries). In previous years, the design section was presented in cooperation with the Creative Arrangers Guild—a “Garden Judges of Ohio” group whose main activity is flower arranging. This group traditionally provided many of the entries for the show. The design section is not judged by daylily judges, but is judged by accredited flower arranging judges. When there is a Tricolor section, all plant material must be fresh and highlight the daylily. Photos of Tricolor rosette winners can be forwarded to the National Daylily Society, where a single Tricolor Medal is awarded. Judging is by a panel of National Council of State Garden Club Inc. judges. This very prestigious award was won in 2015 by one our members, Jackie Lundberg, for her arrangement entitled “The Chinese Dance.”



A variety of exhibits in the design section of the 2024 show



2015 MCDS TriColor Award and ADS TriColor Medal Winner Jackie Lundberg

After judging and ribbon placement, visitors can check out the award-winning blooms and see the best examples at the “head table.” Of special note are club members Angie Maly, who won King of Show (Best Unusual Form ‘Artic Tern’), Queen of Show (Best Spider ‘Good Bye Pork Pie Hat’), Best Small Flower (‘Black Velvet Baby’), and Best Miniature (‘Wilhelm’), as



2024 Multi-Award Winner Angie Maly

well as the Sweepstakes award for winning the most blue ribbons; and Robin Fauth, who received the Novice Award for 'Handwriting on the Wall.'

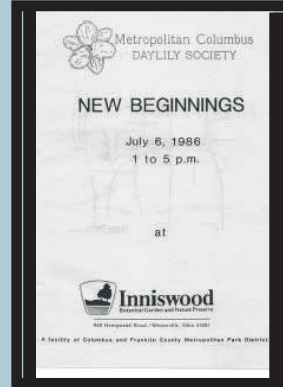
Of course, taking down the show is the final activity. Some visitors like to stay as the vases are being emptied to collect some of the blooms not retrieved by the entrants. The scapes will always have unopened blooms, and taking the scapes home and putting them in water will allow those blooms to open and be enjoyed.

Soon after the conclusion of the show, it is time to begin planning for next year's show, and the first step in that process is obtaining a venue. Then, repeat as necessary!

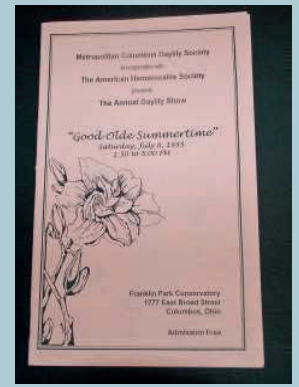


2024 Novice Award-Winner Robin Fauth

MCDS Daylily Show Covers Across the Years



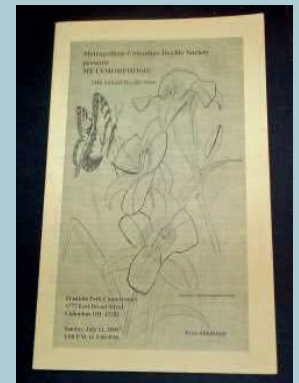
1968



1995



2004



2009



2010



2017



2019



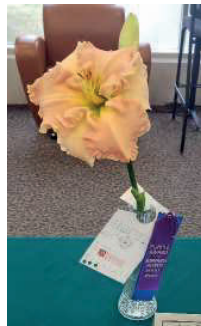
2024



Best Extra-Large: 'Mama Was a Pistil' (Norris-R., 2019)



Best Double: 'Dorothy and Toto' (Herrington-K., 2003)



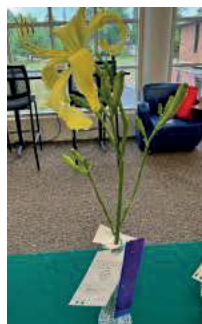
Best Large: 'Faith Healer' (Hanson-C., 2017)



Best Small: 'Black Velvet Baby' (Kinnebrew-J., 2007)



Best Miniature: 'Wilhelm' (Apps, 1997)

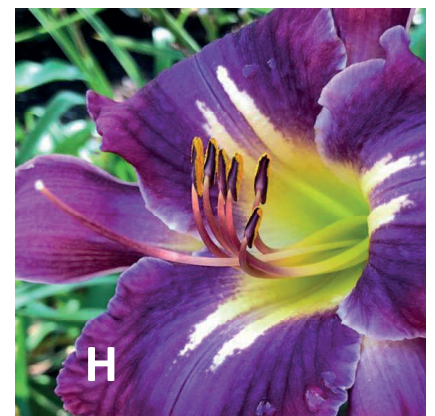
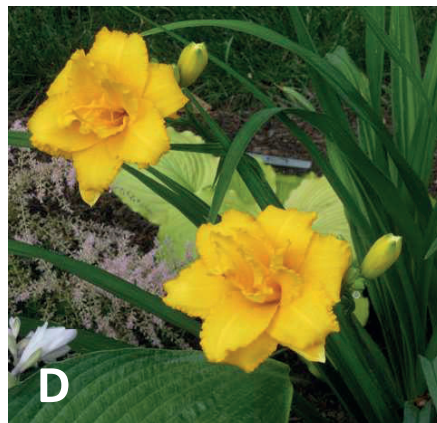


Best Un.Form: 'Arctic Tern' (Lambertson, 2006)

Even Without A Tag

by Charlie Harper

At a recent Shirley Farmer meeting, Monique Warnke, Sandra Dunn and I were tossing around ideas for future articles. Monique observed how some daylilies were so distinctive that they could be spotted and identified even if the tag was missing. So, here we go, your first set of photos with 'missing tags.' Let's see how many you recognize. Answers and photo credits on page 53.



(Grown in a shaded area)

ADS Region 2 Great Lakes Daylily

Hybridizing 'How-To' Hints and Tips

Introduction by Sandra Dunn

The goal of this series is for hybridizers to share ideas on a variety of topics. The initial vision was to provide information for new hybridizers to ponder since there is no single correct way to do things. But experienced hybridizers have since told me that they enjoy reading these different perspectives as well.

For the debut article, we started with the very practical question of "How do you tag your crosses in the field?" We heard from several hybridizers whose methods included colored paper clips, paper tags, trail tape, and vinyl labels. This was followed by a focus on seed collections and storage in the late summer/ fall issue.

So what do you do with those seeds now? Below hybridizers Ric Adams, Ed Kraus, and Sandy Holmes share their methods for germinating and planting seeds. The timing of this first trio of topics roughly followed the natural progression through one season of seed-making, harvesting, storing, and planting.

In future issues we will explore evaluating seedlings and ideas for selling/marketing daylilies. And we are eager to hear your ideas for other topics. Please email me at greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com to contribute or suggest a topic.

Ric Adams

Laidback Gardens, Goodrich, Michigan

We have started seeds for 30+ years and have used many different methods—from grow lights in our Michigan basement to a heated greenhouse, open flats to 78 cell trays, and many ways in between. We have matched our seed starting to our lifestyle and this is our current method. It works for us with a minimum of fuss and bother. We produce seedlings that can be lined out by the first of June if we have the space to do so. Truth is, we rarely have enough room ready for them. So we work through the summer clearing and prepping a new bed. The seedlings hopefully get planted by late summer, but no later than Labor Day here in Michigan.

We do not start seeds until February as our house is decorated for Christmas. We generally like to work on

them during Red Wing hockey games. Upon taking seed from the crisper drawer, we first put each cross in a jelly-type jar with sandpaper under the lid and at the bottom of the jar, give it a bartender shake, and place in a series of plastic six ounce cups with a couple ounces of 10% peroxide.



Sandpaper will scarify the seeds and the peroxide will loosen the coating to aid in germination. We usually do 125-200 different crosses and each goes in its own cup. When seeds have soaked, they are put in the pots where they will germinate and remain until planting. The pot size is determined by the number of seeds per cross. We put 5-15 seeds in four inch pots in a tray that holds 18 pots. Any crosses that have more seeds than that (up to 60) go in one gallon pots in trays that hold 6 pots. When each tray is full, the pots are well watered with warm water. Each four inch and one gallon pot is assigned a number to keep my crosses straight.

We use a coir mix and it greatly reduces the issue of fungus gnats. That is important as the gnats are difficult to control and will make a mess of your work. The trays are placed in two inch deep boot trays so we can bottom water after about two to four weeks as needed, with a light Miracle Grow solution.



We have remodeled our old farmhouse to accommodate putting our boot trays on movable shelves in front



of our south-facing windows. When all are planted, the flats are covered with a sheet of plastic to let in light and keep in some moisture, mimicking a green house of sorts. We then go to Florida for two months. Our granddaughter comes by to see if anything has dried out and when most have sprouted, she loosens the plastic. When we get back in late April, we remove the covering and continue bottom watering as necessary. Here in Michigan we can usually pull the trays out to the driveway to harden off by mid-May and plant by early June (in a good year).



When plants have hardened off and received a couple good spring rains, they are ready to plant. We plant in a double row about

eight inches apart. Before we plant, we go down the string line with a dose of greensand. The greensand helps loosen our clay soil and the nutrients it contains keep our plants healthy.



Our rows are about 26 inches apart to accommodate a 20 inch tiller. We use a metal marker with Brother P-Touch TZ tape and a number system beginning with the year and a

number corresponding to the cross. When we plant a cross, it goes behind the marker in a double row with the strongest seedlings first and last in each row with the others in between. I am always amazed at how many keepers come from the first or the last two planted of each cross. After planting, they are given a dose of Preen granular and a light mulch of pine needles or fine pine chips to hold the weeds down while allowing for growth.

**Ed Kraus
Purple Daze Daylily Garden, Lebanon, Ohio**

**“Making a U-Turn:
Starting Daylilies Seeds in the Ground”**

Since I began crossing tetraploid daylilies, the seeds have always been started indoors, under lights, in win-

ter. I limited the number of seeds per cross to 12 or so, planted about 300 seeds, and ended up with about 200 seedlings for the current year’s bed. I planted these seedlings six inches apart in rows that were six inches apart. The system worked well for many years.

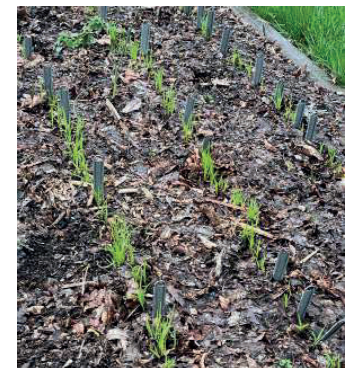
For the last several years, though, I have spent the winters (late December to mid-March) in Galveston, Texas, where my seven year old granddaughter lives. This has seriously impacted both the timing and quality of my daylily seedling crop. The quandary was: (1) plant the seeds before leaving in late December and trust the young house/pet sitter to tend them or (2) plant them in March after returning. I tried both methods, but the seedling quantity and quality suffered. Neither approach was very successful. So in late November of 2023, not knowing what to expect, ALL of my seeds were planted in the GROUND! Fast forward: IT WORKED, but not exactly as expected.

The seeds were planted in a former seedling bed with good soil. The bed had been recently tilled with compost, shredded leaves and a good dose of Milorganite added. The seeds were planted very close together, crosses marked, watered, mulched with a light mulch of shredded daylily and other stalks and then left to Mother Nature over the winter, per the instructions received from Dan Bachman.

Upon returning from Texas in late March, the seeds had sprouted. In fact, way too many of them had sprouted. For this first trial, everything was tracked, including seed counts, seedling counts by cross, and dates. Many pictures were taken. Of the 1,494 seeds planted, 994 sprouted. And I only had room for 200!



December 7, 2023



April 4, 2023



June 3, 2024

Germination was about the same as what was attained in the basement – 67%. The seedlings were much bigger than anything I had ever done inside. There were too many seedlings, but life found a way.

Adding a second bed and adding a row to each bed yielded an extra 100+ seedlings per bed, to over 300. With a bit of added space here and there, I started in late May and planted 785 of the biggest and best seedlings out of the 994—the most I have ever done and will ever do. Included in this group were some long crosses (nine of 53 crosses yielded between 36 and 66 plants each) that will be very interesting to evaluate.

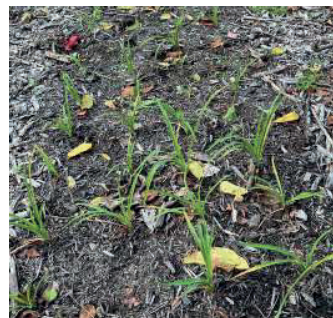
The seedlings prospered over the very dry summer. They were watered regularly during the drought. Now I anxiously await the coming year to see how many might bloom compared to starting seedlings indoors.



Tetraploid seedlings
October 14, 2024

So what was learned while making this change?

- 1) Make fewer crosses.
- 2) Don't make so many seeds. Or just maybe... Don't plant so many seeds. Germination is just as good in the ground.
- 3) Plant the seeds in an unused bed, not the bed where the seedlings will also be planted.
- 4) Keep to my single bed per year size of about 200 plants.



Diploid seedlings
October 15, 2024

Finally, it is apparent that we can use whatever seed-starting method fits our needs and works best for our individual situations. Don't be afraid to change up the methods as needed and try new approaches—there are more ways to start seeds than we can imagine. Remember too that seeds are primed to grow despite what we might do to them.

Additionally, note that all of the daylily seedlings covered above were tetraploids. However, two long crosses of diploids were also started. The comparative results were very interesting:

- All seeds were planted at nearly the same time in late fall.

- All were in good soil, watered, and mulched.
- The diploids emerged earlier.
- The tetraploids were soon bigger, taller, and had larger root systems.
- The tets grew bigger, faster in the ground and looked better in the fall.

Consider that this was a very small sample so perhaps not representative of the whole, but these are interesting results nonetheless. Evaluation to continue.

Sandy Holmes Riverbend Daylilies, Xenia, Ohio

Starting Seeds Indoors: For the Reasonable to The Obsessive Hybridizer

For people with limited garden space or too many seeds, starting seeds indoors is a great option. Since my mentor was Steve Moldovan, I am in the Obsessive category, but be assured that this will work for 10 seeds as well as 10,000. I start seeds in our “seed room” in the back of the barn. We have a small greenhouse furnace and overhead grow lights on a timer. I normally start the seeds after the winter holidays because we need them to be more robust for transplanting in the open field in late May. The fact that there isn't much going on in January helps.

The process begins in the fall when all the seeds are gathered. Everyone has their own method to keep seeds. (We use paper coin envelopes stored in Ziploc plastic bags.) After all the seeds are collected, the crosses are entered into an Excel Spreadsheet. As an obsessive, I sort the spreadsheet to show all the crosses from each pollen parent together. (I plant by the pollen parent so I can see the results of my chosen pollen parents in the same area.) If you are in the Reasonable category, don't bother with all the sorting. If you assign numbers on the planting, keep some kind of record of the cross for each number. To save time and money for markers, try to plant like crosses together.



The supplies needed are the seeds from your storage, the Excel spreadsheet or your own record sheet, a pen

to record the cross numbers on the sheet, white plastic four-inch garden markers, black paint pen, a sterile planting medium with added vermiculite for the dirt (we use ProMix in 40 pound bags), 124-hole plug trays, carrying trays for the plug trays, shelves, grow lights, water and if possible, fans to keep the air circulating. We recently switched to LED grow lights because they are more energy efficient and put out less heat. For the reasonable person, starter packages with plugs and trays are available at big box stores like Walmart. As an obsessive, we purchase by the case from BFG, a greenhouse supplier.

To decide what to plant together, I, an obsessive, use the spreadsheet to locate all of the crosses from one pollen parent. That pollen parent's crosses are then sorted by pod parents. All seeds from the individual pod parent are assigned a number and planted together. This continues until all of the kids from a specific pollen parent are planted together. Then I repeat the process for the next pollen parent. If you are reasonable, none of this is necessary. Just plant them any way you want, but be sure to give the cross some kind of identification so that you know what you have.



Try to work in an environment where a bit of stray dirt isn't a problem. I do everything in the seed room because the dirt can be messy if it is as dry as I like it. The first step is to fill the plug tray with dirt leaving a little bit of space at the top of each plug. In your spreadsheet, assign a name or number to the cross and record it on the plastic marker using the paint pen. (DO NOT USE A PERMANENT MARKER. THEY CAN FADE AND YOU WILL LOSE YOUR CROSS). I place one seed in each plug. I do not plant the first and last row at the ends of the tray because I cannot keep the soil as moist as the rest of the tray and the plants don't do as well. When all the seeds are planted, push the seeds slightly into the soil and cover the plugs with a little more soil to be sure that the seeds are completely covered. Anyone who uses the more expensive starter trays from the big box store can plant in every plug.

If you are obsessive and plant trays over several days, wait until everything is planted before you add water



to the trays and turn on the lights. This will encourage the seeds to all sprout about the same time. Reasonable people can just water them as they go. Keep the soil moist, but not water logged. Then, to sprout the seeds, all that is necessary is heat. The seeds usually sprout in a couple of weeks, but some will take longer. Every light system is different. We leave the lights on for about 16 hours a day after the seeds start to sprout.

Rotating each tray helps to give all the seedlings light. As an obsessive with thousands of seeds, I rotate the trays by turning them front to back and moving them to different shelves. Without this, some foliage will get long and fall over on the other seedlings. Floor fans help to make the foliage stronger so use the air movement if you can. If the seedlings' foliage becomes too long you can always give them a haircut, but leave at least five inches. If fungus gnats join the party, try fly paper strips near the lights. A hint for the reasonable person who is not planting thousands of seeds is to microwave your dirt for two or three minutes before you plant. I don't recommend using the microwave in your kitchen.

When your weather has only light frost, put the seedlings in a sunny protected area to allow them to harden off. Don't worry if they get a surprise snow. The strong seedlings will live. The seedlings will recover quickly once the plugs are planted in their final location. As the permanent foliage develops, most of the seedling foliage will die so don't be concerned if you see dry outer foliage.

Have fun and enjoy your new creations. Remember there is no one right way to start seeds. The right way is what works for you.



Region 2 Club Reports

Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society: Reflections of a Long-Term President

by Charlene Patz, with photos by Frank Patz

Trish Hausknecht, Enterprise Partnerships Manager with Metroparks Toledo, was the guest speaker at our September 21 general membership meeting that was well attended. Trish's program titled "Metroparks Update!" highlighted all of the great things that are happening at Metroparks Toledo including the new Glass City Metropark, the Riverwalk along the Maumee River, and some future projects in the works. In October we enjoyed a lively roundtable discussion led by Charlie Harper, Phil Hollenbaugh, and Jerry Marlatt who addressed questions members asked about fertilizing, weed control, and deer control.

What a pleasant surprise when I was honored for my 30 years of service to the society (23 as president) at our November 9 year-end potluck held in the Conference Center at Toledo Botanical Garden. Charlie Harper, the society's Vice-President, presented me with a wind chime and a plaque commemorating my service. Everyone enjoyed a slice from a beautifully decorated cake following our year-end luncheon! Charlie even brought pens so everyone could sign the plaque. What a wonderful way to end an era!



Photo by Gwenn Floyd

How quickly the days, months, years have passed since our society was organized!! The Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society was organized in April 1995 through the inspiration of the Greater Cincinnati Daylily-Hosta Society. Ann and Don Bixler had attended garden tours and daylily shows of the GCDHS with his parents, and wanted to have a society closer to their home in the Toledo, Ohio, area. Frank and I live in Perrysburg so together we were able to get the ball rolling by enlisting the help of Janice Lower, Executive

Director of the Toledo Botanical Garden, who let us use the Stable Room for our first public meeting. I sent out news articles, posted flyers at local nurseries, laundromats, the libraries, grocery stores—anywhere someone would let us post a flyer. That first meeting resulted in just one daylily lover and a husband and wife who were interested only in hostas. Not to be discouraged, we scheduled a second meeting the following month, and nineteen households of hosta and daylily enthusiasts showed up. Our society was off and running. Seven of the original households are still active in our society. One thing that has changed over the years—like most gardening clubs—is the average age of our members, which has gotten older.

We still have a very active membership with about forty attending our regular meetings featuring guest speakers three or four times a year, a spring luncheon, and potluck in November. We currently have ninety households on the roster. Our core group attends and volunteers to help with events during the year: the hosta work day, plant sale, daylily work day, daylily auction, roundtable discussion, just to name a few. We always have some fabulous appetizers, salads, casseroles, and dessert table at our year-end luncheon!

Reflecting on the past thirty years brings back many wonderful memories of society activities and events.



Annual perennial plant sale, 2017

Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society continued

Some of my favorite events include our annual perennial plant sale held at a grocery store parking lot with members providing potted hosta plants, bare root daylilies, irises, grasses, herbs, ferns—you never know what you might find! We will hold our 28th annual perennial plant sale on May 17th, 2025. We have a regular group of gardeners from Michigan, Indiana and southern Ohio who travel to the sale just about every year, or our “tribe of fellow gardeners” as the store employees refer to them. The sale opens at 8 AM, but buyers start showing up around 7 AM in hopes of being the first in line. We usually have about twenty gardens participate in the sale each spring.



Other favorite events are our members’ work days in the National Hosta Display Garden in the spring, and our morning work day in August in the National Daylily Display Garden at Toledo Botanical Garden, which have always been fun ways to get to know our member on a one-on-one basis. Our annual daylily auction of plants being returned from our Daylily Host Program and additional donations from our members has been a great way for our members to purchase some of the newer introductions. We hold a non-accredited hosta show or daylily expo on alternating summers to introduce the public to our world of hostas and daylilies, in addition to inviting them to attend our regular meetings during the year.



Daylily Expo held in the Conference Center at Toledo Botanical Garden, 2016

Our society has been instrumental in establishing and maintaining the only three National Hosta Display Gardens in Ohio, as well as helping to maintain the National Daylily Display Garden at Toledo Botanical Garden during the summer months. The National Hosta Display Gardens are located at Toledo Botanical Garden Metropark, Hosta Glen at Simpson Garden Park in Bowling Green, and the 577 Hosta Garden in Perrysburg.

Club Information a

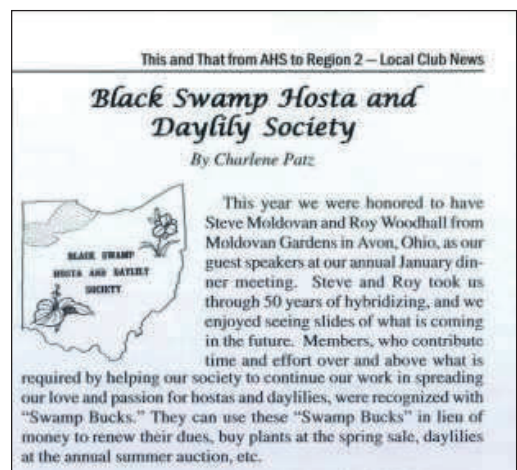
Black Swamp Hosta & Daylily Society

Correspondents: Don Bixler and Charlene Patz
(419) 355-8116/(419) 874-8964

- March 22–Speaker Charles Applegate
- April 19–Speaker Mona Macksey
- May 31–Annual Plant Sale
- June 7–Cut Leaf Hosta Show
- July 19–Members Garden Tour, Plant Exchange
- July 26–Daylily Show
- August 23–Bus Tour to Michigan
- September 20–Tour, Toledo Zoo Gardens
- October 18–Speaker Paul Doran, Toledo Rose Society
- November 15–Potluck Dinner, Year-end Meeting

Club events as listed in Spring 1997 *Great Lakes Daylily*

In our earlier years we took many bus trips, which always filled up with Black Swamp members. We visited nurseries



Excerpt from Spring/Summer 2004 *Great Lakes Daylily*



Bus trip to Dow Garden, Midland, Michigan, 2014

and garden centers, public gardens, the Cincinnati Flower Show, Fredrick Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Cleveland Botanical Garden, and Hidden Lake in Tipton, just to name a few of our favorites. Our bus trips also took us to daylily hybridizers like Dan Bachman, Roy Woodhall, Steve Moldovan, Jamie Gossard, Tom Polston, Curt Hanson, Ginny Pearce, Sandy and Mike Holmes are a few places we traveled to in the summer. These daylily hybridizers were also some of the greatest speakers we were honored to host for our annual spring luncheon.

Our first bus trip in 1996 was to the infamous Wade and Gatton Nursery in Bellville with lunch at DerDutchman, and a visit to Kingwood Center in Mansfield before heading home. We have also enjoyed several visits to gardens of hosta hybridizers like Jim Wilkins, Doug Beilstein (Blueberry Patch), Gil Jones, and Clarence Owens, with so many wonderful experiences!!! Dinner speakers included Steve Moldovan, Roy Woodhall, hosta gurus Bob Solberg,

Mark Zillis, Clarence Falstad, Jim Wilkins, and Don Rawson among other. So many great memories!!

We were able to resume our busy schedule following the COVID shut down of public meetings in 2021, with members eager to get back together. We hit the ground running, with general membership meetings, work days at Toledo Botanical Garden, perennial plant sale, either a hosta show or daylily expo open to the public, our yearly spring luncheon, the resuming of members' garden tours, the fall wrap-up luncheon, and we are still going strong!! New leadership was elected this fall, and I feel confident the Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society is in good hands!! Thank you for the privilege of working side by side with some of the most amazing people that I will be grateful to forever!! See you out in the garden this spring!!

If you are in the Toledo area whenever any of our events are scheduled, we would love to have you join us!! All of our meetings are held in the Terrace Room of the Conference Center at Toledo Botanical Garden Metropark unless a different venue is given.

Be sure to "friend" us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/blackswamphostaanddaylilysociety/> Eileen Hoffman does a great job keeping the information current on this site for our society.

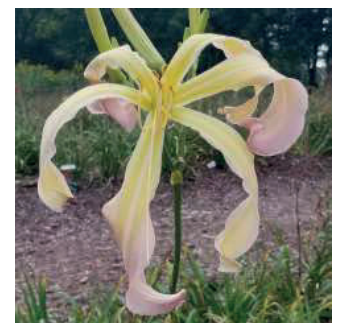
Membership is \$10 per garden per year expiring December 31st. If you have questions or are interested in joining the Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society, feel free to contact Phil Parsons, Membership, Tele: 419-256-7246, Email: <mpparsons@centurylink.net> or Judy Hersch, President Tele: 419-367-6080, Email <jimandjudy@icloud.com>.

Answers to No Tag Needed "quiz" from page 46

- A = 'Webster's Pink Wonder' (Saundra Dunn photo)
- B = 'Heavenly United We Stand' (Charlie Harper photo)
- C = 'Breathing in Snowflakes' (Leslie Platt photo)
- D = 'Condilla' (Charlie Harper photo)
- E = 'Fried Green Tomatoes' (Charlie Harper photo)
- F = 'Heavenly New Frontiers' (Charlie Harper photo)
- G = 'Lavender Blue Baby' (Charlie Harper photo)
- H = 'Cobraskin Necktie' (Charlie Harper photo)

Do you have a daylily in your garden that is so easily recognizable no tag is needed? Like this one:

Please send a photo for a future challenge to greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com.



('Skinwalker')

Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society

by Laurie Jacques

The Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Club held a work session in September to maintain the daylily display beds at the Franklin Park Conservatory. Members cut back foliage and weeded in preparation for mulching by conservatory staff.



Top: Daylily bed after September cleanup
Lower: MCDS Members at September work session at the Franklin Park Conservatory *Photos by Debby Colvin*

We held our last regular meeting of the year on Saturday, September 21, at the Franklin Park Conservatory. The meeting featured a slide presentation by club member and daylily hybridizer Kirsten Hatfield, whose garden is located near Zanesville. Kirsten's stunning doubles were a highlight for our many double daylily enthusiasts.

MCDS concluded its 2024 activities with a holiday luncheon at Der Dutchman restaurant in Plain City on Saturday, November 16. Approximately 50 members and

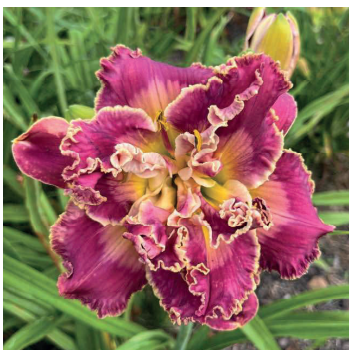
guests enjoyed a family-style meal of roast beef and chicken followed by a choice of freshly baked pies.

Members approved the officer slate for 2025 by vote: Fred Blyth, President; Charles Lucius, Vice President; Patty Spahr Hitt, Treasurer; and Laurie Jacques, Secretary. We gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Debby Colvin, who has served as secretary for many years. The election was followed by a gift exchange and a slide presentation by Charles Lucius that highlighted the beauty of the modern daylily. The slide show featured gorgeous blooms by club favorite hybridizers including Judy Davison, Heidi and Charles Douglas, Karol Emmerich, Jamie Gossard, Dianna Gossard, Curt Hanson, Tim Herrington, Sandy and Mike Holmes, Guy Pierce, Pat Stamile, Steve Williams, and others.

The club's officers and board have planned a full schedule for 2025. We will host guest speakers at our February and September meetings. The May and August meetings will feature plant auctions and guest plant distributions. We will return to Der Dutchman for our holiday luncheon in November.

Our accredited, judged daylily show is scheduled for Saturday, June 28, at the Upper Arlington Public Library. This space offers us plenty of room with great lighting from floor to ceiling windows and provides the opportunity to showcase our daylilies to the public. Please see page 43 of this newsletter for more about our show's history.

We also plan to have a public plant sale on Saturday, July 26th. We hope our 2025 sale is as successful as our 2024 sale in attracting potential new members to our club.



Kirsten Hatfield 2024 Introductions, L to R: 'Hands of the Masters', 'One Happy Heifer', 'Cheers to Margaritaville', and 'Who Spiked The Punch' *Photos by Kirsten Hatfield*

Ohio Daylily Society

by Nancy Secrist

Looking at 2024 in review, Ohio Daylily Society had a banner year! We began our year by greeting each other after a long winter. The first guest plant distribution of the year was fulfilled generously from Steve Williams, O'Bannon Springs Daylilies. These cultivars are purchased by ODS under the administration of Mike Anders. Plants are distributed to members in good standing at no charge for the purpose of growing them for three years and then the increase is returned to be auctioned as a club fundraiser. The member growing the cultivar retains a single or double fan. The Region 2 Summer Meeting preparations dominated our time for the first half of 2024 so we did not hold our usual July show.



For the first time in 14 years, ODS prepared to host the Summer Meeting and this led into July, a whirlwind month featuring five outstanding garden visits during the July 19-21 event. Thanks

to all who supported the regional event, ODS is able to make donations to national and regional ADS projects. ODS needs to update its digital image and create a website. We plan to continue and expand our participation in various community outreach projects and to donate to our local non-profit and most generous host, Kingwood Gardens.

The Englerth Seedling Contest bed was created new on the grounds of our host site Kingwood Gardens for the Summer Meeting. Using the Region 2 grant program and with the continued support of Kingwood, the bed will continue to feature daylilies. We will use it to showcase the introductions of our own members and to promote daylilies to the visitors of the Kingwood Gardens.



'Just Look at Me Now'
(Marlatt-J., 2024)

The second distribution of guest plants was completed from Kristen Hatfield of Dorsets n Day-

lilies and Karol Emmerich of Springwood Gardens. Our year closed out with a great program by Lisa and Jerry Marlatt, about their family-owned Ogden Station Daylilies nursery and hybridizing program. In the founding documents of our club, it is stated that our purpose is "Promoting, encouraging and fostering the development and improvement of the Genus Hemerocallis and the public interest therein." All our activities have been directed to that purpose admirably!

A large part of the success of our fundraising is based on the generosity and support of our members through donations from their gardens. Charlie Harper, past president of Region 2, offered to share with us his system of using wheelbarrows

for the purpose of digging and separating clumps. Notice on the photo that the cultivar ID marker is prominently moving with the clump, providing an unbroken chain of identification through the process. Here is some timely advice before spring in his



own words, "How many years can one wait before splitting a large clump? I found out that I waited too long when I went to work on a six year-old clump. The center was so dense that I had no choice but to cut it apart. What I found was intertwined roots so dense that they made an almost solid mass. I believe that each fan was strangling its neighbor, limiting the size of each plant. Adding fertilizer only worsens the problem! Die out in the center of clumps may be caused by fans killing each other. One clump yielded seven splits, each with 6 or more fans. That's over 40 fans! Should have been split after three to four years." Early spring is a great time to walk the garden looking for those older clumps; you can line out extra fans for donations later in the summer.

Next year, we plan to kick off the first meeting on May 18th with guest plant distributions from Curt Hanson of Crintonic Gardens and Jerry Marlatt of Ogden Station Daylilies. Christy Reidel and Sara Martin volunteered to chair the daylily show on July 13th, 2025.

Southern Michigan Daylily Society

Article by Marietta Crabtree

After a summer filled with beautiful garden visits and a daylily show, the arrival of signals the time for SMDS to resume monthly program meetings.



Marietta Crabtree
and Sandy Holmes
Photo by Sandra Dunn

Sandy Holmes of Riverbend Daylily Garden in Bellbrook, Ohio, presented her hybridizing program and an auction for the September meeting. Sandy is the recipient of a Stout Silver Medal for her introduction “I Lava You.” Her current hybridizing focus is on large tetraploid unusual forms with interesting eyes and edges. Her largest bloom is 14 inches.

Her presentation included a beautiful, very informative PowerPoint which included basic information about daylily anatomy, hybridizing, and growing daylilies in addition to presenting photos of her more current hybridized daylilies. The PowerPoint also showed photos of the two parent daylilies used to pro-



Stout winner ‘I Lava You’
(Holmes-S, 2009)
Photo by Claude Carpenter

duce the resulting hybridized daylily. This added a lot of interest and discussion to the meeting.

There were a lot of questions about hybridizing. Sandy was very gracious about sharing procedures that helped make her hybridizing so successful. One hybridizing tip was to use the pod plant for the basic characteristics wanted in the plant, such as branching and height for example, and then use the pollen plant for a pretty face. Her presentation was extremely helpful for newer SMDS members.

The daylily auction was great. The auctioned daylilies included three or more fans in a clump. There was a big range of daylily varieties and prices with lots of bargains. There was “something for everyone” resulting in lots of fun, excitement and smiling faces. Sandy was a very gracious and generous auctioneer. Thank you, Sandy, for a very special meeting. Visit her website: www.daylily.ws.

The October meeting was a Zoom meeting hosted by SMDS member, Sandra Dunn. Sandra produced a beautiful, informative PowerPoint program about “WOW Daylilies in the Garden”. These are daylilies that stand out with beautiful eye-catching presentation and bring great comments from your visitors. The PowerPoint was produced mostly from daylily photos from SMDS members and Sandra’s Along the Fence Daylily Garden. Sandra grows over 2,000

**Daylilies with
A WOW factor
in the garden
(and a bit about
color and form
vocabulary)**

**Sandra Dunn
Along The Fence
Daylilies**

‘Luke Finley Adams’ (Adams-R, 2013),
one of many Wow factor daylilies in
Sandra’s presentation

different daylily varieties. Over 25 people joined the Zoom meeting, including some members of other Region 2 daylily societies. Participants described the reasons for why they chose their Wow daylily photo. The Wow daylily photos were arranged into daylily categories such as doubles, spiders and unusual forms, and eyes and edges for example which added a lot of interest.



'Ken Dyker' (Kulpa, 2017), one of the many photos contributed to the October presentation
Photo by Marietta Crabtree

It was fun to participate and a great way to learn about some exceptional daylilies for the garden...all from the comfort of home. A great big thank you to Sandra for the excellent PowerPoint and to everyone that contributed the photos. Sandra's email: alongthefencedaylilies@gmail.com.

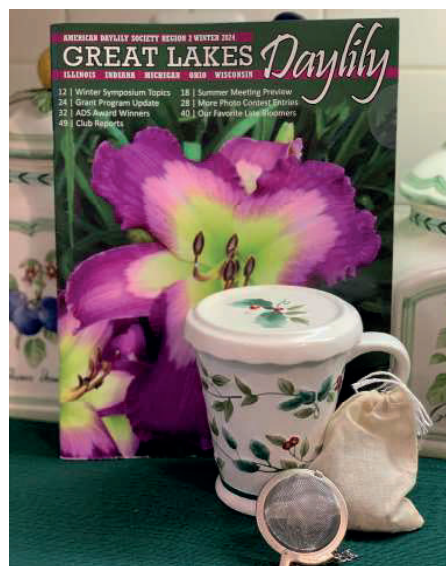
The November program was "Crafting the Perfect Cup of Herbal Tea" presented by national herbal authority, Bevin Cohen. Bevin brought herbs and equipment for brewing tea. The program included the following activities which were informative and a lot of fun:

- * Sample and enjoy different brewed herbal teas
- * Learn the uses of different herbs for teas such as relaxation, stress reduction and energy
- * Learn how to combine different herbs for different purpose teas
- * Make a free custom herbal tea package to take home and enjoy

Bevin explained the basic components of an herbal tea blend which are: #1 Base Herb, majority of blend such as green tea; #2 Beneficial Partner Herb; #3 Flavor Enhancement Herb. He also listed beneficial herbs for relaxation, uplifting/energetic, boost im-

munity and digestive health. For example, uplifting/energetic herbs include peppermint, rosemary, sage, and green tea. I drink a cup of my free packet custom herbal tea in the evening while reading a daylily journal...so enjoyable and relaxing. Visit: www.BevinCohen.com or www.SmallHouseFarm.com.

A delicious end of year potluck followed the program for a fun ending to 2024. Visit the SMDS website for the 2025 SMDS Calendar of Events: www.midaylily-society.com. Marietta.crabtree@gmail.com.



Above, top to bottom: Bevin Cohen talking with the full-house crowd of 40 SMDS members and guests. The 20 herb options for making the take-home tea package. Marietta's personal blend tea and a good newsletter. *Photos by Marietta Crabtree*

Grand Valley Daylily Society

article by Claire Sheridan with photos by Peggy Pike

The Grand Valley Daylily Society has had an interesting and busy calendar these past few months. In July we visited the garden of Maryann Inman. We toured her beautiful plantings of hostas and daylilies, and then enjoyed delicious treats with our meeting.

Also in July, the club held a daylily show at the Frederik Meijer Gardens. Over 500 people toured the exhibits and voted for their favorites. The first place winner for on-scape daylilies was 'Larry's Twilight Bite' by Gossard. The first place winner for off-scape daylilies was 'Speed Bump' by Ginny Pearce. Ginny also won the Englerth Award for Hybridizing Excellent his year. Ginger Smith won Best of Show in the Design Division.

In August, Steve Reiger graciously invited us to his garden for our annual club picnic. Steve has been hybridizing for a number of years and it was a delight for the



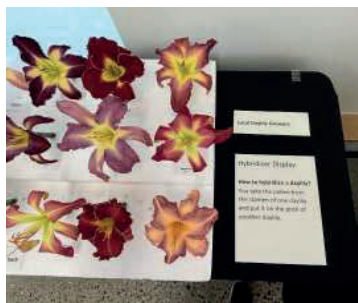
Left to right: Steve Reiger intro 'El Patrone' (2022) and one of his seedlings.

club to see his plantings. He and Jerri Schultz treated the club to a delicious lunch.

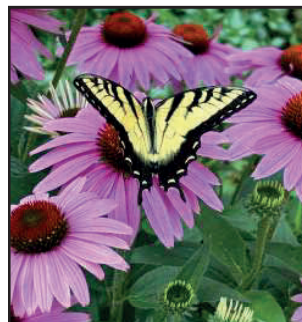
The fall auction in September, featuring primarily member-donated plants and garden items, was fun and successful.

In October, the club reviewed the policies and procedures for purchasing and growing club plants, which are grown for two years by members and returned for auction. It was a fruitful discussion with members eventually deciding to increase the amount allowed for spending on club plants and updating some of the procedures.

The annual holiday get-together was held in November. A delicious potluck was provided by members and the club. Attendees enjoyed the company of daylily friends.



Scenes from the Daylily Exhibit at Meijer Gardens, including the overall layout, Ginger Smith's winning design, examples of educational signage throughout, and Rich Surmont's daylily and driftwood display.



Clockwise: A swallowtail butterfly (just because!), GVDS members at a summer social, and GVDS members at the holiday party

Wisconsin Daylily Society

article by Steven King with photos by Genni Kleckner

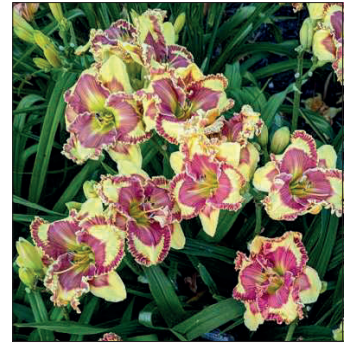
A Happy and Healthy 2025 to you ALL from The Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS).

We are very thankful to have experienced a bountiful 2024, which culminated with the largest daylily sale in the contiguous United States. The sale is always held the third weekend in August and this year we offered over 800 different cultivars. Unfortunately, we did have a few hundred unsold daylily divisions this year, so we partnered with the Chicagoland Daylily Society to sell at their sale the following weekend, which was a win-win for both clubs. After our sale each year, our club is dormant for a couple of months until our Annual Meeting.

This year's WDS Annual Meeting was held at Rex's Inn-keeper in Waunakee, Wisconsin, on November 2, 2024. The event was well attended. We shared great food, club camaraderie, and life stories with one another. After our lunch, there was a short business meeting followed by a presentation with our featured speaker, Bobby Scott. Bobby and his wife Sharon are genuine, good, fair and fun-loving people. It was a pleasure to hear Bobby speak about his current program and his future plans. We look forward to hearing him speak again at the Region 2 Midwinter Symposium, February 21-22, 2025, in Lafayette, Indiana.

prizes throughout the year that our members enjoy receiving at every meeting. She is also instrumental with many aspects of our annual sale. Special thanks to the WDS Board and membership for assisting when and where necessary and making it an enjoyable and memorable day.

We look forward to a great 2025. We have an awesome speaker lineup that consists of presentations by Kirsten Hatfield, David Jewell, Michelle Rogers, and Tim Hobbs.



Left to right: Bobby Scott Intros 'Swirl City Janine From Kansas' (2024) and 'Swirl City Kirsten's Blessing' (2024)

Photos by Bobby Scott



Left to right: Sharon and Bobby Scott. Sharon Lonergan.

After Bobby's presentation, we had a 50/50 auction of Scott plants, commandeered by our longtime auctioneer, Conrad Wrzesinski. People came away with some pretty good buys. This was followed by an auction of Sharon Lonergan's 15 table centerpieces, with Bobby as our auctioneer. Sharon is one of so many people who are such valuable assets to our club. Sharon is very artistic and creative. She made all of the beautiful table centerpieces. In addition, she procures door



Clockwise: A few scenes from our WDS Annual Meeting. One of Sharon's lovely centerpieces. Monique Warnke and Bobby Scott. Judy Ravet, Lloyd Ravet, and Ritchie Rheume. A sample of door prizes given at meetings.

Central Michigan Daylily Society: The Year In Review

Article and photos by Teresa Dillon

Our club members visited the 2024 Midland Dow Gardens Butterfly Exhibition in March of this year. This interactive exhibit features thousands of brilliantly colored butterflies from around the world, living within the tropical environment of The Dow Gardens Butterfly Conservatory. The warmth inside the conservatory is a huge contrast to the cold Michigan weather during the month of March.

In May we had our first garden tour, summer social, and a plant exchange. Phil and Ginger Lisik were our hosts in their beautiful gardens located in Hemlock, Michigan. We were fortunate to have a gorgeous, warm spring day for our kick-off to summer.



Above: The view from Nancy Cooper's back deck.
Below: The sales field at Along The Fence Daylilies.



Daylily hybridizer John Kulpa made a special presentation to CMDS treasurer Linda Guiliani. He named a daylily in honor of Linda and her husband Bob Guiliani. Bob is our recently deceased CMDS vice-president. John gifted the entire clump of the daylily to Linda. What a happy surprise! Bob is greatly missed. He was a huge part of our club and a friend to many. He kept us laughing.



In July CMDS joined Southern Michigan Daylily Society for a tour of Nancy Cooper's Garden, in Gregory, Michigan. What a wonderful garden and beautiful setting on Joslin Lake. Daylilies grow like weeds with such perfect soil and moisture.

Then we went onto Sandra Dunn's garden, Along the Fence Daylilies in Dansville, to view the thousands of daylilies in bloom there. Many of us were melting in the hot July sun but the daylilies were loving the day. Sandra and her young work crew are always so welcoming and fun to visit.



Left: 'Bob and Linda Guiliani' (Kulpa, 2024).
Right: John Kulpa presenting the plant to Linda.

In August we met at Nash Nursery. We had plans for a picnic beside the pond, but Mother Nature made changes for us with heavy rainfall. An alternative plan was a delicious lunch inside a beautiful old barn that had been converted to a classroom and sales area. We learned about products grown and produced there at the nursery. Nash is a huge supplier of papaws and chestnuts.



Exterior and interior views of the barn at Nash Nursery.



Two Michigan-hardy orchids shared by Glen Pace. The pink is a Frosch hybrid named 'Maria.' The yellow is Michigan native parviflorum var. pubescens, commonly known as yellow lady's slipper.

We had an educational meeting for members in the month of September. Judy Barton and Scott MacGuidwin are CMDS members who are attorneys and notaries and specialize in elder law. Michigan made some changes this year in laws pertaining to seniors. Scott and Judy explained the laws and a wide range of issues now affecting seniors.

Glen Pace, owner of Pace Gardens in Clio, Michigan, was our October speaker. Glen grows thousands of plants on a small lot in a subdivision. Many are imported from Japan and China and said to not be hardy in Michigan, but he grows them well. His topic was *Cypripediums* (hardy orchids) and their companion plants. Glen gave

a very colorful PowerPoint presentation and provided handouts to attendees with a list of all the plants he showed us. Glen also provided a list of suppliers of *Cypripediums* and brought plants to sell.

Bill Nash of Nash Nursery in Owosso, Michigan was our November speaker. Mr. Nash had recently attended the 7th International Chestnut Growers Convention, which was held in Lugo, Spain, and he shared a fantastic presentation of what he experienced there. Chestnuts are a native tree in Europe and a huge industry for that country. Chestnuts are used in the making of many products such as flour, beer, creams, and marmalades. They are roasted and sold as street food. The wood of the tree is often used in the place of oak.

We had our annual Christmas Party in December (photo below) and look forward to a new year and more daylilies.



Hoosier Daylily Society

by Nancy Watson

Hoosier Daylily Society kicked off its '24-'25 season with a carry-in dinner at Woodland Springs Clubhouse. Nikki Schmith (right), our guest speaker from A Girl and Her Garden, presented a slideshow featuring some of her favorite small-flowered and miniature daylilies. Some of her favorites are 'You Are My Sunshine' by Don Herr, 'Ever So Tweet' by Dale Hensley, 'Coffee to Go' by Hilton Anderson, and 'Halloween Green' by Tim Herrington. She also shared a list of prominent hybridizers of small-flowered and miniature daylilies for those of us interested in increasing our collections. At the conclusion of the meeting, some of Nikki's favorite daylilies were auctioned.



Bobby Scott of Young Guns Daylilies. We look forward to seeing Bobby's doubles.

Our April meeting will feature a talk by David Winter of An Olmsted Daylily Garden. David focuses on diploid daylilies.

Our May meeting will be on the grounds of the Carmel City Hall. We will be distributing our club plants and auction plants at that time.

Our summer picnic location and date will be announced at a later time.



Primetime Predator

'Swirl City
Primetime Predator'
(Scott-R.H., 2024)
Photo by B. Scott



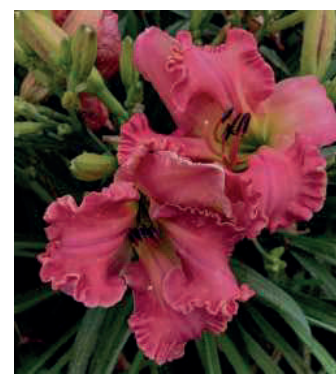
'Eileen and Bob'
(Winter, 2021)
Photo by D. Winter



Curt Hanson (left) of Crintonic Gardens was our speaker for our November meeting. A surprisingly large group assembled at our new meeting place, the Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library in Whitestown, Indiana, on a snowy, cold, windy night. Curt's slideshow was a celebration of color from nature found in

his travels and from his daylilies. An array of beautiful daylilies was shown which included "Crintonic Jazz Hands", 'Comodoro Rivadavia', and 'Existential Avatar'. An online auction of some of Curt's plants was held after the meeting.

After a holiday break, meetings will begin again on March at our new location. Our guest speaker will be



Curt's Plants, clockwise: 'Existential Avatar' (2019), 'Crintonic Jazz Hands' (2021), 'Comodoro Rivadavia' (2021), and an exclusive image of the soon-to-be-released 'John Rice' (2025) (Photos by Curt Hanson)

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Thank you for keeping your club contacts current!

Please notify Region 2 RPD Barb Buikema (bbbuikema@att.net) and Editor Sandra Dunn (greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com) when club information changes. Our goal is to keep this information up to date so information can flow across the Region.

2025 REGION 2 WINTER MEETING

Where: Lafayette, Indiana
When: February 21 -22, 2025
See pages 14 of this newsletter or the Region 2 Website for more information.

2025 REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING

Where: Lafayette, Indiana
When: July 18 - 20, 2025
See pages 29 of this newsletter
Additional information will be added to Region 2 Website as it becomes available.

2025 ADS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Where: Seattle, Washington
When: July 9 - 12, 2025
<https://ads2025national.org>



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Mike Holmes variegated seedling

Mike is one of seven amazing speakers at our Region 2 Winter Meeting (see page 15).

Photo by Mike Holmes