

AMERICAN DAYLILY SOCIETY REGION 2 SPRING 2026

GREAT LAKES

ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN OHIO WISCONSIN

Daylily

3 | Award-Winning Cultivars
14 | What's In A Name?
19 | Winter Meeting Reflections
24 | Display Garden Spotlight
28 | More Photo Contest Entries

33 | Photography Tips
38 | West Madison Ag Research Station
40 | Summer Meeting Preview
46 | Daylily Companion Plant: Echinacea
50 | Club Reports

Gemütlichkeit Garden

One of the Summer Meeting Tour Gardens
Madison, Wisconsin

American Daylily Society Officers

National President

Rich Crider
Maryland
president@daylilies.org

Membership Manager

Mary Gunter
PO Box 65
St. Matthews, SC 29135
membership@daylilies.org

Editor: *The Daylily Journal*

Adele Keohan
Massachusetts
journal@daylilies.com

AHS Region 2 Director

Greg Lough
Indiana
screekday@sbcglobal.net

2026 Region 2 Officers, Committee Chairs, and Liaisons

Regional President

Monique Warnke
Wisconsin
mwarnke77@gmail.com

Regional Publicity Director

Barb Buikema
Michigan
(616) 901-5367
bbbuikema@att.net

Regional Secretary

Lori Doolin
Illinois
lmduolin90@gmail.com

Regional Treasurer

Bobbi Johnson
405 Robin St.
Rockland, WI 54653
608-377-3211
raaschbj@yahoo.com

Regional Newsletter Editor

Sandra Dunn
3035 Parman Rd
Dansville, MI 48819
(517) 285-5435
greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com

Regional Awards & Honors Chair

Gail Braunstein
Ohio
513-899-2497
gailbraunstein@hotmail.com

Regional Auditor

Open position

Regional Exhibition Judges

Co-Liaisons
Laurel Richardson
Indiana
317-244-0000
lhabitat@aol.com

Nikki Schmith

Illinois
(248) 739-9006
daylilyenews@daylilies.org

Regional Garden Judges Co-Liaisons

Sandra Dunn
Michigan
517-285-5435
alongthefencedaylilies@gmail.com

Hilary Heffernan

Indiana
(812) 345-2317
hilary.heffernan@gmail.com

Regional Webmaster

Tim Fehr
Wisconsin
715-579-9981
fehrtj@charter.net

Winter Meeting 2026 Co-Chairs

Laurel Richardson
Indiana
lhabitat@aol.com

Barb Buikema

Michigan
bbbuikema@att.net

Summer Meeting 2026 Co-Chairs

Genni Kleckner
Wisconsin
f.g.kleckner@gmail.com

Steven King

Wisconsin
acupleasur@aol.com

Regional Youth Chair

Pat Titus
Illinois
217-202-5204
pigsblankets@hotmail.com

Plant Procurement for Regional Auctions

Mike Anders
Ohio
(419) 889-8827
anders@findlay.edu

Greg Beavers

Indiana
(812) 345-2299
bluebirdbox@gmail.com

AHS Scientific Studies Liaison

Gus Guzinski
Michigan
269-375-4489
drbeaugus@yahoo.com

Regional Zoom Coordinator - Primary

Mike Anders
Ohio
(419) 889-8827
anders@findlay.edu



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	\$600
Dual Life Membership	\$900
Youth - Individual (1 year)	\$12

Twelve month memberships become effective on the date that they are input into the system.
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.

GREAT LAKES

ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN OHIO WISCONSIN

Daylily

Table of Contents

Region 2 Officer Reports and Updates

• ADS Director's Message.....	8
• President's Message.....	9
• Presidential Ballot for 2027-2028	10
• Treasurer's Report.....	11
• Editor's Notes.....	12
• Youth Updates.....	13



14



Features, Articles, Region 2 Information and Club Reports

• ADS Award-Winning Cultivars	3
• What's In A Name? Kirsten Hatfield's Daylilies - Sandra Dunn.....	14
• What's In A Name? Zuginruhe - Peggy Harger-Allen.....	17
• 2026 Winter Meeting Reflections and Minutes.....	19
• ADS Display Garden Spotlight: Bookhoard Garden - Nancy Secrist.....	24
• Region 2 Photo Contest Entries and 2026 Guidelines.....	25
• Photography Tips You Can Use: Cropping - Charlie Harper	33
• Photography Tips You Can Use: Square Eyes & Rule of Thirds - Ginny Pearce	36
• History of West Madison Agricultural Research Station - Lisa Imhoff.....	38
• 2026 Summer Meeting Preview and Registration.....	40
• Daylily Companion Plant Spotlight: Echinacea - Jill Reuss.....	46
• Public Garden Grant Recipients.....	49
• Region 2 Club Reports.....	50
• Region 2 Club Contact Information and Upcoming Events	63

24



46



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 Summer/Fall Edition:

August 15, 2026

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:

'Bloomin' Pretty'
(Hatfield-K., 2025)

Bookhorde Garden,
An ADS Display Garden

Coneflowers and Daylilies:
Echinacea purpurea with
H. 'Carrick Wildon'

On The Front Cover: Gemütlichkeit Garden in Madison, Wisconsin. Photo by Monique Warnke
The Back Cover: Elegant Candy. Photo by Vickie Goedde

Celebrating Our Award-Winning Region 2 Hybridizers 2025 ADS Cultivar Awards

Lenington All-American Award

This award is given annually to the daylily voted the best performer over a wide geographic area. The American Daylily Society Board of Directors votes on this award at the Fall Board Meeting each year.



Sandy Holmes for 'Tidewater Elf'
(Holmes-S., 2012)

The Lenington All-American Award is given for outstanding garden performance.
But 'Tidewater Elf' has also excelled as a show flower.

Photos by Claude Carpenter

2025 ADS Cultivar Awards continued

The majority of daylily cultivar awards are decided by garden judges across the 15 Regions of the American Daylily Society. These appear on the annual Awards and Honors Ballot for judges to review and vote on. Besides the Pyramid of Awards (right) culminating in the Stout Silver Medal, there are ten specialty awards (e.g., the Harris Olson Spider Award and the Eugene S. Foster Award for late- or very late-blooming cultivars). You can learn more about each of these awards on the ADS website (daylilies.org) or by taking the Garden Judging 1 workshop. Region 2 members won seven of these awards in 2025.



Award of Merit 2025

This award is given to signify that a cultivar is not only distinctive and beautiful, but also performs well over a wide geographic area.



Darrel Apps for 'Peanut Butter Frenzy'
(Apps, 1999)

*Close-up by Deb Monbeck, Clump photo by Claude Carpenter,
Mr. Apps photo by Rachelle Towne*

Darrel Apps passed away in May of 2025. He was a pioneering hybridizer, registering nearly 450 daylilies, including many award other winners. His early, small-flower, reblooming daylilies in the "Returns" series (e.g., 'Happy Returns' and 'Rosy Returns') are grown in gardens around the country. He continued to advance and innovate in his hybridizing throughout his career, registering 38 new daylilies in his last five years. His lovely introductions are still being distributed by Graziano Gardens in Pine River, Wisconsin. Darrel was beloved in Region 2 (and beyond) and is greatly missed.

Honorable Mention 2025

This award is the first official “stamp of approval” by the ADS,
where good performance goes beyond the regional level.



**Bret Clement for
'Jean Clement'**
(Clement, 2014)
Photo by Bret Clement



**Jamie Gossard for
'Spacecoast White Wolf'**
(Gossard, 2020)
Photo by Laura Schultz



**Steve Williams for
'Double Magnolia'**
(Williams-S., 2014)
Photo by Kirsten Hatfield

**Steve Williams for
'Kerfuffle'**
(Williams-S., 2020)
Photo by Lori Doolin



**Steve Todd for
'Clown Pants'**
(Todd, 2015)
Photo by Steve Todd



Ida Munson Award 2025

This award is given annually to the most outstanding double flower.

**Dianna Gossard for
'Double My Sunshine'**
(Gossard-D., 2012)
Photo by Dianna Gossard



Don C. Stevens Award

This award is given annually to the most outstanding eyed or banded daylily.



**Jamie Gossard for
'Stop the Car'**
(Gossard, 2015)
Photo by Charlie Harper

Region 2 Director Message

Greg Lough, Region 2 Director



I'm honored to step into the role of Region 2 Director and to serve a group that consistently shows strong participation, practical knowledge, and a genuine love of daylilies. Region 2 has always stood out for its willingness to pitch in, whether that's hosting events, sharing

plants, or helping newer members get started. I want to keep that momentum going.

Each Regional Director takes on a specific additional role within the overall AHS organization. I have been asked to Chair the Daylily Ambassadors on the national level. I would like us to strengthen how we welcome and grow new interest in daylilies. The American Hemerocallis Society's Daylily Ambassadors Program was designed for exactly that purpose: giving members simple tools to introduce others to daylilies, clubs, and AHS resources. Right now, the program has good intentions but not enough visibility or energy behind it. We can change that for the better.

This link will provide more information about the basics of the program: <https://daylilies.org/get-involved/daylily-ambassadors/>. I know we can make the Ambassadors Program more engaging and worthwhile. Here are a few ideas:

- Encouraging participation from private citizens, business owners, non-profits, and government organizations (including schools).

- Raising awareness of the value of daylilies among homeowners, gardeners, landscapers, nurserymen, communities, and the general public.
- Fostering pride and public support through daylily-related celebrations.
- Engaging a wide range of age groups, from youth to seniors.
- Publicizing daylily events and celebrations through multiple channels such as print and broadcast media, personal appearances, online platforms (email, websites, blogs), social media (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, X/Twitter), and emerging technologies.

If we keep it simple and consistent, we'll build stronger clubs and bring in people who are genuinely interested.

Looking ahead, I encourage everyone to stay involved at the local level and consider attending regional and national events when you can. The connections you make there are just as valuable as the plants you bring home.

We are in a great position, not because of any one person, but because of the people who show up, contribute, and care about keeping daylily enthusiasm moving forward. I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

Garden Judges in Search of Award-Eligible Daylilies to Evaluate

Sandra Dunn

Over the past year, we have added 16 new Garden Judges in Region 2! Why is that important? For most cultivar awards, Garden Judges can only evaluate daylilies they have seen blooming within their own Region. For award-eligible northern-hardy daylilies to be fairly assessed, we need more Garden Judges from Region 2 to consider them.

One of the problems Garden Judges face is knowing where to see plants on the Awards and Honors Ballot that are growing in gardens within our region. This is where you can help if you are willing to open your gardens to Region 2 Garden Judges. The annual Awards and Honors ballot has just been released. Garden Judges vote on the following overall awards:

Region 2 President Message

Monique Warnke, Region 2 President



Happy spring! I know all of us are ready to be in our gardens if we are not out there already. I have been working in my garden since February doing little things like fertilizing. Now my attention is in full force in the garden in anticipation of sharing it with others during the Region 2 Summer Meeting. If you haven't registered for this event,

please do sooner than later. There is a registration form on page 45 of this newsletter or you can register on our website: <https://adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting/>.

I would like to update you on the 2027 and 2028 Regional Summer Meetings. In 2027, the Regional will be held in Rockford, Illinois. The Chicagoland Daylily Society is doing a great job of putting together this event. In 2028, it will be held in Michigan (barely), though the base hotel will be in Toledo. This event will be hosted by the Region.

The garden instructors have had a great response from individuals who are taking the Garden Judges 1 workshop for the first time. This isn't just Region 2 wanting to learn more; it is a national desire for knowledge. Please consider taking GJ1 to enhance your hybridizing skills or your daylily garden knowledge. Knowledge is power—the more you know, the more informed you

are in new trends and skills. If you are interested in serving as either a garden or exhibition judge, please reach out to our coordinators: Sandy Holmes or Sandra Dunn for garden judging or Nikki Schmith or Laurel Richardson for exhibition judging. Their contact information is on page two of this newsletter.

If you are a hybridizer and would like to advertise your business, Region 2 is giving you that opportunity. Actually, there are two opportunities. The first is publicity through our Region 2 Facebook page. Please send a small blurb on who you are and your contact info for individuals that may want to purchase from you to Barb Buikema (bbbuikema@att.net). There is a limit of five photos to be displayed on our Facebook site, so pick your favorite new daylilies for all to see! The second way to share your information is on our ADS Region 2 website. For this purpose, please send only your name, website, phone number, and what state you are located in for potential buyers. This information is to be sent to our webmaster Tim Fehr (fehrtj@charter.net).

I want to thank my team for working with me these past four years. It has been a fun ride. I also want to thank the people of Region 2. I have met so many new friends during this period, I appreciate and respect each and every one of you for this opportunity to serve you as President of Region 2. As always, keep your shovel in the dirt.

Garden Judges update continued

Junior Citation, Honorable Mention, Award of Merit, and the Stout Silver Medal. Garden Judges also vote on specialty cultivar awards based on form, size of bloom, color pattern, and bloom season. You can learn more about each award and see photos of past winners on the ADS website: <https://daylilies.org/daylilies/awards/>.

If you agree to allow Region 2 Garden Judges to visit your garden this summer, we will:

1. Send you a copy of the Awards and Honors ballot so you can indicate which plants you grow.

2. Supply flags for you to identify nominated plants if you are willing.
3. Provide your contact information only to Garden Judges to arrange a time to visit your garden.

We will compile a spreadsheet for Garden Judges to allow them to connect with gardeners near them who grow cultivars on the ballot or plan a road trip to assess others. Thank you for considering this request. If you are willing to participate or have questions about this project, please contact Sandra Dunn, Region 2 Garden Judges Co-Liaison, at alongthefencedaylilies@gmail.com or 517-285-5435.

It's Election Time: ADS Region 2 President

The Region 2 Nominating Committee has selected **Lori Doolin** of Illinois as the candidate for Region 2 President for the two year term of January 1, 2027 to December 31, 2028.

Region 2 elections are held by written ballot. Only ADS Region 2 members are eligible to vote. The ballot below may be cut out or duplicated for use by ADS Region 2 members for the purpose of voting. Ballots **must be signed** to be counted and postmarked no later than June 20, 2026. Votes for a write-in candidate require permission of the candidate. Only Region 2 members are eligible to serve in this capacity.

Please participate! Ballots must be returned to Nominating Committee Chair.

Laurel Richardson
P.O. Box 42458
Indianapolis, IN 46242

The winner will be announced at the upcoming Region 2 Annual Summer Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin, July 17-19, 2026.



Getting to know Lori Doolin

Here are a few of the many reasons the Nominating Committee is presenting Lori to our members as candidate for our next Region 2 President:

- * Daylily addiction began in 2010. Lori currently grows over 800 registered cultivars.
- * Became a member of Central Illinois Daylily Society in 2012.
- * Held position of CIDS President since 2021 and served as Club Secretary prior to that. Instrumental in hosting the 2020 Region 2 Winter Symposium and the 2021 Region 2 Summer Meeting in Springfield, Illinois.
- * Started limited hybridizing in 2020, but has no registrations to date—just lots of seedlings.
- * Member of ADS since 2012 and has been an active member of Region 2. Currently serve as Region 2 Secretary.
- * Served as active Region 2 Garden Judge since 2016.
- * Served as active Region 2 Senior Exhibition Judge since 2022.
- * Chaired the 2025 Region 2 Summer Meeting in Lafayette, IN.

Ballot for ADS Region 2 President Two year term beginning January 1, 2027

Vote for one. Mark ballot with an "X" in the space provided before the candidate of your choice. Sign this ballot and return by mail with a postmark no later than June 20, 2026.

_____ Lori Doolin
(Nominating Committee's Candidate)

_____ (Write-in Candidate)

ADS Member Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Ballot for ADS Region 2 President Two year term beginning January 1, 2027

Vote for one. Mark ballot with an "X" in the space provided before the candidate of your choice. Sign this ballot and return by mail with a postmark no later than June 20, 2026.

_____ Lori Doolin
(Nominating Committee's Candidate)

_____ (Write-in Candidate)

ADS Member Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Region 2 2025 Cash and Fund Balance Report 4/15/2026

Bobbi Johnson, Region 2 Treasurer



Bank Balance as of 4/15/2026

Checking Account	\$ 20,083.81
Money Market Savings Accounts	54,724.53
Total Cash on Hand	\$ 74,808.34

ADS Region 2 Fund Balances

General Fund	\$ 64,827.34
Restricted Funds	
Youth Fund	8,981.00
Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship	1,000.00
Total Fund Balance	\$ 74,808.34

Recent Memorial Donations To Region 2

In Memory Of	Donor	Amount
Harold Steen	Daylily Society of SouthEast Wisconsin	\$ 250.00
Total Memorial Contributions		\$ 250.00

Recent Donations to Region 2

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Wisconsin Daylily Society	Winter Symposium Meeting	\$ 200.00
Total Donations to Region 2		\$ 200.00

Recent Newsletter Contributions

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Wisconsin Daylily Society	Newsletter support	\$ 250.00
Total Newsletter Contributions		\$ 250.00

Region 2 Editor Notes

Sandra Dunn



“Evolving” is the best term to describe the creation of this particular newsletter. Two feature articles did not get completed in time. Life happens. But that left some pages to fill that I hadn’t counted on. And, in the end, the unexpected changes made for a wonderful variety pack of a newsletter. Each of you should find something to enjoy.

Some of our Regular Features are Back

Our ‘What’s in a Name?’ series explores the stories behind daylily names. Most often, these are written by the hybridizer. But in this issue we have two ‘What’s in a Name?’ articles for which that is not the case. In the first, I talked with Kirsten Hatfield about her naming process and wrote about that conversation. In the second, Peggy Harger-Allen explored the meaning of a Curt Hanson-named daylily—‘Zugunruhe.’ Readers love to know the backstory on daylily names. Please consider sharing the stories of a few names or researching a name that interests you.

This issue also features the return of our ‘ADS Display Garden Spotlight.’ When I had those extra pages to fill, I put a request for a display garden spotlight on our Region 2 Facebook page. You will enjoy learning more about Bookhorde Garden. Thank you, Nancy Secrist! I would love to feature a display garden in every *GLD* issue. If you have a display garden, please consider sharing your story in a future newsletter.

Hybridizer ‘How-To’ Series

Speaking of our recurring series topics, our next ‘Hybridizer How-To’ topic is “tricks of the trade.” Some of my favorite discussions at the Shirely Farmer Midwest Hybridizer Meeting have been the sharing of hints and tips. Sometimes these are simple things that I wish I would have thought of, like putting a daylily bloom in the refrigerator to use the pollen a second day. Hybridizers, most of us would appreciate ideas you have gleaned from your experiences that make hybridizing more efficient, less costly, or maybe just more fun. Please send me your ideas.

And a New Series

Local club newsletters throughout our Region often have some article gems. Such was the case with *The Bad Buds Newsletter* from the Bay Area Daylily Society. We are so excited to republish Jill Reuss’ article on echinacea as a daylily companion plant. Our proofreaders enjoyed this article so much that we all agreed it should be a recurring feature. Cathy Coulson has agreed to write the next installment. If you have a favorite companion plant, please consider sharing what you love about it in an article for this newsletter.

It’s a Photo Festival

Even if you don’t read a single word in this newsletter, it is well worth looking through. Our Region 2 hybridizers earned so many national awards in 2025 and we recognize those in this issue. Four more pages of gorgeous images from our 2025 photo contest that haven’t yet been published are also included. I hope those inspire you to enter the 2026 Region 2 Photo Contest. The guidelines are on page 32.

Last year, I encouraged folks with an interest in the photography contest to join me for a couple of Zoom conversations about the contest. Honestly, I was just looking for a few new opinions about the contest. When I became the editor, I inherited the photo contest with no guidance except my own experience of entering. A number of great ideas emerged from those conversations. While nothing substantive is changing about the contest itself, we felt that a series of articles each focusing on a photography tip might be helpful to folks considering entering the contest, especially for the first time. Since this is the last newsletter before photo contest entries are due, we have included two of these articles in this issue. If you are inspired to write about a different photography tip, let me know.

Winter Meeting Reflections/ Summer Meeting Preview

The spring issue falls between our Region’s Winter Meeting and Summer Meeting. So there are a few pages of photo reflections about the Winter Symposium and a few more details about the Summer Meeting. Lisa Imhoff shares the history of the daylily beds at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station, which will be our lunch stop at the Summer Meeting. You can also learn more about our Summer Meeting speakers Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossmann and the two alternate gardens that are not on the tour, but are highly recommended.

Public Garden Grant Program

It is not too early for your club to think about applying for one of Region 2’s Public Garden Grants. For inspiration, this issue includes a summary of what last year’s grant recipients intend to use their funding for. To learn more, visit our Region 2 website: <https://adsregion2.org/public-garden-grant-program/>.

Thank You to our Amazing Proofreaders!

Once again I want to thank our proofreaders for putting the polish on this newsletter. Thank you Barb Brevick, Barb Bischoff, Cathy Coulson, Charlie Harper, Ginny Pearce, JoAnne Frederick, Lezlie Myers, Marietta Crabtree, Mary Kwas, Nancy Cooper, Nancy Secrist, Rich Ra-

Region 2 Youth Update

By Pat Titus, Regional Youth Chair



Give the Gift of Gardening!

I think many of us overlook opportunities to share the joys of just our daylily addiction. We are so blessed to live in our garden beds. And sharing those benefits with our youth is so worth it—for the young people and the not-so-young people.

If you have the time, take one of your youth members under your wing. So many times people, even kids, need a little nudge!

I can remember excitedly waiting for my mom's mailorder box of seeds from Henry Field's. (Note: sister Helen Field Fischer played an integral part in the early beginnings of the ADS). When I was a kid, Henry Fields Seed sold a kids' packet. They called it a penny packet. Yep, it sold for one penny! With four children, Mom would buy four packets. Although we helped in the entire garden, that penny packet row was all ours!

We would carefully open the packet before planting to view the seeds. What a wonderful array of vegetable seeds did we have in that packet? We would try to identify the seeds. I think those penny packets were probably the sweepings from the packaging floor, but we enjoyed them. We could identify the bean, corn, radish, or vining plant seeds.

One year we were all excited that there were some kind of squash/pumpkin seeds in my younger brother's packet. As the seeds grew, we realized it was butternut squash!! We had really hoped for pumpkins to make Jack 'O Lanterns. We used the squash as pumpkins that October. And it made for a memorable moment!

Why don't you make a memorable moment with a younger person? Give them some daylily seeds to grow. Give them a couple fans of your seedlings and ask if they would like to grow and evaluate it for you. If you don't hybridize, share a favorite registered daylily with them. Sharing information and plants is a gift that keeps on giving.



Bobby Scott shared his knowledge with youth from around the country at the 2024 ADS National Convention.

Editor Notes cont'd

beler, Sarah Newell, Sharon Vanderwilp, and Trinity Love. I also appreciate each author rereading their contributions once a layout is done.

Finally, Don't Forget to Vote

No, I am not talking about national mid-term elections, though that is important, too. But Monique's four years as our president will end in December. We will express our

appreciation to her as she nears the end of her term. But we also need to be thinking about our next Region 2 President. Lori Doolin has been recommended by the Nominating Committee. Please see the ballot on page ten to learn more about Lori. And then take a moment to mail in your ballot. I was amazed a few years ago when I chaired the Nominating Committee that less than twenty people across the entire region voted. So please take a moment to send in your ballot!

What's In A Name? Focus on Kirsten Hatfield

by Sandra Dunn



'It Makes Me Smile' (2019)



'Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater' (2025)



'Dragon's Smooch' (2026)
Registered as 40% cristate

One of my fall highlights is getting a series of seedling photos from Kirsten Hatfield asking me if any names jump out at me for them. Kirsten is the first to say that naming seedlings is the hardest part of hybridizing for her. I apparently also find this difficult since she has only once used one of my suggestions—a plant I fell in love with in her seedling beds that she named 'Saundra Picked Me' (Hatfield-K., 2022).

Kirsten and her husband Jason run Dorsets N Daylilies in Zanesville, Ohio. As Kirsten shared, "Our farm name—Dorsets N Daylilies—reflects two of my passions: breeding livestock and breeding flowers. My extensive sheep and cattle breeding background correlates into the selection process for daylilies. Each generation improves upon the last. While I have a lifetime of livestock experience and have grown daylilies as garden plants since 1987, I only made my first daylily crosses in 2012. My first introductions came in 2019, including 'It Makes Me Smile' which pretty much sums up how I feel when greeted with a promising seedling for the first time."

Kirsten has introduced daylilies in a number of forms, but her focus is doubles. She works with both diploids and tetraploids. Her goal is to create daylilies that are distinctive and perform well as garden plants.

In our many conversations, Kirsten highlighted some of the challenges of finding the right name for a plant. Kirsten does not feel particularly creative and does not feel that she is much of a wordsmith. So when a name does occur to her, the first obstacle is to determine whether someone else has already chosen that name and registered a daylily. Recently, she had her heart set on 'Marmalade Muncher' for toothy orange double seedling. But Mike Grossman had already had that idea in 2010. So that gorgeous seedling became 'Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater' (2025), a name which surprisingly had not yet been tapped.

'Dragon Breath' was another name Kirsten felt perfectly suited a seedling with "some funky cristating on some blooms that looked like dragon's fire." But that name was already taken by Janet Hutchinson back in 1992. So Kirsten pivoted to 'Dragon's Smooch' (2025).

Many of the names Kirsten chooses reflect their farming way of life. These include 'Ewephoric Over Ewe' (2025), named for the happiness Kirsten feels when she sees this one in bloom. "Nothin' Sheepish About Me" is another farm-themed name that

reflects the “bold eye that is certainly not bashful.” ‘One Happy Heifer’ (2024) is a heavy bloomer and reminded Kirsten of heifers tearing across the field.

As Kirsten shared in her presentation at the 2026 Winter Meeting, “It’s easier to name things after people than to come up with a name.” She currently has five people-named introductions, including ‘Mary Jane Meadows’ (2022) which is very fitting since Kirsten used many of Mary Jane’s Westbourne plants early in her hybridizing.

Occasionally, a name that no one has yet used does just jump out for a plant. That was the case for ‘Sheza Diva’ (2022) that Kirsten describes as a drop dead gorgeous flower. ‘Long Legs Louise’ (2019) was named for her daughter Hainsley because it was a tall flower with a big wing span.

You can view all of Kirsten’s introductions at her website: <https://dorsetsndaylilies.com/>. Now knowing how difficult she finds it to come up with a fitting name, you can appreciate all of her effort!



Three of Kirsten’s passions in one photo: daylilies in the foreground, with sheep and cattle grazing in the pastures behind.

Besides hybridizing daylilies, Kirsten manages breeding herds of Dorset and Dorper sheep as well as Angus cows.



‘Nothin’ Sheepish About Me’ (2019)



‘Mary Jane Meadows’ (2022)



‘Long Legs Louise’ (2019)

Kirsten Hatfield Intros

Many of Kirsten's names reflect something about the beauty of the flower, or her response to first seeing that bloom.



'Ewephoric over Ewe' -->
(2025)



Name Inspiration



'Sassy and Classy'
(2021)



'Electrifying Ripples'
(2020)



'Bedazzled Beauty'
(2019)



'Bloomin' Pretty'
(2025)



'Sheza Diva'
(2022)



'Moment of Breathlessness'
(2020)



'All the Bells and Whistles'
(2022)

What's In A Name? 'Zugunruhe'

by Peggy Harger-Allen



Photo by Debbie Scheckel

A daylily name that intrigues me is 'Zugunruhe.' It is a lovely 2000 introduction by Curt Hanson.¹

My hobby is birdwatching. I remember learning about zugunruhe in ornithology class back in the 1970s. It is a sensation that birds and other wildlife get just prior to a migration. In an ornithology experiment, southern-based researchers placed night-migrating birds into an enclosure with ink in a pan on the floor. Large pieces of filter paper were fitted inside in a large cone-shaped enclosure. The birds were left overnight. The birds oriented themselves towards the north. All the ink tracks were in the north-facing area of the cone. They were ready to migrate north to breeding areas!

¹ Zugunruhe (Hanson-C., 2000).

Height: 36" Bloom Size: 7"

Season: EM Tetraploid.

I emailed Mr. Hanson to ask him about the naming of this daylily. He responded, "I understood the word as a sort of restless anxiety in prewar Germany, which could be applied today to the entire world. I was unaware of the avian context."

In December of 2025, "zugunruhe" was the word of the day on wordsmith.org. The pronunciation was listed as TSOOK-oon-roo-uh. It was identified as a noun meaning "restlessness at the beginning of a migration period." It is German in etymology, from Zug (move, migration) + Unruhe (anxiety, restlessness).

Wordsmith.org added a further note: "If you have ever felt a tingle of anxiety before a move, even an in-town move, you have experienced zugunruhe. Migratory animals, especially birds, feel it too. Zugunruhe was originally observed in caged birds that would flutter wildly at night during migration season, even if they had never migrated before."

I know gardeners everywhere experience this phenomenon every spring as they are itching to get out and work in the soil and hike around looking for wildflowers, migrating birds, and their first flowering plants. Sometimes the names are just as exciting as the plant!



Photo by Sandra Dunn

Do you have a 'What's in a Name?' story to share? This series was proposed by Charlie Harper five years ago. Since that time, we have featured the stories behind a variety of individual plant names. We have also learned about themes some hybridizers follow in their naming. It is like getting a behind-the-scenes look that helps us appreciate plants in a new way. Hybridizers, we would love to hear the stories of some of your introduction names or the process you use to name your plants! Collectors, if you have ever wondered about the name of a specific plant, let me know and I will try to track down a story. Please email me at greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com. Sandra

Northeast Ohio Daylily Society's Daylily Show

**Saturday, July 11, 2026
Noon - 4 pm**

Cleveland Botanical Garden

11030 East Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio



**Entries welcomed for this show.
For more information go to:
www.facebook.com/neodaylilsociety**

Daylilies and Iris Ogden Station Daylilies 7120 Hodges Hwy. Blissfield, MI 49228

Check www.odgenstationdaylilies.com for directions, open dates, information, and photos.

A short drive to the country to see the amazing selection of 2000+ varieties.



Jerry and Lisa Marlatt

lisamarlatt@yahoo.com 517-443-5530

Open May for iris blooms. June-August for daylily blooms.

Email or call to schedule a time for a farm visit.

You may pre-order or select varieties and we will freshly dig them.



Attention hybridizers! Englerth Bed, 2028

It doesn't seem possible that it's time to plan for the 2028 Englerth Award competition. But it is. The display bed will be located at the farm of Jerry and Lisa Marlatt of Ogden Station Daylilies. Each ADS Region 2 member hybridizer may send up to five cultivars of bareroot plants. Clumps of 3-5 fans are recommended so that your plant is more likely to be blooming on the day of the Summer Regional tour.



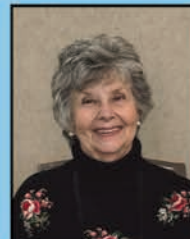
You may send plants August 10-September 30 in 2026 or May-June in 2027. Include your contact information and the seedling number attached to each plant. If you are planning on sending plants, please contact Jerry and Lisa prior to shipping at lisamarlatt@yahoo.com or 517-443-5530.

The mailing address is:
Jerry Marlatt
7120 Hodges Highway
Blissfield, MI 49228

Region 2 2026 Winter Symposium Highlights

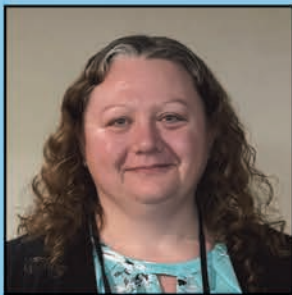
Photos by Sandra Dunn, Barb Buikema, Ginny Pearce, and Amy Biggler

"Oh My Stars!" indeed. The 2026 Winter Meeting was a lovely gathering. Thanks to all who planned, supported, and attended. What an amazing weekend.



The Winter Meeting Leadership Team, left to right: Co-chairs Laurel Richardson and Barb Buikema, Plant procurement/Auction organizers Mike Anders and Greg Beavers, Silent Auction organizers Jane Herr and Rusty Neal, Registrar Patti Byerley, Region 2 President Monique Warnke, Region 2 Treasurer Bobbi Johnson, Hospitality Hosts Hilary Heffernan and Sarah Newell, Awards and Honors Chair Gail Braunstein, and Region 2 Secretary Lori Doolin.

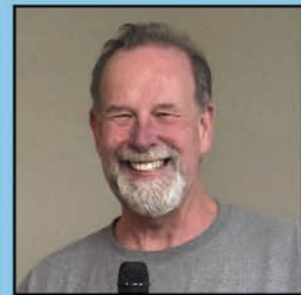
What an amazing line-up of speakers!



Bobbi Johnson
Johnson Daylilies and Apiaries
Rockland, Wisconsin



Kirsten Hatfield
Dorsets N Daylilies
Zanesville, Ohio



Mike Holmes
Riverbend Daylilies
Xenia, Ohio



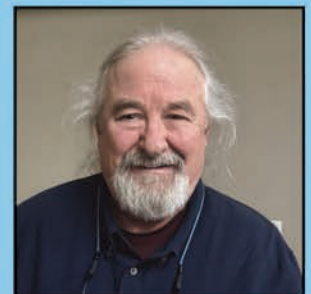
Steven Franklin
Merry and Bright Daylilies
Shelbyville, Kentucky



John Kinnebrew
Spacecoast Daylilies
Scottsmeer, Florida



Michelle Rogers
Ellison Daylilies
Chana, Illinois

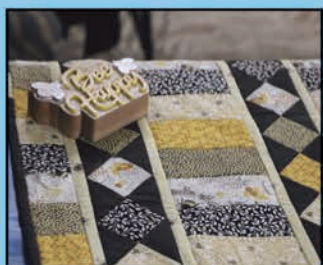


Rad Drew
Rad Drew Photography
Indianapolis, Indiana

Thank you to our generous auction donors and bidders!!

We are so grateful to each of you.

You never know what treasures will be available to bid on at the Silent Auction. Below is just a sample. I wish we had space to include them all. And the plant variety at the Live, Facebook, and Silent auctions meant there was something for everyone. The Stout-Eligible Table made for lively bidding. These funds support this newsletter and other important Region 2 activities such as the Public Garden Grant Program and reimbursement of registration fees for youth attendees. Auction totals will be published in the next newsletter.



So many friends—old and new—to catch up with.



Indiana Daylily-Iris Society Members



Hoosier Daylily Society Members



Wisconsin Daylily Society Members



Grand Valley Daylily Society Members



Region 2 Winter Meeting First-Timers:
Back, l to r: Andrea Hicks, Pat Hicks, Lindsay Powell, Steven Franklin, Marian Quinlan, Jackie Patton, Michelle Rogers, Karen Marsh.
Front: Laura Teague, Mary Vinson, Amy Grotland (Jake Wright, not pictured)



Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society Members



2026 Region 2 Winter Symposium Business Meeting Minutes

By Lori Doolin, Region 2 Secretary

2026 Region 2 Winter Symposium, Indianapolis, Indiana: "Dayilies: Oh My Stars!"

Friday, February 27



Region 2 Publicity Director Barb Buikema opened the meeting and introduced Awards and Honors Chair Gail Braunstein. Gail explained the Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence. Three Hite award winners were present at this meeting—Mike Holmes, Sandy Holmes, and Bret Clement. She encouraged everyone to complete the nomination form in the 2026 Winter Region 2 Great Lakes Newsletter or on the Region 2 website to nominate a hybridizer worthy of this award.



Gail also discussed the Region 2 Englerth Award. She informed everyone that the 2026 Englerth Bed in Madison, Wisconsin, is full as is the 2027 Englerth Bed in Rockford, Illinois. The 2028 Englerth location is unknown at this time, but would be announced as soon as possible. (Update: The 2028 Englerth Bed will be in Blissfield, Michigan, at Ogdan Station Daylilies. See page 18 for more information).

Of the 89 in attendance, Barb Buikema asked the first time "newbies" to stand and introduce themselves. She encouraged everyone else to make them comfortable. First timers were Steven Franklin, Kentucky (speaker); Pat and Andrea Hicks, Ohio; Michelle Rogers, Illinois (speaker) and her mother Karen Marsh; Jackie Patton, and Marian Quinlan (who is 94), Indiana; Lindsay and Jake Wright, Kentucky; Mary Vinson, Indiana; and Amy Grotland, Indiana.



Region 2 President Monique Warnke took the floor and introduced the Region 2 leadership team: Treasurer Bobbi Johnson, Publicity Director Barb Buikema, Secretary Lori Doolin, and Awards and Honors Chair Gail Braunstein. She also introduced Winter Meeting Registrar Patti Byerley, and the Auction Team of Mike Anders, Greg Beavers, Rusty Neal, and Jane Herr. Our weekend Hospitality Hosts were Hilary Heffernan and Sarah Newell.

Bobbi Johnson gave the treasurer report, noting the Region has a combined balance of \$59,574.64 in checking, savings and a CD.



Monique believes that Region 2 is doing "pretty doggone good!" She then indicated that Region 2 has been successful in training new Garden Judges and she encouraged everyone, including hybridizers, to complete the garden judge training.

Monique also discussed her ideas to broadcast and promote Region 2 hybridizers. She would like to see Region 2 hybridizers showcased on the Region 2 Facebook page and listed on the Region 2 Website for visibility. She asked hybridizers who are interested to contact Barb Buikema for Facebook advertising and Tim Fehr for website advertising.

Monique went on to say that this is her last year as President and Lori Doolin has come forward to run as the future Region 2 President. There will also be other openings within the Region that will need to be filled. Those stepping down will be Awards and Honors Chair Gail Braunstein, Treasurer Bobbi Johnson, and Secretary Lori Doolin. If anyone is interested in holding one of these positions, please contact Monique or Lori.



Monique graciously thanked everyone for allowing her to be their President for the past four years saying it "has been one heck of a ride and a lot of fun."

Barb Buikema invited everyone to visit and bid on the Silent Auction items. She also introduced Stephen Thompson to give the invocation prior to dinner.

After dinner, Rhonda Veroeven introduced Bobbi Johnson of Johnson Daylilies and Apiaries. Bobbi shared her expertise on both "Daylilies and Honeybees," her program topic. Her presentation elicited many, many questions about honeybees.

Attendees readied their paddles for the live plant auction. Mike and Greg procured over 100 daylilies for this Region 2 fundraiser.

Saturday, February 28



Monique welcomed everyone back to this action-packed day and introduced Kirsten Hatfield of Dorsets N Daylilies as the first of today's speakers. Her talk "Double The Fun" was filled with gorgeous photos of her diploid and tetraploid doubles, as well as a few adorable sheep photos.

After a short break, Sandy Holmes introduced her favorite hybridizer and husband, Mike Holmes of Riverbend Daylilies, as the next speaker. Mike spoke on "Sharing My Hybridizing Program with the Midwest." Mike connected the Starry Night theme to the artistry of hybridizing and he shared images of the many unique color patterns he has been focused on.



Greg Beavers provided information on Exhibition Judging and Accredited Daylily Shows. He noted that Steven Franklin won two Achievement Awards for seedlings he entered in the 2025 IDIS Accredited Daylily Show and asked Steven to come forward to receive those awards.



Greg also introduced Steven, of Merry and Bright Daylilies, as the next speaker who asked "Do We Really Need a Title?" Steven's focus is on diploids and miniatures. His hybridizing goal is for flower scapes that are going to win best in show with high branching and bud count and with flowers that make you smile.

Monique promoted the 2026 Summer Meeting, sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society, with a video. This meeting will be in Madison, Wisconsin, July 17-19, 2026, and is limited to 144 registrants, so please register as soon as possible!

Monique also noted that the 2027 Summer Meeting will be in Rockford, Illinois, and she is hoping to find a club in Michigan to host the 2028 Summer Meeting. (Update: The 2028 Summer Meeting will span Michigan and Ohio, with the base hotel in Toledo. While Lisa Marlatt, Jerry Marlatt, and Charlie Harper will take the lead, the Regional will be sponsored by the Region). Lisa Schmidt of North Dakota promoted their Region 1 Summer Meeting with a video.



Mike Holmes introduced the next speaker, John Kinnebrew, Jr., of Spacecoast Daylilies, calling him a true daylily expert. When pressed for a talk title, John chose "Southern Fried Daylilies." He shared his practices and processes for growing seedlings in Florida. Much to the envy of many northern hybridizers, John noted that it is about nine months from seedling to bloom and his seedling beds are rotated every year!

Monique introduced Michelle Rogers of Ellison Daylilies as the next speaker. She shared her presentation "My Daylily Journey." She was introduced to daylilies in 1998 by Robert Ellison when she took a summer job at his greenhouse in Rockford, Illinois. Mr Ellison taught her about daylilies and hybridizing. When his health began to fail in 2018, Bob gave Michelle his daylilies. She has built on that legacy, with 23 of her own registrations to date.



Laurel Richardson introduced Rad Drew and his presentation "How I Did It!™ Getting the Most and Best from Your iPhone Camera." He shared that iPhones are capable of many different photo modes including macro, long exposure, portrait, landscape, panorama, infrared, night photography, and videos. In this very interactive presentation, Rad taught participants how to unlock many iPhone photography features that most of us were unaware of.

After the last program, dinner was served, the silent auction winners were announced, and the remaining live auction items were sold to the highest bidders. This concluded a wonderful 2026 Winter Symposium in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Page 27 crossword puzzle answers. Don't read yet. I didn't have any other space to print them.

Across
1. Barb
2. Madcat
4. Thirds
5. ODS or WDS
7. Coneflower
9. Steve
10. GregBeavers
11. GregLough
12. Michigan
14. Farming
16. Crop
17. Reading
18. Monique

Down
1. Bylaws
3. Kathleen
4. TidewaterElf
6. LoriDoolin
8. Johnson
13. Imhoff
15. Madison
16. Curt
19. IDIS



ADS Display Garden Highlight

by Nancy Secrist

The name 'Bookhorde' is a medieval term for library. I chose this name for my garden because I have always been a reader. I once was disciplined in school for reading through reading class! My parents weren't sure what to do with that note from the teacher. You could say that the daylily cultivars are our 'titles' on the shelf. The library theme is displayed by our bronze and concrete statues featuring books and reading figures that are scattered about the garden. We also enjoy antique and vintage garden decor and tools.



The garden is in Bath Township near Akron, Ohio, on 14 acres, of which 10 are native woodland. We have two water features: a quarter-acre pond and a small ornamental pond which routes our rainwater for the benefit of the many bullfrogs. I often take a break in the garden by sitting on the bench to count frogs; I find that to be very peaceful as I wait for them to emerge and resume singing after I have walked up and scared them into the water!

The ponds also help as a barrier to the ever-present whitetail deer. Just two years ago, we finished enclos-

ing the backyard to protect the plants. The original owners did professional landscaping, so even though we just moved here five years ago, we have some wonderful and unusual trees and conifers. We are fortunate to have a huge 30-foot Southern Magnolia which shouldn't be thriving in Zone 6. But somehow it does, producing dinner plate-sized pure white blossoms. We have a mature Sky Column Ginkgo tree, Bald Cypress, and many natives such as Eastern Redbud, Red Oaks, Hickories, Cucumber trees, and a small American Chestnut, which we hope will prove to be blight resistant. Some of the more unusual conifers include Chirimen Hinoki Cypress, Fukuzumi Japanese White Pine, and 'Kohout's Icebreaker' Dwarf Korean Fir.

My spouse Paul Brett and I enjoy the garden. The move here started my journey in daylilies. During bloom season, Paul and I do a "daylily walk" together to see what's new each morning. Our daylily beds are organized by hybridizer which can be interesting when you note consistent characteristics from one line of cultivars to another. It also tells me where to find a plant instantly! Many are Ohio hybridizers such as Gossard, Williams, Hanson, Winters, and Seifert. There are also



daylily clubs, contributing to the local events with my time and plants.

Our garden style is semi-formal, but there is about a one-acre 'wilding' area of natives and pollinator plants on the far side of the large pond.



several from across the United States and Canada such as Mussar, Beck, Hansen, Kulpa, Bush, Boatwright, and Ansari. Perhaps 75% are tetraploid and 25% are diploid.

My background is agricultural — I grew up on a farm, which led me to a Bachelor's in Agriculture from The Ohio State University. Now in retirement, I'm a Summit County Master Gardener Volunteer.

I enjoy our national and regional ADS events, co-chairing the 2024 Region 2 Summer Meeting, donating recently registered cultivars to the fundraisers, becoming a Garden Judge two years ago, and a Junior Exhibition Judge last year. I participate in three Ohio

Of course, we have hosta everywhere, but we are challenged by the shade from the woods on our south border. We use variegated Solomon's seal, lungwort (pulmonaria), wild ginger, Japanese painted fern, and astilbe as shade garden plants where an enigmatic statue we call 'The Librarian' (below) watches over them. Large rocks do well in shade too!

We enjoy hosting visits to the garden and hope to see more people this year as they discover us.



Mature Japanese Red Maple
Photos by Nancy Secrist





Daylilies are a relatively recent passion. I have been breeding and showing Airedales much longer. Since 1980, my Airedales have been earning AKC titles in obedience and conformation, as well doing service work. We are up to 22 continuous generations now! I usually have four to six Airedales underfoot. Airedales are overly clever and energetic dogs. But, being terriers, they are NOT good with daylilies!

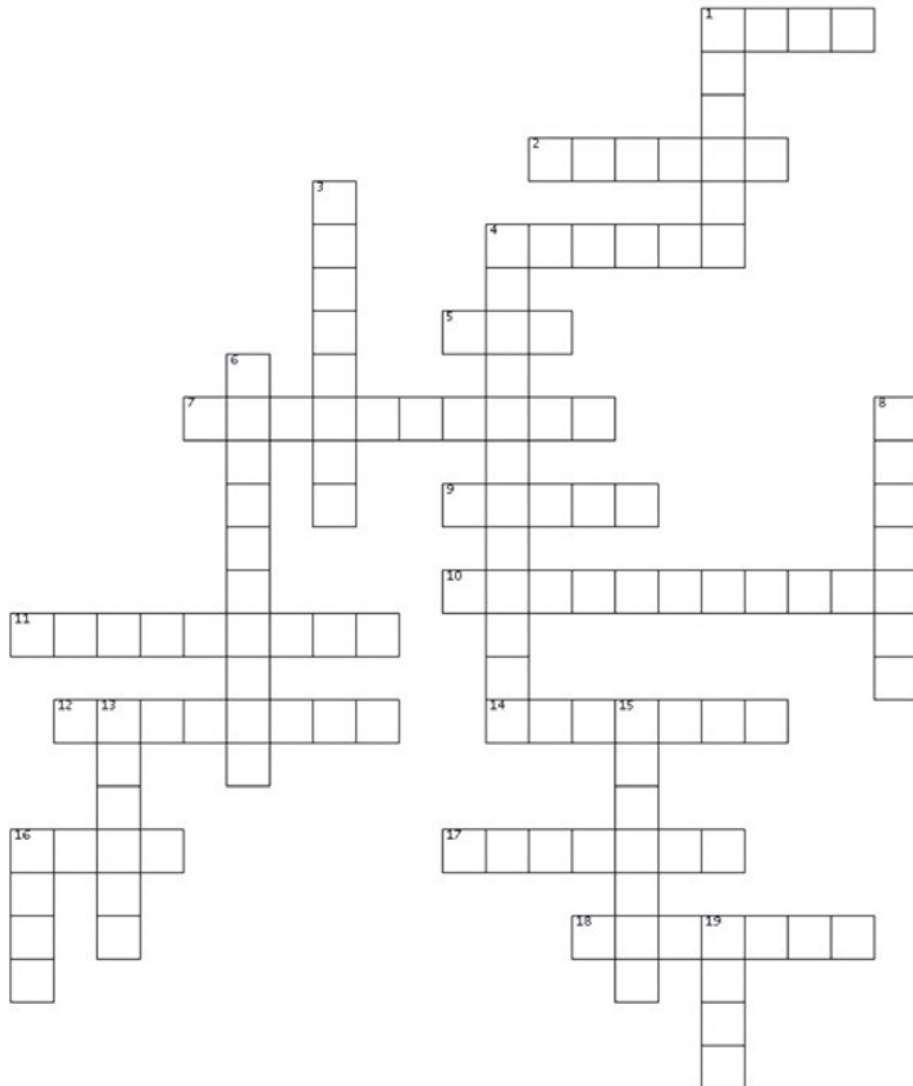


A variety of Nancy's seedlings, reflecting her interest in variegated colors and cristate forms.

Garden name, owners, and address	Bookhorde Garden, Paul Brett and Nancy Secrist 3766 Everett Rd., Richfield, OH 44286 (Mail to PO Box 802, Bath, OH 44210)
Best way to set up a visit	Give us a call at 330-808-1285 or email at: bookhorde.garden@gmail.com
A few garden highlights	Two ponds, unusual trees, library-themed statues, many recent daylilies including toothy, broken colors, and cristates, organized by hybridizer, seedling beds
Do you hybridize?	Yes, about 1500 seedlings per year, all identified and designated "Class of 2025," "Class of 2024," and so on.
Do you sell commercially?	No, I have a young garden and selling looks like another job—I'm retired!
Favorite companion plants	Shade garden plants: variegated Solomon's seal, lungwort (pulmonaria), wild ginger, Japanese painted fern and astilbe. And always looking for more!

“In This Issue” Crossword

Answers for this puzzle can be found through careful cover-to-cover reading of this newsletter.



ACROSS

1. GLD proofreader, first alphabetically
2. Garden donating photo contest prizes
4. Photo tip: Rule of _____
5. One of three garden grant recipient clubs
7. Common name for Echinacea
9. Hybridizer of two 2025 Honorable Mention winners
10. Auction plant procurement co-chair
11. New Region 2 Director
12. Location of 2028 Englerth Bed
14. Theme in many Kirsten Hatfield daylily names
16. Trim distracting elements in a photo frame
17. Theme in Bookhorde Gardens statues
18. Cover photo garden owner

DOWN

1. Focus of NODS club report
3. One of our Summer Meeting speakers
4. 2025 Lenington All-American winner
6. Candidate for Region 2 President for 2027-28
8. Winter Meeting speaker and bee expert
13. Author of article about the West Madison Agricultural Research Station
15. Site of 2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting
16. Hybridizer of 'Zugunruhe'
19. Club ADS President Rich Crider recently visited

MORE LOVELY PHOTOS FROM THE REGION 2 CONTEST:

SINGLE BLOOM CATEGORY (continued from the Summer/ Fall 2025 edition)



Angie Maly
'Jefferson Starfish'
(Isgro, 2017)



Tim Greiter
'Dipped in Disney'
(Apps, 2022)



Charlie Harper
'Lavender Flytrap'
(Stadler, 2014)



Gayle Story
(Keep the Promise x (Beyond
Ultra Violet x Violets Are
Blue)) (Story, unregistered)



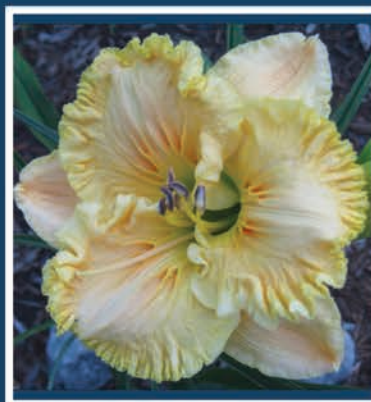
Paula Currie
'It's Glad Cows Don't Fly'
(Clement, 2016)



Cheryl Jenkins
'Almira Buffalo Bone Jackson'
(Faulkner, 2010)



Kelly Williams
'Orange Blossom Trail'
(Trimmer, 2008)



Mary Kwas
'In the Trenches'
(Marlatt-J., 2022)



Barb Buikema
'Batteries Included'
(Simpson-E., 2018)

MULTIBLOOM CATEGORY (continued from the Summer/ Fall 2025 edition)



Laurie Jacques
'Tropical Tease'
(Norris-R., 2019)



Sandra Shull
'Quasar Cutie'
(Nordstrom, 2018)



Genni & Francis Kleckner
'Granny's Double Trouble'
(Kleckner, 2025)



Ginny Pearce
Seedling 22-57-01
(Pearce-G., unregistered)



Sandi Rockwell
'Heavenly Orange Blaze'
(Gossard., 2009)



Greg Beavers
'Paw Print'
(Shooter-E., 2006)



Mary Ann Cleary
'Don't Go Bacon My Heart'
(Marlatt-J., 2020)



Sandy Huhmann
'What a Relief'
(Rice-JA., 2012)



Amy McConnell
'Clown Parade'
(Selman, 2006)



Cynthia Wadsworth
'Tsunami Ripples'
(Rice-JA., 2022)



Mary Kwas
'Oceans Eleven'
(Petit, 2004)



Nevaeh Bieri
'Dad's Best White'
(Viette, 1984)



Barb Brevick
'Zola's Pink Nightgown'
(Webster-L, 2003)



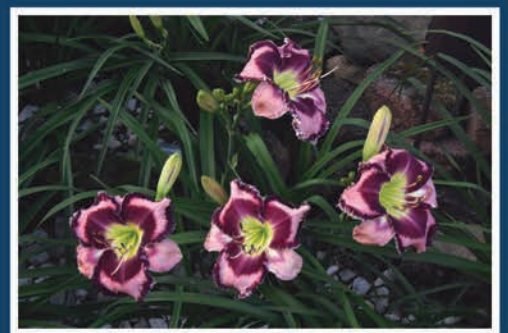
Debby Colvin
'Peggy Jeffcoat'
(Joiner-J., 1995)



Amy McConnell*
'Laughing Skies'
(Stamile, 2003)
*correction from Winter edition



Sandra Shull
'King of the Ages'
(Emmerich, 2006)

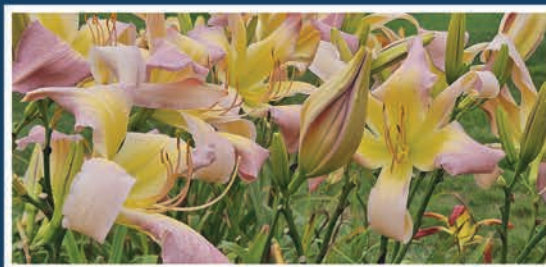


Richard Stevens
'My Favorite Color is Grape'
(Zink, 2017)

ARTIST'S CHOICE CATEGORY (continued from the Summer/ Fall 2025 edition)



Cynthia Wadsworth
'Orange You Bob' with bee
(Elliott, 2021)



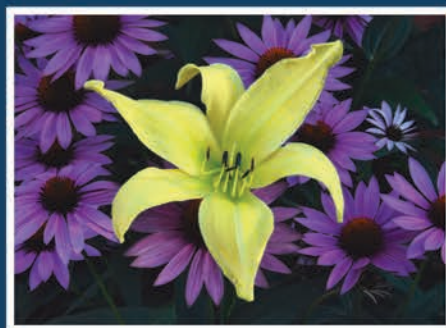
'Dance like a Fool'
(Davisson-J., 2019)
Can someone please claim
this gorgeous photo?
I somehow lost its identifying code.
Apologies!



Jim Brewer
'Sears Tower'
(Goldner, 2000)



Angie Maly
'Ladybug South Beach'
(Hansen-D., 2016)



Amy McConnell
'Osterized'
(Hite-Davisson, 1999)



Sandi Rockwell
'Edge of Insanity'
(Murphy-J.P., 2014)



Sharon Brewer
'Whammer Jammer'
(Hansen-D., 2016)



Sandy Huhmann
Seedling with frog



Barb Buikema
'I Am the Walrus'
(Mussar, 2019)

2026 Region 2 Photo Contest

Waiting for bloom season 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 four 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 Best Creative/Artistic. Photos in the latter category can be wide-ranging, but help us to see daylilies in a unique way. Composition, lighting, color accuracy, perspective, distinction, and artistic quality count in each category!

First place winners in each category will receive a generously donated Madcat Daylilies introduction. More information about these polyporous gift plants shown below can be found at the ADS online database.

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 entered photos must have been taken by the member submitting them.
- The photos must have been taken in 2026.
- 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, 2026 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, 2026.

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.** If you do not know how to do this, please contact Sandra Dunn for guidance.
- 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 !



'Remembering Chris Linker'

(Joe Hudson, 2024)

Donated by Madcat Daylilies
BEST SINGLE BLOOM PRIZE



'Remembering Bob Catherwood'

(Joe Hudson, 2022)

Donated by Madcat Daylilies
BEST MULTI-BLOOM PRIZE



'Bert Thomas'

(Joe Hudson, 2025)

Donated by Madcat Daylilies
BEST CREATIVE/ARTISTIC PRIZE

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



Photography Tips You Can Use: Cropping

By Charlie Harper



This is the first in a series of tips for anyone who wants to improve their photographs. In it, you will learn how to select part of an image and make it into a new, improved photo. It's called **Cropping**. Cropping is essentially trimming off parts of a photo that don't add anything of value to the image.¹

Once you learn this relatively easy procedure, it will become second nature. You may find yourself using it to tweak even your best pictures. Here's an example using a photo from a recent daylily meeting. I couldn't get close enough to Bob and Barb Buikema to take a close-up, even when zooming in on my phone. But I was able to crop one from the original image.



1 When Region 2 Photo Contest judges were interviewed in 2023, they each identified cropping as one of the most effective ways to improve the quality of a photo. *Great Lakes Daylily*, Spring 2023, pages 36-39.

The background carpet and tables distracted from the focus on Bob and Barb. The photo is much improved by removing those elements through cropping. It is important to note that the resolution (number of pixels) on my original image was high enough that even the cropped portion was still a relatively high resolution, which is important to maintain clarity and print quality.

Here's another example in which simply cropping the image changes a good picture into a great one!²



On the next page is one for you photo contest aficionados. Cropping out the irrelevant, surrounding stuff yields an image that is ready for submission. You want the judges to focus on your beautiful bloom and not be distracted by the background.

2 This image now also nicely utilizes the Rule of Thirds which is the focus of Ginny Pearce's article on page 35.

This lovely set of images is of a Tiger Swallowtail on a 'Point of View' (Roberts, 1992). The original photo is pretty awful. There's a ton of distracting, visual junk around the near perfect central subject. Cropping yields the middle image; a further crop leaves us with an entomologist's dream.



Just about every photography-based app has basic editing tools with it. Your smart phone and computer, whether Apple or Android, have such tools. You can always go to Google, Microsoft Edge, or any other search engine and ask "How to crop on a (fill in the name and model of your device)?" You may also discover several YouTube videos that will show you how to get it done. For now, here's a generic, step by step guide. Let's go get that best image within our original image!

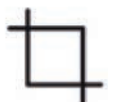
How to crop an image

Open your primary photo file, the one where your pictures go as you are taking them. Scroll until you find the image you want to use. Click on it to open it for viewing and possible editing. Here's an example of a picture I took in my garden that I really liked, just as it is. When I took a closer look, I began to see an area that would make an excellent picture all by itself. It's that flowering Prairifire crabapple tree.



Original image

Find this editing tool in the menu and click on it. This is a general icon for cropping. A line will appear around the image, as shown on the following page.



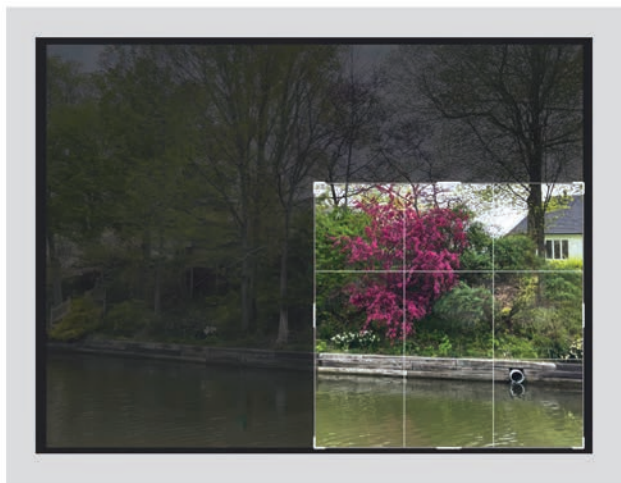
This white line has thicker nodes at each corner and the middle of each side. These are indicated by the

pink arrows in the image below. These points are called “handles.” When you move your cursor near one, it will change into a double headed arrow. Move that arrow to the center of any handle, click and hold, then slide the edge into the image. The size and shape of the new image will change as you move.

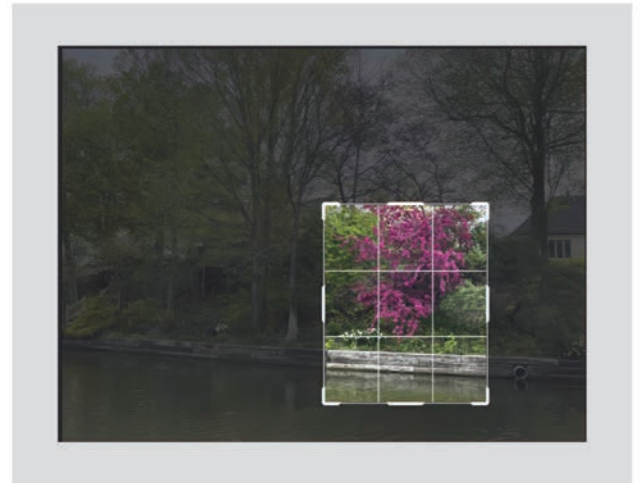


Crop lines with handles

Grab and move the various top, corner, or side handles until you’ve gotten the new image just the way you want it. Click the ‘Crop’ command and the cropping edits will be made. If you change your mind at any point just click ‘Cancel.’ If you want to replace the original with this new image, click ‘Save.’ If you would like to keep both options, use ‘Save As’ and give the revised file a new name.



One potential area for cropping



A closer crop on the crabapple tree

Cropping is often one of the most effective edits you can make to your photos. Experiment with highlighting different portions of your image and compare the effects. Enjoy!





Photo Composition Strategies: 'Square Eyes' and 'Rule of Thirds'

by Ginny Pearce



Wait!! Don't press that shutter button quite yet! Here are a couple more elements of photography to think about which can help transform a mediocre picture into a stunning photograph. As intimated by my use of terms, I consider the quick snapping of pictures as just that, taking pictures. In my mind, a photograph is an image that the creator took some time to consider and choreograph into a memorable and beautiful representation of the subject matter. It truly doesn't take that many seconds longer to really look through the viewfinder carefully, consider a few options, and do a little planning before pressing that shutter button. Anyone can become a better photographer by learning and applying some of the composition basics.

One of the considerations in composing a pleasing photograph could be called having 'square eyes'. Technically not actually possessing square eyes but rather the 'ability to fully observe the entire photographic field of view with your eyes and mind.' You'll have to admit though that 'square eyes' is quicker and easier to say. So, what does it mean? Too often when we take pictures, we are so focused on the one subject we wish to capture in the image that we frequently become oblivious to everything else in the frame of view along with it. It's rather like having tunnel vision. Activating those square photographic eyes guides us to look into the corners and edges of the photo frame also, to see ALL that will be captured in the image. That way you'll see things that in hindsight you wished you had noticed before you pressed that shutter button.

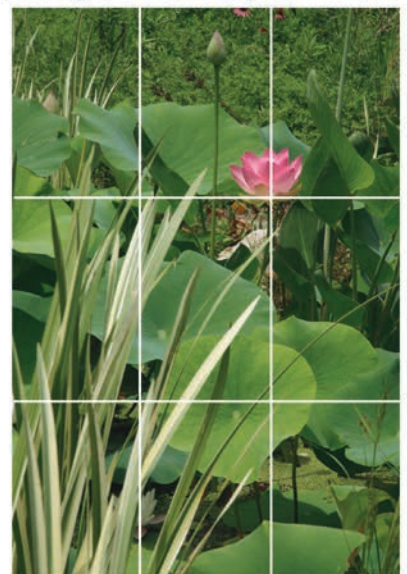
Those square eye observations should include that you have zeroed in on the main point of interest and eliminated unnecessary/unwanted background clutter. Ask yourself, "What is the important aspect of this picture and what is the best way to capture it? Could a different perspective portray the subject better?" Is there a garden hose or someone's foot in the frame? Is someone's backside visible in the distance? Could a slightly angled rather than straight-on perspective add depth and interest to the flower parts? Are there old withered flowers that could easily be removed (provided you have the gardener's permission) that would improve the photo? How many times have we looked at or shared our pictures with others and thought, "Oh man, I should have taken off that old flower before I took this picture!" And, there's the infamous telephone pole sticking out of a friend's head kind of oops too, along with so many others. All are avoidable with

just a couple seconds of thorough square eyes evaluation through the viewfinder. Often, a simple sidestep will remedy these types of common composition problems and provide an improved viewpoint.

An interesting way to develop that square eyes skill and practice good composition is to cut out a photo dimensioned hole from a piece of cardboard and walk around your garden holding it close to your eyes to imagine framing well-composed photographs. Or you could go Hollywood director style and hold up your fingers in a rectangular configuration to mimic framing your Oscar or other award winning shots. Either way, it's good to practice composing a pleasing view of the subject at hand. Plus, with digital pictures so easy to take these days, one can learn a lot from taking multiple pictures of the same subject from different perspectives. But, you will need time to then look them over, make mental notes of what works well along with what doesn't, and dispose of inferior duplicates. (You know I'm right in saying we already have too many pictures—that delete button is our friend.)

Another valuable tool in composing particularly pleasing photography is developing harmony and balance by applying the 'Rule of Thirds' to picture taking. This rule implies that the main subject of the picture should occupy a strong position in the frame but also one that is not centered. Those strong third positions are found along the lines and intersections created by dividing the viewfinder into thirds both horizontally and vertically, a bit like a tic-tac-toe board. By placing the main subject into one of the 'thirds' intersections of the shot, the photographer creates a pleasing visual flow for the observer. Many cameras and smartphones have this thirds grid option in their settings to assist you but once you understand the concept, you can easily visualize them for yourself.

In this lotus photo, the colorful blossom is at the upper right thirds



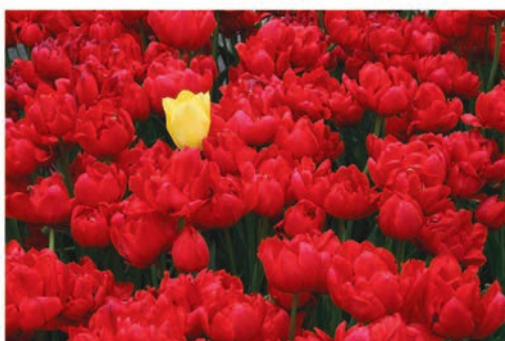
intersection so it is in a visually pleasing and powerful location in the photo. Also, the upright contrasting foliage of the iris to the left is aligned with the vertical third line area which further strengthens the photo.

Here are a few more examples for you to now envision the thirds grid over to see how your eyes comfortably flow among all the parts of the photograph:



In this beach scene, the overall muted color of the sand and faded wooden stairway on a foggy day make the colorful group of family members particularly pop while in the top left thirds intersection. By focusing on the people in a less prominent way, I was able to convey the physical surroundings and feel of the day to more effect.

It was a challenge finding a picture in which I could demonstrate the difference between centering an interesting object in a photo and placing it into a thirds location. While each version below is a perfectly fine picture, I think you will agree that the yellow tulip situated at the top left thirds intersection is more visually appealing and more worthy of framing for display on your wall.



Again, dividing the components of this hosta photograph into vertical and horizontal thirds added to its dimension, flow, and visual appeal. The right hand vertical third is all in a downward linear direction while the top hosta leaves are in a horizontal third arrangement. The most prominent leaf is also in the bottom right thirds intersection making it a strong focal point.

But, and this is a big one, not all photos need to follow the Rule of Thirds. It is simply one tool in a photographer's grab bag of many. Sometimes it just isn't helpful at all, particularly when taking pictures of individual flowers for our reference files. In that case, you're only trying to obtain an accurate representation of the bloom (which is another whole topic). You're not actively trying to make a creatively artistic photograph. However, when it comes to photo contest submissions, the Rule of Thirds may very well be beneficial to your decision-making.

Overall, the best photographs are simple and straightforward with clear intention. Allowing cluttered unnecessary objects into the scene only confuses the viewer's eye. The intended subject matter should be dominant and portrayed in a visually pleasing way. The more we understand the principles of photography, the more we're able to explore new perspectives and capture moments in time with more artistic expression. May your pictures continue to evolve into memorable photographs.



History of the Daylily Collection at West Madison Agricultural Research Station

Article and photos by Lisa Imhoff



When the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS) established several beds of daylilies at West Madison Agricultural Research Station (West Ag) on West Mineral Point Road in Madison, they joined a collection of mostly very early cultivars and species daylilies owned by Professor of Agronomy James Coors that was already planted there. The WDS collection contrasted nicely with the existing daylilies by showcasing newer hybrids. According to a letter written to West Ag management in February, 1998, by then club president Lloyd Ravet, "The WDS permanent daylily collection contains about 200 cultivars which are currently growing in the gardens of WDS members. Many of these cultivars are award winners or outstanding recent releases from the nation's best hybridizers. Most are currently unavailable at local garden outlets and would offer a unique opportunity for garden enthusiasts to view the best in new cultivars."

The agreement was that WDS would install and maintain the WDS permanent collection and continually improve it to assure that "only the best and most desirable daylilies are on display."

By 2002, Rosemary Kleinheinz and Gene Dewey were managing the beds, and WDS had their first dig of club plants for our August sale. Rosemary continued to manage the beds until 2021, when she decided to turn that task over to someone else. Genni Kleckner was asked if she would do it, and she agreed, but only

if she could ask someone to help, and that was me.

So Genni and I now comprise the current Display Garden Chair Committee. Our duties are defined in the WDS bylaws. Genni is the Display Gardens Plant Procurement Chair, and just as it sounds, she purchases daylilies from hybridizers who have spoken to our

club, as well as WDS and other northern hybridizers. She arranges with the West Ag garden administrator and the WDS sale volunteer coordinator to schedule to dig the plants for the sale, and when to have a planting party to install the new acquisitions.

I am the Display Garden Planting Coordinator and oversee the digging and planting parties. I also make the identification markers, and take photos of each cultivar to verify ID. I try to get there twice a week during bloom season. But I still can't see every single scape, and we welcome observations of others who might notice a mixed clump or something you know to be incorrectly labeled. Genni and I are fanatical that the daylilies are labeled correctly so people who view the daylilies for three years are actually seeing the correct hybrid, and that sale buyers will get what they paid for. We maintain an extensive shared database documenting where a plant was acquired and tracking it through its eventual removal from a bed.

West Ag staff care for the plants—they plow the beds after the dig, and mulch and water after planting. WDS provides weeders. It's a nice opportunity to enjoy the collection and earn WDS\$ at the same time. Like many clubs, we offer club dollars (WDS\$) for service. These can be used at our plant sales to purchase daylilies.



Lisa Imhoff and Genni Kleckner

The club currently has over 500 daylily cultivars in six beds at West Ag. The beds are dug four years after they're planted, and those daylilies are brought to the August club sale; then a few weeks later a whole new collection is planted in that bed. In 2026, we'll dig the big center bed, which features about 120 daylilies. The club makes several thousand dollars each year from the sale of plants at West Ag. (See the Winter 2022 edition of this newsletter for an article about our sale. Past newsletters are archived on the Region 2 website: <http://adsregion2.org>).



This bed, only planted the year before, will soon fill in and the path will make access to the daylilies in the middle possible.

Maintaining the West Ag gardens is an evolving project. We've been adding companion plants as we re-

place each bed, and we've added paths so you don't have to hack your way through the clumps to find a name or get a closer look at a bloom.

A new addition in the fall of 2025 was the Darrel Apps Memorial Bed. The great hybridizer Darrel Apps died in the spring of 2025 and we've dedicated one bed completely to his introductions. They'll be dug for the sale every four years, the same as the other beds.



'Italian Dance' (Apps, 2023)

If you attend the 2026 Summer Regional in Madison, you will have lunch at the Madison West Agricultural Research Station and have the chance to tour the gardens. But anytime you are in the Madison area, Genni and I encourage you to stop in to see the daylilies and other collections. West Ag is conveniently located and open dawn to dusk. Parking is free and convenient to the beds. Inviting benches overlooking the beds were built by our own youth member, Andrew Veroeven, where you can rest and meditate on the beauty. Be sure to post your favorites to the WDS Facebook page.

Region 2 Public Garden Grant Program

For the past two years, the Wisconsin Daylily Society has been one of the recipients of a \$500 award from the Public Garden Grant Program to support their gardens at the West Madison Agricultural Research Station. The club used these funds last year to purchase labels and companion plants—hosta and coral bells—for the beds. Funds from the grant they were just awarded will be used to purchase weed control products, updated markers, and other items needed in maintaining the gardens.

We share these examples to encourage you to think about the places that your club supports or could support public garden spaces that promote daylilies. As the grant application describes:

“As it is recognized that 1) the display of daylilies in a public garden venue aligns with the overall mission statement of the American Hemerocallis (Daylily) Society (AHS/ADS) – to promote the awareness of the beauty, versatility and diversity of the modern daylily – and as it is recognized that 2) establishing and maintaining a public daylily garden may impose challenges on local club financial resources, this grant program is established to provide the opportunity for Region 2 daylily clubs to apply for Regional funds in support of their public garden activities.”

The Grant Application can be found on the Region 2 website: <https://adsregion2.org/>. Applications are due by November 30 each year. We encourage you to apply!

"Daylilies in Dairyland"

2026 Summer Meeting July 17-19, 2026

Meet Our Guest Speakers:
Kathleen Nordstrom & Mike Grossmann
of Northern Lights Daylilies



Kathleen and Mike in a seedling field at Northern Lights
Photo by Rayden Gardeski

Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossman are members of Region 1, and friends of Region 2.

Kathleen is a native of Bismarck, North Dakota. She began collecting daylilies in 2003 and her garden was on the Region One Summer Tour in 2010.

Kathleen began hybridizing in her Bismarck garden in 2011 with a focus on the hardy survivors in her zone 3 garden. In 2012, she moved to Minnesota and saw her first seedlings bloom at Northern Lights Daylilies in 2013.

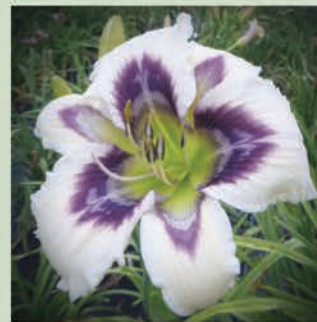
Kathleen's hybridizing interests include patterned flowers, small and miniature blooms, polymerous blooms, unusual forms, edge no eye, and a few color changers. Her main focus is pushing her patterned flowers to create new unique cultivars.



Nordstrom
possible future



Nordstrom
seedling



Nordstrom
future



Nordstrom
future



Photos courtesy of Kathleen and Mike

Mike grew up in Iowa. He attended the University of Iowa, and the Florida Institute of Technology where he earned a B.S. in Molecular Biology. He earned a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the Mayo Clinic. He did postdoctoral studies at St. Jude's Children's Hospital. He spent the majority of his research career studying cancer at the University of Minnesota before he retired in 2015.

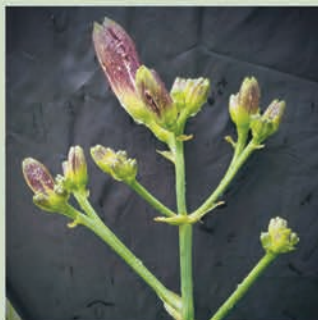
Mike has been hybridizing northern hardy daylilies in southern Minnesota since 1999. He enjoys working with flowers with bold eyes and edges, teeth, purples, and large unusual forms. He has 147 introductions thus far. In addition to his breeding program, Mike runs Northern Lights Daylilies and sells from his website.

Mike also grows grapes and makes wine. And he has a sizable pumpkin patch.

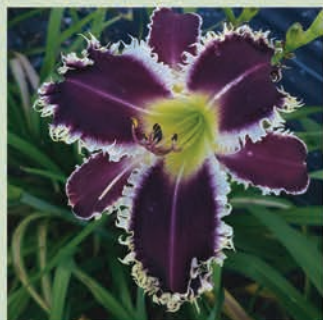
Kathleen and Mike are excited to be our Region 2 Summer Meeting guest speakers.



Grossman
future



Grossman
seedling scape



Grossman
future



Grossman
future



"Daylilies in Dairyland"

2026 Summer Meeting Preview

July 17-19, 2026



Please join us in beautiful Madison, Wisconsin, for the 2026 Summer Regional. We are excited to share five tour gardens, two alternate gardens, and seven open gardens that are sure to amaze you with a diverse array of daylilies and companion plants. Each stunning garden has something unique to offer and will make this a trip to remember. In addition to the gardens, we will have a silent auction and plant sale, exciting live auction, a dazzling Englerth Bed, garden art available for purchase in two tour gardens, and guest speakers Mike Grossman and Kathleen Nordstrom of Northern Lights Daylilies. For more information go to <https://adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting/> and watch our YouTube video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OX2sYdoPLH8&t=119s>.

2026 Summer Meeting Hybridizers Showcase!

Hybridizers, we would love to feature photos of up to 10 of your promising seedlings in a slide show to run during the pre-dinner social hour at the Summer Meeting. Bobbi Johnson is coordinating this project. Please send her your photos, along with any info about the seedling that you would like to have included. Bobbi's email address is raaschbj@yahoo.com.

Jane Doe seedling

Tet, 8.5", 38"

Share any other info
you want us to have



If you sent photos to Charlie Harper for the Winter Meeting, Bobbi has those to share. But if you would like to edit those photos or send new ones, please contact Bobbi.

We can't wait to see your seedlings!

Silent Auction Items Needed

Calling all makers, bakers, gardeners, and treasure hunters! The Silent Auction needs your creativity. Donate an item and help us grow a fantastic event!

Some donation ideas....

- Handmade crafts, artwork, or woodwork
- Garden tools, décor, or plant-related items
- Specialty foods, baked goods, or preserves
- Gift baskets or themed bundles
- Unique treasures, collectibles, experiences

Thank you for your support! Proceeds from the Silent Auction help WDS offset the cost of hosting this Regional Meeting for us.

To donate, please contact Becky Robinson at beckylr@comcast.net or 815-742-1125. Your donations are truly appreciated!

Plant Sale!

This Summer Meeting is being sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society. They are hosting a plant sale during the event. What a great way to add new cultivars to your garden at reasonable prices. Proceeds from the sale are another way for WDS to offset the cost of hosting this Regional. The plant sale hours will be 1:00 to 6:00 on Friday and 4:30 to 6:00 on Saturday. Be sure to stop in!

“Daylilies in Dairyland”

Alternate Gardens

These two gardens were each finalists when the Summer Meeting tour gardens were chosen. They will host open gardens times as noted below. A list of additional open gardens will be provided to those registered for the Summer Meeting so that attendees can extend their vacation time if they choose.



The Beautiful Path Garden

Cynthia Wadsworth, 194 Dixon Street, Madison, Wisconsin
Open hours to be determined

The Beautiful Path Garden is a city gem displaying around 250 daylily cultivars and numerous hosta plants under a three story Norway Spruce. Beautiful pathways take you around the garden for easy viewing. This garden began on a below average city plot full of weeds, poor soil, and trash. Once I saw Tom and Rosemary Kleinheinz's daylily garden, my jaw dropped. I never imagined that a private garden could look that good! About that same time, I saw a picture of Blue Dolphin (Rice-J.A., 2011) in the Wisconsin Daylily Society's newsletter. I did not know a daylily could be that color and I ordered my first plant directly from a hybridizer. I was hooked. And besides, I had no place to store a lawnmower.



Bending Hill Farm

Linda Shields and Dan Hernday, Mukwonago Wisconsin
Open 7/17, 7:00 am to noon and 7/19, 7:00 am to 4:00 pm



In fourteen different gardens, which flow one into another, Bending Hill Farm holds approximately 1600 vintage and modern daylilies. Each one was personally chosen for at least one characteristic that makes it stand unique among other daylilies. Come view these wonders as you stroll through the Stout Silver Medal Garden where you find only winners, the Historics Only Garden with daylilies created before 2000, the 24-25 Introductions Garden featuring only recent introductions from many leading hybridizers, Annie's Garden featuring the daylilies of Minnesota hybridizer Karol Emmerich, the Red Garden featuring hybridizer David Kirchhoff's dazzling reds, or the Pink Park featuring a hundred pink daylilies. Or sit in ease for a spell in the warm sun or silken shade on one of the fifteen vivid benches set throughout the acres.

Daylilies in Dairyland

2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting

Hosted by the Wisconsin Daylily Society

Schedule of Events



Friday, July 17, 2026

Various hours	Open Gardens
9:00 am - noon	Exhibition Judges 2 Master Panel (Instructors)
1:00 - 4:00 pm	Exhibition Judges 2 (Preregistered students)
1:00 - 5:00 pm	Registration
1:00 - 6:00 pm	Plant Sale and Silent Auction
3:00 - 4:00 pm	Youth Meeting
3:30 - 4:30 pm	Hybridizer Forum
5:00 - 6:00 pm	Social Hour - Cash Bar, serving until 8:00 pm
6:00 - 7:30 pm	Welcome, Invocation, Buffet Dinner
7:30 - 10:00 pm	Evening Program: Speakers: Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossman of Northern Lights Daylilies, West Concord, Minnesota Region 2 Live Auction, Part One
10:00 pm - 12:00am	Hospitality Gathering - Cash Bar

Saturday, July 18, 2026

6:30 - 7:15 am	Breakfast Buffet for Holiday Inn and Suites guests*
7:15 am	Loading of Buses (with Bus 1 for Garden Judges and Youth)
7:30 am	Buses depart
8:30 - 9:45 am	Tour of West Garden
11:00 am - noon	Tour of West Madison Ag Research gardens, Lunch
12:00 - 4:00 pm	Tour of North Gardens
4:30 pm	Buses Return
4:30 - 6:00 pm	Plant Sale and Silent Auction
5:00 - 6:00 pm	Social Hour - Cash Bar, serving until 8:00 pm
6:00 - 7:00 pm	Invocation and Dinner
7:00 - 10:00 pm	Evening Program: Silent Auction winners announcement Region 2 Business Meeting Region 2 Awards & Honors (Hite, Englerth, Faulkner Scholarship) Region 2 Live Auction, Part Two 2027 Summer Meeting Presentation
10:00 pm - 12:00 am	Hospitality Gathering - Cash Bar

Sunday, July 19, 2026

7:00 - 10:00 am	Breakfast Buffet for Holiday Inn and Suites guests*
Various hours	Open Gardens

*Others can join in breakfast and morning camaraderie by purchasing a \$10.99 per day pass at the hotel registration desk.

A Schedule Of Events with locations is available on the Region 2 website under the events tab and will be in the attendee booklet received at registration. Any changes will be posted on the website: <https://adsregion2.org/about/region-2-summer-meeting>.

**2026 American Daylily Society Region 2
Summer Meeting Registration
July 17-19, Madison, Wisconsin**

Please send this form and your check made out to
Wisconsin Daylily Society to Patti Byerley, Registrar
3680 E Old Goshen Road SE, Laconia, IN 47135
email address: hutchnbunch@aol.com



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 this 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.**

Register early as seating is limited.

\$180/adult, \$150/youth (before June 1) \$ _____ \$200/adult, \$170/youth (June 1 – June 25) \$ _____

Friday Dinner will be a Wisconsin Buffet. (Note: With late registration, we can't guarantee a seat on the bus)

Saturday's dinner, please choose: ____ Parmesan Crusted Stuffed Chicken Breast ____ Slow Roasted Pork Ribeye
____ Vegetable Stir Fry with Rice (vegetarian) ____ Pasta Primavera (vegetarian)

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

Friday dinner guest name(s): _____ \$ _____ \$40 per guest

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

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

☐ Check here for youth (age 7 - 18) to request that their \$150 registration be reimbursed from our R2 Youth Fund.

Name of youth member(s): _____

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

Cancellation Policy: Full refund if notice is received by 6/1. Refund of 50% if received 6/2-6/17. No refund after 6/17, 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 Holiday Inn & Suites, 1109 Fourier Drive, Madison, WI, 53717. Hotel phone: 608-826-0500. Make sure that you use the code DAYLILY CONVENTION to request special event pricing. 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.

Daylily Companion Plant Spotlight: Echinacea/Coneflower*

Article and photos (unless noted) by Jill Reuss



'Majestic Move' with 'Kismet Raspberry'

What are coneflowers?

Coneflower is the common name for plants in the *Echinacea* genus. Coneflowers are deciduous perennials native to North America.

The "cone" of the flower consists of 200-300 individual ray and disc flowers, known as disk florets. These disk florets are surrounded by a ring of sterile ray florets, what we refer to as petals. The overall flower head can be two to five inches wide, depending on the cultivar/species.

As with most flowers, the brightly colored ray florets attract pollinators to the disk florets where the pollen is located. The disk florets do not all shed pollen at the same time. The cen-



Monarch butterfly
on *Echinacea purpurea*
Photo by Barb Brevick

ter disk florets open first; then opening proceeds outward over the next several days. Coneflowers cannot self-pollinate. Thus, they depend on insects, like bees, to transfer pollen between plants for seeds to set. Since coneflower plants all cross-pollinate, insects laden with pollen can land on myriad coneflowers' disk florets thereby transferring their pollen load to start the process of seed production.

All coneflowers, except for *Echinacea purpurea*, have taproots which allow them to grow in habitats where water is at a premium. Be mindful to plant them where you won't feel the need to move them once established. *Echinacea purpurea* produces roots that are more fibrous and better suited for cultivated garden soil.

Why do we love these plants?

In my opinion, coneflowers are excellent for growing with daylilies!

Newly planted daylilies will take a few years to fill in their space. Plant coneflowers in between those new daylilies so they can shine through during their prime. Many hybrid coneflower cultivars have a life expectan-



Coneflower and daylily integration at Oak Hill Gardens
in Athens, Illinois Photo by Bonnie Nichols, owner

* This article was originally published in the BAD Buds Newsletter (Bay Area Daylily Society, of which Jill Reuss is the president). It was edited slightly and reformatted by JoAnne Frederick, Cathy Coulson, and Sandra Dunn for publication in the spring 2026 edition of *Great Lakes Daylily*. We are grateful to Jill for bringing this article to our attention.

cy of two to three years. Native species can survive up to five years under optimal growing conditions. They perpetuate the colony by self-seeding close to the original plant. They are the perfect companions to add color among daylilies until they mature!

Native coneflowers, which are preferred by pollinators, are typically purple and pink in color. Through hybridization, which increased in scale in the 1990s, coneflowers now come in an array of colors and forms, including doubles. There are fragrant and even quilled and two-tone varieties that help daylily colors “pop” in our gardens.



Echinacea ‘Double Scoop™ Bubble Gum’

Coneflowers grow well in less than average garden soil and low watering conditions (think “prairie”), but will also do well in a cultivated garden with well-drained soil. This versatility is another reason they pair well with daylilies, which also perform well in myriad soil, water, and lighting conditions.

Mature coneflowers are deer resistant. However, young plants and buds should be protected by using your favorite deterrent product or method until they reach maturity and their spiky cones make them less attractive to deer and other fauna in the area. It is this spiky cone that gave the plant its name. The genus name *Echinacea* originates from “echinos,” the Greek word for hedgehog.

Bees and butterflies are frequent coneflowers visitors. A number of bird species, particularly American goldfinches and chickadees, extract seeds in the late summer and fall, using their specialized beaks. They can often be seen clinging to dried seed heads as they eat.

Did you know?

Leucanthemum, *Rudbeckia*, and *Echinacea* are all in the *Asteraceae* family, commonly known as the aster, sunflower, daisy or composite family of plants. All of these are lovely companion plants for daylilies.

If you love seeing birds and pollinators amidst your daylilies, you simply must have at least a few coneflowers and their cousins in your gardens!



Echinacea ‘Once in a Melon’



To learn more

<https://mtcubacenter.org/trials/echinacea-mid-atlantic-region/>

<https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs/welcome-my-jungle/2023-06-01-captivating-coneflowers>

<https://dyckarboretum.org/echinacea-revival/>

Color-Coordinating with Coneflowers, Daisies, Black-Eyed Susans, and Daylilies



The yellow centers of the daisies and this Reuss daylily seedling provide coherence between the plants.



A color wheel is a great tool to use when planning your plantings. Adjacent colors on the color wheel coordinate well together, as in the photo below.



H. 'Spider to the Fly' with a red double coneflower

Above and below: Monochromatic groupings (versions of the same color) make for a striking garden display.



Opposite, or complementary, colors also provide impact in the garden, such as yellow or gold *Rudbeckia* with purple daylilies. While the 'Creature of the Night' daylily and 'Cantaloupe Supreme' coneflower above are not true opposites on the color wheel, they function as complements here.



'Sombbrero Salsa Red' with 'Forsyth Flying Dragon'

Congrats to our 2025 Public Garden Grant Recipients!

Thank you to our regional auction donors and buyers. Your generosity makes these grants possible as we work together to highlight daylilies in public spaces.

Recipient: **Central Illinois Daylily Society**

Project: Southwind Park in Springfield was established in 2004 and covers 80 acres. In 2025, CIDS members planted a daylily bed between a rock wall and the walking path at Erin's Pavilion. To date, CIDS members have planted 87 daylilies donated by club members in this area. The park will allow the daylily bed to be extended further along the rock wall following the walking path. This grant funding will be used to purchase more daylilies, mulch, and signage.



Recipient: **Ohio Daylily Society**

Project: Kingwood Center Gardens is an exquisite garden estate on 47 acres in Mansfield, Ohio. Integrated within the many trails and unique plant specimens at Kingwood Center are several daylily display gardens. Our objective is to create a space dedicated for Ohio Daylily Society hybridizers to display some of their registered plants to the public. This grant will help to pay for all signage for this bed, in keeping with Kingwood's aesthetics. Kingwood Center will share this expense.



Recipient: **Wisconsin Daylily Society**

Project: West Madison Agricultural Research Station is an All-America Selections location showcasing the best of both ornamental plant and vegetable varieties. The gardens are open to the public from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. WDS currently maintains five large display gardens filled with hundreds of daylilies, all clearly labeled with cultivar name, hybridizer name, and year of registration. These grant funds will go to purchase mulch, weed control products, soil amendments, and other items needed in maintaining the gardens, as well as updating markers as needed.



Recipient: **Wisconsin Daylily Society**

Project: Glacier Creek Middle School Plant Club received permission from the district grounds crew and administration to build and fill a new garden running the entire length of a wing of the school. A full write-up of this garden project appeared in the Summer/Fall 2024 edition of this newsletter, highlighting student involvement and leadership throughout the project. Funds from this grant will help students obtain more daylilies and native plants to fill the garden, refresh the mulch, add river rocks for garden paths, and purchase signage.



Region 2 Club Reports

Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society

Article and photos by Lisa Marlatt

2026 got off to a great start on February 14 when Vince Ste. Marie from the Windy Rock Nursery in Manchester, Michigan, presented to our club. "The Pollinators: Who They Are and How We Can Help Them" was inspiring to get plants in our gardens to help the pollinators. Pollinators include honey bees, native bees, bumblebees, moths, flies, and butterflies. Michigan has an approximate and amazing 450 native bee species. Plants provide the nectar that pollinators need as their primary carbohydrate source. Non-native invasive plant species are the number one cause of pollinator decline because they are expanding and replacing native plants. The takeaway from this presentation was that we each can make a small contribution to helping pollinators thrive.



Vince Ste. Marie

have been grown further south. A bigger concern, at least for me, is that more insects, such as the Lone Star Tick, and more snake varieties are crawling into our locale. Lisa explained how to grow plants without irrigating to force plants to have more extensive root systems. She also shared some of her experimenting with AI photos and videos, and showed some handy tools to put on every gardener's wish list.



Lisa Quiggle



One of Lisa's AI-generated beautiful garden images

Why are Plants Important to Pollinators?

- **Nectar** – a sugar-rich liquid produced by plants in glands, usually within flowers
- The primary carbohydrate source for many pollinators



One of so many informative and colorful slides in "The Pollinators" presentation

On March 14 Lisa Quiggle shared "Climate Change-Making Lemonade" at our annual luncheon. Her intriguing title encourage us to make the best of the warmer climate we've been experiencing. Think of it as an opportunity to try new varieties that traditionally

On May 16 we will be holding our 28th Annual Perennial Plant Sale that is always a highlight for the community. We start setting up at 6:30 a.m. in the parking lot of a local grocery store and there are always gardeners waiting to shop before we open at 8 a.m. Members bring potted perennials or potted or bareroot daylily fans. We usually sell out by 11:30 a.m. and are headed home by 12:30 p.m.

On June 26-27 the Great Lakes Hosta Tailgate is hosting its annual garden tour, complete with dinner and an auction in Perrysburg, Ohio. Registration is required. For more information, call Richard Ruffier at 419-494-7789 or MaryJo Wilhelms at 419-345-0882.

The 15th biennial Daylily Expo will be held on July 26 from 1-4 p.m. Members set up their own display featuring their favorite daylilies in their gardens. The visitors enjoy the daylily dividing clinic, free door prizes, and a chance to vote on their favorite daylily.

On Saturday, August 22, we will hold our Daylily Work Day starting at 9 a.m. until noon in Toledo's Botanical American Daylily Display Garden. Then, at 12:30 p.m. behind the Conference Center, we will hold our annual Daylily Auction which is open to the public. Daylily host

plants will also be distributed to those who have been members for two years. Members grow the daylily for two years and then return all but one fan for the auction in 2027.

If you have any questions about Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society, contact Judy Hersch, President, phone 419-367-6080, or Lisa Marlatt, Vice President, phone 517-443-5530, or Phil Parsons, Membership Chair, phone 419-966-7860 or email PhillipParsons45@gmail.com for a membership application.

Northeast Ohio Daylily Society

By Mark Druckenbrod

Have you thought about your club's bylaws recently? It might be a good idea. At some historic meeting, your founding members decided to form a daylily club. They learned that AHS was a non-profit organization and was exempt from paying income taxes. And they likely decided they, too, would enjoy that benefit and should submit an application to the IRS officially requesting non-profit status. Soon they were learning about the infamous 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) tax codes, a topic as exciting as an evening's spent daylily blooms. In the simplest of terms, the club will promise to perform an educational public service, and in return the government will agree to not collect taxes from the club's earnings (such as plant sales). In essence, the government partially underwrites the club with the expectation that the club will use these additional "tax saving" funds for additional public services.

During the process of forming your club, it was important to answer several questions: What will we call our club? What is our mission? Who will be included in our club? How will we operate? Who is in charge? How do we decide when we want new people in charge? How often should we meet? How do we pay for all this? Welcome to your bylaws, where all these answers are written. Uncle Sam needed to

know these answers before the club was even granted non-profit status and, most importantly, all members should know these answers and how their club is to officially operate.

NODS recently reviewed and updated its bylaws. It was a very healthy and valuable experience because operational procedures evolve over the decades and can get ahead of the written bylaws. Policies can change and thus need to be consolidated, carefully written, and entered into the bylaws as modifications and updates. Of note regarding NODS' recent amendments was the addition of wording that solidifies our support of AHS and our desire to cooperate with its goals and purposes. And should our club ever dissolve and cease to function, we added a section called Dissolution, which governs how the club would distribute its assets to AHS Region 2 or directly to AHS.

Any changes to the bylaws must be presented to the membership as "amendments" requiring their vote. The process of amending your bylaws (if needed) also brings them to the close attention of members. These bylaws are no longer just mysterious sheets of paper hidden in the membership binder. Now, they are an easy to understand road map to guide the club's activities and ultimate success.

Bay Area Daylily Society (BAD Buds)

Article and photos by Jill and Scott Reuss

2025 was a year of transition for BAD Buds as everyone got used to a new president. Thankfully, BAD Buds is a “well-oiled machine” when it comes to our primary events each year. But we also recognized that new membership had been declining. With the aid of our hard-working Board Members and discussion at Membership Meetings, we have started a few new activities to help spread the word regarding our association and its goals.

Thanks to the founders of BAD Buds (Phil and Luel Korth and Leo Bordeleau), member education has always been part of our core mission. But we are realizing that if we want our association to grow, we also need to reach out to the public. The Green Bay Botanical Gardens (GBBG) is our home base and is a great resource for BAD Buds members to be able to meet potential new members and to inform the public about daylilies, their attributes and management, and how club membership may benefit them. We were able to take part in the 2025 GBBG Fall Fest with an informational booth at which we gave out free daylilies to about 80 families. We have also planned a public-oriented class—“Dig Into Daylilies”—where we will be teaching this class in tandem with our annual spring cleanup and daylily dig at GBBG. The dug-up daylilies will then be offered at our early-May Daylily Auction to Members of BAD Buds, GBBG members, and the public.



The BAD Buds booth at the 2025 GBBG Fall Fest
“The Pollinators” presentation

Of course, when a group has new members, those new members need to be offered ways to learn about

the typical activities of the group and be involved. We are making strides toward being more open and welcoming to new members. We are working to incorporate video and instructional pieces onto our website that beginner daylily addict members will want to know as a member of BAD Buds. Creating more opportunities to learn from each other and from guest speakers and helping show how daylily interest fits within other areas of gardening that everyone also cares about is of utmost importance.



In March of this year, Dan and Kitty Doersch, owners of For His Majesty Gardens, presented to our club. They did a wonderful job being first-time presenters for us, providing a very helpful, informative and colorful photo-filled presentation. In addition, they provided seedling plants for a Silent Auction and also gave away daylily seeds of crosses they have made by raffle. We greatly look forward to hearing from them again in the future.

July, the most colorful time of the season, will bring a flurry of activity to BAD Buds members. Along with the Region 2 Summer Meeting being in Madison, we are also going to enjoy a Bus/Car Garden Tour to additional Madison daylily gardens. We also look forward to the annual Hybridizer Clinic hosted by Jim and Sharon Prochaska at their own Fox Woods Garden and a new “Progressive” Style Picnic held in three member gardens in the Appleton,



2025 Hybridizers Clinic at
Fox Woods Garden

Wisconsin area (Clyde Schmidt, Mary Heiting and Sandy Sandee). Lastly, to bring July to a close, our BAD Buds founders Phil and Luel Korth will host an open garden Chit Chat as a relaxed social time for our members.

A handful of key annual events serve to raise awareness about daylilies, raise funds, and allow us to meet new people. Our largest event is our two-day Daylily Sale now held in conjunction with the Green & Gold Hosta Society at Larry's Bellevue Gardens in Green Bay. We also have



2025 club visit to the
Reuss' Concordia
Gardens

our May Daylily Dig at Green Bay Botanical Garden, a May Daylily Auction, and our Annual Meeting held at GBBG that includes a wonderful catered meal by our fellow members Suzanne and Mike Heideman. They always are sure we are well-fed at our meetings with incredible gourmet choices of main dishes, salads, soups, and desserts, thus fulfilling one motto of BAD Buds—"Food at Every Meeting."



2025 Dig at Jankowskis for the
Annual Daylily Sale

Hoosier Daylily Society

By Holly Brunner

The Hoosier Daylily Society held its latest meeting on Thursday, March 26 at the Whitestown Library in Whitestown, Indiana. Our feature speaker was Carole Hunter of Prairie's Edge Garden in Rockford, Illinois.

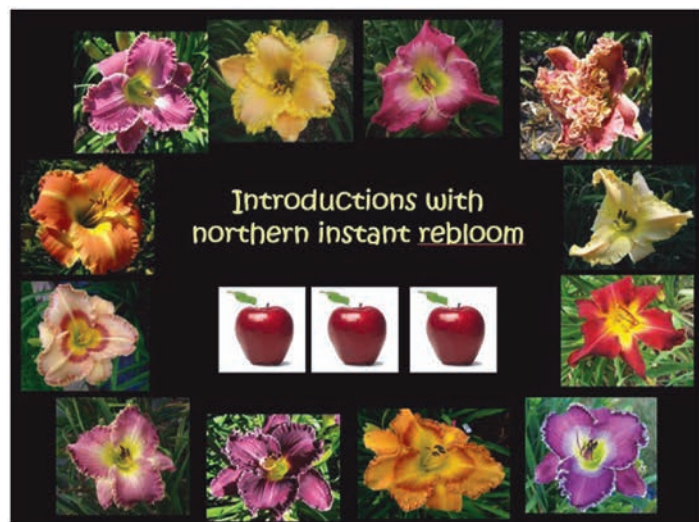
Carole, who has a degree in Landscape Design, started dabbling daylily pollen in 2010 and registered her first creations in 2019. Her primary hybridizing goal is to create plants that rebloom in her northern climate. Carole's presentation was about rebloom in the north and how getting a daylily worthy of being introduced requires more than a pretty face. It's like playing the slot machines in Vegas - you have to have an 'apple apple' combination of plant habit and vigor,

branching and bud count, and of course the bloom—to be a real winner.

Carole also shared with us her progress on her UF and small/minia- tures program. A few of her many outstanding daylilies include 'Take A Bow, Prairie's Edge' (2021) 'Prairie's Edge Connor Samuel' (2023, above), and 'Malala Strong' (2023).



Carole Hunter photos



In February HOODS was well-represented at the Region 2 Midwinter Symposium, with at least 13 members attending.

HOODS members look forward to our next club meeting April 23 featuring Don Wolff of Wolff's Daylilies in Louisville, Kentucky.

HOODS' May meeting is our annual Club Plant distribution and auction event, held at Greg and Jayne Lough's Sugar Creek Daylilies in Darlington, Indiana. After that we will all be ready for planting and bloom season! In July we will celebrate bloom season with our annual club picnic (location TBA).

Grand Valley Daylily Society

By Sharon VanderWilp

The Grand Valley Daylily Society kicked off 2026 with a meeting in January with one of our members, Cathy Coulson, presenting a program she entitled “Gathering Inspiration from Winter Gardens Around the World.” This meeting was held via Zoom so we “travelled” the world from the comfort of our own homes and we didn’t even need a passport! Cathy’s program included beautiful photography of winter garden scenes in the various botanical gardens. Members and a few guests first travelled to gardens in Canada, England, Japan, and Wales. Then we visited US gardens in Chicago, Illinois, Denver, Colorado, Pennsylvania, and Missouri. Cathy described the features of each garden and interesting facts about each garden’s history. The talk concluded with information on how to modify the ideas in these gardens for our home gardens. Cathy’s program showed that gardens can be beautiful even covered by snow, inspiring us all to get out during the winter and visit one of the local Michigan gardens with which her beautiful program ended.

Our February meeting, also held via Zoom, was nothing but “fun and games,” with GVDS member Sandra Dunn as the game show host! Sandra presented a lively trivia game using an app called “Kahoots.” Participants are presented with multiple-choice questions and they attempted to pick the correct answer as quickly as possible. We had a very large audience, including visitors from Michigan as well as Ohio, Louisiana, Indiana and Massachusetts! Sandra had prepared three rounds for us. The first two rounds were questions about daylily terminology and ADS facts. At the conclusion of each question, Sandra elaborated on the information presented and many of the screens included her beautiful photos of Region 2 and GVDS members’ introductions. The third round was tailored to GVDS and included questions about our history, July show, and GVDS hybridizers. Our out of state guests were having so much fun that they stayed on the Zoom and just made some wild guesses during round three. Sandra and Along the Fence Daylilies very generously donated \$25 gift certificates for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in all three rounds. Sandra is such a great teacher so what a fun way to learn about “all things daylily.”

In March we were really happy to have our first in person meeting at Frederik Meijer Gardens. It was also available by Zoom and we had visitors join us from further away in Michigan as well as Ohio, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and North Dakota. GVDS member Ginny Pearce presented a program on her daylily hybridizing. Ginny has been hybridizing for 30 years so she had a lot to show us. Her focus is on northern hardy reblooming daylilies, high bud count with great branching, and large flat blossoms with richly saturated color. Her colorful presentation began with “best sellers from her first ten years.” Along with her excellent photos, she stated the traits she believes have made these introductions popular with her customers from around the United States.



‘Timeless Tango’ (Pearce-G., 2025)
Hybridizer photo

In 2024 Ginny won the Region 2 Englerth Award for the third time resulting in her 2025 introduction ‘Timeless Tango’— a highly saturated, beautiful red daylily. Ginny’s focus has long been on round ruffled tetraploids, many with watermarks, but over the last ten years has expanded into tall, unusual forms. For 2026 she introduced another one of her always gorgeous reds—the aptly named ‘Secret Santa.’ After her 2026 introductions, she showed us her seedlings, stating what she liked about each of them, giving attendees a glimpse of where her newest cultivars



Ginny Pearce seedling
Hybridizer photo

might take her hybridizing program in the years ahead. Ginny also showed how she starts her seeds, gave tips on growing daylilies, and answered questions from the audience. Ginny's program was not only full of her beautiful photography but very informative as well. We will be having a selection of her introductions in our May 21 auction for all to bid on.

April brought us another Region 2 hybridizer Kirsten Hatfield from Dorsets N Daylilies in Zanesville, Ohio. Kirsten joined us by Zoom. We had an audience in person at Frederik Meijer Gardens, and other members and guests joined online from their homes. Kirsten's daylilies are the focus of the "What's in a Name?" feature in this edition, which overlapped with much of what I had originally written for this club report. So

I will highlight three take-aways not included in that article. Kirsten explained that she was not intentionally breeding for miniatures, but when 'Itty Bitty Rainbow' opened one day she "just had to introduce it" (after the usual years of evaluation). It is a two-inch double with a lavender and purple patterned eye. Oh so cute it is! Kirsten also told us about her "new adventure"—getting teeth on diploids. Finally, she showed a very interesting photo of a daylily bed mulched with lamb's wool to keep the roots cool and moist during summer droughts. It was an interesting program showing her many beautiful doubles but so much more! After her presentation, we had a mini auction of six of her introductions so some lucky members will be growing Kirsten's beauties here in Michigan!



Kirsten Hatfield toothy diploid seedling
Hybridizer photo



'Itty Bitty Rainbow' (Hatfield-K., 2025)
Hybridizer photo

Our next meeting is our annual Spring auction on May 21 with plants from Ginny Pearce as noted above plus daylilies from Bart Beck of Bx Butte, Chad Bush of Colorful Chaos, and so many more! As previously stated, we welcome visitors at our meetings. The Spring auction venue does not support a Zoom option, so we have established a bid by proxy option for anyone who cannot attend in person. The auction list and photos will be available for viewing the Monday prior to our Thursday auction. Please contact Sandra Dunn at alongthefencedaylilies@gmail.com for additional information on the bidding by proxy process and to see a preview of the auction offerings.

We have had wonderful programs to get us through the winter and are now eagerly anticipating a great daylily bloom season! More information on our club can be found at our website: grandvalleydaylily.org.

Wisconsin Daylily Society

Article by Steven King with photos by Genni Kleckner

Happy Spring ADS Region 2 family and friends.

Hopefully, you're receiving April showers for those May and beyond water-loving daylily plants. In south-central Wisconsin, we have been receiving large amounts of rain as of late.

The Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS) has had such a great start to 2026. We kicked off with our annual January potluck. Each year for our January and February general meetings we showcase our WDS member hybridizers. They present their hybridizing programs to the membership, sharing what they're working on and/or perfecting, as well as their current and future introductions. It's amazing to see the excitement in their eyes and hear the enthusiasm in their voices as they present. In January, our speakers were Jean Bawden, Shannon Meyer, and Michelle Rogers. In February, our speakers were Jim and Sharon Prochaska, Carole Hunter, and Genni and Francis Kleckner.



Top to bottom, left to right: Jean Bawden, Shannon Meyer, Michelle Rogers; Jim and Sharon Prochaska; Carole Hunter; Genni and Francis Kleckner.

Also in February, Conrad Wrzesinski organized (over 30 hours) and conducted our annual WDS photo contest for our membership to participate in. There were four categories for members to submit one photo in each category. Category 1 is Single Flower. Category 2 is Clump. Category 3 is Daylilies In The Landscape. And Category 4 is Creative Artistry. The membership then cast their votes. The votes were tallied and two winners emerged in each category: Becky Robinson and Steven King in Category 1; Sue Hill and Carole Hunter in Category 2; Genni Kleckner and Sandy Huhmann in Category 3; and Mark Lowry and Andy Kraiss in Category 4. Thank you to all of our entrants and voting participants. The winning photos may be viewed on the WDS website at: wisconsindaylilsociety.org.

In March, we like to mix things up a little and think outside of the daylily box for our presenters. We were fortunate to secure Susan Carpenter (right) from the University of Wisconsin (UW) Arboretum located in Madison. Susan is a Native Plant Garden Curator with the UW Arboretum. The UW-Madison Arboretum's



mission is to conserve and restore Arboretum lands, advance restoration ecology, and foster the land ethic. The 1,200 acres located in the urban heart of Madison include prairies, woodlands, wetlands, savannas, springs, shoreline, a variety of 18 gardens, 17 miles of walking trails, and 4 miles of biking road. Our WDS membership was joined by many members of the UW-Madison community who follow and enjoy hearing Susan present. We even got a few new WDS memberships from the UW community that day. If you are planning to join us for the 2026 WDS/ADS Region 2 Summer Meeting, this is one sightseeing stop that you might want to plan to check out and explore.

Our April meeting (not yet held as of this writing) will feature speakers Sandy Holmes and Ed Kraus. We look forward to hearing all about their hybridizing

programs, including their current and future daylily introductions.

During the month of May, our club will be hosting Canadian hybridizer David Jewell who will be sharing details of his pursuits in the World of Daylilies. Also in May, many members of WDS are looking forward to attending the ADS National Convention in Valdosta, Georgia.

On the July weekend of the 17th through the 19th, 2026, our WDS club is hosting the ADS Region 2 Summer Meeting. We welcome you and hope that you will consider attending this highlighted summer

event where the July weather and our Daylily/Hosta Tour Gardens will be exceptional for your pleasurable and enjoyable experience. As of this printing, there are still registration positions available. To refresh your memories of the WDS Host Tour Gardens, there were promotional materials in the Winter 2026 edition of ADS Region 2 Great Lakes Daylily on pages 45 through 50.

We look forward to seeing you in Madison, Wisconsin, in July!

Until then, please BE kind and BE well!

Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society

By Andrea Hicks



Nicole Tabit from Franklin Park Conservatory (where we meet) was the guest speaker at our January club meeting. She shared the history of the Conservatory, as well as a sneak peek into current renovations.

Our next meeting on May 16 will include a daylily auction. Visit our website for details: <https://columbusdaylilies.org/events/list/>.



MCDS club members at the 2026 Winter Meeting: Debby Colvin, Mike Anders, Jacki Barth, Gary Barth, Sandy Holmes, Kirsten Hatfield, Andrea Hicks, Pat Hicks, Charlie Harper, Laurie Jacques, Mike Holmes. Not pictured but in attendance: Ann Townsend and Martijn Steger.

Photo by Sandra Dunn

Daylily Society of SouthEast Wisconsin

By Pat Adrian

Spring has finally come to Wisconsin (on some days) and DSSEW members have already attended two meetings in 2026. In February we learned about Spring Ephemerals—those plants that begin their life cycle early in spring, bloom, and then wither, all before most tree leaves are even open. Our speaker was Master Gardener Mary Jane Swedberg, who encouraged all of us to begin a ‘Spring Stroll’ area in our yards. Start with a couple of plants (perhaps Trillium, Bloodroot, Virginia Bluebells, Shooting Star among others) and add more each year.

Also at this meeting, members voted for their favorite daylily photos. Our contest attracts such outstanding photos that it’s hard to pick a winner!



This seedling photo won 1st place for Sandi Martin in the “Multiple Bloom” category.



Sue Volkman took the 1st prize with her Artistic/Creative entry featuring ‘Heavenly United We Stand’ (Gossard, 2009).



Hybridizer Carole Hunter won 1st place for this “Single Bloom” photo of one of her seedlings.

In March we learned about peonies from experienced gardener Dave Wanninger. Dave has worked at various nurseries during his career, most recently nine years at Borer Botanical Gardens in Whitnall Park. Dave hosts a peony and hosta sale at his home each year, and is now creating exquisite leaded glass art work as well. Dave walked us through the history of peony hybridization for Herbaceous, Intersectional (Itoh) and Tree peonies. According to Nate Bremer, Board Member of the American Peony Society and owner of Solaris Farms here in Wisconsin, this past winter was very hard on the Intersectional peonies. We thank Dave for his generous door prizes!



Speaker Dave Wanninger
Photos by Pat Adrian
unless noted



Craig Risser won this leaded glass art piece made by Dave Wanninger

We’re looking forward to our April speaker, Jim Prochaska of Fox Wood Garden in Abram, Wisconsin. Jim has registered about 66 varieties of daylilies, and some of his varieties will be available at our Annual Daylily Sale on June 6th at the Brookfield Farmers Market. Since Jim’s business is located even further

north than the 'Frozen Tundra' of Green Bay, his plants must be hardy to survive the winters! He specializes in plants with tall scapes, large blooms, and vibrant colors. One of our sale plants will be Jim's 'Autumn Dancer', a variety listed as "Late" that will extend a garden's bloom time.



'Autumn Dancer'
(Prochaska, 2016)
Hybridizer photo

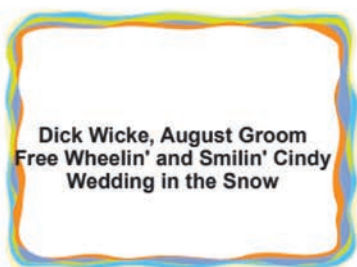


Members are busy looking over the list of daylily varieties that we hope to offer at our Annual Daylily Sale on June 6th. Both the list and a photo gallery of the over 200 varieties are available at our website: www.dssew.org. Select "2026 Plant Sale." Also take a look at our April 2026 newsletter (posted on our website)



for more sale information. LOTS of volunteer jobs are available during Plant Sale week, as shown in these photos from 2025!

Try your hand at Daylily Haiku this year! For the past few years newsletter editor Pat Adrian puts together Haiku poems using only the names of daylilies that will be in the Daylily Sale. It's harder than it looks to keep the 5-7-5 syllable pattern and come up with something that makes sense. Members are encouraged to plant a Haiku garden!



Our newsletter includes a memorial for Harold Steen, founder of DSSEW, who passed away in January at the age of 96 (pages 14-16). Harold nurtured the club that started with 12 members, and now has over 125 members! He served as President for several years, helped with every job that needed to be done, and edited the newsletter—FANFARE!—for about 20 years. He is remembered for his kindness, intelligence, humor and energy!



Harold and Florence Steen
in their Wisconsin garden

Now in our 30th year, DSSEW club members continue traditions like door prizes (and lots of them!) and wonderful snacks at meetings. In fact, our recent newsletter includes a recipe for Pecan Bars, provided courtesy of Master Baker Dan Cummings. I'll end with a quote seen at the Pink Elephant Antique Shop in Livingston, Illinois: "I dream of a world where chickens can cross the road without having their motives questioned."

Don't forget, the Region 2 Summer Meeting will be held in Madison, Wisconsin and is sponsored by the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS). "Daylilies in Dairyland" will be held from July 17—19. Register now at adsregion2.org!

Indiana Daylily and Iris Society

By Greg Beavers

It was wonderful to see great representation of IDIS members at the 2026 Region 2 Mid-Winter in Indianapolis.



At our first meeting of 2026 in March we welcomed Bret Clement to present his hybridizing program. A lively auction was held and several of Bret's introductions will be offered at our May 2026 NCAP (New Cultivar Acquisition Program).



IDIS display at the Indiana Flower & Patio Show

At our April meeting we welcomed ADS president Rich Crider. Rich shared tips for growing Louisiana Iris. Following his presentation, we auctioned a variety of irises generously provided by Rich.



Iris at Rich Crider's South Carolina farm
Rich Crider photo



'It's Not Over Till the Fat Cat Sings'
(Clement, 2025)
Hybridizer photo



'100 Cats on the Wall'
(Clement, 2025)
Hybridizer photo

In March, IDIS members staffed a booth at the Indiana Flower & Patio Show. We fielded a lot of questions, sold a number plants, and interested a few folks enough to join our club. What a success. At the Indiana Daylily-Iris Society, our goal is to educate the public.

IDIS will be hosting an Iris Show May 1, 2026, at the Harrison Center in Indianapolis.

Speakers and topics for the remainder of the year are: June: Nikki Schmith, Illinois- My Adventure with the Daylily

July: Jody Nolin, Ohio- Beardless Iris

August: Lisa Kuduk, Kentucky- Daffodils

Guests are always welcome at our meetings. For a full list of activities visit our website: www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org/. For additional information, contact Greg Beavers, Corresponding Secretary, at 812-345-2299 or bluebirdbox@gmail.com.

Southern Michigan Daylily Society

By Marietta Crabtree

After the long, cold winter, SMDS members are looking forward to spring and a return to speaker programs, a daylily show, and garden visits for 2026. The first program for 2026 was Dr. John Hartig's March presentation "Detroit Riverwalk: Reclaiming Detroit's



Dr. John Hartig at the Detroit River
Photo from greatlakesnow.org

Waterfront as a Gathering Place for All." Dr Hartig explained the Detroit riverfront restoration process and the Riverwalk development with greenways, parks, and wildlife refuge areas.

Dr. Hartig's award-winning book "Waterfront Porch: Reclaiming Detroit's Industrial Waterfront as a Gathering Place for All" tells the story of how an industrial polluted riverfront was restored to an outstanding ecological environment for all to enjoy.

The Detroit Riverwalk is continuous from the MacArthur Bridge (Belle Isle Bridge) to the Ambassador Bridge with three of the eventual five miles of riverwalk completed with parks and wildlife refuge. The Riverwalk is located in a bird migration flyway with 350 species identified. Restoration plantings include native Michigan trees, bushes and flowers that are good for pollinators.



Cover of Dr. Hartig's book showing Milliken State Park, part of the Detroit Riverwalk

in 2023, USA Today named The Detroit Riverwalk as the #1 riverwalk in the United States. It also is the only International Riverwalk in North America as it is accessible to the Winsor Riverwalk in Canada by using the Gordie Howe International Bridge with a bicycle/pedestrian lane.

The Detroit Riverfront Conservancy manages the Detroit Riverwalk.

The mission, vision, and history of the riverfront restoration are outlined on their website: www.detroitriverfront.org. SMDS plans to visit the Riverwalk this summer.

April's program "The Science of a Changing Climate and Its Environmental Effects" was presented by Chris Edwards, meteorologist, climate expert for 35 years, and TV weather forecaster. Edwards explained the science of how and why the climate was becoming warmer and the current and future projected effects on the weather, oceans and ecosystems.



Chris Edwards
Photo from bluewater.org

Some climate change effects, for example, are changes in frequency, intensity and duration of extreme weather events, increase in ocean temperature and melting of sea ice and glaciers, and shifts in ecosystem and agricultural characteristics.

Some shifts in ecosystem characteristics are length of growing season and timing of flower blooms which affects the migration of birds and Monarch butterflies making it more difficult for them to survive. For example, the Monarch butterflies have been moving further up the mountains seeking the cooler temperatures that they need for overwintering in Mexico. There is concern they may run out of habitat.



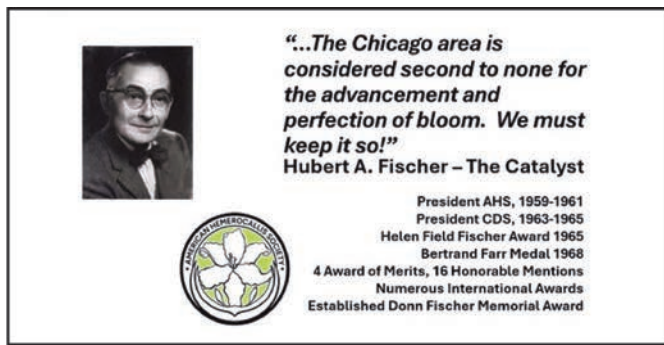
Monarch butterflies in Mexico
Photo by Ann Ryan/ MonarchWatch.org

Edwards explained that excessive carbon dioxide in the upper atmosphere from more carbon dioxide being released from activities on earth than in the past is interfering with heat escaping and trapping more heat on earth. By reducing the amount of carbon dioxide being released to the upper atmosphere, climate change can be slowed to give the earth a chance to recover.

Chicagoland Daylily Society

By June Vandervest

For 2026, the Chicagoland Daylily Society began by looking back at our own club's beginnings in 1963 and the quiet daylily revolution that created our society. In March, club member and Second Vice President Mary Beth Giacalone's topic was "The Chicago Scene: How Chicago Hybridizers Created a Revolution." Mary Beth did extensive research about The Fab Four: Herbert A. Fischer of Hinsdale, Elmer Claar of Northbrook, Dr. Ezra J. Kraus of Chicago, and David F. Hall of Wilmette. Yes, some had curious first names, but they brought innovation to hybridizing and made breakthroughs in color, size, form and capacity to re-bloom.



As quoted in the 1965 Chicagoland Daylily Society Newsletter, and presented in Mary Beth's talk

In 1963, Herbert Fischer founded our Society and was its first President. By the end of that year the club had 100 members. The fire had been lit and wonderful things were to come. Mary Beth is working on creating a special garden bed featuring daylily introductions from the early Chicago pioneer hybridizers. Her garden will be one of the featured gardens when CDS hosts the 2027 Region 2 Summer Meeting. To accent the Chicago theme, our refreshments at our March meeting featured the Chicago hot dog and all the trimmings. Thank you, NO ketchup!

April will be a Double Feature with Mike Grossman and Kathleen Nordstrom, hybridizers and owners of Northern Lights Daylilies in West Concord, Minnesota. Mike's talk will be "Everything is Coming Up Toothy" and Kathleen will talk about "Seeking the Unique." Refreshments for this double feature will be popcorn and assorted theater candies.

In May, hybridizer Curt Hanson will be featured with his talk "Self Imposed Paradise." Curt's home is in Gates



Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossman
Photo courtesy of Kathleen and Mike

Mill, Ohio. He is the owner of Crintonic Gardens. Curt describes his gardens as "a spiritual refuge from the maelstrom of the reality at hand. Crintonic Gardens, A.K.A. self-imposed paradise, has been a fifty-year adventure in creating a personal signature in time and space using the wonders of the plant world as a palette."

July will find us at progressive garden walks at members' gardens.

On August 22 we will hold our Annual Daylily Sale at the American Legion Post 80 Pavilion in Downers Grove, Illinois.

September CDS members will be showcasing this year's garden transformations.

October is our Annual Photo Contest, Election of Officers and Octoberfest Potluck.

The Chicagoland Daylily Society will be the hosts of the Region 2 Summer Meeting from July 16 -18, 2027, in Rockford, Illinois. Plan on meeting us there!



Some of our club hybridizers: L to R, Sam Drosoplos, Don Albers, Carole Hunter, and Greg Bartoshuk

AHS Region 2 Local Organizations in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin



CENTRAL ILLINOIS DAYLILY SOCIETY

Lori Doolin, President
Winchester, IL
Imdoolin90@gmail.com

CHICAGOLAND DAYLILY SOCIETY

June Vandervest, Co-President
630-852-2940
junevandervest@comcast.net
Amanda Christensen, Contact
spychrist@frontier.com
www.chicagolanddaylilysociety.org

DAYLILY SOCIAL CLUB

Nikki Schmith
Worden IL
248-739-9006
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/daylilysocial/>

HEART OF ILLINOIS DAYLILY SOCIETY

Jacob Braun, President
Peoria IL
309-863-5534
br4un3r@gmail.com
www.hoids.org

NORTH SHORE IRIS & DAYLILY SOCIETY

Priscilla Segel, President
Mt Prospect IL
segel1825@comcast.net

SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

John Seely, Vice-President
swihspresident@gmail.com
www.swildaylily.org

WAYNE DAYLILY SOCIETY

Lana Wolfe, President
lanapal@aol.com

HOOSIER DAYLILY SOCIETY

Hillary Heffernan, President
hilary.heffernan@gmail.com
Holly Bruner, Contact
hollycbrunner@gmail.com

INDIANA DAYLILY-IRIS SOCIETY

Rod Maust, President
317-593-4355
Indianapolis IN
yodermaust@sbcglobal.net
Greg Beavers, Contact
812-345-2299
bluebirdbox@gmail.com
www.indianadaylilyirisociety.org

LIMESTONE DAYLILY AND HOSTA SOCIETY

Roger McCay, President
Bloomington IN
812-322-4554
rmccay@aol.com

SOUTHERN INDIANA DAYLILY, HOSTA, DAFFODIL & IRIS SOCIETY

Cheryl Lamm, President
812-760-0752
lueyedoc1991@yahoo.com
www.facebook.com/groups/SIDHDIS

CENTRAL MICHIGAN DAYLILY SOCIETY

Jerry Brown, Co-President
South Lyon, MI
brown_841@hotmail.com
Teresa Dillon, Contact
dillon1t@lentel.com
www.daylilies.me

GRAND VALLEY DAYLILY SOCIETY

Peggy Pike, President
Grand Rapids MI
peggypike@yahoo.com
www.grandvalleydaylily.org

KALAMAZOO AREA DAYLILY SOCIETY

Robin Hamilton, President
Nashville MI
spedk123@yahoo.com
www.kalamazoodaylilies.com

MICHIANA AREA DAYLILY SOCIETY

Audra Burns, President
Dowagiac MI
269-782-0188
whitetailcreek@gmail.com

SOUTHERN MICHIGAN DAYLILY SOCIETY

Jason Coleman, President
jasoncoleman928@gmail.com
Marietta Crabtree, Contact
marietta.crabtree@gmail.com
www.midaylilysociety.com

BLACK SWAMP HOSTA & DAYLILY SOCIETY

Judy Hersch, President
Toledo, OH
419-367-6080
jimandjudy@icloud.com
Lisa Marlatt, contact
517-443-5530
lisamarlatt@yahoo.com

METROPOLITAN COLUMBUS DAYLILY SOCIETY

Charles Lucius, Vice-President
Plain City, OH
ceandclucius@sbcglobal.net
Andrea Hicks, Secretary
packhicks@gmail.com
comcolumbusdaylilies.org

NORTHEAST OHIO DAYLILY SOCIETY

Barb Huntoon, President
Julie Gridley, Contact
Middlefield OH
440-332-7017
jgridley@windstream.net

OHIO DAYLILY SOCIETY

Robert Buxton, President
Warsaw OH
740-202-0888
gobux48@gmail.com

BAY AREA DAYLILY BUDS

Jill Reuss, President
Wausau, WI
715-856-5156
concordia675@gmail.com
www.badbuds.org

DAYLILY SOCIETY OF SOUTHEAST WISCONSIN

Mark Pawlak, President
Oak Creek WI
414-764-4651
m-pawlak@sbcglobal.net
Pat Adrian, Contact
patadrian@sbcglobal.net
www.dssew.org

THE WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY

Steven King, President
Madison, WI
Ph/text: 608-277-9789
acupleasur@aol.com
www.wisdaylilysoc.org

2026 REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING

Where: Madison, Wisconsin

When: July 17 - 19, 2026

See pages 40 - 45 of this newsletter

Additional information is available on the Region 2 Website as it becomes available.

2026 REGION 2 WINTER MEETING

Where: Indianapolis, Indiana

When: TBD

See pages 19 - 26 of this newsletter for 2025 Winter Meeting reflections

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 communication can flow across the Region.

2026 ADS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Where: Valdosta, Georgia

When: May 20 - 23, 2026

<https://ads2026national.org>



American Hemerocallis Society
Region 2 Editor Sandra Dunn
3035 Parman Road
Dansville, MI 48819

Nonprofit Org.
US Postage
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
Permit No. 271



'Elegant Candy' (Stamile, 1995) in Vickie Goedde's Garden
Photo by Vickie Goedde