AMERICAN DAYLILY SOCIETY REGION 2 SUMMER/FALL 2026

GREAT LAKES Daylily

ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN OHIO WISCONSIN



'Joe Burrow'
(Richard Norris, 2021)
One of many stunning images in the 2026 Region 2 Photo Contest, this one by Charlie Harper.

4 | Region 2 Photo Contest Winners
10 | Howard Hite Award 2026
12 | Winter Meeting 2027 Preview
14 | ADS Personal and Newsletter Awards
18 | Companion Plants: Perennial Herbs
24 | Summer Meeting Reflections
40 | Faulkner Scholarship 2026
44 | Englerth Award 2026
52 | Summer Meeting 2027 Preview
54 | Club Reports

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
lmdoolin90@gmail.com

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

Regional Newsletter Editor
Saundra 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
Saundra 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 2027 Co-Chairs
Laurel Richardson
Indiana
lhabitat@aol.com

Barb Buikema
Michigan
bbbuikema@att.net

Summer Meeting 2027 Chair
Amanda Christensen
Illinois
gardensofataraxia@gmail.com

Regional Youth Chair
Pat Titus
Illinois
217-202-5204
pigsnblankets@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 Daylily
ILLINOIS INDIANA MICHIGAN OHIO WISCONSIN

Table of Contents

Region 2 Officer Reports and Updates

- President's Message....7
- ADS Director's Message....7
- Treasurer's Report....8
- Editor's Notes....9

Features, Articles, Region 2 Information, and Club Reports

- Region 2 Photo Contest Winners 4
- 2026 Howard Hite Award Winner Ginny Pearce - Gail Braunstein....10
- 2027 Winter Meeting Preview and Registration....12
- 2026 ADS Personal and Newsletter Awards....14
- Daylily Companion Plant Spotlight: Perennial Herbs - Catherine A. Coulson...18
- 2026 Summer Meeting Introduction - Steven King....24
  - The Summer Meeting From A Youth Perspective - Samantha Schwandt....25
  - Tour Garden Reflections - various authors....28
  - From Plannning to Tour Day - Monique Warnke....36
  - Business Meeting Minutes....50
- 2026 Faulkner Scholarship Winners Xavior and Owen Heffernan....40
- Region 2 Photo Contest Honorable Mentions....41
- 2026 Englerth Award Winner Rhonda Veroeven - Gail Braunstein....44
- 2026 Englerth Competition Entries....45
- 2027 Summer Meeting Preview 52
- One Monarch's Daylily Story - Saundra Dunn....52
- Region 2 Club Contact Information and Upcoming Events 62


18


24


40

Top to bottom:

Companion Plants:
Purple Sage with
'A Little Fire Scarecrow'

Daylilies in Dairyland:
Summer Meeting
Reflections

Bob Faulkner Scholarship:
Xavier and Owen Heffernan

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

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

Advertising
Rates for inside pages

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

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

**Content Deadline for
Winter Edition:**
December 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.

On The Front Cover: 'Joe Burrow' (Norris-R., 2021), Photo by Charlie Harper
The Back Cover: 'Brookwood Black Kitten' (Sharp, 1995), Photo by Cheryl Wood

2026 REGION 2 PHOTO CONTEST

BEST SINGLE BLOOM PHOTO

Winner: -->

Charlie Harper

Bowling Green, OH

'Kristen's Echo on the Horizon'

(Lough, 2024)

Prize: 'Remembering Chris Linker'
(Hudson-J., 2024)

Judges described this photo as "gorgeous" and "stunning," noting the color and lighting, the focus of the flower in contrast to the blurred background, and the overall impact of the image.





<-- Runner-up:

Charlie Harper

Bowling Green, OH

'Joe Burrow'

(Norris-R. 2021)

Prize: Along The Fence
Gift Certificate

"Seeing two stages of the bloom opening, along with all of the buds, really brings this photo to life." Additional judges' comments noted the vibrancy of the two colors together. And one judge added that Joe Burrow is a great quarterback. :)

BEST MULTI-BLOOM PHOTO

Winner: -->
Barb Brevick
Dansville, MI

'Ocean Spirit'
(Murphy-J.P., 2006)

Prize: 'Remembering Bob Catherwood'
(Hudson-J., 2022)

Judges commented on the use of depth of field to create the mood in this image. There are no distracting background or foreground elements. The composition is pleasing, with the the center bloom having the most crisp focus.





Judges felt this trio of blooms led the viewer's eye to sweep across the image. The tight horizontal cropping of this photo added to its impact. The vividness of the petal colors against the darker foliage was also noted.

Runner-up: **Cynthia Wadsworth,** Madison, WI

'Candy Colored Curls' (Herr-D., 2010)

Prize: Along The Fence Gift Certificate

BEST CREATIVE/ARTISTIC PHOTO

Winner:
Kelly Williams
Lucas, OH

Getting a Little Something Before The Storm: Butterfly on 'Facing the Giants'
(Bell-T., 2015)

Prize: 'Bert Thomas'
(Hudson-J., 2025)

The judges noted the multiple cream-toned colors and patterns in the butterfly that fittingly matched with the daylily it had landed on. They also appreciated the tight zoom of the composition.





Runner-up:
Ginny Pearce
Grand Rapids, MI

Seedling 20-44-01
(Pearce-G., unregistered)

Prize: Along the Fence Gift Certificate

As one judge described, "the droplets add ambiance to this image." Judges also commented on the flawess bloom and that both the flower and frog were in focus.

Thank you Joe Hudson of Madcat Daylilies in North Carolina for donating our first place prize plants.
And thank you Along The Fence Daylilies for our second place prizes!

Region 2 President Message

Monique Warnke, Region 2 President



Dear Region 2 Friends,

As I write my final message as President of Region 2, I find myself reflecting on the many wonderful experiences, friendships, and accomplishments that have made these years so meaningful to me. It has been a true honor and privilege to serve as your president.

When I accepted this position, I knew there would be responsibilities, challenges, and plenty of work. What I may not have fully appreciated was just how many wonderful people I would have the opportunity to work with and how many friendships would grow along the way.

Region 2 is fortunate to have so many dedicated people who give their time, energy, knowledge, and enthusiasm to our beloved daylilies. Whether you have hosted a garden tour, taught a class, judged an exhibition, hybridized a new introduction, helped at a meeting, welcomed a new member, or simply shared your love of daylilies with someone else, you have helped make Region 2 stronger.

I am especially proud of the way our region continues to grow and encourage new people to become involved. Our future depends on all of us being willing to share what we know and, perhaps even more importantly, to welcome those who are just beginning their daylily journey.

Over the years, I have learned that the flowers are only part of what makes this organization special. The friendships we make, the laughter we share, the gardens we visit, and the memories we create are what stay with us long after the flowers have finished blooming.

There is a saying that has always meant a great deal to me: "We come for the flowers, but we stay for the friends." I believe that perfectly describes Region 2.

To everyone who has supported me during my time as president, thank you. To those who stepped forward when something needed to be done, thank you. To those who offered encouragement when things became difficult, thank you. And to all of you who continue to give your time and talents to our region, please know how much you are appreciated.

I leave this position with tremendous pride in Region 2 and great confidence in its future. I hope you will continue to support our officers, welcome new members, participate in our events, and most of all, continue sharing the joy of daylilies with one another.

Although this is my final message as your president, it is certainly not goodbye. I will still be out in the garden, looking for that next bloom that makes me stop in my tracks, and I hope to see many of you there with me.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you. It has been a fun ride. As always, keep your shovel in the dirt.

Region 2 Director Message

Greg Lough, Region 2 Director



I hope each of you enjoyed a remarkable bloom season! I had the pleasure of talking with so many of you at the Summer Meeting. Thank you to the Wisconsin Daylily Society and each of the tour gardens for hosting us all for such a lovey gathering.

At the Summer Meeting, I provided a number of ADS organizational updates. These are inclued in this newsletter in the minutes from that meeting, which are on page 51. I also had the pleasure of recognizing Region 2 members who won ADS awards which were announced at the National Convention in Valdosta, Georgia. These are also listed in the minutes. In the interest of space, they are not repeated here.

Please contact me at screekday@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions or concerns. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Winter Meeting in Indianapolis from February 19-21.

Region 2 Cash and Fund Balance Report 9/1/2026

Bobbi Johnson, Region 2 Treasurer



Bank Balance as of 9/1/2026

Checking Account	$ 18,006.07
Money Market Savings Accounts	54,839.33
Total Cash on Hand	**$ 72,845.40**

ADS Region 2 Fund Balances

General Fund	$ 64,214.40
Restricted Funds	
Youth Fund	7,931.00
Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship	700.00
Total Fund Balance	**$ 72,845.40**

Recent Memorial Donations To Region 2

In Memory Of	Donor	Amount
Rosemary Balazs	Chicagoland Daylily Society	S 100.00
Total Recent Memorial Contributions		**$ 100.00**

Recent Donations to Region 2

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Total Recent Donations to Region 2		**$ 00.00**

Recent Newsletter Contributions

Donor	Purpose	Amount
Total Recent Newsletter Contributions		**$ 00.00**

Region 2 Editor Notes

Saundra Dunn



I love putting together the Summer/Fall issue is of our newsletter. Yes, the timing is a challenge because late summer is a really busy time on our daylily farm. But while the color has faded in the daylily field, there is so much color in this edition!

Region 2 Photo Contest

Let's just start with the images from the Region 2 photo contest. They were spectacular this year. Over forty people submitted photos, including five new entrants. Each of you made it really difficult for the judges to decide on the winners of each category. If you are new to the contest, please check out my article in the Summer/Fall 2025 issue of *Great Lakes Daylily* explaining the photo contest details and judging process (adsregion2.org/newsletter/). Besides the images in this newsletter, we will be continuing to share other photos from the contest throughout the upcoming year.

Summer Meeting Reflections

A number of pages in this issue are devoted to reflections about the amazing Summer Meeting in Madison. Various authors shared their favorite take-aways from each of the tour gardens. We also get two other unique looks at the Summer Meeting—one from youth member Samantha Schwandt and another from tour garden host Monique Warnke. And we get a sneak preview of the 2027 Summer Meeting in Chicagoland. I cannot wait!

In this issue, there are so many fun announcements, besides the Photo Contest results: the Howard Hite Award winner, the Englerth Award winner, the Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Award winners, and a showcase of our Region 2 members who won awards at the National level.

Englerth Bed Entries

For me, one of the highlights of any Summer Meeting is seeing the seedlings in the Englerth Competition. There were so many lovely entries this year! It is always so sad to me when some just don't have an open bloom on the day of the tour (and thus the voting). But on pages 45-49 you get to see photos of each of the entries.

Companion Plants for Daylilies

In the spring issue of *Great Lakes Daylily,* we featured an article by Jill Reuss on echinacea as a daylily companion plant. This was so well-received that we are going to include this as a periodic feature. Cathy Coulson, fresh from her ADS win for her moon garden article, has written an engaging article about using perennial herbs as companion plants for daylilies. I hope this inspires some of you to write an article about your own favorite companion plants. Please email me at greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com with your ideas.

Hybridizers, Time to Show Off Something New

For the past two years, in our Winter issue we spotlighted one new introduction from any Region 2 hybridizer who wanted to contribute. Readers have really enjoyed this feature. Hybridizers, please email me a photo of a recent introduction (or promising seedling) that you would like to highlight in our next edition. The address is greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com.



Public Garden Grant Program

There is still time for your club to apply for one of Region 2's Public Garden Grants. See page 49 of this issue for more information.

Thank You to Our Proofreaders

No issue of *Great Lakes Daylily* is complete without an expression of my true gratitude to the team who reads and "betters up" every article. Thank you Barb Brevick, Barb Bischoff, Charlie Harper, Ginny Pearce, JoAnne Frederick, Lezlie Myers, Marietta Crabtree, Mary Kwas, Nancy Cooper, Nancy Secrist, Rich Rabeler, Sarah Newell, Sharon Vanderwilp, Trinity Love, and Vickie Goedde. I also appreciate each author rereading their contributions once a layout is done.

Region 2 2026 Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence

by Gail Braunstein, Awards and Honors Chair

Ginny Pearce, Garden Path Perennials



Ginny Pearce
after receiving the Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence at the Region 2 Summer Meeting 2026
Photo by Vickie Goedde

Congratulations, Ginny! Your years of dedication have been rewarded with the Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence. Ginny was presented the award during the 2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Sandy Holmes, a former Hite winner herself, presented the award to Ginny. A total look of surprise and a loss for words indicated just how amazed she was to win the "Hite."

This year seven Region 2 hybridizers were nominated for the "Hite," with most of the nominees receiving multiple nominations. In 2018 Ginny received her first nomination for the award and has received nominations each year thereafter. The nominations became longer and filled with details and praise. Words such as selective, quality, distinctive, northern hardy, saturated colors, re-bloom, great branching, and bud count are found on nearly every nomination form.

Ginny has always liked to play in the dirt and she developed a love of flowers when she was quite young. This passion led to a degree in botany from Central Michigan University. Now the natural thinking would be, Ginny would start her gardening experience with flowers, but no; in 1979, with the purchase of a first home, she started out with a big vegetable garden. She still had a love of perennials and soon began looking for easy to care for plants. Daylilies and hostas started working their way into the landscape.

In 1990, Ginny earned an Associate Degree in Landscape Design. In 1992, Ginny and her children, Doug and Kate, moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan. They had moved much of her perennial garden to a suburban lot on a cul-de-sac. She became more involved with daylilies and began hybridizing in 1996. Being a 6th-grade math and science teacher, Ginny had the summers to garden and to sell her perennials at the local farmer's market. What started out as a new vegetable garden to feed the family slowly became a daylily garden, and in 2011 she introduced her first cultivars. Those registered in 2011 included 'Brickle Road,' 'Creamsicle Cool,' 'Kathy Perkins,' 'Sailor Sky,' and 'Tuxedo Gent.'

Currently Ginny has registered 58 cultivars and continues to be very selective about those she introduces. Ginny has won the Englerth Competition three times. In 2017 her seedling #09-60-01 took first place and was registered as 'Plum Thunderstruck.' In 2021 seedling #13-56-01 was the winner and was later registered as 'Quasar Redshift.' Ginny won the Englerth again in 2024, and the cultivar was registered as 'Timeless Tango.'

In 2019 and 2025, Ginny's suburban garden, Garden Path Perennials, was presented as the International Garden of the Week by Charlotte's Daylily Diary. In



'Brickle Road' (2011)



'Quasar Redshift' (2022)



Seedling 21-13-01



Seedling 22-49-01
Photos above by Ginny Pearce

2016 she won the ADS Artistic Garden Image Award for her photo of 'Big Red Wagon' (Stamile 2008).

Ginny is a long-time member of the Grand Valley Daylily Society and previously served as GVDS vice-president. Ginny has been a guest speaker at numerous events. She donates plants to the region, is a proofreader for the Region 2 newsletter, and has also submitted articles and photos to the newsletter. Through it all she has stayed true to her goals in daylily hybridizing. Ginny keeps hybridizing records that are the envy of many. She began by working with large, round, ruffled cultivars as her passion but has more recently added unusual forms with the same saturated colors to the mix of beautiful new faces. In recent years, she has been downsizing her extensive perennial plantings in favor of lower maintenance lawn area. She has also cut back on the number of crosses she makes and plants each year, but the daylily gardens will remain.

Again, congratulations, Ginny. Your hard work has been rewarded. This is a great accomplishment for someone who lives on a postage-stamp lot.

Ginny's website is https://gardenpathperennials.com/.



'Sailor Sky' (2011) on the cover of *Great Lakes Daylily,* Summer 2018

A special thanks to the Southern Michigan Daylily Society for sponsoring the "Howard Hite Award."



"Thank You" from Ginny Pearce

I was SO utterly surprised and overwhelmed at the announcement of my receiving the Howard Hite award at the Summer Meeting that my brain stopped functioning normally. I scarcely have a memory of the time between standing up to head to the podium and then returning to my seat in the banquet room. So, not knowing exactly what I actually said, I want to take this opportunity to thank you all properly.

First, thanks so much to those of you who took the time and effort to nominate me for this prestigious award. I am honored. It is gratifying to know others appreciate the cultivars I have created over the years. I also have to extend a big thank you to Region 2 in general because it is through the years of attending conventions and visiting so many beautiful gardens that I developed an education, appreciation, and collection of quality daylilies. Many of you in attendance that evening have opened your gardens for us to enjoy—and enjoy we did. Thank you for your dedication to the region, along with the many people who generously volunteer to put on such gatherings. Beyond helping me develop an eye for great daylilies, regional gatherings have also given me the opportunity to meet and eventually call so many of you daylily friends.

Thirty years of dabbing has been a fascinating journey—one started because I could not afford those plants I lusted over in the glossy catalogs of the day but ultimately ending in creating the daylilies I desire most in my own garden. What a ride it has been. For those of you just getting into daylilies and possibly thinking about hybridizing daylilies yourself, it is definitely worth a try. Yes, it is possible to create wonderful new cultivars on a very small plot of land!

ADS REGION 2
MIDWINTER MEETING

DAYLILIES
GAME ON





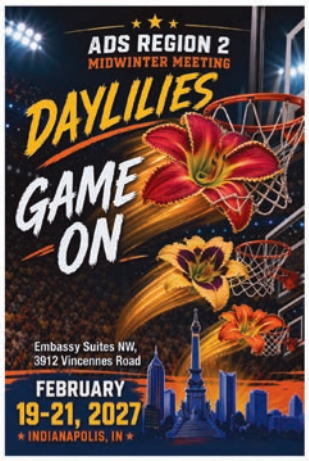


Chad Bush
David Kirchhoff
Lisa Kuduk
Lisa and Jerry Marlatt
Nikki Schmith
Don Wolff

Embassy Suites NW,
3912 Vincennes Road

FEBRUARY
19-21, 2027
★ INDIANAPOLIS, IN ★

2027 American Daylily Society Region 2
Winter Symposium Registration
February 19 - 21, 2027
Indianapolis, Indiana



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

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

Conference Registration: Registration fee includes Friday and Saturday dinners. Saturday lunch is on your own.
Hotel is not included.

$149/person (before January 20) $_____ $169/person (Januarly 20 - February 10) $_____

☐ Check here for youth (18 and younger) to request that their registration be reimbursed from our Region 2 Youth Fund.

Name of youth member(s): _____

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

Friday dinner guest name(s): _____ $ _____ $50 per guest

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

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

_____

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

Symposium Speakers:

Chad Bush, Colorful Chaos Daylilies
David Kirchhoff, Daylily World
Lisa Kuduk, Kentucky Daffodil and Bulb Society
Lisa and Jerry Marlatt, Ogden Station Daylilies
Nikki Schmith, A Girl and Her Garden
Don Wolff, Wolff's Daylilies

Cancellation Policy: Full refund if notice is received by 1/20/2027. Refund of 50% if received 1/21-2/10/2027. No refund after 2/10 except for health emergencies, but you may transfer your registration to someone if you can't attend. Please let the registrar know ASAP of any changes.

Hotel Information: The conference will be held at Embassy Suites NW, 3912 Vincennes Rd., Indianapolis, Indiana, 46268. Their phone number is 317-872-7700. Mention ADS Region 2 for the reduced rate, which is not known at the time of this printing. Check our Region 2 website for updates. The rooms include a complimentary breakfast. Attendees must book their own rooms. It is advised to book early. Cancellations can be made without penalty until five days prior to your reservation. Direct ADS-rate link: available if registering via our Region 2 website.

Region 2 Recipients
2026 ADS Personal Awards*

Regional Service Award Winner:
Laurel Richardson



It is hard to summarize Laurel's thirty-five years of activity and service within our daylily community. But if it is fair to say that if a need within the Region is brought to Laurel's attention, it will be taken care of. A few examples are:

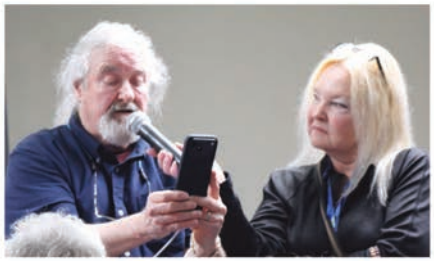
* Active member of three Region 2 clubs in Indiana, having served as President and other positions; Currently Vice-President of the Indiana Daylily-Iris Society. As Laurel shared, "In my mind, service at the club level strengthens the region."
* Former Garden Judges Liaison for Region 2 and current instructor, offering training at regional and national meetings
* Current Exhibition Judges Co-Liaison for Region 2 and instructor, offering training at regional and national meetings
* Co-chaired and chaired several Region 2 Winter Meetings, including the upcoming 2027 gathering
* On the planning committee for several Region 2 Summer Meetings, with a focus on coordinating hotel accommodations. Also served on other regional committees, including Nominations and the Public Garden Grant Program
* Contributor to live and silent auctions for regional events
* Facebook administrator or co-admininstrator for three Region 2 groups

In addition to these Region-specific activities, Laurel is an Advanced Master Gardener and shares her plant knowledge readily. At the national ADS level, Laurel is a former Exhibition Judges Chair and a former member of the Endowment and Scholarship Committees. Thank you, Laurel, for ALL of your service over the years!











Clockwise: Laurel and Barb Buikema, Winter Meeting Co-Chairs; Laurel co-teaching Exhibition Judging class; Laurel with HOODs Club members; Laurel organizing plants at a Regional sale; and- whatever it takes- holding the microphone for Winter Meeting 2025 speaker Drew Rad.

Photos by Saundra Dunn

*These awards, and the cultivar awards highlighted in the Spring issue, were announced at the National Convention in Valdosta.

Mabel Matthews Scholarship Winner: Andrew Veroeven



Andrew (right) with Joe Goudeau, Endowments Chair and Region 13 Director
Photo by Rhonda Veroven

Andrew is now a three time recipient of the Mabel Matthews Scholarship, which is given to up to two eligible ADS members annually who are seeking a bachelor degree or graduate degree. While the scholarship is without restriction to a specific field of study, preference is given to horticulture, botany, chemistry, and landscape architecture.

Andrew had no difficulty meeting the Mabel Matthews Scholarship requirement of service to an ADS club or at the ADS regional level. He has been an active participant in local, regional, and national events throughout his life. He has been hybridizing since he was four and now frequently donates his introductions to plant auctions. Andrew has been an active member of the Wisconsin Daylily Society for 16 years, helping at their annual plant sale and working in the gardens maintained by the club. Most recently, Andrew has taken on a new role within the ADS as the Educational Programs Chair.

Andrew is currently attending the University of Wisconsin- Whitewater where he is studying environmental science.

Region 2 Recipients
2026 ADS Newsletter Awards*

Best Article About Hybridizers or Hybridizing: Written by Nancy Secrist

'Marketing and Publicity Ideas for Hobby Hybridizers'

Great Lakes Daylily, Spring, 2025



"Hybridize," they said; "It'll be fun," they said. I wrote about the path of the hobby hybridizer as a reflection of my own journey. Putting together this article provided the perfect excuse to call up some nice, helpful people and ask a lot of questions. I'm sure any of us who have dabbed pollen have reached the point where we ask "... and then what?" This is how I explored the answer to that question.

"Write what you know," is frequently-heard advice. But sometimes in order to grow, seeking out what you **don't** know is the path to personal growth and achieving the goals that matter most. Carry on and carry forth, friends!

Best Article About A Non-Listed Topic: Written by Charlie Harper

'Please Don't Call Them Lilies!'

Great Lakes Daylily, Winter, 2025



When I retired back in 2001 and started my gardening career, I took the Master Gardener course and joined the Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society. I was a 'hosta guy,' but was soon drawn into the daylily realm. Starting from almost zero, I tried to learn everything I could about this fascinating new plant. Eventually, I realized that daylilies are not lilies…not even close. I also noticed that lots of folks, even those in the ADS, often called them 'lilies.' I could forgive students I had in classes I began teaching, but I choked a bit when I heard it from some with years of daylily experience. So, I decided to do what any good teacher would, and wrote the article. Now, if we could just change the name of "The Lily Auction" to "The Daylily Auction"…

Links to these and other previous *Great Lakes Daylily* articles can be found on our Region 2 website: https://adsregion2.org/newsletter/

Best Article About Gardens: Written by Catherine Coulson

'Moon Gardens and Nocturnal Pollinators'

Great Lakes Daylily, Spring, 2025



I've always been passionate about helping others in the garden because, let's face it, gardening isn't easy. It can be fun; it can be challenging. It can be a workout. It can lead to expanding your horizons and your knowledge base, but it isn't just about digging a hole and plopping a few plants in the ground.

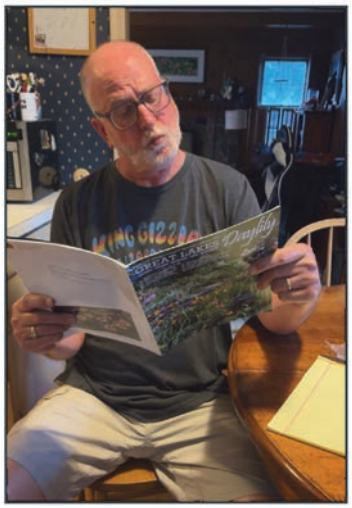
I've given a lot of presentations over the years, and love to write. So when Saundra Dunn asked me to combine those two skills into this article, I decided to try it and here we are!

That's A Family Who Loves When *Great Lakes Daylily* Arrives

(Could it be because their last name is Stout?)



















Top to bottom, left to right: Ella and Archie, Pumpkin, Dave, Tommy and Archie, Regina and Pumpkin, Will and Bubbles, Shadow, Dan, Rosie

Daylily Companion Plant Spotlight: Perennial Herbs

Article and photos by Catherine A. Coulson

Potential Companions Candidate Pool!

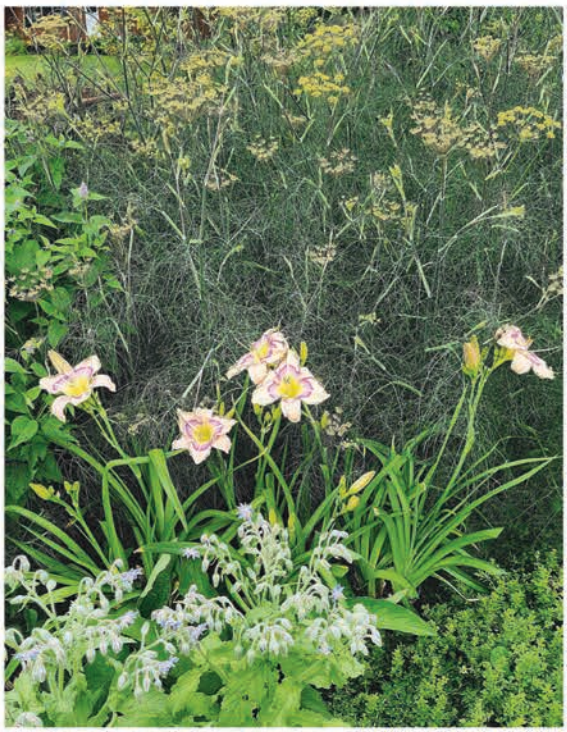
When Saundra Dunn and I were editing the article on Echinacea as Daylily Companions in the spring issue and tossing around the idea of making "Daylily Companion Plants" a regular feature in the newsletter, I started compiling a folder on my phone of potential companion plant photos. As a Garden Center Manager who has designed, planted, and cares for four Learning Gardens at Bock's Pet & Garden in Pinckney, Michigan, you can imagine the number of garden, insect, and plant photos I have! We have a Shade Rain Garden, a Monarch Waystation Pollinator Garden, a Drought & Salt Tolerant Garden heavily planted with gorgeous daylilies, and a Perennial Herb Victory Garden. After determining which pictures made the cut, I started putting the plants into groups to better organize an article—taller perennials and shrubs to either redirect focus from daylilies as they mature each year or provide an attractive backdrop for daylilies, shorter perennials to plant in front of daylily clumps making them the star of the show, native plants as habitat and food for local pollinators and critters, later bloomers which start when daylilies are either wrapping up or starting to rebloom. So many options!

Then I decided to keep it simple. My home gardens are less than three years old. I had to remove sod to create gardens after I bought my home. The previous owners only had two narrow garden beds and that simply wouldn't do for a plantaholic like me. Because I want lush, full gardens sooner rather than later, but am planting on a budget, I decided to scatter quite a few perennial herbs amongst my daylilies, shrubs, and other flowering perennials. Many herbs get fairly large; they grow to maturity quickly, usually in one season. Critters leave them almost entirely alone due to their highly fragrant leaves. Pollinators adore them and they attract many different beneficial insects. They are beautiful and functional—capable of enhancing my favorite recipes in the kitchen while looking attractive in the garden. Best of all, they are budget-friendly as they can be purchased in small 4" pots or as seeds for much less than a standard one-gallon perennial.

The perennial herbs we'll be focusing on as daylily companions in this article are bronze fennel, various types of oregano and sage, some members of the onion family, plus a few varieties of thyme.

Smoky Clouds of Bronze Fennel

Bronze fennel (Foeniculum vulgare 'Purpureum' or 'Nigra') hails from the Mediterranean and Southern Europe, is hardy from USDA Zones 4 – 9, grows 4' to 5'+ tall and wide, prefers well-drained soil, performs best in full sun to part shade, and is most commonly grown in vegetable and herb gardens so its anise-flavored seeds and foliage can be used in making sausages, herb pastes and pesto, simple syrups for cocktails, complex butters, and salads. The dark bronze, wispy fronds provide unmatched texture and contrast in the garden. Even in a light breeze, it moves gracefully and creates a peaceful, soothing ambience. It is subtly fragrant and smells of sweet black licorice. Its mustard-yellow flowers, called umbels, provide a pop



Bronze Fennel behind the daylily 'Handwriting on the Wall' (Emmerich, 2007) with Borage (Borago officinalis) in the foreground

of color during July and August. But beware! Based on my experience, bronze fennel self-seeds prolifically and will spread everywhere. If you prefer to keep a formal garden or have limited space, remove the flower heads before they dry and drop seeds. Bronze fennel has a tap root, so it's a bit of a chore to remove if seedlings aren't removed when young.





Bronze Fennel hosting a Black Swallowtail caterpillar (left) and an Aerial Yellowjacket (Dolichoverspula arenaria) and Potter Wasp (Eumenes fratemus) (right)

In our region, bronze bennel is a host plant to the Black Swallowtail butterfly and a mature clump of fennel can feed many caterpillars. Its umbels attract yellow jackets, parasitic wasps, blue mud daubers, and hoverflies. The plant itself is a favorite hangout of lady beetles, which are a nice addition to the garden as natural pest control.

Due to its height and coloration, bronze fennel provides a wonderful backdrop for any color of daylily, especially those with tall scapes. The long, green, sword-shaped leaves of daylilies, their rounded habit, and the myriad flower colors will be picture-perfect in front of mature bronze fennel. Consider spider varieties and those with unusual forms. They'll stand out and mirror the delicate fronds of bronze fennel.

There's not enough Sage for this!



Edible sage (Salvia officinalis) comes in many colors: purple ('Purpurascens'), tricolor ('Tricolor,' photo right), golden ('Icterina'), and silver (commonly known as garden sage). Salvia officinalis is native to the Mediterranean and northern Africa. In the US, it is hardy from USDA Zones 4 – 8. Garden sage (the basic variety), grows taller and wider than the sages with non-standard leaf colors. Sage can grow to 3' tall and 3' wide when in bloom. It thrives in full sun only, but can take varied types of soil, from rich to sandy and rocky, as long as it's well-drained. Sage prefers it a bit on the dry side, which makes it easy to establish and care for. It blooms profusely in June. When the pale purple flower show is complete, cut it back so the spent flowers won't detract from its beauty. Sage will continue to thrive and look attractive with minimal upkeep all summer long.



Salvia officinalis at dusk

Sage is highly aromatic and as such not browsed on by animals. In my garden, it is a hangout for Big Dipper fireflies in June and July as they rest during the day, preparing for their nightly mating rituals. At dusk, the males launch themselves into the air from the leaf tips, flashing and dipping, hoping to find a nearby female perched on a shorter plant. The flowers attract bumblebees, honeybees, native bees, and small butterflies. Hummingbirds are also fans of the trumpet-shaped blooms. Sage flowers vary in color from medium purple to pale lavender. I have



Purple sage with daylily, false sunflower (Heliopsis 'Burning Hearts'), balloon flower (Platycodon) and blazing star (Liatris).

three huge clumps of garden sage and two smaller clumps of purple sage. In my garden, the purple sage is a border planting with daylilies between them in the second row.

Because sage finishes blooming before most daylilies start, it pairs well with many colors and forms of daylily. The smoky purple and green leaves of purple sage would look good with yellow, orange, near white, and rose daylilies; daylilies with watermarks would also pair well with purple sage. The bright yellow bi-color leaves of golden sage with its splashes of green in the center would look incredible with yellow, red, darker purple, and paler shades of pink daylilies. Tricolor sage sports leaves of green, white/cream, and purple. It would complement purple, yellow, orange, near white, and pink or rose daylilies, especially those with a dark or larger eye zone or edge.

Oregano, Oregano, & MORE Oregano!

One of the most-commonly grown herbs—edible oregano (Origanum vulgare)—is used in many types of cuisine. It is featured in Italian, Mediterranean, Greek, Latin American, and Middle Eastern dishes. Oregano is native to Europe and Asia, is hardy in the US from Zones 4 to 8, and reaches 3' tall and 2-3' wide when mature. Flowers range in color from a purply-pink to white. It's critter resistant, prefers drier soil but can thrive in well-drained locations, requires full to part sun, and can be planted in rocky soil. Myriad pollinators are attracted to oregano including predatory wasps, all kinds of bees, butterflies and moths, and hoverflies. It has a long bloom time, starting in very late June or early July going well into August in USDA Zone 6a. It is very low maintenance, but larger varieties can tend to flop the taller they get and benefit from caging or other support if you prefer a more formal look in your garden. In my experience, insect pests generally avoid oregano, but it can attract four-lined plant bugs, spider mites, and aphids.



Insect visitors on oregano plants, clockwise: Tachinid fly (Juriniopsis adusta), brown belted bumblebee (Bombus griseocallis), thread-waisted wasp (Sphecidae spp.), Great Black Wasp (Sphex pensylvanicus)

Greek oregano (Origanum vulgare subsp. hirta) has the strongest flavor of the perennial oreganos and is considered the standard in taste. It is most likely what is contained in your kitchen spice rack. It's spicy, bold, and peppery. Italian oregano has the sweetest flavor profile and is a hybrid between sweet marjoram (Origanum majorana) and Greek oregano. Other commonly sold varieties are hot and spicy oregano (Origanum v. 'Hot and Spicy'), Cuban oregano (which is not in the Origanum genus), and variegated oregano (Origanum vulgare 'Variegata'). 'Hot and Spicy' has a more peppery flavor, but is not extraordinarily spicy, and is a mid-sized plant growing to 1.5' tall and wide featuring tiny white flowers.



Oregano *'Hot and Spicy'* in bloom

Variegated oregano is small, growing only to 12" tall and 16" wide, but is an ornamental standout in the garden because of the leaf variegation and pale pink flowers. Due to the yellow in its leaves, this oregano pairs well with yellow and cream daylilies, daylilies with yellow and green throats, and daylilies in the red, purple and pink families—colors that complement yellow. For a monochromatic palate, add bright or pale yellow, shades of pink and rose, and cream daylilies. Bitones and bicolors will also pop. Variegated oregano

can be planted either between or in front of daylilies because of its smaller stature. Zigzagging it in front and between daylilies planted in a row would create a stunning visual effect.

Other oreganos, due to having similar heights, can be grouped with daylilies. They will mature at approximately the same time each year, but become fuller and wider than some daylilies, especially if not caged. Daylilies can be crowded or planted individually for more impact. Oregano can overtake a space or become stressed if not planted where it can grow to its full size and get air flow. In a process called 'layering,' oregano can root at the nodes if stems touch the soil for too long. Any color and style of daylily can pair with oreganos, especially those with near white flowers. Miniature and small flowered daylilies blend well with the small leaves of oregano, and forms like crispates and cristates add an artistic flair. Companion color groups for oreganos with blooms that lean more pink or purple would be yellows, oranges, roses, purples, and pinks.

All in for Allium

Allium are some of the most versatile herbs in the garden. They can be planted in full sun down to part shade and still thrive. They are not picky about soil quality as long as their roots are not damp. There are spring bloomers, summer bloomers, and early autumn bloomers. The three edible allium that are commonly available as herbs and pair nicely with daylilies are chives (Allium schoenoprasum), garlic chives (Allium tuberosum), and Egyptian walking onions also known as tree onions (Allium x proliferum, a hybrid cross of cultivated onions and Welsh onions). Chives can be harvested multiple times during a growing season without impacting the aesthetics of the plant. They spread quickly, taking over an area after going to seed in just one growing season. This can be either positive or negative depending on your garden style preference.



Garlic Chives

Chives and garlic chives are very well-known. Many gardeners have a clump of chives somewhere in their garden, either in the ground or planted in a pot to keep them under control. Chives grow to about 1.5' by 1.5' and are native to our region. They are hardy from Zones 4-8, and are a very low maintenance bulb with a showy, lavender flower that is attractive to many pollinators, but distasteful to critters. They can also be planted near black walnut trees as they are juglone tolerant. They are a spring bloomer (May and June) and can be left to dry after flowering as the seed heads are attractive all year (assuming you don't mind them spreading!).

Chives' culinary usefulness is legend. Snip them onto potatoes and into egg dishes like quiches, omelettes, and souffles; add them to soups, salads, and stir fries; work them into dressings, sauces, pesto and compound butters; bake them into savory scones and breads; or dry them for later use. The flowers can be used in vinegars, butters, and cream cheeses. And they can be fried. The mild oniony flavor is unmistakable.

Their tight, upright habit and long, cylindrical stems look handsome with daylilies, especially those that grow to have scapes about two feet or less. Pair chives with any color or form of daylily that you find attractive as they will complete their bloom cycle prior to most daylilies. Their habit will provide structure when paired with daylilies which are more rounded and artistic.



'Elegant Candy' (Stamile, 1995) with Walking Onion

Garlic chives often have flat leaves that are decidedly different from chives. They are native to Southeast Asia. Their creamy white blooms arrive in August and September, extending the flower power in the garden. Hardy in Zones 3 – 9, they can also be planted in full sun to part shade. Although they also have a reputation for self-seeding aggressively, this has not been my experience. They prefer drier soil and do not like wet feet.

Plant them with late-blooming and reblooming daylilies so they will be flowering simultaneously. Because their cream-colored flowers complement most other colors, all daylilies in the late blooming and reblooming groups will look beautiful and be a hit in the garden.



'Handwriting on the Wall' with Walking Onion

Egyptian walking onions are in a class of their own. As a hybrid, there is speculation they originated in India or Pakistan and were then introduced to Europe. They are hardy to USDA Zones 3-9 and reach heights of three feet with a spread of two feet. They prefer full sun but can tolerate part sun. Walking onions begin sprouting quite early in spring, sometimes in late March, and by May they will be tall and upright with wide, cylindrical stems. During June, they start producing topsets, called bulbils, rather than flowers. These dark burgundy bulbils become heavy in late June and early July, bending their supporting stalks to the ground. The bulbils will root where they land; "walking" away from the mother plant—hence the creative name. The topsets can also be harvested and planted elsewhere. Cover bulbils with about an inch of soil for best results. Mature clumps can also be split in the spring. Walking onions have a rangy, messy look in the garden when bulbils are mature and the stems are pulled to the ground. This look is perfect for classic cottage style and informal gardens. If you prefer a more formal garden, harvest bulbils by snipping them off the top of their stems before they begin bending towards the soil.

Every part of tree onions is edible with the mature bulbils having the strongest, spiciest onion flavor. Young leaves can be eaten either raw or cooked, like scallions; bulbils can be pickled or stored for later use. Mature leaves have a much stronger flavor than chives but can be used similarly in the kitchen for an oniony kick.

Pair tree onions with daylilies that produce large clumps, have tall scapes, and bloom during the mid- and mid-late season so they flower together. This will create a bold, artistic look in the garden bed. Spiders and cascading forms, as well as double blooms and larger flowers, will enhance the unique texture of both plants, but standard form daylilies will look just as attractive. Colors like near whites, bright yellows, dark and bright oranges, purples, roses, and pinks pair well with tree onions. Daylilies with a burgundy eyezone, edge, or watermark will complement the bulbils.

Who's Got Time for Thyme?!

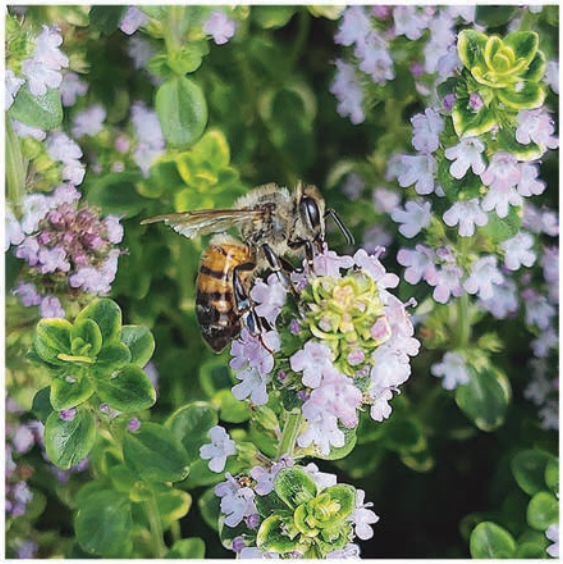
Thyme (Thymus vulgaris) is a savory-scented herb that stays low to the ground, reaching a maximum of 12 prostrate inches. Its spread varies widely depending on the cultivar. Flowers are pale lavender, pink, or white. It is native to Southern Europe where traditionally it was used in rustic recipes requiring long cooking times at a slow simmer—think stews, hearty soups, roasts, potatoes, and the like. It is hardy in USDA Zones 5 – 9. The two most popular thymes sold as herbs are French thyme (Thymus vulgaris 'Narrow Leaf French') and English thyme (Thymus vulgaris 'Broadleaf English'). According to the names, and that I literally see them every single day, you would think it would be easy to tell them apart. It isn't! English thyme does have a slightly sweeter scent and French is used more exclusively in formal recipes.

Other popular cultivars are Silver-Edged Thyme (T. vulgaris 'Argenteus') which has a white-edged leaf and is a stand out in the garden border, Spicy Orange



Thymus citriodorus (foreground) with calamint (Clinopodium nepeta), winter savory (Satureja montana), and lovage (Levisticum officinale)

Thyme (T. vulgaris var. aurantiacus) that has a delightfully bright and refreshing orange aroma, and Golden Lemon Thyme (T. vulgaris x citriodorus) which has leaves edged in bright yellow and features a zesty, lemony scent.



Thymus citriodorus with honeybee (Apis melifera)

All thymes do best in full sun, but can handle part sun, and they prefer well-drained to dry soil. They can also be planted in shallow, rocky soil and urban conditions, but can get root rot if planted in damp or poorly drained soil. They bloom in May and June, but flowers can extend into July. Thyme attracts pollinators of all shapes and sizes, such as small native bees and hoverflies, butterflies and moths, as well as larger insects like honeybees and bumblebees. I recently spent a few minutes watching the flowering lemon thyme in our Perennial Herb Victory Garden and it was teeming with pollinators. Eventually a small dragonfly showed up and started picking tiny insects off the stems of the plant, flitting from stem to stem, eating its fill. Thyme is especially important to beekeepers because it produces a large amount of pollen and nectar utilized by honeybees during brood development. Thyme contains an essential oil called Thymol which is a natural insect repellent; hence, it isn't prone to many pests nor is it bothered by browsing animals. Thyme Aphids are the most common pest insect that can occasionally be found on thyme, but their numbers usually aren't high enough to harm the plant long-term. Be sure to cut thyme back either in late fall after it goes dormant or early spring before it starts leafing out. The stems can become thick, woody, and bare if not cut back regularly, making it unattractive.

When paired with daylilies, thyme looks best when utilized as a border plant so the daylilies are better showcased in the garden. Because thyme leaves are so small and dainty, any color and style of daylily will look great with mature thyme plants. Try adding some shorter-scaped daylilies with mid-sized or larger blooms so there isn't too much of a height difference between the thyme and daylilies. My personal favorite thymes are Lemon and Silver-Edged. Silver-Edged looks very pale green from a distance, almost like a small cloud. Lemon Thyme is very bright and can get about two feet wide in rich, well-drained soil in full sun. A quick brush of the leaves releases a waft of lemon into the air that brightens the spirits.

Perennial Herbs for the Win!

Whether your garden is regimented or chaotic, a riot of myriad colors or filled with monochromatic hues, planting a few well-curated perennial herbs will enhance its loveliness, make your daylilies shine, provide show-stopping texture and impact, be beneficial in the kitchen and to pollinators, and can be incorporated into the garden without breaking the bank. What other perennial group can say the same?



Cathy started gardening and working in the Green Industry more than 20 years ago. She's the most recent recipient of the Judith and George Mynseberg Master Gardener Idea Bed design contest awarded by the Michigan State University Horticultural Gardens. This summer she was a produce judge and open class demonstrator at the Fowlerville Family Fair. During the off-season, she researches, writes, and gives in-person and virtual garden talks to garden clubs, libraries and customers after hours at Bock's Pet & Garden in Pinckney, Michigan, where she is the Garden Center Manager.



Summer Meeting 2026 Intro

By Steven King, WDS President

On the weekend of July 17-19, 2026, 144 enthusiastic and dedicated registrants gathered for the annual American Daylily Society (ADS) Region 2 Summer Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. The Summer Meeting was hosted by the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS). We had attendees representing thirteen states and seven of the fifteen ADS Regions. That's a pretty big, inclusive tent that we are very proud of. Our theme was "Daylilies In Dairyland." Our attractive logo was designed by one of our youth members, Samantha Schwandt. The weather was beautiful with sunny skies and pleasant, tolerable temperatures and humidity levels for July in Wisconsin.

ADS Summer Meeting registrants were treated to 10 exceptional Open Gardens to visit before and after the Summer Meeting festivities. During the weekend, there were many activities for attendees to partake in, including youth meetings, a hybridizers forum (photo below), garden judging class and discussions, WDS Silent Auction, WDS Plant Sale, and the Region 2 Live Daylily Plant Auctions.



Friday evening, we had a buffet of delicious Wisconsin summertime favorite foods to enjoy. After our meal, we welcomed our featured speakers to the podium—Mike Grossmann and Kathleen Nordstrom of Northern Lights Daylilies in Minnesota. They each presented their individual and unique hybridizing programs. Mike presented first with detailed and scientific explanations of his program. He was followed by Kathleen with a lighter and more humorous description of her daylily program. After their presentations, there was a lively and entertaining Q & A. The daylily cultivars that they produce are stunning and they generously shared them as gift and auction plants. Thank you, Mike and Kathleen! After the presentations, we had part one of the Region 2 Live Daylily Plant Auctions with an extensive, impressive and overall wide variety of 150+ cultivars going to the highest of bidders.
Saturday morning found us rising early for breakfast and then standing in line at 7:30 AM to board the Tour Garden buses. We had five beautiful daylily and hosta gardens to view and admire, those of: Genni and Francis Kleckner, Char and Randy Hanson, Monique Warnke, Rhonda, Tony and Andrew Veroeven, the West Madison Agricultural Research Station where the WDS has six daylily gardens on display. You can read about each of them in the pages that follow. Monique's garden was also host to the Region 2 Englerth Seedling Bed, with 52 entries. The competition was tough since there were so many gorgeous seedlings to choose from. The seedling that garnered the most attendee votes was that of Rhonda Veroeven. Congratulations, Rhonda! Rhonda plans to register her winning seedling with the name of MS Warrior (so don't anyone use this name!).



Over 20 huge potted daylilies for the Silent Auction greeted attendees when the buses arrived back at the Holiday Inn & Suites host hotel. Carrying their newly acquired bus plants, attendees were able to check out the current status of their bids at the WDS Silent Auction and WDS Plant Sale before dinner. Our delicioius plated dinner was followed by the evening program.

The nearly three year planning process for a daylily club (not the Region) to host a Regional Summer Meeting takes a lot of personal volunteer time, Zoom meetings, agendas, assignments and follow-up tasks, travel, phone calls, and emails to get everything organized and on track. I want to thank my co-chairs for this event, Genni Kleckner and Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, for assisting me with this huge undertaking. We made a great team. Also, special thanks to the WDS Board, ALL of the WDS Chairpersons, Region 2 Leadership/members and ALL of the WDS members who assisted to make this Region 2 Summer Meeting the huge success that it was. With much gratitude, I THANK YOU all!

The Summer Meeting From A Youth Point of View

By Samantha Schwandt



Samantha with the logo she designed
Photo by Saundra Dunn

The 2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting held in Madison, Wisconsin, was very special to me. I had the privilege of attending conveniently, since I live only about an hour from the host hotel. Besides the fact that it was close to home, I also got to help with a few other things in preparation. The most entertaining of all was the logo for the event. I designed it with the expectation that it would most likely lose our logo competition at the WDS meeting, but to my surprise it won. I really liked my logo since not only did it represent our theme of Daylilies in Dairyland with a cow, but also because of the flowers added inside of the cow. One of them was my mom's plant 'Making Eyes Wander' (Schwandt, 2024). The other flowers were some that I just really liked. While there was a minor kerfuffle with the images being downloaded, it ended up being sorted out.



This Summer Meeting was kind of cool since all of the members of my WDS club were there running the show, allowing everyone to tour their gardens and have a great time. They put in a lot of work to make the event special. I always hung around them at the local meetings and knew who they were, but it was completely different from touring their gardens. When we got off the buses into their gardens, my mind was blown. They were all spectacular in their own ways, and I wish I could have stayed a little longer to stare more at some of those beautiful daylilies. I never knew the fellow members of my club would have gems like these gardens that I hadn't seen before. So I would like to write about each garden and my favorite things about each.

First off on the bus tours, we stopped at the Kleckners' Work in Progress Gardens (photo below). This was my ultimate favorite. I loved how they spread the daylilies out on their big lawn, which allowed for lots of cultivars but also enough space for them to flourish, showing us just how vigorous some of them are. Plus, Genni Kleckner has some really nice doubles that I was excited about looking at, and they ended up being phenomenal in person. The various miniatures here were very nice to look at too. Also I can't fail to mention that whoever made the cookies at this garden must be like a top-tier baker because those things were delicious.



Work In Progress Gardens
Photos by Theresa Schwandt unless otherwise noted



West Madison Agricultural Research Station

Our next stop was at home base for most of the WDS meetings, which was the West Madison Ag Research Station. I have a lot of fond memories of this place since most of our meetings are here, but they are all usually all held indoors, so I don't get a heck of a lot of time to check out the outdoor gardens. While the monthly guest speakers are cool to listen to, I do enjoy the gardens outside. So this tour was like a brain refresh for me, since I remember some of my favorite cultivars planted here. This is also the spot where I learned more about garden judging last year. So I kind of looked back at what my favorite plants were then, and updated those favorites. We ate lunch here, which was nice since it gave off picnic vibes, with really cute cow print tablecloths.



After this tour and lunch here, we got back on the bus and visited Hansons' Hosta Haven in DeForest. I'll admit that this garden is not what I was expecting. I've never been to a hosta garden before. It was actually really peaceful. There were still some nice daylilies here; one of the most notable ones I saw was 'Dipped in Disney' (Apps, 2022), a really cute one. But otherwise, there were like a gazillion hostas. Everywhere you looked, a little hosta was planted; it was crazy. I really liked the miniature hostas, which I never knew even grew that tiny. Plus, there was a giant tree stump from their old cherry tree, and guess what? A hosta was growing in it. They had a back deck where you could get an overall view of the peaceful, meadow-like garden.



Hosta Haven

Next on the trip was Yendor Ridge Gardens, which was the Veroevens. This was a really interesting stop since they had really cool carnivorous plant bogs, a mini frog pond, and huge garden décor. This garden actually had a guy playing live music on the deck, which I believe may have been Johnny Cash songs. But anyway, this garden had big plants as well as some of the smallest I have seen. Rhonda had several beds that contained lots of minis, some of which had like one-inch blooms which is awesome. She also had pretty doubles everywhere, which I also liked. Her garden was like a jungle of different plants, all unique colors and sizes.



Yendor Ridge Gardens

After this stop, we reached our final destination, which was Monique Warnke's Gemütlichkeit Garden! This garden was fabulous. The name is also really cool since it is German, but I don't remember the translation since I only took two years of German classes. Regardless, this I think was a guest fave. There were various gardens to look at: A Naughty Garden, Sci-Fi Garden, Spiritual Garden, and Alcohol Garden. They each had cool plants with some very diverse names, like 'Its Mama Was a Porn Star' (Clement, 2017), which I thought was a silly name. Additionally, guests gazed up at the steep backyard garden at the rocky levels of daylilies. My favorite cultivar in these parts was 'Wild Wisconsin Women' (Douglas-H, 2020). However, I think everyone's favorite part of the tour was voting on what seedling should win



'Wild Wisconsin Women'
(Douglas-H, 2020)



2026 Englerth Winner:
R. Veroeven seedling
Photo by Ginny Pearce



Gemütlichkeit Garden

the Englerth Award. The showstopper that won it all was a stunning seedling by Rhonda Veroeven.

Once everybody got back to the host hotel for the day, we eagerly listened for the winners of various awards, the announcement of Lori Doolin as the new President for Region 2, and then started up day two of the auction. The food was great, the people were great, and the auction plants being sold were great. We youth ran plants to buyers and had a fun time doing that. While I'm at it writing this article, I just want to thank Pat Titus for helping us youth to not only learn more about daylilies, but also have lots of opportunities given to us. She is one of the hidden gems of the daylily world.

Additionally, I want to mention the guest speakers we listened to the night before. Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossmann are both really well-known daylily hybridizers who have some stellar plants. Mike has lots of toothier and reddish daylilies, which are great, and Kathleen has mostly purplish/bluish patterned daylilies. Their presentation was captivating, which I know since everybody was really quiet during it. So overall, I really liked their show, as well as their new intros that they secretly hid under everyone's seats.



Dinner guests were treated to gift plants that included many Nordstrom or Grossmann introductions
Photo by Saundra Dunn

To sum it all up, this Summer Meeting was spectacular not only because of the nice gardens, banquets, and fun events, but because of the people. I knew most everyone running the meeting which made it awesome, but I got to know those people even better than I did before. Plus, spending the extra time with my mom was great, since she is a lot of fun to chill with on trips like these. I am definitely excited for next year's summer meeting in Illinois and seeing everyone there again!



Pat Titus with the youth members
who attended the Summer Meeting



Samantha with her mother Theresa
and brother Danial

Work In Progress Gardens: Francis Would Be Proud

Reflections by Tim Fehr





Photo by
Bobbie Craig

During the last ice age in Wisconsin, part of the southwestern region of the state was not covered by glaciers. Francis and Genni Kleckner's Work In Progress Gardens is located in these hills above the Wisconsin River, known as the Driftless Area. This was the first garden of our tours and the long bus ride was worth it. Quite sadly, Francis had passed away earlier in the week after a long illness. His wish was to still welcome us to the gardens he and Genni had built together. The gardens are located in a valley and the main garden area is like a shallow half bowl with trees around all sides except where the road cuts through the valley. Beds of daylilies and companion plants are perpendicular to the slopes. Hostas could be found under the surrounding trees. As a hybridizer's garden, Genni's seedlings are in a central bed, with many of her registrations are planted throughout the other beds.

I was struck by how many different hybridizers' plants were grown here. While some of the plants were familiar, I was delighted to find cultivars new to me growing beautifully. I was especially impressed by some of the doubles. 'Spacecoast Scarlet Desire' (Kinnebrew-Gossard, 2018), a frilly red double was aptly named. Genni's 'Passion for Doubles' (Kleckner, 2023), 'Uncle Henry of Oz' (Herrington-K., 2007), and 'Red Hot Miracle' (Gossard-D., 2017) were all new to me. One of our featured speaker's introductions—'My Fuzzy Valentine' by Mike Grossmann (2020)—showed off in a nice clump. Sandy Holmes' 'Two Faced Floozy' (Holmes-S., 2016) was a nice clump as well. Genni's 'Mini Melon Cutie' (Kleckner, 2014) showed she does small flowers well, too.



'My Fuzzy Valentine'
All cultivar photos by Tim Fehr
unless otherwise noted



Photo by Bobbie Craig

As I was taking photos, I was able to catch some of the garden judges training going on near me. There were certainly many cultivars to observe grown well that could be evaluated after the instruction. In order for Region 2 to be well-represented in the awards, it's good to see new members taking the training.



'Spacecoast Scarlet Desire'



'Passion for Doubles'

Genni, her children, and grandchildren were our hosts. They kept us hydrated and her nieces' homemade cookies were a special treat!

All too soon, the whistles were blowing and we were back on the buses. As we left I couldn't help but think that Francis would have been proud.



Kathleen Nordstrom, Sandy Holmes, and Genni Kleckner
Photos top row by Saundra Dunn



Nieces Patty and Terry and great niece Danielle made sure guests had homemade cookies for the bus ride



Genni and Francis' sons John and Jake and grandson Jackson welcomed guests



'Mini Melon Cutie'
(Genni Kleckner, 2014)
*Genni Kleckner photo -->



'Please Release Me'
(Kathleen Nordstrom, 2023)*



'Two Faced Floozy'
(Sandy Holmes, 2016)

West Madison Agricultural Research Station: A Rainbow of Color



Reflections and Photos by Bobbi Johnson

The rainbow of color when pulling up at University of Wisconsin's West Madision Agricultural Research Station doesn't go unnoticed. As the bus arrived, we were greeted with several varieties of ornamental annuals and perennials. While it was the main location for lunch, it also offered us all quite a unique opportunity to see test plants that will be coming out over the next several years. "West Ag" is known for showcasing outstanding All-America Selections of the best ornamentals and vegetable cultivars on the market today. Beds displayed peonies, grasses, liliums, impatiens, and coral bells, along with a variety of flowers for cutting, and six daylily display beds that are planted and maintained by the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS).



Photos by Bobbi Johnson



Of the six beds on display, one or two are dug every year to provide plants to the largest daylily sale in North America, sponsored by WDS and held in Madison every August. Those plants are replaced with new cultivars, as well as some of the more popular ones for future sales and visitors to enjoy. It's a great way to see how daylilies perform in our northern

West Madison Agricultural Research Station continued

climate from many different hybridizers across the country. Last year the club added a new bed as a memorial to Wisconsin hybridizer Darrel Apps.

True highlights in many of the beds were the extra-large clumps of cultivars from Sandy Holmes, Steve Williams, Phil and Luella Korth, Curt Hanson, David Kirchhoff, Genni Kleckner, Kathleen Nordstrom and Mike Grossmann just to name a few. Over 40 hybridizers have plants on display.



Photo by Saundra Dunn

Within the daylily beds were a couple of memorial benches dedicated to past Wisconsin Daylily Society members. These were built by Andrew Veroeven while he was working toward his Eagle Scout rank as a youth member a few years ago. Visitors can sit amongst the daylily beds and take in the beauty. Also on the grounds are a few gazebos that provide shade from the hot sun. Three of the Region's youth members took full advantage. Danial, Eli, and Owen were an inseparable trio at the Regional.



Photo by Bobbi Johnson

The West Ag display garden is one that shouldn't be missed. If you were not able to attend the Regional but are traveling through the area, be sure to stop by. The gardens are open to the public from dawn until dusk.





Left: Ann Miller Holman coordinated lunch for attendees
Right: Lisa Imhoff, Display Garden Co-Coordinator (with Genni Kleckner) and Pat Graves, enthusiastic guest
Photos by Saundra Dunn







Hosta Haven:
So Many Hidden Treasures

Reflections by Hilary Heffernan



Visiting Char and Randy Hanson's garden in Windsor, Wisconsin, felt like discovering a garden that was both deeply personal and full of surprises. Their mature suburban lot was filled with beds of hostas in every imaginable variety, including wonderfully playful names like 'Quesadilla' and 'Awe Snap.'



A few of the several hundred varieties at Hosta Haven, clockwise: 'Quesadilla,' 'Gypsy Rose,' 'Emerald Charger,' and a lovely unknown variety.
Photos by Hilary Heffernan and Bobbie Craig

The garden wrapped around the house, creating a cozy, inviting feeling, with shaded pockets of cool green and layered foliage that softened the edges of the yard. The plants surrounding the back deck added another layer of interest, with lush tropical foliage that brought a slightly exotic feel against the suburban setting. The blooms of a mature rose of Sharon added soft color and a gentle, almost airy texture to the space. I could easily imagine myself sitting on the porch on a quiet weekday evening, hearing the faint rustle of leaves and simply enjoying the stillness of the garden.



Photo by Saundra Dunn

Meandering paths wound through the plantings, their curves slowing your pace and drawing you into quieter corners. They led to tucked-away benches that felt like little hidden treasures, partially enclosed by foliage, perfect places to pause, listen to the breeze, and reflect. Char's artistic touches, combined with Randy's fun and eclectic collection of garden objects, gave each bed its own personality. From a concealed chiminea to colorful bowling balls that caught the light unexpectedly, and beautiful handmade mosaic pots that added texture and color even when not in bloom, there was always something unexpected to discover. Another charming feature was the "she shed"— a small, private space that felt like a sanctuary within the garden, filled with the scent of soil and plants, and inviting quiet hands-on creativity with pots and mosaics.



Photo by Saundra Dunn

Hosta Haven continued

I especially enjoyed seeing the daylilies scattered throughout the garden, including familiar cultivars and plants from well-known hybridizers. 'Dipped in Disney,' a cultivar by the late Darrel Apps, was blooming beautifully, its flowers standing out vividly among the surrounding foliage, along with plants from Richard Norris and others. Overall, the garden felt welcoming, creative, and joyful—a reflection of the people who created it.



'Dipped in Disney' (Apps, 2022)
Photo by Hilary Heffernan





Upper right: Char and Randy Hanson
Lower right: Hostas, hostas everywhere, here potted around the base of a tree
Photos by Saundra Dunn

Yendor Ridge: From Fairies and Frogs to Carnivorous Bogs—and More!



Reflections by Sandy Gabriel

After a long, wonderful day seeing daylilies, the last stop for our group was Rhonda Veroeven's garden—Yendor Ridge. As we stepped off the cool bus into the hot afternoon, we were met by a welcoming front yard full of daylilies and a tent with lemonade and cold water. It was a welcome respite from the sun.

Walking toward the back yard, there was a darling fairy garden and a bed of huge hostas in full bloom. A small frog pond was another delightful feature.

One of the other many surprises in this garden was a carnivorous plant bog, featuring *Sarracenia* (pitcher plants). The bog was growing well and Rhonda shared that it had survived a Wisconsin winter.



Above: Fairy Garden
Right: Whimsical Art
Photos by Sandy Gabriel

We reached the back yard, and—oh my!—there was so much whimsical garden art to discover and enjoy! A huge metal daylily sculpture and the blown glass ornaments were my favorites.









Above: 'Toy Trumpets (Sobek, 1984). Right: 'Big Birds Friend' (Gossard, 2003).

Photos by Saundra Dunn



The numerous small and miniature daylilies in the Veroevens' collection sparked lively conversations among the attendees. But there were also big bursts of color from large, established clumps.

For those who were interested in expanding their daylily collection, Tony and Rhonda dug plants from their line-out garden. Nearby Rhonda's father played Jimmy Buffett-style music from the back deck.

Rhonda has also amassed a nearly complete collection of Stout Silver Medal winners, allowing visitors to appreciate how much daylilies have changed over time.

Everywhere you looked there were beautiful daylilies and engaging garden art. We boarded our bus saying a grateful goodbye to a wonderful garden.





Photos by Sandy Gabriel and Saundra Dunn



Left: The bog garden with pitcher plants and whimsical garden art
Photo by Saundra Dunn





One of several backyard garden areas
Photo by Saundra Dunn



The circle bed containing many miniatures
Photo by Bobbie Craig

Gemütlichkeit Garden: A Hillside Retreat

Reflections by Vickie Goedde



For my bus, the last of five stops on the Region 2 garden tour was Monique Warnke's Gemütlichkeit Garden, which sits on a half-acre lot in Windsor, Wisconsin. The word gemütlichkeit is much easier to pronounce than it looks—"guh-myoot-lish-kite"—and means a feeling of coziness, comfort, warmth, and friendliness. It embraces the concept of community and friendship and that inviting atmosphere was certainly felt as Monique greeted us before we were even off the bus to let us know where the different areas of the garden were and that refreshments were on the front porch.





All photos by Kristina Goedde and Vickie Goedde, except left (Monique) by Saundra Dunn

The mature trees and landscaping near the road offered a glimpse of the beautiful flower bed sweeping across the front of the house. This was the location of the Englerth Bedfor the Region 2 seedling competiton. It was the very first daylily bed as we walked up the driveway, so many folks immediately gravitated to it. Before my daughter Kristina and I checked out the Englerth Bed, we decided we wanted to see the back garden first, which has a lovely pergola covered in luscious vines and a sign hanging from the top that says "Gemütlichkeit Garden." As we were standing there trying to pronounce the name, we were met by Monique's sister, Astrid Hunton, who pronounced it for us a couple of times until we got it right.



Stepping through the pergola and looking past the patio area, I was in awe for a moment, taking in the impressive steep slope with its vast collection of daylilies, lilies, and other plants. I was not expecting this wonderful hidden jewel that spans across almost the whole back yard. I marveled at the privacy that this backyard retreat provided. The garden has a couple of ways to get to the top, and any way you go, the view from above is amazing.



Monique's daughter Teya Hetherington and her friend Megan Provost (Monique's daughter from another mother, according to them) tended to the snacks and drinks. Teya and Megan were a lot of fun to talk to and I do believe they were having as much fun as everyone else.

It was a pleasure to take in all the garden art strategically placed about Monique's garden. Some of the glass art pieces, such as a school of swimming fish, provided a pleasant touch of whimsy. Yet other focal



points in the garden, such as a monk statue behind a large hosta, allowed for a serene and calming moment.

Kristina and I finally made our way back to the Englerth Bed, which was perfectly situated along the front of the house where one could get a good look at all of the contenders. It was certainly tough to narrow it down to vote for only one seedling, but we finally cast our votes and hoped for the best.

Time seemed to pass very quickly and all too soon we had to board the bus. Seeing what Monique has accomplished in her little corner of the world is truly amazing and is an inspiration. Thank you, Monique, for sharing your garden with us.





Left: Summer Meeting attendees evaluating the Englerth seedling candidates. Right: Monique in front of 'Wild Wisconsin Women' (Douglas-H., 2020). Below: Close-up of the bloom.





We come for the flowers and stay for the friends.

























Photos by Ginny Pearce, Barb Buikema and Saundra Dunn

From "Oh, What Have I Gotten Myself Into?" To Tour Day

by Monique Warnke, Summer Meeting Tour Garden Host

The Planning

Three years ago, I was chosen to have my garden on the Region 2 tour for 2026. I was deeply honored by this approval from my peers in the Wisconsin Daylily club. Then reality set in—very quickly. I went from feeling honored to thinking, "OMG, what have I gotten myself into?"



Monique in her backyard
Photos by Saundra Dunn

Not only was my garden going to be on tour, but I was also going to host the Englerth Bed, with 52 hybridizers' babies to be displayed for all of the attendees.

I had a knee replacement in October of 2023. Foolishly, I thought I would be able to get right back into my gardening groove. Sadly, I was mistaken. Within two weeks, I realized that I was going to need much more help getting the Englerth Bed prepared than I had originally thought. So, I hired a friend to get the bed ready using the lasagna compost layering method. Looking back, that was one of the best decisions I could have made.

Winter came soon after, and then it became a matter of waiting and seeing whether I had made the right decision. During the winter, I made a list of everything I needed to do to get the garden into shape and look its very best. That list got very big—very quickly. There were the "must-do" items and then there were the "I would really like to get this done" items.

Spring arrived in its usual Wisconsin fashion—timid at first, and then finally with a robust attitude. Spring also brought the first of the Englerth daylilies to the garden. Initially, there were only a few. My first thought was, "I made this long strip of land for these plants, and I'm never going to be able to fill it!" So, I sent out an email asking hybridizers to send their precious seedlings my way, and they did. Before long, I had plenty of babies to worry about—and plenty of other things on my ever-growing list.

I tore down the old fencing around the vegetable garden. Next I tackled the old, mangled fence posts that had been attempting to "frame" the back of my garden. It is easy to take things out. It is much harder to put them back.



Then came the dreaded walking area on the hill between the main back garden and the upper garden. I finally made the decision to have a walkway installed to help with the steep pitch of the hill. That turned out to be one of the best improvements I have made to my garden, other than terracing the back garden. Then came another critical question every gardener on tour eventually asks: "Does this daylily look better here—or here?" and yes, there was a lot of that kind of movement going on in my yard!

I believe every gardener who has ever been on tour understands that mind-boggling experience. Suddenly, every plant has to be in exactly the right place, and sometimes the "right place" changes several times. Then it became quite obvious that I needed more garden art. My husband calls it "garden junk." I prefer "garden art." So began the search for just the right pieces—things that would add interest and personality without making the garden look trashy. In my travels around the country and overseas, I seem to have developed a habit of bringing things home for the garden. If something was too expensive to ship, I would do my best to find something similar in the United States. Some pieces were given to me. Each piece has its own story, and together they became part of my garden.

The Nitty-Gritty

Let's talk about the nitty-gritty of the whole idea of having the perfect, no-weed garden. For years, I tried to maintain an organic garden. Unfortunately, the weeds had other ideas. Finally, I asked dear friends who had previously been on tour, "What do you use to control the weeds?" I finally bit the bullet and

joined the chemical warfare bandwagon. Anything to lessen my weed anxiety!

I put my garden to bed in 2024 already thinking ahead to what needed to be done in 2025. Then, on December 30, 2024, at 3:45 p.m., I broke my femur. Suddenly, everything I had planned for the garden—and my ability to be on tour—was uncertain. I didn't know what to expect from that accident. With a lot of physical therapy, determination, and perhaps a healthy dose of stubbornness, I slowly got myself back on track. I did what I could in the garden, little by little. My friends and family came to my rescue. They helped spread mulch and took on the heavy work that I simply couldn't do. This is when I became especially grateful for my daylily friends' knowledge of chemical warfare! But there was one unexpected weed in my garden this time. When I came across it, I had to use AI to figure out what it was. Wild parsnip. Let me tell you something, this plant deserves to be respected at the highest level. Please take heed. It uses chemical warfare against you. The skin reaction from that plant was, without a doubt, the most painful experience I have ever endured from a plant in my entire life. So much for the peaceful life of a gardener!

The Year of the Walk

As the year of the tour approached, items were checked off the list, but there was still a very long list of "have-to-dos." My carpenter had been working on the trellises I designed throughout the winter. When he finally arrived with them, he had them installed in no time. The new fence around the vegetable garden went up. The new flower boxes replaced the 20-plus-year-old boxes I had made so many years ago. Little by little, everything was beginning to fall into place. Planting the annuals in pots and flower boxes became a Mother's Day gift from my kids, and it was very much appreciated. Next came one of the biggest and most back-breaking jobs of all: spreading 38 yards of mulch. Thirty-eight yards!



Monique with daughter Teya and sister Astrid
Photo by Morgan Mitchell

Every minute of free time I had was spent in the garden. Thankfully, years earlier I had already arranged to have help the week prior to and the day of the actual tour. My sister Astrid Hunton and my friends Kriss Henning and Dianna Gossard helped me through that final stretch. Then my daughter, Teya Hetherington, and Megan Provost helped during the tour itself. I could not have done it without all of them.

The Big Day

Finally, the big day arrived. All the preparation, all the planning, all the lists, all the moving of plants, all the mulch, all the digging, all the worrying—and all the help from family and friends—was finally going to pay off. You know that buses are going to arrive at your garden. You know people are coming. You know the date. You have prepared for months—and, in my case, for years. But until you actually see that first bus coming around the corner, it doesn't completely sink in. Then you see it, and suddenly, you feel the butterflies in your stomach. You realize: This is IT!

And the buses keep coming. I can truly say that it was an incredible honor to have all 145 attendees come through my garden. Three years earlier, I had been honored by my peers when they approved my garden for the Region 2 tour. What I didn't know then was just how much work, determination, help, friendship, laughter, frustration, and love would go into making that day happen. Looking back, I realize that the garden wasn't really created for one day. It was created through years of gardening, learning, moving plants, making mistakes, trying again, and sharing this passion with wonderful people.

And while I may have started this journey wondering, "OMG, what have I gotten myself into?" I ended it feeling incredibly grateful that I had been given the opportunity.

To everyone who came to my garden, to everyone who helped me prepare it, to my family and friends who stepped in when I needed them, and to the hybridizers who trusted me with their precious seedlings: Thank you.

It was truly an honor to have you in my garden. I hope you enjoyed visiting my garden as much as I enjoyed having you in it. After everything it took to get there, I can honestly say... I would do it all over again.

More Summer Meeting Photos





From check-in to check-out, Wisconsin Daylily Society members made Summer Meeting attendees feel right at home in Dairyland.



The Hybridizers' Forum, facilitated by Carole Hunter, provided an opportunity for asking questions and sharing knowledge with one another.





Our guest speakers Mike Grossmann and Kathleen Nordstrom entertained attendees Friday evening with stunning photos and engaging stories of their hybridizing journeys and goals. They also donated so generously to the live and silent auctions, as well as providing gift plants. Look at those roots.



Current Region 2 President Monique Warnke (left) with incoming President Lori Doolin.











Plants in the elevators, plants in the hallways...

So many temptations at the Silent Auction and the Plant Sale!









The "Daylilies in Dairlyland" theme was evident throughout, often in whimsical ways





The Live Auction team, including our youth runners. But none of it could happen without generous donors and bidders!



Sandy Holmes leading the Garden Judging 2 class at the Kleckners' garden.







Proud parent and president moment as Xavier and Owen Heffernan were announced as this year's Bob Faulkner Scholarship winners.

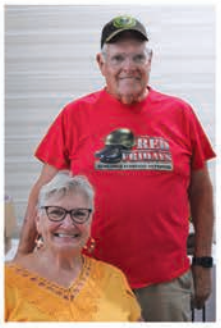




In spite of a full weekend schedule, there were still moments to just hang out and chat.



Dianna Gossard (center) being presented with her Award of Merit for 'Double My Sunshine" by Region 2 Director Greg Lough and President Monique Warnke.





Photos by Saundra Dunn and Barb Buikema

Thank you to the Wisconsin Daylily Society, the Region 2 support team, and co-chairs Steven King, Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, and Genni Kleckner. How did I not take a photo of those three?!



Sandy Holmes (left) presenting Ginny Pearce with the 2026 Howard Hite Award for Hybridizing Excellence.



Monique Warnke (left) presenting Rhonda Veroeven with the 2026 Englerth Seedling Competition Award.





I (Saundra) only made it to two of the many open gardens and they were both amazing! Left: Mary Kaye Lashock of The Land of the Talls. Right: Dan Hernday and Linda Shields of Bending Hill Farm.

Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Awards 2026

by Barb Buikema, Committee Chair, and Hilary Heffernan, Parent



The Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Award was established in 2021 by Bob's family and Region 2 to honor Bob (right) for the many roles he played—daylily hybridizer, youth mentor, beloved brother, and special friend. At our Region 2 Summer Meeting, I had the pleasure of announcing the recipients of this year's Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Award. We were pleased to have two winners this year—and once again siblings!



Xavier and Owen Heffernan receiving their award from committee members: Barb Buikema, Ray Rayburn, Joe Monnin, Pat Titus, and Saundra Dunn. Photo by Lori Doolin



Xavier Heffernan lives in Zionsville, Indiana. He recently turned 16 and is heading into his sophomore year at Zionsville Community High School. In school, Xavier most likes his math and science courses. Xavier also has enjoyed studying Chinese for the past three years. Outside of academics, Xavier is an active member of his school's Dungeons & Dragons Club. He also loves drawing, both on paper and digitally.

In terms of his daylily journey, Xavier finds he is most drawn to UFs and spiders in a more pastel palette. He has really enjoyed getting to attend the regional and national ADS meetings the past few years. He was sad this year's national was held before school got out for the summer, but looks forward to heading to Virginia Beach for the National and greater Chicagoland for the Regional next summer.



Owen Heffernan also lives in Zionsville, Indiana. Owen is 12 and heading into the 7th grade at Zionsville West Middle School. Owen will be following in his brother's footsteps and learning Chinese this coming year. Outside of school, Owen enjoys playing baseball in his community Little League; his favorite positions are outfield and pitching. Owen also recently discovered 4-H. This year his projects are cats and rabbits. In his local club, Eagle Flying Eagles, despite being new, he stepped up to be a community service officer this year. Owen enjoys spending time out at the farm with the rabbits and daylilies.

Owen attended his fourth Region 2 meeting this summer in Madison. He loves attending both national and regional meetings whenever possible. As far as daylilies are concerned, he loves bold-colored doubles more than anything, particularly if they are red. And he instantly loves any daylily that has a fun name.

To learn more about the Bob Faulkner Memorial Youth Scholarship Award, including how to apply and how to donate, visit the Region 2 website: https://adsregion2.org/bob-faulkner-memorial-scholarship/.

REGION 2 PHOTO CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION:
SINGLE BLOOM CATEGORY



Ginny Pearce
Seedling 24-37-01
(Pearce, unregistered)



Angie Maly
'Impulse of Innocence'
(Owen-P., 2009)



Barb Brevick
'Concorde Nelson'
(Reeve, 1998)

Many thanks to each of these photographers for sharing their beautiful images with us. More people participated this year, including five who did not enter a photo last year! More honorable mention photos will be published in future issues of *Great Lakes Daylily.*

Angie Maly, OH
Barb Brevick, MI
Barb Buikema, MI
Bob Watson, IN
Bobbie Craig, IN
Bret Clement, IN
Cathy Redenbarger,
Charlie Harper, OH
Cheryl Jenkins, IN
Christine Haynam, OH
Cynthia Wadsworth, OH
David Winter, OH
Debbie Scheckel, IL
Debby Colvin, OH
Ed Kraus, OH
Genni Kleckner, WI
Ginny Pearce, MI
Greg Beavers, IN
Jennifer Seely, IL
Jim Brewer, OH
JoAnne Frederick, OH
Karen Ciula, OH
Kelly Williams, OH
Laurie Jacques, OH
Leslie Machuta, OH
Lisa Blocker, IN
Mary Kwas, MI
Mary Ann Cleary, MI
Michelle Rogers, IL
Monique Warnke, WI
Nancy Sniff, MI
Nancy Watson, IN
Nevaeh Bieri, MI
Pat Titus, IL
Paula Currie, MI
Sandi Rockwell, OH
Sandra Shull, IL
Sharon Brewer, OH
Vickie Goedde, IN



Vickie Goedde
'In High Regard'
(Rice-J.A., 2010)



Barb Brevick
'Chicagoland Millenium'
(Sharp, 2004)



Bobbie Craig
'Stone Palace Sparkler'
(Evick, 2023)



David Winter
Seedling B
(Winter, unregistered)

REGION 2 PHOTO CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION:
MULTI-BLOOM CATEGORY



David Winter
'Buckeye Barnstormer'
(Haehn, 2000)



Barb Buikema
'Fabulous Freakin' Faulkner'
(Buikema, name reserved)



Bobbie Craig
'Isabelle Rose'
(Laprise, 2009)



Debby Colvin
'There's My Girl'
(Joiner-J., 2017)



Charlie Harper
'Dance like a Fool'
(Davisson-J., 2019)



Sandra Shull
'O'Bannon Orchid'
(Williams-S., 2013)



Sandi Rockwell
'O'Bannon Orchid'
(Williams-S., 2013)



Bobbie Craig
'Milk Chocolate'
(Carney, 1967)

Thank you Joe Hudson of Madcat Daylilies in North Carolina for donating our first place prize plants.

And thank you Along The Fence Daylilies for our second place prizes!

REGION 2 PHOTO CONTEST HONORABLE MENTION:
CREATIVE/ARTISTIC CATEGORY



JoAnne Frederick
Seedling
(Frederick, unregistered)



JoAnne Frederick
'Peppermint Curls'
(Waterman-P., 2017)



Angie Maly
'Banana Python'
with praying mantis
(Gossard, 2018)



Sandra Shull
'View from the Top'
(Simpson-E., 2022)



Genni Kleckner
'Raspberry Fairy'
(Reed, 2023)



Debbie Scheckel
'Signature Truffle'
(Kirchhoff-D., 2004)

ABOUT OUR JUDGES: Many thanks to this thoughtful team of returning judges!

Jason Coleman is a previous contest participant. He enjoys studying and analyzing each of the photo entries with the same eye for detail that he uses in his hybridizing.

Regina Stout is a much sought-after photographer for community activites, sporting events, family celebrations, and and tree-frog-in-daylily sightings. And she works at a daylily farm.

Sarah Newell has a BFA in photography and design and spent many years taking travel photos throughout Europe. She is an avid gardener who recently discovered her love of daylilies.

Trinity Love is a keen observer of daylily nuances. He utilized his gardening, observation, and photography skills to develop a social media presence focused on plant imagery, particularly daylilies.

2026 Englerth Award

by Gail Braunstein, Awards and Honors Chair

This year's Englerth Seedling Competition was held in the gardens of Monique Warnke in Madison, Wisconsin, during the 2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting. All the positive adjectives you can think of describe the 2026 Englerth Bed. The hard work by Monique along with her family and friends paid off as all those attending the convention were able to see the future of daylilies as they pondered their vote.

Once again, a teacher has won the coveted Englerth Award. Rhonda Veroeven's seedling # YR-24-01 was the first place winner. Rhonda's seedling location was Red Tag #12. If everything goes as planned, the seedling will be registered as "MS Warrior." Who would have guessed that someone who has never registered a daylily would become the 2026 Englerth Award Winner? Not only has Rhonda not registered a daylily, this was her first time to enter the competition. Her mentors Bob Faulkner, Nan Ripley, and Sandy Holmes were and are very proud of her.

Fifty-two cultivars were entered by 18 hybridizers for this year's competition. Second place was seedling #ssl, hybridized by Shannon Meyer. Shannon's seedling location was Red Tag #15. Third place was seedling #21-895 located at Red Tag #21 and hybridized by Steve Williams.



R2 Pres. Monique Warnke (left) presenting Rhonda with the Englerth Award
Photo by Barb Buikema

So let's get to know our 2026 winner. Rhonda is a Middle School Science Teacher. She is a member of the Wisconsin Daylily Society. She is also a Garden Judge and a Senior Exhibition Judge, as well as an instructor for both. She was the Region 2 Director and served in that capacity for five years. She became the American Daylily Society President in 2023 and served as president through 2025. She was also the National Awards and Honors Chair.

How did Rhonda get into daylilies? She related a story to me of taking a "Mental Health Day" (remember she is a teacher) nineteen years ago to help clear her head. She went to a garage sale where they were also selling plants. Lo and behold, she met Monique Warnke at that garage sale. Monique mentioned a daylily sale and invited Rhonda to go with her. At that daylily sale, she purchased 'Key West' (Trimmer, 1999). Why "Key West?" That is where she and her husband went on their honeymoon.



Veroeven Seedling YR-24-01
Englerth Entry #12
Seedling photos by Saundra Dunn

When asked about her garden name—"Yendor Ridge Garden"—Rhonda indicated the name is for her father. It is his name "Rodney" spelled in reverse. Her focus is on minis and double minis and she loves working with dips.

Her advice to novice and youth daylily gardeners... DO WHAT YOU ENJOY! Congratulations, Rhonda. We can't wait to see what your future cultivars look like.



2nd place winner
Seedling ssl
Englerth Entry #24
by Shannon Meyer



3rd place winner
Seedling 21-895
Englerth Entry #21
by Steve Williams

Englerth Bed 2026 Seedlings



E#1 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 1
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#2 Sharon Prochaska
Seedling 1382-19
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#3 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 5
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#4 Jim Prochaska
Seedling 1156-18
Photo by Jim Prochaska



E#5 Bobbi Johnson
Seedling 2
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#6 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 3
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by



E#7 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 6
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#8 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 2
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#9 Sandy Rausch
Seedling 4
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#10 Doug Prochaska
Seedling 1302-19
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by



E#11 Bobbi Johnson
Seedling 1
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#12 Rhonda Veroeven
Seedling yr24-01
Englerth Award Winner
Photo by Saundra Dunn

Englerth Bed 2026 Seedlings continued



E#13 Steve Williams
Seedling 15-732 H2
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Steve Williams



E#14 Ginny Pearce
Seedling 19-26-03
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#15 Shannon Meyer
Seedling dpl
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#16 David Winter
Seedling 21-19-10
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by David Winter



E#17 Steve Williams
Seedling 14-403
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Steve Williams



E#18 Ginny Pearce
Seedling 18-53-01
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#19 Shannon Meyer
Seedling gn
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#20 David Winter
Seedling 21-19-19
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#21 Steve Williams
Seedling 21-895
Third Place Winner
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#22 Ginny Pearce
Seedling 06-36-01
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#23 Patti & Ron Byerley
Seedling MGM
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Patti Byerley



E#24 Shannon Meyer
Seedling ssl
Second Place Winner
Photo by Saundra Dunn

Englerth Bed 2026 Seedlings continued



E#25 Steve Williams
Seedling 21-385-B
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Steve Williams



E#26 Ginny Pearce
Seedling 14-19-01
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#27 Carole Hunter
Seedling 22 17T064
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Carole Hunter



E#28 Greg Schindler
Seedling acac
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#29 Steve Williams
Seedling 10-760
Photo by Barb Buikema



E#30 Shannon Meyer-
Seedling bh1
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#31 Patti & Ron Byerley
Seedling #SD 01-001
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Patti Byerley



E#32 Greg Schindler
Seedling rbs
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by

Photo not available

E#33 Theresa Schwandt
Seedling 21-33
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by



E#34 Shannon Meyer
Seedling sb1
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#35 Sandy Huhmann
Seedling 29-4
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#36 Greg Schindler-
Seedling skyrocket
not blooming on tour day
Photo by Barb Buikema

Englerth Bed 2026 Seedlings continued



E#37 Theresa Schwandt
Seedling 20-28
Photo by Theresa Schwandt



E#38 Genni Kleckner
Seedling 2023-11
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#39 Carole Hunter
Seedling 171059
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Barb Buikema



E#40 Dianne Goodman
Seedling n/n
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#41 Genni Kleckner-
Seedling 2023-3
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Genni Kleckner



E#42 Theresa Schwandt
Seedling 21-09
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Theresa Schwandt



E#43 Genni Kleckner-
Seedling 2026-6
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#44 Theresa Schwandt
Seedling 20-20
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#45 Genni Kleckner
Seedling 2024-106
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Genni Kleckner



E#46 Carole Hunter
Seedling 17t109
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#47 Genni Kleckner
Seedling 2023-14
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Barb Buikema



E#48 Dianne Goodman
Seedling n/n
Photo by Saundra Dunn

Englerth Bed 2026 Seedlings continued



E#49 Carole Hunter
Seedling 21d20A
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Carole Hunter



E#50 Carole Hunter
Seedling 18-D33
Photo by Saundra Dunn



E#51 Theresa Schwandt
Seedling 21-04
Photo by Ginny Pearce



E#52 Joe Monnin
Seedling n/n
Not blooming on tour day
Photo by Barb Buikema

The Englerth Bed for the 2027 Regional is now full. But Lisa and Jerry Marlatt are still accepting entries for the 2028 Regional. Contact Lisa at lisamarlatt@yahoo.com. We encourage you to enter by sending good-sized divisions as early as possible in the spring of 2027.

Public Garden Grant Program Applications Due

Applications Accepted Through November 30, 2026

The Region 2 Public Garden Grant Program recognizes that the display of daylilies in a public garden venue aligns with the overall mission statement of the American Daylily Society to promote awareness of the beauty, versatility, and diversity of the modern daylily. As we enter our fourth year of this program, the Region 2 Grant Committee encourages clubs who maintain a public display of daylilies to apply for financial support through this program.

Application details can be found on our website: adsregion2.org/public-garden-grant-program/. You can also read about the 2025 grant recipients in the Spring, 2026 issue of *Great Lakes Daylily.*

Examples of prior grant recipients' needs have included soil amendments, mulch, fertilizer, weed control products, garden signage, plant markers, and new plants.

Updates Wanted From Prior Grant Recipients

If your club has received funding through the Public Garden Grant Program, we would love to get an update from you to include in an article in a future *Great Lakes Daylily.* Please send photos and a brief update of how you have used your funds to greatlakesdaylily@gmail.com.

2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting Business Meeting Minutes

By Lori Doolin, Region 2 Secretary

2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting, Madison, Wisconsin: "Daylilies in Dairyland" Hosted by the Wisconsin Daylily Society

Friday, July 17

Prior to dinner, attendees were able to view and bid on silent auction items, purchase daylilies at the plant sale, attend the Hybridizer Forum, and youth registrants were able to attend a special youth meeting.



Steven King, President of the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS), began the evening by thanking his co-chairs Genni Kleckner and Wilma Brower-Herwig. Appreciation was also expressed to the WDS Board, the Region 2 Board, all WDS Committee Chairpersons, and anyone else involved in the meeting planning process. Those who donated gift plants were met with a round of applause. This year's attendees represented 13 states and 7 ADS Regions! Guests represented the following states within each Region: 1 (Iowa, Minnesota, and North Dakota), 2 (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin), 4 (Massachusetts), 6 (Texas), 10 (Kentucky), 14 (Mississippi), and 15 (South Carolina).

Ann Miller gave a beautifully garden themed invocation prior to dinner. After dinner Barb Buikema thanked Registrar Patti Beyerly for all she does to make registration run smoothly. She also made some necessary announcements regarding breakfast, the buses and the tour gardens.



Steven King then introduced speakers Mike Grossmann and Kathleen Nordstrom of Northern Lights Daylilies in Minnesota. Mike presented his informative program first, followed by Kathleen's humorous description of her daylily program. Both showed jaw-dropping beautiful daylilies.

Once all questions were answered, it was time to begin the Friday evening Live Auction.

Saturday, July 18.

After a quick breakfast, three buses left early Saturday morning to visit five stunning gardens. The gardens on tour were: 1) Work In Progress Gardens, Genni and the late Francis Kleckner, Muscoda; 2) West Madison Agricultural Research Station, Madison; 3) Hosta Haven, Char and Randy Hanson, DeForest; 4) Gemütlichkeit Garden, Monique Warnke, Windsor; and 5) Yendor Ridge Gardens, Rhonda, Tony and Andrew Veroven, Windsor.

Once buses returned, attendees had time to visit the daylily sale and put bids on their favorite silent auction items prior to dinner. For those who did not yet know, Ann Miller informed everyone of the recent passing of a very special WDS member—Frances Kleckner—who played a large part in Work In Progress Gardens. She then gave another beautiful invocation.

After dinner, Region 2 President Monique Warnke brought the business meeting to order. She thanked WDS for hosting this event. She also thanked all of Region 2 for allowing her to represent this fantastic Region for the past four years. She emphasized that she "has had a really fun ride!"



Monique noted this was an election year for the position of President. She indicated the election committee received 33 votes for Lori Doolin of Illinois. Lori will begin her two year term January 1, 2027.

Bobbi Johnson then took the podium to give the Treasurer's Report. At the time of the report, the checking account held $3,149.70 and the savings $54,792.78. These totals did not include the live auction receipts. The proceeds are mainly used to fund the award-winning *Great Lakes Daylily Newsletter.*



With the absence of Gail Braunstein (Awards and Honors Chair), Monique had the honor of announcing the Englerth Award winners. The third place winner was seedling #23 by Steve Williams; the second place winner was #24 by Shannon Meyer; and first place was #12 by Rhonda Veroven. Rhonda emotionally approached the podium and said this award meant the world to her and she plans to register it with the name of 'MS Warrior.'

Monique then introduced Greg Lough, our Region 2 Director. Greg reported that ADS has had some changes to Bylaws that were outlined in the most recent *Daylily Journal*. Other items of importance included: 1) The ADS annual membership fee will be $10 for new members until April 2027; 2) Any hybridizer who has had problems with name reservations has until Dec 31, 2026 to correct at no cost; 3) Any changes to an existing registration description may be done until Dec 31, 2026 at no cost. Greg also let everyone know that the 2027 National Convention will be held in Tidewater, VA, and the 2028 National Convention will be in Atlanta, GA.



Greg then announced ADS Awards won by Region 2 members:

*Ida Mae Munson award for outstanding doubles went to Dianna Gossard for 'Double My Sunshine.'
*Region 2 Service Award went to Laurel Richardson.
*Lenington All-American Award for best performer over a large area went to Sandy Holmes for 'Tidewater Elf.'
*Award of Merits were given to Darrel Apps (posthumously) for 'Peanut Butter Frenzy'; Dianna Gossard for 'Double My Sunshine'; James Gossard for 'Cliff Jumper,' 'Heavenly New Frontiers,' 'Spacecoast Scar let Desire,' 'Spacecoast Tequila Sunrise,' and 'Spacecoast Green Mile'; and to Steve Williams for 'End Of The Tunnel' and 'Too Cute.'
*Honorable Mentions were presented to Steve Todd for 'Clown Pants'; Steve Williams for 'Kerfuffle' and 'Double Magnolia'; James Gossard for 'Spacecoast White Wolf'; and Bret Clement for 'Jean Clement.'
*Best Article about Hybridizing went to Nancy Secrist for "Marketing and Publicity Ideas for Hobby Hybridizers."
*Best Article about Gardens went to Catherine Coulson for "Moon Gardens and Nocturnal Pollinators".
*Best Article for non-listed topics went to Charles Harper for "Please Don't Call Them Lilies."
*The Mable Mathews Scholarship for supporting educational opportunities for ADS members was awarded to Andrew Veroven.



After the ADS awards were announced, Monique reiterated that Region 2 is the best! She then introduced Sandy Holmes who would be announcing the winner of the Howard Hite Award in Gail Braunstein's absence. Sandy explained that the award is sponsored by the Southern Michigan Daylily Society for a hybridizer who has attributed a notable achievement in daylily hybridizing. This year's Howard Hite Award went to Ginny Pearce of Garden Path Perennials, Grand Rapids MI.



Barb Buikema introduced the committee for the Bob Faulkner Memorial Scholarship: herself, Saundra Dunn, and Pat Titus. Ray Rayburn and Joe Monnin also participated in the presentation of the award. Barb then announced that this year's scholarship winners were brothers Xavier Heffernan and Owen Heffernan.

Monique gave a Thank You shout out to all the Live Auction and Silent auction donors.

Barb announced Laurel Richardson as this year's Region 2 Service Award Winner and Co-Chair for the 2027 Winter Symposium. The theme for the next winter meeting is "Game On!" The event will be February 19 - 21, 2027, at the Embassy Suites in Indianapolis, IN. Those who register will hear programs from Chad Bush, Lisa and Jerry Marlatt, Nikki Schmith, Don Wolff, Lisa Kuduk, and David Kirchhoff.

In closing, Monique asked attendees to stand, in Sandy Holmes fashion. She asked the speakers to stand up, the garden hosts, the Region 2 Team members, the WDS team responsible for putting this meeting together, the hybridizers of the region, and lastly, anyone who paid to attend the meeting. She then thanked them and noted that it couldn't happen without them. THANK YOU.

Monique then introduced Amanda Christinson of Chicagoland Daylily Society and Chair of the 2027 ADS Region 2 Summer meeting—Petals On The Prairie. Amanda informed everyone the meeting would be July 16-18, 2027 in Rockford IL. She then played an informational video. Lisa Schmidt from North Dakota provided information on their Region 1 Summer Meeting. She invited all attendees to join Region 1, July 9-11, 2027 for their Summer Meeting, noting that the date did not conflict with the Region 2 meeting.

A short break was taken prior to the Saturday evening live auction. The 2026 Region 2 Summer Meeting ended at its conclusion.

Petals on the Prairie

Region 2 Summer Meeting
July 16-18, 2027
Rockford, Illinois



The Chicagoland Daylily Society invites you to the 2027 Region 2 Summer Meeting at the Embassy Suites, in Rockford IL, from July 16-18. More detailed information will be published in the Winter edition of the *Great Lakes Daylily* and will be posted on the Region 2 website as it becomes available: www.adsregion2.org.



Gardens of Ataraxia
Amanda Christensen and Ned Cowley, DeKalb, IL

Amanda and Ned are collectors and their registered Display Garden is home to over 1100 cultivars. It is designed with sweeping curves, islands and winding pathways that showcase a harmonious blend of daylilies, iris, peonies, hostas, roses and other beautiful perennials.



Ellison Daylilies
Michelle Rogers, Chana, IL

Michelle is a hybridizer whose garden offers 500 named varieties, along with hundreds of seedlings and future registrations. She hybridizes for round, heavily ruffled diploids and beautifully edged tetraploids. Her garden includes the Bob Ellison Memorial Garden.



White Oak Garden
Mary Beth and John Giacalone, Carpentersville, IL

Nestled against 400 acres of forest preserve, and resting on an ancient Glacier Moraine, this garden blends natural beauty with thoughtful design. The landscape is enhanced by huge boulders, garden statues and more than 600 daylilies, including a tribute to the legendary Chicago hybridizers. Hosta lovers will also be delighted to see over 300 cultivars.



Prairie's Edge Gardens
Carole Hunter, Rockford, IL

Carole hybridizes for northern instant rebloom. Her garden is home to over 600 registered cultivars and five seedling beds that can hold up to 1500 seedlings each. Mixed perennial beds, shade gardens, a wild woodland area, and a sales bed complete the garden. Carole is hosting the 2027 Englerth Bed Seedling Competition.

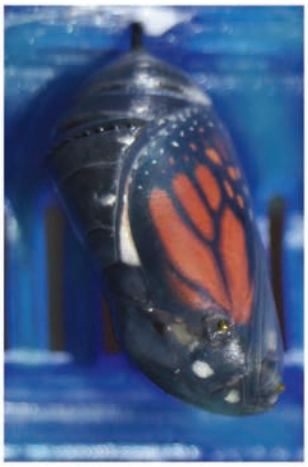
One Monarch's Daylily Story

By Saundra Dunn

Like many gardeners, I am on the lookout for Monarch caterpillars in the summer months. Most of us working here at our daylily farm scan the milkweed stands outside the daylily field as we pass by. We have an assortment of mesh protective tents and plastic containers to house them and enjoy watching caterpillars of all sizes transition through their metamorphasis into butterflies.

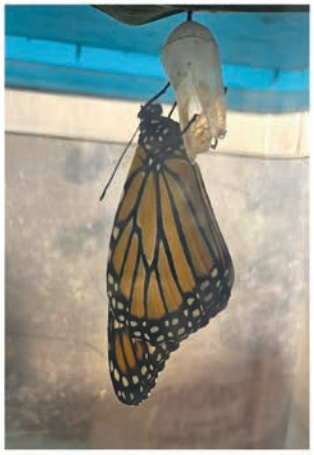


This summer, we had a unique experience. As my sister-in-law was cleaning the roots of a daylily for an order, she happened to notice a chrysalis firmly attached to the underside of one of the leaves on the plant. As busy as we were, it is truly amazing that she noticed that little one-inch capsule of green at all. Maybe it was the glittery gold diadem or crown at the upper rim of the chrysalis.[1] It made all of us wonder how this caterpillar ended up in the daylily field and survived to form a chrysalis.



I stretched the daylily leaf across the top of one of the containers we use to house Monarch caterpillars and closed the lid to secure it. I checked daily for the darkening that precedes emergence, or eclosing of the adult.[2] A week after finding the chrysalis, it darkened. The butterfly eclosed.

1 The function of this ornamentation is fascinating. Many sources of information are available online when prompted with a basic query such as "Why do Monarch chrysalises have gold on them?"



When Monarchs emerge, they hang in place at least an hour. Gravity helps pull the wings downward while hemolymph (the insect equivalent of blood) is being pumped into the wing veins.

Once a butterfly begins flapping its wings frequently, I typically move it outside and let it hang longer on a flower in a protected area. Joe-Pye Weed seems to work quite well for them to grip. But for this particular Monarch, I thought it was only fitting to let it hang from a daylily bloom.

I carried her outside.[3] But before I could transfer her to the daylily, she took off and flew around the yard. I held out my hand and literally said, "Come back here please. I need a photo." That butterfly circled back, landed right on my hand, and I transferred her to a nearby daylily before she could fly away again. My neighbor was visiting and we were both stunned at the butterfly's return to my outstretched hand. It was magical!

2 I didn't take a photo of that particular chrysalis in the darkened state, but am including this one for reference.

3 The lack of a spot on each lower wing and the thicker vein markings indicate a female.



Photos by Saundra Dunn and Mary Ann Cleary

Region 2 Club Reports

Southern Michigan Daylily Society

By Marietta Crabtree

The Southern Michigan Daylily Society includes ecology gardening programs as well as daylily hybridizer programs and auctions as part of the educational speaker series in spring and fall. In May, "Backyard Composting: Recycle Valuable Nutrients from Garden and Yard Organic Waste" was presented by Mary Gerstenberger, an MSU Extension Master Composter and Master Gardener, as part of our efforts to promote good earth stewardship.

Composting is a smart garden practice because it recycles and reuses valuable nutrients by returning organic matter to the garden. Compost is decomposed organic material such as leaves, weeds, grass and vegetable scraps that, once broken down, turn into humus. Decomposition takes place through the work of microscopic organisms including fungi and bacteria, and larger organisms like earthworms, sow bugs, millipedes and more.

Compost is a free source of organic matter—natural fertilizer for your garden. Some gardeners consider compost "black gold" in the garden. Compost improves soil health by improving soil structure, increasing water retention, and creating air pockets for plant root growth. The program included an overview of the decomposition process and tips for how to start composting.

In June, we returned our focus to daylilies. Kirsten Hatfield gave us on overview of her hybridizing program and shared photos of her recent introductions and promising seedlings. She shared her hybridizing goals of gorgeous daylilies that are winter hardy with outstanding branching and high bud count. Kirsten also explained her hybridizing techniques and how she achieved her gorgeous daylily results, such as stunning eyes and fancy edges. An auction of 15 of her introductions followed her presentation.



'Nothin' Sheepish About Me' (Hatfield-K., 2024
Hybridizer photo

The Hatfield farm is located in Zanesville, Ohio. In addition to the hybridizing of daylilies, Dorset sheep are also bred at the farm, hence, the website name, www.dorsetsNdaylilies.com. Visit the website to see Kirsten's many daylily introductions.

The annual SMDS Daylily Exhibition Show and Plant Sale was in July. Visitors had a chance to vote for their favorite daylilies and learn about the great variety of daylilies in the huge off-scape display. Many thanks to the chairpersons Sandi Combs, Sheila Green, and Doug Green, and to everyone that brought daylily blooms for display.

The fall and winter programs will include "Daylily Trivia and Auction,' "Attracting Beneficial Garden Insects," and "Firefly Conservation: Protecting the Jewels of the Night". Visit the SMDS website for information at www.midaylilysociety.com.



No matter the size of your available area, composting is great way to give vegetable scraps, cut-back daylily and hosta leaves, and other organic material a new purpose.
Photo by Nancy Cooper of her composting area



Examples from the off-scape exhibits at the July show.
Photo by Jason Coleman

Grand Valley Daylily Society

Article and Photos By Sharon VanderWilp

As the weather warms up in Michigan, our club events are held outdoors as much as possible and that was certainly the case this year.

On June 6, we met at members Jerri and Frank Schultz's Flutterby Garden in Perry, Michigan. We toured their extensive garden with lots of lovely peonies and even a couple of blooming daylilies. The daylily fields were definitely showing promise for a great season later. Then all were treated to a very tasty lunch prepared by Jerri.



Enjoying lunch on the deck at Flutterby Gardens

The next month we were busy preparing for our annual public daylily show held at Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park held on July 11. We had both off-scape and on-scape daylily blossoms, including many never-before-seen seedlings from our club hybridizers. Our design division was judged by members of the National Garden Club. We asked our visitors to pick their favorite on-scape daylily and the winner was 'Evening in Eden' (Petit, 2013). We had activities and treats for our youngest guests and by days' end we had close to 400 visitors!

August found us travelling to Walters Gardens, a wholesale plant nursery in Zeeland, Michigan, for our annual summer picnic. We began with a wonderful potluck dinner and then walked off those calories with a guided tour of a small portion of their 1,500 acre property. The hibiscus and so many perennials were in peak bloom. We saw unusual plants such as a carnivorous Pitcher Plant *(Sarracenia)* and the mangave berm. The perfect weather and Walters' extremely knowledgeable guide made for a very enjoyable evening.

Our website has been updated so please visit grandvalleydaylily.org to see what we are about! All of our meetings are open to the public. We have also developed a procedure for proxy bidding by guests at our daylily auctions held in May and September.



Walking tour at Walters Gardens



Some of the many visitors checking out all the "pretty faces" at our annual public daylily show at Meijer Gardens



A few of the cultivars in the on-scape display

Hoosier Daylily Society

Article and photos by Holly Brunner



The Hoosier Daylily Society (HOODS) met on April 23 in Whitestown, Indiana, and enjoyed a great presentation from Don Wolff (right) of Wolff's Daylilies in Louisville, Kentucky.

Don has always considered himself "a back yard, side yard and front yard hybridizer." He and his wife Claudia live on an average-size residential lot in Louisville, Kentucky, and as a result there is limited space to plant, evaluate and line out seedlings and registrations. To date, Don has registered nearly 50 daylilies and most of them have been doubles. His daylilies have earned numerous awards when displayed in exhibitions, including best seedling, best in section, and best in show.

Don's favorite form of daylily is the double and in recent years he has been working with double unusual forms. His most notable double unusual introduction to date is 'Tickle the Octopus' which won an Honorable Mention in 2024.



'Tickle the Octopus' (Wolff-D., 2018)

Don is also known for including "bourbon" in many of his introduction names, including such outstanding cultivars as 'Bourbon On Ice,' 'Aliens On Bourbon,' 'A Lil' Nip of Bourbon' and 'Bourbon in the Bluegrass' to name a few. Region 2 is so fortunate that Don will be one of our speakers at our 2027 Winter Meeting.









Don Wolff introductions, clockwise from upper left: 'Gary Our Gator Guy' (2021), 'Bourbon on Ice' (2011), 'Bourbon Taters' (2026), 'A Little Splash of Bourbon' (2024)



HOODS members at dinner with Don Wolff

In May, HOODS held its annual club plant distribution and auction meeting at Greg and Jayne Lough's Sugarcreek Daylilies in Darlington, Indiana. New club plants were distributed and returning plants were auctioned to members attending the event.

HOODS concluded the season with the annual club picnic on July 12 at Holly Brunner's Blue Barn Daylies in Indianapolis (photos next page). Quite a few members attended, enjoying a pitch-in meal and touring the gardens.





Scenes from the club picnic at Blue Barn Daylilies

HOODS will start its next season with a kick-off meeting on October 22 in Carmel, Indiana, featuring Kentucky hybridizer Blaine Chickering.

Follow us on Facebook to connect with fellow daylily lovers and learn more about HOODS club activities.

Fort Wayne Daylily Society

Article and photos by Lana Wolff

Our annual show and sale on July 11 was really well attended. We had a very nice display and lots of daylilies for folks to pick from. We only had three potted plants left over from the sale. It was a great success.



Club members enjoying their time at the annual show and sale





Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society

By Andrea Hicks

Greetings from a rather soggy Central Ohio! The Columbus area has certainly had its share of wet weather recently, with August ranking among the rainiest months on record. We hope all that rain rewards us with beautiful fall color after a wonderful bloom season for our beloved daylilies.

MCDS has enjoyed a busy year so far. Early this spring, members gathered to freshen up and mulch the Public Display Daylily Gardens at Franklin Park Conservatory.

Our spring meeting was held May 16, 2026, at Franklin Park Conservatory. We began the afternoon with a business meeting before taking a break for delicious snacks provided by our members. A lively—and quite profitable—plant auction was expertly conducted by our very own Arielle Lucius. The day concluded with new guest plant distribution. This year's plants came from the hybridizing gardens of Phil and Luella Korth, Dianna Gossard, and Ann Townsend. These plants are on loan to our members, who care for and increase them before returning them to be auctioned in the future. Proceeds from those auctions help purchase new daylilies, continuing a sustainable cycle that brings current cultivars into member gardens.



By June 27, we had almost reached peak bloom season. We held our AHS-accredited Daylily Show—"Daylily Fireworks"— again hosted at Upper Arlington Public Library. More than 170 on-scape flowers were entered, with many off-scape flowers also on display. Several spectacular arrangements featuring daylilies rounded out the show, and the library location welcomed plenty of visitors to enjoy the blooms.

Highlights from the head table included entries across a wide range of forms and sizes, showcasing both experienced exhibitors and youth participation.







Scenes from the "Daylily Fireworks" Show, including Queen of the Show 'Dancing on Ice' exhibited by Sharon Johnson
Show photos by Arielle Lucius and Sophia Fauth

Top awards were:
Queen of Show (best of show): 'Dancing On Ice' (Douglas-H., 2014), exhibited by Sharon Johnson
King of Show (runner up): 'Ribbonette' (Lenington-G., 1951), exhibited by Angie Maly
Sweepstakes winner (most blue ribbons): Sharon Johnson.

Although our weather has been quite fickle, several members hosted open gardens again this year. Touring these member gardens is always a welcome respite and a highlight of the season.



In July, we celebrated our nation's 250th anniversary with an ice cream social at the Public Display Daylily Gardens, located at the entrance of Frank-

lin Park Conservatory. The weather was beautiful, the daylilies were gorgeous, and the company could not have been better.

On August 8, we held our annual public plant sale in a new location, the Barn at CenterPoint. It proved to be a wonderful setting for the public sale, business meeting, and member auction. The day was a success: we welcomed many new faces at the public sale and gained three new members as a result.

During the meeting, we recognized Sophia Fauth as our 2026 Outstanding Youth Member. Sophia is active in many club activities and, along with her mother Robyn, set up the Upper Arlington Library atrium for our daylily show on the Friday afternoon before the event. In addition to exhibiting at the show, Sophia was also responsible for the official show photography. Her pictures were sent to AHS (American Hemerocallis Society) along with our final show report.



Sophia with MCDS President Charles Lucius



We also acknowledged Jeff and Darlene Kerr (right) for their service in leading the MCDS Guest Plant Program for the past several years. The August meeting marks the end of Jeff and Darlene's formal participation in this function as their roles are being transitioned to Bob and Susan Cochran.

This fall, our volunteers will clean up the gardens at Franklin Park Conservatory in late August, welcome speakers Gary and Jackie Barth at our September meeting, and celebrate the holidays with a luncheon in November.

Wisconsin Daylily Society

By Steven King

Fall greetings ADS Region 2 family and friends,

As predicted in the spring of 2026, we knew that the summer was going to be both very hot and very active for the Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS). It turned out to be TRUE in both cases. We had large amounts of welcomed rain in late spring and then the scorching summer heat which translated into healthier, more vigorous and bigger clumps of plants with many more daylily blooms. A lot of people indicated that they had daylilies bloom in their gardens that hadn't done so in the last three or four years.

The Wisconsin Daylily Society (WDS) hosted the 2026 American Daylily Society (ADS) Region 2 Summer Meeting, July 17 through 19 in Madison, Wisconsin. We had 144 registrants representing thirteen states and seven ADS Regions. In recent years, we conducted contests for both of this year's Summer Meeting theme and logo. Our winning theme was "Daylilies In Dairyland" which was entered by the late Francis Kleckner. Our beautiful winning logo was created and entered by one of our youth members, Samantha Schwandt. The weather was perfect with sunshine, upper 80's temperatures and a slight breeze for viewing our five tour gardens. I've never seen these gardens look prettier than they did on that gorgeous summer Saturday. We received many compliments from the attendees of how much they enjoyed the Summer Meeting. The feeling was mutual, because we enjoyed having you visit us and experience some of what Wisconsin hospitality is all about and what our beautiful state has to offer.



continued next page

Wisconsin Daylily Society continued



Plants to be auctioned from the plant adoption program
Photo by Genni Kleckner

On August 1, WDS offered our annual Adoption/ Auction. This year, WDS members adopted 114 daylily plants that they took home and then planted in their gardens. These adoption plants are newer daylily cultivars that chairperson Genni Kleckner procures from hybridizers for our club each year. The adoption plants are awarded to and grown by the member for three years and any increase that the plant produces gets brought back for our auction. The member is allowed to keep two fans from the original adopted plant. This year's auction consisted of 44 cultivars yielding 124 plants to sell at our auction. Ideally, it would be great IF the auction entirely funded the purchasing of the newer cultivars. However, it doesn't and therefore the club picks up the balance. It's considered a member benefit. Many cultivar offerings were 2-4 fans and even clumps. It's a great program that offers members new cultivars in their gardens that eventually may make it to our annual WDS Daylily Sale, always the third weekend in August at Olbrich Park in Madison.



On August 15 and 16, WDS held its annual Daylily Sale, the "largest public Daylily Sale in the United States." We offered over 650 daylily cultivars this year. We had many visitors from ADS Regions 1 and 2, for which we are very grateful and appreciative of. Thank you!

The WDS Sale chairperson is Monique Warnke who masterminds the whole process of securing the park, tents, tables, porta potties, and refuse bins as well as directing and assisting volunteers. Then we have various coordinators who arrange volunteers for the digs, provide supplies from our storage unit, initiate the very involved steps in identifying, processing, packaging and the labeling of the plants, set up in the sale tent and food tent, and do anything else that needs to be done. It takes a village and WDS volunteers wonderfully step up! They share their personal time/ experience and are dedicated/hardworking to make and keep this long running sale machine operating smoothly. We could NOT accomplish this project without ALL of our WDS membership. Thank you, WDS volunteers!



Preparation and display for annual Daylily Sale
Photos by Steven King

Our next upcoming and final event for our WDS Calendar year will be our 2026 WDS Annual Meeting held on November 14th. Our guest speakers will be Margo Reed and Jim Murphy, from Woodhenge Gardens in North Garden, Virginia. We very much look forward to seeing and visiting with them and learning about the latest developments in their hybridizing programs. BE well, BE kind.

Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society

Article and photos by Lisa Marlatt

It's been a great year for daylilies. Members have been visiting other members' gardens to get ideas for more purchases for next year. Daylilies are truly the best perennial and you can't have too many.

On May 16 we held the 28th Annual Perennial Plant Sale, which is always a highlight for the community. Members bring potted perennials or daylilies or bare-root daylily fans. We sold out by 11:30 a.m. and headed home.



Shoppers rush to select daylilies and hostas

On June 26-27, the Great Lakes Hosta Tailgate held its annual garden tour, complete with dinner and an auction in Perrysburg, Ohio. It was a great opportunity to visit both hosta and daylily gardens.

The 15th Biennial Daylily Expo was held on July 26. Members set up their own displays featuring their favorite daylilies from their gardens. The visitors enjoyed the daylily dividing clinic, free door prizes, and a chance to vote on their favorite daylily.



Linda Scheuerman helps members set up for the Daylily Expo

On August 22, we held the annual Daylily Work Day—dividing and replanting daylilies in the American Display Garden. The Toledo Metroparks provided all of the tools, tarps, barrels, and dump truck for our use, with Jonathan Milbrodt, Toledo Botanical Garden Lead Horticulturalist, organizing the event. Following the cleanup, a daylily auction was held and host plants from hybridizers Kirsten Hatfield and John Rice (provided by Patti and Ron Byerley) were distributed.



Club members on Daylily Work Day

We have two great programs lined up for this fall. On September 12, members will be sharing their garden photos via PowerPoint. On October 10, members will hold round table discussions to address any garden concerns that members might have.

We will wrap up the year with our year-end potluck on November 14. It's a great time to sit and visit with each other, reflect on what a great year 2026 was, plan for an even better 2027.

All of our meetings are held in the Terrace Room of the Conference Center at Toledo Botanical Garden Metropark, 5403 Elmer Street. Be sure to friend us on our Facebook site and visit our website: https://www.facebook.com,/blackswamphostaanddaylilysociety. Eileen Hoffman does a wonderful job keeping the information updated in Facebook.



Visitors enjoy seeing the hundreds of daylilies on display at the Daylily Expo

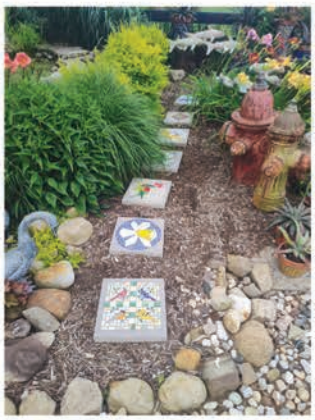
Indiana Daylily and Iris Society

By Greg Beavers

Several members of the Indiana Daylily and Iris Society (IDIS) joined members of the Southern Indiana Daylily, Hosta, Daffodil & Iris Society (SIDHDIS) on a bus trip to Kentucky in June. We visited Steven Franklin's Merry & Bright Daylily garden in Shelbyville as well Rich Rosen's Garden and the AHS Display Garden at Buffalo Trace Distillery, both in Frankfort. It was a fun day of plant viewing in lovely gardens and bourbon tasting at a historic venue.



IDIS members at a unique sculpture in Rich Rosen's garden
Photo by Rich Rosen







Scenes from Steven Franklin's Merry and Bright Daylilies, including Steven's handmade stepping stones above.
Photos by Cheryl Anderson



Water tower at Buffao Trace Distillery in Frankfort. From their website: "The Buffalo Trace Distillery is the oldest continually operating distillery in America, crafting bourbon on the same Kentucky grounds for over 200 years. We are the world's most award-winning distillery, still crafting whiskey every day and open to welcome visitors... preserving bourbon's heritage for generations to come.
Photo by Greg Beavers

A very successful plant sale was held at Dammann's Garden in Indianapolis in August. This was the first time our club has held our sale at this venue and it worked out well. We sold daylilies as well as bearded and beardless iris.



Photo by Rod Maust

Our final gathering of 2026 will be our club picnic in September.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings which will start again in March of 2027. Watch our website www.indianadaylilyirissociety.org for updates of meetings and events in 2027. For additional information, contact Greg Beavers, Corresponding Secretary at 812-345-2299 or bluebirdbox@gmail.com.

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



CENTRAL ILLINOIS DAYLILY SOCIETY
Lori Doolin, President
Winchester, IL
lmdoolin90@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
lanaopal@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.indianadaylilyirissociety.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
peggylpike@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
ceandcflucius@sbcglobal.net
Andrea Hicks, Secretary
packhicks@gmail.com
columbusdaylilies.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
Wausaukee, 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

GARDEN JUDGES CLASSES ON ZOOM!

Garden Judges 1: Monday, November 16
7:30pm Eastern/6:30pm Central

Garden Judges 3: Tuesday, October 8 or Thursday, October 13
8:00pm Eastern/7:00pm Central

To enroll, email Saundra at alongthefencedaylilies@gmail.com

2027 REGION 2 WINTER MEETING

Where: Indianapolis, Indiana
When: February 19 - 21, 2027
See pages 12-13 of this newsletter for more information

2027 REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING

Where: Rockford Illinois
When: July 16 - 18, 2027
See page 52 of this newsletter
Additional information will be posted on the Region 2 Website as it becomes available

2027 ADS NATIONAL CONVENTION

Where: Virginia Beach, Virginia
When: June 9 - 12, 2027
https://daylilies.org/national-convention/

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

NON PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE
PAID
TUCSON, AZ
PERMIT NO. 690



'Brookwood Black Kitten' (Sharp, 1995) in Cheryl Jenkins' Daylily Rock Garden
Photo by Cheryl Jenkins
This is one of nearly 200 lovely images submitted for the Region 2 Photo Contest!