



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc

Issue 25

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www.wisdaylilysoc.org

Rosemary Kleinheinz, Editor

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

MAY 2008 SPEAKER

RICHARD NORRIS OF ASHWOOD GARDEN

By John Sheehan

Our May 2008 WDS Monthly Meeting will bring a special speaker from Glouster, Ohio--Richard Norris from Ashwood Garden. There, Richard and his wife Janice run a thriving commercial daylily garden. On Saturday, May 24, 2008, at 1:00 PM at the West Side Agricultural Research Station, Richard will describe his daylily hybridization program to us.

Since 1999 northern hybridizer Richard Norris has been introducing beautiful daylilies, all with well-formed, well-proportioned foliage. These hardy daylily plants will thrive in your Wisconsin gardens! I have several in my garden and they have all done well in Madison. Some of these include: ASHWOOD STILL NIGHT, CORAL MAJORITY, STURM UND DRANG, and RUTH PARISH. Many of his newer introductions are show stoppers. ASHWOOD RINGS OF SATURN, ASHWOOD SMOKEY JOE, ASHWOOD DARK SIDE and MEMORIAL TO STEVE, are all lovely newer cultivars that can be seen at Richard's website: <http://www.ashwood-daylilies.com>.

Please join us on May 24th to welcome Richard to Madison. He is a quiet, friendly, easy-going man who raises beautiful daylilies. See what he has to offer!!

WHAT A WINTER !!

We won't soon forget the winter of 2007-08!! Unfortunately our February meeting was to be counted among the casualties. With a weather forecast of freezing rain and heavy snowfall, it was decided not to have you take any chances by traveling to a meeting. That meant we were deprived of our own private showing of Jean Bawden's Expo presentation "Daylilies, Jewels in Your Summer Garden Necklace". Our thanks to Jean for her willingness to step in and be our speaker. It was disappointing not to have been able to hear her.

Usually at this time of year we invite you to bring an unusual perennial for our door prize drawing at the April and May meetings. Due to the long cold spring, we have to abandon the idea for the April meeting since it's hard to find anything out of the ground yet. However, let's not give it up altogether. If you have an extra plant you think other members would enjoy, bring it with you to the May meeting for our door prize drawing. Everyone goes home with something on these occasions!



H. 'Red Carpet Moment'
By Richard Norris

WDS Officers & Board Members

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Calendar of Events 2008

April 12th (Saturday) Fitchburg Community Center, 1-4 pm, Speaker: Curt Hanson
May 14-17, AHS National Meeting, Houston TX
May 24th, (Saturday), West Madison Ag Station, 1-4 pm, Speaker: Richard Norris
July 18-20th, 2008 Regional Summer Meeting here in Madison
August 3rd (Sunday) 1-4, Picnic, Auction, Adoption, Fitchburg Comm. Center
August 16-17, Daylily Plant Sale, Olbrich
October 18th (Saturday) Annual Meeting 1-4 pm Fitchburg Community Center, Speaker: Luddy Lambertson

Be sure to check our web site for updates.

A GOOD START TO 2008

Our first meeting of the year drew over 60 members to welcome Entomology Professor Phil Pellitteri. Dr. Pellitteri brought us up to date on the insects causing most of the problems for our region these days. He's really hoping we have a cold wet spring as drought weakens trees which then are more susceptible to insects. Judging by the weather outside these days, the trees shouldn't have a problem with insects this year!

As for those pesky Japanese beetles, Phil says there are some things you can do. He prefers to remove them by hand but, no matter what you do, there is no way to eradicate them from your neighbors' yards, so they'll soon be flying over to nibble on your plants.

Following the meeting several members had asked how we might deal with thrips. Pat Ellingson and Conrad Wrzesinski both spoke with Dr. Pellitteri later about this pest, and Conrad put together the following information for you. Hope it helps this summer.

TRIPPING UP THE THRIPS

By Conrad Wrzesinski

With the appearance of daylily scapes, comes the anticipation of beautiful summer flowers filled with the colors of a Kodak moment. This anticipation can turn to disappointment, if flowers open that are malformed and display blotched coloration. This damage is often the work of thrips.

There are 264 species of thrips in the U.S. and Canada that feed on plants. Of these only about three species are common in this area. Thrips are very small, elongate, cylindrical, gregarious eating insects ranging from 1/25 to 1/8 inch in length. Thrips damage may be torn leaves, distorted flower buds and blooms with small flower flecks displaying pale distorted color. The nymphs are frequently pale yellow and highly active. Thrips tend to be more abundant during hot, dry periods.

Phil Pellitteri from the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Entomology Insect Diagnostic Lab suggested two products that can be helpful in controlling thrips. A newer organic product is called Entrust. The other product is Neem oil. A single application of either product is usually not sufficient to control thrips. Usually two to three applications are needed and applied at 5-day intervals. Control of thrips should begin just before flowering. Check for the availability Entrust or Neem Oil at local garden centers.

For 70% NEEM OIL dilute at the rate of 2 tablespoons (1 fluid ounce) per gallon of water. Thoroughly mix the solution and spray all plant surfaces (including undersides of leaves) until completely wet. Frequently mixing the solution as applying is also recommended.

Before applying any product to control thrips, read the label for any precautions. Some products maybe harmful if absorbed through the skin. Always follow the recommended cleanup after an application and wash thoroughly with soap and water after use.

A wealth of information on insect pests is available on the University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Entomology Insect Diagnostic Lab web site. Access is available under Links from the Wisconsin Daylily Society web site (<http://www.wisdaylilyloc.org>) or directly from their web site (<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/ento-diag.html>)

WDS PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS SELECTED

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

At the March general meeting, members of the Wisconsin Daylily Society voted for their favorite photos in the Third Annual WDS Photo Contest. The winning photos in alphabetical order by photographer were: Timothy Fehr with a photo of H. 'Little Dreamer'
Diane Goodman with a photo of H. 'Indy Firecracker'
Wendy Reichel with a photo of H. 'Moonlit Masquerade'
Barry Rowe with a photo of H. 'Brookwood Carved Ivory'

An enlarged print of each of the four photos will be on display in the Wisconsin Daylily Society booth during the February 2009 Garden Expo and then presented to each winning photographer. These photos can also be viewed on the WDS web site (www.wisdaylilyloc.org).

Photos from 23 members were entered in the Third Annual WDS Photo Contest. The popularity of the contest continues to grow. Last year photo contest entries were received from 22 members.

Members are reminded to take pictures this summer for next year's photo contest, which will be held in February 2009. Photos may be of an individual daylily bloom, cultivar clump, daylilies with companion plants, or daylilies in a landscape or garden setting. Each member may submit two photos. Photos must be taken by the member submitting the photo, but do not need to be taken in the member's garden.

PLEASE CHECK....

....your membership information on the enclosed membership roster. Email or call Gene Dewey (gldevey@wisc.edu, or 608-255-0858) with any corrections. Thank you!

GARDEN EXPO 2008

By Kathi Dwelle

In spite of blizzard conditions and below-freezing temperatures, 35 hard working volunteers pitched in to make our booth at garden Expo Feb. 8-10 a success again this year. Twenty five new members joined during the event, and another signed up later. This matches our 2007 Expo enrollment and is indeed impressive. A very warm welcome to these new members!

Four framed and enlarged daylily photos from our 2007 Photo contest gave the booth a fresh perky look and drew much admiring attention from Expo attendees. A suggestion was made to experiment with a digital picture frame next year. If someone has one that they would be willing to loan, please contact our Expo chair Chris Zeltner at 608-873-5257.

One of our members Jean Bawden was a featured speaker at the event. Her presentation was titled "Daylilies, Jewels in Your Summer Garden Necklace". We can't think of anyone better able to talk about our favorite flower.

Overall, volunteers logged nearly 100 hrs. Chris says, "I'd like to thank everyone who came out to help. I could not have done it without them. And I especially appreciate their helping on such a terrible weekend, weather wise. Special thanks go to Tom Kleinheinz for setting up and taking down the booth. I greatly appreciate his ongoing help. This goes double this year since he had a flat tire on Sunday afternoon trying to get the booth back to the barn."

Finally from WDS, a HUGE thanks to Chris Zeltner for her enthusiasm and effectiveness in organizing this major promotional event for the society!

2008 SUMMER MEETING NOTES

Phyllis Sanner and her Decorations Committee need your help. They are especially looking for a couple of **quilters**. In the next couple of months your help is needed to help finish the quilted table runners.

Four to five people are needed on the Friday and Saturday afternoons of the Meeting to gather daylily blooms from members' gardens, transport them to the hotel, and be sure the tables are looking their best.

If you can offer your help, please call Phyllis at 608-882-5211.

Chairman John Sheehan plans to send out a separate mailing bringing you up to date on progress made and steps to be taken in the near future. It will also outline all the slots that will need to be filled with volunteers, especially when it comes to crunch time.

BARGAIN PLANTS AVAILABLE

Hello out there! This is an early welcome to all Region 2 members contemplating attending Madison's Mad City Affair this summer. A few words about our bargain plant table might add incentive to some still wavering about attendance.

Region 2 owes the concept of the bargain plant sale to two long-time AHS members, Caroline and Jerry Benser, who immigrated to Wisconsin from Alabama with their full garden of daylilies and the idea for a bargain plant table, which was first used at Madison's 1996 Region 2 meeting.

Our bargain sale plants have celebrated histories of their own. More than 60 are award winners. Most plants were acquired two years ago and tended by committee members to insure winter hardiness. We know these daylilies are sturdy: They survived burial under more than 100 inches of snow, so they're probably going to THRIVE in your own gardens!

Other activities and scheduling often severely limit boutique and bargain plant browsing. This year the bargain plant tables and the boutique will be "sale ready" at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 18, remaining open until dinner begins in the evening. Check both of them before your pre-prandial nap. Sales re-open when buses return to the hotel on Saturday. The plants will be individually wrapped and labeled. You'll be able to select cultivars using colored pictures depicting all flowers. All plants are selling for \$5.00 per double fan.

Many of our bargain plants are off-springs of Region 2 hybridizers. If you've chatted with Bill Powell, Leo Sharp, Dottie Warrell, Curt Hanson, Jamie Gossard or Don Jerabek, etc. at previous meetings, now is the time to buy some of their beautiful earlier hybrids and connect their blooms with personae.

Only persons attending Mad City Affair may buy these plants. Because quantities of many of them are limited, you may wish to order them in advance. Beginning about mid-May, Bargain Plants Pre-Meeting Order Forms will be sent to all registrants. Also about that time, a list of the plants on sale, including descriptions will be available at www.wisdaylily.org, along with a registration form and other meeting information. No access to the web? Call June Johnson at 608-273-9875 to receive a registration form and a complete bargain plant list.

Pre-meeting orders will be accepted until 6:00 p.m. on July 11. They will be packaged for pickup on Friday, July 18. Checks and cash payments accepted.

Ruth Horrall and June Johnson
Co-Chairs, Bargain Plants

Membership News

If new members are any indication, gardeners all around Wisconsin are interested in daylilies. We knew that already, but it is interesting that we draw members from so many communities. A big welcome to these new members from 28 different localities:

BARNEVELD: Diane Brault; БЕЛОIT: Gudrun & Charles Haynes; BROWNSVILLE: Diane Wieneke; CLINTON: Bob Kietzman; COLUMBUS: Deanna Schulz; COTTAGE GROVE: Lynda Viken; DEFOREST: Becky Halstead; DODGEVILLE: P & M Gardens (Patricia Borcharding); EDGERTON: Margaret Hawley; ELK-HORN: Kathy Zwirgzdas; HELENVILLE: Jeanne Garrett; HOLMEN: Erwin Bringe; JANESVILLE: Rita Stubbe; JEFFERSON: Margaret Attwood; LAKE MILLS: Karen Anderson; MADISON: Sandy Jensen, Kim Koster, Gloria Luz Nelson, Katherine Ritchie Rheame, Sandra Schmitz, Theresa Seeley, & Marty Vestling; MARSHFIELD: Gayland Hendrickson; MCFARLAND: Staci Fritz & Brenda Siebert; MILWAUKEE: Nancy & Dennis Nelson; MOUNT HOREB: Jodi Vorward; NEOSHO: Philrene & Jeff Hundt; OREGON: Tim Waterworth; OXFORD: Janine Jensen; PLAIN: Laurel Kohl; STOUGHTON: Tim Berndt; SUN PRAIRIE: Mary Guild & Kim Viken; WESTFIELD: Mary Jane Cass; and WAUSAU: Elizabeth Carr.

Helping with the Region 2 Summer Meeting being hosted by WDS July 18-20th, or working with the annual WDS plant sale August 15-17, are great ways to get to know WDS members. Contact John Sheehan (608-274-4921; johnsheehan@charter.net) to help with the summer meeting. For the plant sale, contact Chris Zeltner (608-873-5257; zeltner@chorus.net).

We look forward to meeting you at an event soon.

Our treasurer reports that several members have already taken advantage of our reduced renewal rates. Remember if you will renew your membership for 3 or 5 years, your individual rate for 3 years will be \$13 and for 5 years it will be \$20. The family rate for 3 years will be \$20 and for 5 years it will be \$32.50.

Keeping up with one-year renewals is a lot of work for our treasurer and "The Keeper of the List", so we hope this will encourage you to renew for a longer period of time.

Gene Dewey, Keeper of the Mailing List

LUDDY LAMBERTSON IS BRINGING HIS BLUE EYES TO MADISON!

By John Sheehan

Luddy Lambertson will be coming to Madison to speak before our group at our 2008 Annual Meeting to be held at the Fitchburg Community Center on Saturday, October 18, 2008.

For years Luddy & Rachel Lambertson have been hybridizing daylilies at Art Gallery Gardens in Lake Helen, Florida. At last, Luddy has consented to come out to Madison to discuss his well-known and well-respected daylily hybridization program. Check out his website at <http://artgallerygardens.com> to see his 22 spring 2008 introductions as well as all of his previous beauties.

See if you like the four that caught my eye: SHAMROCK SHORE; PAINTED PETROGLYPH; DRINK THE LIGHT; and EIGHT MILES HIGH. His images definitely show that Luddy loves near-blue eyes, teeth, tentacles and UFOS.

BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS AND SOUTHERN WIT*By Diane Goodman*

On March 15, the West Madison Ag. Station filled to capacity with over 70 members in attendance, the WDS had the opportunity to meet Charles Douglas of Browns Ferry Gardens and his wife Heidi. Over the course of his program he spoke of making a habit of hybridizing dormant varieties. He went on to entertain us with slides of his many introductions, his hybridizing program, and his gardens. He also had slides of the introductions from his wife, and his friend Gene Tanner. Along with these photos, future introductions were shown, (I believe there is at least one beauty that John Sheehan would love to have.) Employees and family pets rounded out the photo display. To help defray the expenses of bring them here, Charles & Heidi gave us 6 of their newest introductions. A spirited auction of these plants followed his presentation.

What an afternoon - beautiful flowers presented with Southern wit and philosophy!



*Charles & Heidi Douglas
Photo by Conrad Wrzesinski*

PAT'S NOTES FROM THE HYBRIDIZERS MEETING*by Pat Sturdevant*

The last Saturday in March I was in Green Bay for the Northern Hybridizers Meeting. This was the third time I had gone - and their fourth hybridizer's meeting. Twenty-five other hybridizers attended.

Phil Korth hosted the meeting with his wife, Luella. Breakfast was donated by Barbara Nickel, a retired professional baker from Waukesha & delivered by Harold Steen. She really is a great baker! We had so much to eat!! Thanks, Harold for bringing them up with you.

Our guest speaker was Bob Scott, from the "Home of the Topguns" daylilies, in Yukon, Oklahoma. Bob is convinced that dormant plants as a group will outperform evergreen plants if you live where you have repeated freezes during the winter. He states, 'Dormant genes' are the 'Silver Bullet' to the Northern Hybridizer. He has spent the last 10 years developing a dormant daylily program that emphasizes good color patterns, great branching and the possibility of re-bloom in the northern parts of this country. Bob is working to create doubles which he says are 20-30 times harder to work with than the other daylilies. The blooms don't have male and female parts most of the time. He's self driven, striving for edges & eyes and trying to find something new. He's venturing into UFO's, double UFO's & UFO's with edges.

Hybridizers must believe in themselves and in what they are doing. Don't let someone shoot down your idea! Run with it! You must be patient! It takes years to see your vision develop. Set goals & re-evaluate frequently. You may have to reset your goals & try a different path.

You need to purchase the best daylilies you can afford to further your program. For hybridizers, a daylily that has been around 5-6 yrs. is considered "OLD", out-dated, and behind the times.

Anyone can make a pretty face. It takes a hybridizer with conviction to get the whole package. You need tall, well branched scapes and healthy dark green foliage, along with that pretty face! Bob's looking for vertical branching over top branching. Top branching may have flowers that are not fully opening because of interference from another flower. Vertical branching, on the other hand, has flowers spaced and staggered up the scape, allowing each flower to open freely.

Don't get attached to your seedlings. Over 95 % of your seedlings should get composted.

Hybridizing should be FUN! Enjoy what you do & keep doing it! When it becomes a chore, stop & do something else!

WE REAP WHAT WE SOW

Unless the rabbits get here first

Word has gotten around that Diane Goodman discovered a surefire way to control the pesky rabbits invading her lovely yard. We asked her to share her secret with the rest of us. This was her response.

"I have used this as an animal repellent for the last couple of years, and been pretty happy with it. The challenge is to find the oil. In years past I have found it at Cub Foods and Woodman's.

Ingredients:

- 1 Tablespoon Mongolian Fire Oil
- 1 egg
- 1 Teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 quart of water

Mix in blender (to break down the egg). Spray on any plants rabbits like to "nibble" on. Reapply every 3-4 weeks.

My experience with this is to use it in early spring (May) and then a couple of times over the rest of the summer."

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We will be at the Mount Horeb Farmers Market, Thursdays, beginning May 8th, 3:00 PM till 6:30 PM and at the Mineral Point Farmers Market, Saturdays, beginning May 17th, 8:30 AM till 11:00 AM.

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