

American Daylily Society Region 1: IOWA / MANITOBA / MINNESOTA / NEBRASKA / NORTH DAKOTA / SOUTH DAKOTA

DAYLILY PIONEER

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The American Daylily Society

www.daylilies.org

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On the cover: "Wall of Fire" (Emmerich, 2008). Photo by Lyle Moen

Back cover: Photo by Lisa Schmidt

Facing page: "Blue Lightning" (Simpson-E., 2019). Photo by Lisa Schmidt

Above: "Silk and Honey" (Barrere, 1973). Photo by Lorraine Manz

The Daylily Pioneer Volume 25, No. 1, Spring 2024

The Daylily Pioneer is the newsletter of the American Daylily Society (ADS) Region One. ADS is a non-profit educational and scientific organization dedicated to promote, encourage, and foster the development of the genus *Hemerocallis*, commonly known as daylily. Region One comprises Iowa, Manitoba (Canada), Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

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Submission Guidelines
The Daylily Pioneer is published for the benefit of ADS Region One members. As such, the focus is on regional members, hybridizers, and activities.

The editor encourages submissions. All contributions are subject to editing for length or size, grammar, and clarity.

Digital images may be used for both electronic and print media and should be of high quality and resolution. Please contact the editor for more information.

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Deadline for the Fall issue of The Daylily Pioneer is September 1st

Region 1 Director's Report

Steve Horan



I write to you today as I begin the final year of my 3-year term as your Region One Director and your advocate to the American Daylily Society. In my first column two years ago, I wrote about my duties and how I hoped to represent you. It seems instructive to now write about what it's been like and encourage anyone who has been thinking about getting involved or would like to consider getting involved.

I've been at this for years now, having previously served as the Region's publicity director for upwards

of 10 years, which during those years consisted primarily of promoting and running the Popularity Poll where we voted for our favorite varieties of daylilies.

But this also leads me to reflect on the roots of my volunteerism and to empathize with many of you and your own gardening journeys. I like to say it all started when I moved into my new house (now 28 years ago) and decided to build a deck. Beyond the back yard was an unfinished part of the landscape that was infested with weeds and simply needed attention. It was as I viewed this area from my perch on the new deck that I decided to start growing a garden. As the garden grew, I searched out venues like the local garden show as a way to learn more and indulge what was becoming a passion. It was then that renowned hybridizer Karol Emmerich pointed me to the local daylily society. It was then that Stout Medal winner Gary Schaben asked if I wouldn't like to become more involved. It was then that I toured the extraordinary garden of Kyle Billadeau who inspired some of my own gardens. At this point, I was serving on the local board and attending all of the local daylily club events, joining other garden clubs, visiting the local arboretum, and attending Regionals and Nationals. It was then that I was asked by the incomparable Don Lovell and Nan Ripley if I might like to be a tour garden myself. In the meantime, I was expanding my volunteerism beyond the local level both regionally and nationally. Sheesh, this is starting to read like an episode of "This Is Your Life", if you recognize that reference.

Which is all to say, start small and see where things lead. You may very well identify with some of my own experiences. It all starts with the love of gardening and our favorite flower, the daylily. But it quickly becomes about the people we meet along the way. If I'm being honest, I have preferred some volunteer activities more than others, but it's always been the people we meet that is paramount.

As my own term winds down, please consider volunteering. Help is always needed and friendships are waiting to be forged. Good luck with your own journey and happy gardening.



"Much Ado About Magic" (Salter, 2005)
Photo by Lisa Schmidt

Region 1 President's Report

Lisa Schmidt



Well, it feels like spring right now . . . but just wait a minute, we will probably be back into winter in a day or so! I sure hope spring is coming soon, I really get the fever to want to be out in the yard! Here in North Dakota, we did not get very much snow at all, so we will see how the daylilies do up here without that cover. According to the weather maps it looks like a lot of you are still very dry again this year. Good thing daylilies are tough.

I am very happy to announce we gained two new AHS display gardens in our region. William Blair and Virginia Houser have opened their garden 'Blair Historical Daylily Garden' in Iowa City, Iowa. Nancy Rash and Lyle Moen have also opened their beautiful yard as a display garden in Washington, Iowa. Check out the display gardens in your area or on the way to a regional meeting, they are always a lovely way to view more daylilies to add to your wish list and a way to check out plants for your daylily judging. (Workshops for judging daylilies are available at the Region One meetings. Garden Judge Workshops 1 and 3 are also available online on the ADS website.)

I am looking forward to going to the National Daylily Convention in Oklahoma City in June. It sounds like there are a few openings yet so if you still want to sign up, just go to Daylilies.org, it should point you in the right direction. I am also very much looking forward to attending our Region One meeting in Minnetonka, MN in July. I know the Daylily Society of Minnesota has been working very hard to get everything ready for a fun time. Go to <https://daylilysocietyofminnesota.org/> for more information and to sign up. They always have wonderful yards to see and it sounds like it will be a great auction. Come check it out, help support Region One and the other clubs when they have a chance to host the meeting. The Region One auction is the only financial support our region gets as it does not get to collect any membership dues.

Speaking of supporting our region, I would like to start a committee to look ahead at our regional meetings to see if the Region could provide support and helpers to the host clubs. We only have five clubs in our region, so the chance to host a regional meeting comes around pretty fast. If you

are interested in being part of this committee or have some ideas for future regional meetings let me know and come to the board meeting at this year's regional (see page 13 for time and date). I would like to invite the Region One club presidents to attend the board meeting as well.

I keep hearing talk of people downsizing their yards. I know there comes a time when you feel the need to scale back, but please continue to support your local club and help it grow. A great way to do this would be to bring a friend to your next club meeting so they can see for themselves why we love this wonderful flower so much. Included in this issue of the Pioneer is an article on how to build and maintain your club's membership. It is a fairly lengthy article but full of great ideas and very interesting! It was written by Russ Allen, AHS director of marketing, and submitted to us by national marketing committee member Nancy Rash, from Washington, IA.

Let's get out there and grow some flowers! Welcome Spring.

Happy Gardening!

Lisa Schmidt

From the Editor

Lorraine Manz

Well, Lisa was absolutely right – no sooner had I added her report to the newsletter, than it started to snow. Not a lot, but more is forecast and the temperature is not expected to rise above freezing for at least a week. Such is spring in North Dakota.

In this issue of the Pioneer we talk quite a bit about membership. There was a lot of conversation about this at last year's regional board meeting, especially about declining club memberships and meeting attendances. We're not the only ones suffering though. It's a common problem in our busy, 21st century world. Be sure to read Russ Allen's great article, beginning on page 14, on how to help your club grow and thrive.

On page 36, Kathleen Weise invites you to share your regional and national meeting experiences. Please help her out if you can! I've never been to nationals, but I did attend my first regional meeting last summer. To be perfectly honest, the reason I went was because of my new position as Pioneer editor, but oh my, I was glad I did because it was so much fun. We took backroads for much of the drive down to Muscatine from North Dakota, mainly to avoid all the road construction on I29. In spite of the reduced speed limits, we still made good time and the roads were considerably quieter with none of the nerve-fraying congestion we would have found ourselves in had we stayed on the Interstate.

The meeting itself was well worth the long drive and the venue nothing short of first rate. As a new member of Region One, I knew only four of the other attendees (all from Bismarck) but I soon became acquainted with many more. When everyone wants to talk daylilies, it's hard not to get drawn into a conversation with complete strangers! The garden tours, social gatherings, speakers, and auctions all made for a thoroughly enjoyable weekend. I learned all



"Techny Breeze" (Reckamp-Klehm, 1987)
Photo by Lorraine Manz

sorts of things about daylilies, was inspired by the beautiful tour gardens, and made new friends. Plus, the cab of our pickup was stuffed full of newly acquired daylilies and other plants that I couldn't wait to put into my garden. It was a bit of an uncomfortable ride home but I'd do it again in a minute! (In fact, I'm pretty sure I will be when we go to this year's regional meeting in Minnetonka.)

My husband, who unfortunately does not share my love of gardening (although he does appreciate the flowers) found plenty to keep himself busy while I was having a good time. Most importantly, he was able to find a couple of places where he could escape the summer heat and humidity (he's a cold-weather guy) and enjoy a cool glass of good, craft beer!

So, if you're still trying to decide whether or not to attend the 2024 Region One meeting, I say GO! Fill out that form on page 21 and get it in the mail. Oh, and don't do what I did and forget to include your check. See you there!

It's snowing again.



ADS Region One 2024 Garden Judges Report

By Phil Fass, ADS Region One Garden Judges Liaison

ADS Region One membership is 200 as of July 15, 2023 (an increase of one member since the March 1, 2022 membership count of 199).

A region's maximum number of Garden Judges (GJs) is 20% of its annual membership, so Region One can have a maximum of 40 GJs in 2024. Our region currently has 28 GJs, five of whom are Garden Judge Instructors (GJ Instructors). We can add up to 12 new GJs.

ADS Region One had 30 GJs in spring of 2022. By July 2022, two GJs stepped down due to choice or circumstance.

It is very important for existing Garden Judges to 1) pay their ADS dues on time and 2) vote the annual ADS Awards & Honors ballot by the deadline (either by snail mail or online). The 2023 ADS Awards & Honors ballot postmark/online voting deadline is September 1, 2024.

We need more GJs to represent our region, for more northern votes on the annual AHS Awards & Honors Ballot. Consider taking Garden Judges Workshops 1, 2 and 3 for credit to become a new GJ. Students can take the workshops in any order.



Phil Fass demonstrates the measurement of spiders at the 2023 Garden Judges Workshop 2 in Muscatine, IA
Photo by Lyle Moen

Regional Preview

Daylilies Galore in '24!

AHS REGION ONE EDITION • JULY 19-21

By Dory Lidinsky

Minneapolis Marriott Southwest

Minnetonka, Minnesota

Only 20 minutes from both Minneapolis and the Minneapolis - Saint Paul International Airport.



The Daylily Society of Minnesota invites you to the 2024 Region One Summer Meeting to be held in Minnetonka, MN from July 19th-21st. For specific details, registration information, and a direct hotel link, go to the website at daylilysocietyofminnesota.org.

The Minneapolis Marriott Southwest, located at 5801 Opus Parkway, Minnetonka, MN, provides a beautiful space with meeting rooms, a large banquet area, recreation, and relaxation features such as a pool and workout areas.

Our featured guest speaker is **Eric Simpson** from Blue Ridge Daylilies in

Alexander, North Carolina. Eric started collecting daylilies in 2000 and has registered 224 daylilies since 2009. Eric hybridizes for patterns, eyes, and blue-

eyed daylilies. The Blue Ridge Daylilies Garden is an American Daylily Society National Tour Garden.



Photos by Eric Simpson



Photos by Jason Halonen

Springwood Gardens

Tour Gardens

Springwood Gardens, Karol Emmerich in Jordan, MN

Dick and Karol Emmerich's Springwood Gardens sit high on a wind-swept hill overlooking the Minnesota River Valley. A wide umbrella of sky stretches as far as the eye can see. A carpet of daylilies slopes gently toward the bluffs, and breezes carry the subtle but distinct fragrance of daylily blooms. Away from the city and looking down on the rolling countryside, visitors find it easy to feel they are afloat in daylily heaven.

The hardscape is a marvel, from the stone entryway to the sidewalks and curbs, boulder walls, and wide, handicap-accessible concrete walkways that invite a closer look at the daylily tapestry that represents

Karol's intense hybridizing work. Life-size bronze statuary adds striking drama to the colorful daylily beds.

While the gardens feature a display of newer daylily varieties, Karol's thousands of seedlings are the main attraction. As you walk by the rows of seedlings, perhaps you will get an appreciation of how much work it takes to produce a new introduction. Karol's focus has always been on breeding large, hardy, fancy, instant reblooming tetraploid daylilies with great color. From 2003-2023 she has introduced 228 daylilies which to date have won 1 Stout Medal, 6 Awards of Merit, 49 Honorable mentions, and 2 specialty awards. In 2019 she was awarded the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for outstanding results in the field of daylily hybridizing.

K & D Gardens, Karl and Denise Halvorson, in Farmington, MN

Karl and Denise decided in 2016 they were moving to the Twin Cities from Bemidji, MN. In doing so they had visions of opportunities to bring their love of gardening with them. So, with 50 pots of unique plants dug from their many gardens in the North, they set out to find a home in suburbia. Settling in a place in Farmington, with a standard 80 x 160-foot lot, the hobby flourished. An interest in Liliaceae, daylilies and many other northern (Zone 4b) varieties of plants has led to over 15 gardens displaying hundreds of colorful and beautiful

flowers. New additions are added yearly. Karl's special garden is on the west side of the residence featuring his favorite: Spiders and UF's! The joke in the neighborhood is it only takes Karl 10 minutes to mow the lawn as most of the yard is gardens with walking paths. Each of the gardens has its own name in reference to special people or events in their lives. The back yard also features 4 huge white pines in which shaded areas are planted with a variety of hosta's and martagons. The gardens provide great times for conversation which leads to cleaning, weeding and dead heading! The gardens are truly a passion and love for Karl and Denise!



Photos by Karl and Denise Halvorson

**K & D
Gardens**

Steve Horan Gardens in Woodbury, MN

I'm so excited to share my garden with all of you at this year's Regional. You're going to have a great time. I think back to when the local club was preparing to host a national convention in 2007 and the garden selection committee took a flyer on me. I was such a rookie, but most folks seemed to enjoy the garden and anyone who was here then will notice several evolutions and enhancements.

You'll find pathways and seating areas throughout the garden beds, water features and stone birdbaths, along

with unique trees and shrubs and companion plants.

But at its core are the daylilies. Our favorite plant. Some of the best from Karol Emmerich, Mike Grossmann, Kathleen Nordstrom, Phil Korth, and Gary Schaben; Dan Bachman, Margo Reed, and Jim Murphy; Nan Ripley, Don Lovell, and Phil Fass. The showcase area is all the 2024 introductions of Kathleen Nordstrom, so generously donated by her, awesome thanks to Kathleen!

To all of you, I hope you'll take encouragement from this one-time rookie who at one time didn't know the difference between an annual and a perennial. Please enjoy.



Photos by Steve Horan

**The
Gardens of
Steve
Horan**

Open Gardens



There will be 5 open gardens available for viewing. From the south and east, a garden in Dodge Center and another in Faribault will delight visitors with a large variety of daylilies as well as hostas, walking paths through trees, and a large pond (Faribault). Another garden in Inver Grove Heights just off 35E contains many daylilies and very large hostas nestled along the end of a lake. From the north and west, a garden in Mounds View provides a large variety of garden gnomes and other unique garden décor with daylilies, lilies, and other perennials. A national daylily display garden in Ham Lake features over 300 different daylily cultivars located on an acre with a variety of color, size, and flower shapes.

In addition to the attractive gardens, we will have a silent auction area at the hotel with a variety of unique gift items as well as a boutique and plant sale area where you can purchase items immediately. We are happy to receive any donations of plants and gifts items to be included in the silent auction or boutique. Please contact Dory Lidinsky at mnsocietydaylily@gmail.com regarding donations.

Please go to the website at daylilysocietyofminnesota.org for more information and access to the schedule of activities, registration form, and direct online link for hotel reservations.

See you in July!!!

Top left: "Minnesota Morning" (Schaben, 2001)
Bottom left: "Prairie Moonlight" (Marsh, 1965)
Photos by Lorraine Manz



Regional Meeting Announcements

Notice to ADS Region One Board members

We will hold a board meeting at the 2024 Region One Summer Meeting in Minnetonka, MN. The board meeting will be on Friday, July 19 at 2:00 pm in the ballroom or possibly another arranged room. I want to invite board members and club presidents to come to the 2024 Region One board meeting.

If anyone has concerns that they feel need to be addressed by our Regional Board, please send your issues to adsregion1president@gmail.com.

Still room for daylilies at NDSU

The NDSU garden in Fargo, ND still has room in the Region 1 Hybridizers bed. If you would like to see your cultivar at NDSU during the 2025 Regional meeting, you can bring it to the Region 1 meeting in Minnetonka this summer and Lisa Schmidt will take it to the NDSU garden to be planted. You can also ship daylilies directly Barb Laschkewitsch at 1016 College St. Fargo ND 58102.

Volunteers wanted



Planning on coming to the Region One Summer Meeting? Looking forward to visiting all those beautiful gardens? Want to give your creative and literary talents a little workout?

The Pioneer is looking for volunteers to submit photos along with a brief write-up on each of the tour and open gardens for publication in the fall newsletter. You only have to do one, but if you want to do more, that's OK too.

If you're Interested in helping out or want more information, please contact Lorraine Manz at adsregion1editor@gmail.com.

Gardens will be assigned on a first-come-first-served basis, so if you have a favorite, be quick!

Six Strategies for Successfully Building Daylily Club Membership

By Russ Allen, Region 4 Director

Submitted by Nancy Rash

INTRODUCTION

Ever since becoming an American Daylily Society director representing Region 4, one area of interest has been to find out from local daylily club presidents across the US what they do to build and retain members. Given that many local daylily clubs and regions (including my own) have suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of membership as well as volunteers for leadership positions, I'd like to share the feedback I've received from folks across the country regarding what does and doesn't work when it comes to growing and maintaining a healthy club membership.

Continued on next page



Visitors admire the gardens at Blue Ridge Daylilies, NC during the AHS National Meeting in 2022.
Photo by Lisa Schmidt

Continued from previous page

Please be forewarned: there is **no** universal set of strategies to build membership that will work for all clubs because of the wide variety of differing situations they face based on their size and leadership teams. But notwithstanding all the options, the membership building tips I've heard fall into **six key strategies**, which have **proven successful in many clubs**. The challenge is clearly for daylily club leaders to identify the strategies which offer the **greatest** promise for their clubs based on their local situation and challenges.

In my experience, club leaders tend to be much more articulate about the reasons for declining membership than they are about what actions they plan to take to address this situation. Given that there are tens of millions of gardeners in the US, clearly any club with the right vision and dedication should be able to recruit more members from this pool. While commercial sales of daylilies have been consistently reported to be at all-time highs during the pandemic, the challenge now is clearly how to translate this fact into greater local daylily club and ADS memberships in the face of reported declines in participation in social groups of all kinds. Hopefully, you can identify at least several initiatives from these six key strategies that might work well for your own club!

STRATEGY #1: ONGOING OUTREACH INITIATIVES

The challenge here is how to reach gardeners who might learn to love daylilies but aren't aware of local daylily clubs or why they should consider joining. Initiatives which have proven success include the following:

- ❖ **Daylily exhibitions** at venues open to the public are the **most** productive source of new members at many clubs (especially those in the South where daylily exhibitions are more common). The key appears to be to make contact with visitors at these events and invite them to attend the local daylily club, collect their details (for follow-up contact) and volunteer information that might encourage a gardener to attend a club meeting.
- ❖ **Daylily plant sales** open to the public are another source of new members. Having the plant sale advertised and/or located in a high traffic area with good signage can be quite important because you want to attract buyers who are NOT currently members of your club. Handing out flyers to encourage membership in a local club also is invaluable.
- ❖ **Invite a friend** to a local club meeting has been suggested by many club leaders with mixed success. The greater the incentives provided to new visitors to a club meeting, the more likely a positive outcome will result. The optimal scenario seems to be to have a member invite a gardening friend to attend an event and offer to drive them to the event – which means the friend doesn't have to figure out how to get there and knows they'll

have someone they know to talk with. If you offer to drive a friend, they need to put the event on their daily calendar with a specific time to be ready to leave. And hopefully they leave the meeting with a free gift daylily to plant!

- ❖ **Shopping mall flower shows** have been effective for some clubs. Shopping malls want to do anything to increase traffic for their stores, and if a daylily club offers to invite 50-100 folks to see their daylily display at a central area of the mall most mall operators would love to say yes. The key is that this should be done when daylilies are blooming so that actual flowers (cut or in pots) can be seen and touched by visitors. Showing merely photos of daylilies tends to get lost in today's digital world. Obviously, personal contact information needs to be collected from visitors interested in the display so that follow-up calls can be made to invite them to a future daylily club event. Having the display manned by daylily club members who can answer questions is also key.



Daylily Society of Minnesota's off-scape show at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. Photo by Jason Halonen

- ❖ **Home school groups/Boy Scouts/Girl Scouts.** Asking local children's group leaders to consider a visit to a home daylily garden during peak bloom season is another promising approach. Chances are the kids will come along with many siblings and parents as an excursion and this may trigger interest in daylilies as well as learning more about how to grow them. Naturally, giving a bare root cultivar to each visitor can be highly productive since they need to immediately go home and plant the daylily and look forward to its future blooms. Combining visits with some basic instruction about the history and care for daylilies can tie in with club teaching objectives or horticultural badges, etc. Ask yourself, if a kid never experienced planting a flower in a garden during his childhood, what are the odds that he'll fall in love with daylilies as an adult?

- ❖ **Avoid dues hurdles** for anyone wishing to attend a club event. Folks don't want to feel obligated to pay for a club membership before they have decided that they'd love to join.
- ❖ **Handing out ADS materials** to visitors to any of the above events is a good way to help them remember how much they enjoyed their visit! The *Discovering Daylilies* brochure (available on the ADS website) or simply printing up a page describing your local club and its future meeting schedule and locations could also work great.
- ❖ **Media announcements** of any local public daylily events by local newspapers or digital sites can be helpful in drawing visitors to these events.
- ❖ **Daylily blooms on a paper plate** should be considered at any daylily event during bloom season. This is because the display both attracts close attention of the beautiful blooms by visitors and also demonstrates how they can easily bring blooms to admire inside their homes on a plate (without water).
- ❖ **Inviting other gardening club members** to your meetings is another promising outreach initiative. The ADS at the national level has cross-membership recruitment initiatives with the American Horticultural Society and the American Hosta Society with a free exchange of full-page ads in our respective journals to encourage multiple club memberships. This has provided some benefits to membership growth at all three organizations. Be sure to note new members to the ADS located in your geographic area from the periodic membership Excel files shared with your regional president, and assign someone to personally invite the new ADS members to your local club meetings.

STRATEGY #2: PERSONAL CONNECTIONS WITH FIRST-TIME VISITORS

How many times would you want to go to a club if you had no friends whatsoever who were members? Not too many! You've no doubt heard the slogan "people come for the flowers, but stay for the people." The challenge for all club leaders is to foster the personal connections so that first time visitors "stay for the people." So how can a club encourage personal connections with a first-time attendee to optimize chances for generating a long-term club member? One club president explained that they had gotten down the **handling of new attendees at their club to a science with astonishing success rates** – based on tips including the following:

- ❖ **Greeting first time attendee.** This should be one of the highest priority positions in any club – namely to have a person or team with the responsibility to warmly welcome first-time attendees. You could call this person the hospitality chairman or social chairman or "membership angel" who makes sure things move forward smoothly.

- ❖ **Learning about the attendee.** After a warm welcome, the next step is for the assigned membership angel to learn about the new attendee through some friendly chatting. What you need to learn includes how they learned of the meeting, whether they currently grow daylilies (or other plants), their previous occupations, their location, and perhaps why they decided to come to the meeting. This ideally calls for a friendly extrovert to glean such information in a most gracious manner.
- ❖ **Assigning a "membership angel".** Next, the membership angel or hospitality chair needs to figure out **who in their club might be the very best person** to take the new attendee under their wings during the meeting. This could also be based on any of the answers to the questions posed or could be based on personality or age or some other criteria. The role of the selected membership angel volunteer is to chat with the new attendee, explain how the meeting works, introduce them to other members that might make a "connection" with the new attendee, and to sit with them so they can chat before during and after the meeting.
- ❖ **Critical post-meeting follow-up.** After thanking the person for visiting, it's important to say how much you're looking forward to seeing them at the next meeting (time & place) and to obtain their contact information (e.g., email or phone number) so you can follow-up later. The volunteer membership angel then is given the responsibility to personally **phone** the visitor immediately prior to the next meeting to remind them of the precise time and place and why they would probably love to attend and offer assistance with transportation if that's an issue. In any case, the point is to communicate that they and others are enthusiastically looking forward to seeing them at the next event. Offering to bring a gift plant based on the visitor's flower preferences might also make the sale.



- ❖ **Club member roles.** The key here is that **all** the members of the club need to step up to volunteer to assist in some capacity – even if it's simply being super friendly to **every** new person who visits the club. This should not only be the role for elected officers who often are busy with other tasks. Some friendly extrovert members will be better and more comfortable with this than others, but with effort everyone can play an invaluable part. You will note a dramatic increase in new member retention as time moves on.

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AHS REGION ONE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR ELECTION
Cast your Vote!

It's time for AHS Region One members to elect our President to serve a 2 year term and our Director to serve a 3 year term beginning Jan. 1 2025.

Per AHS Region one by-laws, Directors and RP's must be elected by mail ballots. Val Hoefer, Chair of the Nominating Committee, will announce the election results at the 2024 AHS Region One business meeting in Minneapolis, MN.

To be eligible to vote, you must be an AHS member in good standing. All ballots must be mailed to Val Hoefer, Tabulator, 51917 834 RD Petersburg, NE 68652 by July 1, 2024

BALLOTS MUST BE POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2024

AHS Region One Election Ballot

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 American Hermerocallis Society Region One Election Ballot for
 Region One President – 2-year term
 Region One Director – 3-year term
 Vote for One Mark your ballot with an X

Ballot must be mailed and postmarked on or before July 1, 2024

AHS Member 1	AHS Member 2	Candidate
		Lisa Schmidt - President
		Write - in
		Scott Keller - Director
		Write – in

Signature of AHS Member 1	Date signed	Print name of AHS Member 1
Signature of AHS Member 2	Date signed	Print name AHS of Member 2

Mail Ballot to Val Hoefer, Tabulator 51917 834 Rd Petersburg, NE 68652



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Hosted by the Daylily Society of Minnesota
Registrations capped at 112

FEATURED SPEAKER – ERIC SIMPSON, BLUE RIDGE DAYLILIES

FEATURED TOUR GARDENS
 Dick & Karol Emmerich – Springwood Gardens
 Karl & Denise Haldorson – K & D Gardens
 Steve Horan – Horan Gardens

GARDEN JUDGES WORKSHOP 2 ON SUNDAY
 Held at Horan Gardens for new judges. Drive-yourself directions will be provided. See box below.

REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:
 Friday & Saturday programs, Saturday bus tour, gift plant, and all meals from Friday dinner through Saturday dinner. Guest 'dinner only' is also available (see below).

REGION ONE AUCTION
 Mike Grossmann, Auction Chair
mike144mann@msn.com
PLEASE CONTACT MIKE TO DONATE FOR REGION 1!

REGISTRAR/CO-CHAIR
 Kris Henning, P. O. Box 135, Frederic, WI 54837
 Cell: 715-431-0249 Email: kristiehenning@gmail.com
 Contact Kris if you have any registration questions

OTHER QUESTIONS?
 Chair Dory Lidinsky: 763-772-7941, dlidinsky@comcast.net
 Co-Chair Karol Emmerich: 952-941-9280, kdemmerich@aol.com

SCHEDULE	
FRIDAY, JULY 19	
10 AM–4 PM	Open gardens, hours as noted
12:00–5:00 PM	Boutique open-Silent Auction Raffle, Bargain Table
2:00–5:00 PM	Registration; open time poss. earlier
2:00–2:45 PM	Region 1 Board meeting
4:00–4:45 PM	Hybridizer slides
5:00–6:00 PM	Social hour
6:00–7:00 PM	Dinner
7:00 PM	Region 1 Auction
SATURDAY, JULY 20	
Breakfast at hotel	
Staggered, TBA	Tour buses depart
3:30–3:40 PM	Tour buses return
3:30–5:00 PM	Boutique open
5:00–6:00 PM	Social hour
6:00–7:00 PM	Banquet
7:00–7:30 PM	Region 1 Business mtg/Awards
7:30–8:30 PM	Guest speaker–Eric Simpson
8:30–9:00 PM	Special auction of Blue Ridge Daylilies
9:00–9:15 PM	Invitation to 2025 Regional & close
SUNDAY, JULY 21	
10 AM–12 PM	Garden Judges Workshop 2–if held**; Steve Horan, Instructor
10 AM–4 PM	Open gardens, hours as noted

-Schedule subject to change–check at Registration-

**SATURDAY IS “STAR OF THE NORTH” VOTING!
 (INFORMAL PRESIDENT’S CUP)**

HOTEL–MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT SOUTHWEST
 5801 Opus Parkway, Minnetonka, MN 55343

Reservations are open! Hotel reservations can only be made via the link on the DSM website to get the block rate:
www.daylilysofminnesota.org

Group room rate is **\$129 + tax** until 6/27/24 or until hotel sells out. Rate is good for Thursday & Sunday nights too.
 Come early and stay late!

REGISTRATION FORM–2024 REGION ONE SUMMER MEETING

Make checks out to “DSM” & mail with form to: Kris Henning, Registrar, P. O. Box 135, Frederic, WI 54837

Name(s) _____
Please list name(s) as you would like them shown on your name badge(s). Mark Youth with a “Y” after name.

Address _____

City _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Do you have any special needs? _____ (Bus, meals, etc. Please use back). Will you accept email confirmation info? _____

Late fee if postmarked after June 19th. Final cut-off date is July 9th.

Garden Judges 2 (you must pre-register by 6/19/24):
****Workshop 2** is for **new judges only** to complete the GJ training, not for renewing judges anymore. \$5 to register, \$3 to audit (observe). Cash fee collected at garden. Do not pay now.
Name(s) of those who will attend Workshop 2:

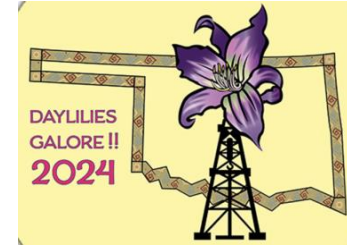
We need you! Consider becoming a Garden Judge. ADS website <https://www.daylilynetwork.org/page/GardenJudgesHome>
Workshop 1 is to start becoming a judge and is online.
Workshop 3 is for renewing judges and is also online.

Fees: (\$5 of each registration fee goes to region)

_____ # Adults postmarked by 6/19 @ \$169	\$ _____
_____ # Adults postmarked 6/20–7/19 @ \$189	\$ _____
_____ # Youth @ \$50	\$ _____

Guest dinner-only @ \$55 each night:

_____ # Friday	_____ # Saturday	\$ _____
Total Fees		= \$ _____



More information and Online Registration
Check out ads2024convention.org

The 78th ADS National Convention
June 12-15th, 2024
Oklahoma City, OK

Hotel reservations are not included in convention reg. Make your hotel reservations with Embassy Suites OKC NW. Mention ADS for convention rates. (405) 842-6633 or online through the link found at <https://www.ads2024convention.org/the-hotel.html>

Fill out one form per person, please.

Contact Information: **Mark -Y for youth next to name.**

(As you want printed on the name badge) First and Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number _____ Email address: _____

Are you an ADS Officer/Committee Chair/Regional Officer? If yes, please put position/title. _____

Are you a member of the American Daylily Society: Yes or No If yes, what region? _____

Any dietary/mobility/accessibility needs we should know of? Use back of form if needed. _____

Thursday Optional Tour to the Myriad Botanical Gardens + Lunch at Toby Keith's + Tour of First Americans Museum: \$90/person. Total _____

Companion Dinner \$50 each. Quantity: _____ Total: _____

Names: _____

Which Banquet(s) _____

Convention T-Shirt: \$22 each (XS-4XL) Size _____ Quantity _____

Judges Education Clinics (Circle each that you plan to attend)

All \$5ea, do not send funds now. Check the schedule page posted on the convention website.

Exhibition I

Garden Judges I

Exhibition II

Garden Judges II

Exhibition III

Garden Judges III

Full Registration: CIRCLE ONE

Full registration includes 2 days of garden tours and lunches, 2 evening banquets, and more!

Early Adult Full Reg.: \$339/person

ADS Youth Member (Under 18): FREE!!

(Postmarked by 3/31/24)

Late Adult Full Reg: \$379 (If postmarked after 3/31/24)

Cancellations

Full refund if received by 4/15/24

50% Refund if received 4/16/24-5/1/24

No Refund if received after 5/1/24

11:59PMCST

You may swap your seat if you can't attend.

Notify the registrar ASAP!

2024adsconvention@gmail.com

Form Total: _____

Payment Method: _____

Total Amount enclosed: _____

Mail registration with check/money order payable to 2024 ADS Convention.

2024 Convention Registrar

Becky Stone

723 E 10th

Chandler, OK 74834

Questions? Email

2024adsconvention@gmail.com

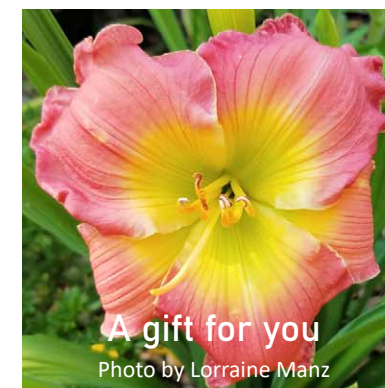
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KEY STRATEGY #3: HANDS-ON EXPERIENCES

Have you ever found a person who fell in love with daylilies by only seeing a picture on a digital screen? I haven't. In fact, most daylily lovers I've talked with can name the specific cultivar they saw in a garden which led them to fall in love with daylilies! In my case, it was *H. 'Hudson Valley'*. My dad gave me some fans to plant near the garage and I did nothing special – but noticed that each and every year the clump got larger and more beautiful with perfect flowers that led my heart to melt. Well, the rest is history. In any case, tips I have heard frequently about the importance of including hands-on experiences in our daylily club activities such as the following:

- ❖ **Daylily garden visits.** Club activities naturally have to include the opportunity for everyone to visit daylily gardens during peak bloom. Holding meetings with PowerPoint presentations of someone else's flowers isn't sufficient. It's important to provide opportunities, especially for new members, to visit some daylily gardens until they find that one cultivar that melts their heart! Scheduling open gardens by club members is a popular approach, as is scheduling a visit to a local daylily display garden with some daylily friends.
- ❖ **Conversation with garden visitors.** A critical element is for the garden host to have the opportunity to chat with visitors. Letting them simply wander around doesn't hack it. You need to engage in dialogue about daylilies, and ask about what they like and don't like etc. The best questions I like to ask when someone arrives at my display garden are a) "Do you currently grow any daylilies?", and b) "Please tell me your absolute favorite daylily you see in my garden today!" This changes a visitor from simply wandering around looking at pretty flowers, to examining closely the differences between the various cultivars and trying to figure out what colors or characteristics they love best.
- ❖ **Gift ideas.** Try to give every visitor something to bring home with them. I always offer any family visiting my garden to **tell me about their favorite several cultivars** they've seen in my garden. Then I talk about the wonderful characteristics of each and **pick a bloom from each to place on a paper plate** for them to take home. I explain that the blooms will close up after dinner regardless of whether they have water or not and this is a great way to bring daylilies into their home or to the kitchen table. Of course, if the opportunity



arises, giving a visitor a freshly dug fan or a daylily you think they'll like is even better – as it will prompt a discussion of planting and growing tips. Once, I had a policewoman stop by to warn me that visitors aren't allowed to park their cars facing the wrong way on the street – and I thanked the officer and gave her a plate of daylily blooms to enjoy in her squad car; you should have seen the wonderful expression on her face! After all, who can possibly get mad at someone that loves daylilies

- ❖ **Schedule club visits to gardens.** Try to take the initiative to suggest outings to visit gardens (commercial, public, and private) in your area during peak season where club members either car pool



Visitors admire the daylilies in the gardens of Heather and Jim Harroun during the 2023 Regional Meeting in Muscatine, IA
Photo by Lisa Schmidt

together or the club hires a bus for the occasion. It's a memorable fun event both on the bus and at the gardens, and it's a way to help newbies get more involved in selecting daylilies for their gardens. The newbies may find this a totally new experience so you'll have to cordially invite and encourage them to participate. Nothing catches one's attention more than watching other daylily lovers purchase plants they are wildly in love with. It helps to remind you why you love daylilies too.

- ❖ **Questions about daylilies.** Be sure to ask any first-time visitor if they have any questions about daylilies – and you'll find that everyone has questions but they're just too reluctant to ask until invited. You can discuss bloom seasons, soil, pest control, watering, ideal garden locations, the ease of hybridizing, etc. Try to answer some questions with a response that the visitor will always remember. Handing out a brochure on daylilies or an old copy of the Daylily Journal to visitors is also a great idea since they'll bring this home and extend their thinking about daylilies.

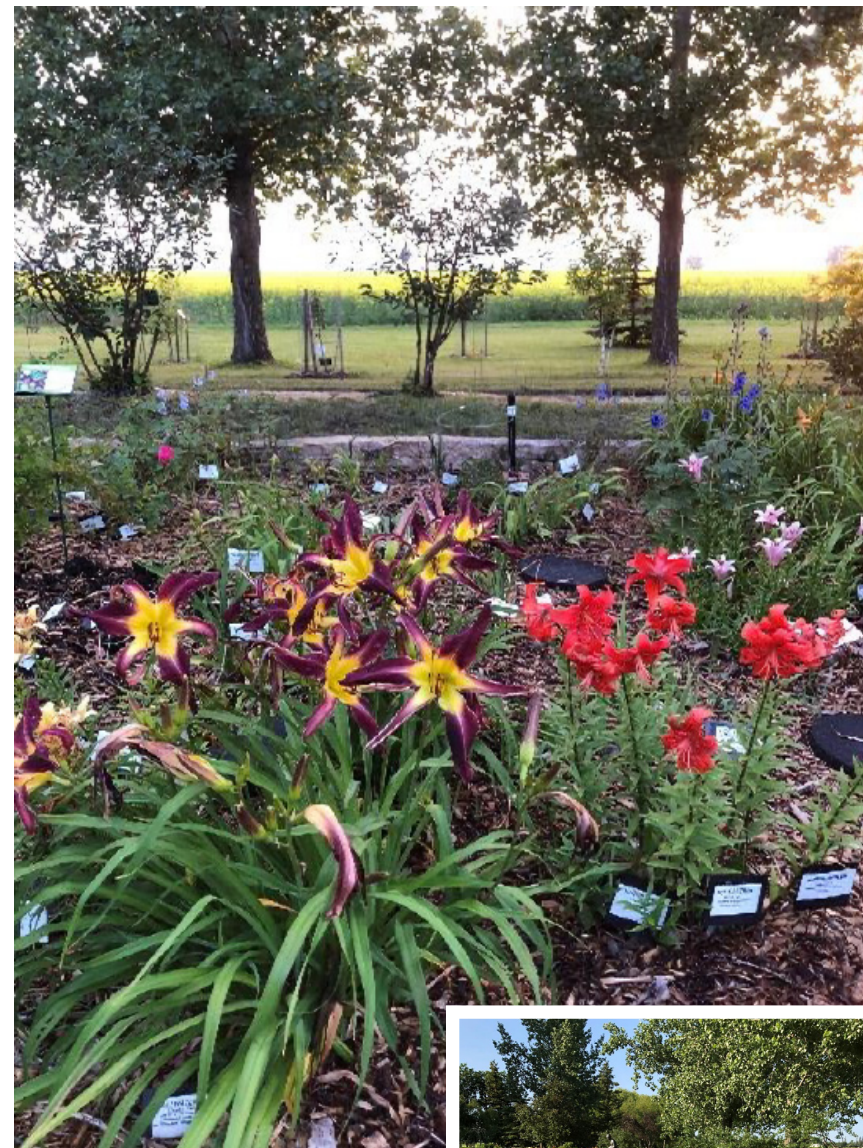
Continued on page30

LOCAL NEWS

Beausejour Daylily Gardens
by Mary Veldman

Oh Canada: True North Strong and Fierce Daylilies

All photos by Mary Veldman



Top: "Bali Watercolor"
(Stamile, 2002)

Middle: Looking south

Bottom: "Sun Panda"
(Culver-B., 2009)

From 1961-1990 the Government of Manitoba said the growing zone of Eastern Manitoba Canada was a zone 2B. In 1991 the Government revised this. It is now a 3B growing zone. This is probably due to climate change. The seasons are a-changing. Our Spring comes later, our fall is later, weather patterns are always in the extremes. Snow was literally nonexistent in most parts of Canada this winter. Warm and then cold, then warm again is a concern for the perennials. Time will tell how well the daylilies and other perennials managed this past winter. It's not unusual to have -40 Celsius temperatures in January & February. I have been told that peonies like cold temperatures and that's why our peonies are so beautiful. I wonder if we can say the same for daylilies? Not all cultivars would do well in extreme cold weather that's for certain. We have learned to order more wisely when it comes to daylily cultivars. I Stay away from the evergreen, and semi evergreen foliage types. Occasionally there will be a daylily that will surprise us like Bali Watercolor (Stamile, 2002) an evergreen that is tough as nails and is a beauty.

There have been a few daylilies that have really shown to be strong and fierce growers for us at the Beausejour Daylily Gardens. When it comes to modern daylilies, Bryan Culver daylilies have proved to be very good strong growing stock. They never disappoint us from one year to the next. They bloom for long, extended times through the summer, and quite a few of them have multiplied quite nicely. We have not yet lost any of the Culver cultivars. A few of my favorites are Sun Panda (2009), Harmony Road (2013), Jade Princess (2002), Mind that Bird (2013), Exaggerator (2017), Florenda (2015), and Giggle Creek (2000). Culver daylilies have been good growers for us, and I highly recommend his daylilies for the Northern daylily grower. Also worth mentioning are James Gossard Daylilies. It's wonderful to finally be able to grow some tooth varieties that can withstand our northern climate. I look forward to seeing Heavenly Angel Ice (2004), Dragon Fang (2006), Outer Limits (2008), Radiation Biohazard (2000), to name but a few of the Gossard daylilies that grow successfully here in the North. Paul Owen daylilies also come to my mind when talking about hardy modern daylilies worthy of the title "Strong and Fierce of the North daylilies."

Over the last 21 years we have planted over 600 daylily cultivars. Some have died, but others have thrived. The heritage daylilies have really been the backbone of the gardens since conception. A very generous donation of daylily cultivars (150) was



gifted from Patrick Healey's garden in Belmont Manitoba in 2002. Through many trips back and forth the daylilies made their way to Beausejour and most have thrived and given us much joy in our 2-acre display garden. We have been fortunate to have been able to divide, and sell these heirloom beauties countless times. The money we make from the sales goes back into the gardens to buy more plants, or for maintenance. We are non-profit, and rely on government grants, rural and town office support, and volunteers. Some of my favorite heirloom varieties are the species types. They bloom in Spring and help to fill the void while we wait for the mid-summer bloom or the early daylilies like Flava (Linnaeus, 1762), Earlianna (Betscher, 1938), Dumortieri, (Morren, 1834) Middendorffii (1946) Flava Major, (Farr, 1908), *H. Luteola* (Wallace-R., 1900).

Others that continue to be show stoppers year after year and behave like they are on steroids are the old faithfuls like El Desperado (Stamile, 1991), Gay Cravat (Peck, 1977), Indian Love Call (King-W., 1962), Navigator (Hall, D.F., 1963), Prairie Belle (Marsh, 1965), Sammy Russell (Russell, 1951), Sunrise Serenade (Moore, 1963), Timbo (Hancock, 1960), Vincent (Griesbach-Hardy, 1968), Yellow Champagne (Rudolph, 1967), and Baggette (Russell, 1945) amongst others.

Above left: Center bed

Above middle: Looking west

Above right: "Exaggerator" (Culver-B., 2017) – view from kidney bed

Below: Members of Charleswood Garden Club visiting the gardens



Daylily Society of Minnesota by Kris Henning

Gosh, here we are in February and Minnesota has had such an up-and-down winter this year! Snow that has been pretty light or non-existent, higher than average and record-breaking temperatures, and low snow cover for our plants do not bode well for winter survival. However, that means that we can GET MORE DAYLILIES THIS YEAR!! 😊

To start the year off, the first of our semiannual **Member Meetings** was held on February 25th at Bachman's Garden Center. Carole Hunter was our main speaker telling us about her program. The educational session covered discussions of rust, spring cleanup, planting daylilies, types of ruffles, daylily photography for amateurs and how to learn more about daylilies.

Our spring **Daylily Dig & Sale prep** will be held in a garden on June 1st and our Public **Daylily Sale** will be on June 2nd at Bachman's. We also hold our plant adoption distribution at the dig on June 1st.

Our big event for the year will be hosting the **Regional Summer Meeting** on July 19-21st at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest hotel in Minnetonka, MN. You can see the schedule, print out a registration form and get more information about it on our website at <https://daylilysocietyofminnesota.org/>. You can read more about the meeting on pages 8-13 of this newsletter. Because we are hosting the Regional, we will not be holding our usual **Daylily Bus Tour** or **Offscape Show**.

On August 18th, we will have our **Annual Club Banquet & Auction** at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest hotel. We will have a photo contest and silent auction in addition to great daylilies on auction to increase the fun. This is also where plant adoptions from previous years are returned for auction.

Our final **Member Meeting** of the year will be in late October with the speaker and program to be announced. Have a great year!

Central North Dakota Daylily Society by Gwen Brady

Spring is almost here although as far as the weather in our region is concerned, it has been a very different season for us. This year we did not experience the 100-plus inches of snow like last year. In fact, it has been a very mild winter so far with little snowfall, but we did have a period of rain just after Christmas, which produced very icy conditions for several weeks. Moving on to our daylilies, we just hope there was enough coverage there for them to survive until spring. Several people commented that they had tulips coming up and the lilac bushes and fruit trees were budding in January.

Our club board advisory members met, and we are planning a spring meeting, members-only daylily auction, garden tour and fall meeting with a speaker. We are also very busy planning for the Region 1 daylily meeting which will be held in Fargo, North Dakota in 2025. One of the featured gardens will be the historic daylily garden at North Dakota State University. It has one of the largest collections of daylilies in our area and is well worth a visit.

As we wait in eager anticipation of spring, I wish you happy thoughts of the gardening season to come!



"Christian Fletcher" (Hanson-C., 2005)
Photo by Lorraine Manz

KEY STRATEGY #4: DAYLILY EDUCATION

Although in-person contact with daylilies is important, there are a wide variety of opportunities to enhance learning about daylilies and encouraging a long-term love for the flower. Now that so much information is available online, a question to ask yourself is why do we need to have club meetings at all? You already know the answer. The challenge is clearly how to enhance learning about daylilies without having digital, online, or print resources inadvertently **reduce** a person's interest in joining a daylily club or the ADS. Key resources which can enhance the growth of interest in daylilies include:

- ❖ **American Daylily Society website.** The American Daylily Society (ADS) website holds a wealth of information that can enhance any gardener's interest in daylilies by providing excellent Q&As, a listing of registered cultivars, and the means to locate regional websites and personnel, among other things. Actively **encouraging membership in the ADS is clearly seen as a means of building enthusiasm and interest in local daylily club activities**, and is one of the best ways to keep interest in daylilies alive throughout the year. At only \$25/year, this has got to be one of the best deals around – particularly since new members receive a \$25 gift certificate for purchase of daylilies from a large number of participating commercial gardens.
- ❖ **Daylily Digest.** The *Daylily Digest* is a free digital publication targeting gardeners new to daylilies and provides very basic and helpful information and advice and should be recommended to all newbies.
- ❖ **Facebook sites.** There are a variety of daylily-focused Facebook sites which became increasingly popular during the pandemic when many local club meetings were cancelled. Facebook sites can be helpful in building devotion to daylilies via the comments of those using the sites.
- ❖ **Publications.** The ADS has some wonderful books and publications on daylilies which can expand and enhance interest in daylilies. My impression is that most orders for these materials come from gardeners already in love with daylilies as opposed to newbies.
- ❖ **Hybridizing assistance.** Some of the Facebook sites facilitate hybridizing-related questions where members can learn about different approaches and technical details to enhance their hybridizing activities. Although some newbies find daylilies appealing from the standpoint of creating and registering new flowers, clubs clearly need to strike a balance between catering to the interests of “general daylily gardeners” and those heavily focused on hybridizing. Many of the most dedicated daylily lovers are those with hybridizing ambitions, so being able to have meetings address the interests of all members is an important challenge.
- ❖ **YouTube videos.** There are a variety of YouTube videos available which can be used to enhance interest in daylilies, especially during the off-season among younger gardeners.



KEY STRATEGY #5: DAYLILY CLUB MEETINGS

Without the personal connections and camaraderie found in daylily club meetings, it's hard to sustain a high level of dedication to daylily-related activities – which includes attracting new members, retaining current members, and increasing the attendance level of members at club events. The presentations and activities of clubs provide the cement to seal longer-term relationships with both daylilies and the groups involved in their promotion and appreciation. Think about it, **have you ever seen a gardener get converted to loving daylilies by only watching a video?** Clubs provide the setting for the tangible, long-lasting personal connections which help clubs grow.

When pondering what the “product” is that daylily clubs are offering their members, elements can include a deeper understanding of the genus *Hemerocallis*, connection to knowledgeable daylily growers and mentors, an opportunity to hybridize and show plants, a chance to visit normally unavailable gardens, the chance to exchange plants and seeds, a chance to spend time with likeminded friends, and the opportunity to see and hear good speakers on a variety of subjects.

Some tips I've heard regarding ways daylily meetings are handled that impact membership over time include:

- ❖ **Local daylily clubs.** Local daylily clubs have for years served as the base for building interest in daylilies and for gardeners wishing to join the American Daylily Society. But not all daylily club members (or prospective members) live within reasonable traveling distance of meeting venues. Many of these individuals are inevitably lost to the Internet where online daylily groups and resources abound. But for those who still crave in-person connections, why not suggest they try founding a new club in their own area? The ADS has a Local Club Facilitation Committee that will be delighted to help a person (or persons!) do just that. Contact Laura Ross (localclubs@daylilies.org) for more information.
- ❖ **Regional and national daylily meeting attendance** can further enhance the love for daylilies and provide the opportunity for the leaders of these organizations to help build membership through both education, cultivar and service award recognition, educational activities, and display garden tours.
- ❖ **Zoom meetings.** The benefit of Zoom daylily club meetings is clearly their accessibility to daylily lovers who live too far from the host club to attend a local meeting. Zoom also enables clubs to recruit guest speakers from far-flung locations at minimal expense. In short, there is a lot to be said for a club that offers periodic Zoom meetings on its calendar. The trick is to ensure that a good balance is maintained between digital and the all-important in-person meetings that help sustain the club long-term.
- ❖ **National meetings.** These events tend to be very impressive and memorable for those attending. Most of those attending from outside the local host club are officers of local or regional clubs around the country, which is fine. But having someone from your local club attend a

national meeting and then **provide a brief report of its highlights** to their local club members could be another way of raising enthusiasm for supporting daylily club activities. When thinking about adding “fun” to meetings, you should have seen the daylily hat contests and parades incorporated into the last two national meetings!

- ❖ **Meeting content challenges.** Although meeting formats tend to vary considerably between clubs, it’s clear that the ideal presentation for new members may differ somewhat from those oriented toward experienced daylily gardeners and hybridizers. A presentation that focuses on the minor points of distinction of a hybridizer’s most recent introductions (for sale at high prices), is not likely to appeal to new members who are more interested in the basics of building a collection of garden plants which they love. Clubs must try to address the challenge of catering to the interests of both experienced daylily growers and new members, and this is not always easy to do. The more newbies you have at your meetings, the more important this issue becomes.
- ❖ **Boring business meetings.** It is prudent to have a periodic review of the club’s financial report and minutes of the prior meeting. But the business part of a club meeting can be time consuming and is often quite boring, especially for first time visitors. Clubs might consider giving a printed handout of these items to members with discussion only of issues or corrections so that the meeting can quickly move on to daylily matters, which are the reasons folks

are attending the meeting after all. Talking about future club plans and asking for volunteers for club-building initiatives, however, should definitely merit some brief meeting time. Some clubs ask **every** member to volunteer for some committee or another so as to maximize personal involvement in the club even if such roles require minimal time and effort.

- ❖ **Club meeting location considerations.** The location and audio-visual support capabilities of the site selected for daylily meetings may also impact a club’s long-term success. Selecting a convenient site for meetings that is well-located and inexpensive can certainly be a challenge, but it’s worth pursuing.
- ❖ **Daylily club plant sales.** Having events like plant sales open to the public are an important opportunity for a club to build camaraderie amongst its members as they work together to host the sale. Even newbies have a chance to share with visitors what makes them love growing daylilies. Of course, plant sales can also be critical to raising money for running the club. Some clubs use the plant sale to support all their activities, whereas others charge annual dues in addition. I’m used to having a club receive 50% of plant sale revenues, with the balance going to those who put in the time and effort to dig, clean and tag their sale plants.
- ❖ **Peak season garden visits.** Daylily clubs should definitely look for opportunities to hold some garden **events for their members to attend during peak season** rather than only relying on fall or winter meetings at an “office” meeting location.

KEY STRATEGY #6: INCLUDE FUN ACTIVITIES IN YOUR EVENTS

Just ask yourself, how much fun is needed in a daylily meeting to warrant driving 30-plus minutes each way and spending several hours away from home on a weeknight or weekend? Chances are, if the meeting you’re at doesn’t have much fun associated with it, your enthusiasm for regular attendance will quickly wane. Here are some thoughts about building fun into daylily meetings for you to consider:

- ❖ **Memorable food.** Having homemade foods and desserts for a luncheon or evening meeting is surprisingly powerful as an incentive to show up! How often do folks recall food items they enjoyed as one of the most memorable parts of a meeting? Turns out that a lot of daylily lovers are good cooks too! Let’s count our blessings!



Good food is important. The Candy Kitchen in Wilton IA. Photo by Lisa Schmidt

- ❖ **Tables.** Extending a warm welcome to club members and guests is always important. But to keep conversations flowing throughout the meeting (except, of course during the presentation or when someone else has the floor!) requires a seating arrangement that is conducive to talk. Seating at round tables is a good example. Watching a presentation in a darkened room doesn’t provide much opportunity for camaraderie, but the banter folks have at their table before and after is not only fun, it might be the highlight of the meeting for some.
- ❖ **Games.** Including daylily raffles, games, and door prizes can liven up a meeting for sure.
- ❖ **Surprises.** Who says you can’t have a clown drop by your meeting, or have a gourmet cooking society prepare a meal with daylily toppings, or a musical group kick off the meeting? Think of surprise activities that make folks want to return. Scheduling joint meetings with a local Iris or Hosta Society can also add interest and fun – as well as increase cross-membership.
- ❖ **Attendance incentives.** Some clubs provide incentives for regular attendance, such as earning points that can be used for hosting “club plants” purchased from hybridizers with the increase in fans being returned to the club for prizes, sale or auction.



Speaker Mike Grossmann at the 2023 Regional Meeting in Muscatine, IA. Photo by Lyle Moen.

- ❖ **Entertaining speakers.** Selecting an entertaining speaker who can provide humor and share memorable stories can often be more important to attendees’ enjoyment than a speaker’s knowledge of sophisticated daylily hybridizing.
- ❖ **Recruiting younger gardeners.** Finally, as Marianne Willburn recently wrote in an American Gardener issue: “. . . if you’re going to pry young and/or young-at-heart people out of their busy lives to spend time at a meeting, you had better also give them a bona fide ‘night out’. And what constitutes that? A good start would be a chance to visit a beautiful place, to see amazing stuff, eat some unhealthy food, drink some beer, and to enjoy good times with great friends . . . the point is the **joy.**”

CONCLUSION

There is clearly no simple one-size-fits-all for enlivening a daylily club and building its membership long-term. The challenge to all club officers and club members is to try to identify some key activities that might **best** work to build their club based on the volunteers they have who are willing to help and the situation the club faces. Try to prioritize which of these six key strategies might offer activities with the greatest potential for success. Based on all the tips I’ve heard over the years about things that help clubs grow, it’s definitely possible to do so with the dedication and effort of our fellow daylily lovers!



“... the point is the **joy.**” Photo by Lyle Moen



Daylily gardens at the Minnesota Arboretum Photo by Jason Halonen

Cell Phone or Dedicated Camera?

By Kathleen Wiese

“Always use a dedicated camera for flower photography. You need to get close for good flower photos. Cell phones can’t do that.”

“Cell phones are great for photography. They are portable, lightweight, and you can snap a picture quickly so you don’t lose that moment of perfect light, or that beautiful butterfly on the daylily.”

OK. That makes which is best all clear, right? Is the answer really “it depends?” I am what is called a “photography enthusiast”. In other words, I’m that person who is always holding up the show trying to get that perfect photograph, or yelling “come on over and get together for pictures” at the family gathering. Back in the days of 35 mm film, I even dabbled in professional photography. Now I do photography only as a hobby and I use both my cell phone camera and dedicated cameras, and I find there is a time and a shot for each option.

What is the difference and how to choose?

Phone cameras have come a long way from the days of the first camera phone in 1999, but they do still have major limitations. Phones have smaller sensors, which do not allow for great low-light performance. They are also limited in dynamic range, the ratio between the darkest and brightest parts of the image. This means that a cell phone photo may end up with very dark black shadows or completely light-blown highlights.

Dedicated digital single lens reflex (DSLR), mirrorless, or point and shoot (P&S) cameras will almost always provide superior quality images. These dedicated cameras tend to have larger sensors. Sensors are the most important part of the camera. They are what allows the camera to capture light and turn it into an image. A larger sensor allows for the capture of more light, which provides better image quality, enhanced depth



The limited dynamic range of the phone camera leaves dark shadows on the photo subject and a blast of light from the window behind.

of field, more complete angles of view, and better low light performance. Dedicated cameras, by virtue of their size, will almost always have a larger sensor than a phone camera. The newer cell phones with multiple cameras have multiple sensors, one for each type of angle offered (wide-lens, ultra-wide, macro, or telephoto). Those three or four different sensors must fit in the same small cell phone case, so despite high mega-pixels and more lens capability, the quality of the image may not have improved.

Cell phone camera resolution is also lower than a typical dedicated camera, so there are limitations on how large a print can be made and still remain clear, or if unwanted parts are able to be cropped from the picture without losing quality overall. If photos are only going to be used digitally, cell phone resolution may work perfectly well. There are some newer cell phones that tout super megapixel (MP) capacity. That doesn’t necessarily mean that a 200 MP phone is going to give you a much better photo than a 20 MP dedicated camera. The cell phone camera doesn’t have a sensor to match, so the megapixels don’t matter all that much.

Cell phones rely on digital zoom. They generally work well in the lower zoom ranges, but as an object is brought in from a greater distance, the image quality degrades and “noise”, that blurry, veil-looking appearance in the photo, begins to appear. The crisp, clear outlines are smudged or completely gone. This can be a real disappointment when hoping to capture that perfect daylily photo.

Dedicated cameras have a clear advantage when it comes to zoom features. DSLRs and mirrorless cameras offer a wide range of lenses from macro for those ultra-close-ups to telephoto for distance shots, and wide angle for photographing the entire garden in one shot. There are lots of other options for dedicated cameras, such as higher quality flash for indoor or nighttime photos, filters for

various lighting conditions, and tripods to help for those low-light or other difficult to hold steady shots. There are some lens attachments for phone cameras, but the quality and versatility of them does not come close to those available for a dedicated camera.

Phone cameras have a fixed aperture, the opening which gathers light and passes it through the lens and into the camera. The adjustable shutter speeds and variable aperture settings of dedicated cameras allow the photographer to control whether the background is clear or blurred, and to “stop” the motion to obtain a clear photo despite subject movement.

A focusing system that will quickly lock on the subject to be photographed and stay there is very convenient, even when taking pictures of flowers. Dedicated cameras usually feature autofocus that will recognize the primary subject matter and keep the focus locked there. Some even follow the subject as it moves through the frame. Phone cameras have facial detection and do allow tap screen focus area; however, they are not as sophisticated as those same systems in a dedicated camera.

Convenience is one absolute advantage the cell phone has. It is easy to carry and quick to use. Cell phones can be slipped into a pocket or a purse, as compared to the bulkiness and weight of most dedicated cameras. Most people carry a phone anyway, so it makes sense to use that as a primary camera. On the other hand, battery life of a phone is somewhat limited in comparison to a dedicated camera, and using the phone camera takes battery life much more quickly than other applications. Carrying a portable battery pack can help avoid dead time on the phone, but that does take away some of the convenience factor.

Another advantage of the cell phone is the minimal learning curve for adequate use. Not only is the phone camera itself easy to use, most phones have built-in editing software which may automatically perfect things like lighting and clarity, and offer limited options for cropping and other corrections. Dedicated cameras require time to learn the use of the many controls and options for shooting perfect photos. In addition, they may require post-processing of the images through a separate software program, which also creates a learning curve, and additional expense.

Cell phones offer connectivity for quick and easy sharing of photos. Dedicated cameras have built-in WiFi or Bluetooth, but connecting to other devices can be cumbersome and



Top: “Trahyta” (Childs, 1982) taken with phone camera
Above: “Paper Butterfly” (Morss, 1983), taken with Canon EOS 90D – richer texture and detail

may require more than one try to get files transferred. If it’s important to get a photo taken and then send it on to someone, the phone camera is definitely going to facilitate that more readily than a dedicated camera.

So many things to consider – how to decide what to use?

Sometimes the choice is made for you. If your phone camera is the only thing you have when the perfect photo presents itself, the quality of that picture is going to be far better than no photo at all. If you are hiking for miles on a hot, humid day, a phone camera might be a better option than lugging around 20 pounds of camera gear.



“North Dakota Storm” (Lovell, 2018) with regular lens (top) and zoom lens (above), Canon EOS T5 – no loss of clarity or crispness with zoom

Below: North Dakota Storm, taken with camera phone

All photos by Kathleen Wiese



If photography is a hobby, or if you only want to record another hobby, such as growing daylilies, for your own use, the phone camera can give some impressive results. If you have graduated beyond that and wish to create enlargements, photo books, or spectacular images that are worthy of sharing or publication, a dedicated camera might be a better choice. If you have time and resources to use a dedicated camera with optional lenses, filters, and lighting, it is always going to give you a better photo than a phone camera.

Which do I prefer? I must admit, I still love my DSLR and mirrorless cameras more than my phone camera (although my last phone was selected purely on the merits of its camera). There are times, though, when the phone camera is right there, ready to do the job and I am happy to let it do so. Whichever works best

for you is really the right camera for you.

Resources:

Deciding Between a Camera and Your Phone: A Comprehensive Guide
<https://blog.daisie.com/photography/page/7/>

Dynamic Range Photography Explained
www.adorama.com

The highest resolution cameras you can buy today: Ultimate megapixel monsters
www.digitalcameraworld.com

The Real Truth Behind 200 MP Camera Phone
www.buymobile.com.au

Understanding Maximum Aperture
www.nikonusa.com

Smartphone vs Digital Camera: Which is better?
www.amateurphotographer.com

Camera Sensor Sizes Explained: What You Need to Know
www.studiobinder.com

Please Help Me Out for the Fall Newsletter

I would like to hear from those of you who have attended regional and national meetings, whether this year was your first or if you are a veteran of many. Please email me if you are willing to answer four questions about your attendance there.

Email: kwiese@bis.midco.net

Thank you in advance for your help on this project. Don't worry that I will get too many responses and won't need yours. The more the merrier!



These shots were taken with three different cameras. Although two of them are much more expensive than the third, the picture qualities are pretty comparable because the sensors are very similar. The Rebel T series retails for around \$450 to \$500 most times of the year versus the 5D series which runs around \$3500. No need to pay the big bucks unless you are doing professional work.



Clockwise from top left:
 “Milk Chocolate” (Carney, 1967) with Canon Rebel T5
 “Alaskan Midnight” (Porter-E., 1991) with Canon Rebel T5
 “White Eyes Pink Dragon” (Gossard, 2006) with Canon 5D
 “Asheville White Winged Dove” (Selman, 2014) with Canon 90D
 “Schnickel Fritz” (Kirchhoff-D., 1996) with Canon 90D



Historian's Corner

By Kathy Larson

I was looking through some Region One newsletters and this article from Issue 1, 1977 made me smile. It is a reprint from the Shenandoah, Iowa newspaper, dated July 16, 1946, reporting on the first-ever daylily society meeting held there two days earlier. We've all heard the story – but this account includes some really fun details!

“Hemerocallis Flower Show Attracts Thousands Here

“Shenandoahans are breathing a sigh of relief today after being invaded by over 3,000 more or less unexpected people on Saturday and Sunday. The occasion was a Hemerocallis flower show staged at the Henry Field Seed Company by local enthusiasts. Over 600 registered as drivers of cars to here.

“The whole thing started when round robin letter groups of *Hemerocallis* lovers decided to have a get-together and exhibit their hobby.

“Mrs. Jesse Stambaugh of Clarinda was locally in charge of the show and program, assisted by Mrs. Susan Conrad of Clarinda and Mrs. Helen Field Fischer.

“There were over 300 exhibits and displays from over the middlewest. Both amateurs and professionals were represented at the two-day show. Among the nurseries who participated were the Mt. Arbor Nurseries, Hill's Nursery of Wichita, Kansas, and Sass Brothers of Omaha.

“It was expected that hundreds of people would visit the show, but the actual crowds exceeded all expectations.

“As an outgrowth of events, the Mid-West Hemerocallis Society was formed, and with the enthusiasm of a political convention.

“Merritt Whiton, Nebraska City, was elected President, Mrs. Jessie Shambaugh was elected vice-president, Daisy Ferrick, Topeka, Kansas, secretary, and Henry Sass, treasurer. Publicity woman for the new organization is Mrs. Olga Tiemann, of Westbrook, Mo.

“Many amateur hybridizers brought along displays of the many different shades of red, orange, and yellow which they have developed. Among them were Ben Darby, Northboro, Meritt Whistler, Nebraska City, and Mrs. J.A. Taggart, Clarinda.

“State garden club presidents were here from Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

“One woman from Crete, Nebraska, had her nephew fly her here Sunday morning. The pilot could not find the airport, so a landing was made in a pasture north of town. From there the flower lover walked to the Field buildings.

“Tours of local beauty spots were conducted Saturday and Sunday afternoons by Mrs. Shambaugh and Mrs. Fischer. On the Saturday tour 150 car loads of people enjoyed many sights including many local homes, the nurseries, and local commercial flower gardens.

“Saturday night there was a gathering at the Congregational church where Mrs. Susan Conrad made various types of pottery on her pottery wheel. There were also colored slides of flowers, and talks on the beauty of the Hemerocallis. The church was packed beyond capacity.

“Among those coming from the greatest distance were Mrs. Viola Richards of Green Castle, Indiana and Mrs. Paul Vogle, Decatur, Illinois, who were representing a group sponsoring a national organization.

“For fear there would not be enough room in the city to house the many visitors, a dormitory camp was set up in in the east end of the Field No.1 building arcade. Thirty cots were obtained from Crystal Camp, College Springs, and every one of them was used.

“The whole enterprise was strictly non-commercial, free, and a huge success.

“Mrs. Fischer stated that she has not seen such an enjoyable, friendly crowd since the last jubilee and flower shows were held.”

2023 ADS Region One Financial Report December 31, 2023

Total Amount Checking/Savings Accounts – January 1, 2023 **\$29,597**

Income:
 Auction \$5,441
 Contribution from regional meeting (\$5 per attendee) \$365
 Postage refund from AHS (2 yrs) \$416
 Miscellaneous \$18

Total Income: **\$6,240**

Expenses:
 Newsletter – postage, printing, software \$1,683
 Editor stipends (fall 2022, spring 2023, fall 2023) \$2,150
 Website \$196
 Miscellaneous \$20
 Travel reimbursement \$2,946

Total Expenses: **\$6,995**

Net Loss (Change in Assets) **\$(755)**

Total Amount Checking/Savings Accounts – December 31, 2023 **\$28,842**

With the exception of certain mailing expenses related to the newsletter, the Region receives no income from the AHS, and the Region is not allowed to charge dues. All income for Region One comes from regional auctions and fees, plus donations from clubs and individuals.

The Regional President and the region's AHS Director are reimbursed for travel expenses for AHS's Regional President and Director meetings, and the Regional Editor is reimbursed for the summer Regional meeting.

“Heavens to Betsy” (Jeffcoat, 2004)
 Photo by Lorraine Manz



AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY REGION 1
THE DAYLILY PIONEER
Lorraine Manz, Editor
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Bismarck, ND 58501

