

Winter
2017

Daylily Society of Minnesota
DSM Daylily News

Calendar of Events

Feb 26	Program & General Meeting @ Bachman's
May 20	Dig @ Lidinsky's
May 21	Sale @ Bachman's
July 23	Off-Scape Show @ Arboretum
July 28-30	Region 1 Meeting @ Crowne Plaza, Plymouth
Aug 20	Banquet & Auction @ Marriott, Minnetonka
Nov 12	Program & General Meeting @ Bachman's

Presidential Ramblings

Dear Members,

In my first column, I wrote about the Daylily Society of Minnesota from the perspective of our interest in daylilies. Whether you are just getting started, are an experienced gardener, a serious daylily collector, or a hybridizer of daylilies, DSM is for you.

In my second column, I wrote about the Daylily Society of Minnesota from the perspective of member events. Beginning with the Spring Fling and Annual Dig & Sale in the spring, continuing with garden tours and the off-scape show during peak bloom season, wrapping up the summer with the Banquet & Auction in August, as well as presenting member education and science events in February and November, DSM is for you.

Today, I write to you about the Daylily Society of Minnesota from the perspective of where each of us is in our life's journey. As a young person, the seeds of my love of gardening were nurtured by helping my father plant annuals each year at his place of business. I went off to college and started my career with little time for gardening as I focused on job, family, and friends. Then I became a homeowner and planted my first modest garden, eventually discovering what became a lifelong interest: expanding my gardens and painting my home landscape with flowers. As I began to show my age, I found the need to revitalize my gardens to ease the burden of maintenance. And now, I find myself preparing for the next stage of life as I plan to retire from my career on March 1.

It gives me great pleasure to think about what I have to look forward to with retirement and my time in my gardens. I look forward to putzing around in my gardens. I look forward to starting summer days with deadheading and picture-taking in the mornings. I look forward to relaxing in my gardens and enjoying their beauty. I look forward to the gentle and blissful sights and sounds of the babbling creek running through my gardens and the birds and butterflies that make their home in my gardens. I think it would be great fun to have garden parties with my friends in the daylily world. It will be an amazing time. And yes, wherever you find yourself in life's journey, DSM is for you.

So once again, there really is something for everyone in the Daylily Society of Minnesota. See you in the garden!

Steve Horan



DSM General Meeting

(Open to the Public—*bring a friend!*)

Sunday, February 26, 2017

**Bachman's Garden Center On Lyndale
Heritage Room**



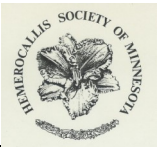
*Door Prizes every meeting--but
you must be present to win!*

Meet at Patrick's Café at Bachman's prior to
the General Meeting on Sunday afternoon.

No Reservations are necessary
--just show up!

Agenda

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 11:15am - 12:30pm | Sunday Brunch
<i>with Julie Covington</i> |
| 12:30pm - 1:00pm | Social Time
<i>(bring a snack to share with the group)</i> |
| 1:00pm - 1:15pm | Bi-annual business meeting |
| 1:15pm - 1:30pm | Regional Meeting announcements |
| 1:30pm - 2:30pm | “Tiny Jewels in the Garden” by guest
speaker Julie Covington |
| 2:30pm - 2:45pm | Social time |
| 2:30pm - 3:30pm | “Planting Flowers with Photography in
Mind” by guest speaker Kathleen
Nordstrom |



Meet our Guest Speakers:

Julie Covington

A Virginia native, Julie Covington received her Master's in Music Education from Radford University. She taught music for 34 years in Roanoke County, Virginia, most of those years as a middle school band director and completed additional postgraduate music education studies at Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia. During her time teaching, Julie was in education leadership positions and active in professional groups related to her career.

After taking early retirement, Julie finally had time to volunteer and become active in what had been, at first, just a stress relief hobby: gardening, and more specifically, daylily gardening.

She joined AHS in 1997 after first joining her local club. In fairly short order, she became an AHS Garden Judge and in 2000, her garden was named as an AHS Display Garden. Then the fun really began! She attended her first National Convention in 2003, became a Garden Judge Instructor and Exhibition Judge, and began regularly attending Regional and National Conventions.

Her first national service was on the Judges' Education Committee. Julie served as Regional Garden Judges Liaison for many years and chaired several Region 3 committees. In 2008, she became national Awards and Honors Chair, was named AHS Vice President in 2011 and then served as AHS President from 2012-2015.



After she took a little break from AHS traveling in 2016, she plans in 2017 to help in a friend's garden for the 2017 Convention, judge at least one AHS accredited show, honor several speaking engagements, and attend at least one regional meeting.

Presently, Julie is in the process of downsizing her garden, although there are no plans to give up gardening! She is active in her church, visits the gym three times weekly, walks several miles each day, and gardens three seasons a year, practicing the philosophy of "keep on keeping on!"



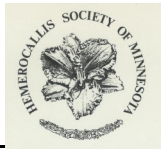
Meet our Guest Speakers:

Kathleen Nordstrom

Kathleen Nordstrom is a native of Bismarck, North Dakota. She first started collecting plants in 1997, and daylilies in 2003. Her garden in Bismarck was on tour at the 2010 Region 1 summer meeting. She joined DSM in 2005. She has attended seven National conventions and she currently represents Region 1 on the AHS Board of Directors.

Kathleen began hybridizing in 2011. She loves viewing all of the flowers, but also enjoys taking photos every day. She won the AHS Lazarus Memorial Award in 2011, an award for the best video recording of a presentation relating to daylilies. Her photos have been published on the AHS website, and also in the books *Landscaping with Daylilies* and *The Open Form: Spiders and UF's and other Exotics*. Her photo of the 2016 Lenington All-American Award winner, 'Margo Reed Indeed', is currently featured on the AHS website. Rich Rosen recently used two of Kathleen's photos when his garden was featured as 'Garden of the Week' on Charlotte's Daylily Diary website.

Kathleen will talk about planning ahead for excellent photos in her presentation "Planting Flowers with Photography in Mind."



Daylily Potpourri

By Bill & Dory Lidinsky

Twenty-five years ago, we didn't know the difference between an annual and a perennial and even less about soil. We first became interested in daylilies after observing attractive clumps of *H. fulva* growing in the neighbor's backyard. We did some research, located local growers, and have been acquiring plants ever since.

Life Will Find a Way

H. fulva is a unique and interesting plant. Unlike most species or native daylilies which are diploids, this plant is a triploid and largely infertile. It makes up for this limitation with aggressive growth underground and can be a challenge to remove from garden beds. Despite the limitation of being a triploid, it will sometimes produce pollen with 11 chromosomes that can fertilize a diploid daylily. Dr. A. B. Stout¹ reported making 7,137 crosses with *H. fulva* to get 23 mature pods and 70 seeds. This just goes to show that when there are limitations in nature, life will find a way.

The movie *Jurassic Park* beautifully describes a good example of this, albeit in Hollywood fashion. As a precaution, the scientists created only female dinosaurs to ensure they could not reproduce. However, since they were not able to get complete copies of dinosaur DNA from the blood found in the insects trapped in amber, they substituted amphibian DNA for the missing segments. What happened was that the dinosaurs, despite the scientists' precaution, began to breed. This is actually possible^{2,3} and does happen in nature: the Common Reed Frog, which can be found in subtropical or tropical dry forests, is able to change its sex in order to reproduce in an environment with a shortage of the opposite sex.

Where are we going with this? It may be just a fantasy, but taking into account the seemingly remarkable capabilities of nature, there really is hope, then, for a truly blue daylily. It may not happen in the way we expect or may pop up by mutation. Through natural selection of successful mutations, many species have succeeded in adding blue to their

appearance. Birds, fish, insects, and many other life forms are able to exhibit a multitude of colors which provide a specific advantage. This advantage is accommodated by the ability of nature to experiment with all the possibilities--both successful and unsuccessful. While we have come a long way in understanding the mysteries of nature, coloration is more complicated than simply mixing chromosomes and is affected by environmental and other unknown and unexpected factors.

Life has always been successful in "finding a way," but the route it takes can be strange, unexpected, and sometimes even quite humorous. Several species of birds with bright blue, webbed feet exist on the west coast of Mexico and are called Blue Footed Boobies. You may wonder, "What possible advantage could that trait provide in the grand scheme of things?" Both males and females have blue feet so it is not related to mating. The name Boobie is believed to have been derived from the Spanish word "bobo" which means stupid. Check out some pictures on the internet and judge for yourself. There are Red Footed Boobies as well.

Instead of trying to get a blue daylily, why not try to get a blue dandelion? With the daylily you would obtain obvious recognition in the daylily world, but a blue dandelion would make you famous everywhere, although probably not in a good way!

Our experience in cultivating daylilies has been the usual newbie adventure. Most people learn by trial and error, we prefer to call it trial and failure. There is a wealth of information on the internet regarding hybridizing, starting seeds, and the best growing conditions for daylilies. Often we've had to filter through this information to separate fact from fiction and make conclusions based on our own experiences. For instance, some sites claim you cannot freeze daylily seeds but we've talked with other growers who routinely store them that way and last year we had almost 100% germination of seeds that were frozen. The missing piece of information is that they must be adequately dried before freezing.

Deer Damage

There are also a lot of suggestions on how to prevent damage from deer. One post suggested



planting other plants nearby that deer prefer so they will leave the daylilies alone. Isn't that like turning on a light bulb to deter moths? Why not just offer them a gourmet appetizer tray along with a salt lick to ensure that they establish a pattern of migration through your yard on a daily basis? Deer are a problem, but the focus should really be on making them avoid your yard entirely.

Even more amusing are some other posts that claim 'Stella de Oro' is deer resistant:

"There is hope for daylily lovers in areas with deer. The 'Stella de Oro' daylily has been bred to be deer-resistant. The cultivar is perennial in hardiness zones 2 through 9 and is a repeat-bloomer, providing golden-yellow, trumpet-shaped flowers from early summer to mid-fall. Almost no plant is completely deer-resistant, however. Deer may nibble on this daylily out of desperation, but many sources label 'Stella de Oro' as a deer-resistant daylily."

REALLY? It is believable that massive beds of this plant, with hundreds of blooms, are less likely to show signs of nibbling. Perhaps deer are just as bored with this cultivar as we are. While we don't grow Stella's in our garden, the deer in our area have developed a very refined palette and seem to know which ones are the most expensive. Deer, or as some people call them "little brats," are probably the most annoying pest that growers have to deal with. We've had excellent results using Liquid Fence with consistent use but others report it does not work for them at all. Just spraying the buds on the perimeter of the bed seems to make the deer in our neighborhood get the hint. However, if you live near a corridor where many deer frequent or, worse yet, have neighbors who are actually feeding them, you will have a hard time keeping them out of your gardens. Fencing may be your only viable option.

Daylily Addiction: Problem or not?

Gleaned from several websites, here are some signs that you may have too many daylilies. You know you have too many daylilies when:

-Instead of learning to plant beans like all the other pre-schoolers, your kids learned how to plant daylily seeds.

-You do not need or own a lawnmower any more, just a small electric weed-eater.

-A chainsaw becomes an essential garden tool.

--You are removing trees from your yard as fast as neighbors are planting them in theirs.

-There is a serious absence of companion plants in your yard.

-You gave away 100 clumps to your neighbors and you can hardly tell anything is missing.

-You recognize many of your seedlings in the neighborhood.

-The kids notice that you take more pictures of your daylilies than you do of them.

-Your family is planning an intervention.

-A couple of years ago you thought 200 was a lot of plants.

-You keep telling yourself "it's a harmless addiction."

-You bid on daylilies you already have.

-You can't remember how many daylily beds you have.

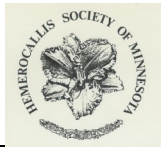
-You talk to your daylilies.

Actually it would not be alarming if someone occasionally talked to daylilies but you should be very concerned if they insisted that the daylilies talk back to them. Talking to daylilies, however, could cause some embarrassing moments like the one described below:

"Before leaving for work this morning, I was in front of my house checking out the first bloom of 'Double Cutie'. I was leaning over it and said, "Hi 'Double Cutie'!" Now, I'm pretty sure I didn't say that very loudly. Immediately after saying that, I heard, "Good Morning, Cathy," coming from my neighbor Tim across the street. I squeaked out a "Good Morning" in reply and then hustled into the house. I was laughing as I told hubby what had happened. I think it was pure coincidence, but I guess you have to be careful greeting your daylilies, especially when they have names like 'Double Cutie'!"

Hybridizing for Fun and No Profit

Our experience with hybridization has been limited when you compare our program to other hybridizers. We have a few specific goals and try to



achieve them on a smaller scale. After a few initial attempts to learn the techniques of creating and growing seedlings, we tried hybridizing on a slightly larger scale.

To keep things simple, we crossed nine of Bryan Culver's cultivars with a single yellow tetraploid of unknown origin that had good bud count and a slight ruffle on its petals. The result was about 800 seeds. This may not sound like much, but after a couple years they start to fill up some serious real estate. Making new beds seems to now be a "perennial process" (pun intended). Another observation was that one of the Culver plants was extremely fertile. 'Spirit Fox' will set pods even if you just wink at it. It also produced the most pods, the most seeds per pod, and the seeds were the most successful at germination. In the end, 50% or about 400 of our seedlings had 'Spirit Fox' as a parent. As you can imagine, our yard became a vast sea of yellow and orange. We have since donated that plant and many of its seedlings to friends and family. The result from this grand experiment was a stock of very large plants that are hardy in our zone with good bud count, re-bloom, and large flowers.

Bleach to the Rescue

Daylilies are described as easy to grow and relatively disease resistant. However if you grow any plant in sufficient quantities, you quickly find out what pests and pathogens affect them. Fortunately, most daylily diseases primarily affect the foliage of daylilies and do not kill the plants. Leaf streak is most active in the spring and early summer but cannot tolerate many days over 90 degrees and it will overwinter in the dead foliage. We have recently started using bleach in the spring and fall to treat the ground and foliage after removing the infected leaves as a preventative measure. There is no substitute for good bed hygiene.

We are experimenting with higher concentrations of bleach on a couple plants that had a strange spotting and brown color within the foliage. It occurred soon after sprouting indoors and did not go away even after a couple seasons. We applied a 50% bleach drench to the plants and the plants did not

seem to mind this treatment at all, in fact, they seemed to thrive. We are hopefully anticipating what the plants will look like next season. However, the bleach bottle was not kept in a secure location; the young lad from next door found it and was spraying their family dog with it. After careful inspection, we can happily report that the dog appeared to be tick free.

From our experience, bleach works well and is sometimes overlooked for use on plants. Many would be surprised that it was first used in World War I as an antiseptic to treat wounds and to prevent infection, called Dakin's solution. At full strength, it contained about three ounces of household bleach per quart.

A few insects affect daylilies but are more of a problem in greenhouses than outdoors. Leaf miners are a relatively new pest that can be seen in a lot of gardens but are more of a concern for commercial growers. Daylily Rust is supposed to be killed by our harsh Minnesota climate but the jury is still out on that statement. Rust occurs later in the season. Removal and burning of affected foliage as well as treatment with bleach are probably prudent practices.

Footnotes

1. Sydney Addison, *A Passion for Daylilies: The Flowers and the People* (1992)
2. "Common Reed Frog." Wikipedia Wikimedia Foundation, 01 Nov2012Web2 Jan2013 http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Common_Reed_Frog.
3. "Mutation." WikipediaWikimedia Foundation, 01 Oct2012Web2 Jan2013 <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mutation>.

DSM on Facebook

The Minnesota Daylily Society has a Facebook Page. You can find it by searching for "Minnesota Daylily Society" or entering the following URL:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1675419562697547/>

It is a good place to stay up to date on events with the society, share your daylily pictures, and connect with others in Minnesota who share your passion.



Daylily Dreams in '17

DSM hosts the 2017 AHS Region One Summer Regional
Friday, July 28–Sunday, July 30
Bryan Culver, Guest Speaker

Follow your daylily dreams with us!

DSM is planning a fabulous weekend of garden tours, banquets, educational sessions, AHS garden judges workshops, bargain table, boutique, and *not-to-miss* silent & live daylily auctions!

and breakfasts!

and garden refreshments!

and bus plants!

and door prizes!

Paul Owen of Slightly Different Nursery (Shelby, NC) will be our Guest Auctioneer for the big **Friday** evening Live Auction. Visit Paul's website at www.slightlydifferentnursery.com

Saturday's Banquet will feature Guest Speaker Bryan Culver, award-winning hybridizer of Culver Farm Daylilies (Ontario, Canada). An auction of Culver daylilies will follow the banquet. Take a peek at Bryan's introductions at www.culverfarmdaylilies.com

For your convenience, we plan to accept credit cards for the Boutique, Bargain Table, and Auctions!

After a plated hotel breakfast on **Saturday**, a deluxe air-conditioned motor coach bus will take you to four daylily gardens, including a stop for an Italian buffet lunch.

During your tour, keep an eye out for the best of the best so you can vote on Saturday for the 'Star of the North' award, an informal 'President's Cup' for our Minnesota Regional!

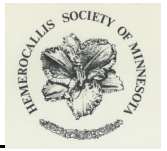
Registration Fee includes gift plant, handbook, tote bag, Friday-Saturday programs, Friday-Saturday evening banquets, Saturday bus transportation and lunch, Saturday-Sunday breakfasts. Guest-Only meals are available for an additional fee.

Donations! Donations! Donations!

Please be generous for the 2017 Summer Regional!

AHS Region One relies entirely on the Regional Live Auction for its funding. Please consider donating one or more newer daylilies for the Live Auction! DSM will use proceeds from the Boutique, Bargain Table, and Silent Auction to help defray costs of the 2017 Summer Regional.

DSM is a 501(c)(3) organization; your donations may be tax-deductible.



Auction Chair Mike Grossmann

email: mike144mann@msn.com

Bargain Table Chair Jenn Lanz

Jenn will make labels ahead of time. PLEASE send names of daylilies by July 17 and the number of fans by noon on July 28.

email: froggymcgee@yahoo.com

telephone: 651-270-0281.

Boutique Chair Myrna Hjellming

Myrna is seeking donations of garden-related art or other items for a fun Boutique! If Myrna receives notification and a photo of your donation by May 1, we may be able to include photos in the handbook and add photos to our website.

email: mhjellming@moneygram.com

telephone: 763-786-3947

2017 Summer Regional Open Gardens

A list of Open Gardens will be available after April 1 on the website and with your registration packet. To include your garden or for more information, contact

Garden Chair Kyle Billadeau.

email: kbilladeau@gmail.com

telephone: 612-298-5607

Volunteers are needed for the 2017 Summer Regional!

Sign up at the February DSM meeting at Bachman's

Have more fun and pitch in to make this summer regional a huge success! We are especially looking for help with the Bargain Table, Boutique, Auction, and Registration. Members get to know one another when they work together for our special events! Your participation will help you qualify for the DSM Plant Adoption program! See you at Bachman's on February 26th!

Chair/Registrar Kris Henning

email: henning@grantsburgtelcom.net

telephone: 715-689-2333

Co-Chairs

Karol Emmerich

email: kdemmerich@aol.com

telephone: 952-941-9280

Kathy Lamb

email: kmlamb@earthlink.net

telephone: 763-422-0015

*See Registration Form insert in
this newsletter*



Two new books from AHS will be available for sale at our February Meeting--*pricing discounted!*

The Open Form Daylily: Spiders, Unusual Forms, and Other “Exotics” Author: Oliver Billingslea

This book treats two recognized classes of daylilies in a format typical of books published by the American Botanical Society, and in the final chapter offers a brief look at those open form daylilies which hybridizers sometimes call “flamboyants” or “exotics,” although these types at present are not recognized as constituting a class of daylilies in themselves.

The book features the work of numerous hybridizers along with stunning photography submitted by members of the American Hemerocallis Society. It is a book designed for the pleasure of the ordinary reader, as well as the aficionado who seeks more information on the detailed history of these increasingly popular forms. The book is dedicated to both the hybridizers and the photographers who made our publication possible. Special recognition is given to those hybridizers who shared biographical information.

Now, more than a decade after AHS’s first handbook on spiders and unusual forms, this expanded, totally rewritten version, continues to capture the historical significance of the open-formed daylily in all its glory. Data for each cultivar is taken from the AHS website, and, whenever available, parentage is cited.

Presented in a new, full-color 8½" x 11" format to enhance the quality of the photography selected from over 6,000 photographs that were submitted for consideration. An Index lists alphabetically the names of all hybridizers included, the names of cultivars featured in photographs, and the names of contributing photographers.

232 pages, 616 full color illustrations, 10 sketches; softbound, first edition January 2017

The 2017 Revised Edition of THE ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO DAYLILIES Editor: Oliver Billingslea

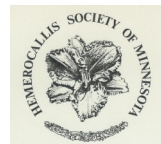
Included in the Revised Edition are 10 new photographs, including the most recent winners of the Stout Medal and all of the Lenington All-American winners from the first winner in 1970 through the winner in 2015 are pictured. In the chapter on “Companion Plants,” many Perennial Plants of the Year are included.

The chapters on "Photographing Daylilies" and "Registration Procedures" include new photos, among which are the 2016 AHS Photography Awards for Single Bloom, Multi-bloom, and Landscape, and new illustration for a daylily to be pictured on the AHS Website after the Checklist is finalized spring 2017.

Several corrections were made by the Scientific Committee in this edition. An updated Index and Bibliography is provided, including the most recent publications from AHS.

Like the previous edition, the 2017 Revised Edition is truly the “primer” for anyone growing daylilies.

128 pages, 280 full color illustrations, 1 chart; softbound, revised edition January 2017



Membership Corner

When Are My Dues Due?

Please look at your address label as it should have a date listed through which your DSM dues are paid.

If the date is older than 2017, you owe dues to keep your membership current!

Please send your dues check to our Treasurer
Barry Whiteaker:

10507 Vessey Road
Bloomington, MN 55437

Moving? New E-mail?

If you change your e-mail or move, please let Barry Whiteaker, our Treasurer, know. The Post Office does not forward our newsletters after a few weeks of your change and we often don't get a forwarding address to re-mail it to you.

Please include your

Name, Street address,
City, State, Zip Code,
Telephone, and E-mail.

Daylily Society of Minnesota Board of Directors

Call or Contact to Volunteer!

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Daylily Society of Minnesota

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Address correction requested

