

Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

Volume 4, Issue 3

April 2011

President Mike Comments:

Hello Everyone,

I hope you were able to enjoy the taste of spring we had over the weekend. I love Midwest weather: 60's one weekend, snow the next. I did start cleaning off some of my beds and can tell it was a long winter by my sore muscles and blisters.

I have given Lynn the list of members eligible for club plants to include in this newsletter. Please look the list over and if you feel that I have left your name off, please see me at our April meeting, call or email me. I have been known to miss or overlook things.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you coming to Eldridge for the April meeting. I don't have a specific program yet, but am working with the Master Gardeners and I'm sure it will be a good one.

Mike

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 9 CVIDS MEETING

1:00 PM, Scott County Public Library (Eldridge)
200 N. 6th Ave.

MAY 7 CVIDS ANNUAL SPRING SALE

Penn Meadows Park Gazebo, North Liberty
9 AM Set-up, 10 AM Sale

MAY 28 CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION AND AUCTION

10 AM, Muscatine County Fairgrounds, West Liberty

MAY 29-JUNE 3

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY MEETING

"Iris-istible Victoria" British Columbia

MAY 26-29

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION

Baton Rouge, LA

JULY 22-24

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY REGION ONE CONVENTION

Bloomington, MN

Guest Speaker: David Kirchhoff

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Minutes from March 12 Meeting by Nancy Carlisle

The meeting was called together at 1:15 PM by President Mike Carstensen. 43 members answered the roll call of "What are you looking forward to with Spring?" Handouts were distributed showing committee lists and daylilies ordered for May distribution. February meeting minutes were approved. Clay Dawson/Jack Jones M/S/C.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Bob Moore reported a balance of \$9,221.35. Printouts of expenditures and income were available.

Nancy Carlisle volunteered to take minutes in the excused absence of Deb Hansen.

Old Business:

Membership Photos: Keith Riewerts reported on the progress for Jonathan Poulton. A photo gallery was available to view. Keith took pictures for members present today. If you wish a different photo, please send a digital image to Jonathan (jonathan-poulton@uiowa.edu) or a copy suitable for scanning. The plan is to have hard copy available at May meeting.

Thank You to Jonathan Poulton: President Mike conveyed to members his appreciation for all that Jonathan does for CVIDS. He recently sent a welcoming letter to new members who joined our group after the Kirkwood Gardening Fair. If you see him, appreciate him.

Frederick McDowell Memorial Garden: Lynn Stoll reported not hearing anything from Muscatine Community College in response to the request.

October Meeting: Meeting location needs to be determined. Mercy Hospital is not available.

Kirkwood Gardening Fair: Zora Ronan did two presentations on Daylilies that were well attended. Participants expressed a lot of interest in the Spring Plant Sale with the use of a flier that was developed. Requests to include the fall date also. Thanks to all members who helped: Susan Minger, Mike Carstensen, and Deb Hansen.

Committees 2011: Each group needs to meet and determine a chairperson. Several dates need to make sure that the location has been secured. West Liberty and Monticello have been secured.

Summer CVIDS Garden Tour: Needs to be re-routed. Unable to tour the southern tier r/t Capps health is not amenable to having their garden open. Donna Denley will not be in town. Susan Minger and Nancy Carlisle volunteered to investigate alternate routes.

Newsletter: Barb Papenhausen questioned the expenditure listed for newsletters. Nancy Carlisle was paid postage for past year expenses. She stated that she had been able to get copies made at no charge during her three years as secretary.

ELDRIDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY – DRIVING DIRECTIONS

From the North: Hwy. 62 South, take the Eldridge exit West on LeClaire Rd. to N. 6th Ave. (just past the True Value Hardware store). Turn right to the Scott County Library (200 N. 6th Ave.)

From the West, South, or East: Take Hwy 61 North to the LeClaire Rd., exit West. Follow same directions as above.

WINTER MEETINGS

by Barb Papenhausen

Friday Feb. 18 Bob and I picked up Ruth Coleman from CIDS club. We went to Overland Park, KS Hilton Garden Inn for winter meeting of Region 11. We met Lynn and Randy Kroemer there. Nicky Schmith gave a talk on the new AHS Website in a very complete and easy to understand way. Later in the afternoon there was a hybridizers' roundtable with Bob Faulkner. Most questions were about genetics and parent dominance referring to eyes and broken patterns. I found this most interesting. Bob Faulkner was the evening speaker and [presented] a different program than I had seen before. His patterns are amazing and had my attention. I put a face on a lot of people that I had only heard about; that's the best part of these meetings. Did you know that Robin Calderon used to train elephants?

Feb. 25th Bob and I went to Cincinnati, OH. Don Lovell and Selwyn Rash were just hours behind us. There were two tables with plants [and] pictures for silent auction and lots of time to up the bidding. They had a cornhole toss that [was] as fun trying as it was playing: four beanbags for \$5.00 and prizes. At the end of the meeting on Sunday the game was won by a lucky ticket holder. A birdhouse competition was won by Thom Polston of Pleasant Valley Daylilies; [it] was a real masterpiece, with a moving singing bird; it went for \$400 and looked like a museum piece. What a talent he has. There were presentations from Sandy Holmes, Sandy Veurink, Brian Burley (Landscaping with Roses), Charles Dorsey (a wonderfully amusing video), Mark Carpenter, and Heidi and Charles Douglas (always fun; she is so bubbly). Mike Holmes talked about the new AHS website. Karol Emmerich spoke on Sunday. [I] can't wait for her new introductions, they are so beautiful, and she brought a new and different message from what I've heard before. Mort [Morss] and David [Kirchhoff] also had a program, or a comedy sketch, since they had everyone laughing, and David led the auction. It was a fun weekend ending Sunday at noon.

MINUTES FROM MARCH 12 MEETING (CONT.)

Old Business (Cont.)

Lynn Stoll submitted for mailing and printing black and white and color issues. Bob Moore stated that mailed issues are not to be color according to our membership flier. Approximately 20 issues are distributed by postal mail. President Mike tabled further discussion until Jonathan is present.

New Business:

Membership Updates: Keith Riewerts' brother passed away. Ken Messer's father passed away. Deb Hansen had an uncle who passed away. Sylvia Seymour's husband Glenn had been hospitalized with admission to Manor Care Arcadia Unit. Nancy reports that he will celebrate his 90th birthday on March 14th and requests cards be sent in care of Sylvia Seymour.

Region One Newsletter Article: Editor Kyle Billadeau requests from CVIDS an article about current events. Mike requested someone else to write up an article. Nancy Carlisle volunteered. Suggestions from the group were Regional 2012, Kirkwood Gardening Fair, membership book, and "that we are a friendly bunch that eats well." Deadline is March 31st.

Minneapolis Regional Gift Basket Donation: Zora sent a request for CVIDS to consider a donation of a basket. The committee is requesting that gift baskets be donated to help with fundraising. The winning high bid basket owner will receive a valued daylily. Suzanne Moffit and Keith Riewerts discussed that we need some showy item that includes our Regional logo to help promote 2012. Jackie Westhoff reports that the logo is being worked on and is not available yet. Issue tabled until next meeting.

Regional 2012 Funding: Jackie Westhoff requested \$2,000 to help making deposits for buses, facility, and registration plants. A separate account will be created with two persons able to sign on the account. Suzanne stated that a letter of intent from the CVIDS board is needed for the bank to open an account. Two signatures are always needed. Sylvia Seymour will be depositing the registrations, so an account near her would be advantageous. M/S/C Clay Dawson and Donna Denley to provide \$2,000 for startup costs.

Regional 2012 Business: Chair Person Jackie Westhoff thanked all volunteers who have agreed to help. Please continue to volunteer as all manpower will be welcomed. Initial budget proposal for meals is on the high side as the committee is working with the Kirkwood Conference Center. Lunch will be held at Lowell Park in an air-conditioned facility. Friday evening meal cost will be lower than the Saturday evening banquet. On Saturday, a limited continental breakfast will be available as the hotel does not have any breakfast for its guests. Plans now are for some foods and beverages to be offered in the morning gardens. Next major project is to complete a logo to begin advertizing at upcoming meetings and on the website. Bids for buses will be locked in, aware that there will be a fuel surcharge built in. Members are encouraged to attend the Regional meeting in Minneapolis to get ideas and to help with the promotion of our meeting theme ("Dazzling Daylilies of Cedar Valley").

An AHS National Meeting Promotional Video has been received and will be viewed at our April meeting.

Presentation: Wanda Lunn, a member of CVIDS and the Iowa Regional Lily Society, gave an excellent presentation on "True Lilies". Wanda has served as a nationally certified lily judge.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM, Mary Moore, Susan Minger M/S/C.

WANDA LUNN'S TALK: "CHOOSING TRUE LILIES FOR YOUR GARDEN"

by Lynn Stoll

At the March 12 meeting in Washington, CVIDS members in attendance were treated to an interesting and informative presentation on lilies by club member and nationally certified lily judge Wanda Lunn. For those who were unable to attend, some of the highlights of her talk are presented here.

Most CVIDS members clearly understand the difference between our beloved daylilies and lilies (sometimes referred to as "true lilies" or "bulb lilies" for clarification in conversation). However, many members of the general public and even some experienced gardeners confuse the two, since the individual flowers look somewhat similar, with three petals and three sepals. Daylilies (properly written as one word) belong to the genus *Hemerocallis*; the plants grow from a fibrous root system with arching foliage and a leafless bloomstalk (called a scape) emerging from the crown of the plant. Each individual flower lasts for only a single day (hence the name), but a succession of individual flowers on each scape opens over many days (typically 2-3 weeks). Lilies belong to the genus *Lilium* and grow from a segmented bulb; each bulb puts up a single stalk per season, with leaves along the length of the stalk and flowers toward the end of the stalk. Individual lily flowers last for 4-6 days, and make excellent cut flowers.

Daylilies and lilies are often grown together in mixed plantings, and each can serve as a wonderful companion plant for the other. Like daylilies, lilies come in a wide range of heights (12" to 8'), forms, and colors. In contrast to the arching foliage of daylily clumps, lilies provide a valuable vertical element. Vigorous daylily foliage can overpower weak lilies; on the other hand, the daylily foliage can provide the afternoon shade preferred by some lilies.

Lilies are classified in nine groups. Division I is the Asiatic lily group. Asiatic lilies are the most diverse group in color, height, and bloom season, and are used in Midwestern gardens more commonly than any of the other groups. Asiatic lilies are the earliest lilies to bloom (June into July) except for the Martagon lilies; they are quick to increase, usually unscented, and can handle all-day sun. They come in a variety of colors (shades of pink, white, yellow, and red), heights, and patterns (speckles, thumbprints), and also include doubles and dwarfs (also pixie or elf lilies); at 12-18", these latter are ideal for the front row of the perennial border. Flower orientation may be upfacing (Div. Ia), outfacing (Ib), or downfacing/pendant (Ic). Upfacing blooms are most common in Asiatic lilies.

Martagon lilies (Division II) grow 3-5', and love light to medium shade; they are well-suited to woody environments. Martagons have a narrower color range than the Asiatics, but they may have up to 50 small waxy down-facing blooms per stalk. They bloom in May to June. Martagons are slower to increase than Asiatics, and often take a year or two to become established. Unfortunately for Iowa gardeners, Martagons are very susceptible to spring freezes and thaws. Canadian breeders are currently working to develop a wider range of colors in this group.

Division III is for the Candidum lilies, which are not long-lived in the Midwest. Division IV, the American hybrids, comprises hybrids of American native lilies; at present these are very scarce. Division V is the Longiflorum lilies, including the well-known Easter lily. These are highly fragrant, and bloom in June when grown outside.

Division VI comprises the Trumpet or Aurelian hybrid lilies. These grow to 5-6', and if grown in light shade they need to be staked. The trumpet lilies bloom soon after the Asiatics; they are

CVIDS MEMBERS ELIGIBLE FOR 2011 CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION

Please see Mike Carstensen at the April meeting or contact him by E-mail if you believe that your name has been incorrectly omitted from this list.

Carole Appelquist	Carolyn Jones	Gary Oster
David Appelquist	Jack Jones	Barb Papenhausen
Nancy Carlisle	Brenda Knipper	Bob Papenhausen
Jayne Carstensen	Roger Knipper	Joyce Parsons
Michael Carstensen	Sherry McCarville	Steve Parsons
Clay Dawson	Robert Moffitt	Jonathan Poulton
Kathleen Dawson	Suzanne Moffitt	Keith Riewerts
Donna Denly	Sherry Moffitt	Sally Riewerts
Jill Gardner	Lynn Moffitt	Zora Ronan
Debra Hansen	Bob Moore	Sylvia Seymour
Scott Hansen	Cathy Moore	Barry Stoll
Heather Harroun	Mary Moore	Lynn Stoll
Jean Hecht	Verne Moore	Robert Towler
Kay Hill	Sharon Murken	Shirley Waters
Gerald Hobbs	Jan Null	Jackie Westhoff

easy to grow and highly fragrant. However, trumpets are very susceptible to late freezes or frosts, which can be a problem in the Midwest.

The Oriental hybrids make up Division VII. Orientals have large flowers and are highly fragrant. They typically bloom in July into early August; ideally, they like light afternoon shade. Orientals can be fussy to grow, and typically last only 2-3 years in Iowa gardens. Oriental lily flower forms may be trumpets, bowls, flat-faced, or recurved; the individual blooms do not last well. This group also includes dwarfs and doubles.

Division VIII comprises the Interdivisional Hybrids; these include longiflorus/Asiatic (LA's), oriental/Asiatic (OA's), and Oriental/trumpets (OT's or Orienpets). In general, these hybrids feature increased hardiness, more substantial blooms, a wide range of colors and heights, and a longer span of bloom seasons. Some are highly fragrant. Orienpets are now being marketed as "lily trees." LA's are known for their very rapid increase, although the mother plant dies. LA's thrive in either full sun or partial shade; they have strong stems and strong waxy blooms. Most face upward (a few are outward-facing), most are scented, and most are solid colors.

Division IX consists of species lilies, mostly from Asia. Growth conditions for these are usually site-specific; however, these species lilies have produced all the lilies we have available to us today, and their hybrids are more adaptable for our gardens.

Site selection, including proper sun exposure, is important for growing lilies; however, the single most important factor is good drainage. Select firm bulbs (not waxed); handle carefully and plant promptly. Fertilize with 10-10-10 (or similar) granular fertilizer in March and October. After blooming, remove dead flowers, but leave the stalks until they turn brown; the stalks and their leaves produce nourishment for the bulb and next year's flowers. Established lily clumps should be divided when the stalks are two fingers' width apart. Pests include deer, squirrels, rabbits, slugs, aphids, and grasshoppers, as well as botrytis. Spraying with Plantskydd, an animal repellent with a rain-resistant polymer base, is reported to help protect lilies for 4-8 weeks. Lilies reproduce by division, bulblets, scales, and, especially in tiger lilies, bulbils (aerial stem bulbils in leaf joints); all produce identical clones of the original plant. Lilies grown from seeds produce unique progeny.

For more information, the excellent booklet "Let's Grow Lilies" can be obtained for \$4.00 from the North American Lily Society.