

# The GVDS Gazette

A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society  
July—September 2009

## 2009 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### GVDS Gazette Contributors

- Carol DeVries  
-Laura Looman  
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**July 2, 6:30 pm**

Open Garden Tours  
Ellen Hizer

7520 Division Ave. N, Comstock Park

Millie Rathbun

3111 Brockwood Dr., Grand Rapids

**July 18, 8:00 am — 5:00 pm**

Annual Daylily Show at Meijer Gardens

**July 30, 6:30 pm**

Annual Summer Picnic & Garden Tour  
MI Veterans Home/Grotto Park

**Note: One week early due to club vote**

**September 10, 7:00 pm**

GVDS Annual Fall Auction

Michigan State University Extension Office

**Note: Location change**

**September 12, 8:00am-2:00pm**

Annual Daylily Sale  
Rockford Farmers' Market

**October 1, 7:00 pm**

Joel Polston  
Pleasant Valley Gardens Dayton, OH  
Meijer Gardens

**November 5, 7:00 pm**

Meeting at Meijer Gardens

**December 3**

Christmas Dinner Party

## 2009 AHS Calendar of Events

**July 10-12**

Region 2 Summer Meeting  
Chicago, Illinois

### A DAYLILY DOUBLE-HEADER

Join us on **July 2 at 6:30 PM** for a daylily doubleheader! Our first garden is Ellen Hizer's garden at 7520 Division Ave. N, Comstock Park (785-0687). Ellen is a hybridizer and owns Banner Daylily Gardens. She has two seedling beds and a "Line Out Bed" where she evaluates her crosses. Some of her other beds are arranged by color (pink, red and yellow/orange), by type, (Double, Tall and Spider ) and by hybridizer (Mason, Stamile and Salter). Mixed perennials beds surround the house and brighten the 80' front fence. Don't miss the large Woodland shade garden called "Dogwoods" which husband Lewis maintains.

From there we will travel approximately 8 miles to Millie Rathbun's garden located at 3111 Brockwood Dr., Grand Rapids (363-7915). Millie is an avid daylily collector, a hobby she began upon her retirement in 2002. She then finally had time to become a Master Gardener and join GVDS as well as the Dahlia, Hosta and Iris clubs. She also grows bulbs, perennials, bushes and annuals. Daylilies have caught this gardener's eye as her daylily inventory includes 1,000 names! There is some sort of color from April until frost, but the most wonderful sight occurs in July and August when the daylilies put on their show.

Directions to Ellen Hizer's from Northbound US-131, take the Post Dr. exit (exit 95) toward Belmont .4 miles , turn left onto Post Dr. NE, go .7 miles, turn right onto Pine Island Dr. NE and go .5 miles, turn left onto 9 Mile Rd. NE, travel 1.5 miles then turn left onto Division Ave. N and go .1 miles to 7520 Division Ave. N.

To Millie Rathbun's from Ellen's travel North on Division Ave. N toward 9 Mile (.1 mi.), turn right onto 9 Mile, 1.5 mi. then right onto Pine Island Dr. NE. Travel .5 miles and turn left onto Post Dr. NE . Travel 1.6 miles and this turns into Jupiter Ave. NE, continue 1.2 miles then turn left onto W. River Rd. NE for .8 miles (W River Rd. NE becomes W. River Dr. NE). Travel an additional .6 miles then turn right onto MI-44/ Northland Dr. NE. Continue following MI-44 S for 1.4 miles to Brockwood Dr. NE, turn right and end at 3111 Brockwood Dr. NE

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Well the auction is over and it was an amazing success. We were able to raise over \$3,000 for our future donation to Ronald McDonald House and to keep the club running. I was thrilled with the plants I received and have been spending a lot pleasant time moving my plants around so that I can get my new prizes and the club plants all in a nice new home. If you didn't take the opportunity to sign up to grow club plants this year, you missed out. I got a bag of very interesting plants all on a Chinese name theme. H. 'Great Red Dragon' has 10" blooms and despite the massive size of the blooms is reported to have 25 buds and 4 way branching. I can't wait to see what it does in my garden. So my personal thanks to Carol Kerr, Doug and Sandy Veurink, and Linda and Roger Busk who chose this year's plants. I did lose out on my bidding on the new Veurink introductions, but I take comfort in the fact that club members got them and I can still order them directly from Sandy.

The other big success was the door prize hand out change. Last year, we got back a ton of the door prize plants we were growing. So many in fact that there were enough left over at the end of the night to give everyone attending the auction an additional door prize plant. What a blessing it was to have such an abundance. However this year, for whatever reason the return was low. We had so few plants come back in fact, that we did not have enough to give all of the winners a door prize daylily. This was a huge disappointment to us, as we had spent hours working on who wanted what. However, I am so very grateful that we had the new system in place. I can not imagine what the tussle at the table would have been like if you'd been all trying to grab a plant before they were gone. Lori Hankinson and Laura Looman did an amazing job, giving out the door prize plants that they had on hand and then going through the lower priced donation plants to find some to supplement to make sure that everyone who won received something. So instead of fighting and perhaps losing at the table, I and the other lucky recipients all received something. I compliment them highly on their making the best of what was a difficult problem. So if you opened your bag and found that you did not receive what you expected, and maybe did not even receive a plant on the list, that is why. I opened my bag to find the same thing, but you know I was so happy with what I got. Sure they weren't my top picks, but I know they will be lovely and I'm eagerly waiting to see their first blossoms. But most of all I smile knowing they were free. I'm a good little Dutch girl in more than name.

—Carol DeVries

## A PICNIC AT GROTTO PARK

You are invited to a picnic at Grotto Park on **July 30 at 6:30 PM**. The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is generously allowing us to use their covered Pavilion (complete with chairs and tables) which is located at the northern-most end of the Veterans Home at 3000 Monroe Ave. NE, Grand Rapids. The club will be providing BBQ Chicken Breast on a bun with lettuce and tomato, cold beverages, plates and eating utensils. Please bring a side dish or dessert and serving utensil. Supper will begin at 6:30 PM so that our dishes will stay at the right temperature.

After supper, we will tour the Grotto Park which is a short walk from the Pavilion. On the way, be sure to check out the large stone marker located by the pergolas to find the name of your favorite garden club! Six years ago this park around Lambertson Creek was so totally dilapidated that it was deemed unusable. In May of 2008, the Comstock Park Rotary Club broke ground on a \$400,000 renovation including new stream banks, a paved ¼ mile wheelchair accessible path, a gazebo, pergola, band shell, bridges, and benches.

Members of our club worked very hard one Saturday last Fall planting HUNDREDS of (or was it closer to 1,000?) daylilies. This project was recently given an award by the Grand Rapids Historic Preservation Commission, the first time this award was given for a landscape project. Today our daylilies grace its hills and streambeds to be enjoyed by the parks many visitors. Come see for yourself!

Directions: From the south—Take US-131 N to the Ann St. exit (exit 88). Go .2 miles, turn left on Ann St., travel .3 miles, turn left on Monroe Ave. and travel 1.6 miles. Take the driveway between the Veterans Home and the two-story white house at the northern end of the Veterans Home to a large parking lot.

From the north—Take US-131 S to the West River Dr. exit (exit 91) toward Comstock Park, go .5 miles and turn right on W. River Dr., NE, 1 mile to N. Park St., turn left.6 mi. and veer right onto Monroe Ave. Take the first driveway between the two-story white house and the Veterans Home to a large parking lot.





## FALL IS FOR PLANTING ... AND AN AUCTION!

We gardeners know that the cooler Fall temperatures afford us many prime opportunities to plant that must-have daylily or companion plant ... and the Grand Valley Daylily Society affords us the perfect opportunity to find these plants. Come to the Auction on **September 10 at 7:00 PM** at the Kent/MSU Extension Office , 775 Ball Ave. NE, Grand Rapids (corner of Ball and Bradford). Our auctions are made possible by generous bidding, but also your generous donations. If you notice a daylily or perennial that's taking up too much real estate, please donate it. If you can let Carol DeVries know in advance about any daylily valued at \$20.00 or more which you will be donating, she can include them in the PowerPoint. We will also be accepting donations of daylilies for the Rockford Farmer's Market booth (these daylilies will sell for \$3.00 or less) or you can call Donna Rosa at 363-6304 to make other arrangements. Grab your Eureka, plenty of cash or a checkbook, invite a friend and come to our Fall Auction!

### REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING 'WHERE THE REVOLUTION BEGAN'



The 2009 summer meeting is in easy reach this year at Naperville, IL and will be **July 10 through 12**. The registration is \$130 before June 10 (\$150 after) and includes a Friday buffet, live plant auction, bus tours, Saturday lunch and dinner, and speaker Darrel Apps. More details are available at [chicagolanddaylilysociety.org](http://chicagolanddaylilysociety.org) web site. Members without internet access can catch Carol DeVries at any of the meetings for a registration form or schedule.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are once again looking for members to volunteer to be on the nominating committee for officers for the 2010 year. If you have any interest in serving on the committee or want to learn more about the duties please call Carol DeVries at 616.677.5530.

### 2010 DAYLILY CALENDARS

If you are interested in a 2010 Daylily Calendar, please give your order to Sandy Olson. She will only be ordering the amount specifically requested, so if you want one be sure to let her know. There won't be any extra copies, so it's now or never!

### 2009 POPULARITY POLL RESULTS

Each year all 15 Regions of the AHS and the International Division encourage members to vote on the best performing daylily in their region. Those results are then tabulated and published into a nationwide Popularity Poll. Below you will find the results for both Region 2 and the National Popularity Poll. You may be surprised to find some cultivars that were introduced a number of years ago as well as some newer ones. There are always some "oldies but goodies."

#### NATIONAL POLL RESULTS

- |                   |                        |                       |                |
|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| 1. Primal Scream  | 7. Moonlit Masquerade  | 13. Bela Lugosi       | 19. Skinwalker |
| 2. Ruby Spider    | 8. Lavender Blue Baby  | 13. Linda Beck        | 20. Fooled Me  |
| 3. Red Volunteer  | 9. Peggy Jeffcoat      | 15. Beautiful Edgings |                |
| 4. J.T. Davis     | 10. Sabine Bauer       | 16. King Kahnuna      |                |
| 4. Orange Velvet  | 11. All American Chief | 17. Bill Norris       |                |
| 6. Victorian Lace | 12. Strawberry Candy   | 17. Shores of Time    |                |

#### REGION 2 POLL RESULTS

- |                  |                       |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Ruby Spider   | 3. All American Chief | 5. Heavenly Angel Ice |
| 1. Primal Scream | 4. Bela Lugosi        |                       |



## ROCKFORD FARMER'S MARKET

The club will once again be reaching out to the public to educate them on daylilies and help them to locate the perfect daylily for their yard via our booth at the Rockford Farmer's Market on **Saturday, September 12 from 8:00 AM until 2:00 PM**. To do this we depend on your bringing donations of daylilies to the fall auction. So while you are enjoying the beauty of your yard, keep in mind that others in the community and our club would love to have a small piece of that overgrown daylily you've been keeping an eye on. Plus these donations are a great time to free up a little space in your beds so you have room to put in that new daylily you just have to try. The purpose of the booth is to make daylilies more accessible and appealing to everyone so all named varieties are available for a \$3.00 donation to the club. If you have an unnamed variety you would like to donate it will be offered at \$2.00. Any pictures you may have of your donations will help as we educate the public. To donate your daylilies please lift, clean, and tag them with the name (if known) or the flower color. Multiple two-fan divisions of unnamed daylilies may be placed together in sacks by color without tagging each one individually. Donna Rosa will be welcoming donations at the Fall Auction on September 10, or you may call her at 363.6304 to make other arrangements. Meet and greet the public by helping at the sales booth. Please consider signing up at the August meeting to work one or both shifts or give Donna a call to help between 7:00 am and 1:00 pm. It is a great way to share some laughs with your fellow members while also fulfilling our club mission to education the public about our favorite flower.



## COMPANION PLANTS FOR DAYLILIES—SUMMER NEWSLETTER POLL

Several members wrote back to share what they think are the best plants to share space in their gardens with their daylilies. Some of the responses were: blue Nepeta and Coneflowers, Daffodils and Tulips (because the emerging daylilies hide their dying foliage, Irises, Daisies (“because [his] wife loves daisies and [they] are great together also”), reseederers like larkspur and verbena bonariensis, and—of course—Other Daylilies!!



Thank you to all who responded, watch your email for another poll coming this fall!!

## OPEN GARDEN SUGGESTIONS

Perhaps our most enjoyable meetings are these summer meetings in each other's gardens. I am really looking forward to seeing some I haven't visited before and seeing all the new ideas and changes in those I've had a chance to see in the past. But this time of year, as I get primed to go visit other's gardens is a good time to mentally remind myself of a few things I want to be sure and do. I thought I'd share them with you as well.

- Arrive at 6:30 – The meetings are earlier in the summer to give us more time to see the beauty and visit with our friends. But do try not to get there too much before 6:30, remember how flustering it can be when company arrives an hour early while you are rushing around with last minute details.
- Directions – Bring the directions from the newsletter. I can't tell you how often I've goofed on this one and wandered around looking for the club signs.
- Stay on the paths and please do not 'aid' the gardener. Just as you would never think of dusting when invited over for dinner, please do not do any garden maintenance when visiting someone's garden. First of all because there are reasons for lots of things – spent blossoms may be left for seed gathering; weeds may have been freshly sprayed with roundup and waiting for root kill. Second of all, I remind myself that a guest is there to enjoy. Our attempts at help, could feel like criticism to the host.
- Sunscreen - Be sure to put some extra on the back of your legs and neck, since these will be most exposed as you bend to look at the daylilies.
- Camera – Remember to have fresh batteries to run it also!
- Note pad – To take notes on garden layout ideas and cultivars I simply must have.
- Tote bag or back pack – Some way to carry your supplies with you and keep track of them. Ever leave your camera behind? I have. So a bag to keep it all together is a great idea.
- Light colored clothing will keep you cooler, just be aware the daylily pollen and wet petals can stain.
- Keep a sense of humor; things don't always go the way you expect. Some of these moments are the best memories.

# JULY 18 DAYLILY SHOW INFORMATION

## THINK PINK!!

It'll be here before you know it! Saturday, July 18 is the date for our 9th annual Daylily Show at Frederik Meijer Gardens. This year's show is one week later than in past years to allow attendance at the Region 2 Daylily Meeting in Chicago on July 10-12. Our 2009 Daylily Show will again display 100s of Daylily cultivars and seedlings brought in by our club members. The featured Daylily for 2009 will be Pink-Colored Daylilies. Any and all Daylilies from Peach to Rose Pink will be displayed in a special area. Pink seems to be a popular color perhaps because it matches so well with other garden flowers. Club members and visitors will be asked to vote for their favorite Pink Daylily. No special knowledge is needed, we simply would love to include your blooms as we again display:

- ~Daylily off-scape blooms
- ~Daylily on-scape blooms to showcase structure, budding and height.
- ~New seedlings that show promise
- ~Educational Programs
- ~Children's Activities
- ~Club purchased daylilies coming up for auction
- ~Popularity voting for your favorite daylilies



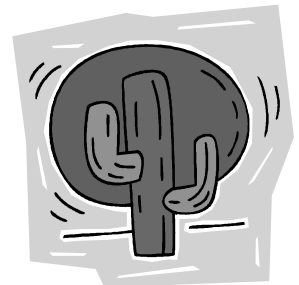
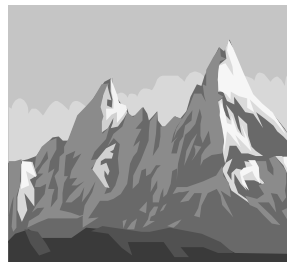
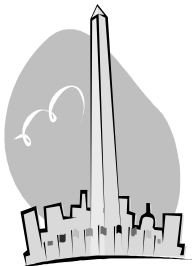
There will also be a judged Artistic Design Division that features Daylilies arranged with companion flowers. "Plant" to participate by bringing daylilies, helping out, and enjoying the day. The usual admission cost to Meijer Gardens will be charged to the general public, but GVDS members are admitted free with name tag (our name tag box will be at the front desk). Show Chair, Steve Smith, can be reached at 878.1759 or [smithg3761@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smithg3761@sbcglobal.net).

# ARTISTIC DESIGN INFORMATION

Celebrate the fantastic landscapes and one-of-a-kind attractions that our country has to offer and share your creative ideas when you enter the "American Treasures" design division at the July Show at Meijer Gardens. Flower designs will be judged by accredited judges from the Michigan Garden Clubs. Arrangements must be ready for judging at 10:00am sharp on July 18. Make this year your year to celebrate America by taking home a blue ribbon! Contact Steve or Ginger Smith with any questions at 878.1759.

## "AMERICAN TREASURES"

- Class 1** "Washington Monument" - A line design featuring daylilies.
- Class 2** "Chinatown" -A design in the Oriental manner with use of water.
- Class 3** "Rocky Mountains" -Designers own interpretation, with use of rock(s).
- Class 4** "Yosemite National Park" - A design using daylilies and evergreen foliage.
- Class 5** "Small Treasures" - Designer's choice using miniature daylilies(flower diameter less than 3")
- Class 6** "Painted Desert" - Novice only. (Has never won a Blue Ribbon in Daylily Design) Designer's choice



GRAND VALLEY DAYLILY SOCIETY  
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**WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT**  
The Grand Valley Daylily Society is a 501(c)7 non-profit organization organized to promote and encourage the development and improvement of the daylily and to increase interest in its use as a means of home and civic beautification.

**CHECK IT OUT**  
[www.grandvalleydaylily.org](http://www.grandvalleydaylily.org)

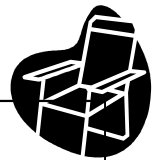
### OPEN GARDEN RAIN RULES

Now that summer is at long last here and we are enjoying the opportunity to meet in member's gardens, the question arises of what will happen if the weather does not cooperate. For that matter, given how spotty weather can be, how do we even know what the weather is at that garden? We are hardy gardeners and can deal with a couple drops, but I doubt any of us want to stand around in driving rain. So our official policy for the outdoor meetings in June & July is:

- If there is a public Tornado Watch/Warning or a Severe Storm Advisory the meeting will be canceled.
- If the local conditions at the host garden force a cancellation, the president will issue an e-mail to notify those members who use e-mail. We will then rely on the notified members to get the word out to any members who do not use e-mail. Those not on line should feel free to call Carol at 677.5530 to ask the status.

Meetings held the rest of the year at other venues will be canceled at the facility owner's discretion. Should the GVDS officers find they can reschedule the speaker and the facility that will be communicated to the members via e-mail. If no notification is communicated then please consider that month's meeting to be canceled.

**DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR FOR THE MEETINGS!**



### GVDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**—Carol DeVries—616.677.5530—[ddvottawa@juno.com](mailto:ddvottawa@juno.com)  
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**Member-at-large**—Laura Looman—616.735.4519—[loomanl@yahoo.com](mailto:loomanl@yahoo.com)