

The GVDS Gazette

A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society

July-September 2016

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 7

Open Gardens
Visiting the gardens of
Ginny Pearce and Nancy Sniff

JULY 15-17

Region 2 Summer Meeting
Peoria, Illinois

October 6

Fredrick Meijer Gardens
Program to be announce

JULY 9

Annual GVDS Daylily Show
Frederik Meijer Gardens
8:00am-doors open for set-up
10:00am-arrangements and flowers
in place

AUGUST 4

Open Garden and Annual Picnic
Garden of Bruce and
Diane Wickmann
Holland

November 3

Bob Faulkner—hybridizer
Fredrick Meijer Gardens
7:00pm

SEPTEMBER 8

Fall Auction—6:30pm
David's House
2390 Banner SW, Wyoming

December 1

Christmas Party

JULY OPEN GARDENS

Ginny Pearce and Nancy Sniff

July's open garden tours will find us visiting the gardens of Ginny Pearce and Nancy Sniff. They have both been gardening for years. Garden evolution is a fact of life for Ginny and Nancy. You may have visited their gardens before, but they surely will be different from the last time you visited. After all, they are constantly adding newer introductions to their collections. So be sure to come see the pretty new faces.

Ginny's address is: 2387 Gatetree Lane, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

Nancy's address is: 1452 Blossom, Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Directions to Ginny's: From northern I-96 area, exit on west bound Cascade Road to East Paris. Take East Paris south to Burton (second light) and head east (left turn). Just before the next light, turn right onto Gatetree Lane. From M-6, exit at Broadmoor and head north on Patterson toward the airport. Continue past the airport and 28th Street to where Patterson ends at Burton. Turn west (left) onto Burton, go thru the light at Forest Hill, and immediately turn left onto Gatetree Lane.

Directions from Ginny's to Nancy's: From Gatetree, turn right onto Burton and quickly right again at Forest Hill which turns into Sparks at the big curve. Turn left at the light onto East Paris, cross 28th Street, and turn right onto 32nd. 32nd ends at Kalamazoo Avenue. Turn left onto Kalamazoo and right onto Blossom Street. Blossom is located off Kalamazoo Avenue about half way between 36th and 44th Street. Blossom only goes west off Kalamazoo and is only two blocks long. Please park at an angle along Nancy's fences off Tallman Street.

Ginny's garden will be open at 4:30. The club business meeting will begin at 6:30 in Nancy's garden. Please bring your chair and something to drink if you wish. The following page contains a description of both gardens.

Ginny Pearce Garden – 2387 Gatetree Lane SE

My daylily passion began 35 years ago when I lived in the Detroit area and had a patch of ground to grow things. I began as any typical perennial gardener discovering the habits of different plants through trial and error. I soon concentrated on the easy care types, especially daylilies and hosta. I also found Hughes Gardens, which sold lined out daylilies, and Goldner Walsh Nursery which sold Al Goldner's introductions. I attended many of Al's annual daylily digs where he sold clumps of his non-selected seedlings for bargain prices. That's where the idea of hybridizing for myself began. To this day, I still use one of his seedlings in my work.



Pearce Sdlg 12-39-10

Over the last 22 years, while living on Gatetree, my gardens have changed and expanded dramatically. And, they continue to evolve but at a slower pace which is good since I move slower now also. I have a mix of sun and shade. The front yard is dominated by a large perennial bed which includes a wide variety of daylily forms, rudbeckia, Shasta daisies, salvia, phlox, and Russian sage along with a few other hardy perennials. When you visit, be sure to make a complete circle of the house to see all the plantings including the 200 or so hosta varieties. The count of named daylily varieties hovers around 170. At the back of the property, the gardens transition from traditional subdivision formality to the naturalistic woodland setting of the adjoining property. On the sunny side of the back yard, are my daylily plants used in and resulting from my 20 years of hybridizing. Between the newest and the selected seedlings alone, there are over 1,000 different daylilies. They are grown in a series of raised beds which were created to improve upon the heavy native clay soil. The paths are narrow and the beds full of scapes and flowers since it will be peak bloom time, so please leave purses and bags in your car to minimize damage. I welcome feedback about my seedlings, so feel free to share your impressions with me. If you're up to a challenge, pick your favorite 3 for the day – notecards will be ready for you to fill out. The garden will be open at 4:30pm for your viewing pleasure.

Nancy Sniff Garden – 1452 Blossom Street SE

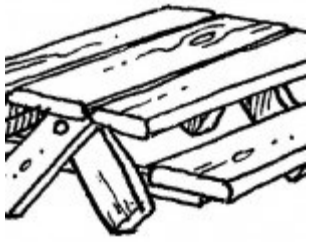
When I started looking for a home 33 years ago I told the real estate agent I wanted a yard so I could have a few plants and if we found one to make sure I looked at the house! My home sits on a one acre city lot that had no flowers just one dogwood and lots of other trees and bushes - privet, mock orange, honeysuckle, and barberries. I dug up some grass and had my first flower bed filled with plants from friends and family. Around 1999, a couple coworkers and I went to a daylily auction at Fred and Win DeVries' nursery. We bought a few that we could divide because "wow, were they expensive!" The rest is a history familiar to all of you gardeners.

I have added a pink dogwood and redbud trees, rhododendron, hydrangea, lilac, spirea, and weigela bushes over the years. I now have multiple beds filled (and I do mean filled) with over 50 different heuchera, over 150 different hosta, maybe 45 different true lilies, and 1110 different daylilies. Yikes!



But, somewhere over the years, the real fun began when I started adding sculptures. Unfortunately, the carved wooden eagle is gone as is the fairy but a black walnut cat has come to visit. Astra Flora still welcomes visitors with bobbing coil arms, Tango One danced its way into needing a bed of its own, a stump deer oversees the east yard, there is a rustic metal gong/bell, a rustic sail/bird sits on a stump, and an anchor are all tucked in where you may or may not see them. There are three metal sculptures from Art Prize artists and I just added Happy Bubbles. Sometime in the future, there will be a rusty metal sculpture from Steve Smith who just shakes his head. My garden is casual so hopefully you will see something that will make you smile. Please bring your own drink and chairs. The meeting will begin at 6:30 pm.

AUGUST PICNIC AND GARDEN TOUR



It's time, once again, for the annual GVDS picnic. This is always one of the highlights of the year. With extra daylight hours and slightly earlier meeting time we always enjoy the opportunity for socializing. Bruce and Diane will be opening their garden as early as 5:00pm. You may come and enjoy their new "country estate" a bit earlier than usual. We will be eating at 6:00pm.



Please bring a dish to pass and your own table service. The club will provide the main dish. Please RSVP to Barb Buikema at bbuikema@att.net or 616-538-3266.

Flight Pattern Farm

If you build it, they will come.

Bruce and Diane Wickmann – 4430 62nd Street, Holland, MI 49423

Diane took a Master Gardener class in 1999 and, while attending that class, heard about the Deering sisters and their daylily sales. From the Deering sisters, she received a brochure about the Grand Valley Daylily Club and soon joined. Within a few years, Bruce also began a daylily addiction.

After spending 25 years on a quarter-acre lot with lots of shade, we decided to buy property in the sun. One of us thought an acre or two would be plenty. The other half of the equation needed more acreage to justify the purchase of a John Deere tractor. In 2013, we purchased six acres in total sun and the rest is history. Purchase of the tractor required a storage facility to house it. The tractor required a trailer to haul it back and forth from the storage facility, also a truck to pull the trailer. We put in a well and irrigation for the planting beds and began dividing and potting over 200 plants at the old house. We put that house on the market just as a test, and it sold in 90 minutes. Then we were homeless, rented for five months and then lived with Diane's mom for six months. We spent the year designing a house and barn and finally began building in June of 2014, moving in a year later.

One week after we moved in, our daughter from Los Angeles moved back with her husband and two sons and lived with us for six months until they found a home. Ten days before they moved out Diane's mother came for Christmas and decided not to leave. We spent the next two months (thankfully January and February) emptying out her condo.

We have lived on the south side of Holland for a year now and love where we are. We are just 2 miles west of the Holland airport, on the flight pattern to the east runway. Bruce can usually identify the planes as they make their approach to the runway. We have 20 growing beds with about 350 named varieties of daylilies and 300 of Bruce's seedlings, as well as club plants. Other daylilies are used in landscaping around the house. We are growing the Englerth Bed seedlings from many different Region 2 hybridizers which will be showcased at the 2017 Region 2 Convention in Grand Rapids. We continue to spend lots of time with family and gardening, one acre at a time.

Directions: From I-196 heading to Holland, exit at M-40. Head north (right) a very short distance to 64th Street and turn left. When 64th takes a big turn to the right, turn left onto 144th Avenue and take it to 60th. Turn right and pass over the highway to the next left at 144th. Take 144th to 62nd and turn right. Travel about 1/4 mile to the Wickmann's.

16TH ANNUAL DAYLILY SHOW AT FREDERIK MEIJER GARDENS

Saturday, July 9 will be the date of the Grand Valley Annual Daylily Show. The Region 2 Daylily Convention will be the following weekend in Peoria, Illinois.

The daylily show this year will be in the Hauenstein & Pfeiffer Room located on the main floor (upstairs) just off the main corridor. Because the room is located past the FMG ticket gate, the public must purchase an admission ticket to enter the daylily show. Grand Valley Daylily Society members that bring in flowers or to volunteer will be admitted with your name tag badge available near the front desk. Doors open at 7:00am to bring in flowers and organize the display. FMG opens to the public at 9:00am. The daylily show will be open from 11:00am-5:00pm for viewing.

The daylily show is primarily a display of "off-scape" flowers. This gives the public an exhibit of the wide variety of colors, shapes, and sizes of daylilies. This year will again feature an "on-scape" daylily display. Last year's "on-scape" display was a big success with a record setting number (49) of plants. Visitor interest was high and the "popularity voting" was well received. "On-scape" daylilies will be placed in vases on a special table. We will have larger heavier vases this year to prevent last year's accidents with some of the tall and heavy spiders.

A special exhibit table will be available for daylily seedlings (unregistered/unnamed) for members that are hybridizers. An exhibit table will also be available for any auction or doorprize daylilies that are grown for the club. This is a non-judged show with the exception of the artistic design division. See related article on artistic design.

The daylily club will also offer a kids' activity corner that will allow youngsters to make their own daylily with pre-cut parts. We will need volunteers to staff this activity.

Plan to participate on July 9 by bringing in your daylilies (off-scape, on-scape, or design) and as a volunteer for one of the activities.

DAYLILY SHOW - ARTISTIC DESIGN DIVISION (DAYLILY ARRANGEMENTS)

The annual Daylily Show on July 9 at Meijer Gardens will once again have an Artistic Design Division along with the off-scape and on-scape flower displays. The daylily design division theme for this year is "DREAM IN COLOR." This division is a judged show with judges accredited from the Michigan Garden Clubs scoring the entered designs. Award ribbons will be given for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, Place and Honorable Mention. Traveling trophies are given to "Best In Show," "Most Artistic," and "Best Novice." All flower designs must feature daylilies. Arrangements must be in place for judging by 10:00am.

The 6 Classes for "DREAM IN COLOR" are as follows:

Class 1 : "WALK THE RED CARPET" - A traditional line design featuring daylilies.

Class 2 : "BLACK MAGIC" - An arrangement in the Oriental manner with the Moribanna Design Style
(3 Flowers - Water Showing)

Class 3 : "SUMMER SUNRISE" - Designers' own interpretation featuring daylilies

Class 4 : "PAINTER'S PALATE " - Designers' own interpretation featuring daylilies

Class 5 : "WHITE SAILS" - Designers' own interpretation featuring daylilies

Class 6 : "PRETTY IN PINK" - Novice Only (Designer has never won a Blue Ribbon in Daylily Design.)

A design using a pink container or a design featuring pink color daylilies.

Ginger Smith will answer questions concerning the Design Division. Contact her at (616) 878-1759 or

smith3761@sbcglobal.net

Daylily Show—Artistic Design Rules

1. All designs must be in place by 10:00am for judging
2. Only show personnel will be permitted in the show area during judging
3. Exhibitors may place only one entry in a class, but may enter as many classes as desired. Designs must be entered in person by the exhibitor and be the work of the exhibitor. However, the exhibitor need not grow the plant material.
4. All fresh plant material must be grown outside in Michigan concurrent with the show.
5. No artificial flowers or foliage are permitted. (No Silk)
6. No dyed or treated plant material may be used.
7. A minimum of painted material may be used
8. An entry tag must be completed for each arrangement.
9. G.V.D.S. is not responsible for loss or damage of personal property during the show.
10. A 3 x 5 card may be used to explain the design.
11. Michigan protected plants are not permitted.

Scale of Points used by Judges

Conformance to Schedule	20
Design Elements & Principles	42
Artistic Concept (originality)	12
Expression (interpretation of class)	10
Distinction (marked superiority)	16
Total	100

PLANT TAGS ARE HERE.....



Sandy Olson has ordered plant tags and they've arrived. They come in two heights—10 and 20 inches. Following is the pricing structure”

10 inches	20 inches
100—-\$52.00	100—-\$92.00
75—-\$39.00	75—-\$69.00
50—-\$26.00	50—-\$46.00
25—-\$13.00	25—-\$23.00

Please contact Sandy at sandyflower@att.net or 616-696-9579 if you need to purchase identification tags for your garden. You may pick them up at meetings. If you are purchasing tags to pick up at the September auction, please write a separate check for the tags.

September Auction

Come to our second auction of the year and join the bidding fun. Our September 8 auction will be held once again in the spacious activity room at David's House. The bidding fun will begin at 6:30pm.

We are in need of club member donations. There are no speaker plants coming in and just a few recent AHS Award of Merit plants will be purchased by the club for inclusion. As you are working in your gardens this summer, look closely for daylilies and perennials that need to be divided.

This is a great opportunity to thin your garden so you have room for more plants in the future. The club will be completely reliant upon your willingness to share a few plants with your fellow club members.

The wider the variety of plants brought in, the more fun we will have expanding each other's gardens.

REMEMBER—the success of the September auction is completely reliant on club member donations. Follow the three Ds:



DIG DIVIDE DONATE

REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING

This year's summer meeting will be 3 days packed full of daylilies in all forms. There will be an accredited AHS Daylily Exhibition show, 4 gardens on tour, additional open gardens, shopping, plant sale and boutique plus chances to win \$250 gift certificates. And, of course, a live auction.

Registration fee is \$99 if postmarked by March 1. Rate after March 1 will be \$140. Please refer to: <http://hoids.org/summer2016/> for more infor-



Thank You!

Thank you for arranging the "work crew" and all your labor in my flower beds. You all are appreciated.

Carol Kerr

OPEN GARDEN TIPS

I don't know if there is anything the club does, that is as fun as the open gardens. Isn't it just a riot to get together with your friends in a beautiful setting and enjoy the sunshine? I have a few quick tips below to make sure this is fun for all of us. Two of the gardens we will be visiting this summer are daylily hybridizer gardens. They belong to Ginny Pearce and Bruce & Diane Wickmann. A great deal of time and effort is involved in creating the seed pods which hold the promise of their hybridizing visions. Please do not disturb the marking system of the crosses. Also, do not remove old blooms or seed pods – they are there for a reason. The best rule of thumb in another's garden is hands off.

Be thoughtful

Take extreme care to prevent damage to daylilies-leave purses, bags, unnecessary camera equipment on your chair or locked in your car.

Always ask permission before stepping into a flower bed for any reason.

Do not disturb pollen or any spent blooms. The owner may have a hybridizing program.

Don't criticize.

Be gracious and thank the host.

Remember to bring

Directions from the newsletter or your own map.

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.

Hat—There is little shade in a daylily garden, so this will help to block a little of the sun.

Camera—Remember to have fresh batteries to run it also!

Notepad

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.

GVDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice-President: Ginny Pearce—616.954.0416—floragin@sbcglobal.net

Secretary: Nancy Sniff—616.455.2548—nsniff@gmail.com

Treasurer: Bruce Wickmann—616.399.4907—bdwicks@gmail.com

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