



The GVDS Gazette

A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society

April-June 2017

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 6

Ned & Rita Brown's garden
1050 E. Mill St., Hastings 49058
6:30 pm

July 8

Annual Daylily Show
Frederik Meijer Gardens
11:00am-5:00pm

July 14-16

Region 2 Summer Meeting
Grand Rapids

August 2

Veterans Park Clean-up
6:30pm

August 3

Club Picnic
Veterans Facility
3000 Monroe Ave NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
6:30pm

September 7

Fall Auction
Cascade Christian Church
2829 Thornapple River Dr. SE
Grand Rapids 49546
6:30pm

September 9

Rockford Farmers' Market
10:00am-1:00pm

October 5

Barb Balgoyen—Walter's Gardens
New and Noteworthy Perennials
Frederik Meijer Gardens
7:00pm

November 2

Becky Finneran
Smart Gardening for the Pollinator
Fredrik Meijer Gardens
7:00 PM

December 7

Christmas Party
Pietro's Restaurant
7:00pm

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

It is that exciting time of year when it is your chance to become more involved in the club by volunteering! Now is the time to raise your hand and offer to help in any manner of ways. In particular we are looking for help in making our main outreach to educate the public on daylilies a success by staffing our daylily show at FMG. What a wonderful opportunity to show off your daylily blossoms and knowledge by attending and chatting with our visitors. This is a wonderful time for you to invite new people to join our club. Remember we all enjoy this club because someone at some point invited us.

- Carol DeVries

PEAK BLOOM TIME!!

Our next meeting will be held at Ned and Rita Brown's lovely garden on July 6 at 6:30. Although we have visited this garden, it has been years and we have never before had the opportunity to see it during peak bloom time. It is a garden not to be missed, with over 500 named daylily varieties neatly presented in beds labeled A to T, with between 30 to 60 daylilies in each. The layout allows for easy viewing by allowing you to get close to them. You are sure to see some that you haven't seen before and just have to have. They are located on the Thornapple River on the east side of Hastings, at 1050 East Mill Street, with approximately 3 acres of gardens there is much to see in addition to all those daylilies. They also have hostas, perennials, vegetables, blueberries, and raspberries, and annual flowers. The garden has been sprayed for mosquitoes, so there should be minimal problem with bugs. Parking is plentiful, and for those who would have issues with climbing the hill there is a drive that leads to Ned's workshop that is on the level of the garden. Please join us as we enjoy this lovely garden – it will be worth the drive!

For those of you who do not like to rely on GPS here are Ned's directions:

Driving directions from the Grand Rapids area: take M37 south through Middleville to downtown Hastings. At the Court House stop light (where M37 turns to the right) continue straight ahead on State Street three blocks to Michigan St. (a stop light). Turn left (north) and go two blocks, just across the river bridge, then turn right onto Mill Street. Go approximately 3/4 mile to our home on the right. We are on the gravel part of the road.

From the north: take I-96 to the Lowell exit and go south on M50 to Hastings Road. Turn to the right and proceed into Hastings. At the first stop light you encounter as you enter Hastings turn left onto Woodlawn and go to the first street on your left (Michigan). Turn right and proceed to the first stop light (which may be flashing) and turn left onto Mill Street (just before crossing the river bridge). Go approximately 3/4 mile to our home on the right.

DINE AMONG THE DAYLILIES

In 2008, several organizations headed by the Comstock Park Rotary Club completed a \$400,000 renovation of "Grotto Park" at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans located at 3000 Monroe Ave., NE, Grand Rapids. The result is a beautiful park with new gazebos, a pergola, stone bridges, benches, and paved walkways surrounding the waterfalls of Lamberton Creek and large native trees. Adding color to this park, Grand Valley Daylily Society members planted 100's of daylilies all donated by our members. This will be the setting for our annual Summer picnic on Thursday, August 3 at 6:30 pm.

GVDS will provide BBQ'd chicken breasts, buns, fresh tomato and lettuce, beverages and complete place setting. Please bring a dish to pass (salad, vegetable, side dish, dessert), serving utensil and your chair. We hope you can join us for a tasty meal and a look back at the beautiful oasis we helped create which has been enjoyed by so many visitors over the past nine years.

The Veterans Home is graciously allowing us to hold our picnic in Grotto Park in the large white pavilion closest to Monroe Ave. on the north side of the main building. There is parking available along the front drive of the main building, parallel to Monroe Ave. as well as a lot behind the main building by the band shell (access by the drive south across from the fountain in the pond). Once parked, the best way to enter the Grotto Park is at the natural brown pergola and large stone donor marker (make sure you check out GVDS's name). Take the winding paved walkway to the white pavilion. Electricity will be available for hot dishes and an iced container for cold dishes. We will eat at 6:30 and enjoy the each other's company and the grounds afterwards. The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is conveniently located just south of Comstock Park near the intersection of Coit Ave. and Three Mile Rd., NE with access from both US-131 and 96.

RSVP is needed so we can purchase the correct amount of food and picnic supplies. Please contact Sharon VanderWilp (text or phone, 616-447-8998; email, slvanderwilp@sbcglobal.net) or she will have a signup sheet at the July meeting. Hope to see you on August 3!

17TH ANNUAL DAYLILY SHOW AT MEIJER GARDENS

No Hype—Just the Facts

What—Daylily Display of:

Off-Scape Flowers Artistic Design Arrangements On-Scape Flowers
Promising Seedlings 2nd Year Returns of Auction Plants

Where—Frederik Meijer Gardens in the Hauenstein & Pfeiffer Room (Main floor off corridor)

Visitors must purchase an admission ticket

Club members bringing flowers or volunteering admitted at no charge

When—Saturday, July 8

Show open to public 11:00am-5:00pm

Daylily flowers can be brought in at 7:30am-10:45am

Artistic design arrangements must be in place for judging at 10:00am

Special Events:

Popularity voting for favorite on-scape daylily

Kids' activity table—build and take home a daylily

Sharing your daylily interest with others

DAYLILY SHOW—ARTISTIC DESIGN DIVISION (DAYLILY ARRANGEMENTS)

The annual Daylily Show on July 8 at Meijer Gardens will have an Artistic Design Division along with the off-scape and on-scape flower displays. The Daylily Design Division theme for the 2017 year is "FABULOUS FIFTIES & SENSATIONAL SIXTIES". 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, 3rd and Honorable Mention. Traveling trophies are given to "Best In Show", "Most Artistic" and "Best Novice". All flowers designs must feature Daylilies. Arrangements must be in place for judging by 10:00am.

The 6 Classes for "FABULOUS FIFTIES & SENSATIONAL SIXTIES" are as follows :

- Class 1** "WE BELONG TOGETHER" Designers' own interpretation featuring daylilies
- Class 2** "ROCK AND ROLL" Designers' own interpretation featuring daylilies
- Class 3** " THE SODA SHOP" A casual functional place setting for 1 in a 24"x24" space. Designers own choice of items, but to include a daylily arrangement.
- Class 4** "DEVOTED TO YOU" An arrangement in the Oriental manner with the Moribana Design Style (3 Flowers--Water Showing)
- Class 5** "STARLIT SUMMER NIGHTS" An illuminated design of the artists choice incorporating a string of miniature LED lights (lights furnished by GVDS)
- Class 6** "PINK LADY CLUB" Novice Only--(Has never won a Blue Ribbon in Daylily Design)
Designers choice using Pink Color Daylilies

Ginger Smith will answer questions concerning the Design Division. Contact her at (616) 878-1759 or smith3761@sbcglobal.net

JOIN THE FAN CLUB

You could join a Country Club, but you would need to buy expensive equipment and take lessons to “stay up on your game.” Membership in a Yacht Club could have a years-long waiting list to get in. Skip all that! Join the Fan Club and become a Fan Addict. You already have the tools and expertise needed and there is no wait to become a member.

Here are the details: Fan Addicts will be given daylilies to grow for our Spring Auction. You will receive the plants at our Sept. 7, 2017 Fall Auction. Approximately two-thirds of them will be returned in the Spring of 2019 and the remaining are grown until 2020. Detailed written instructions are provided with the plants.

This is a great way to help our club, but you get a reward too! To thank you for your participation, you may keep a double fan of every daylily you grew that increased. What a great way to add some new daylilies to your garden.

This year’s Fan Club buyers, Claire Sheridan and Mari Zelaya, have selected a wonderful variety of daylilies from North Country Daylilies in New York (www.longlesson.com/northcountrydaylilies) and CT Daylilies in Connecticut (www.ctdaylily.com). New this shipment!!—Both sources will be sending many of the daylilies in “clumps.” For Fan Addicts, this means you will get a more-than-the-usual two fan division to start with, which should mean a nice increase for you and for the club and a decrease in the dreaded “crop failure.”

As you enjoy your daylilies this summer, think about which ones need to be decreased in size and donate these for our Fall Auction or Rockford sale. This will make room for your new Fan Club plants.

If you have any questions, please contact Fan Club Chair, Sharon VanderWilp (text or phone, 616-447-8998; email, svanderwilp@sbcglobal.net). To become a Fan Addict, sign up at the July or August meeting or contact Sharon directly. She would love to hear from you.

PLANTING, MULCHING, WEEDING, WATERING, FEEDING...



‘Twas the night before the Spring Auction and all in the gardens, Fan Addicts were digging and tagging and bagging the beautiful daylilies they’d so carefully nurtured for the prior two and three years. The success of our main source of club revenue, the Spring Auction, hinges on our Fan Club growers so a huge THANK YOU is due these 2017 Fan Addicts:

Kay Anderson

Armand Aronson

Ned and Rita Brown

Bob and Barb Buikema

Sandra Dunn

Robin Hamilton

Lori Hankinson

Carol Kerr

Vivian Kleinhuizen

Larry Ransom

Steve and Ginger Smith

Sharon VanderWilp

Doug and Sandy Veurink

Diane and Bruce Wickmann

Mari Zelaya

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.



COOLER TEMPERATURES BRING HOT PRICES ON DAYLILIES

The cooler fall temperatures mean great gardening weather and one hot Daylily auction! Don't miss our fall auction on September 7 at 6:30pm at the Cascade Christian Church's Centennial Hall at 2829 Thornapple River Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. This auction is made up entirely of member donations and that means there will be daylilies that reflect all kinds of tastes. In addition we will be offering all manner of great items in the Silent Auction. Historically this auction has provided some amazing deals to our members, and who doesn't love a good deal? So invite your friends and neighbors and come prepared to have a good time! Doors open at 6:30 for plant drop off and the Silent Auction action, with verbal bidding beginning promptly at 7:00pm!!

Sharon VanderWilp is once again organizing the volunteers who will be working at the auction. This is always a fun time, and a great way to support the club, as well as qualify you for the Volunteer Door Prize drawing. If you are willing to help please contact Sharon at 616-447-8998 (phone or text) or svanderwilp@sbcglobal.net. She will also have a sign-up sheet at the July and August meetings.



We Need Your Daylilies

The September auction is a great time to donate your daylilies, and other perennials or items. With the return of the Rockford sale, we will once again be welcoming all daylilies – with or without names. (Color is helpful!) So since it has been a while since we did it this way, here is how it will work.

First the fun part – go out into your garden and enjoy your blossoms. While you are doing that take a peek at what is getting a little too large for its spot, or that plant you have enjoyed for years but are done with. Remember what is passé to you will be new and interesting to someone else. The week before the auction, dig that sucker up and make room for something you haven't tried before.

If it's one of those daylilies that the name has slipped away, (why don't those tags stay in place), this is the year to remove them from your garden. Bring them for the Rockford sale. If you can provide a picture or at least a color that would certainly help. So this July would be a great time to snap that picture, and replace that daylily with something new.

If it's an oldie but goodie – one registered prior to 1990, then you can either put it in the silent auction or add it to the Rockford sale. When placing it in the silent auction you have the option to set a starting bid and to say if you want to get it back if no one bids your minimum bid amount. Any daylilies remaining after the auction, will go to the Rockford sale. So it's a great way to share your lovely plants with others and raise money for the club.

New cultivars those registered 1990 or later will be on the PowerPoint and in the verbal auction. The year of registration can be quickly checked by logging onto the AHS website (www.daylilies.org) and clicking on 'Daylily Database Online'. Or if you prefer you can simply send your list to Carol DeVries at carolydevries@gmail.com and she will reply with what will be on the PowerPoint. By limiting the PowerPoint to newer cultivars we are hoping to speed up the auction and keep it exciting for you. If we each submitted at least one double fan of a new cultivar think how much joy we could bring to our fellow members!

Now go out there and enjoy those blooms – and snap some photos!

GIVE BACK TO OUR VETERANS

Many of you will remember when our club partnered with the Grand Rapids Veteran's Home to build a handicapped accessible garden for the Veterans and their families to enjoy. Being a part of this was such an honor and our club name is proudly carved in stone on the wall bordering the park for all to see. It's been over 5 years, and it's high time to revisit our glory days there. So we are again partnering with the Veteran's Home to benefit the Vets as well as give ourselves a fun pat on the back. We will be meeting the day before the picnic on Wednesday August 2 at 6:30 to groom the garden we installed by the stream and gazebo. This area is not as large as some our gardens, and should not take us long. Remember the more volunteers the quicker we will complete our task and can go to a nearby ice cream stand (Too Talls) for a well-earned reward. We will be supplied bags to collect our debris, so all we need bring are whatever tools we enjoy. If you are willing to be a part of this effort please contact Peggy Pike, the Venerate Veteran's Chair at peggylpike@yahoo.com or 318-7603.

ROCKFORD FARMERS' MARKET

The Rockford Farmer's Market generously gives one space every week free of charge to a nonprofit group and Saturday, September 9 is the day we will make our annual appearance! Please bring your donations to the Fall Auction, tagged with the name or color. Sorry, we must limit this event to donations of Daylilies only. Tags will be available at the August picnic and the September auction.

Susan Williams, our chair for this event, could use your help with daylily sales. It's a fun way to spend a few hours and you can take advantage of these bargain prices to pick up a few wonderful daylilies for your garden. It's also fun to shop at the farmer's market either before or after your shift.

What a wonderful way to share our wonderful flower with the larger gardening community, so please donate your Daylilies and let Susan know if you can help out at this fun event. She can be reached either by e-mail at sunburd@hotmail.com or by phone 897-2713.

SILENT AUCTION – LET'S DO IT AGAIN!



Our Silent Auction last May was a huge success, we had all manner of fun items donated and the bidding proved to be a fun way to spend a little time after dropping off our Daylilies for the regular auction. So we would like to build on this success by offering this again at the September Auction. Please keep this auction in mind as you look around your garden and home. We all get those gifts we don't need, or realize we have two of the exact same shovel. Eventually we need to find new homes for those items and this is a great way to get them into the hands of someone who will enjoy them, while at the same time helping to fund your club. Please bring them to the auction by 6:30 so that they can be included from the start, so no one misses out on a chance to see your item.

GVDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our officers for 2017 have been elected and are:

Carol DeVries – President—616-915-9744; carolydevries@gmail.com

Open position - Vice President

Bruce Wickmann – Treasurer—616-399-4907; bdwicks@gmail.com

Nancy Sniff – Secretary—616-455-2548; nsniff@gmail.com

Robin Boyd-Hamilton – Member at Large—517-852-0789; flamingo@bignet.net



REGION 2 SUMMER MEETING

SIMPLY MICHIGAN

We are counting down the days until we can welcome you to our Region 2 Summer Meeting, "Simply Michigan," July 14-16.

Our special speaker this year is none other than Nan Ripley from Walkabout Garden. Nan is featured in the May 2017 issue of Martha Stewart Living Magazine. Scarlet Pimpernel, one of her best known beauties, earned an Honorable Mention Award in 2013 and the Award of Merit in 2016. We are very excited to have her speak to us on Friday evening.

We will have a wonderful boutique with 9 different vendors including Metal Art Work from Columbus Tree, Carol Roeda Magnet Designs featuring magnets produced just for our regional meeting. There will be gourmet popcorn, fairy garden plants, beautiful conifers from Indiana, and many more surprises.

We will also offer a Silent Auction with several pieces of art, paintings, stained glass, fairy garden items, and several garden baskets including one from our own Grand Valley Daylily Society. All proceeds will help to run Region 2.

You won't want to miss the 2017 Summer Meeting. Go to: [Simply Michigan--AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting](#) for registration, itinerary, and all other need to know information. We look forward to seeing you at "Simply Michigan."

If you have any further questions please contact our committee members:

Barb & Bob Buikema—bbbuikema@att.net

Mandy McMahon—mcmahonae@gmail.com

Diane & Bruce Wickmann—dwickmann@gmail.com