



# The GVDS Gazette

A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society  
April-June 2019

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL 4

Steve Williams, O'Bannon Springs  
Frederik Meijer Gardens  
7:00pm

### MAY 16

Spring Auction  
Cascade Christian Church  
Doors open at 6:30pm  
Auction begins at 7:00pm

### JUNE 6

Open Garden  
Ben and Sharon VanderWilp  
Rebecca Marquardt  
6:30pm

### JULY 20

Annual Daylily Show  
Frederik Meijer Gardens

### AUGUST 3

Bus Trip  
Along The Fence Daylilies  
Alpine Flowerland departure  
9:00am

### SEPTEMBER 5

Fall Auction  
Cascade Christian Church

### OCTOBER 3

Sandra Dunn  
Late Blooming Daylilies  
Frederik Meijer Gardens  
7:00pm

### NOVEMBER 7

Ginny Pearce  
Frederik Meijer Gardens  
7:00pm

### DECEMBER 5

Christmas Party  
Cascade Christian Church

## STEVE WILLIAMS

### O'BANNON SPRINGS DAYLILIES

In April the club will welcome Steve Williams, owner of O'Bannon Springs Daylilies in Ohio. Steve has been hybridizing and selling his own introductions as well as other daylilies for many years, but now is focusing on developing his own cultivars. His presentation will feature his goals and progress from over 20 years of hybridizing. He'll be discussing his registrations and seedlings which might be future introductions. He works with all daylily types, but his main focus is currently on double, miniature spiders and unusual forms.

Check out Steve's seedling pages on the O'Bannon Springs website for a glimpse at some beautiful daylilies.—[obannonspringsdaylilies.com](http://obannonspringsdaylilies.com). 'O'Bannon Orchid', a beautiful lavender orchid reverse bitone, won an Honorable Mention in 2017. For those who want to learn more, there is a fascinating article about Steve and his hybridizing in the Summer 2018 Daylily Journal.

At the end of the program, Steve will be auctioning off daylilies. They will be sent to the auction winners in May. Be ready to view some beautiful daylilies and participate in the brief auction.



Aileen's Rainbow



Hypnotic Flames



Uncle Newt

## GOING ONCE-GOING TWICE-GOING THRICE

May brings the club auction. Cultivars from Melanie Mason of North Country Daylilies, Buskirk, NY will be some of those auctioned. Melanie is known for her New York zone 4 hardy daylilies that survive and thrive no matter how cold the winter gets. Exciting daylilies from CT Daylilies in Connecticut are also on going to be on the auction list and will appeal to those who love flowers with toothed edges. The auction will be held at the Cascade Christian Church, 2829 Thornapple Dr., SE, Grand Rapids, and begins at 7:00pm.



## SILENT AUCTION NEWS



Once again we will be gratefully accepting donations for the popular silent auction at our spring auction in May. Perennials, garden tools, garden and home décor, etc. will make for a fun and successful silent auction. Donations can be dropped off beginning at 6:30pm on May 16. The form you complete which describes your donation will be available that evening, as well as by email, as the auction date gets closer. If you wish, you can specify a minimum donation amount. Thank you in advance for your donation.

## TWO PROGRAMS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

### OPEN GARDEN AND REBECCA MARQUARDT

The program for the June 6, 6:30pm meeting will be presented by Rebecca Marquardt, Landscape Architect and owner of Revery in Grand Rapids, MI. She will be talking about how to use native plants for pollinators in gardens. Rebecca is a member of the Native Plant Guild in Grand Rapids. This program was rescheduled from February and will be held at the home of Ben and Sharon VanderWilp at 811 Elmdale St., NE, Grand Rapids as part of the club's traditional June open garden meeting.

Ben and Sharon have been gardening on Elmdale for 20 years and, like many gardeners, have deleted grass, added plants and, of course, weeded and weeded...as time allows. Their home is on the corner of Eastern Ave. and Elmdale St. and the gardens span all four sides of their home. Their lot is a mixture of sun and shade. In addition to the 300+ cultivars of Daylilies, some of their favorite companion perennials include iris, heuchera, ligularia, ferns and hosta. Flowering bushes and a few pots of annuals also provide season-long color.

A Bioswale was planted a couple of years ago with grant money and help from the neighboring school students. It is located right across Elmdale St. from the front of the VanderWilp home. Signage explains how this Bioswale works.

Parking for two or three vehicles for those with mobility challenges will be available in the driveway on the north or lawn side of the drive. Lots of on-street parking is available on both corners and there is a small parking lot in the schoolyard just south of the intersection with access from Eastern Ave. **Remember** to bring a chair to use for the program by Rebecca Marquardt

Hope you can join us on Thursday, June 6!



## IT'S FAN CLUB SIGN-UP TIME

The order has been placed and the daylilies will be arriving this September! This year's daylilies will be coming from Solaris Farms in Reedsville, Wisconsin whose slogan is "Unique, hardy, field grown plants selected for northern tier gardens." Our Fan Club Buyer, Claire Sheridan has done a wonderful job in selecting an amazing variety of daylilies in a wide variety of colors, sizes, forms and bloom times for us to grow. Additionally, Solaris Farms decided this year to stop selling online, but did agree to ship to GVDS and will mark our plants "sold" in the Spring. So save yourself a trip to Wisconsin and participate in the Fan Club this year!

Fan Club Growers agree to label and verify, water, fertilize, mulch, talk to and return the increase of the plants received. Participants return the increase of the Auction plants at the Spring Auction in 2021 and 2022. Fan Club growers have the option to request "Door Prize Plants Only." If a grower chooses this option, they will be responsible for returning plants in 2021 only—a one time obligation. This is also the second year after voting to decrease the quantity we purchased so if you are a long term grower, you will notice a decrease in the quantity you will receive this year. If you have not grown before or at least not for a few years because you could not commit the space previously needed, how about growing for Fan Club this year? To thank you for helping GVDS in this way, you may keep a double fan of all the cultivars you grew, provided they increased. We are confident that these plants from Solaris Farms will do very well for us. You can sign up at a future meeting or by contacting Fan Club Chair, Sharon VanderWilp at [slvanderwilp@sbcglobal.net](mailto:slvanderwilp@sbcglobal.net).



### REMINDER:

Advertising on the website: If you are listed as a garden on the website. We need your renewal fee of \$10. The state inspection report needs to accompany the fee

### 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

Our officers for 2019 have been elected and are:

**Peggy Pike** – President—616.318.7603—[peggypike@yahoo.com](mailto:peggypike@yahoo.com)

**Claire Sheridan**—Vice President—616.837.8474—[modelt14@gmail.com](mailto:modelt14@gmail.com)

**Bruce Wickmann** – Treasurer—616-399-4907—[bdwicks@gmail.com](mailto:bdwicks@gmail.com)

**Nancy Sniff** – Secretary—616-455-2548—[nsniff@gmail.com](mailto:nsniff@gmail.com)

**Eileen Schmuker** – Member at Large—616.540.8783—[divamom3849@gmail.com](mailto:divamom3849@gmail.com)

## ANNUAL DAYLILY SHOW



We will be in the Jandernoa and Burgess rooms for the Show on July 20, 2019. The current tentative team leaders are Peggy Pike, Eileen Schmuker and Steve and Ginger Smith. Steve and Ginger are organizing the Daylily Artistic Designs (arrangements) for the event. The show will be held with the Hosta Show in an adjoining room. The public will have the opportunity to take in both shows on Saturday.

Set up for the show will begin at 4:00pm Friday. You may begin bringing blooms in as early as 8:00am on the day of the show. Floral arrangements for the Artistic Design Division need to be in place by 10:00am. The show hours on Saturday are 10:00am-5:00pm.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Happy Spring!** We survived the late brutal winter. As the snow melted this week, I was amazed to see the growth of some of my plants through the snow. I looking forward to the spring tulips and other bulbs that will be blooming.

We have one more meeting at Meijer Gardens in April to enjoy our guest speaker. Thank you to all that attended in March and made the trek from the parking areas into the Gardens. Heidi Grassman donated a few plants and gave a nice presentation of the new Proven Winners that are available this year.

We took your concerns for the bus trip into consideration. We have reserved a 55 person bus at the best price available for that day. We are revising the trip slightly to accommodate the larger bus. Sandra and Claire are working through the details. We will determine the final price after the budget is approved at the April meeting.

Club shirts are available for order. Gladys Dodger has a few of the older shirts still available. You may pick out the shirt or hat of your choice and select a flower color. The club will pay a portion of one item.

## DAYLILY SHOW—ARTISTIC DESIGN DIVISION

### DAYLILY ARRANGEMENTS

The annual daylily show on July 20, 2019 will have an Artistic Design Division. The daylily design theme for the 2019 year is the 'AMERICAN OLD WEST'. 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 designs must feature daylilies. Arrangements must in place for judging by 10:00am.

The 6 Classes for 'AMERICAN OLD WEST' are as follows:

**Class 1** "Don't Fence Me In"  
Designers own interpretation featuring daylilies.

**Class 2** "Dual In The Sun"  
Dual Designs(2) arranged in two similar containers.

**Class 3** "Red River Valley"  
Designers own interpretation featuring red color daylilies.

**Class 4** "Prairie Storm"  
Designers own interpretation featuring daylilies.

**Class 5** "Chuck Wagon"  
A functional Place Setting for 1 in a 24" X 24" space. Must include placemat, napkin, plate(s), beverage container, and daylily arrangement. Utensils (silverware) do not need to be included.

**Class 6** "Gold Rush"  
(Novice Only) - Has never won a Blue Ribbon in daylily design  
A design using a yellow/gold container or yellow/gold daylilies.

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

Peggy Pike