



The GVDS Gazette

A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society

January-March, 2020

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 6

Steve Reiger
Bee Keeping
Frederik Meijer Gardens
7:00pm

MARCH 5

Nate Bremer
Hybridizing at Solaris Farms
Frederik Meijer Gardens
7:00pm

APRIL 2

Dan Bachman
Valley of the Daylilies
Cascade Christian Church
7:00pm

MAY 14

Spring Daylily Auction
Cascade Christian Church
Drop-off 6:00pm Auction start 7:00pm

MAY 24-26

AHS National Convention
Savannah Georgia

JUNE 4

Jessie Schulte
Kent Conservation District Office
6:30pm

JULY 10-12

AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting
Coshocton, Ohio

JULY 18

Annual Daylily Show
Frederik Meijer Gardens

AUGUST 1

Bus Trip
Along The Fence Daylilies
MSU Gardens

SEPTEMBER 10

Fall Auction
Cascade Christian Church
Drop off 6:00pm Auction start 7:00pm

SEPTEMBER 12

Rockford Farmers' Market

OCTOBER 1

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

NOVEMBER 5

Member Panel Discussion
Frederik Meijer Gardens
7:00pm

DECEMBER 3

Christmas Party
Cascade Christian Church
6:30pm

BUZZING NEWS

In February the club will be privileged to hear one of our members, Steve Reiger, talk about beekeeping. He has been keeping bees for 35 years and will be telling us about his beekeeping experiences on Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 pm at Frederik Meijer Gardens. Steve will be answering any questions anyone has which are associated with bees, types of bees, responses, diseases, setting up and tearing down hives, grafting queens, and any other connected subject.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Happy New Year!

Claire has lined up some great speakers for the year. You will not want to miss February through April. Due to some conflicting events, we will be meeting at Cascade Christian Church a few times this year. Make sure to check the location of our meetings each month. You will find this in the newsletter, on the website and in the email reminder that Nancy sends you.

New members of the club, I hope you have the opportunity to attend the meetings this year. We look forward to getting to know you better. We do not pay admission to the garden for our meetings. We meet downstairs in the Jandernoa Room in the Covenant Center classroom for the meetings.

We need a volunteer to help with chairing the daylily show on July 18. If interested contact me for details.

~~Peggy Pike

HARSH WINTERS—HARDY DAYLILIES



American Muscle

On Thursday, March 5 at 7:00 pm Nate Bremer of Solaris Farms will be presenting a talk on his daylily hybridizing program. In addition to growing daylilies, Solaris Farms also grows peonies and true lilies. As his website notes, "Solaris Farms is located in an area of harsh winter climate that experiences greater than normal freeze-thaw cycles, icing and exposure. With these factors in mind, Solaris Farms is working on programs involving clear vibrant colors and superior northern plant habits." If you are looking for plants that will thrive no matter what a Michigan winter does, Solaris

Farms can be a valuable resource. While they did not sell online last year, this year they are selling online again and have a new website up. Also Nate will be auctioning several daylilies at the program. Fan Club growers received Solaris Farms plants to grow for the club last fall so you can look forward to bidding on some of Nate's plants in the future as well as in March. The program will be held at Fredrik Meijer Gardens

Visit the Solaris Farms website at: solarisfarms.com



Betty Boop Ducker

THE SPIDER MASTER—DAN BACHMAN

Dan Bachman of Valley of the Daylilies will be the guest speaker on April 2. Dan will be speaking about his hybridizing program and also conducting a 50/50 auction of some of his plants. Dan has been winning awards with his daylilies for many years. In 2018 he won the Harris Olson Spider award for 'Mascara Snake' and in 2019 won the Ned Roberts Spider/UF award for 'Jazz

at the Wool Club'. Valley of the Daylilies also sells the ingenious daylily divider that makes dividing the biggest clumps a much easier task. The program will be held at 7:00 pm at the Cascade Christian Church, 2819 Thornapple Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.



Mascara Snake

If you would like to see the full line of Valley of the Daylilies flowers visit their website at:

<http://www.vendio.com/stores/votdlilies/>

HELP NEEDED!

Many hands are needed to make our club a success. Each of our events relies completely on volunteers from the club rising to the challenge. If you'd like to know more about each of these events and the needs, please contact any board member. Listed below are several events that need your help.

Fan Club

Rockford Farmers' Market

Daylily show

Christmas Party

Auction help

DAYLILY SHOPPING ANYONE?

As Caroline Coxon so accurately quipped: "Only one shopping day left 'til tomorrow." Daylily shopping for the Fan Club involves a more leisurely schedule. Please consider serving on the Buying Committee for the 2020 Fan Club.

The fun begins when Sharon VanderWilp, the Fan Club Chair and the Buying Committee meet at a mutually convenient location and time to talk about this year's program and the daylily sources the Buyers wish to use. The Chair contacts these sources to see what might be offered for club orders. Once the source(s) are selected, the Buyers then begin shopping online, from their homes, for a good variety of daylilies for our Fan Club growers to return at future auctions. Once the Buying Committee makes their final selections during the winter months, the Chair places this order and we then meet again in September to prepare this purchase in time for distribution to our Fan Club growers at our September, 2020 auction. What a great way to not only help out your club, but also add a little color to your winter!

If you have any questions about this, please contact Sharon VanderWilp at slvanderwilp@sbcglobal.net or (616) 447-8998. If you can help with this fun and important task, please let Sharon know by February 6 so that the shopping can begin!



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

GVDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our officers for 2019 have been elected and are:

Peggy Pike – President—616.318.7603—peggypike@yahoo.com

Claire Sheridan—Vice President—616.837.8474—modelt14@gmail.com

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

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

Eileen Schmuker – Member at Large—616.540.8783—
divamom3849@gmail.com

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

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The Board of Directors has been discussing an idea that will be presented to the club on Thursday, February 6. The idea is to consider changing the club meeting day and time to Saturday mornings instead of Thursday evenings. The proposed meeting time would be from 10:00 to Noon. Meijer Gardens is willing to have our meetings change to Saturday mornings.

One reason for bringing this to the membership is that members who drive a considerable distance may find it easier to drive in the daytime, especially during times of the year when it gets dark early and it's cold and snowy. Another reason is that members who work during the week may find it easier to attend on a Saturday morning. The club also may be able to attract new members by changing the meeting.

If this is approved, the meeting dates in 2021 would be as follows:

February 6

March 6

April 3

October 2

November 6

December 4

The September auction likely would remain on Thursday evening because of the Rockford farm market sale on the following Saturday. The May auction date could be on Thursday or Saturday. At this time the Cascade Christian Church is amenable to the change in dates.

The meeting dates for 2020 will remain as planned on Thursday evenings.

This information is being put into the newsletter to give you a chance to think it over before the next meeting. If you have questions, please feel free to contact any of the board members.