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DUES ARE DUE!

Just a reminder that that Grand Valley Daylily Society annual memberships expire on **December 31**. Please send your Membership Renewal form to Sandy Olson, club Treasurer, by the end of the year so that you may continue receiving the society's quarterly newsletters and other membership perks. Just in case you forgot, your year of expiration is printed on your address label.

GVDS Gazette Contributors

-Carol DeVries
-Laura Looman
-Steve Smith
-Nancy Sniff
-Roger VanderVelde
-Sharon VanderWilp



Celebrating 25 Years—1985-2010

The GVDS Gazette



A Quarterly Publication of the Grand Valley Daylily Society
October—December 2010

2010 –2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

October 7, 7:00 pm
Phil & Luella Korth
Pinewood Gardens
Meijer Gardens

November 4, 7:00 pm
Janet Macunovich
Perennial Favorites
Boy Scout Facility
3213 Walker Ave NW
Please Note Location Change

December 2, 6:00 pm
Christmas Dinner Party
Swan Inn, Alpine Ave

January 6, 7:00 pm
Meijer Gardens

February 3, 7:00 pm
Meijer Gardens

March 10, 7:00 pm
Please Note Date Change
Meijer Gardens

2011 AHS Calendar of Events

May 25-28, 2011
2011 AHS National Convention
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

July 15-17, 2011
AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting
Troy, Michigan

WISCONSIN SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS

On October 7 at 7 PM, we welcome hybridizers Phil and Luella Korth from Pinewood Gardens in Saumico, Wisconsin, who will present their program "Hard Knocks – Hybridizing the Hard Way in Northeastern Wisconsin." With no experienced mentors living near them, the Korths have had to learn hybridizing by trial and error. Lessons they have learned include: what plants and hybridizing techniques work in their Zone 4 climate, how to speed up their progress, make more seeds and hybridize indoors, selecting good plants for introduction, how to evaluate their seedlings compared to what is on the market and finding their niche. You can see the beautiful results they're getting at their website, www.pinewooddaylilies.com. Their program will include landscape shots and closeups with parentage of their introductions and seedlings, as well as opinions and some humor for an educational and fun presentation. Join us on October 7!

WE WELCOME JANET MACUNOVICH

You won't want to miss our meeting on November 4 at 7 PM at the Boy Scouts of America meeting room. Our special guest speaker will be Janet Macunovich who will present her program, "Landscape Ideas from 50 Favorite Gardens, Before- After." Janet is a professional garden designer, educator and writer. She has written nine "how to" books as well as hundreds of articles for publications such as the Fine Gardening, Michigan Gardener and Better Homes and Gardens Perennials. Join us for this fun presentation as we travel through time and beautiful spaces to gain ideas, laughs, hope and consolation for your own garden. The Boy Scouts of America is conveniently located a short distance off I-96 at 3213 Walker Ave. NW, Grand Rapids 49544. Drive around back to the brown building with a life size bronze boy scout sculpture in front.

GVDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President—Carol DeVries—616.677.5530—ddvottawa@juno.com
Vice-president—Sharon VanderWilp—616.447.8998—slvanderwilp@sbcglobal.net
Secretary—Nancy Sniff—616.455.2548—nsniff@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer—Sandy Olson—616.696.9579—sandyflower@att.net
Member-at-large—Laura Looman—616.735.4519—loomanl@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What a tremendous blessing it has been to me to have the honor of being the club president for five years. I have learned an enormous amount about daylilies, but more importantly I have learned a lot from our members about generosity. There are members in our club who stand as glowing examples of giving, giving without wish for recognition, and giving without any expectation of return. I sincerely hope I took in just a little of what these shining examples teach, and I know I am the better for witnessing it. So thank you all for your support and laughs, even when they were at my expense. I am looking forward the coming year and all that the new board will do to make it fun for us! - Carol

IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR

"There'll be parties for hosting" and the best one of all will be on December 2 at the Swan Inn. We start out with the punch bowl at 6 PM with cash bar available from the restaurant. Dinner will be served at 6:30 PM. Our party planners, Sandy Olson and Maryann Inman have asked Mrs. Claus to fix her delicious Swiss Steak, Ham with fruit glaze, mashed potatoes, green beans and dessert for us. The elves are already busy making some wonderful door prizes. If you wish to participate in a voluntary gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift to exchange (\$10.00 value). Cost is \$10.00 for members; \$20.00 for non-members. Reserve your spot by November 20 by completing the reservation form on the back page of this newsletter. The Swan Inn is located at 5182 Alpine Ave NW, Comstock Park, 49321 at the corner of 6 Mile and Alpine Ave. The lower level banquet room is accessible by elevator.

FALL AUCTION RESULTS

I sure hope you were at this fall's auction and got in on the great deals. What a chance to snap up some top notch daylilies at bargain basement prices. As she always does, Sandy Veurink gave us a brief but highly educational summary of each daylily being auctioned, explaining quickly what made each unique. She often pointed out things such as bloom season that might have been missed as we gazed longingly at the pretty pictures. Ben VanderWilp and Fred DeVries were at their usual comedic best. Maybe not as much information, but who cares as we happily bid on anything they joked about. But fun and educational as it was, I know it's really all about raising funds for the club and the good works that it does. So it is especially sweet to tell you we made more than the previous year, and our bids and receipts were in line.

ROCKFORD FARMER'S MARKET

When it rains it pours, well at least it did this year the Rockford Farmer's Market. So an especially big THANK YOU to all our members who stood in puddles while trying to happily answer all the questions we got on how to care for daylilies. Also thanks so much to all who donated plants to both the auction and the Rockford Market Plant booth. It's just wonderful that you took the time out of your busy schedules to dig, clean, and deliver them! A special thank you goes out to Donna Rosa who once again chaired the event and had it running so smoothly.

2011 EUREKA DAYLILY REFERENCE GUIDES—ORDER NOW!

It is once again time for club members to place their orders for the newest Eureka Daylily Reference Guide. The annual Eureka Daylily Reference Guide is a compilation of over 75 daylily sellers' price lists and gives a full description of 12,000 registered daylilies in commerce along with the current fair market value, and will be sold to club members at a cost of \$37 each, prepaid. Reserve your copy on the attached order form or call Sandy Olson at 616-696-9579 no later than **November 27**. There are only 24 copies available at this price, so order now!

START SPREADING THE NEWS



At our February 2010 meeting, we voted unanimously to bring in a general gardening speaker with the intent of inviting a broader audience to introduce them to the Grand Valley Daylily Society. This speaker, Janet Macunovich, will be here soon on November 4! Janet lectures throughout the United States and the program that was selected for us will appeal to anyone who loves to garden. It is one of her newer programs which she enjoys presenting and has also been well received by her audiences. If you have heard Janet speak, you know that she is a very dynamic presenter who relates well to an audience of all levels, from the beginning to advanced gardener. We have rented the Steelcase Multipurpose Room at the Boy Scouts of America facility in Walker (Grand Rapids mailing address) so there will be room for guests. Please invite your gardening friends! Announce it at another garden club you attend. Maybe your church has a gardening club or a group of volunteers who maintain the gardens who would like to attend. Do you know someone at work who enjoys gardening? Let's be proud that our club has this quality event to share with the larger gardening community!



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS—1985 TO 2010

1985 was a great year. Gasoline cost \$1.09 per gallon, sideburns had made a comeback, compact discs were brand new and so was (drum roll please) the Grand Valley Daylily Society! Twelve people gathered for the first meeting in January of 1985 upstairs at the Flowerland store on Alpine Ave. in Comstock Park. Of the twelve founding members, five are still members of our club today. Two of these five original members served on the Board of Directors for the club's first two years. Gladys Dodger was the Treasurer and Roger VanderVelde, Member at Large. Joining them on this

Board was Jerry Couterier, President, Iro Novak, Vice-President, and Carol Natte, Secretary. The remaining charter members who are still current members, Carol Kerr, Sandy Olson and Fred DeVries all served on subsequent Boards. Sandy Olson has served as Treasurer since 1987! Discussion in those early days was about forming a combination Iris and Daylily club, but that was voted down. When Roger VanderVelde saw that most who had shown up for the daylily meeting were also Iris club members, he questioned them as to why they had voted not to merge the two groups. The response was, "That way we have another flower club meeting to attend each month!"

The group held their first daylily show and sale at the former Grand Village Mall in Grandville. They planted their first public daylily garden at John Ball Park in Grand Rapids. Although this garden no longer exists, the club has since planted and still maintains two gardens in Grand Rapids: the Ronald McDonald House (since 1990) and the Grotto Park at the Home for Veterans (since 2008). At the end of 1985, there was \$47.00 in the treasury!

Many years before this, of course, daylily hybridizers were busy introducing daylilies. The "Hemerocallis Checklist" published by the American Hemerocallis Society, Inc. (AHS) cataloged daylily introductions from 1893 through July, 1, 1957. In the foreword of this publication, Harry I. Tuggle, Jr. writes, "the number of named daylilies has approached the dimensions of atomic fallout--from 2452 names in the 1949 catalog, to over 7000 in this work." He further warns hybridizers, "In this age of mass production, mass markets, and mass entertainment, our daylily hybridizers have not failed to follow the trend. A strong dose of some potent elixir is needed to calm the prolific deluge of registrations and introductions. No-one can tell a mother that one of her children has dirty ears, but there is no place for maternalism or "momism," in Hemerocallis evaluation." This "Checklist" was renamed "The Daylily Dope" in the late 80's and then evolved into the name we know today, "Eureka." The 1989 issue of "The Daylily Dope" included a total of 89 growers, five in Michigan, including our own member, Helen Deering.

It may have saved some confusion for Steve and Ginger Smith if the name of this publication had not been renamed. Smiths tell about the first daylily meeting they attended. When it was announced, "The Eureka's are in", they thought the club had gotten a good deal on a large quantity of vacuum cleaners! They soon figured out what was going on and, in fact, Steve now serves as the Club Librarian, and members can contact him to check out these and many other daylily magazines and books.

Of particular interest in the club library is the Spring/Summer 1998 issue of the AHS Region 2 Newsletter because that was the year GVDS hosted the Region 2 Summer Meeting and Garden Tour. The theme chosen was "Growin' Great in '98" for the events held at the Hilton Inn- Airport July 17 through 19. A plant drawing of three cultivars, 'Killer', 'Bill Norris', and 'Mask of Time' was held for those who registered early. Guests were treated to a daylily plant auction, nightly banquets, with guest speaker, Ted Petit and seven open gardens. Three of these featured gardens were those of current members, Helen and Thelma Deering, Carol Kerr and Allison Tgiros. The Region 2 magazine included photographs of all the gardens and the front cover was a beautiful full page photo taken by Roger VanderVelde of the Deering daylily gardens. Current members, Rick and Julie Buys served as Registrars for the event. Certainly many more members, both current and past, were involved in an event of this magnitude.

We look back with gratitude to those who started our club and kept it going for the past 25 years. Where will the next 25 years take us? Let's find out! (A special thank you to Steve Smith, Nancy Sniff, and Roger VanderVelde for contributing information for this article. – Sharon VanderWilp)



GRAND VALLEY DAYLILY SOCIETY
 LAURA LOOMAN—NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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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 US OUT AT
www.grandvalleydaylily.org



 * **CELEBRATING 25 YEARS! 1985—2010** *



GVDS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL, CHRISTMAS PARTY RSVP, & EUREKA ORDER FORM

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

E-mail _____ State _____ Zip _____

Membership ___\$5 individual ___\$8 family X ___years = _____

Christmas Dinner ___member(s) @ \$10 each ___guest(s) @ \$20 each = _____
 (RSVP by November 20)

2011 Eureka Daylily Reference Guide _____ Eureka(s) @ \$37 each = _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make check payable to GVDS and send with this form to:
 Sandy Olson, GVDS Treasurer, 3709 Wiersma NE, Cedar Springs, MI 49319
 Phone number: 616-696-9579