



Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc

Issue 45

April, 2013
www.wisdaylilysoc.org

Rosemary Kleinheinz, Editor

A not for profit organization promoting the enjoyment, awareness, and propagation of the genus Hemerocallis



Jill Reynold's Seedling



Paul Pratt's Seedling

HYBRIDIZERS' SHOWCASE

**Saturday, April 6th, 1:00
West Madison Ag Station
Mineral Point Rd.**

One of these days our daylilies will begin to sprout from the earth - as soon as the snow finally melts away! In the meantime, come get your "daylily fix" on the Saturday after Easter, April 6th, when the WDS Hybridizers' Group will show us the latest pictures of the babies emerging from their respective programs. Judging from past events like this, we are in for a real treat.

Their group keeps growing, and rumor has it that they have some exciting things planned for the summer. Watch for more details in the next newsletter.



Genni Kleckner's Seedling



Bob Kietzman's Seedling



Jean Bawden's Seedling

THE PRESIDENT IS COMING!!

On Saturday, May 18th at 1:00 at the West Madison Ag Station, we will be honored to host Bret Clement of Clement Gardens in Laredo, IN. Not only does he introduce beautiful plants, but Bret is serving as the President of Region 2 for the next two years, and as Parliamentarian and General Counsel (attorney) for AHS.

We haven't seen many of his introductions in this area, but I suspect that after we see his presentation there will be many growing here. Not only do his flowers come with unusual names like H. 'Tuna Fish in D Minor' and 'The Ego Has Landed', but they exhibit unusual forms like pinched and crispate petals. He likes tall dormant dips and watermarks. Dan Bachman has said that Bret is one of his favorite hybridizers. I can't wait to hear him speak and see his flowers!



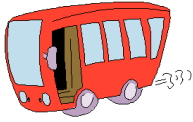
H. 'The Ego Has Landed'
Photo by Bret Clement

WDS Officers & Board Members

President: Francis Kleckner, 32494 Bogus Valley Rd, Muscoda, WI 53573
608-739-9160, f.g.kleckner@gmail.com,. (Term ends 2014)
Vice-President: Barry Rowe, 1850 Epworth Ct, Madison, WI, 53705
608-233-2849 barryrowe@charter.net (Term ends 2013)
Secretary: Mike Stafford, 2521 Moland St., Madison, WI 53704
608-204-3824 mike.stafford@doa.state.wi.us (Term ends 2012)
Treasurer: Diane Scharkey, 4717 Eisenhower, Oregon, WI 53575,
608-835-5318 dscharkey@aol.com (Term ends 2013)
R. Vaughan James, 207 Alden Dr, Madison, WI 53705, 608-218-9384
rvjames@wisc.edu (Term ends 2013)
Lane Revenal, 1242 Nevada Rd, Madison, WI 53704, 608-244-8007
lmrevenal@gmail.com (Term ends 2013)
Rita Thomas, 5586 Cheryl Dr., Fitchburg, WI 53711 608-271-5985
rita5586@gmail.com (Term ends 2012)
Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, 117 S High St. Deerfield, WI 53531,
608-764-2515 williebh96@yahoo.com (Term ends 2012)
Newsletter Editor: Rosemary Kleinheinz, 104 W Lakeview, Madison, WI
53716, 608-221-1933 trkleinheinz@att.net (Term ends ????)
Web Administrator: Mary Wrzesinski 3010 Elm La, Middleton, WI 53562
608-231-3279 maryw@charter.net (Term ends ??????)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

April 6th, Saturday, 1:00 pm, **Hybridizers Showcase**,
West Ag Station, Mineral Pt Rd.
May 18th, Saturday, 1:00 pm West Ag Station,
Speaker: **Bret Clement, Laredo, IN**
June 1st, Saturday, 9-11 am, **Open Greenhouse Day**
at Song Sparrow Nursery
June 23rd, Sunday, 1:00 pm, **Garden Party**, at Duane
& Allisa Kleinfeldt's home, Windsor
June 28th to 30th, **AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting**
Cincinnati, OH
July 13th, Saturday, **Garden Tour/Bus Trip**
July 24th to 27th, **National AHS Convention**,
Minneapolis, MN
August 3rd, Saturday, 12:30 pm **Adoption/Auction**
Program, Savannah Oaks School,
August 17-18, **WDS Daylily Plant Sale**
Olbrich Gardens
October 12th, Saturday, **ANNUAL MEETING** at
1:00 pm, Location TBA
Speaker: **Mark Carpenter, The Lily Farm, TX**
November 9th, Saturday, 9:00 am to 12:00 Noon,
WDS Hybridizers' Group, Olbrich Garden
Be sure to check our website for updates.



ON THE ROAD AGAIN WITH OUR GARDEN TOUR

By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig, Tour Chair

Yup, this summer I will literally be back in the front seat captaining a bus full of excited WDS members (you all) through a day filled with daylily delights. We will be heading off for a day trip to the Milwaukee area on Saturday, July 13. Details are still being cooked up by my amazingly capable assistant, Barb Nickel and me, but be prepared for a daylong outing.

The fun will begin with a visit to Epiphany Farm, home of our own Wisconsin hybridizer, Bill Powell and his lovely wife, Mary. Here we will have an opportunity to add to our daylily collections because the selling fields will be open and in luscious bloom. Then it is off to the gardens (a minimum of four) of fellow daylily enthusiasts who belong to the Daylily Society of South East Wisconsin. We will enjoy our lunch in one of these perennial treasures, continue on to several more, then head back to Epiphany Farm to settle our accounts and collect our daylily lucre. More information will be posted on our website as it becomes available.

Cost should be in the \$20 to \$30 range with a valiant effort made to keep it to the lower end of that scale. Unfortunately, the decision to have this year's Tour be a bus trip was made AFTER the WDS 2013 budget was finalized. With no \$\$ in the budget for a such a trip, no WDS \$\$ may be used to offset the cost to you. So use the ensuing months to set aside a little extra to cover this event, as it is sure to be a great time. And remember, you must be a member in good standing, with dues paid up and your current personal stats on record with our WDS Registrar before you can sign on the dotted line for your seat on the bus. You can begin reserving your spots at the April 6th meeting, when the final costs should be known. Now, think SPRING and let's get the growing season started by encouraging daylily visions to dance in our heads!

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

The WDS Board is looking for someone to step up and assume the duties of the Speaker Program Chair for 2014.

This position could be shared by more than one person.

If you are interested please contact Francis at one of the meetings or at: f.g.kleckner@gmail.com or 608-739-9160

Membership News

NOTE: The 2013 edition of the WDS Membership Roster will be emailed as a PDF file to all who receive their newsletters via email. If you have a problem with printing the file, you may request a paper copy from me (230-3373 or gldewey@wisc.edu).

WDS gained 18 new members through our booth at the Garden Expo. Five others joined since the last newsletter. Thus we welcome the following daylily gardeners to WDS:

Beloit: Heidi & Dick Andre; Brooklyn: LaVorne Dvorak; Dodgeville: Gayl Stewart; Fitchburg: Marla Robinson; Harvard, IL: Gloria Lenz; Madison: April Hoffman, Judy Hughes, MJ Jones; Mike Peterson; Donna & John Schaefer; Libby Schmidt; Deb Tracy; Connie Verhalen; Middleton: Carolyn & Don Knorr; New Glarus: Laurie & Joe Minneci; Onalaska: Carole Anderson; Reedsburg: Patricia Cordy; and Sun Prairie: Marilyn Miller

Our membership now includes 289 persons (170 individuals, 112 through family memberships, and 8 businesses.

New Email Addresses: Mary Gokey: momlady-gokey@gmail.com

Gene Dewey, WDS Membership Registrar

WDS FACEBOOK PAGE

By: Genni Kleckner

As requested by the board.....The WDS facebook page is up and running. Bobbi Johnson and I are the admin's. Everyone who has an e-mail address on the roster should have gotten an invitation. If you did not please e-mail me. (f.g.kleckner@gmail.com) This group can be viewed by anyone but only WDS members can post to it. We will try to keep it updated with the latest news. Feel free to post pictures or make comments. Maybe you have a question for other members on a certain daylily you are thinking about buying..... Have a daylily or perennial you would like to trade? The possibilities are endless and you don't have to wait for a meeting to have a chat with anyone. Check it out and enjoy!!

This by no means is intended to replace the WDS website. Continue to go there for the current information.

THANK YOU!!! Bobbi Johnson (Raasch) for setting this up for us!!

FLOWER FACTORY

4062 Cty Hwy T
Stoughton, WI 53589
Opening April 20th

Over 3500 Hardy
Perennials

www.theflowerfactorynursery.com

4062 Cty Hwy T
Stoughton, WI 53589

NU-ERA DAYLILIES

8245 E Staline Rd
Clinton, WI 53525
Bob Kietzman, Proprietor
608-931-1873

Garden open May 1st
30% discount the month of May
Other sales throughout the summer!
Call for appointment

Great bargains on many seedling clumps

PLUM HILL FARM DAYLILIES

www.plumhilldaylilies.com

Also at the
lilyauction.com/greengal

2013 IS OUR 10TH YEAR!!

Our own introductions & general listing

Linda & Michael Ball
plumhill@wildblue.net
W9418 Woodside Rd. Cambridge, WI
(608)423-4425

Visits by appointment only.



8TH ANNUAL WDS PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski, Contest Chair

During the February general meeting, members of the Wisconsin Daylily Society voted for their four favorites from among the 67 photos entered in the eighth annual WDS Photo Contest. Entries in the photo contest could be of an individual daylily bloom, a daylily clump or daylilies with companion plants in a garden setting. Photos could be of a daylily seedling or registered cultivar. Each WDS member could submit a maximum of two photos. Photos must have been taken by the member submitting the photo, but did not need to be taken in the member's garden.

The four winning photos in alphabetical order by photographer were:

Ann Anderson – with a glistening raindrop covered close up of 'Baby Blue Eyes'

Diane Goodman – with a photo of a butterfly in search of nectar while perched on a bloom of 'Barnegat Light'

Charles Haynes – with a close up of a single eye-catching bloom of 'Vivid Butterfly'

Sharon Lonergan – with a photo of a three-bloom clump of the double flowered 'Peace On Earth'

An enlarged print of each of the four photos will be on display in the Wisconsin Daylily Society booth during the February 2014 Garden Expo and later presented to each winning photographer. Each photo contest winner also receives a certificate for a daylily of their choice at the annual Wisconsin Daylily Society Sale to be held on August 17th and 18th at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. The four winning photos can be viewed on the WDS web site (www.wisdaylily.org).

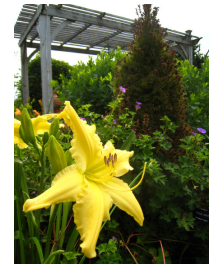
Thanks to all who made the 2013 WDS Photo Contest a true 'eye candy' event! WDS Members are reminded to photograph their favorite daylilies this summer for entry in the Ninth Annual WDS Photo Contest, which will be held in February of 2014



KAREN'S GARDEN

By Lane Reveal

Photos by Karen W-N



On a sunny afternoon in February we had the pleasure of learning with our own WDS member Karen Watson-Newlin. She is a veteran art teacher of 34 years and an avid gardener of 20 years. In an easy teaching style she captivated our imaginations by applying art lessons to garden design.

Karen's family is from the Carolinas but she grew up in West Virginia and Kentucky. She has had exposure to gardening in several different areas of the country. She and her family moved to Madison for 5 years, then to Verona for 18 years. She gleaned over-the-fence advice from much wiser neighbors in both locations, which led to gradually ripping out everything the landscapers had put in at their Verona home. She painted her yard with her own vision of flowers and plants and this became her first AHS display garden. In 2003 after purchasing 1½ acres of undeveloped land to build their dream house, she had a blank slate of grass and weeds to build her dream garden too. This yard presented her with many challenges, but it also has become an AHS display garden. This garden was the backdrop for her son's wedding and was featured in the July 2012 issue of Better Homes and Gardens.

Karen gave us seven lessons and provided us with a color wheel to help illustrate some of her points. In the lessons she used examples from her own artwork and gardens, as well as the knowledge gained from 20 years of gardening in different sites.

Most important of all, she stressed, have fun with your garden. Think of your garden as having different rooms. Use the plants as design items. You can have a theme bed or use all pink tones graduating to red. The world is your oyster - - or maybe your garden is your oyster.

Karen also provided us with plant sources and a list of her favorite plants. She says that at the height of the daylily season she can spend 8 hours a day in her garden with her sidekick Gracie, the dog, and occasional help from a local girl. You don't have to be this dedicated but who knows, Karen's garden may inspire you.

Daylily Sale

WILLOW CREEK
Farm & Gardens LLC

Our field will be bursting with color & over 400 daylily varieties: Red, Mauve, Maroon, Purple, Peach, Yellow, White, Coral, Pink, Apricot & Multi-colored varieties
New this year - Asiatic Lilies

- 1 You select the daylily (over 1,500 plants to choose from)
- 2 We dig it...
- 3 You plant it!

Open

Call for information on the 2013 Season
920-229-0225
195337 State Road 21, Watrous, WI 54982 (7 miles East of Watrous on Highway 21)

Also home of ARGYLE ACRES
Specializes in growing and selling historic and modern boarded arbes.
They are easy to grow hardy perennials, requiring little attention.

Proprietors:
Larry & Heidi Burbeck
Rick & Holly Purbeck

MeadowAcres

Alice Jackson, Proprietor
Family Owned & Operated since 1968

400 varieties of perennials
order on our website
www.Jacksoncrafts.com

See you at
Dane County Farmer's Market



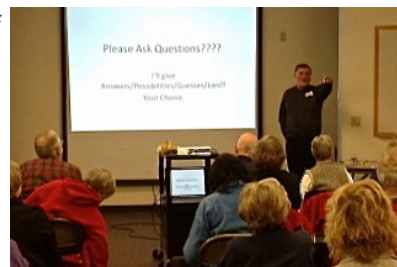
Photo by Judy Ravet

Lloyd with his 6 ft. tall *Spuria iris 'Shelford Giant'*

LLOYD'S IRIS LESSON

By Wilma Brouwer-Herwig

Photo by Rita Thomas



Our first meeting of the new year began with a room abuzz with eager anticipation. It did not matter that this Talk was not going to be about our favorite perennial nor delivered by this or that famous hybridizer. What mattered was that we were going to hear about something green and flowery and that grows very well in Wisconsin. And best of all, it was going to be given by one of our own long-term and respected members, Lloyd Ravet.

It was standing room only by the time Lloyd spoke. He provided us with several handouts that will prove most useful in making iris selections to add to our gardens. They covered the parts of an iris, a long list of iris varieties (who knew??) and their approximate bloom times right here in Wisconsin, a nicely illustrated chart of the six types of bearded iris arranged by size (from dwarf to tall), a source list of iris purveyors, and a list of his slides so we could make notes when something super special caught our attention (my copy was FULL of hen-scratches).

Lloyd began in his own self-effacing manner by claiming that he knows only a modicum of the wide range of knowledge out there regarding the iris genus. Well, we didn't believe a word of that because he is a veritable font of information. From the bulbous to the junos to the arils to the crested to the beardless to the pseudacorus to the virginica to the techorum to the spuria to the inter-species he went. Then on to the more familiar - the tall bearded, the ensatas, and the siberian, - all which he covered in greater detail because those are what the casual iris gardener (most of us) grows. He wowed us with pictures of truly AWESOME varieties. Just "google" spuria Shelford Giant, louisiana Catwalk, siberian Simon Says, intermediate bearded Abbey Chant, or tall bearded Brazilian Art.... they will blow your socks off. And then he blew our minds by showing pics of his very own creations, many of which are truly exceptional. There were siberian, and interspecies, and tall bearded seedlings galore in whites and yellows and purples (one so dark it looked black). Lloyd does his magic out at Jean Bawden's Earth Spirit Farm, which can be a problem considering he has a day job and it is also a bit of a hike out to his plot. Luckily Jean also shares in Lloyd's obsession and she keeps a close eye on what pops up. I'm sure there have been more than a few excited phone calls saying get out here now.

And if that wasn't enough of a program, Lloyd mentioned that he also keeps busy with peony and daylily hybridizing. His love for creating something new has been successfully passed down to his granddaughter, who he proudly showed (in a slide) learning the skills needed. Also making it a family affair is the help (and patience) of his wife, Judy, who takes the pictures and toils along side him in their home gardens.

If you missed this great program, pick Lloyd's brain at a WDS meeting. If you need advice, he is the go-to guy and can answer your questions regarding problems, care, cultivation, and creating. He knows his stuff and the packed room hung on every word. Lloyd's slides and easy enthusiasm made more than one person decide to add more iris to their garden. Thanks, Lloyd, for the education and a revived appreciation for the stately and versatile iris. He says we can also spend more time with him and other like-minded people by joining The Iris Society, a Madison club that has meetings and speakers and a sale and a convention. Hmmmmmmmm. I urge you to use extreme caution as this sounds like a very familiar scenario that could spark another full-blown plant-based obsession. Don't we all recall just how innocuously and innocently our own daylily madness began????!!!!!! And don't ask me to help you save yourself from this new threat to your pocketbook because I think it's already too late for me.....!!!!!!

EPIPHANY FARM DAYLILIES

Bill & Mary Powell
N2508 Frommader Rd.
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

9 miles east of Fort Atkinson off State Hwy 106; 1/2 mile from Hebron, WI

July 6-7; 13-14; 20-21; 27
9 am - 3 pm

Other dates & times by appt.

Good Buys for Final Good-bye! Last year in Operation

Phone: 262-593-8010

Email: mbpowell@centurytel.net



R. V. James Designs, LLC
 Madison, Wisconsin
www.rvjdesigns.com
 Gifts that ARE Wisconsin

Botanical, Madison and Wisconsin designs.
 Cards | T shirts | crew sweat shirts | mugs | ceramic tiles |
 tote bags | aprons | towels | hot pads | mouse pads |
 Hand screen printed cards | Botanical photo cards |
 Christmas designs





JIM MURPHY AND MARGO REED, INDEED!

By Barry Rowe

Photos of Margo and Jim by Rita Thomas



Jim's H "Margo Reed Indeed"

Margo Reed and Jim Murphy plowed through their own snowdrifts in the Blue Ridge Mountain foothills to get to our last meeting. Their presentations brightened up the mere rainy day we had to contend with here. Both have developed splashy spiders, unusual forms, exotics and late daylilies at their Woodhenge Gardens in Virginia.

It has been a long journey for the two of them. Margo: "Both Jim and I have always been plant people. I have always had a garden, as did my mother, grandmother, etc. Jim's Mom was a landscape designer, and Jim worked in gardens always. We both got interested in daylilies, and when I met Jim at a regional daylily meeting ('No! It was the '93 National in Pittsburgh,' according to Jim), we were both already playing around with hybridizing on a small scale. He had been growing a lot of late bloomers after his mid-season got wiped out by a hailstorm one July. I got interested in spiders and unusual forms very early on – one of the first daylilies I discovered was KINDLY LIGHT. I visited Lois Burns in New Hampshire one year, and she gave me many spideries to get me started (BLACK PLUSH, CORAL CRAB, etc.) I registered my first in 1992."

When they first met, both were single parents with limited time, space and money. Jim was a landscape supervisor at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, and Margo taught kindergarten and first grade at a local public school in Maryland. They got tired of commuting and started looking for land outside the expensive D.C. area. In June 2001, they found ten acres south of Charlottesville, and moved in five kids, three cats and 15,000 daylilies.

Most of the land is steep and hilly, so the first challenge was to develop about 2.5 acres for their display bed and seedling beds. The second challenge came when all those daylilies were suddenly one inch high. The "heavy deer pressure" forced them to build a fence the very first winter. The big challenge now is to work full time, maintain the gardens and run the business all at the same time.

Their zone 7a gardens feature a wide variety of trees, shrubs, perennials and annuals. Many carved soapstone "bones" from local artisans have been added. They start mulching in February, and clean up thoroughly in the fall to avoid fungus and insects. There is no greenhouse, as they claim to have better results by planting seed directly in the ground in the spring.

These days Margo and Jim have over 50,000 seedlings between them, about 80% diploids and 20% tetraploids. Emphasis is on dormant cultivars over evergreens. They have collaborated extensively with many Midwest people, including Jamie Gossard, Bret Clement and Bob Faulkner.

Margo showed her slides first. She has developed many spiders and unusual forms since 1992, and has won a number of awards. GRAY WITCH and CREATURE OF THE NIGHT have both won the Award of Merit. DANCES WITH GIRAFFES, PLANET MAX and CHESAPEAKE CRABLEGS were runners-up for this award. She has won over twenty Honorable Mentions. Jim showed his late bloomers as well as spiders and unusual forms. He won the Award of Merit for MARGO REED INDEED, and has also won many Honorable Mentions.

They auctioned off a number of daylilies at the end of the program. A few members got great half-price deals. The whole club got a great deal, as the proceeds helped pay for travel expenses. Margo and Jim will retire in July, and only worry about the garden beds and the business and the hybridizing.... Look for their spider forms with patterns all the way out to the edges someday soon.

Here's Margo's story about a daylily name. "When MARGO REED INDEED bloomed, it was a stunning development. I told Jim immediately that it was worth registering, and that he could name it for me. He missed the point, and was choosing another name, until I convinced him that he would name it for me." The registrar turned down the name MARGO REED. Reed is the name of another plant, not allowed by ICBN rules at the time. "I was moaning on the email spider robin about never being able to have a plant named after me, when Bret Clement suggested adding the 'INDEED' to the name to make it legal! Leave it to a lawyer... Of course since then the rule has changed and it would have been OK."

See their entire collection at <http://www.woodhengegardens.com>

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A GARDEN PARTY!

Be sure to save the date - Sunday, June 23rd - and plan to be at Duane and Alissa Kleinfeldt's home in Windsor to savor a feast for the eyes and a feast for the stomach! Their garden follows a Polynesian theme with lots of tropical plants! WOW! That's something we haven't seen at our parties before. They've included a little fairy garden as well as over 700 varieties of daylilies. It sounds like you won't want to miss this garden.

Remember, a potluck is part of the celebration. Details will follow in the next newsletter.

RECEIVING WDS ANNOUNCEMENTS IN YOUR INBOX.

By Conrad J. Wrzesinski

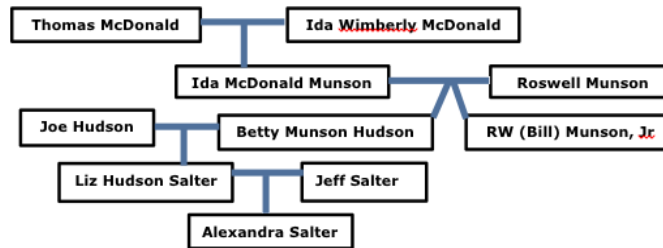
If you have an email address and have NOT been receiving WDS announcements, please let Conrad Wrzesinski (conradw@chartr.net) or Gene Dewey (gldevey@wisc.edu) know your correct email address, so your name can be added to the WDS email list. Your email address is not shared with any other group. The WDS email list is only used for WDS announcements.

IDA'S MAGIC DAYLILY DYNASTY, OR OLD MCDONALD HAD A FARM

By Barry Rowe

Author's note: I initially had no idea what kind of daylilies I wanted to grow, so unknown hybrids seemed logical. I also knew nothing about dormancy, and naively ordered a dozen from Florida. By pure luck, Daylily Discounters sent me seedlings from R W Munson, Jr, the one Floridian with northern-hardy daylilies. A number of his lavender and purple daylilies with chalky watermarks are still thriving in our garden.

Acknowledgements: Thanks to David Kirchoff for filling in a few blanks for this article. And thanks to Joanne for making the genealogy chart.



This is a brief history of a people, a place and a passion for daylilies. Thomas McDonald bought a 40-acre farm in Gainesville, Florida, around 1900. A third of his property would become one of the largest gardens in the Southeast. His bride, Ida Wimberly McDonald, bore him five children there. One daughter was named after her, and would become the matriarch of a long line of famous daylily hybridizers.

Daughter Ida McDonald grew up and eventually agreed to marry Roswell Munson, an engineer. When their daughter Betty was born, they moved back to her parents' farm. Their son Bill (R W Munson, Jr) later said, "Ida always had flowers – things she could grow from seed like nasturtiums, larkspur, snapdragons. Later she became interested in roses." According to Ida, "One day, a neighbor of ours who lived across the way brought me a clump of yellow daylilies, and Bill got interested..."

Ida also got interested, and her subsequent hybridizing efforts were recognized in 1975 with the establishment of the Ida Munson Award for double daylilies. In 1987 she received the Helen Field Fischer Gold Medal for distinguished and meritorious service. IDA'S MAGIC won her the highest award for a cultivar, the Stout Silver Medal, in 2001.

Ida's daughter Betty married Joe Hudson, and they stayed on the farm with her parents and grandparents. Betty became the manager of the garden business and extended household, and the garden photographer. She also managed the family's double daylily program, but won the Donn Fischer Award for miniatures with WITCH'S THIMBLE.

Bill was born two years after Betty. He was a precocious kid who knew by age fifteen that he wanted to be an architect. He became director of facilities planning for the University of North Florida, and commuted between Tallahassee on weekdays and Gainesville on weekends. "When I wouldn't be here, Mother or my sister Betty or friends of mine would come in and make the crosses for me."

Bill's interest in horticulture stemmed from his grandfather Thomas. "When you're a small child, grandparents tend to be very, very important to you." Bill was still in high school when the yellow daylily clump arrived. He immediately started mail-ordering daylilies and crossing them, but not to develop new hybrids. "I wanted to produce seedlings so that I would have more of the plant to landscape our place with. I came along in 1948 with my daylilies and, as she (Ida) put it, kicked her roses out of the garden. Then she became part of the daylily program – as much a part of it as I was." As a team, they were unbeatable, working together toward a common goal – the best hemerocallis that could be produced.

Ida and Bill later became tetraploid daylily pioneers. Bill: "I became intoxicated with tetraploids in 1960. She helped me treat thousands upon thousands of seeds with colchicine. We would take the tweezers and plant them in flats and watch three-fourths of them die." It took them 25 years to achieve their goals of better vigor, better health, sun resistance and greater variety. Bill would ultimately register 1,012 daylilies over five decades.

His personal best in architecture came in 1967 – at home. He designed a spacious house for his parents, sister Betty's family and himself. And he carved out 13 acres of rolling hills and scrub trees for Wimberlyway Gardens, named for his grandmother. The acreage was landscaped and planted with pines, gum trees, holly, dogwood and azaleas. These "bones" then provided shade for the many thousands of daylilies that were added over the years. "Wimberlyway" became synonymous with daylily paradise.

Bill was the most influential member of the Munson clan in the daylily world. He served as president of the American Hemerocallis Society. He authored the book, "Hemerocallis, the Daylily." The R W Munson, Jr Award for patterned daylilies was created in his honor. He was awarded the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal in 1967, and the Helen Field Fischer Gold Medal in 1991. He also won the Lenington All-American Award (best performer over a large geographic area) for OLIVER BAILEY LANGDON, RUSSIAN RHAPSODY, and KATE CARPENTER, and the Ida Munson Award for HIGHLAND LORD.

Bill never married. Betty and Joe had one daughter, Liz. Ida: "For years, she'd follow Bill everywhere. Wherever he'd go, she'd go." Ida had started developing miniature tetraploid daylilies in the 1960s, but they got out of hand. Finally, Ida said, "Elizabeth, if you're interested, you just take over the minis."

Continued on Page 7

Old MacDonald Had a Farm Continued

She did exactly that, and set her goals. "I wanted to breed what I considered to be true miniatures. Flowers that could be registered at 2 ½ inches. I also wanted to achieve a very full, compact, round form." Another goal was to develop a clearer and broader range of colors. All this at a time when any truly miniature tetraploid was considered to be impossible. "Somebody telling me I couldn't do it. Well, I've done it now, so I know that it is possible."

She went on to win many Donn Fischer Awards for her miniatures: JASON SALTER, DRAGON'S ORB, PATCHWORK PUZZLE, DARK AVENGER, BIBBITY BOBBITY BOO, MARY ETHYL ANDERSON, MORRIE OTTE, and CRYSTAL BLUE PERSUASION. She won the Annie T Giles Award for her small daylilies: WITCHES WINK and DRAGONS EYE. JASON SALTER also won the Lennington All-American Award and the Don C Stevens Award for eyed or banded hybrids. Liz was recognized with the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal in 2001.

Liz married a man named Jeff Salter, and they started their own daylily business nearby, Rollingwood Garden. Jeff's outstanding hybridizing won him the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal two years after his wife. He also tapped into the Munson genetics to win awards: the Stout Silver Medal for ELIZABETH SALTER, MOONLIT MASQUERADE and ED BROWN; the Don C Stevens Award for AWESOME BLOSSOM, SABINE BAUR, CANADIAN BORDER PATROL, and PIRATE'S PATCH; and the Eugene S Foster Award (late blooming) for BLIZZARD BAY.

Liz and Jeff have one daughter. Alexandra Salter now lives back at the old Wimberlyway house that her great uncle Bill designed. She has a passion for daylilies, too. She has been putting Liz's eyes and patterns on spiders and UFOs. Ida's descendants are still hybridizing with the descendants of Ida's daylilies. Will these new generations of hybridizers and cultivars give us another round of spectacular, award-winning daylilies?

Letter from Roy Klehm at Song Sparrow

By: Francis Kleckner

"Our "Open Greenhouse Day " is Saturday, June 1 from 9:00am until 11:00 am We do not provide a formal tour. Visitors are free to visit and shop from our 50+ greenhouses. Water will be provided (coffee too if it's a cold day).

We highly recommend pre-ordering (by May 20th) if you have your heart set on specific plants. With so many greenhouses and a small staff, it gets a bit crazy. Keep in mind that we are not a retail store, items are not individually priced or displayed with photo tags. Some items will be sold out by June 1st. Pre-ordering will make the morning less stressful and you can freely browse around and pick up additional items if something catches your eye. Herbaceous Peonies are only available for fall shipping. Daylilies MUST be preordered.

We are located at 13101 East Rye Road, Avalon, WI 53505 (approximately 10 miles east of Janesville, just south of County Road A) We do not have a print catalog this year. Please visit our website at www.songsparrow.com."

If members are interested in going to Song Sparrow on June 1 please e-mail me at f.g.kleckner@gmail.com or call 608-739-9160 and I will put you on the list. I need to know by May 17th at the latest if you are planning to make this trip. I have to supply Song Sparrow a list of interested members by their deadline. This is drive yourself. There will not be a bus.

Directions to Song Sparrow from Madison:

1. Go south on I-39S/I-90 towards Janesville/Chicago
2. EXIT 171C and merge East onto US-14 go 2.4 miles.
3. Turn LEFT onto County Road A go 7.5 miles.
4. Turn RIGHT onto N Scharine Rd. go 0.1 miles.
5. Turn LEFT onto E Rye Road go 0.8 miles.
6. END at 1301 E Rye Road.

Don't miss out on this great opportunity to pick up some new perennials for your garden.

SUMMER DAYLILY TRIPS

You won't want to miss the Region 2 Summer Meeting in Cincinnati, OH, scheduled for June 28th to 30th. There you will be touring eight gardens, including Dan Bachmann's, Tom Polston's and Bob Faulkner's.

An auxiliary bus tour scheduled for Friday includes stops at Jamie Gossard's and Charles and Cynthia Lucius's gardens. After seeing these two last year I can assure you it's worth setting aside an extra day to join the auxiliary bus.

Guest Speaker on Saturday Evening is Ron Wilson, host of the "Ron Wilson's On Line Garden Party" and Marketing Director of Natorp's Garden Center.

All this and more - including food in every garden! Don't miss it!

Registration is limited to 250 please register early. See the AHS website, daylilies.org, or Greater Cincinnati Daylily Hosta Society website - gcdhs.org - or region 2 website - region2daylilies.org, for registration forms.

Don't forget the National Convention to be held in Minneapolis, MN, July 24th to 27th. It's only four hours away! Your visit to Karol Emmerich's alone will make the ride worthwhile! You are promised a weekend of fun, food, friends, and flowers!

Attendance is capped at 600, so we encourage you to make hotel reservations and register soon so you won't be disappointed! See the AHS website for registration information.