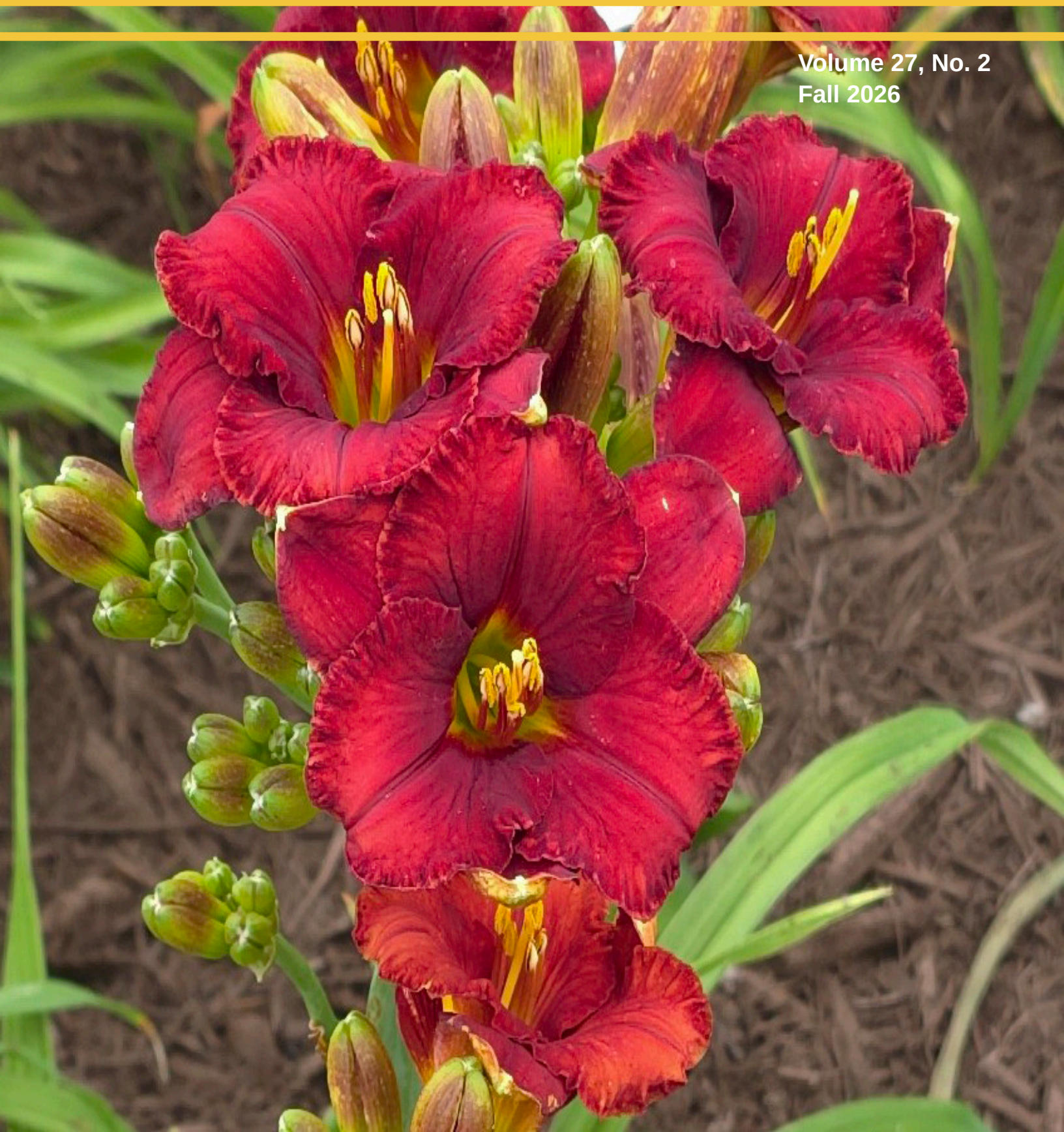
American Hemerocallis Society Region 1: IOWA / MANITOBA / MINNESOTA / NEBRASKA / NORTH DAKOTA / SOUTH DAKOTA

DAYLILY PIONEER



Volume 27, No. 2
Fall 2026

The American Hemerocallis Society

www.daylilies.org

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On the cover: "My First Beauty" (Langabee, 2022). Photo by Mike Grossmann

Above: Bob Langabee's seedling 1-117-10 x Wild Chicken

Back cover: "Flight of Blue Angels" (Langabee, 2026)

The Daylily Pioneer
Volume 27, No. 2, Fall 2026

The Daylily Pioneer is the newsletter of the American Hemerocallis Society (AHS) Region One. AHS is a non-profit educational and scientific organization dedicated to promote, encourage, and foster the development of the genus Hemerocallis, commonly known as daylily. Region One comprises Iowa, Manitoba (Canada), Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Information is presented herein as a service to members and is not necessarily endorsed by AHS or by the editor. Rights to material published in this newsletter remain with the author; to reprint or otherwise reproduce material, please obtain permission from the author.

AHS Region One members receive The Daylily Pioneer as part of their membership in AHS, with no additional dues assessed. Currently, Region One publishes two issues per year, a printed issue for Spring/Summer and a digital issue for Fall/Winter (subject to change as needed).

Non-Region-One subscriptions are available for $18 per year. To subscribe, send a check payable to AHS Region One to:

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Submission Guidelines
The Daylily Pioneer is published for the benefit of AHS Region One members. As such, the focus is on regional members, hybridizers, and activities.

The editor encourages submissions. All contributions are subject to editing for length or size, grammar, and clarity.

Digital images may be used for both electronic and print media and should be of high quality and resolution. Please contact the editor for more information.

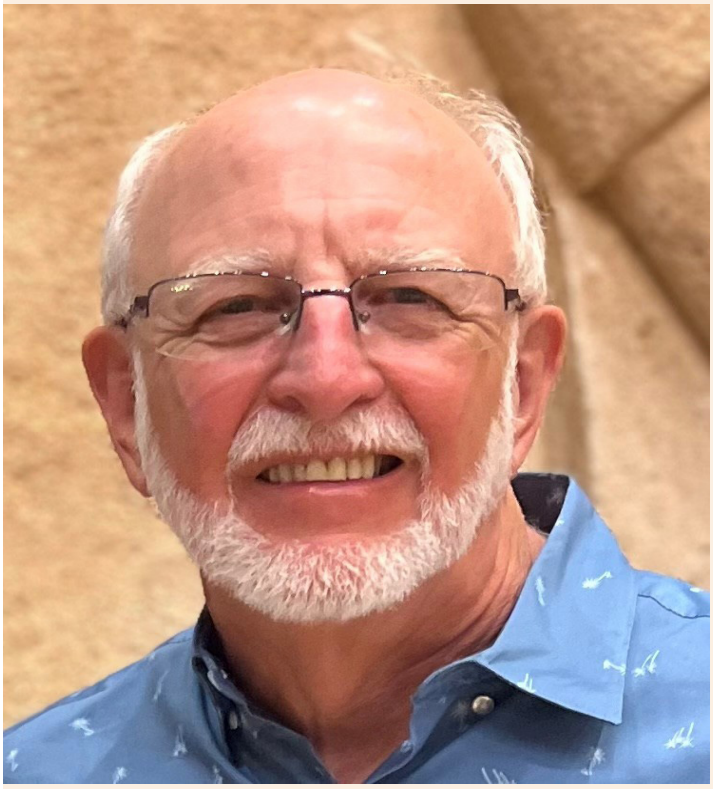
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Or send submissions by U.S. Mail to:

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Deadline for the Spring issue of The Daylily Pioneer is
March 1

Region 1 Director's Report

Scott Keller



A Season to Remember & Looking Ahead

In what seemed like the blink of an eye, the 2026 daylily season has come and gone. But it left us with wonderful days of garden blooms as well as memorable regional and national conventions. To everyone who put in hours, weeks, and even months of hard work to make those events a success: a big thank you! Unless you've hosted an event yourself, it's hard to fathom the immense effort involved. Well done and many thanks to all involved!

Save the Date: 2027 Region 1 Meeting

Speaking of successful gatherings, make sure to mark your calendars now to save the dates for the **2027 Region 1 Meeting** in Coralville, IA, scheduled for J**uly 9–11, 2027**. The guest speaker will be Chad Bush o**f** *Colorful Chaos Daylilies.* Registration details and additional information are available on the Region 1 website (and can be found on pages 30 and 31 of this publication).

New Cultivar Registration Process

Hybridizers planning to register new introductions should take note of the new two-step web-based process on the new ADS website:

1. **Register Your Account:** Click the **"Hybridizer Login"** link on the new ADS website to submit your name and contact details. (Note: All hybridizers must do this, regardless of whether you have previously registered cultivars using the old website.)

2. **Wait for Confirmation:** Account setup is not immediate. The registrar completes background work to link your previous introductions to your account. Once verified, you will receive a notification email that setup is complete and you may begin registering new cultivars.

If you encounter any issues, use the **"Contact Us"** tab on the home page or reach out to me directly at **planning@daylilies.org**. I am eager to support hybridizers in our region and beyond however I can!

Upcoming ADS Initiatives

- **Speaker Bureau Directory:** ADS is in the planning stages of creating a directory where presenters can sign up to be listed for club meetings. This resource is intended to help local clubs fill meeting schedules. A general notification will be sent once speaker signup opens. Once completed, the list will be made available via the ADS website.

- **Auction Presentation App:** ADS is currently testing a new app designed to quickly generate auction slides and handouts. Early tests show it can produce auction PowerPoint slides and auction handouts in about 5 minutes. Wow, what a timesaver!

ADS Renewal Offer

- Until April of 2027, ADS is offering new annual memberships for $10 **(see page 7)** and renewal memberships for which you can buy 3 years ($84) and get a 4th year free. Ten-year memberships are available for $240. Please consider taking advantage of this offer.

Region 1 President's Report

Lisa Schmidt



Since this will be my last President's letter for the Daylily Pioneer, I want to thank you for allowing me to be your president. With a special thanks to all the members of the board that are so very helpful to keep everything running in our region. It has been a great pleasure to work with all of you and getting around to club meetings to get to know all of you. This region is full of fun people who want to continue learning about daylilies and sharing their love of our great plant. I look forward to participating with all of you in our regional summer celebrations and will continue to see you at other daylily events. I have learned a lot and I hope I have successfully shared my enthusiasm for daylilies! Thank you.

In May, we went to the national convention in Valdosta, GA. So many amazing gardens, they sure can grow big daylilies. This year, Region 1 awards were two Honorable Mentions for Karol Emmerich's Every Knee Shall Bow and Sea of Glass. Honorable Mention for Kathleen Nordstrom's Luscious Kiss. Jeff and Lisa Schmidt received the once-in-a-lifetime Region 1 Service Award.

The Nebraska Daylily Society hosted the Region 1 Summer meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska. They did a fantastic job with all their club volunteers pitching in to help everyone attending have a wonderful time. And we also had many attendees from Region 11 (Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma) who by their attendance, helped make our regional meeting a resounding success. The election for a new president held a surprise with the election of Janet Haag from Nebraska with write-in votes. Since I forgot that I needed a committee to find the next Region 1 Director, as Scott Keller's three-year term ends in 2027, I later got email approval of a committee of Val Hoefer, NE; Nancy Carlisle, IA; and James Sherepa, MN. Then took sign-up sheets to club meetings in MN, NE, and IA for members to vote their approval of this committee to reach our quorum from Region 1. Thank you all for voting to approve the committee, as the director's election ballot will need to be listed in the Spring issue of the Daylily Pioneer. At this summer's regional, I was very happy to present the VEEP award to Lorraine Manz, our wonderful, talented Daylily Pioneer editor.

Keep up the good work everyone. Join me in welcoming the new Region 1 President, Janet Haag. Enjoy the rest of the year, and see you next year either at the National Convention in Virginia Beach, VA, June 10–13, 2027 or our Region 1 meeting in Iowa City, IA, July 9 –11, 2027.



Bob Langabee's seedling Future Intro x (1-117-10 x Wild Chicken)

From the Editor

Lorraine Manz



Phew, what a summer it's been. Was it hot where you live?

Spring started off with a pleasant surprise when all but one of my daylily haul from last summer's meeting in Fargo returned for the new season. About half of them flowered, which I thought was pretty good for their first year in my garden.

Early summer wasn't so bad either with about normal temperatures and some decent rain. But then July came and with it, wind, heat and no moisture to speak of. Bismarck's gardens cooked in 100-degree heat. August was only marginally better and by the time the month was over, our poor gardens looked exhausted.

But enough of gardening woes. This issue of the Daylily Pioneer is special. Bob Langabee, a talented Region 1 hybridizer, well-liked and respected by many of you, passed away this summer. Phil Fass' touching words on page 32 are a fitting tribute to this talented man. To further honor Bob's memory, the 2026 fall Pioneer features a selection of photographs depicting some of his favorite hybrids. They appear on the front and back covers and throughout the newsletter, and like me, I hope you will be inspired to seek some of them out.

Now here's a thing. It's almost October, way past peak bloom season in North Dakota, yet three daylilies in my garden valiantly and unexpectedly flowered for the first time early in September and are still at it. Two are mystery seedlings that I acquired from a friend last year. One we can't identify, and have concluded it must be a volunteer hybrid. The other hasn't actually flowered yet but the buds are swelling! The third daylily, as if to honor a memory, is Bob Langabee's 2025 introduction "Gaudy and Naughty" (p. 40). More than that, I've noticed that each bloom lasts not one, but two days. What a delightful bonus! Thank you, Bob.

Attention Garden Judges!

ADS Announces New Workshop Dates

GARDEN JUDGES WORKSHOP 3 will be offered on the following dates & times: Thursday, October 8, at 8:00pm Eastern and Tuesday, October 13, at 8:00 Eastern.

GARDEN JUDGES WORKSHOP 1 will be offered on Monday, November 16, with a start time of 7:30pm Eastern.

One last detail: Please remember that you CAN if you choose, take GW3 for credit in the last three years of your terms (bullet point 6, p. 15, Judging Daylilies in the Garden). It's easy to miss.

This means someone whose term expires in 2028 could take GJW 3 this fall for reaccreditation in 2028.

For more information visit the ADS website at Daylilies.org or contact Phil Fass at pf1371113@gmail.com

Zoom links will be provided when they become available

The American Hemerocallis Society



NEW MEMBER SPECIAL!



Available June 1, 2026 through April 30, 2027

Join for only $10 and receive a one-year membership

Available exclusively to individuals who have never previously held an AHS membership.

or

Give the Gift of Membership

Know someone who loves gardening or daylilies? The $10 New Member Special makes it easy to introduce them to the American Daylily Society. Gift memberships are a thoughtful way to share educational resources, The Daylily Journal, and the joy of being part of the daylily community.

Gift recipients must be individuals who have never previously held an AHS membership.

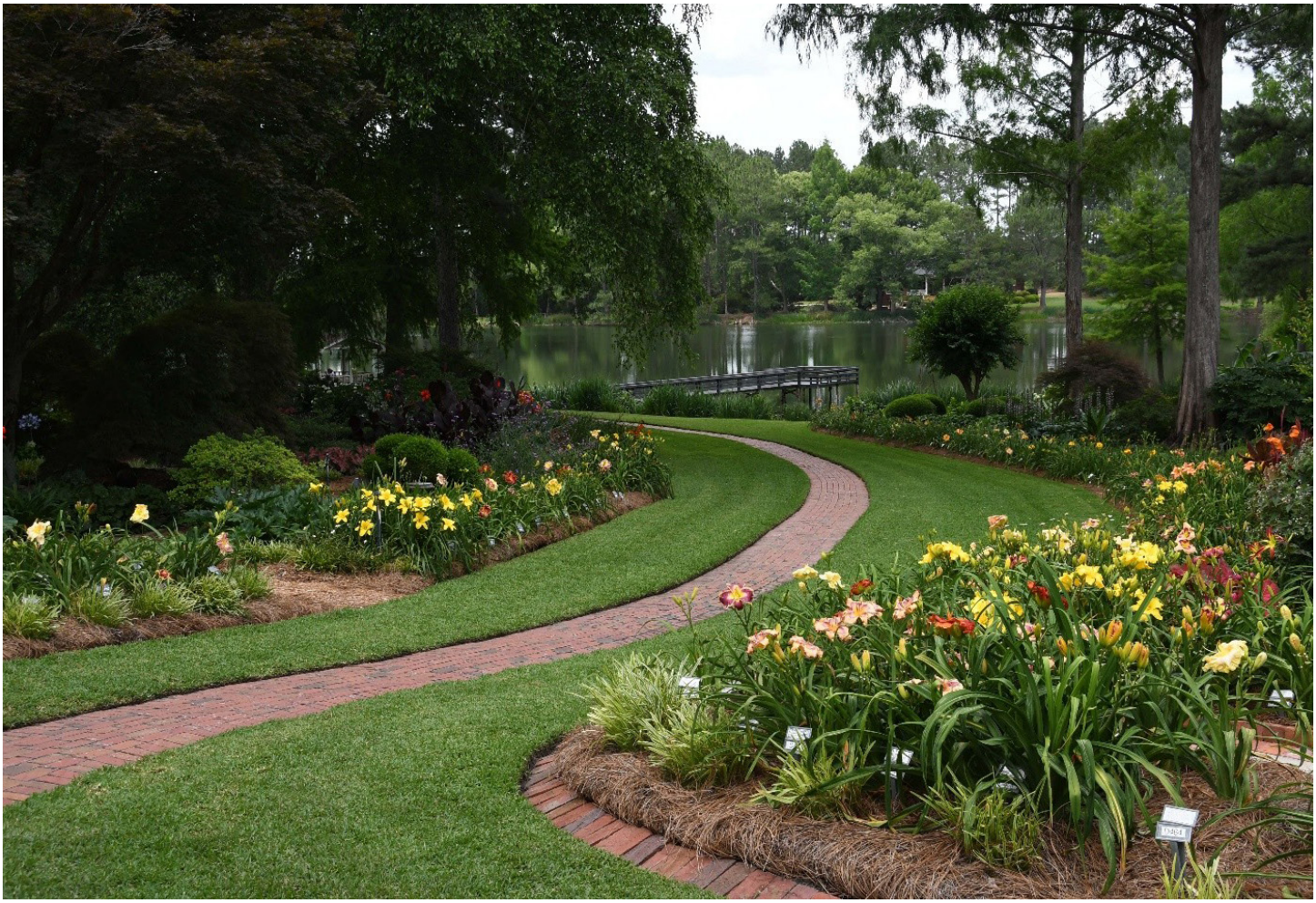
Why Become a Member?

Your membership in the American Daylily Society (also known as the American Hemerocallis Society) supports efforts which:

- Educate gardeners on the care, propagation, and appeal of daylilies.
- Maintain the official registry of daylily cultivars.
- Evaluate, judge, and award daylily cultivars for outstanding plant habit and exceptional distinction.
- Included with your membership, you will receive four beautiful issues of The Daylily Journal, our official newsletter magazine, each year. This magazine contains articles on award winning daylilies, the most popular daylilies by geography, trends in daylily hybridizing, scientific studies, and highlights of gardens and conventions.

New members joining the American Daylily Society also receive a $25 voucher, which can be redeemed towards purchases of daylilies with select growers across the United States.

For more information visit www.daylilies.org



2026 American Daylily Society National Convention

Where Daylilies and Hospitality Bloom Together

Valdosta, Georgia ~ May 20–23, 2026

By Nancy Rash
Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society
Region 1 Secretary

Pictures by Lyle Moen and Lisa Schmidt

Ten members of Region 1 made the long trip to the 80th American Daylily Society National Convention in Valdosta, Georgia.

Five hundred attendees were on 10 buses. Our bus captains Bill and Diana Waldrop made it fun and filled in with local history and agricultural facts about the area. The Wnek Garden was first on our tour Friday morning. The 1.75-acre garden featured over 800 daylilies growing in over 20 raised planters. Companion plants added to the structure and texture of the garden. We were alerted to the departure time from the garden and formed a line to load the bus and surprise—the bus battery had died. Fortunately, our hosts had plenty of shady seating, cold drinks and snacks. I made the most of the situation and talked with Terry Lopp and Ashton Lopp from Windswept Farms, Spencer, Oklahoma. We visited their gardens in 2024 as part of the 78th Annual American Daylily Society Convention. The father-son duo attacks hybridizing on two different paths. Terry describes his as: "If I cross A with B, I wonder what I will get?" He said Ashton selects A and B thinking (believing, hoping) he will get C. There is no fight over pollen in the garden as they have different ideas and approaches to hybridizing.

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity to see Bell's Daylily Garden in Sycamore, Georgia. Barb and Bob Papenhausen told us it would be a treat and we were not disappointed. Perfectly manicured beds with hundreds of daylilies laid out in artistic sweeps of color. Flowering shrubs and a large variety of perennials were expertly paired with daylilies. Our lunch was served in the garden pavilion and refreshments were available during our stay. Tim Bell was available for conversation and recommendations! There was a large pond and several water features. I loved seeing "Pearl", her skirt decorated with daylilies. The tables featured arrangements of daylilies. Because of the bus repair, we had "extra" time at Bell's Daylily Garden and were witness to the speed of a crew that finished the live-heading in short order so they were ready for the evening banquet and auction.

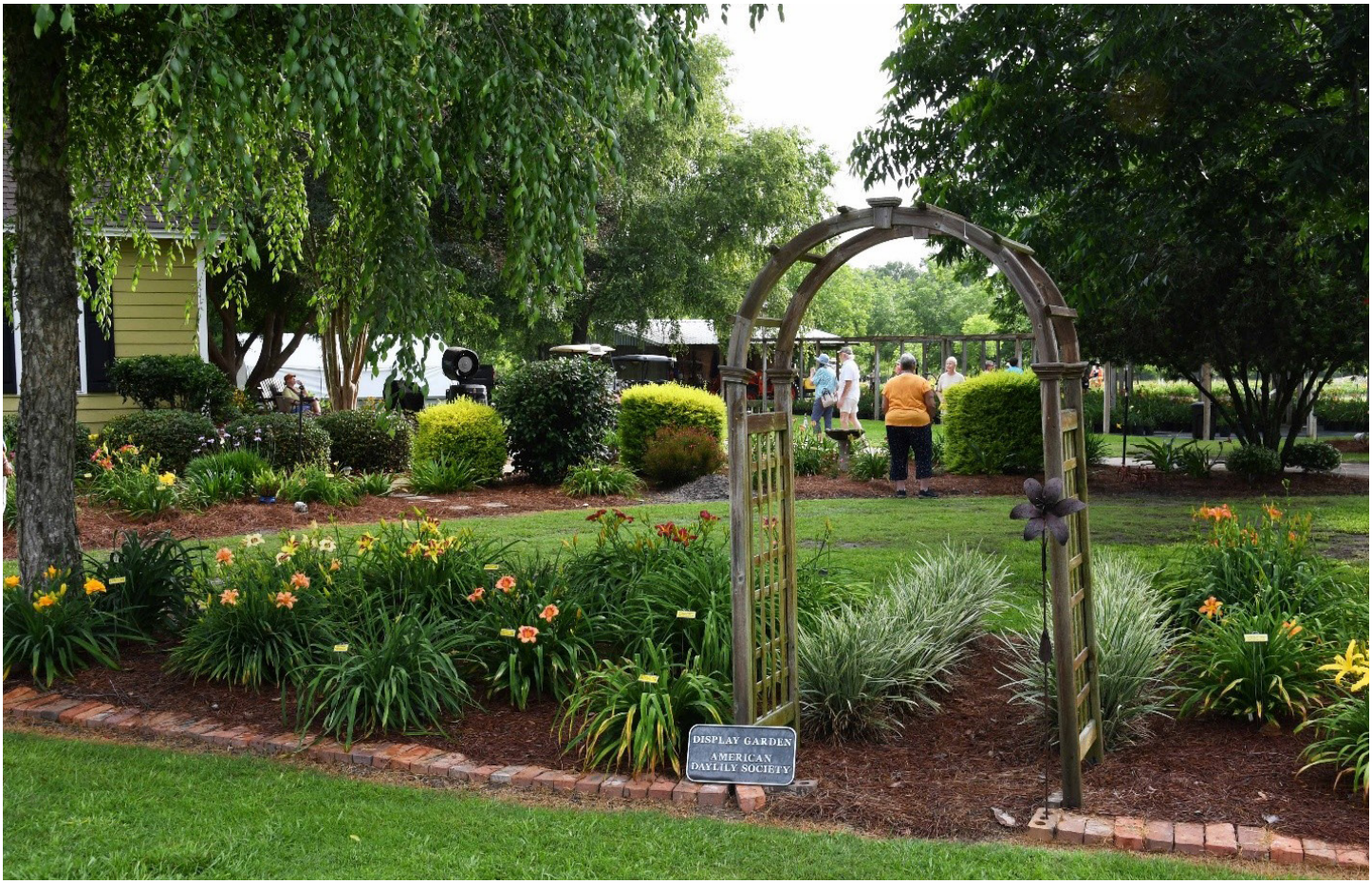




Facing page: Bell garden
Above: Wnek garden
Left: "Path of the Storm" (Salter-E.H., 2017)
Right: "Spacecoast Narrow Escape" (Kinnebrew-Gossard, 2022)
Far right: "Run Run Rudolph" (Pierce-G., 2022)







Indian Camp Daylilies, home of Dave and Regina Richardson, was the first garden on Saturday. We saw daylilies from her hybridization program and many from Bill Waldrop were featured. They have introduced seven daylilies. Many pots of chili pepper red Vernell Cornelius caught my eye. The expertly manicured lawn and daylily beds were lined with pine needles. Pine needles are readily available in the south and are attractive as mulch.

Next, we crossed the Georgia state line to arrive at Wynn's Daylily Garden in Florida. Extensive beds of daylilies offered many opportunities for photos and for making note of daylilies that could be candidates for the 2026 National Convention Cultivar Awards. At the end of the two days of garden tours, attendees are to "vote" for the following convention awards: President's Cup, Florida Sunshine Cup, Georgia Doubles Appreciation Award and Ned Robert's Spider/Unusual Form Award. The winners for 2026 are posted on the ADS website. These "winners" are announced at the Saturday evening program. There are many beautiful blooms and not every daylily can be a winner.



Facing page top: Indian Camp Daylilies
Bottom: Wynn's Daylily Garden

This page right: "Little Heartbreaker" (Bell, 2016)
Below: "Shock and Awe" (Pierce-G., 2019)
Bottom: Fowler garden





Kathy and Bruce Fowler had an extensive area with shade cloth where I saw many more daylilies from southern hybridizers. All of the beds on the tours were filled with daylilies I am unfamiliar with. We saw one Karol Emmerich daylily at Kathy's Garden. Not only was their garden on the tour, they were on the convention committee also.







Above left: "Heavenly Forged in Fire" (Gossard-J., 2020)
Above right: "Ansley Jewel" (Richardson-D.H., 2022)
Below: Region 1 Nationals attendees

The days were filled with Southern Hospitality, sweet tea, high temperatures and humidity! But it was well worth it! We have attended enough national conventions now to see familiar faces each trip. We also had opportunity to talk with Charles and Heidi Douglas, Jamie Gossard, Bill and Diana Waldrop, Terry Lopp, Ashton Lopp, Tim Bell, Kirstin Hatfield and all the garden hosts. Many attendees hybridize also. We had the same bus and table assignments each day so that fosters some new conversation and friendships. Dan and Peggy Cathey, Region 6, were seated at our dinner table. They each won a regional award. Three ADS members from Oklahoma were at our dinner table and we learned they will be attending the Region 1 Meeting in Lincoln, Nebraska this year along with seven others from Oklahoma. Thanks to them for supporting Region 1! Brenda Jindra was a 2024 Oklahoma national tour garden and we talked more with her about daylilies. During the social time we talked with Monique Warnke about the timeline and schedule of planning and implementing a national meeting. Pete Connolly introduced us to his daylily friends in Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 2021 and we saw them again! We were encouraged to again see youth attending and participating. There is hope they will continue the love of daylilies.





The 81st ADS National Convention

Hosted by Tidewater Daylily Society

Blooms by the Bay

June 9-12, 2027

Early registration ends 4/11/2027, No Registration after 5/15/2027

Registration is limited to 350 people

Full Registration: Includes 2 days of touring, 6 magnificent gardens

2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 3 Dinners (Includes Thur. Night meal) gift plant and bus plant.

Hotel rooms are $229 + tax/night if you identify as a 2027 Daylily National Convention attendee.

Rates available up to 3 days before & 3 days after the event.

Register Online

2027 ADS Convention

Registration Form

Print name as you wish to appear on the name badge. Indicate youths with a "Y" after the name. Use back if needed.

Registrant Name:_____ ADS or Regional Officer or Staff? Title: _____

Registrant Name:_____ ADS or Regional Officer or Staff? Title: _____

Companion Name for Dinner(s) only: _____

Address:_____ City:_____ State: _____

Zip:_____ Phone: _____ Email:_____ Region _____

Is email confirmation acceptable to you? Yes ☐ No ☐ Do you want your contact information on attendee list? Yes ☐ No ☐

Special Needs: (Food, Accessibility, Bus, etc.) Provide name and explanation of what is needed.

_____

Judges Educational Clinics: Exhibition Judge II, Yes ☐ Number of attendees _____

Garden Judge II, Yes ☐ Number of attendees _____

Registration Information

USD Check/Money Order payable to:

Tidewater Daylily Society

Mail to: Tab Pake, Registrar

166 Wellington Circle

Williamsburg, VA 23185

Email: ads2027con@gmail.com

Registration Cancellations

Full refund if received by 4/10/2027

50% refund if received 4/11/2027 to 5/15/2027

No refund after 5/15/2027 (11PM EST)

You may swap your seat if you cannot attend

Please notify Registrar ASAP

Thursday Dinner @ 6:00 PM (included in registration)
Followed by Live Plant Auction at ~7:00 PM

Friday Dinner @ 6:00 PM
Followed by Live Plant Auction at ~8:15 PM

2026 National Awards Recipients

ADS Region 1 Service Award goes to Jeff and Lisa Schmidt

By
Kris Henning, Daylily Society of Minnesota
Scott Keller, Region 1 Director
Nancy Rash, Region 1 Secretary
Karol Emmerich, Region 1 Treasurer
Val Hoefer, Nebraska Daylily Society

Dear ADS Awards & Honors Committee:

We would like to nominate Lisa and Jeff Schmidt from Bismarck, ND, for the 2026 Region 1 Service Award. They belong to the Central North Dakota Daylily Society (CNDDS). Lisa has been an ADS member since 2017 and has been an active Garden judge since 2019. Jeff has been an ADS member since 2019. This nomination is a cooperative effort from several regional members.

From Regional Treasurer and past-RP Karol Emmerich:

"Lisa, RP for Region 1, has made service to Region 1 almost a full-time job, along with her ever-present, smiling and helpful husband Jeff. You rarely see one of them without the other, and both do not hesitate to offer to help. Lisa is currently in her second term as RP which will go through the end of 2026.

In addition to Lisa's many official RP duties, she and Jeff attend club meetings and events throughout the Region—and not only attending but often arriving a day or two early to help out. For example, they worked all day deadheading at one of the tour gardens for the 2024 Regional meeting in Minnesota and then the next day helped out at the hotel. They also attend events in other regions and usually go to the National Conventions, too.

In her job as RP, Lisa designed a survey which was distributed to members throughout the region to better understand what people hoped to get out of attending the regional meetings and how we can increase that attendance. She appointed a committee to work on the survey and try to implement the recommendations.

Lisa was an integral part of organizing the 4-vehicle CNDDS trip to the International Peace Garden 200 miles away on the border of North Dakota and Manitoba, Canada to plant over 200 daylilies and other perennials. They have also helped the North Dakota State University with their ADS Historic Daylily Garden.

Lisa was recently a Co-Chair of the successful Region 1 Summer Meeting held in Fargo, ND, and Jeff was the Registrar."

From Regional Secretary Nancy Rash:

"Lisa and Jeff have embraced the true meaning of service by joining many of the clubs in the region and support the club efforts by participating in their meetings, special events, and activities. They dig daylilies for sales and auctions and they volunteer to help as needed at functions.



Lisa has provided leadership to our region in many ways. As regional secretary, I appreciate her support and feedback on my role for the region. She is available and willing to give feedback and ideas, writes articles for the regional newsletter and provides artful photography for the issues. She always has ideas to improve our society or increase the participation.

Jeff is extremely supportive and involved with the work that Lisa does as RP. He travels and participates in all the same activities with Lisa. He does a lot of the behind-the-scenes jobs—for example, at their recent regional meeting, he picked up and delivered lunches for the bus tours, packing and unpacking supplies, etc.

They are a team and they support and encourage each other."

From Regional Director Scott Keller:

"I haven't known Lisa and Jeff that long. From what I know of them, they are committed to the daylily world!

Here's a couple of examples:

They routinely drive nearly 600 miles one-way to be a part of the Nebraska Daylily Society meetings, which occur four times a year. This means driving down the day before, staying the night, then attending the meeting and driving home afterward.

I've been impressed with their positive, 'can do' attitude and willingness to do the work to start a new club in their home state. Not many people these days are willing to commit that amount of time and energy!

In addition, at the recent Seattle National, they helped at the registration table (which was the local club's responsibility as far as I know). They took a carload of unused bus plants back to North Dakota to be handed out at the Region 1 meeting in Fargo, ND."

From past-RP & past-Director Kris Henning:

"I echo the sentiments already expressed by Karol, Nancy and Scott. I'd also like to add that as Registrar for the Asheville and Seattle National Conventions, Lisa and Jeff volunteered to help me with registration for both of those conventions—which isn't a regional event, but it shows their volunteer ethic. Lisa attends all of the Regional Officer meetings at the national conventions, too.

They are truly a wonderful, caring couple and have helped me personally with their friendship. I can't think of anyone better to get this award."

To sum it up, we all feel that Lisa and Jeff are very deserving of this award. Thank you for considering them.

2025 Honorable Mention Awards

Karol Emmerich



"Every Knee Shall Bow" (2021)



"Sea of Glass" (2019)

Kathleen Nordstrom



"Luscious Kiss" (2018)

2026 Region 1 Open Gardens





Clockwise from left:
Scott Keller
"Double Blessing" (Korth-P.-Korth-L., 2019)
"Ruffles of Sunlight" (Gossard-D., 2023)
Scott's garden is an ADS Display Garden
"Cradle of Bethlehem" (Shooter-E., 2007)



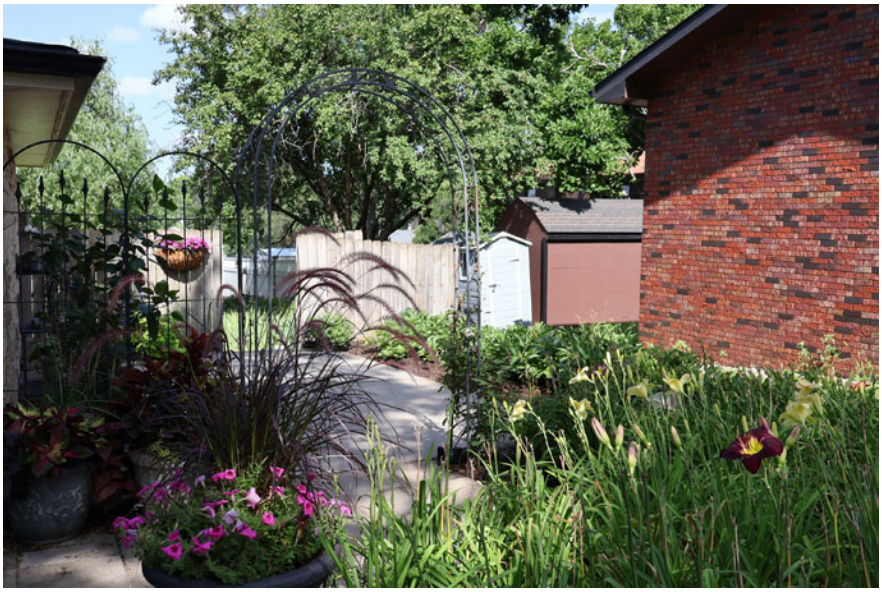
Pick A Daylily

Scott Keller
Photos by Lyle Moen and Lisa Schmidt











Kay Roberts

Photos by Lyle Moen and Lisa Schmidt





Clockwise from top left:
"Sweet Child of Mine" (Wilkerson, 2007)
Heading into the backyard
Kay Roberts
"From Age to Age the Same" (Emmerich, 2022)
"Fear Not" (Emmerich, 2005)

2026 Region 1 Board & Liaison Meeting

July 10, 2026, 3 p.m.
Lincoln Mariott Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, NE

1. The American Daylily Society, Region 1, board meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m. by Region 1 President, Lisa Schmidt.
2. The end of the year Treasurer's report was published in the spring 2026 issue of the Daylily Pioneer. Treasurer Karol Emmerich presented the report. Val Hoefer made a motion to accept the report. A second was made by Kris Henning. Motion carried.
3. A motion to accept the 2026 budget was made by Lorraine Manz with a second by Lisa Schmidt. Motion carried.
4. The Secretary's report was printed in the fall 2025 issue of the Daylily Pioneer. A motion to approve the minutes of the 2025 Region 1 board meeting was made by Nancy Carlisle with a second by Lorraine Manz. Motion carried.
5. The Region 1 Director's report will be given at the Saturday night business meeting.
6. The Garden Judges report was given by Lisa Schmidt. We need more garden judges and could have nine more judges in Region 1. It is important for the voting that happens in the gardens. Phil Fass, Garden Judges Liaison, will be stepping down from the liaison position at the end of the year. We were given news of the passing of his partner, Deb Deemer on July 4, 2026.
7. A new American Daylily Society campaign to attract new members is from June 1, 2026–April, 30, 2027. New members join for $10. There is a discounted fee for membership renewal as well.

Old Business:

8. Discussion was held on the need and possibilities for reformatting Region 1 meetings.

New Business:

9. Nancy Rash, Nominating Committee Chair, announced Janet Haag, Nebraska Daylily Society, will be the 2027–2029 Region 1 President. Mike Becker, candidate for Region 1 President was thanked for his commitment to being on the ballot.
10. Scott Keller will be asked if he will continue another term as Region 1 Director. His current term is 2025–2027.
11. Kris Henning made a motion with a second by Nancy Carlisle to pay Scott Keller up to $1000 for his expenses to attend the special planning meeting hosted by ADS in New Orleans. Motion carried.
12. Region 11 members were invited to discuss regional meeting formats. Brenda Jindra presented a chart of drive times and distances for cities in ND, IA, NE, MN, AR, MO, KS, and OK. Thought-provoking discussion followed with a thank you to Region 11 members for attending the Region 1 meeting and their contribution to the ongoing discussion.
13. The following awards were presented to Region 1 members at the National Meeting of the American Daylily Society in Valdosta, GA:

    Region 1 2026 Service Award: Lisa and Jeff Schmidt

    Honorable Mention: Karol Emmerich for Every Knee Shall Bow, Sea of Glass

    Honorable Mention: Kathleen Nordstrom for Luscious Kiss

    Additional Awards

    Stout Silver Medal: Richard Howard for Explosion in the Paint Factory

    Lennington All-American: Sandy Holmes for Tidewater Elf

Attendees were thanked with special thanks to members of Region 11 that have expressed interest in sharing ideas with Region 1. A motion for adjournment was made by Kris Henning with a second by Val Hoefer. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Attendance: Lisa Schmidt, Regional President; Nancy Rash, Secretary; Nancy Carlisle, Publicity; Lorraine Manz, Daylily Pioneer Editor; Kris Henning DSM; Michelle Smith, DSM; Michael Becker, NDS President; Janet Haag, NDS; Val Hoefer, NDS; Mary Baker, NDS, DSM; Lois Hart, Region 11, AHS Director Region 7; Chris Tyler, Region 11, Brenda Jindra, Region 11 President; Karol Emmerich, Region 1 Treasurer (by Zoom).

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Rash
Region 1 Secretary

Addendum, August 10, 2026

Nominating Committee Approval

President Lisa Schmidt presented a nominating committee via email for Region 1 Director 2028–2030. Approval was made by Region 1 board members via email August 7, 2026. Members of the nominating committee are Val Hoefer, NDS; Nancy Carlisle, CVIDS; James Sherepa, DSM.

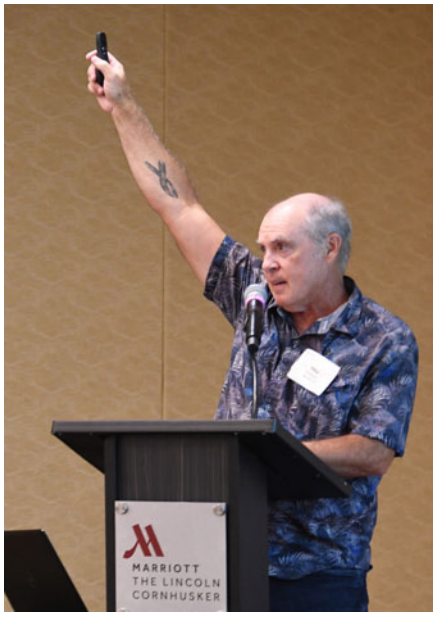
2026 Region 1 Friday Gatherings and Auction







Top left: Board meeting
Left: Donna, Vicky and Jackie discuss daylilies
Below left: Silent auction
Top right: Auction daylily "Eveready Bunnisoo" (Hunter, 2025)
Right: Auctioneer Mike Grossmann
Below: Auction daylily "Meteor Shower" (Hunter, 2020)
Bottom: Having a good time on Friday night







Friday photos by Lyle Moen
Daylily pics courtesy of Carole Hunter



2026 Region 1 Garden Tours

Mark & Jenny Cich, Greenwood, NE

By Nancy Rash



Photo by Lorraine Manz

Jenny stepped on the bus and gave an overview of her garden and highlighted the morning snack—homemade angel food cake with your choice of rhubarb, raspberry and peach sauces. All three delicious sauces were made from fruits grown in their garden. Another treat was assorted meltaway chocolates from Baker's Candies in Greenwood, NE.

We gazed upon expansive areas of green grass and daylily and perennial beds framed with antique steel farm implements and steel wheels that are rustic artwork.

Border beds of iris and daylilies provide multi-seasons of bloom, extending the colorful views spring to summer. A highlight was a bed of daylilies introduced by Kirsten Hatfield. Garden judges could easily find daylilies with a flag marker. Jenny and Mark do not hybridize but they do sell daylilies and iris.

A garden area lush with garden vegetables was next to the fenced chicken and poultry house.

The prairie backdrop on the west and south sides of the garden provided another type of garden for wildlife and pollinators. A shade oasis was provided by the fruit trees, catalpa, coffee, sycamore tree and more.

Thank you, Jenny and Mark for sharing your love of gardening with Region 1 participants.

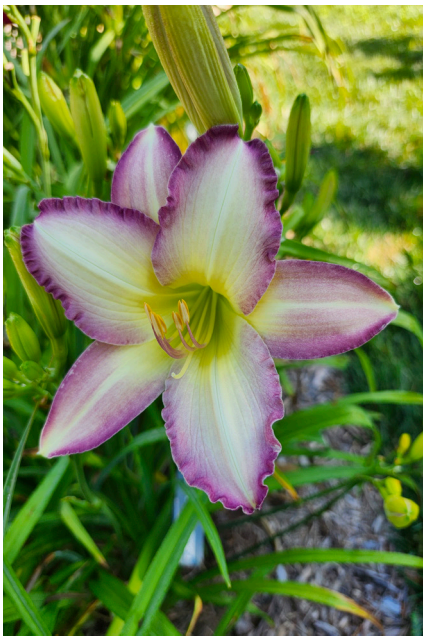








Clockwise from top left:
Mark and Jenny. Photo by Lyle Moen
“Blood, Sweat and Tears” (Emmerich, 2005). Photo by Kristie Henning
“Black Fury” (Stadler, 2008). Photo by Lyle Moen
“Mountain Orchid” (Keast, 2012). Photo by Lorraine Manz
“Shadow Music” (Ripley, 2024). Photo by Lyle Moen
One of Mark and Jenny’s rustic artworks. Photo by Lisa Schmidt
Relaxing in the shade. Photo by Lorraine Manz







2026 Region 1 Garden Tours

Robin Lowe, Bennet, NE

By Dianne Harms

Just a quick 14-mile drive from Lincoln, the Lowe farm welcomed us with a spacious gravel parking lot that easily accommodated our tour bus.

Robin and Sue host a country swim school along with 1,700 different daylilies surrounding a one-acre lawn, and there are surprises all along the vast flower bed.

Everyone on the tour exclaimed at the array of beautiful named lilies. (Even unnamed varieties were labeled 'unknown'!) Of note, I spotted a Hyperion, originally registered in 1924. A Judy Davisson registered in 2011 named after her daughter-in-law, Abby Davisson, put a smile on my face, as my maiden name is Davisson.

Tucked in along the walk were coleus, coneflower, hydrangea, lobelia and under the beautiful pines, hosta.

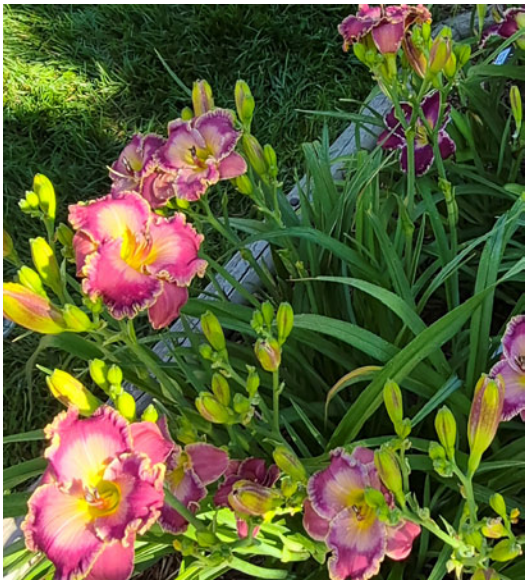
We completed our visit in the gazebo with delicious refreshments.





Top left: Robin Lowe. Photo by Lisa Schmidt
Above: "Bandito Rojo" (Santa Lucia, 2000). Photo by Lisa Schmidt
Below: "Morning Fog" (Emmerich, 2012). Photo by Kristie Henning
Below left: Region 1 guests admiring the gardens. Photo by Lisa Schmidt









Clockwise from top left:
Plant wall. Photo by Lyle Moen
"Satie Gymnopédie" (Selman, 2021). Photo by Lorraine Manz
"Highland Lord" (Munson-R.W., 1983). Photo by Lyle Moen
Robin's beautiful house. Photo by Lorraine Manz
More than just daylilies! Photo by Lisa Schmidt







2026 Region 1 Garden Tours

Sunken Gardens, Lincoln, NE

By Lorraine Manz

I had to keep reminding myself that we were in Nebraska and not somewhere a lot further south. The location of these gardens in a depression (hence the name) makes it a veritable sun trap and heat-loving plants were everywhere. Banana plants, *Colocasia* (elephant ear), *Cordyline* (ti plant), and huge canna lilies give this place a distinctly tropical feel. I was glad I had my handy plant ID app with me!

Parts of the gardens are steeply terraced and planted with trees that provide plenty of shade on a hot day. In one spot a waterfall cascades into a pool on the level ground below. Shade perennials like panicle hydrangea and grape leaf anemone thrive under this cool canopy.

Two large ponds are home to numerous koi, but don't plan on feeding them. Signs politely ask you not to.

Vibrant color was provided by beds planted with annuals, which included coleus, dahlia, Egyptian starflower, impatiens, lantana, and moss rose. Benches placed throughout the gardens invite you to sit and enjoy the flowers.

The gardens also feature statuary and a beautiful dome consisting of laser-cut panels depicting the Lincoln skyline's four seasons.

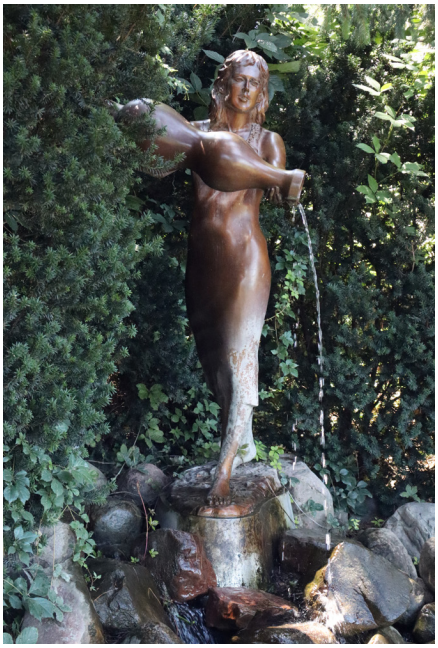






Above: Dahlia. Photo by Lorarraine Manz
Top right: Canna lilies with colorfully contrasting deep red coleus and yellow bearded beggarticks. Photo by Lyle Moen
Right: Koi pond. Photo by Kristie Henning







Clockwise from top left:
A view of the gardens. The large plant in the background is a banana plant. Photo by Lorraine Manz
The gardens feature several staues. Photo by Lorraine Manz
The dome. Photo by Kristie Henning
Another view of the gardens. Photo by Lisa Schmidt
Elephant ears galore! Photo by Nancy Carlisle





2026 Region 1 Business Meeting

July 10-12, 2026, 7 p.m., Landcaster Room
Lincoln Mariott Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln Nebraska

1. The 2026 ADS Region 1 business meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Region 1 President, Lisa Schmidt.
2. Lisa thanked all in attendance for coming and extended thanks to the Region 11 members attending.
3. Region 1 officers and liaisons were announced:

   Regional President: Lisa Schmidt

   Regional Secretary: Nancy Rash

   Regional Treasurer: Karol Emmerich

   Regional Publicity Director: Nancy Carlisle

   Regional Director, ADS Board of Directors: Scott Keller

   Regional Newsletter Editor, The Daylily Pioneer: Lorraine Manz

   Garden Judges Liaison: Phil Fass

   Science and Education Liaison: Kathleen Wiese

   Historic Daylily Garden Liaison: Joan Zettel

   Historian: Kathy Larson

   Webmaster: Mary Wickersham

   Audit Committee: Jackie Westhoff

4. Lisa summarized the Region 1 board meeting. A motion to approve the 2026 budget was made by Val Hoefer with a second by Michael Becker. Motion carried.
5. A motion to approve the 2025 secretary report was made by Nancy Carlisle with a second by Sue Becker. Motion carried.
6. Lisa Schmidt reviewed the board meeting discussion with Region 11 with discussion to be continued about regional meeting formats.
7. Nominating Chair, Nancy Rash, thanked the nominating committee and others that suggested candidates for the position of Region 1 President. Michael Becker was thanked for running for the position and Janet Haag was announced as the 2027–2028 Region 1 President.

New Business:

8. The board approved partial expenses to Scott Keller for attending the ADS Planning meeting in New Orleans. Regional meeting format discussion will continue with Region 11.
9. Region 1 Director Scott Keller represents Region 1 at American Daylily Society Board Meetings and chairs long-range planning and marketing for ADS. Lois Hart was introduced. She is the ADS District 7 Director. She also oversees ADS publications and the Daylily Journal.
10. The following awards were presented to Region 1 members at the National Meeting of the American Daylily Society in Valdosta, GA:



"Sky Before the Storm" (Langabee, 2025)

Region 1 2026 Service Award: Lisa and Jeff Schmidt

Honorable Mention: Karol Emmerich for Every Knee Shall Bow, Sea of Glass

Honorable Mention: Kathleen Nordstrom for Luscious Kiss

Other Awards:

Stout Silver Medal: Richard Howard for Explosion in the Paint Factory

Lennington All-American: Sandy Holmes for Tidewater Elf

11. Kris Henning presented the importance of being a garden judge and the process. Region 1 has no accredited exhibition shows. Region 1 Garden Judge Liaison Phil Fass will retire at the end of 2026.
12. A new American Daylily Society campaign to attract new members is from June 1, 2026 – April, 30, 2027. New members join for $10. There is a discounted fee for membership renewal as well.
13. Rich Crider, new American Daylily Society President, is working for ADS to increase the value of ADS to its members, better serve the members and the daylily community, reach new members and identify where outreach should be focused.
14. Lisa Schmidt presented the VEEP Award to Lorraine Manz, Region 1 Editor of the Daylily Pioneer. Lorraine was recognized for her service to the president. Lorraine takes great care in producing the Daylily Pioneer for Region 1. She pursues articles and pictures from fellow members to create an incredibly beautiful and informative magazine. Congratulations!
15. The “Magic Wand” award was presented by Lisa Schmidt to Kris Henning for “getting so much done”.
16. At her last annual meeting as Region 1 President, Lisa Schmidt thanked the board members and Region 1 membership for their support.
17. A motion for adjournment was made by Kris Henning with a second by Mike Grossmann. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Rash
Region 1 Secretary

Addendum, August 24, 2026

Nominating Committee Approval President Lisa Schmidt presented a nominating committee via email for Region 1 Director 2028–2030. Approval was made by Region 1 board members via email August 7, 2026. Members of the nominating committee are Val Hoefer, NDS; Nancy Carlisle, CVIDS; James Sherepa, DSM.

Region 1 membership voted at the Minnesota Banquet on August 9, 2026 and the Nebraska meeting in Omaha, NE on August 15, 2026, and the Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society meeting August 22, 2026.

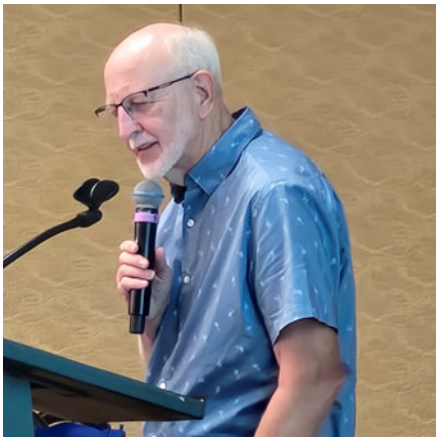
The nominating committee for the next regional director position of Val Hoefer, Nancy Carlisle and James Sherepa was unanimously approved by Region 1 members. The Daylily Society of Minnesota had 17 yes votes. 19 members of the Nebraska Daylily Society voted yes and the Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society had 19 members voting yes.

Nancy Rash
Region 1 Secretary



“Sky Before the Storm” (Langabee, 2025)

2026 Saturday Night Gathering











Top Left: Region 1 Director Scott Keller. Photo by Lorraine Manz
Top center: Kathleen Nordstrom receives her ADS Honorable Mention certificate from Scott Keller. Photo by Lyle Moen
Top right: Region 1 President Lisa Schmidt and guest speaker Carole Hunter. Photo by Lyle Moen

Above left: Lisa and Kris Henning with her magic wand. Photo by Lyle Moen
Above right: Lisa presents Lorraine Manz with her VEEP award. Photo by Lyle Moen
Below: Full house. Photo by Lorraine Manz



2026 ADS Region 1 VEEP Award Winner

Lorraine Manz

The VEEP award is a once in a lifetime award for service to the region and helping the Region 1 president. I always wish I could give the award to all of you. All of you here show up and support our Region 1 and our wonderful daylily clubs. With the first VEEP award I gave, I wanted to essentially appreciate all of you, so I presented the first award to Karen Schock who started our North Dakota club in 2002. Karen got me started in daylilies, instilling her passion for these beautiful flowers in us. The second award went to Val Hoefer, who supported me as I learned my new role as Region1 President. Thank you to all of you for supporting me, for sharing good times, your experience and encouragement. The third award went to Barb Laschkewitsch who worked diligently caring for the Historic Daylily gardens at NDSU, representing all of you quietly working in the background, getting so many things done that keep our clubs going. Thank you for your dedication supporting everyone's enjoyment of daylilies.

This year I want to honor and thank all of you who are some of the newer members, who have jumped in to help out and get things done. I want to encourage new members to join in the fun of contributing your talents to your club. With this year's VEEP award, I want to recognize a very special person who works enthusiastically to learn more about daylilies and all plants. She perseveres in diligently finding information and pictures about daylilies to share with all of us. I would like to give a special thank you to Lorraine Manz for being our Region1 editor. Lorraine takes great care in producing our Region1 newsletter, the Daylily Pioneer. She pursues articles and pictures from fellow members to create an incredibly beautiful and informative magazine. Thank you for pursuing your passion to show off our flower that we are all so passionate about. I greatly appreciate all your hard work, and I want everyone to know who creates our beautiful Region1 Daylily Pioneer magazine.

Thank you Lorraine for all you do in sharing your talents for all of us to enjoy.



Join Us in Iowa in 2027

Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society (CVIDS) is hosting the Region 1 meeting in Coralville, Iowa, July 9–11, 2027. Home base location is the Holiday Inn-Kinnick Conference Center facilities in Coralville. "Deep Roots to Daylily Blooms, Iowa—Where it all Began" is the theme for this year's convention. Registration forms are available in this issue (see opposite page) and on the Region 1 website.

Our Saturday evening banquet speaker is Chad Bush from Ada, Michigan. Check out his delightful website at colorfulchaosdaylily.weebly.com. He will be bringing plants for the Friday night regional live auction. His interests are in cristates, broken colors, and teeth in northern hardy plants. He also has interests in hybridizing daffodils and hibiscus.

The bus tour will occur on Saturday, July 10, 2027 and will feature the following five gardens;

Lyn Hoversten Hafner, Iowa City; Lynn and Sherry Moffit, North English; Jill Williams, North English; Dave and Sue Kramer, Cedar Rapids; and Katie Book, Mount Vernon. All of the gardens are masterpieces that are lovingly tended.

The following will host open gardens with dates and times on Friday and Sunday:

Joe and Mary Jo Duffy, Iowa City; Virginia Houser and William Blair, Iowa City (an ADS display garden); Dan and Gina Snyder, Riverside; Becky LaRoche, Riverside; Jackie Westhoff, Shellsburg (an ADS display); Darren and Shelly Lett, West Branch; and John and Colleen Hansen, Wilton (an ADS display). This will give people traveling to the meeting from any direction a delightful garden to visit.

Registration gift plants will come from several CVIDS hybridizers: Jackie Westfall, Barb Papenhausen, Sue Kramer, and Heather Harroun. A silent auction and plant boutique will be held Friday and Saturday. Donation plants for Friday live Region 1 auction can be mailed to our auctioneer, Darrin Lett, 1673 Garfield Avenue, West Branch, IA 52358, or contact by phone 563-357-2214 or buzzlett@hotmail.com.

Come early, or stay after the event and make it an Iowa vacation with so many landmarks within a 100-mile radius of Coralville/Iowa City. The Amana Colonies, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, University of Iowa Sports Museums, Lake McBride and Devonian Fossil Gorge and many more wonderful vistas in *Ioway, the beautiful land.*

Nancy Carlisle
Chairperson 2027 Region One meeting

Editor's note: In the language of the Native American Ioway tribe, "Ioway" means "beautiful land".







Some of Chad's 2026 introductions (photos used with permission)

From top:
Volcano Arenal
Pura Vida!
Lesser Anteater

DAYLILY BLOOMS

ESTD IOWA 1946

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

JULY 9-11, 2027

Location
Kinnick Conference Center
Coralville, Iowa

Guest Speaker
Chad Bush,
Colorful Chaos, Ada MI

Featured Tour Gardens
- Katie Book
- Lyn Hoversten-Hafner
- Sue & Dave Kramer
- Lynn & Sherry Moffit
- Jill Williams

Registration Fee Includes
- Friday & Saturday dinner and programs
- Saturday breakfast & lunch
- Gift plant with registration

Guest "breakfast & dinner only" available

Mail Auction Plants To
Darrin Lett
1673 Garfield Ave
West Branch, IA 52358
563-357-2214 • buzzlett@hotmail.com

Registrar
Ellen Jones 319-480-2307
ellen-jones@uiowa.edu

Hotel
Holiday Inn
1220 First Ave., Coralville, IA 52241
Reservation-Link or 319-351-5049
Group Rate - $149 (with parking) by June 12, 2027
Mention: CEDAR VALLEY IRIS & DAYLILY SOCIETY

Questions? Contact Nancy Carlisle
563-357-0526 • njcarlisle56@gmail.com

Schedule —

Friday, July 9

Noon–4pm	Open Gardens (various)
Noon–5pm	Registration, Boutique, Silent Auction
3–3:45pm	Region One Board Meeting
4–4:45pm	Hybridizers Slides
5–6pm	Social Hour/Cash Bar
6–7pm	Dinner
7–9pm	Region One Auction

Saturday, July 10

7–7:45am	Breakfast
7:45am	Buses depart
3:40pm	Buses return
3:45pm–5pm	Boutique & Silent Auction
5–6pm	Social Hour/Cash Bar
6–7pm	Banquet
7–7:30pm	Region One Business Meeting
7:30–8:30pm	Guest Speaker – Chad Bush
8:30–8:45pm	Invitation to 2028 Regional

Sunday, July 11

9am–Noon	Open Gardens
10am–Noon	GJW2* @ John & Colleen Hansen's

**Preregister for Garden Judges Workshop 2 by June 10, 2027*

Registration Form 2027 Region One Summer meeting
*Make checks out to CVIDS and mail with form to CVIDS, Attn: **Ellen Jones, 821 Cimarron Dr., Davenport, IA 52804***

Name(s)_____
List names as you would like on name tags (Mark Y after name for Youth)

Address_____ City_____ State_____ Zip_____ Phone_____

Email_____ Special needs_____ Diet_____

Will you accept email confirmation? Yes_____No_____

#Adults_____ @ $185 *postmarked by June 10, 2027* $_____

#Adults_____ @ $220 *postmarked by June 15, 2027* $_____

#Youths_____@ $85 $_____

Guest Meals: Fri Dinner $60___ Sat. Breakfast $30___ Sat. Dinner $60___ $_____

(indicate # of guests per meal) **Total Fees** $_____

In memorium
Bob Langabee

From Phil Fass:

Joanne Langabee informed me today that one of my favorite hybridizers, and our dear friend Bob Langabee passed early this morning.

I will deeply miss him. The remarkable and continual improvement in Bob's hybridizing efforts was wonderful to observe at Pollen Dabbers and Regionals over the years. I had profoundly deep admiration for his continuing these efforts over the last few years while battling cancer.

There is a heroic balance in the fact that - as cancer kept taking pieces of Bob away - he continued to create small things of sublime beauty.

We will all miss him.

I will end with one hilarious anecdote, at least to me. I think it was two or three years ago at a Pollen Dabbers that Bob ended his presentation with "And if you have any questions Phil will probably answer them." The room exploded with laughter.

Bob passed away on July 8, 2026

Photos of Bob's introductions and seedlings that appear in this issue of the *Pioneer* used with the kind permission of Joanne Langabee, except where noted.


Bob and Joanne. Photo by Phil Fass

Historian's Corner

By Kathy Larson



Captain of My Soul

by Clifton L. Merrill

When winter snow was on the bough

I pondered much, then made a vow:

"No more the latest hems I'll buy

All such I'll view with jaundiced eye;

I'll live austerely, without frills.

I'll even PAY some of my bills!

Don't urge me now—my mind's made up—

For buying sins it's time I paid up.

As unmovable as a mountain range

My mind will never, NEVER change!"

Now that the sun's in a summer way,

My new-bought hems so bright and gay,

Let the annals of Hemdom forever ring

With the jubilance of the song I sing:

"I moved the mountains!—refusing to cower,

I battled—and conquered—my strong willpower!"

(Region 1 Newsletter, fall 1975. Reprinted from the 1966 Hemerocallis Journal, vol.20, no.2)

Daylilies in Bob Langabee's garden.
Photo by Lyle Moen

Beausejour Daylily Gardens

Words and pictures by Mary Veldman

Growing Community Through Daylilies: How Gardens Bring People Together

Across the country daylily clubs are leaning into this community-building power. Spring plant sales draw families who may never have grown a daylily before but leave with a pot, a smile, and a story. Summer bloom tours bring visitors who wander slowly, pausing to admire a cultivar they have only ever seen in photographs. Fall festivals, youth partnerships, and volunteer appreciation days add rhythm to the year, giving members and newcomers alike reasons to return.

At the Beausejour Daylily Gardens, the spirit of community truly comes alive in personal and meaningful ways. This year, the gardens proudly hosted it's first hybridizer workshop on August 5 and August 15, where gardeners of all experience levels gathered to explore the fascinating art and science behind creating new daylily cultivars. These workshops have become cherished events fostering hands-on learning, camaraderie, and lasting friendships among participants.



Green Team girls

The gardens also enjoy a special relationship with the Province of Manitoba Green Team students, whose energy, expertise, and commitment to sustainability bring fresh vitality to the space. Alongside them, Youth in Philanthropy students generously volunteer their time and enthusiasm, helping to nurture the gardens and connect with visitors in heartfelt ways.

These partnerships make Beausejour Daylily Gardens much more than a beautiful place to admire flowers—they transform it into a living classroom and a vibrant hub for youth involvement and environmental stewardship.

Community celebrations are equally important here. The Volunteer Appreciation Event will be held in October and will honor the dedication and hard work of everyone who contributes to the gardens ongoing success. These gatherings deepen connections, celebrate shared efforts, and remind all volunteers how deeply their time and care are treasured.

Looking ahead, the gardens are excited to welcome visitors to the Scarecrow Festival in October, a festive event that brings the community together in creativity and fun. Additionally, the first annual daylily online auctions will run from September 12 to September 19, offering a wonderful opportunity for daylily lovers to support the gardens while expanding their own collections.

Hands-on learning has become one of the most powerful tools for engagement. Workshops, hybridizer days, invite people to participate rather than simply observe. When gardeners can touch, try, and experiment, they develop a sense of ownership—and they come back eager to learn more. These experiences remind us that daylily culture isn't just about plants; it's about passing knowledge forward.





Learning the art and science of hybridizing daylilies





Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

Words and pictures by Diane Derganz

The Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society members recently wrapped up one of their main annual events under beautiful skies and mild temps. We held our fall plant sale the morning of August 22 on the Jones County Fairgrounds in Monticello, IA. Club members brought armloads of daylilies, hosta, perennials and bulbs of all kinds to be sold at bargain prices. The sale lasted until 11:30 a.m. with very few leftover plants which we then donated to a local gardeners' group. CVIDS has been holding a fall sale for many years at the Fairgrounds and the public has always come out to support us.

Following the public sale, our group continued its club plant project of evaluating and then auctioning those daylilies which members had grown in their gardens for two years. The plants that did not receive a bid were then placed in the live auction for members to purchase. For iris enthusiasts, the club purchased two dozen various types of iris which were also put up for bid. All in all, it was a very full day and plenty of plants found new homes, some with our members and many with all those interested gardeners who attended the sale.

CVIDS has two more important events scheduled before year end, our annual Hybridizer's Roundup in October and our Annual Banquet in November.

The Hybridizer's Roundup is an opportunity for member hybridizers to showcase some of their newest seedlings, make suggestions on starting a program and answer questions from those interested in hybridizing. It's a great learning experience and they demonstrate various ways to keep records and suggest how to do all phases of the work.

Our CVIDS Fall Banquet will be held November 14 at the Holiday Inn and Kinnick Conference Center in Coralville, IA. Our guest speakers are Bill and Diana Waldrop of Kennesaw Mountain Daylily Gardens, Marietta, Georgia. We look forward to the presentation by the Waldrops, the wonderful meal and lively conversation among all our members.

Looking back at 2026, our club has been very busy and will continue to be in 2027 as preparations continue to be finalized for our hosting of the Region 1 Summer Meeting. The three-day event entitled "Deep Roots to Daylily Blooms—Iowa, Where it all Began" runs from July 9 through the 11. It will be held at the Holiday Inn, Coralville, IA, and our guest speaker is Chad Bush of Colorful Chaos Gardens, Ada, Michigan.

The bus tours on Saturday feature gardens in Iowa City, North English, Cedar Rapids and Mount Vernon. CVIDS members will have many open gardens in every direction from Coralville as well. I hope we see many of you that weekend!

As we look back on 2026 and look forward to 2027, I can't help but be thankful for all the friendship and help I've received from all our members. Being part of CVIDS has meant the world to me. As I've always said and have heard said many times, "daylily people are the best!"





Top: CVIDS members Jill Williams (in blue) and Sherry Moffit (right) at the plant sale
Above: CVIDS banner

Central North Dakota Daylily Society

by Kathleen Wiese

North Dakota did not have the greatest summer. Artificial Intelligence on Google tells me that this summer was characterized by "significant, persistent heat and below normal precipitation". I don't think any of us needed AI to tell us that. It was miserable, ranking in the top ten of the hottest summers on record with many consecutive days of triple digit temperatures. The heat was accompanied by relentless wind and little or no precipitation. It made gardening a challenge, but like all dedicated gardeners, our members battled Mother Nature and mostly won.

In May, a group of members traveled east from Bismarck on a greenhouse road trip. It was great fun and gave us a chance to visit and get to know each other better. We made a round trip of over 400 miles, visiting multiple greenhouses and sharing a delicious lunch at a new farm to table restaurant in Fargo. Some of us had to share our seat space with plants on the way home.

CNDDS hosted a successful club auction on June 4. We had some lively bidding on a few of the varieties, and people left happy and excited to get their new plants growing in their gardens.

We were glad to have representation at the Region 1 Summer Meeting in Lincoln. Those who attended enjoyed the fellowship, the education, and the gardens. We are also pleased to congratulate Lorraine Manz on receiving the VEEP award in recognition of everything she does for our region.

The garden tour was held on July 25, which was one of those triple digit heat days. People took advantage of the slightly cooler morning temperatures to walk through the four tour gardens and enjoy some refreshments. We also hosted the annual blossom blast competition, which ended in a tie between Paula Frohlich with Blackberry Candy (Stamile, 1989) and Lisa Schmidt with Sips of Sin (Hensley, 2011).

Our board met and discussed plans for next year's programming and set tentative dates for upcoming meetings and events. Increasing membership and member engagement are top priorities and much of our planning and programming will work toward that goal. We will be seeking input on the preliminary plans at the members' meeting and then will move toward finalizing them for implementation in 2027.

Our fall members' meeting will be September 19. In addition to the business meeting, there will be a social time and lunch, followed by a guest presentation by Scott Keller. We are looking forward to hearing Scott speak about his hybridizing work and his work with the American Daylily Society.



Blossom Blast tied winners

Top: Paula Frolich's "Blackberry Candy" (Stamile, 1989)
Bottom: Lisa Schmidt's "Sips of Sin" (Hensley, 2011)



Daylily Society of Minnesota

by Karol Emmerich

Our members had a good time washing and dividing daylilies at Circle C Ranch on June 13 in preparation for our sale the next day. We also enjoyed a nice hot dog/brat luncheon with many sides, and distribution of our adoption plants. At the sale the following day at Bachman's Garden Center, our members enjoyed talking with customers, assisting with selections and answering questions about the more than 100 daylily varieties offered. Due to the extremely large amount of donations, we also held an after sale for a few days, which allowed even more people to obtain the lovely plants we had offered at the main sale.

Our offscape show was held on July 18 at Bachman's. We had lots of blooms and great volunteers, but the weather that week was marked by heavy smoke from wildfires, high humidity and temps in the mid 90s with heat indexes approaching 100. Saturday looked to be yet another scorching day and there were fewer visitors than usual at the garden center.







Above: Offscape show. Photo by Michelle Smith
Left: Debra Scott at Springwood Gardens. (Photo provided by Debra Scott)
Below Left: One of the many statues at Springwood Gardens. (Photo by Debra Scott)

On July 25, we held our garden bus tour, spending a day of fun and companionship as we visited three gorgeous gardens in the western metro area. Our first stop was Karol Emmerich's Springwood Gardens. It was a beautiful morning, and the gardens were in full bloom. The sea of color was enhanced by a sweeping view of the green trees below the hilltop farm—a wondrous sight that put a smile on each of our faces. Our second stop was the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, where we toured its expansive daylily collection. The arboretum was breathtaking, highlighting a wide variety of plants with excellent signage. After a festive and filling BBQ lunch at JP Shelstad's home, we continued on to Julie Carley and Gary Mosiman's expansive Minnetonka garden. Lush with hostas and ligularia in the shade and lilies and daylilies in the sun, the garden invited tour guests to explore and enjoy. This stunning garden was also featured in *Northern Gardener* magazine. As an added benefit, Bill and Dory Lidinsky generously provided gift plants for all of our very happy tour participants.



Our August 9 banquet was held at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest. With 45 people attending we are finally back to pre-COVID levels. Everyone enjoyed the food buffet, photo contest, silent auction and catching up with each other, followed by a fast- moving and very fun auction with lots of great plants.

As for future events, we are looking forward to having Ann Townsend speak to our club on October 25. And we are busy planning the 2028 Summer Regional. Tour gardens have been selected, and we have finalized the hotel contract with the Marriott Southwest. We hope to see you there!



Top left: "Light of the World" (Emmerich, 2002). Photo by Debra Scott
Left: Julie Carley and Gary Mosiman's garden. Photo by J.P. Shelstad
Bottom Left: Banquet. Photo by James Sherepa
Below: Banquet guest speaker Ann Townsend. (Photo used with permission)





Nebraska Daylily Society

by Mike Becker

Greetings from the Nebraska Daylily Society.

I can't believe it has been over a month and a half since the regional meeting. A great time was had by all who attended, and I would like to thank all of you who came. We had a number of guests from neighboring regions. Without all of you we couldn't have done it!

We had our last meeting for the year in the middle of August with our auction of daylily plants from 4 Dogs Daylily farm in Massachusetts. Great speaker as well. We have one last sale of plants for the general public in Omaha on September 12. This sale will take place at the Extension Office in Omaha.

My first year in office is coming to a close. It was an eventful year. I would like to thank my officers along with our past president for all of the guidance through this past year. Now we are planning for an eventful 2027 with four meetings plus the Region 1 convention in the Iowa City area next July. Here's to a happy rest of the growing season for this year and Happy Daylily Gardening!

Mike Becker
President Nebraska Daylily Society



"Gaudy and Naughty" (Langabee, 2025)



"Happy to be Blue" (Langabee, 2026)



"Pink Starlight" (Langabee, 2025)



Bob Langabee's seedling Gaudy Grasshopper x Symphony of Color

Find us **online** at https://www.ahsregion1.org/
or on
Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/Region1Daylilies





MOVING?

New phone number or email address?

Let us know!

To update your contact information and to continue receiving the *Daylily Pioneer, please* email membership@daylilies.org

An Ounce of Prevention

Daylily Diseases

By Kathleen Wiese
Science Liaison

I have a confession to make. After the heat, wind, and drought of this summer in my neck of the woods, I am more than ready for autumn. Time for cooler temperatures, colorful leaves, and yes, spent gardens.

Most of our region is prone to cold winters with multiple freeze and thaw cycles. It can be a real challenge to keep things going from year to year. To help prevent winter kill, everything but the foliage of true lilies, iris, peonies, and any diseased plant material stays in my gardens over the winter to protect the plant crowns. Anything with seeds is a boon to wintering birds and wildlife, too, and the debris harbors many of next year's beneficial insects and butterflies. Add to that the fact that I tend to have more ambition in the early days of spring than I do in the late days of autumn, and overwintering dead foliage just makes a lot of sense.

One important thing to do as part of putting the garden to bed is looking for any diseased plant material that may not have been noticeable when the garden was at its lushest. Leaving diseased vegetation in the gardens is never helpful and could very well spread that disease throughout a bed when the winter winds blow things around.

Daylilies are usually pretty disease and pest free, if planting conditions allow for good drainage and the soil contains a good supply of organic matter. But, just like sometimes even the toughest of us get sick, so sometimes do daylilies. Daylily diseases can be fungal or bacterial, and some pests can cause symptoms that appear to be disease.

What diseases should we be on the lookout for?

1. Fungal diseases

Leaf streak

A common fungal disease of daylilies, especially in cool, wet weather, is leaf streak, or red leaf streak. Leaf streak is an infection caused by the fungus Aureobasidium microstictum. Its hallmarks are yellowing along the central leaf vein, followed by brown or reddish streaking. Red-brown flecks along the leaf may also appear. The yellowing usually begins at the tip of the leaf and follows the leaf downward towards the crown, leading to browning, drying, and dead spots within the leaf, and eventually premature death of the entire leaf. In wet conditions, shiny white spore masses may be seen on the leaves.

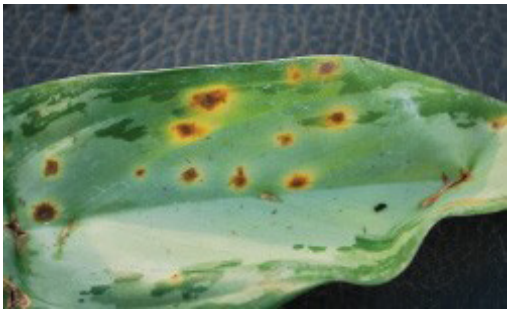
Some daylily cultivars tend to be more resistant to leaf streak disease. Reported resistant cultivars include 'Betty Bennet', 'Edna Spalding', 'Ella Pettigrew', 'Globe Trotter', 'Nancy Hicks', 'Pink Superior', 'Ron Rouseau', 'Sudie', 'Tropical Tones', 'Upper Room', and 'Winsome Lady'. Planting these may help control the disease, as does prophylactic spraying in wet seasons. It is also critical to maintain good air flow through the plant so that leaves are not left wet for hours at a time. Prudent dividing to prevent overcrowding is a key strategy in keeping fungal diseases under control.



Leaf streak
Photo by Doug Maxwell, UW Madison

Colletotrichum leaf spot or leaf scorch

Colletotrichum leaf spot is not the most common fungal disease of daylilies, but it can show up during hot, humid weather, especially on any foliage that has been previously injured. It is also known as anthracnose. Its symptoms appear as bleached, brown, or scorched spots on the leaves, accompanied by tiny masses, about the size of a pinhead, of clear to yellowish colored spores. It isn't generally a problem because it tends not to move to uninjured areas, so is effectively controlled by removing any damaged or infected tissue.



Collrtotrichum leaf spot

White Mold

White mold, also known as Southern Blight, is a deadly crown rot caused by the fungus Sclerotium. The crown of the daylily becomes covered with white, cottony looking growths. Sometimes small, black seed-like growths are evident in the cottony growths. There are no fungicides effective against sclerotia. Treatment is to remove the daylily and the soil surrounding the plant for one foot beyond the root ball and one foot deep. Both the daylily and the soil should be bagged and discarded. Sclerotia lives in the soil for many years, so it is important not to compost any part of the plant or use the affected soil in other garden spots. Avoid planting daylilies in the same area for at least one full year unless soil is removed down to the depth of one foot and replaced with fresh soil.

Planting a daylily too deep may be a risk factor for white mold infection. The crown should sit right at or very slightly above the soil surface to prevent moisture from becoming trapped in the crown. Early removal of infected plants is also critical to prevent the spread. It is much better to sacrifice one plant early than to have to remove an entire bed due to wide-spread sclerotia infection.



Top: White mold
Photo from U of MN

Bottom: Armillaria root rot fungal mats
Photo from Purdue University

Armillaria Root Rot

Armillaria root rot is a fairly new disease to daylilies, first found in South Carolina in 2004. It is caused by the fungus Armillaria gallica, which is most often found in wood debris or tree roots. It causes stunted growth with yellow and wilted leaves. The crown of the daylily becomes mushy and black, shoestring like rhizomorphs are found near the roots of the daylily. White, weblike fungal mats develop under the tissue surface. There is no cure and most antifungal agents are ineffective. The plant should be dug up, bagged, and destroyed. Wood debris should be cleaned from around the area.



Rhizoctonia Crown Rot

Rhizoctonia crown rot is another fungal disease of daylilies that occurs in wet years, or in areas with poor drainage. The crowns rot from the soil surface down towards and into the roots. There is usually a dark, heavy growth on the crown of the daylily that almost looks like a piece of cloth or heavy felt wrapped around it. The foliage becomes more slender and grass-like as the crown decays, and few flower scapes will develop. The entire plant collapses and dies.

Unfortunately, like the other crown rots, there is no treatment once the rot is established. If caught early enough, the daylily might be salvaged by digging it up, cutting out any affected parts, soaking the remaining part of the clump in a 10% bleach solution for 20 minutes, letting the cut surfaces dry, then re-planting in a well-drained area.

Rust

Oh, those fungi love daylilies. And while the word “rust” doesn’t strike quite the same level of fear in the heart of a daylily lover as it did when it first exploded on the horizon twenty-odd years ago, it is still nothing to be ignored.

Rust is caused by the pathogen Puccinia hemerocallidis. The name gives its target plant away—it is only a problem for daylilies. It does not spread to other plants in your garden. Rust infection looks very similar to leaf streak, with yellow to brown streaks on the leaves and many small, yellow spots all along the leaf.

The distinguishing symptom for rust is the small orange pustules that develop on the lower surface of the leaves. These pustules produce the yellowish-orange spores that spread to infect the rest of the daylily. The spores can be blown throughout the garden by wind or they can "hitchhike" on a gardener's hands or tools. Rust spreads very quickly.



Daylily rust
Photo from Purdue Plant Doctor

Region 1 tends to be on the luckier side of the rust landscape—it doesn't appear to survive in most of the Midwest (zone 6 and colder)—yet. The rust spores require green vegetation to stay alive through the winter, which most parts of Region 1 never see. As with any pathogen, Puccinia hemerocallidis has proven adept at mutating to keep itself alive, so it is possible that at some point it will be more of a problem in our region, or it may spread to other plants.

It pays to be cautious if considering buying plants from other parts of the United States, particularly the southeastern US. This is the region that tends to have the highest incidence of rust. Purchase daylilies from nurseries that are "rust-free". There may be some protection in buying plants that are "no earth-no scapes", meaning bare, washed roots with very little foliage, as that is where the rust spores tend to be harbored.

Rust rarely kills the plant, but it does affect its vigor, appearance, and blooming. It can also be disastrous for hybridizers and commercial growers, as they may be unable to market products from a nursery that has had a rust outbreak.

Remove affected foliage as soon as it appears and spray with anti-fungal treatments. Azoxystrobin, tebuconazole, pyraclostrobin, propiconazole, chlorothalonil, or mancozeb are all effective if used every 14 to 28 days. Chlorothalonil and mancozeb are protective options while the others are systemic chemicals. The protective options and systemic chemicals should be rotated every other treatment for best coverage and to protect against resistant rust development.

Treating Fungal Diseases

Prevention is the best cure. When Mother Nature delivers the moisture, we can't control when or how it hits our daylily leaves. When we are delivering the water, we can be a bit more particular. A drip system that delivers water directly to the soil without wetting the daylily leaves is the best way to irrigate. If the only option is to water in a way that wets the leaves, it's best to water in the morning when the sun and breeze will quickly dry the leaves. When the daylily leaves are wet, whether from rain, irrigation, or dew, resist the urge to walk amongst them and admire their flowers and foliage. The more we disturb the leaves when they are wet, the more opportunity we give fungi to set up housekeeping.

It's also important to avoid crowding in the garden. Keep plants separated enough to allow good airflow among the leaves. Divide as often as necessary to assure that the clumps do not become compacted.

Once the infection is evident, good housecleaning is essential. Remove and destroy affected leaves. If leaf streak was evident earlier in the growing season, even if the current leaves look normal, it's important to remove all foliage before winter. The fungus overwinters on the leaf debris, producing spores which start the infection each spring. Infected foliage should not be placed in the compost pile—it should be bagged and put in the garbage. Affected plants should be isolated from others if at all possible.

It is difficult to "cure" a fungus once the symptoms appear, but spraying with a fungicide may slow development of the disease and prevent new growth from becoming infected. Fungicides which are effective for most daylily fungal diseases are thiophanate-methyl, mancozeb, chlorothalanil, and iprodione. These are all marketed under various trade names, but one of these should be listed as the "active ingredient" on the label. Alternate active ingredients to help decrease the chances of antifungal resistant strains developing.

The entire plant should be "doused" with the fungicide, upper and lower surfaces. If daylilies had a fungal disease the previous year, it is a good idea to prophylactically spray the new foliage right away in a wet spring, before any signs of disease. Spraying every two weeks during wet growing seasons is necessary to keep it under control. Spraying when it is dry is not necessary and generally not very helpful. Fungi need moisture to do their damage.

2. Other diseases

Bacterial Soft Rot

Bacterial soft rot is a destructive disease caused by the bacteria Pectobacterium carotovorum (formerly known as Erwinia carotovor). Early symptoms are yellowing or browning of leaves, accompanied by wilting that starts at the center of the plant fan. That is followed by a soft, mushy, slimy crown and roots, often accompanied by a strong, foul odor. If you walk into your garden one morning and it smells like you've just stepped into the fish cleaning shack, you might have bacterial soft rot.



Bacterial soft rot
Photo by Kathleen Wiese

Pectobacterium is present in most soils but it doesn't cause any problems until conditions are just right. High temperatures, high humidity, poor air circulation, overwatering, poor drainage and excessive nitrogen fertilizer are friends of soft rot. In these conditions, it spreads very rapidly. Bacteria enter the daylily through wounds caused by tools, insects, or damage done during dividing the plant.

Once soft rot becomes noticeable on the daylily, it might be too late to salvage. If caught early enough, the daylily might be salvaged by digging it up and using the same treatment as for a fungal crown rot: cutting out any affected parts, soaking the remaining part of the clump in a 10% bleach solution for 20 minutes, letting the cut surfaces dry, then re-planting in a well-drained area.

Root-Knot Nematode

Nematodes are slender, unsegmented worms. The majority of nematodes are beneficial and we want them in our soil. Meloidogyne species nematodes, however, are not a daylily lover's friend. They can cause severe decline in daylilies. Infected plants will grow poorly and slowly deteriorate. The entire plant will become stunted, leaves will yellow and wilt, and the plant will often die. The symptoms may be mistaken for drought stress, but when looking at the roots, small nodules and knots where the nematodes have fed and injected their toxins are evident along the root length.

Nematodes are more of a problem in sandy, wet soils. They are especially prevalent in areas where the garden bed is on former cropland that has been put into residential use. Daylilies are susceptible to Meloidogyne nematodes and there is no successful treatment. If there is a known root-knot nematode population, it is not recommended to plant daylilies in that area.

As ominous as all these diseases sound, it is really hard to find a more carefree plant than a daylily. They give so much beauty and diversity to the garden while asking for little in return. Fungi and bacteria or not, it's hard to go wrong with them.



Root nematode damage
Photo from Purdue Plant Doctor

Spring Sickness

Spring Sickness is considered a "mystery" disease—its cause is not known for sure, but it is definitely more prevalent in those areas where there are freeze/thaw cycles. It might also be caused by bulb mites, or fungi. The newly emerged leaves start growing sideways, twisting and turning every which way, sometimes ending up in a twisted mass in the center of the clump. Leaves may have jagged, brown edges. Central leaves inside the fan turn yellow, wilt and are easily picked off the rotted base. In severe cases, flower scapes are not able to push through the rotting mass so summer



Spring sickness
Photo from Hallson Gardens

blooms are sacrificed. It isn't necessary to immediately remove the plant. Oftentimes a plant even severely affected one year will be perfectly fine the next spring. If your plant with spring sickness made it to fall clean-up time, it's ok to just leave it until next spring and see what happens.

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