

The Saturday night speaker at Discover Dakota Daylilies was Melanie Mason of North Country Daylilies, Buskirk, NY. It was an entertaining and educational program as Melanie shared quotes and philosophy to help us with our gardening. In the presentation she referenced “peace, pleasure and serenity in growing plants”.

Melanie shared how space, physical ability and health, other interests, size of property and loss of work force (if we had any) affect our garden size and daylily numbers. I made special notes to myself as she described the process to determine the number of daylilies to keep (Sacred Cows) and then how to say good bye to the “Toads” in our garden.

I think all in attendance at the conference would agree with her statement that “Daylilies are the glue that holds us together.” To me it was inspiring to have a solid, prescribed plan to create a garden that is beautiful, manageable and therefore brings me pleasure instead of dread with one more task. I love to deadhead but I can get it done in less than 30 minutes, not three hours. I will keep that as my goal as it makes the task quick enough to still be a pleasure. I want to be able to maintain my garden space without apologizing for the weeds.

Thank you Melanie for delivering an inspiring message. Thank you Central North Dakota Daylily Society for hosting an enjoyable and motivating Region One meeting.

Submitted by Nancy Rash

Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society