



The CVIDS Newsletter

From the Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

August 2004

Fall Sale at Riverside

The fall plant sale and potluck will be held this Saturday, August 28th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the gazebo in Riverside Park in Monticello. Set-up starts at 9 a.m. with the potluck and dispersal of silent auction plants immediately following the sale. Any silent auction club plants that were not bid on will be auctioned off live at that time. The potluck usually starts at 1:00, or as soon as the rush of public sales subsides. So please bring something good to eat! ☺ You may also want to bring lawn chairs to guarantee a comfortable seat for the meal.

Please label all donated plants with the name, color and price. Iris and daylilies will be sold bare-root. Please wash the roots well and trim back the foliage. Named cultivars are usually priced at \$5 and up; unknown varieties and seedlings for less. Companion plants should be potted, if possible, labeled and priced. Pictures of the plants you are donating are very helpful.

We hope all members will be able to contribute plants and/or help out at the sale itself. We want to have a good variety of clean, fresh, healthy plants for sale. Don't forget to tell your friends and neighbors about this sale. Let's make it our most successful fall sale ever.

Directions to Riverside Park: The park is located on Highway 151 in Monticello, across from the Blue Chip Motel and

Restaurant. You can park in the lot in the park or along the roadside in it.

REMINDER:

Remember to bring the club plants that are growing in your garden that were on the silent auction.

Fall Banquet

The '04 CVIDS Fall Banquet will be held for members and guests on Saturday, October 23, 2004, at 12:30 p.m. in Kalona, Iowa. The meal will be in the meeting room of the Kalona Chamber of Commerce Building, 514 B Avenue, Kalona. The Chamber Building is located near the east end of the business district on the south side of the main street (B Ave.) about 3 blocks south of Highway 22 on 6th Street or about 4 blocks east of Highway 1 on B Avenue. Street parking will be available near the Chamber Building. The building is a one story, newer brick building, with exceptionally clean and nice facilities.

Smoking and alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the Chamber Building.

The meal will be catered family style by a local restaurant owner and caterer. The cost of members' meals will be paid by CVIDS. Invited guests and spouses are welcome. The cost for non-members

(including non-member spouses) is \$16.00, payable at the banquet to Gerald.

We need to have a count for the caterer by October 1, and a final count with any last-minute additions or cancellations by October 14. Please RSVP to Bob and Cathy Moore in person at the Fall Sale in Monticello or contact them before October 1 at:

e-mail: rdcsmoore@louisacomm.net

mail: Box 25, Morning Sun, IA 52640

phone: 319-868-4227

Mini tours are also available at the Chamber of Commerce Building. Tours begin at 11:00 a.m. and last about 90 minutes. This tour will provide an "insiders" view of Amish life. The cost is \$10 for adults and \$6 for children (age 7-12). Call 319-656-2660 if you are interested in the tour, as you will need to make your own tour arrangements.

If you are interested in learning more about Kalona, you may do so at www.kalonachamber.org

Please make plans to attend the final club function of 2004. You will enjoy Kalona, the meeting place, the plentiful and tasty meal, the entertainment, and good conversation and fellowship.

This notice will be your only notice, so please make the necessary reminders to RSVP and attend the fall banquet.

The Fall Banquet Committee



Garden Tripping With Friends

by Jan Null

My season of garden travel commenced with a bus trip to Navy Pier in Chicago sponsored by the Monticello Garden Club to attend the Chicago Flower and Garden Show. It was held in mid-March so the gardening bug hadn't yet bitten. Brenda and I had a great day enjoying just about every type of gardening style you can imagine. We saw formal gardening, backyard gardening, cottage gardening, city gardening, water gardening, container gardening, designer gardening... you get the picture. If the gardening world has experienced it, we did too at the Chicago show. It was a long day, and we did a lot of walking and also enjoyed the rows and rows of vendors selling their garden wares. If you have a chance to visit the Chicago show, by all means go. I'd highly recommend the bus trip method of travel because the words Chicago and parking are not compatible; so board a bus, sit back and relax.

The trip to Davenport for the Vander Veer Park sale in early May made for a nice afternoon spent in the conservatory looking through catalogs and talking shop with fellow club members. And it was a great club fund raiser! Shopping in the greenhouse and picking up bargains to take home to add to my garden and checking out the gift shop were also an enjoyable part of the day's activities. Of course getting together with gardening friends in the spring after we've experienced some nice weather is a dangerous thing. As you may or may not be aware of, this activity spawns the yearning to shop for more plants! After all, it's springtime! Time to get down on

your hands and knees and dig, and true gardeners have dirt coursing through their veins, (and crammed under their fingernails) and this inborn desire to check out garden centers and greenhouses is overwhelming. Therefore, hasty plans were made to meet the very NEXT day for a trip to the Flower Factory near Madison, Wisconsin. For those of you who have never made the journey, WHAT are you waiting for?

Jean, Sharon and Brenda arrived in Monticello early the next morning and we loaded up and headed north on our journey. There's a town called New Glarus in Wisconsin that's a touristy little place and home to a small brewery. We stopped in to make a purchase but arrived before it opened. Not to be discouraged, we decided to check out the rest of the town to kill some time and lo and behold! Along with some interesting little shops on a side street we discovered they also had a winery! How lucky is that!? After loading up wine and then beer we were once again headed to our destination. Of course we knew we had to save lots of room for anticipated purchases once we reached The Flower Factory and we did a fine job of filling the whole back of the Yukon before we were ready to venture home. Their 2004 catalog contains ninety pages of selections and plant information. You will see numerous display beds, be helped by friendly and knowledgeable staff and enjoy shopping at one of the most organized nurseries imaginable. It's an experience...make the trip!

We discovered another nursery on the way home but I don't remember the name of it. It was very close to The Flower Factory and located in the country right next to the owner's residence. It specialized in trees and shrubs and we saw

some dandies, as well as some dandy prices. Having a limited space to haul plants is probably a safety net, and we were already loaded with plants, beer and wine so...maybe next year we'll have to stop there first.

The next road trip was to the Kenneth and Betty Capps farm in Packwood for the lottery/auction on May 22nd. The weather didn't cooperate for us to be outside but as you remember (because almost the entire membership of the club was present) we were graciously invited into their home for the plant distribution and brunch. Venturing outside after the meeting to enjoy the masses of irises in full bloom was truly a delight. As I reflect back on that day, my most vivid recollection is of Kenneth standing among his perfectly groomed bed of gorgeously blooming irises. It was a good day!

On the following Saturday, Sharon and Rachel and I traveled to North Liberty to what we thought was the last of three weekend hosta sales at a private home. Upon arriving, we discovered the sale had been canceled due to the success of the previously scheduled sales. However, when the owner learned we had traveled to shop, she graciously invited us to look over the leftover plants (which were marked down considerably) and also to walk through her display beds from which she happily dug. We also discovered a nursery in North Liberty which sidetracked us and we found a few "must haves" before journeying on.

Through the wonders of e-mail, I had learned that Kim's Siberian irises were blooming nicely and also that she had a gorgeous coral peony in bloom. She said to stop by anytime and since we were close.....that's right. Our next stop was

Kim's house in Iowa City and even though she wasn't home to give us the grand tour, we wandered about her yard and enjoyed not only the siberians, but also the absolutely GORGEOUS coral colored peony, a white dinner plate sized clematis and the David Austin English rose, "Constance Spry" that was putting on a show in her backyard.

We returned to the Murken residence and unloaded their purchases and then made the decision to caravan to Center Point to The Peony Garden. It was a perfect day to enjoy the acres of bloom and as I took pictures, Sharon took notes. Since we'd had considerable rain, it was a great time to evaluate plants. There were some beautiful blooms on stems that just weren't strong enough to hold them up. However, we also saw gorgeous blooms on upright strong stems. Among those with great plant habit were: HERMIONE, a double, frilly, fragrant, floriferous medium pink with large blooms; IMACULEE, a very fragrant, floriferous white; and GARDEN GLORY, a double, floriferous rich dark red. It was a wonderful day to visit gardens and enjoy the beauty that surrounds us and we certainly had a fun filled day. And we later found out that Kim and Ed were at the Peony Garden in Center Point at the same time we were touring their yard.

The following Friday, Jean and Kim met up with Sharon and I at a designated spot along I-80 and we piled in Sharon's van and traveled to Princeton, IL to Hornbaker Gardens. This is another nursery that's off the beaten path but well worth the trip. The display beds are big and beautiful and this nursery also incorporates garden sculpture and art in their displays. I give it high marks for organization and user friendliness. Between the four of us, we

were able to fill the back of Sharon's van before departing for home.

The next trip was the big one...the National AHS Convention in St. Louis. I could hardly believe I was REALLY going to a national convention. Jackie and I met at Jean's in the late morning hours of June 30th and of course took a tour of her gardens before loading our stuff into one vehicle and departing for St. Louis. MAGIC OF OZ and BROOKLYN TWIST were putting on a show as was LOBO LUCY, HELLO DOLLY and BLUE EYED BUTTERFLY. Jean's garden was really beautiful so we took our time to look around and then decided to get on the road. Our next stop was at Gerald's and Elenora's in Ft. Madison. His seedlings were gorgeous and once again I had my camera clicking away. For some reason, I seem to be drawn to pink blooms this year. Since I've been through the red, then purple and then orange craze, it only makes sense that this might be the year of the pinks. When I picked up my pictures from the developer, I found photos of ROMANTIC DREAMS, JEDI DOT PIERCE, AND PORCELAIN POWER as well as NIGHT EMBERS and PERSIAN RUBY, and two pink seedlings; all taken at the Hobb's garden. We arrived at the Renaissance Marriot in St. Louis at 6 p.m. and after checking into our room decided to take the shuttle to Las Palmas, a Mexican restaurant recommended by the bellman. The food was delicious, the margaritas were tasty and Jean was impressed with the beer menu which included Sol beer.

Thursday morning we awoke bright and early and suspiciously glanced among each other for snoring reports. We had to spend three more nights bunking together but found we were compatible

roommates. We found a bus that had a table in the back and two seats reversed to face the back of the bus. This worked out great for us, so we piled our stuff high on the table and called dibs on the seats. The bus trip to Lindy Farms in Anna, IL was a long one, but we passed the time by visiting, making new friends, eating, and winning door prizes. When I say long trip, I'm talking 3 hours, and it's amazing how many people have to use the restroom on a three-hour-trip, and since each and every one of them had to walk past us, or stand and wait next to us, we were able to meet a lot of our bus mates.

And after a few wrong turns, we were there...Lindy Farms! Wow! Larry Gooden wined (literally) as well as beered and dined his guests and spared no expense. His collection of daylilies was well worth the extra day of travel and we had several hours to enjoy the gardens or sit under a shade tree and drink his beer.

We ran into Bob and Barb Papenhausen, Gary Williams and Dave Applequist's brother and they were equally enjoying the day. When Larry Gooden welcomed each busload of visitors (and there were at least 5) he announced that all cultivars were 1/2 of the catalog or Eureka price if ordered that day before we left the farm.

This sent Jackie into high gear and she became a list-making machine. I went through my first roll of film in no time flat and had to trek out in the pasture to where the buses were parked to get more. This is when I learned it's important to remember the bus number, or at least the face of the bus driver. It's also how I know there were at least five buses, because the fifth bus had to be unlocked before I found our little table in the back with our stuff and my camera bag. Jerry, our bus driver, became my newest friend.

The following cultivars are some that I photographed: JAMAICAN ME CRAZY

greeted me first and it was a doozy!

TODD FOX, a gold edged purple by John Peat; MEXICAN ART, a bright red by Oscie Whatley; DONNA'S PRAYER, a lovely lavender blend with a cream eye by Tim Bell; MARY FRANCES RAGAIN, a big pink by Jack Carpenter; CALICO JACK, a '98 Trimmer yellow with a plum eye and edge; AURORA'S WEDDING, a '95 Howard huge and beautiful pink; CHICKEN ON THE RUN, Dan Bachman's colorful rose peach blend; ONE TWO KANGAROO, Melanie Mason's '00 soft orange with a rosy eye; SOLAR MUSIC, Whatley's 36" tall, 8" yellow; SILENT HEART, a Kraus 1950 red/purple with a gold throat; LAVENDER BLUE BABY, Jack Carpenter's lavender blue w/ lavender blue eye and yes..... it is; DON DIEGO, a '01 Woodhall that will be coming up for club auction next summer; KNOCKS YOUR SOCKS OFF, a '99 Joiner double pink that will be coming up for club auction in 2006; and many many more.

And Elvan Roderick posed next to a clump of his '95 intro of CHEROKEE PASS which we saw in many gardens throughout the tour. Do I sound excited? I found that I was definitely going to have to pace myself with the picture taking because there were just way too many gorgeous shots to take them all.

The following two days were filled with garden tours during the day and banquets both evenings. We socialized and chatted with so many nice people. Gardeners truly are the friendliest folks.

Our last tour garden was the Missouri Botanical Gardens and if you've never there, this is my plug to encourage you to make the trip. It's a wonderful place and you truly need to spend the whole day to enjoy all it has to offer. We were only

there for a few hours but thoroughly enjoyed each minute. The daylily beds were laid out nicely and we were proud to view ELEANOR YATES, hybridized by our own Gerald Hobbs, blooming along with some other beauties such as; SPACECOAST CRANBERRY KID, HAREM HOUSE, RED THRILL AND LILTING LAVENDER, just to mention a few.

We were up, checked out and on our way early the next day as we were anxious to get home to our own gardens to see the bloom progress, and we weren't disappointed. Jean's yard was a blaze of color when we arrived in North Liberty and after a quick tour, Jackie and I were also headed home to our own gardens. What a delight to come down the road and see the gardens bursting with color. I spent my first few hours touring the garden beds and deadheading. Ahh...home, sweet, home! ...for a while.

On July 12th, I met Kim and Jean at Murken Gardens tended by Sharon and Rachel and we spent a couple of hours enjoying their gorgeous yard. Next we were off to Jackie's for a tour, then a lunch stop to take on nourishment before arriving at Verne and Mary's in Springville. All three of these gardens are huge and SO worthy of a visit. Call these folks next year and make an effort to visit them but be sure to allow enough time to enjoy the vast amount of plants you will see. They all have gorgeous plants.

The club tour on July 17th was a wonderful day filled with BEAUTIFUL gardens and gracious hosts. It's evident these gardens are truly a labor of love for their owners as we traveled from one well cared yard to another. The Dawsons, Papenhousens,

Appelquists, Williams and Stolls are to be commended for the wonderful garden paradises they created and shared with us. Some of these members are also busy hybridizing and proudly introduced us to some of their "babies" We are fortunate as a club to have members who contribute so much and are willing to share their gardens, knowledge and plants with others. CVIDS is one terrific club and it's truly an honor to affiliated with you all.

I wound up my garden jaunting with a trip to Kyle Billadeau's Turtle Rock Gardens. Bob and I took a mini vacation to Lake City, MN on July 21st where we met up with some friends for a couple of days. On our way home, we took a bit of a detour and headed north instead of south. The 2004 Regional was scheduled for the weekend and Kyle's garden was on the tour. We arrived in Chaska, (population 15,000) without Kyle's address or phone number. My plan was to find a phone book and when I spotted a gas station at an intersection, my first impulse was to pull in, but wait! There was something next to the gas station worth investigating...a garden center. My patient husband opted to adjust the seat back and read the paper while I scouted the outside inventory before trucking inside. When I inquired to the owner if he knew Kyle, he smiled and replied that she had stopped in to pick up some plants a few hours earlier. He gave us directions to her home and her phone number and after a quick phone call to her, she heartily issued an invitation for us to stop by. Since the tour was the following day, she opened up her gardens to neighbors and friends on this day and had had a steady stream of visitors. Her kids were greeting visitors as they arrived and offering cold drinks and snacks. Before we left, she gave us directions to the

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum located in Chanhassen which wasn't far from her home and we finished our day with a driving and walking tour there.

I'm relatively sure I'll do some more garden tripping and exploring before the snow flies, but when winter settles in and the cold winds are blowing outside, I'll have the memories of this trip filled year (five states at last count) and a fat photo album on my lap to take me back to summer blooms and friends.