

# Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

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January 2013

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sign-up sheets for committee chairs and helpers will be at the January, February, and March meetings. If you will not be there and want to participate, please let me know. We need helpers for all the planned events. We still need members to staff a table at the Winter Gardening Fair at Kirkwood and The Art Of Gardening at Muscatine. We will provide lunch tickets for these two events. Both events have been valuable in getting out information about the club and about the plant sales.

The Bylaws state when the officers will be elected but not how they get nominated. The Board thinks that process should be determined by the membership. We would like a committee to form that will develop the process for nominating officers. A sign-up sheet for this committee will also be at the January meeting.

Lots of good ideas came our way from the members' survey. The Board will try to implement as many as possible. The potluck lunches were high on the list of things we like but there is also much interest in education. Photography was mentioned quite a few times, and we are having Jay McWherter return in January to show us how to take garden photographs.

Also, this year we are going to try something new. In addition to a featured speaker or program at each meeting, we are adding a 15-minute class on something.

The Board would like to structure the meetings to allow more time for socializing, sharing ideas, and having educational and entertaining programs. My New Year's resolution is to reduce the amount of time spent on club business down to about 15 minutes. Unless some major conflict arises, that should be possible.

There are seven members who joined CVIDS that first year. The Board would like to recognize their continuing interest and dedication for these past 22 years by waiving future dues. Complimentary dues are a small price for the club to pay to reward such continuous dedication.

In Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws one of the classifications of membership is 'Charter' membership. In Section 3, the Bylaws state that 'A change in dues must be ratified by a majority vote of members attending a Society business meeting.'

Therefore, a motion will be requested at the January meeting to approve waiving the dues for Charter Members.

See you in January. Zora Ronan

## MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 10 MEETING

Donna Denly, Secretary

The Annual CVIDS Fall Banquet was held at the Ox Yoke Interstate, Williamsburg, Iowa. 75 people were in attendance for a delicious meal and meeting.

The business meeting was brought to order by Zora Ronan at 1:29 pm. A get well card was passed around for members to sign for Lee Pickles.

Jonathan has some CVIDS Meet the Members directories if you have not received yours yet. See Keith Riewerts if you would like your picture taken or updated.

Recognition was made of the Veterans in attendance at the meeting.

Zora requested feedback on the Bylaws/Constitution that has been proposed to members via email and US Mail. There was no discussion. A motion to approve the Bylaws/Constitution was made by Clay Dawson and seconded by Gary Oster. Keith Riewerts recommended there be flexibility when interpreting the Bylaws/Constitution.

Zora requested a vote to call the above item Bylaws or Constitution. The majority voted on Bylaws.

Keith Riewerts inquired about the amount to be spent for the club plants distributed to qualifying club members. The amount of \$5,000 was approved by a majority vote of the members present.

Jackie Westhoff presented the Club with a final check from the Regional 1 Convention held in July 2012 in the amount of \$3,800.92. This was the profit from the event.

The meeting was concluded with members playing Daylily Bingo. Winners will receive Richard Norris' daylilies in the spring.

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**Iris Liaison** – We are looking for members to form a committee to find ways to bring iris back into the programming of the club. Sherry Baldonado will be coordinating the iris committee.

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## **BAD WEATHER POLICY**

We always worry about traveling in bad weather. No meeting is worth attending if our safety is at risk. If a major storm is forecast, one big enough that events are cancelling in advance, consider our meeting cancelled. Sometimes a storm is localized and the meeting may be held with those who can make it. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. Either way, we will post the cancellation notice on the web site along with sending an email. If in doubt, don't set out before checking the web site or your email. For those folks who do not have email, someone will telephone with the information.

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## **MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 17 BOARD MEETING AT MERCY HOSP. IN IOWA CITY**

**Donna Denly, Secretary**

We opened the meeting at 10 am.

Attendance: Zora Ronan, Nancy Carlisle, Jonathan Poulton, Donna Denly, & Deb Hansen

It was agreed upon by the members that we will drop all members who have not paid dues prior to 2011 and will propose to the club members that all members who joined in the charter year (1990) be complimentary from here on out.

Zora stated that there are 67 members who are eligible for club plants in 2013.

Bad weather and cancellation of a meeting was discussed. It will be posted on the website, an e-mail will be sent, and those who have no e-mail will be called the night before by 7 pm.

We went over the proposed budget for the coming year, and it will be presented to the club members at the January meeting for approval.

We discussed the tentative meeting dates and what to include. There has been much interest shown in having speakers and programs about interesting information for the members. We are looking for a program chair to set up the topics.

We discussed trying an iris tour this spring along with our daylily tour in July.

We are looking into reprinting our promotional flyer and having it ready by the February Winter Gardening Fair.

The member survey information was shared.

The meeting was adjourned at noon with everyone feeling good about the topics covered.

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**NAME BADGES** – Starting in January, everyone will be responsible for their own name badges. The Treasurer will continue to bring the badges until all are distributed. Keep it in the glove compartment of your car, and it will always come with you to the meeting.

## **TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

CVIDS has traditionally met on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month. CIDS meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month

### **JANUARY 12**

**CVIDS MEETING** (noon to 3:30 pm)  
Cedar Rapids Public Library, Westdale Mall  
2600 Edgewood Rd. SW, Cedar Rapids  
Guest speaker: Jay McWherter (garden photography)

### **FEBRUARY 9**

**CVIDS MEETING** (noon to 3:30 pm)  
Solon Public Library

### **FEBRUARY 16**

**WINTER GARDENING FAIR** (8 am to 4 pm)  
Kirkwood Comm. College, Cedar Rapids

### **MARCH 8-9**

**CIDS POLLEN DABBERS**  
Marshalltown Community College, IA  
Guest speakers: Mike Darrow and Bill Waldrop

### **MARCH 16**

**THE ART OF GARDENING** (8 am to 4 pm)  
Muscatine, IA Community College

### **MARCH 23**

**CVIDS MEETING** (noon to 3:30 pm)  
Coralville Public Library

### **APRIL 13**

**CVIDS MEETING** (noon to 3:30 pm)  
Eldridge Public Library (not confirmed yet)

### **MAY 11**

**SPRING PLANT SALE** (9 am to noon)  
Penn Meadows Park Gazebo, North Liberty

### **MAY 19**

**IRIS TOUR** (2:00 to 4:30 pm; TBA)

### **MAY 25**

**CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION & AUCTION**  
(9:30 am to 3:30 pm)  
West Liberty (Muscatine County Fairgrounds)

### **JULY 24-27**

**AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
Minneapolis, MN

### **AUGUST 24**

**FALL PLANT SALE** (9 am to noon), **POT LUCK LUNCH & SILENT AUCTION** (noon to 3:30 pm)  
Riverside Gardens, Monticello

### **OCTOBER 12**

**CVIDS MEETING** (Hybridizers' Roundup)  
Coralville Public Library (noon to 3:30 pm)

### **NOVEMBER 8**

**CVIDS BANQUET & BETTY MILLER PHOTO CONTEST**  
11 am to 3:30 pm; Location TBA

## CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION

**Club Plants** – Activities in 2012 will count for the club plants distributed in 2013. The last qualifier for 2013 club plants is payment of dues by April 1, 2013. January starts a new year, and we will begin accruing activities toward earning a club plant for distribution in 2014. Here is a recap of the rules on earning club plants:

### ELIGIBILITY FOR CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION:

A club plant is a reward for being an active member of the club. Each year, CVIDS will use a portion of its funds to buy some choice daylilies that will be distributed in the spring to eligible members to grow in their garden for two years.

**ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:** To be eligible to receive a club plant for the current year, a member must have:

- Paid membership dues for both the current and previous years (paid by April 1 of each year).
- Contributed to the club's activities during the previous calendar year (January 1 through December 31) by undertaking any two of the following:
  - (1) Attended two club meetings (includes garden tour but not the banquet)
  - (2) Served as a CVIDS Board member
  - (3) Chaired or co-chaired a committee
  - (4) Donated plants to a club sale
  - (5) Assisted at the CVIDS plant sales or auctions
  - (6) Presented a club program
  - (7) Hosted a CVIDS garden tour
  - (8) Written an article for the newsletter
  - (9) Bid in the Silent Auction of returning club plants
  - (10) Performed any other activity that contributes to the success of the club.

Additional information on club plants can be found in the Members' Handbook at [www.cvids.org](http://www.cvids.org).

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**LANDSCAPING WITH DAYLILIES** – Books will be available at the January meeting. The price is \$35.45. We purchased several extra copies for anyone who was not able to pre-order a book.

## TET VS. DIP: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

By Lynn Stoll

The terms “tetraploid (tet)” and “diploid (dip)” refer to the number of chromosomes in a biological organism such as a daylily (this characteristic is called “ploidy”). Almost all naturally occurring plants and animals have two sets of chromosomes, one inherited from the mother and one from the father. (This is the diploid state.) However, in 1937 scientists discovered that the drug colchicine could be used to block the step in mitosis (cell division) where the newly duplicated chromosome pairs divide. Colchicine treatment was first used on daylilies in 1947. However, it was not until the 1960s and 1970s that hybridizers such as Virginia Peck, Robert Griesbach, Brother Charles Reckamp, and James Marsh began to make major strides in the development and improvement of tetraploid daylilies.

For the hybridizer, the difference between tets and dip is crucially important: tets can only be crossed with other tets, and dips with other dips. However, because tets have four copies of every chromosome, there are more possible combinations for every gene and every trait. Because of this wider range of possible offspring, many modern hybridizers work only with tets, hoping to come up with a dramatic breakthrough produced by a combination of recessive genes. The major drawback from hybridizing only tets is the relative difficulty of producing seeds; in most cases, dips will set pods more readily, and the pods will contain far more seeds. Also, tet offspring are more unpredictable.

But what does this difference mean to the average gardener? There are two schools of thought on this question. Some people (including my own mentor Fred McDowell) believe that as garden plants, tets are inherently superior to dips. They cite greater vigor, larger and more dramatic flowers, stronger scapes, greater sun- and weather-resistance, greater substance, and more vigorous foliage as being characteristics that are typical of tets. Others, however, point out that for each of these characteristics, there are hundreds of dips that out-perform tets. Up until about ten or fifteen years ago, one could make the case that dips generally had more refined flowers, because the relatively new tets were still in an “experimental” stage. However, many of the best modern hybridizers have focused on improvements in tets, and many of the newest tets are at least the equal of the best dips in flower quality.

Overall (with some notable exceptions), I have found that compared to dips, tets tend to have larger but fewer fans, thicker scapes, and broader foliage. Most dips have more but smaller fans, and thus often produce more scapes and more overall bloom. The rate of increase varies widely with both. For me, I believe that there are many factors that are more important than whether a daylily is tet or dip; these include branching and bud count, vigor and rate of increase, long bloom season, season extenders, and simply how much the flower appeals to me. I would urge all of you simply to keep an open mind on this issue when selecting daylilies for your own gardens.

# 2012 BETTY MILLER PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

## LARGE FLOWERS



**WINNER: LAVENDER TRIM – CLAY DAWSON**  
Runner-up: Sherry Moffit

## DOUBLES



**WINNER: MOSES' FIRE – GARY OSTER**  
Runner-up: Clay Dawson

## SPIDERS AND UNUSUAL FORMS



**WINNER: GARY WILLIAMS SDLG – DOUG JONES**  
Runner-up: Zora Ronan

## SEEDLINGS



**WINNER: D-109 – BARB PAPENHAUSEN**  
Runner-up: Bob Papenhausen

## CLUMPS



**WINNER: WORD OF HONOR – CLAY DAWSON**  
Runner-up: Zora Ronan

## LANDSCAPE



**WINNER: LANDSCAPE – KEITH RIEWERTS**  
Runner-up: Sherry Moffit

## NOVELTIES



**WINNER: FROGS – SHERRY MOFFIT**  
Runner-up: Sherry Moffit

## GRAND PRIZE WINNER



**WINNER: CRAZY IVAN – SHERRY MOFFIT**  
Runner-up: Sherry Moffit