

Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society

# **Members' Handbook**

Second Edition

April 1, 2016

## **A. INTRODUCTION:**

This handbook is written as an introduction to the mission and operations of our Society. We hope that it will also encourage new and seasoned members to join the Board or volunteer at one of the many exciting events in the Society's calendar. CVIDS members are encouraged to become members of the American Hemerocallis Society (AHS), a non-profit organization founded in 1946. This Society is organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes, and especially to promote, encourage, and foster the development and improvement of the genus *Hemerocallis* and public interest therein. Additional information about the AHS is provided in Section I. Its website URL is: [www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org).

## **B. MISSION:**

Founded in 1990, CVIDS is a scientific, educational, and social organization whose mission is to promote the genera *Hemerocallis* (daylily) and *Iris*. Its purpose is to educate our members and the general public about all aspects of growing daylilies and irises in eastern Iowa and surrounding regions. To further these goals, this organization provides lectures, garden tours, plant sales, and fellowship among its members and with members of other groups with similar goals.

## **C. SOCIETY ACTIVITIES:**

Our members meet throughout the year at various locations across eastern Iowa with programs that include presentations by well-qualified speakers, garden tours, and sales of select cultivars at attractive prices. Non-members and guests are welcome to attend our meetings. If you would like to join CVIDS, an application form and information about dues are available online (<http://www.cvids.org/join.html>) or from the Treasurer.

CVIDS meetings are usually held on the second Saturday of January, February, March, April, and October and are both social and educational events. The social hour and potluck lunch begin at noon. Please bring something to share and any drinks you may want. Programs begin at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at approximately 3:30 p.m. CVIDS also offers its members several annual events:

- 1) May: A Spring Public Plant Sale
- 2) May: A Club Plant Distribution event and Live Auction
- 3) July: A Garden Tour that features club members' gardens
- 4) August: A Fall Public Plant Sale
- 5) August: Member-only Silent and Live Auctions
- 6) October: A Hybridizers' Roundup
- 7) November: A Fall Banquet
- 8) November: The annual Betty Miller Photo Contest, usually held at the Fall Banquet

Each of these club activities is described in greater detail below. Please note that dates and activities may change to accommodate other events such as the AHS National and Regional meetings as well as seasonal circumstances. The Board welcomes suggestions from the membership regarding potential programs, speakers, and meeting locations. Furthermore, it is eager to learn of events at local, regional, and national levels that our membership may enjoy.

## **1. SPRING PLANT SALE:**

CVIDS holds its first public plant sale in early May, selling daylilies and companion perennials donated by its members. The location is announced to the membership as early as possible by e-mail and newsletter and on the CVIDS website.

### **Members' Involvement:**

Members are asked to donate daylilies and companion perennials to this sale. Daylilies should be bare-rooted double fans of named cultivars. The roots should be clean and the foliage clipped to about 8 inches. Please clearly label your donated lilies with cultivar name, hybridizer and introduction date, ploidy (DIP or TET), and brief description of the cultivar. (This information can usually be found by searching the AHS database at <http://www.daylilies.org>). Companion perennials are often brought in pots and should be labeled too. Price your donated plants and, wherever possible, attach photos of them as they greatly promote sales. Plant labels may be obtained at spring club meetings. Bring a folding table, your own chairs, and some plastic grocery store bags. Set-up usually begins at 8 a.m. The sale starts at 9 a.m. and ends before noon.

## **2. CLUB PLANT DISTRIBUTION & LIVE AUCTION:**

In late May, CVIDS holds its Club Plant Distribution and Live Auction. A club plant is a reward for being an active member of the club. Each year, CVIDS uses a portion of its funds to buy some choice daylilies that are distributed in May to eligible members (for explanation, see below) to grow in their garden for two years. After the distribution, excess plants are sold in a live auction. These two much anticipated events in the club calendar have in recent years taken place at the Muscatine County Fairgrounds Floral Hall in West Liberty. Please note that this is not a heated building, so dress accordingly. Coffee, juice, and rolls are provided, and members may bring fruit and other refreshments.

### **Details about Club Plant Distribution:**

Eligible members (for eligibility requirements, see below) choose their club plant in a lottery draw and then have the responsibility to caretake their plant for two years before returning fan increases to CVIDS for its August Silent and Live Auctions in Monticello. At that time, the largest double fan will be awarded to the highest bidder, and any additional increases will also be auctioned. As indicated below, proxies may be designated for club plant selection by identifying these individuals to the Treasurer.

Members are asked to help evaluate the characteristics and hardiness of their chosen club plant in our CVIDS region. It is expected that they will nurture their club plant carefully yet let the plant experience the same growing conditions that make eastern Iowa an unique environment. Furthermore, it is expected that club plants will not be split and shared with others or used for seed production during these two years. Potting club plants in a fertile potting soil mix as soon as possible is a recommended practice. It allows new roots to form and enables the plants to acclimate quickly. The pots can be buried in beds or placed in sheltered areas and then transplanted into the beds as they show signs of new growth. This also gives latitude to move new plants and/or remove them, should they happen to show signs of rust or other disease, which, although unlikely, can occur.

**Details about Live Auction:**

After the distribution, remaining plants are sold via a live auction, in which everyone in the club is eligible to participate. The current retail price of each plant is stated with bidding usually starting at \$25. Unlike club plants, auction-purchased plants do not have to be returned after two years.

**Club and Auctioned Plants' Database:**

For the past 12 years, CVIDS has maintained a database of the "Club Plants" and auctioned plants at: <http://www.cvids.org/clubplantsdatabase.html>.

**Eligibility Requirements for Club Plant Distribution (approved 11/12/11, reapproved 3/25/15)**

To be eligible to receive a club plant for the current year, a member must have completed both of the following:

- 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

**Selection by Proxy:**

If an eligible member is unable to attend the plant distribution, he/she may assign another member as proxy to select a plant for him/her during the drawing. However, the member must inform the club treasurer about the designated proxy prior to the plant distribution. If no proxy is designated, no plant will be chosen for him/her.

**3. GARDEN TOUR:**

Held on a Saturday in July, our Garden Tour provides a perfect opportunity for club members to showcase their gardens. The tour is open to club members and their invited guests. As summarized below, the tour has in recent years featured 4-5 gardens in a fun-filled day that has traditionally included coffee, juice, and breakfast items at the initial stop and lunch at a local restaurant or park. Club members are encouraged to carpool because of limited available parking. All tour details, including host garden addresses, driving directions, and the lunch reservation deadline, are disseminated via the Newsletter and mailed fliers but not via the website.

**Recent Garden Tours:**

**2015:** July 11, Fort Madison, Donnellson, West Burlington, and Atalissa: Hilltop Gardens (Gerald Hobbs), Hillcrest Hostas & More, Tender Top Water Gardens & Nursery, Walnut Hill Gardens (Barrett Stoll). Lunch: Buffalo Wildwings, Burlington.

**2014:** July 19, Long Grove, Davenport, Rock Island, Moline, and Milan: Clay and Kathleen Dawson, Keith and Sally Riewerts, Sylvia Seymour, Quad City Botanical Center (QCBC), Bob and Barb Papenhausen, and Dave and Carole Appelquist. Lunch: QCBC.

**2013:** July 6, Conroy and North English: Steve and Joyce Parsons, Robert and Suzanne Moffit, and Lynn and Sherry Moffit. Lunch: English Valley Community Center.

**2012:** July 20-22 (AHS Region 1 Summer Meeting): Zora and Paul Ronan (Central City), Verne and Mary Moore (Springville), Jackie Westhoff (Shellsburg), and Sharon Murken (Cedar Rapids). Lunch: Lowe Park.

**2011:** July 9, Olin and Lowden: Caroline and Jack Jones, Joyce Petersen and her neighbor Ginger Preuss, Barb and Rex McCreight, and Gary Oster. Lunch: Lowden City Park.

**2010:** July 10, Atalissa, Iowa City, and Conroy: Lynn and Barry Stoll, Jonathan Poulton, William Blair, and Joyce and Steve Parsons. Lunch: Wildwood Restaurant, Iowa City.

**2009:** July 11, Long Grove, East Moline, Moline, and Milan: Clay and Kathleen Dawson, Bob and Barb Papenhausen, Shirley Waters, Dave and Carole Appelquist, and Gary and Holly Williams. Lunch: Ryan's Steak House, Moline.

#### **4. FALL PLANT SALE:**

CVIDS holds its second public plant sale on the third or fourth Saturday in August, selling plants donated by club members. Since 1990, this event has been held at a venue in Monticello, Iowa. Set-up starts at 8 a.m. with the sale beginning at 9 a.m. About noon, club members enjoy a potluck lunch. Please bring something to share and any drinks you may want.

#### **Members' Involvement:**

Members are asked to donate plants (daylilies, irises, and companion perennials) to this sale. Information about readying plants for sale can be found in Section C.1.

#### **5. AUGUST SILENT AND LIVE AUCTIONS:**

After lunch on the day of the Fall Plant Sale, CVIDS holds its Silent and Live Auctions. These events are for members only and are not open to the public. The plants being auctioned on this occasion are those cultivars returning to the club that have been on loan to members for two years. In addition, there may be a few "stragglers" from previous years. Payment may be made by check, credit card or in cash.

#### **Members' Responsibilities:**

Mid-year, the silent auction chair will contact members having club plants due to return that year, inquiring about the number of fans available for auction. Based on data received, the chair will put together a spreadsheet of relevant information about the returning cultivars including minimum bids (usually approximately half the hybridizer's price). Members are responsible for getting their auction plants to Monticello in August. If unable to deliver them personally, they must make alternative arrangements for transport of their club plants to the auction.

**Silent Auction:**

Prior to this event, the auction plant list and bid sheet are distributed by the silent auction chair to the entire membership by e-mail and mail. These documents are also posted on the CVIDS website. Those interested in bidding in this auction are requested to complete the bid sheet, returning it to the chair by e-mail or mail by a stated deadline. No money is sent at this time. The chair notifies the winners before the fall sale about their successful bids. Winners, who will receive the largest double fan of the returned cultivars, must pick up and pay for their plants at the Monticello sale. If unable to do so personally, they should arrange for a proxy to collect and pay for their plants, letting the chair know of this arrangement. In case of ties, the earliest postmark or e-mail wins.

**Live Auction:**

The remaining fans from the returned club plants are then sold in a live auction, in which all club members present may bid.

**6. HYBRIDIZERS' ROUNDUP:**

An increasing number of CVIDS members are creating new daylily varieties by hybridization. Since 2011, the program for our October meeting has featured the Hybridizers' Roundup, which gives these members an opportunity to present photos of their latest introductions and seedlings.

**7. FALL BANQUET:**

The Fall Banquet is customarily held on the first or second Saturday of November. The meal is usually served at noon, but members are encouraged to come early and mingle and sign up to win a door prize. The meal is provided at no cost to paid-up members (i.e. dues paid by April 1st of that year). Guests are also welcome but are asked to pay for their meal. Reservations are required. A brief business meeting is held at which club officers are elected. CVIDS has a tradition of inviting renowned hybridizers to be their banquet speaker (for list, see: <http://www.cvids.org/banquetspeakers.html>).

**8. BETTY MILLER PHOTO CONTEST:**

Our annual Betty Miller Photo Contest was started in 2006 in honor of Past President and hybridizer Betty Miller. She had a passion for photographing daylilies and mentored several CVIDS members on how to take good photos. Her photos were featured in "Eureka" and daylily catalogs from 2001-2004. In spring, the President calls for a volunteer to organize the photo contest, and a decision is reached regarding the funding level for prizes. The volunteer decides upon the number of categories and publicizes the competition rules via the Newsletter, e-mail, and the website. For example, the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Contest held in 2015 had the following categories: (1) Large flowers, (2) Doubles, (3) Unusual forms and spiders, (4) Clumps, (5) Landscapes (photo must include daylilies or irises), (6) Hybridizers' 2015 seedlings, and (7) Novelties (e.g., garden sculptures, birdhouses, animals, etc. but the photo must include daylilies or irises). First place winners in each category received \$25, and the Grand Prize winner received \$50. Names of winners as well as their daylily photos are posted on the website and recorded in the Newsletter.

**D. CVIDS NEWSLETTER:**

Since its inception, CVIDS has sent out a newsletter to its members. Because our members are spread out over a large geographical area in southeast Iowa and northwest Illinois, many members cannot attend all

the meetings. Therefore, the newsletter plays vital roles in helping our widely scattered members stay connected with the group and informed about upcoming activities. At present, the newsletter is sent out approximately bimonthly. Most members receive their newsletter electronically, but a printed copy is mailed to members who do not have access to e-mail. The newsletter usually contains minutes of the previous meeting (and of any recent Board meeting), a calendar of upcoming events, an agenda and driving directions for the next meeting, and any other material which needs to be distributed to all members. Recent newsletters have included updates on preparations for the Region One meeting, a column called "Meet the Members" which features short biosketches about individual members, the winners of the Betty Miller Photo Contest, and occasional articles on topics of interest to CVIDS members. All members are encouraged to send contributions of any length to the newsletter editor. From time to time, the editor will solicit short contributions on a specific topic or question. Individual responses will be gathered and presented as a summary article. If you have an idea for a topic that you would like to see covered in the newsletter, please contact the editor.

#### **E. CVIDS WEBSITE:**

Established in 2008, our website (<http://www.cvids.org>) fulfills many functions. Together with e-mail communications, it has proven beneficial in reducing the costs of printing and mailing newsletters and has facilitated transfer of information between club members. It is a one-stop location where members can check the club calendar, see what's on the agenda for the next meeting, and read minutes of past club and Board meetings. Additionally, the website serves as the club archives, providing access to CVIDS Newsletters dating back to the club's first meeting in March 1990 as well as housing the club plants database. There is also a membership list that allows you to discover other daylily and iris enthusiasts that live close by. You may enjoy perusing the numerous photos taken at our sales and auctions, garden tours, and fall banquets. The webmaster would be delighted to post pictures of your gardens, favorite cultivars, introductions, and seedlings. Finally, our website provides useful links to other daylily and iris growers and organizations at state, regional, and (inter)national levels. If you would like to contribute materials for the website (e.g. photos, notices for the bulletin board about upcoming meetings or garden walks), or if you have any suggestions for improving the website, please contact the webmaster.

#### **F. CVIDS FACEBOOK GROUP:**

Early in 2014, a CVIDS Facebook Group began exploring the potential of reaching members via this social media venue. This group now numbers 36 and, with a few exceptions, is currently open to members only. If already a Facebook user, paste in the following URL: <https://facebook.com/groups/70405126282058/>. If you are not, create a Facebook account and then join our group.

#### **G. OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERING:**

You are cordially invited to volunteer to help run the club. As the Bylaws indicate, CVIDS activities are largely organized by the Board, which consists of elected officers and several committee chairs approved by the Board. The elected officers are the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and immediate Past President, all of whom serve two-year terms but cannot serve for more than two consecutive terms. Alternatively, you should consider serving as a committee chair (e.g. Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, Membership Chair, Club Plant Chair, Silent Auction Chair, Hospitality Chair, and Program Chair), for which terms are variable. Large numbers of volunteers are also required to assist at special events (i.e. plant sales, club plant distribution, silent and live auctions, fall banquet, and photo contest). For example, members can help at the May and August plant sales by setting up and taking down tables, organizing

donated plants, answering customers' questions, bagging plants, assisting the treasurer with sales, setting up the potluck, and clean-up operations. If you're interested to volunteer in some capacity, please sign up at meetings or contact a Board member. A list of current Board members can be accessed at: <http://www.cvids.org/officers.html>.

## **H. BAD WEATHER POLICY:**

We always worry about traveling in bad weather. No meeting is worth attending if your safety is at risk. Sometimes a storm is localized, in which case the meeting may be held by those who can attend. However, if a major storm is forecast, one big enough that nearby events are canceling in advance, you should consider our meeting canceled. If this happens, the Board will make every effort to notify members via e-mail, our website, and Facebook. If in doubt, don't set out before checking these sources of information. For those not connected to the internet, a club officer will telephone with relevant information. Member calls should be directed to the current president.

## **I. AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY (AHS):**

We invite you to become a member of the American Hemerocallis Society. The AHS has divided North America into 15 regions. Region One, where the Society was originally founded in Shenandoah, Iowa, consists of Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the Canadian Province of Manitoba. For information about Region One activities, please consult the website: [www.northerndaylilies.com](http://www.northerndaylilies.com). When you join AHS, you receive access to members-only privileges including the AHS Membership Portal (<http://daylilies.site-ym.com/>) as well as *The Daylily Journal*. This quarterly publication is a colorful, informative magazine featuring: (i) pictures of new cultivars, (ii) how-to articles on care, feeding, and hybridizing, and (iii) news of upcoming AHS meetings and conventions. You also receive the Region One newsletter *The Daylily Pioneer* that includes articles and information on our regional activities.

Other AHS membership benefits include: (i) attending regional meetings and national conventions that offer garden tours, (ii) lectures, judges' clinics and workshops, and (iii) a chance to see the newest and best of today's daylilies. CVIDS is slated to host the Region One meeting in 2019. The most recent Region One meeting hosted by CVIDS was held in 2012 in Cedar Rapids featuring the gardens of CVIDS members Zora Ronan, Jackie Westhoff, Verne and Mary Moore, and Sharon Murken.

A very special privilege and opportunity for CVIDS members is to visit AHS display gardens throughout the country. These gardens showcase some of the finest in current and/or historical collections of daylilies. The following CVIDS members have National Display Gardens:

- Clay and Kathy Dawson, Long Grove, IA
- Gerald Hobbs, Fort Madison, IA
- Barb and Bob Papenhausen, East Moline, IL
- The Quad City Botanical Center, Rock Island, IL
- Zora Ronan, Central City, IA
- Barrett Stoll, Atalissa, IA
- Jackie Westhoff, Shellsburg, IA

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