

Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society

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February 2011

President Mike Comments:

Hello Everyone,

As I'm sitting down to write this message, Sunday afternoon, on the TV comes a winter storm watch. I don't know about all of you, but I am awfully tired of winter already. Hopefully the weather will be cooperative for our February meeting.

It sure is easy to get spring fever this time of year with all the gardening and daylily catalogs arriving in the mail. They sure make me wish I had more money to spend. I also planted my daylily seeds last weekend and got excited yesterday to see a little green poking above the soil of the ones I have heat under.

Lynn asked me to write a short article about myself for the new "Let's Get Acquainted" section. If you want to be put to sleep, please look it up elsewhere in this newsletter.

Hopefully everyone is staying healthy and I hope to see you at the February meeting in Marion.

Mike

Minutes from January 8 Meeting

Deb Hansen, Secretary

The January meeting at the Coralville Public Library was called to order by President Mike Carstensen at 1:15 p.m. Forty-five members were present.

The November 13 minutes were corrected as follows: Barb Papenhausen made the correction that the Botanical Center display garden is in Rock Island, Illinois, on the river just across the Arsenal Bridge and Davenport, Iowa. They started the garden with 70 all-different plants, just a start. Bob Towler and Barb donated the plants so far, but as part of CVIDS Club and recognition will be on a plaque stating this. Barb is not asking for cash but for supplies for plants if anyone wants to donate next year. Barb sent in a gift membership to AHS for the Quad City Botanical Center in their name for three years; she did not get a membership for her at the Botanical Center. There is no grant for the garden which is why she is asking for funds. The Botanical Center is funded with grants on some things, but this is not one of them.

A motion was made to approve the November 13 minutes with the above corrections. M/S/C David Appelquist and Jonathan Poulton.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Moore reported \$10,573.03 in the checking account.

Old Business: Mike Carstensen reported Jonathan Poulton is working on a CVIDS members' handbook for the Club and that Jonathan would appreciate input from members.

The following new members were in attendance at the meeting: Ted Strait, Dick Palmer, Jo Palmer, and Barb McCreight.

Bob Towler commented 75 varieties of daylilies will be labeled. The Botanical Center has printed a brochure. If you donate a plant you will need to provide information for the label. Barb Papenhausen stated a lot of weddings are scheduled at the Botanical Center and brides may be taking their pictures in front of the daylily garden.

New Business: Kathy Dawson reported member Jack Jones recently had a heart attack. Deb Hansen read the obituary for member Kenneth Hill.

Mike Carstensen put out signup sheets for volunteering at 2011 club functions. The Kirkwood Garden Fair on February 19 needs members to sit at a booth if the club wanted to be present. Clay Dawson, Jackie Westhoff and Deb Hansen volunteered to set up a booth. Zora Ronan reported she will be teaching daylily classes and the Fair was going to be held at Iowa Hall this year. A motion was made to provide funding for four people to attend the Kirkwood Garden Fair and receive lunches. M/S/C by Barb Papenhausen and Sylvia Seymour.

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2011 Dues

It's time to pay your 2011 Club Dues! Due by April 30th for Club Plant eligibility. Send to Bob Moore, PO Box 25, Morning Sun, IA 52640. \$6 individual, \$8 family.

Lynn Stoll, Editor

One of the most delightful things about a garden is the anticipation it provides.

(W. E. Johns)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY 12

CVIDS MEETING

1:00 PM, Marion Public Library

FEBRUARY 19

WINTER GARDENING FAIR

8:30 AM, Kirkwood Community College
Cedar Rapids

MARCH 12

CVIDS MEETING

1:00 PM, Washington Public Library

MARCH 18-19

POLLEN DABBERS, MARSHALLTOWN IA

(Marshalltown Community College)

APRIL 9

CVIDS MEETING

1:00 PM, Eldridge Public Library (tentative)

MAY 29-JUNE 3, 2011

AMERICAN IRIS SOCIETY MEETING

“Iris-istible Victoria” British Columbia

MAY 26-29, 2011

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY NATIONAL CONVENTION

Baton Rouge, LA

JULY 22-24

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY REGION ONE CONVENTION

Bloomington, MN

Guest Speaker: David Kirchhoff

DIRECTIONS TO MARION PUBLIC LIBRARY

Nancy Miller Marion Public Library: 1095 6th Avenue, Marion, Iowa; 319-377-3412.

From West or South: I-380 North to exit 24A. Turn right onto SR-100 East/Collins Road NE for 2.4 miles. Turn left onto US-151 Business/1st Avenue SE/Marion Blvd. for 1.3 miles. Turn right onto 9th Street. Turn left onto 6th Avenue.

From East or Northeast: Highway 30 East to Highway 13 North. Turn left (west) onto 10th Avenue for 2.3 miles. Turn left onto 14th Street, then turn right onto 6th Avenue.

He who plants a garden plants happiness.
(Chinese Proverb)

MINUTES FROM JAN. 8 MEETING (CONT.)

Nominating committee--Clay Dawson reported in the past the President appointed a nominating committee. Sylvia Seymour agreed with Clay. Mike Carstensen asked Clay to appoint the committee.

Website--The website will be used to mention people who have sales and to list their website links but will no longer include their plant lists. Club pays for the website and should be for Club use only. Jonathan Poulton is doing a good job.

Member Handbook--Jonathan Poulton wants to produce a member handbook with their pictures for members to be able to put names with faces. This would not go on the website. A motion was made for Jonathan to proceed with the member handbook. Keith Riewerts would help with the photography. Jonathan would welcome your own pictures, if you would like to submit one as a hard copy or via his e-mail address (jonathan-poulton@uiowa.edu). M/S/C Clay Dawson and Barry Stoll.

Club Plant Selection--Mike Carstensen supported it should be required to bring and attend a plant sale to qualify for a club plant. This is the Club's main revenue. This helps pay the bills. A plant club selection criteria comparison handout was passed out to members to view. Sylvia Seymour said some people cannot donate. Jackie Westhoff said it is hard for her to attend the plant sale and could donate but not attend. Sherry Moffit agreed with Jackie. Scott Hansen commented he has to work the weekends and cannot always attend the plant sales. Jonathan Poulton said members should provide for the sales and not necessarily attend to qualify for club plant. Mike stated the Fall Banquet and July tours do not count toward qualifying for a club plant. Discussion was to be tabled for another meeting.

Silent Auction--Zora Ronan wanted to know why the silent auction was a club plant requirement option. Jan Null stated you are not required to bid but encouraged to bid. You just have to bid and that doesn't mean you have to win the bid. Some people don't bid and wait until later to attend the sale. The purpose of the silent auction is for members to view the plants and get the bidding started. Keith Riewerts stated the silent auction is something people don't understand and that the handbook would help. Clay Dawson said the auction gives you a chance to preview plants.

Donation--Kathy Dawson suggested a donation of \$100 be given to Barb and Bob Papenhausen. Barb and Bob declined the donation.

Regional 2012--Next month's meeting at the Marion Library is to get an update on the 2012 Regional Meeting organized by CVIDS. Jackie Westhoff reported they have a meeting coming up with Kirkwood representatives and will have a power point presentation for the February meeting.

Presentation: Barb and Bob Papenhausen gave a colorful presentation of the club plants they have so far ordered. Bob Papenhausen made a request to the hybridizers in the club to loan their plants for the regional tour gardens. Tours will be held at the gardens of Zora Ronan, Vern and Mary Moore, Jackie Westhoff, and Sharon Murken.

Mike Carstensen made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned at 2:55. M/S/C Mary Moore and Gary Oster.

LET'S GET ACQUAINTED!

by Mike Carstensen

My life story isn't the most exciting, but here we go. I'm the oldest of seven children - one brother and five sisters, but I won't go there. I grew up in the small town of McCausland, Iowa, with a mom and a grandma who both had big gardens. I spent the summers working in both of them and helped can and freeze the harvest. I quickly grew tired of working in the gardens and actually pretty much hated it by the time I left home shortly after high school.

With getting married to my wife Jayne and buying a house, I found that I loved landscaping. I always included peonies in any of my landscaping projects because when I was growing up my grandma always had them around her house. After two daughters and a few more house moves, I saw an advertisement for Gilbert H. Wild and Son of Missouri in a magazine. I sent for their catalog to order some different varieties of peonies, but after receiving the catalog also saw all the daylilies and iris they carried. I was hooked and twenty-five years later I still order from them once in a while.

A few years later some friends told me that I needed to see the garden of a customer of theirs. I went with them to the hosta garden of Jeff Kerr. He was a member of the Mississippi Valley Hosta Society, and I was immediately drawn to the huge variety of hostas. He had a great garden, and Jeff talked me into joining the hosta club. Other members of the club at that time included David and Carole Applequist, Clay and Kathy Dawson, Bob and Barb Papenhausen, Shirley Waters, and Gary and Holly Williams. After a few years, during a conversation with Bob and Clay, they told me about another fun group to consider joining -- the Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society, which they also belonged to. I soon joined, and it's been a great six years since.

About ten years ago my wife said I needed to figure out a way to pay for my plant obsession as I started adding conifers to the hostas, daylilies, iris and peonies. I began dividing and selling these at the local farmers' market. A few years ago we bought ten acres in my hometown of McCausland, built a house and now grow blueberries, strawberries, asparagus, started an orchard, and still divide plants for the market. Jayne makes a variety of jams using a lot of what we grow. Although Jayne doesn't share my love of growing things, she does enjoy looking at the flowers and gardens.

We hope to retire in a few years and spend our summers working and selling for the markets and enjoying winters somewhere warm.

WANTED: ARTICLES/IDEAS FOR FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

Want to be a published writer? We are looking for articles or ideas for future articles for the newsletter. If you don't want to write something yourself, suggest a topic or raise a question to be discussed in future newsletters. Send your ideas to Editor Lynn Stoll at walnuthill@hughes.net, or give her your suggestions at the next meeting. Remember, it's YOUR newsletter!



Mike & Jayne Carstensen

WINTER GARDEN FAIR

Kirkwood Community College

6301 Kirkwood Blvd. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

Saturday, February 19, 2011

Tired of winter? Ready to think about spring and gardening? Then plan to attend Iowa State University Extension's Winter Gardening Fair at Kirkwood Community College on Saturday, Feb. 19. The keynote speaker is Kelly Norris, who will talk about "Garden Design". Many of you will remember Kelly from his presentation about median iris at our club meeting last March. The \$49 tuition covers a full day of workshops of your own choosing, along with a box lunch. CVIDS member Zora Ronan will be giving two different workshops about daylilies, one geared toward beginners and one for more experienced daylily growers. Other topics include blueberries, herbs, honeybees, trees, butterfly gardens, prairie gardens, garden photography, ornamental grasses, edible mushrooms, garden photography, and many others. CVIDS will have an informational booth at the fair. For more details and registration information, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/linn and click on the Winter Gardening Fair 2011 link about halfway down the page. Alternatively, you can call the Linn County Extension Master Gardeners at 319-377-9839.

USEFUL WEBSITES

Region One Website:

www.northerndaylily.com/index.html

CVIDS Website: www.cvids.org

American Iris Society: www.irises.org

American Hemerocallis Society:
www.daylilies.org