

March 2017 Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society Newsletter

“When spring came, even the false spring, there were no problems except where to be happiest.” *Ernest Hemingway*

Riewerts’ Review and Preview

Can you believe the weather this winter? Seventy plus degrees for almost a week in February – Wow! Who’d a “thunk” it? And the third warmest February on record! I’ve got green showing way too early. And now, it looks like old man winter is returning. But as March nears, so does spring and we are all accustomed to hot and cold and hot and cold in Iowa and Illinois. Right?

Thank yous!

Our February CVIDS meeting was very productive with a wonderful presentation by Nancy and Lyle. Thanks again to Sally R. and Mary Jo D. for helping with minutes for the meeting and to Barbara McCreight, who worked her magic with setting up the potluck. Thanks also to Sue and Dave Kramer for managing the daylily book orders. I understand the “Doubles” books have now arrived. And thank you also to those bringing door-prize gifts. The Snow Drops in a vase, from Kramers and the daylilies, etc. from Papenhausens and Suzanne Moffit’s Valentine gifts were wonderful. You are so generous and thoughtful. And Nancy Carlisle, muchas gracias para su Newsletter work! Finally, thanks to all members who participated in the meeting conversation. That’s what makes our club work so well.

I received a Facebook note from Karen Moline, Kathy Dawson’s sister from Marengo, who met up with Dave Kramer at the Winter Gardening Fair at Kirkwood on Feb. 25. It sounds as though the Fair went well in spite of the weather. Thanks Dave, Jo Lynn Johnson, Gary Oster, Joyce Parsons and new member Karen Keenan and to anyone else who helped. Karen Keenan said in an email, “I loved it. I am so new that I try to soak up everything. The other members there made my day very special. We have, I think, four new members, maybe more, because some people took home brochures. I do need to sign up for National Org. (AHS) because of the wonderful information they put out.” What wonderful feedback and enthusiasm Karen!

Four are signed up so far for the Art of Gardening fair on March 18, at Muscatine Community College, including Ginger Pruess, Barbara McCreight, Heather Harroun and Zora Ronan, who is a presenter at that event. I will have the sign-up sheets at the March meeting. I intend to be at Muscatine also.

March 10 meeting agenda: (If there are additional agenda items that you would like to include, please call or message me at (563) 940-1895 or email me at RKRKRKR@netins.net)

1. Zora R. has completed this year’s Club Plant order and we will see a PowerPoint presentation of the plants as soon as possible, hopefully at our March meeting.
2. Our second vote on raising the dues to \$10 per year will be voted on at the March meeting.
3. Q.C. Botanical Center AHS membership is to be discussed.

4. Club Tour Guests re. Deb Bentley request
5. Flower show at Muscatine County Fair re. Jo Ann Christofferson
6. Quod libet...

Special note: I am calling for a meeting of the **2020 Region One Regional Task Force** at 11 a.m., one-hour before our noon potluck. This will include myself, Jonathan and Susie Poulton, Jackie Westhoff, Sue Kramer, Nancy Carlisle, Zora Ronan, Lynn and Sherry Moffit, Lyle Moen and Nancy Rash. We need to identify the location and potential gardens for the 2020 Region One Regional meeting as soon as possible. And, although I don't have a complete list of all who have offered to help, **all** are welcome at this meeting, which will take place at the Johnson county extension Office (Iowa City). Recommendations from this task force will be brought to the full membership.

President Keith

MARCH 2017 Presentations

March 11 Meeting is at the Johnson County Extension Office, 4265 Oak Crest Hill Road Southeast, Iowa City, IA 52246. Special Meeting at 11:00 for the 2020 Regional. Potluck at 12 noon. Three presentations starting at 1:00. Business meeting to follow.

" **Decorating Rose Bowl Floats as a Petal Pusher**": Sara Hankemeier will present info about being a "Petal Pusher" for the 2016 Rose Bowl floats. This opportunity opened up a whole new take on the work, creativity, and innovation that goes into making these "covered in vegetation" marvels. Sara will share the steps, processes, and painstakingly precise work that makes a prize-winning Rose Bowl Float. This is the float she worked on. Picture courtesy of press releases.



BioMarkers: Sam McCord will also give a presentation on plastic and biofiber manufacturing. The advent of new base raw materials composed of recycled post consumer/post industrial plastics combined with organic biomass, or natural fibers, has created a global market for a new classification of materials, Bio Fiber Composites or commonly known as biocomposites. Fundamentally, these composites reduce the hydrocarbon content, (oil) replaced with natural fillers in the form of organic “renewable” biomasses. This family of materials is best suited to replace pure polymers and drives the green, sustainable shift. Any product that is injection molded, extruded or thermoformed today can be replaced with a natural organic filled BioComposites Materials. MCG BioComposites, LLC was founded by Mr. McCord in August 2007 to supply this place in the industry. The company not only provides these materials under the brand of DuraMaze™ but also has developed its own proprietary line of products of patented plant markers in 2009, which are branded as “MCG BioMarkers®” and are sold directly and through distributors in the lawn and garden, arboretum and botanical garden market. The original plant marker was produced as an experiment in late 2009 to use our first formulated BioComposites material, which was corn cobs and recycled high density polyethylene, as a way to demonstrate to potential customers that our material was truly capable of processing by injection molding and also a viable substitute for petroleum-based virgin plastics. After introducing the markers to the market, it didn't take long for them to be a real hit!



Preview of 2017 Club Plants: Zora Ronan will give us a preview of the 2017 club plants that she has kindly purchased for us.

“Getting to know you”

Hi, I'm Barbara McCreight and I have volunteered to help Nancy Carlisle with the CVIDS Monthly Newsletter. I was looking over the membership list and noticed we have some 50 new members over the last few years. Our meetings are pretty full, so it is hard to get around and have time to meet and welcome new members. So, I thought I would start alphabetical and contact a few new members each month. If you do not wish to participate that is okay. But, if you do, please respond with a brief introduction. “What would you, like us to know about you?” (rexnbarb@fbcom.net)

New Member: Deb Bentley

She was born in Mason City, Iowa. She is an avid Cubs fan. Graduated MCHS, NIACC UNI, then NIACC again, leading to careers of a Licensed Social Worker and Registered Nurse. Working with people challenged with mental illness, developmental and physical disabilities. She has a daughter Emily, husband Todd and 2 children Ella & Gavan live in Chaska, Minnesota. Her Son, Aaron, wife Brooke live in Eden Prairie and are expecting their first in June. She met her husband, Brian of 10 years, at the BIX. Their blended family includes Merideth & David, Adriane & Brett and two more grandchildren Alex & Brady. Together they bought a home in Muscatine. Including land that could accommodate their 1902 RR trestle, truck-loads of her plants, including her Grandma May's peonies and a collection of rocks. They cleaned out the woods of brambles and scrub trees and replaced them with desirable trees and shrubs. So many plans and so little time! She has been a member of Lions for many years collecting eyeglasses and keeping the mint displays full. She sings with the Muscatine Civic Choral. She is Co-President of the Muscatine Federated Garden Club, belongs to the Lily Society and now CVIDS! When not gardening, she spends her “spare” time with grandchildren, sews, changes wall colors and is currently painting wall murals at the new home of grandchildren Ella and Gavan. She welcomes anyone who would like to come down, spend some time and bring your own tools!

Kirkwood Winter Gardening Fair

Saturday, February 25, 2017 Winter Gardening Fair held at Kirkwood at the Benton/Cedar Hall from 8 – 4. This event is put on by Iowa State University Extension Outreach and Linn County Master Gardeners. They offered 40 workshops, two keynote speakers, displays from horticulture-related societies and vendors. CVIDS Members Jo Lynn Johnson, Karen Keenan, Dave Kramer and Gary Oster represented our club. Four new members signed up! Gary commented that there were many more tables and booths set up this year than last year! The CVIDS table was at the end close to class rooms and in between very busy booths, one selling lilies and the other succulent garden arrangements. The people in charge were very courteous and accommodating. Our members enjoyed the buffet lunch of pulled pork sandwiches, vegetable stir fry, coleslaw, chips, cookie and soft drinks. Kirkwood Photo is courtesy of Gary Oster.

Dues change proposal – EXERPT from February minutes. Full minutes are available on (www.cvids.org). The following was presented to and approved by the January 14th, CVIDS Board meeting and is being presented to the general membership at February 11 meeting:

- Current dues are \$6/year dues; \$8/couple...
- Consider raising the dues to \$10/person/year –
 - Member benefits include “club plants”, meals/luncheons... auctions, etc.
 - In order to continue to grow and get quality speakers, etc.
 - This proposal will significantly increase our reserve funds.
 - Gary Oster moved, Joyce Parsons 2nd raising dues to \$10/person/year.
 - Discussion followed:
 - Question and comments re. proposal: AHS membership \$25/year being very important and is recommended.
 - Additional questions and comments were asked about children, half price? A response offered: If you want full benefits they should have the same cost. What about \$5. For garden walk lunch? Stop that and it will give money back to the club. This will be referred to the Garden Tour committee.
 - Keith clarified that this would be considered the first reading, as is necessary for a change in our CVIDS Bylaws.
 - Bob Papenhausen called the question to a vote.
 - All in favor, none opposed. Motion to raise dues, effective March 11 voted on.
 - All in favor; none opposed

July 8th Club Garden Tour

The 2017 CVIDS Summer Garden Tour will take place on July 8th. Visit the Bulletin Board (www.cvids.org) to see photos of the Rettigs' Cottage-in-the-Meadow Gardens, one of four stops on the tour. Also on tour will be Jonathan Poulton's, Duffy's, and Jim Seaman Jr's Iowa City gardens, and Steve and Joyce Parsons' in Conroy. I know it will be an enjoyable day for all.

Art of Gardening Fair, Saturday, March 18th, Muscatine Community College.

Please sign up for this information booth.

Pollen Dabbers 2017 Spring Hybridizers' Meeting

Friday and Saturday, March 17th – 18th, Marshalltown, Iowa

Marshalltown Community College, room 608/610, Marshalltown, Iowa

RICH HOWARD: view his introductions at <http://www.ctdaylily.com/>

BARRY MATTHIE: view his introductions at <http://www.bonibraedayliliesandhosta.com/>

Registration form at www.centraliowadaylilysociety.com

Club Plant Distribution is again at the West Liberty Floral Hall on the Muscatine County Fairgrounds on **Saturday, May 20th**. 58 persons qualified to receive an earned plant to

evaluate growing habits and multiply the plant in our growing conditions for return in 2019. Qualifiers for 2017 are on an attached list. If you need a refresher on how to qualify, check out the Club plant section of our website. Zora is done with the ordering. A preview of the selected plants is available on our website and will be presented at the March meeting for the first time this year for your viewing and drooling pleasure.

Ordered books have arrived. Please see Sue Kramer at the next meeting for pickup.

News:

February meeting minutes of the club meeting have been posted on the cvids.org website. Nancy Rash's presentation is also available.



Gary Oster photography at Kirkwood Winter Garden Fair, February 25, 2017. Jo Lynn Johnson and Dave Kramer.