

Raise your Hands if you have ever gone to a Regional Daylily Meeting?

No? Your opportunity is in sight. Let me review some of the history and past decisions that have affected the planning for the upcoming July 2023.

CVIDS is hosting the **Region One American Daylily Society** annual meeting in Muscatine, Iowa on July 14, 15, 16, 2023. CVIDS has previously held Region One meetings in Cedar Rapids (2013), Fort Madison (2003) and Iowa City(1993,1999).

It's our turn.

There is a cycle of hosting determined by the Region One Board. We passed on the expected cycle of opportunity in 2019 because the National meeting was just up the road in Madison, Wisconsin. CVIDS leaders felt we would not get great attendance. Graciously, The Nebraska Daylily Society swapped dates and hosted a great meeting in Omaha; and we agreed to hosting in 2020 with a theme of "2020- a Perfect Daylily Vision."

In May of 2020, Chairpersons Keith Riewerts and Nancy Rash had to make an unprecedented decision to cancel the meeting because of COVID shutdowns and the need to recoup any investments already made. No Regional event was held in 2021 related to ongoing COVID concerns. During 2020 the Central Iowa Daylily Society(CIDS) had already confirmed their 2022 speakers of Jim and Margo Reed. CIDS recently hosted a very successful event in Marshalltown on the dates of July 15-17, 2022.

Why Muscatine?

Many of the gardens planned for in the Cedar Rapids area were sadly hit by the derecho of 2020 and have not completely recovered.

We need a venue that will hold about 125 persons with hotel, banquet and social gathering accommodations at reasonable costs. Venues in Iowa City, Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Rock Island were either not available based on dates or did not meet our needs.

The Merrill Hotel is a 5 star hotel with wonderful accommodations and a stunning view of the Mississippi River from the banquet rooms. The Muscatine Chamber has a Director of Events willing to assist in making the event successful.

Tour Gardens available

In March, CVIDS 2020 planning members Keith Riewerts, Nancy Rash, and Jackie Westhoff, approached prior 2020 tour garden hosts for their interest in still being a tour garden. Health and damage to gardens did not allow for several to be available.

1. Darrin and Shelley were scheduled to be on the 2020 tour; their garden had minimal damage from the derecho. Shelley's work with hybridizing both iris and daylilies will be seen. Darrin has a large selection of Robert Selman and Eric Simpson plants. He has a vegetable enterprise on their acreage.
2. Heather Harroun's garden became an ADS Display garden in 2021. She has many of Barb Papenhausen's seedlings. She obtained collections from Jonathan Poulton and Myrna Hass when they down-sized their gardens. Jim has created a gnome garden collection and there is a lovely water feature.

3. Keith and Sally Riewerts volunteered their Long Grove garden when asked. Lovely shade and open areas have created an oasis of daylilies and other perennials.

Open Gardens will be needed in all areas of our membership for persons to visit on Friday and Sunday as the Region is from Manitoba Canada, North and South Dakota, Minnesota and Nebraska. If interested please contact Nancy Carlisle and Keith Riewerts.

Next Planning Event

We plan on having an informal in-person meeting at the **August 27th Plant Sale in Monticello at 11 am** inside. Bring your ideas and creativity.

Many Hands Make Light Work for All.

Keith Riewerts and Nancy Carlisle have agreed to co-host the meeting in 2023. We appreciate all who volunteered, made suggestions, and plans for the 2020 event. The hosting of a regional is an incredible opportunity to work next to your daylily friends on fulfilling events. Since it has been 3 years since we were meeting together for the planning of 2020, many of our lives have changed with new jobs, health concerns and family obligations. We do want to honor your time and if you are able to work on a committee that you had volunteered for back then, we still want you. If you are not able, we understand. Any help, BIG or small, is welcome throughout this next year.

2023 Theme

Our membership needs to decide on a theme for the 2023 Regional Meeting. Send your theme ideas to Keith (rkrkrkr@netins.net) or Nancy (njcarlisle56@gmail.com) by August 20 so we can vote and make a final decision on the 27th. Call if you have any questions.

Next Planning Event

We will continue to use Zoom as an access for distance gatherings.

There is a phone number for meeting participation that is available to use as well. The next Regional 2023 meeting will be September 15, at 6:30 p.m. Be there or be square!

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