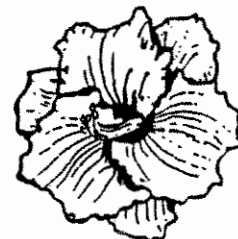




Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society



JUNE, 1997

Second Annual CVIDS Summer Daylily Tour: July 5, 1997

The second annual CVIDS Summer Daylily Tour will be held on July 5, 1997. We will visit four gardens in the southern part of our club's "territory": the Wilkinson garden in Kalona, the Hobbs garden in Ft. Madison, the Wharton garden in Keokuk, and the Ater garden in Kahoka, Missouri.

Cassie Wilkinson has worked for Fred McDowell for 12 years, and her collection of 600 mature daylilies (plus some "babies") shows that she has been an apt protege. Her six-year-old garden on two lots has many interesting perennials, including daisies, spiderwort, coneflowers, and liatris, as well as vegetables and herbs.

Gerald and Elenora Hobbs's garden features 400 named daylilies, including many new ones, 1,000 of Gerald's seedlings, 70 mature hostas, and 20 different ornamental grasses, along with many other perennials in a lovely setting. The garden includes a water garden -- and a great view of the Mississippi River.

Deborah Wharton's garden includes about 300 daylilies and several hosta. Points of special interest include a woodland garden and a bog garden containing Japanese iris and bog plants. The Japanese irises should be blooming nicely for our tour; they will be a real treat!

Francis Ater's garden showcases 500 named daylilies, including a big collection of spiders and many of his own seedlings. Some 200 hostas are also displayed, along with lots of perennials covering a large area.

Our approximate schedule will be:

8:30-9:30	Wilkinson Garden
11:00-12:45	Hobbs Garden (including lunch)
1:10-2:00	Wharton Garden
2:30-3:45	Ater Garden

For further details and directions, see p. 5.

Enclosed is a check in the amount of _____ (payable to CVIDS) for:

_____ CVIDS Member registrations @ \$6.00 (garden tours and lunch)

_____ Non-member registrations @ \$15.00 (garden tours and lunch)

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

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SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

July 5: CVIDS Club Daylily Tour. This year we will carpool to visit gardens in the southern part of our club area, including that of Cassie Wilkinson in Kalona, Gerald and Elenora Hobbs in Ft. Madison, Deborah Wharton in Keokuk, and Francis Ater in Kahoka. See details elsewhere in this newsletter. There will be no formal banquet; however, members may wish to plan to have dinner together.

July 11-13: AHS Region 1 Convention, Marshalltown, IA: Tour some terrific gardens, hear the Salters as guest speakers, and enjoy fellowship with other daylily lovers. All daylily lovers are welcome; you don't have to be an AHS member. For information, contact Don Lovell (515-752-6807).

July 18-20: Midwest Regional Hosta Convention. For further information, see notice on p. 11 of the February issue of our CVIDS newsletter, or call Lois Girton (515-233-0841) or Kris Jurik (515-232-9927).

Aug. 23: CVIDS Annual Plant Sale: Riverside Gardens, Monticello, IA. Plan now to set aside some plants to contribute to our only public fund-raising activity, and join us for a pleasant potluck picnic in the gazebo in this beautiful setting!

September: CVIDS Fall Meeting (plans to be announced later).

November 8 (.....): CVIDS Fall Banquet. Steve Moldovan has agreed to be our speaker; details are being worked out. The banquet will be held at Isaac's Hall, adjacent to Wetherby's Restaurant at the Clarion in Coralville (site of our May Iris Tour).

A LETTER FROM SARAH SIKES

Dear Lynn,

Please tell the members of the Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society that these plants are sent in appreciation for their hospitality and kindnesses shown to me during my visit last summer. I didn't get any thank-you notes to the garden hosts, and I hope they will pardon me because I really did enjoy seeing the gardens and meeting so many wonderful people! Daylily people are wonderful!

Thanks so much to you and Barry and much love to you all.

Sarah

[Note: Sarah sent a nice box of plants, including many recent introductions, to be distributed to the garden hosts and others she met last summer. Some have already been distributed; others have been potted and will be distributed when possible, probably at the Monticello sale.]

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Jim Glasson and Kathleen Darling (360 - 290th St., West Branch, IA 52358; phone 319-632-2212). We look forward to sharing future club activities with them.

AHS 1997 ANNUAL CONVENTION: JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA

by Gerald Hobbs

We stopped at Tim Bell's near Sycamore, Georgia, to get in the mood for daylilies, and what a mood set it was. His garden is near a large lake with a long boat dock extending into it and a lot of tropical and bog plants at the edge with geese swimming near the edge. His flower beds were in many curved beds scattered throughout the property, mulched heavily with pine straw. Some of the noted ones we saw there were MOONLIT CARESS (J. Salter '96), a round pale ivory with pink tints and a heavy gold edge; SICILIAN SUMMER (E. Salter '95), a perfectly formed gold yellow with lightly ruffled edge, almost 4"; OLYMPIC SHOWCASE (P. Stamile '90), a ruffled flat gold that is on the CVIDS auction list; and ELIZABETH SALTER (J. Salter '92), which had several palest melon pink blooms on a big clump. This one also made quite a show in several of the tour gardens. These were all tets. Another good one there was SILKEN TOUCH (P. Stamile '90), a rose pink that will be on a future CVIDS auction.

At the scientific meeting, Dr. R. N. Inserra discussed nematodes (different from toads). There are mainly two different types that work on daylilies. They are about 0.3 mm x 2 mm long and have spears on the ends of their bodies that penetrate. One is the reniform that lays eggs in the root and remain attached. They don't damage daylilies much because they reproduce slowly. Some weeds are hosts.

The second type is root knot nematodes that penetrate the root and produce red galls on other plants but not daylilies, which they suck the juices from to stunt the plant and favor infections from other pathogens. The egg masses on the side of the root can be confused with young roots. They don't seem to have much data after two years study, but don't seem alarmed about them. The best preventative is to select plants resistant to nematodes, and cutting most of the roots from new plants coming into the garden.

Dr. W. C. Welbourn talked on bulb mites or arachnids, of which there are about 40,000 kinds. Some predator mites will feed on the bulb mites, so not all mites are bulb mites; one needs a 400X microscope to identify them. They feed mostly on old dead or unhealthy roots. There is no chemical available to control them. It's best to increase organic material and use predator mites.

Dr. T. S. Schubert talked about foliar and root diseases such as leaf streak, which is worse on some varieties, and a fungus found only on daylilies and lily of the valley. It is mostly a cosmetic problem, and not much can be done for it. Disease diagnosis is best done with plants at an intermediate stage of decline and packed in dry ice when sent to a laboratory. Bill Munson had always said, "Let it rot." In other words, let Nature select for the healthy plants and don't use susceptible plants in your breeding.

Friday and Saturday were both good days for the tours, with it being cool and overcast -- good for colors and picture taking. The first garden our bus toured was Dave Talbott's hybridizing and commercial garden, with it's well planned overhead watering system. I would say that all the gardens we toured were at or near peak bloom, and Dave's was no exception. The excitement was increased by an overhead musical sound system. One of the best clumps in his garden was his own CARIBBEAN GOLDEN GALLEON, which must have had 30 or so big flat ruffled golden blooms with a hint of cinnamon on the ruffled edges. This was runner-up for the President's Cup in popularity. His CARIBBEAN WHIPPED CREAM was huge, the way he likes them. It is a very light yellow, very full and ruffled. P. Stamile's BIG BLUE ('97) was good here, not blue but a very nice big pink. I liked INDY FROSTED PINK (Anderson), with the ruffles and nice red eye on frosty, veined pink petals. Another of Stamile's here was CORAL STONE, more of a rosy pink bitone with a slight halo, ruffled petals and sepals with a slight gold edge.

At Bumgardener's, their "endangered species vegetable garden was taken over by the rapid encroachment of the weed known as the daylily." Here were VICTORIA'S SECRET (Salter '90), a 5.5" dusty rose with an outstanding gold edge. At Ben and Clovette Adams' Escape Hatch, there were many recent and future introductions of the prominent Florida hybridizers on a quarter acre with plants in raised wooden beds, a gazebo with swing, a deck, and a fountain. Salter's DESERT DREAM was similar to VICTORIA'S SECRET, but more bitone and rounder petals. Elizabeth Salter's DRAGONS EYE was eye-catching. It's a 3.5" pink, but 2.5" of it is a big red eye. It is recurved and round. I saw SABINE BAUR by J. Salter here for the first time, and, Wow! It's a much larger version of DRAGONS EYE, only flatter, with a huge burgundy eye and picotee edge on a ruffled yellow petal. This one *was* the winner of the President's Cup. FORTUNE'S DEAREST (Morss '94) is a large purple with ruffled white edge. Salter's '97 introduction of DAVID KIRCHHOFF was outstanding as a bright clear medium lavender with a heavy bold gold encrusted edge, very full and broad, said to be a good edge breeder. (I'll find out!!)

Greene's and Ronsonet's gardens were both near Alligator Lake -- the previous bus even saw one! A beautiful scene was contributed by the lake and the old cypress trees at the edge, complete with cypress knees and Spanish moss. The scene was like one from a calendar. Some of the best things we saw at Greene's were EMPRESS JOSEPHINE, a 6" rose pink; TEN TO MIDNIGHT, a dark purple with many buds; and RUE ROYAL. At Ronsonet's we saw VICTORIA'S SECRET again, CARIBBEAN PINK SUNSET, SECRET SPLENDOR, and a very different lemon yellow variant called CLAWS (Zahler '93). The pinched and twisted sepals fit the name very well.

Ottis and Mary Anne Houston have a commercial garden called Countryside Daylilies, with about 1,000 named varieties and 8,000-10,000 seedlings each year. Some of the named varieties can be bought in pots, and many visitors did. Black plastic paths make their garden less trouble and dry walking. I finally saw GLACIER BAY (Stamile '95) and wasn't disappointed. It is a 5.5" round cream tet with a gold edge and black stamens. Houston had a large bed of his EMBERS OF VESUVIUS that a lot of people posed for pictures. The color is a brilliant gold with a red eye. Another hot color was Salter's BURNING INHERITANCE ('95), a 5½" bright orange red. NORDIC NIGHT (Salter '91), a dark burgundy with watermark and light edges, had a Munson look. Stamile's ROYAL BRAID and CREATIVE EDGE were potted side by side for comparison, and they are much different (CE watermarked, RB eyed, both with edges). His ADMIRAL'S BRAID is similar to GLACIER BAY. TOTALLY AWESOME may have been one of the best doubles we saw, a 7" pink with rose blend, but Houston's MY CALLING CARD was an impressive double, too, being a large 5" pink.

On the way back we stopped at Ted Petit's Le Petit Jardin and saw many wonderful seedlings there, as well as his new introductions. He has four acres of daylilies hidden in a subtropical forest. His new LOUIS XVI, EFFAY VERONICA, RUFFIAN'S APPRENTICE, and ANNIVERSARY GOLD are all outstanding ruffled edged introductions. I also liked several seedlings out of UNTAMED GLORY.

We also stopped nearby at Wimberlyway Gardens. They are continuing with Bill Munson's hybridizing, particularly the watermarks. They have made several changes in the plantings, but it is still grand. A couple of watermarked purples of his we liked here were LEXINGTON AVENUE and CAMEROONS. Borgia Queen was a nice clump of lavender with a deeper eye and green throat.

It was grand to get down in May to see daylilies at their peak, then come home and anticipate another peak season here.