



The Blue Daylily

Newsletter of the Blue Ridge Area Daylily Society (BRADS)
2024 Fall Edition - November 15

President's Message

Wow what a busy Fall we have all had. I am ready for a break and am looking forward to the end of the planting season. Although, that may go on forever with the temperatures we have been having. All the plants I acquired from the Online Sale and the Plants For Members Auction are rooted well and showing lots of green growth. I hope everyone's garden bounced back after the long hot summer and your daylilies got their second wind.



Happy Fall Y'all

to shipping, listing, uploading pictures, sharing posts everybody chipped in to make things happen smoothly. Great effort on everyone's part!

I enjoyed meeting Heidi and Charles Douglas, our guest speakers at our November meeting. It's always interesting to see what special attributes each hybridizer is working on and the lineage to get to the final flower. So many unlikely crosses develop extraordinary blooms. I hope to find time in the future to finally be able to try my hand a hybridizing.

It takes years to get to the Douglas' level but I'm willing to give it a try. How about you? I would love to hear what you are working on.

We are about 5 weeks till Christmas. I love the holidays spending time with family and friends. Have you picked out that fabulous Dirty Santa gift yet? We will have our Christmas gathering on December 14th at 12 Noon and I hope you will join in on the fun. We will have a pot luck and then our fun gift exchange game. I sure did like the rain gauge I got last year. I can see it from my kitchen window and have enjoyed keeping track of the rain this year. Sometimes it was bone dry for way too long and other times I was shocked at how much we got. And here we are in a dry spell again. It's been a weird year...Hope the New Year is better!

Your Friend In All Things Daylily,
Shirley Jarusek

Upcoming Event Dates:

December 14, 2024, 12 Noon
Christmas Potluck and Gift Exchange
RCGC
3640 Colonial Avenue,
Roanoke, VA 24018

January 11, 2025, 12 Noon
Potluck, Business Meeting,
and Seed Exchange
RCGC
3640 Colonial Avenue,
Roanoke, VA 24018

Plants for Members News

It's time to start thinking about the plants we will consider for the 2025 Plants for Members program. We will start the selection process as soon as 2025 collections are available, and orders will be placed in January 2025. If you have any ideas about hybridizers that you would like to see included, please let Meg know as soon as possible.

Here are the suggestions that we've received so far:
Browns Ferry Garden, Charles and Heidi Douglas
www.brownsferrygardens.com

Bx Butte Daylilies, Bart Beck
bxbutte.plantfans.com

Pinewood Gardens, Phil and Luella Korth:
www.pinewooddaylilies.com

Stamile Daylilies, Patrick and Grace Stamile:
www.distinctly.on.ca/stamiledaylilies

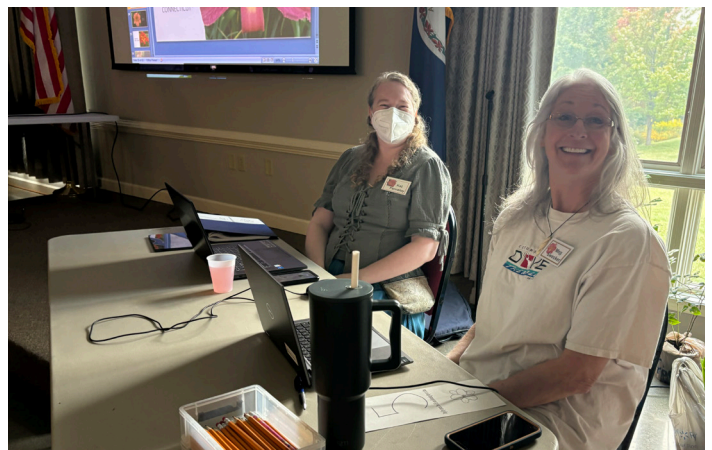
Topgun Daylilies (now Young Gun Daylilies),
Bobby and Sharon Scott: www.topgundaylilies.com

While 2025 collections aren't available for viewing at this time, you can get a sense of each hybridizer's style by visiting their websites. We currently have no suggestions for hybridizers who specialize in spiders, UFOs., or minis. We can go with tried and true hybridizers for these forms, of course, but if there are lesser known hybridizers that you would like to suggest, we are all ears!

Meg Swecker and Kat Ferneley
Plants for Member Chairs

PFM Auction

Meg Swecker and Kat Ferneley did a terrific job organizing and running the PFM Auction. Kyle Jones acted as Auctioneer and kept things rolling as there were a lot of divisions returned this year. The Plants for Members Program is a great asset to club members to acquire some really new and great daylilies at great prices. The club made a total of \$2024.45 dollars. Another venture where many people helped to make it a great success.

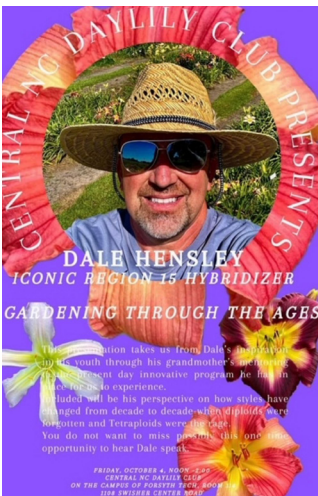


Online Daylily Sale

JoAnne Astin spearheaded the first ever online daylily sale which took place on August 31st. Members donated fans from their gardens and Meg Swecker used her magic computer skills to upload photos, prices, etc. Many hands joined in to help pack and label the shipping boxes and it was a smooth operation. The club made a total of \$1,642.24 dollars. What a great success for the club! We can't thank you enough for all your hard work and commitment to the club JoAnne and Meg.



Central North Carolina Daylily Club Presentation



This past October I was very pleased to travel with JoAnne Astin, Nancy B. Jones, and Margo Reed to Kernersville, NC to attend a presentation by Dale Hensley, an iconic Region 15 hybridizer. The presentation was sponsored by the Central NC Daylily Club. Members learned that Dale is always working to make the perfect red daylily and that

he has been breeding for a very long time. He has a love of horses and is friends with Martha Stewart. We were disappointed that many of the daylilies



that everyone awed over were actually purchased by Martha and that they would never make it to market. He had some very interesting stories to tell, and it was a great afternoon.

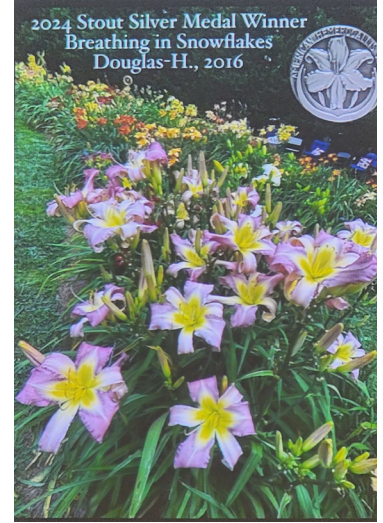
Shirley Jarusek



Guest Speakers - Charles & Heidi Douglas



It was a great pleasure to meet award winner Heidi and Charles Douglas from Brown's Ferry Gardens in South Carolina at our November Business Meeting. Together they put on a presentation of their hybridizing program. We learned that Heidi concentrates on diploid crosses while Charles works on tetraploids. Charles presented his formula to control weeds and was adamant that it really does work. They have really downsized their production as they are getting older and concentrate on specific traits they want to promote. The couple brought several of their introductions and the club held an auction which generated \$310.00 dollars for the club. The plants will be shipped in the Spring and distributed to the auction winners. A great time was had by all!



Nov 2, 2024 Douglas Auction Winners

- DIVAS ARE DIVINE / Susan Fore
- GIRL ON THE GLOW / Jovi Larson
- HITTING FOR THE CYCLE / JoAnne Astin
- MAGICAL SEASON / Shirley Jarusek
- MARY JORDON / JoAnne Astin
- MEME'S GRINS AND GIGGLES / Tom Fore
- MEME'S PINK STUFF / JoAnne Astin
- MR DITHERS / Meg Swecker
- PINEBARK STEW / Carol Sarginger
- PROUD PRISSY / JoAnne Astin
- THE ROGUE PRINCE / Tom Fore

How We Control our Weeds!

Pre-Emergent Herbicides
Broad Spectrum

Barricade/Calvacade
Active Ingredient Prodiamine 65%
1 Tbs/.5 ounce per gallon

Sedges
Pennant Magnum/Spirus
Active Ingredient S-metalochlor 83.7%
1 Tbs/.5 ounce per gallon

- Water the area to be sprayed
- Mix both liquids in the sprayer
- Spray the entire area, including over the daylilies
 - Water the area again
- Avoid spraying during hot weather..spring and fall only

Thanks to Scott Elliot for all the advice!



BRADS Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2024 Meeting

Members gathered at 10:00 to return their 2022 PFM plants. PFM co-chairs, Meg Swecker and Kat Ferneley checked in and recorded returning plants. With many new plants to bid on members were anxiously anticipating the auction.

Another flurry of activity was taking place as plants were packed and prepared for mailing to successful auction bidders. Our first online auction was spearheaded by JoAnn Astin and Nancy B. Jones who had prior experience with the process. Our very first auction attempt was a resounding success. With the help of many volunteers, most of the shipping preparation was completed in time for lunch.

Nancy B. Jones gave the invocation and lunch was served at 11:00. As usual, there was a great variety of dishes and desserts.

October 12, 2024 Meeting

President Shirley Jarusek convened the meeting at 1:12 and welcomed everyone. Members present, in addition to our President were Beverly Angle, JoAnne Astin, June Avis, Julie Covington, Susan Fore, Tom Fore, Kyle Jones, Nancy Jones, John Lawson, Pat Malotte, Barb Putney, Meg Swecker, Lynne Victorine, and Kent Walton. We welcomed new member Jovi Larson.

The minutes of the July 6, 2024 meeting were approved as amended.

Reports:

Treasurer Kyle Jones reported a balance on hand of \$13,121.99, with a CD balance of \$10,372.93, which will be filed as submitted. Kyle reported that he has continued to monitor the bank's performance following the hiccups he experienced during the merger. The group agreed, by consensus that since the CD comes due very soon, Kyle may shop around for the best return on the rates and roll over the CD to another bank at his discretion.

Kyle Jones convened the business meeting at 12:00. The only order of business was a discussion about the club's CD that matures in October. It was decided that a decision to rollover or mature the CD would be made at the October meeting. Having no other business to discuss, the business meeting was convened.

The PFM auction began at 12:15. Kyle Jones acted as auctioneer. Purchases were recorded and processed by Meg Swecker and Kate Ferneley, co-chairs of PFM committee. Bidding was competitive and many beautiful plants were purchased for member gardens. Kudos to Meg and Kat for a very smooth and successful auction.

Carolyn Fleming
Secretary

Vice President of Programs Nancy Jones reminded members the next meeting will be the first Saturday in November due to other space commitments in the RCGC building. That date is November 2nd. Heidi and Charles Douglas will be the speakers. They plan to bring plants that we will auction as a club fundraiser. Nancy will invite members of RCGC to join us for the talk. Kyle has reserved a room for them at the Holiday Inn-Tanglewood. Potluck options were discussed and finally it was agreed that Lynne Victorine would roast a pair of chickens, Shirley would provide ham, and the group would supply the sides and desserts.

Co-Vice President of Plants for Members Meg Swecker said that she felt the auction went well (this was soundly agreed to by the members!). She noted that Co-V-P Kat Fernelly's spreadsheet was "the bomb," and that it contributed to how well things went. Kat has emailed or snail mailed receipts to those who won their plants. Meg also asked for suggestions for hybridizers for next year and noted that she will begin contacting them in late December, so the sooner the better with the recommendations.

BRADS Meeting Minutes - Cont.

JoAnne Astin, chair of the online auction received kudos from the group on the success of our first effort. She expressed appreciation to everyone for their support, and reported the final accounting came to \$1,642.24. Julie Covington presented some suggestions for next year's auction, including how best to pack for the lightest possible weight in the box.

Chair of the Display Garden Renovation Shirley Jarusek reported that she had met with a fencing company and had received an initial set of estimates. John Lawson indicated he had received a list of hybridizers from Rich Crider and would be culling those for the Region 3 people. Barb Putney is working on a logo for the garden. Nancy Jones has identified at least 75% of the daylilies in the garden. The committee will meet to go over more fencing options and other business.

Newsletter Co-Chair Beverly Angle told members the deadline for the next newsletter will be November 7.

New Business:

President Jarusek said that she and JoAnne Astin, Nancy B. Jones and Margo Reed had attended the Central NC Daylily Club presentation by Dale Hensley, a Region 15 hybridizer. Among other things, they learned that Martha Stewart buys entire collections thus insuring no one else can have the varieties she has planted. The group agreed she is a daylily hoarder!

JoAnne Astin has Julie Covington's plant tags and will be sorting through to share with the display garden as well as to sell off to members.

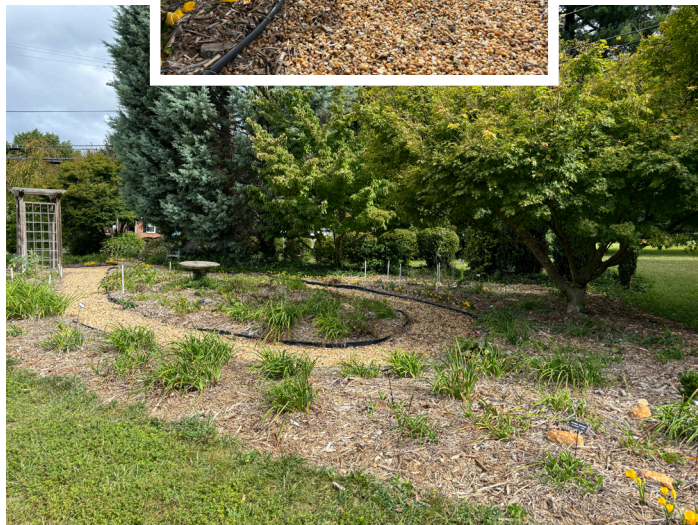
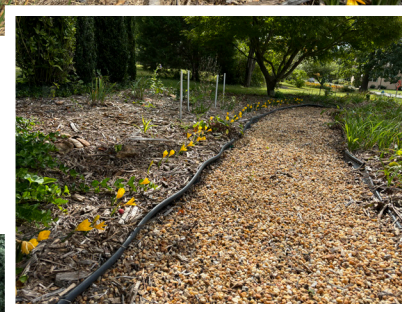
We welcomed Jovi Larson of Montvale as a new member and sang happy birthday to Kent Walton.

Unfinished Business:

Nancy Jones officially notified AHS that we no longer had a display garden.

There being no further business to discuss, President Jarusek adjourned the meeting at 2:26. Since the business meeting went on so long, she gave us a YouTube resource for dividing daylilies: Lynn Treece – Daylily Cleaning and Processing in lieu of a demonstration.

Lynne Victorine
Secretary, Pro Tem



Fall crocuses brighten up the display garden, planted by Nancy Jones.

**Blue Ridge Area Daylily Society Inc,
Treasurer's Reports**

3rd Quarter 2024

Balance 6/28/2024 \$9,504.29

Income

Kroger Cares \$32.61
Donation \$25.00
Dues (for 2025) \$40.00
PFM Auction \$2,024.45
Online Plant Sale* \$1,642.24
“Hall” Plants \$20.00
Meg (PayPal first use) \$19.40
Total \$3,803.70
Balance \$13,307.99

Expenditures

Wente Award..... \$100.00
RCGC (20% late payment Spring Sale) \$6.00
RCGC (Rent Sept, Oct, Nov, Dec) \$80.00
Total \$186.00
Balance 6/28/2024 \$13,121.99

Certificate of Deposit (due 10/20/24) \$10,372.93

*Online Auction (JoAnne’s email)

Sales \$1,824.00
PayPal \$-41.09
Shp. \$-140.67
Total \$1,642.24

Kyle Jones
Treasurer

BRADS 2024 Board Members:

Shirley Jarusek,
President

Kyle Jones,
Treasurer

Nancy Jones,
First Vice-President

Carolyn Fleming,
Secretary

Meg Swecker,
Kat Ferneley,
Second
Co-Vice-Presidents

Beverly Angle,
Barb Putney,
Newsletter Co-Editors

A recent photo of one of my newer daylily beds inspired me to write a few lines...



**FROST HAS COME
TO LULL THE GARDEN TO SLEEP.
THE BLANKETING DUST
THAT SPARKLES ON STONE,
LIMNING THE LEAVES
AND BLADES AS IT CREEPS,
LUCENT AND PALE,
TO MELT IN THE SUN.**

**SLEEP WELL MY LILIES,
SLEEP WELL MY PEARLS.
I’LL TUCK YOU IN
WITH A BEDSPREAD OF DUFF,
AND WAIT FOR THE
TENDRILS OF SPRING TO UNFURL;
THAT SEASONAL TURN THAT WILL COME,
SOON ENOUGH.**

Beverly Angle

**Special thanks in this issue to
Shirley Jarusek for reporting on
the auctions and special events.**

As always, we welcome contact from any and all members. Do you have a favorite photo from your garden this season? Consider sharing it to help brighten up our winter issue.