

# THE Daylily JOURNAL

## Summer in *France!*

From top:  
'French Touch' (Bancel, 2015)  
'Keriel's Copper Compass' (Savina, 2015)  
Marc Reviriot seedling 49b-12  
— photos courtesy of the hybridizers

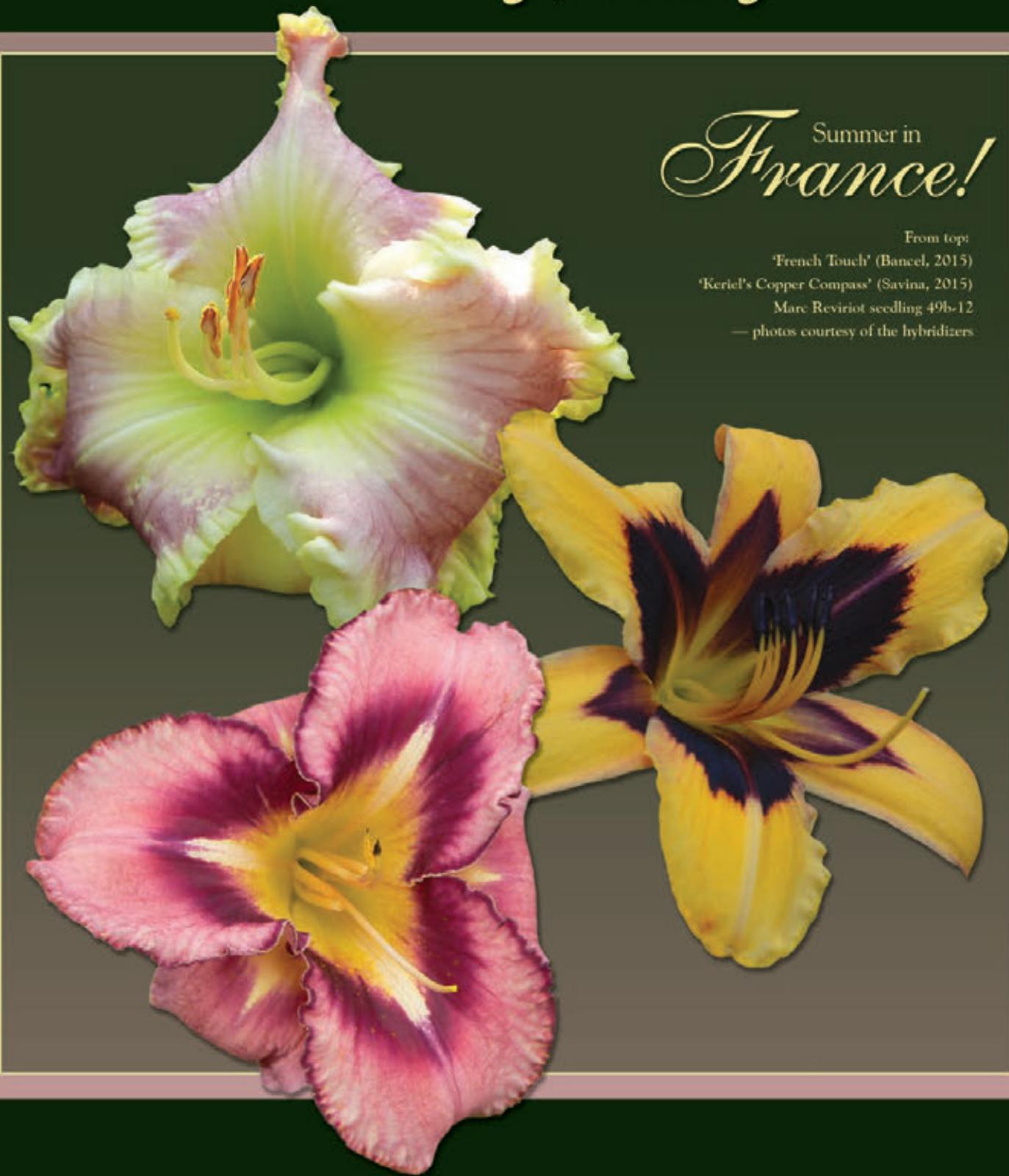


Photo: "Lawless Woman" (Kropf-Calderon, 2008)  
— Ann Monroe photo

# AHS Checklist Editor wanted

**ESSENTIAL QUALITIES:** The position requires a dedicated individual who can devote the time to produce a high quality and on-time Checklist (1/year). Registration records cannot be released until after the print version has been released. The applicant should have a working knowledge of the Society and of the registration process. As editor, he or she will work closely with the AHS Registrar. S/he will also work with the printing company to oversee its production and printing.

**SKILLS:** The editor must demonstrate an acceptable level of copy-editing skills, be proficient in and also already own a sophisticated computer page layout program, such as QuarkXpress, InDesign, or other similar publishing programs.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:** The editor supplies his/her own work space, including office furnishings, computer equipment, and software.

**DUTIES:** The following are basic duties that are currently a part of the Checklist editor's responsibilities:

- The editor oversees the publication and production of one annual issue of the Checklist.
- Copy edit all materials as provided by the registrar for the annual Checklist and arrange printing.
- Do typesetting and layout of copy.
- Transfer electronic, press-ready files to the printer. Oversee production.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:** **Application deadline is September 15, 2016**

Send two examples of your work, and state the capacity in which you have worked on the enclosures. The committee is willing to consider proposals relating to how the applicant intends to structure the job, and they will start interviewing selected applicants in October, with the final selection to be made at the AHS Fall Board Meeting, October 28-29. The current editor spends 75-100 hours editing the copy, designing and creating the book. The successful applicant will be hired as a contractor rather than an AHS employee, be paid a stipend of \$750, and s/he will receive a 1099 in 2017.



**Send application and supporting materials by September 15, 2016 to AHS Publications Chair, Lois Hart: [publications@daylilies.org](mailto:publications@daylilies.org)**

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By Scott Elliott, Ph.D.

with contributions from David Kirchhoff, Bruce Kovach, Tim Herrington, Pat and Grace Stamile, Ted Petit, and Bob Tankesley-Clarke

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(and join AHS)

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# THE Daylily JOURNAL

A quarterly publication of the  
American Hemerocallis Society, Inc.

[www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org)

Meg McKenzie Ryan, Executive Editor  
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and public interest therein. These purposes are expressly limited so that AHS qualifies as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future U.S. Internal Revenue Law.

A subscription to *The Daylily Journal* is included with membership in the American Hemerocallis Society. Interested persons are invited to join. Memberships are on the calendar year: January to December.

**Individuals dues:**

\$25 one year; \$70 three years

**Dual membership:** (two persons, same household, one set of publications)

\$30 one year; \$83 three years

**Life membership:** \$500

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**Youth membership (through age 18):** \$10

**International memberships are accepted:**

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Send all dues, address changes, and membership inquiries to:

Pat Mercer, AHS Executive Secretary

P.O. Box 10, Dexter, GA 31019

478-875-4110

[secretary@daylilies.org](mailto:secretary@daylilies.org)

Make checks payable to the

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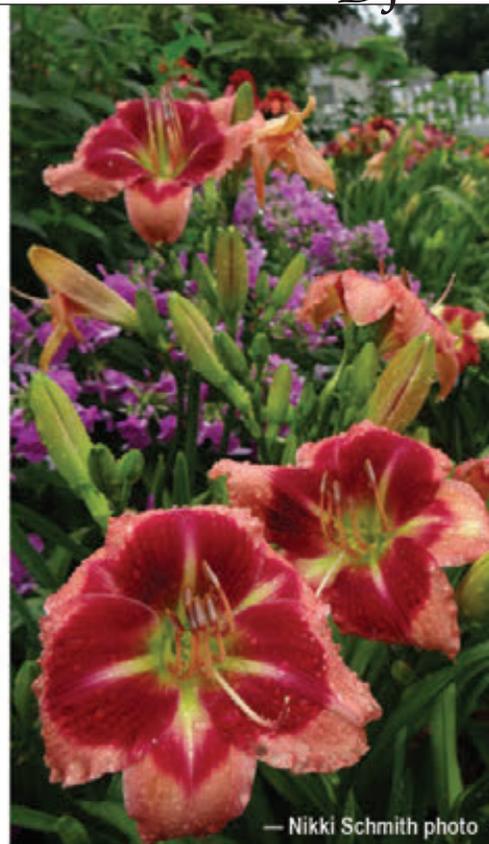
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Join AHS and win (fingers crossed!)

# 5 easy steps to \$500 for your club!



— Nikki Schmith photo

- 1 Help your club members become AHS members! Take your laptop to the next meeting and help them join online, on-the-spot!  
*You can do it!*
- 2 When you have a minimum of 50% of your club as AHS members, send your club's roster to [membership@daylilies.org](mailto:membership@daylilies.org) and [secretary@daylilies.org](mailto:secretary@daylilies.org)  
*And pat yourselves on the back!*
- 3 AHS has five recognition levels for clubs with at least 20 members! If your club gets more AHS members (after you already sent your roster), send the updated roster again!  
*And give yourselves a big hug!*
- 4 As soon as you achieve 50% or better AHS membership, your club will be recognized in *The Daylily Journal* and on the AHS website!  
*Wooheoooo!*
- 5 If your club succeeds in attaining 90% (or better) AHS membership, then you will be entered automatically into a drawing for a \$500 gift certificate at an AHS Voucher Program participating daylily nursery! (The drawing is held at the AHS Fall Board Meeting.)  
*And go dig in your new plants!*

Send your club rosters with AHS members indicated TODAY to: [membership@daylilies.org](mailto:membership@daylilies.org) and [secretary@daylilies.org](mailto:secretary@daylilies.org)!

(Please indicate your club's name in the Subject box of your email.)

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Picture: Frances Joiner (Joiner, 1988)

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## got questions?

Check out the AHS website for additional information at [www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org), or call the AHS Ombudsman, Charles Douglas. It is his job to answer your questions or find someone who can: (843) 546-6419 or email him at [ombudsman@daylilies.org](mailto:ombudsman@daylilies.org)

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Nikki Schmith  
AHS President

## Bloom and grow

# President's message



Summer is the stuff of dreams. We sit in our offices and classrooms and dream about summer. Longer days and shorter nights fool us into feeling the season will go on forever, but it is always over before we know it. Just now, the piercing song of a cardinal filled my ears and quieted my brain. I only heard that sound. That sound, perhaps even better said, that song of summer. I felt a relaxing wave ripple down my spine, and I inhaled deeply, breathing in the notes and the accompanying silence. It echoed through the front screen door, bounced off the foyer walls, and into the open living room, spilling into my study and into my soul as it went.

That is why I garden. Those passing moments of joy — that soulsong.

As you are reading this, I have already visited 12 states this year doing daylilies — with more on the calendar for the remainder of 2016. Virtually we can travel the world every day, using Facebook, Instagram (#daylily) and Pinterest (search 'daylily goodness' on Pinterest to find my personal board on daylilies). Make sure you check out our official channel on YouTube to see many videos from the upcoming national convention in Louisville and our other entries. Visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search for "the daylily society" to find our channel. There are so many regionals to attend, and videos to watch, and skills to learn, and people to call, and decisions to make, and flowers to photograph. And people to hug. And stories to hear. Keep reaching out to find them!

I started this presidency with a platform of DO. "Bloom and grow," I asked.

And boy, have you responded! The topic of volunteerism struck a chord and created real action, and to me, that is both humbling and exciting. It's "humbling" be-

cause many of you took the time to respond, to share your thoughts, to have the motivation to make a plan, and to make an impact. It's "exciting" to me because it further demonstrates the energy and passion we share for daylilies and daylily people.

An important part of my job is to create action, and the first half of this year has been filled with action of all kinds! It is clear there might be big changes in "how we have always done things," and I am thrilled to serve a Board that is forward-thinking and excited about growing AHS.

The feedback from my last President's Message has been overwhelmingly positive. Many local clubs took the advice to at least talk about changing their perspective about members, guests, and their approach to volunteerism. I'm hearing from many that they have created "Welcoming Committees" for new members, and they are making plans to do more to cultivate fun at meetings. You'll find a very detailed story in this issue from Region 11 on this very topic!

There's a lot to do! When the Summer AHS Board meeting is over, we can move on many of the big decisions made there. There is room for more people on the team. If you are interested in doing something, lets talk! Big projects in technology and membership management are up first, many others on deck, and all this along with all the normal churn of the Society. Join the AHS Facebook page to get the latest updates, participate in polls, join discussions, and share your local club successes! As always, my inbox is always open at [president@daylilies.org](mailto:president@daylilies.org)

Till next time, friends, keep moving, trying and DOING!

Daylilies, from top: 'Almost Indecent' (Gates-L., 1986), 'Which Way Jim' (Shooter, 1992), 'Kinda Blue' (Cochenour, 2012), 'Super Model' (Hermann, 2009), and 'Special Candy' (Stamile, 2006).  
— Nikki Schmith photos

# Service awards nomination deadline: September 1

By Melodye Campbell  
AHS Awards and Honors Chair

The AHS has a dedicated group of volunteers who make the society run. Each year at the National Convention, the AHS recognizes some of these distinguished members who serve our Society:

**Regional Service Awards** recognize members who go above and beyond in their service to their regions.

**The Electronic Media Award** is given to a member who promotes the mission of the AHS to members and the general public with electronic media such as blogs, websites and other social media.

We recognize an outstanding hybridizer with the **Bertrand Farr Silver Medal**.

An exceptional mentor is recognized with the **Steve Moldovan Mentoring Award**.

And finally, the highest recognition in our society, the **Helen Field Fischer Award** goes to a member for their distinguished and meritorious service at the National level.

For all these AHS personal awards, the nominations come from YOU. Nomination letters must be sent to the AHS Awards and



Melodye Campbell

Honors Chairman by September 1st by mail or email, and must contain a summary of the nominee's worthiness for this award. The nomination for the Electronic Media Award goes to the AHS Technology Chair, also by September 1st.

The AHS Board reviews the nomination letters and votes by secret ballot at the annual fall board meeting. The awards are presented at the following AHS National Convention.

The only way your peers may be considered for these awards is if YOU write letters of nomination for them. I challenge you to recognize a member who helps make your region and the AHS better for all of us. More de-

tailed guidelines for the AHS personal awards can be found on the AHS website under the Awards and Honors link,

<http://daylilies.org/AHSPersonal.html>

Melodye Campbell, Awards and Honors Chair:

[awards@daylilies.org](mailto:awards@daylilies.org)

Heidi Douglas, Technology Chair

[technology@daylilies.org](mailto:technology@daylilies.org)



## Getting Social!

Connect with other daylily fans on Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and YouTube.

See each of the icons for information to help you get in on the conversation!



# Rolling out your club's welcome mat



## for new members, new ideas, and increased volunteerism

By Gayle Yelenik  
Region 11, Missouri

One of my favorite quotes cheerfully describes characteristics of gardeners. Thanks to my ten years of experience in our Missouri-Kansas Daylily Society (Mo-Kan), I am convinced that these are also desirable traits for garden clubs.

*The most noteworthy thing about gardeners  
is that they are always optimistic,  
always enterprising, and never satisfied.  
They always look forward to doing something  
better than they have ever done before.*

— Vita Sackville-West, English poet,  
novelist, and garden designer

When a few of us in our club read and shared AHS President Nikki Schmith's blog, "Why Don't People Volunteer?" (January 7, 2016; [www.agirlandhergarden.com](http://www.agirlandhergarden.com)), we immediately identified with many of

the club situations and problems she described. We became motivated by her ideas. This was our rally cry, our call to action, our acceptance of Nikki's challenge to daylily clubs! We were resolute in our decision to try new strategies to support and energize our members, increase volunteerism, strengthen our club, and hopefully ensure its good health and longevity.

Many of our club members have a sense of pride and a desire to honor an important part of our club's history, its founder, the highly-decorated George E. Lenington. He received AHS' highest award — the Helen Field Fischer Gold Medal — for service to the Society nationally in 1955, and the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for outstanding results in hybridizing in 1970. He was the President of the AHS from 1948 to 1949. Lenington originated the Society's second highest cultivar award, the Lenington All American Award.

Lenington organized the first Kansas City Hemerocallis Society in 1950, and it was an active club through 1972. Lenington was one of the founding members when our club was formed again in 1977.

Because of our history, we strive to make the club more satisfying and

Clockwise from facing page: Loretta Knoche, Jane Shepherd, and Catherine Boyle clean plants for Mo-Kan's spring 2016 sale. Elroy Knoche and Carl Hoehn hose soil off plants which were in the spring 2016 plant sale. Julie Perez and Darlene Henderson, cashiers at the Loose Park fall plant sale in 2014, pose for a photo.

— Carl Hamilton photo



Above: Mo-Kan's Volunteer Board shows volunteer opportunities.

— All photos by Gayle Yelenik except where noted

fulfilling to our long-time members as well as our new members?

Mo-Kan has been growing in membership, participation, and member satisfaction for the past few years. However, it is always a challenge to recruit new officers, committee chairpersons, and members to serve on standing committees. We have concerns about how smoothly transitions of club leaders will go or — a worst-case scenario — if our worker-bee members “retire” (wear out!), and no one else steps up to carry on their responsibilities in similar or new ways.

**Our Game Plan**

**Volunteer committee formed:** We got approval to form a new *ad hoc* committee, the Mo-Kan Volunteer Development Committee. This new group includes three current officers and three other members who have experience as committee coordinators or past officers. We announced the formation and purpose of this

new committee in the first newsletter of the year.

**Goals set:** At our first committee meeting, we set goals, objectives, and timelines, and we picked a slogan: “2016: Our Year of Doing; Let’s Do It Together!”

**Input from membership requested:** At our next club meeting, we led members in a discussion asking for input about the benefits and obstacles to volunteering; what our club is doing right; and how we could improve. Each member received a bookmark which lists what Mo-Kan club offers to members on the front, and ideas for how members can contribute to the club on the back.

**Reviewed volunteer opportunities:** We reviewed our volunteer structure for committees and special events. We revised our structure to create more volunteer opportunities for members, but with fewer tasks, in order to make volunteering more inviting and manageable, and less intimidating or overwhelming. We kept in mind the oft-repeated advice, “Don’t try to organize your entire house; start with a drawer!”

**Created a volunteers board:** We created ‘Our Year of Doing’ board which is on display at every club meeting, along with sign-up sheets.

**Volunteer opportunities outlined in detail:** Volunteer opportunities are posted with very specific descriptions, including responsibilities, timelines, how many people are wanted, date(s), and time(s), support and guidance

available, and if the task or committee work can be done from home. These choices will change as the year progresses. Members receive a preview of current volunteer opportunities electronically prior to each meeting, so they have time to review the choices. We also make announcements at meetings and personally ask members to volunteer.

**Repeat, repeat, repeat:** As our year progresses, we will continue to rely on the impact of repeat messages and multiple strategies to encourage more involvement, support members in new volunteer roles, thank them for their efforts, and be receptive to hearing new ideas!

**What’s new in Mo-Kan**

Our club is already implementing new ideas from members, and other ideas will be implemented as the year progresses. We are seeing a

See Welcome Mat, page 12

**Seeds for thought**

— Change and continuity do not have to be incompatible. You need both to keep your club alive and growing. What’s that saying? “If you don’t change (or if you are stagnant), you die.”

— When describing volunteer opportunities to members, provide all relevant information to interest and support that volunteer. Would you apply for a new job without first seeing a job description?

— Many people respond better when personally asked to help vs. doing a cattle call for volunteers. Sometimes it’s that simple.

— Roll out your welcome mat on the path to offer new activities and communicate that you are receptive to hearing new ideas. It can increase interest, stimulate creativity, grow enthusiasm and encourage more member involvement. If you plant the seed, new ideas and new volunteers are much more likely to come!

— When floating new ideas or drafting a new plan, do mini focus groups. Ask members who don’t usually get asked for their feedback. Most likely, they will be pleased to have been asked, and you will gain valuable input.

— Learn from the past. Were there successful and interesting programs, activities, or volunteer roles that your club used to do but that for some reason were discontinued? Maybe it’s the season to bring them back.

— New ideas do require a plan and people to implement them. It’s OK to start small with presenting new ideas. You won’t have a 100% success rate, but you’ll never know until you try!

— Attempt to preempt resistance and an attitude of, “we’ve never done it that way before.” If you are feeling feisty, you might ask, “Well, why NOT?” Or you could acknowledge to members that you know change can be difficult, then thank them for being willing to try something new or a new and modified way of doing something ‘old.’

Welcome mat  
continued from page 11

ripple effect as new ideas take hold and create a "climate-of-change atmosphere!"

■ We now have two greeters at every meeting to welcome members and guests.

■ We created distinctive name badges for new members to help all members identify and welcome them as new members and to learn the date they joined

■ We are creating a member-mentoring program.

■ We created an annual membership card offering discounts at local businesses.

■ Members respond to a survey asking them to indicate their interests, strengths and skills.

■ Revision of our Daylily Dollar program, a volunteer incentive program developed to reward and thank members for their contributions. Daylily dollars may be spent at an annual plant auction. Members receive quarterly reporting logs to track their volunteering and to let them know what's coming up next in the club meeting.

■ Our "Year of Doing" volunteer opportunity board is displayed at each meeting.

■ Our "Welcome Mat for New Ideas"

is also displayed at meetings to assist in long range planning; members sign up to indicate which new activities they are interested in, and they may also submit new ideas for consideration.

■ A master notebook contains detailed descriptions, timelines, and supporting materials for all officer and committee responsibilities. It is our intent that this tool will help with transitions, provide continuity, and also encourage new ideas.

**New member involvement**

Since kicking off our "2016 Year of Doing: Let's Do It Together," several more members have volunteered to become involved in club activities and to serve on committees in new roles. We do still have some open positions, so we know we are a work in progress. Our focused efforts to create and plant more support for members have helped to grow enthusiasm in our club and to foster more camaraderie. While our efforts are still very early to draw any long-term conclusions, we definitely encourage other clubs to accept Nikki's challenge to review your current volunteer structure and be open to trying new strategies. ■

## And the Mo-Kan members said...

Mo-Kan member, Catherine Boyle, likes being kept informed about volunteer opportunities and being given clear descriptions with guidelines of what is involved. When she volunteers, it gives her a sense of belonging, and she knows she is helping the club, in a small way, to meet the goals and objectives that are important to the success of Mo-Kan.

Sharon Henry and her granddaughter, Sophia Cunningham-Henry, signed up to volunteer at their first Mo-Kan meeting, saying they felt welcome and enthused about getting involved. In following up on the Volunteer Opportunities Board and volunteering, she responded, "The opportunities are up front, visual, and easy to follow to get involved. We love being asked to volunteer and having choices to see what works for our schedules. Volunteering on the day of the members' daylily dollar/cash auction was a lot of fun."

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Dragon Keeper (Salter, 2015)



Eyes of an Angel (Grace-L., 2015)



Fairy Tale Friends (Salter-E.H., 2015)



Florida Range Rider (Salter, 2015)



Flower Wolf (Gossard, 2015)



Fly by Midnight (Salter, 2015)



Four Beasts in One (DeCaire, 2009)



Greater Good (Petit-Goff, 2014)



Gunmetal Magic (Salter, 2015)



It's a Whopper (Harry-P., 2015)



Jacob's Smile (Harry-P., 2015)



Kaleidoscope Thunderstorm (Carpenter-M., 2015)



Monster Quest (Gossard, 2015)



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'Loch Ness Monster' (1992)



'Squiggles' (2000)



'Sorceress' (1990)

# THE EARLY GIRL

## Geraldine Couturier's hybridizing

By Will (Bud) Coltharp  
Region 10, Tennessee

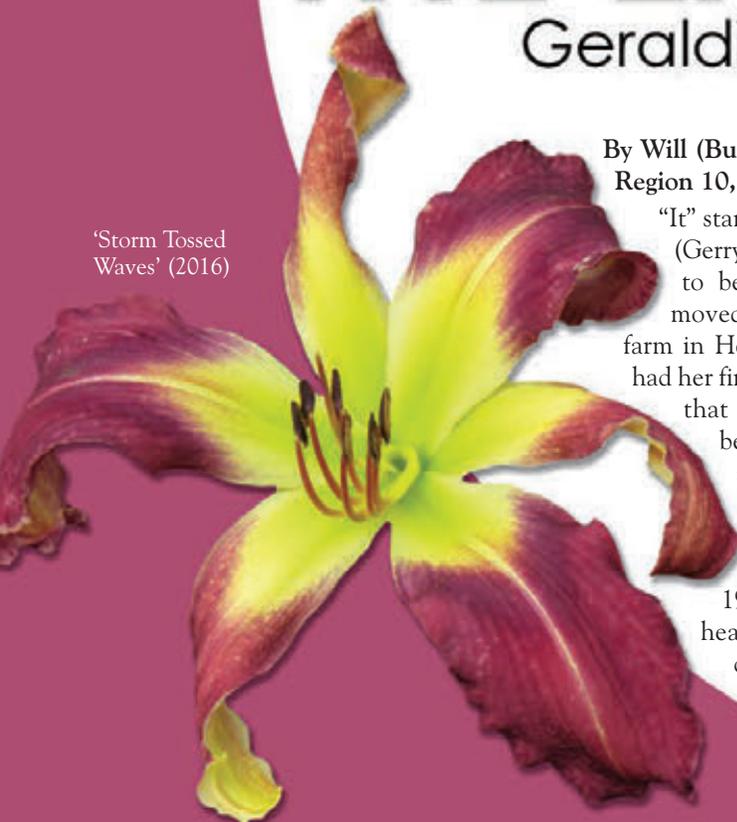
"It" started early for Geraldine (Gerry) Couturier — age six to be exact — when she moved with her family to a farm in Hesperia, Michigan and had her first flower garden. Since that time, the years have been filled with passionate garden interests including both iris and daylilies. It was during an iris show in 1979 that Geraldine first heard about a nearby daylily nursery, Englerth Daylilies,

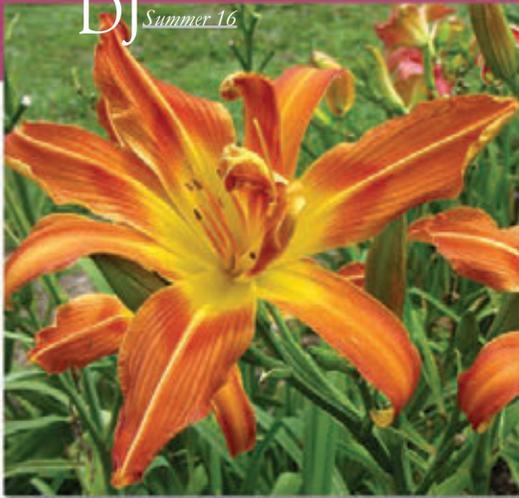
and made the trek over to purchase her first six daylilies. Soon after that purchase, and seeing the diversity of available colors in daylilies, her curiosity was aroused to see what would happen if she started "dabbing a little pollen," and there has been no looking back since then.

Describing her goals, she states that initially she only desired "something different," but soon her interests started to focus on unusual and spider forms. Who would have suspected that from those humble beginning goals, she would eventually have several of her registrations featured in the well-known book, *The Color Encyclopedia of Daylilies*, by Ted Petit and John Peat, as well as three AHS Honorable Mention Awards?

Her first introduction was the well-known 'Witches Brew' (1990), a diploid brick-red spider with darker red eyezone and gold throat that is

'Storm Tossed Waves' (2016)





'Beware the Wizard' (1995)



'Banana Buds' (Couturier-John, 1995)



'Cardinal de Richelieu' (2003)

— All photos by Karen Newman unless noted otherwise

still frequently seen in daylily gardens today. 'Witches Brew' won an AHS Honorable Mention in 1999. Since that first introduction in 1990, Geraldine has introduced a total of 48 cultivars with all but one being registered as either a spider or unusual form.

Another of her early introductions, 'Beware the Wizard' (1995), continues to attract the interest of hybridizers. 'Beware the Wizard' is not only a double, but also a spider and polys 75 percent of the time; all traits that hybridizers are looking for today.

When Geraldine is asked what her favorite introductions are, she names three: 'Sorceress' (1990), 'Loch Ness Monster' (1992), and 'Squiggles' (2000). 'Sorceress' is a huge 9.5-inch unusual form crispate, dark rose bitone with yellow midribs above chartreuse throat. At 34 inches, it appeals to those who want tall daylilies that make a statement in the garden.

'Loch Ness Monster' in particular has been used as a parent of over 40 spider and unusual-form registered cultivars by many award-winning hybridizers. It's a large 7.5-inch spider, silvery lavender with darker-lavender halo above a yellow-green throat according to the AHS Database. 'Squiggles' is seen in commerce infrequently and is not as well known as some of Geraldine's cultivars, but it is still a favorite due to its unusual coloration. A 7.5-inch unusual-form crispate, light yellow with medium-rosy purple eye above yellow-green throat, it stands 30 inches tall with two-way branching.

It was during the early years of hybridizing that Geraldine became one of the founding members in 1985 of the Grand Valley Daylily Society (GVDS), in Grand Rapids, Michigan, a short drive from her home in Hesperia. Thirty years later, the club continues to be one of the larger clubs in the country, now having over 100 members.

Geraldine's path with her husband, John, led them to Knoxville, Tennessee in 1987, where they lived for 26 years and owned Sunnyridge Gardens. It was during this time that

Geraldine registered 47 of the 48 of her introductions. And not to be left out, her husband, John, registered 20 cultivars, one of the most notable being 'Banana Buds', a large seven-inch bright golden-yellow that never fails to attract attention in the garden.

One of Geraldine's more popular cultivars and what many of East Tennessee Daylily Club members considered her best at the time of registration is 'Cardinal de Richelieu' (2003). The color is clear and bold according to growers, and it holds up in heavy rains and the hot sun. Geraldine says it is named for an antique rose of the same name and "not the infamous Cardinal of the 1500s."

During Geraldine's years, she has made many close friends, one of whom was the late well-known hybridizer, Shirley Farmer. Shirley and Geraldine were both interested in spider and unusual forms long before others, and they persisted in their interest despite the admonitions of other hybridizers. The story goes that one day as  
**See Couturier, page 16**



'Curly Twirly Shirley' (2000)

— Debbie Monbeck photo

'Double Victorian Jewel' (1998)





'President Allinder' (2000)



'Vulcanus' (2005)

### Couturier continued from page 15

Shirley was walking through Geraldine's garden at Sunnyside, they both spied a seedling, and Shirley exclaimed, "Gerry, look how that one twirls and curls...I love it." At that point, Geraldine decided that she would register the seedling as 'Curly Twirly Shirley' (2000).

Karen and Steve Newman, of Delano Daylilies in Delano, Tenn., have been friends of the Couturiers for many years, and Karen can relate several stories of Geraldine's introductions and the origin of their names as told to her by Geraldine. One story in particular reflects that not only was Geraldine a hybridizer but a shrewd marketer, too. One of the Tennessee garden clubs was touring Geraldine's garden in the late 1990s. As they toured the garden, they asked if she had a seedling that could be named for their popular state president, Juanita Allinder, who was president of the Tennessee Federation of Garden Clubs, 1999-2001. Geraldine quickly assured them that she did indeed have something in mind, a 7.5-inch beautiful unusual-form crispate, light yellow self above a yellow-green throat. According to the story, this seedling was subsequently named 'President Allinder' and registered in 2000. That year, so many of

the garden club members returned to purchase 'President Allinder' that Geraldine sold out of her complete inventory! As an aside, Juanita Allinder, now in her early 90s, continues to be an active member of the Middle Tennessee Daylily Society, and every year she is the Design Division Chair of their annual flower show.

Geraldine's enthusiasm extended far beyond just hybridizing during her time in Knoxville. She and her husband not only expanded their garden to include over 3500 different daylily cultivars, but she also was a leader in the East Tennessee Daylily Society, helping host a national convention as well as regional meetings with their garden always being open for tour.

Another interest of Geraldine's that she is especially proud of was her collection of historical or antique daylilies. She began with a truckload of historical daylilies that she purchased for \$40.00 from another collector, and she has donated 800 historical daylilies to the North Dakota State University in Fargo, N.D., helping form the nucleus for an AHS Historical Garden currently displaying more than 1200 pre-1980 cultivars.

Active in AHS both at the national and regional levels, Geraldine was the Regional Vice President (now referred to as "Regional President") of Region 2 prior to her move to Knoxville.

After the move to Knoxville, she won many awards, including the Region 10 Service Award and the Virginia Peck Hybridizing Award. And because of her expertise and enthusiasm, she served on the AHS Spider Definition Classification Committee helping to define the spider/unusual form definitions as used by AHS today. An Exhibition Judge for over 20 years, Geraldine is widely known for judging shows

'Prince of Purple'  
(1993) — Lynn Stoll  
photo





'Green Martian' (2005)

throughout the southeast U.S. and as a speaker at the Mid-Winter Symposium and daylily clubs.

In 2006, she and John made the difficult decision to close their garden to the public due to health reasons, and they moved the marketing and distribution of her plants to Delano Daylilies, owned by good friends, Karen and Steve Newman near Chattanooga, Tenn. This has given Karen and Steve the opportunity to grow most of Geraldine's introductions. One of Karen's favorites is 'Green Martian' (2005), an unusual-form crispate. According to Karen, it polys often and doesn't need a plant marker because it is so unique. Always popular with visitors, Karen and Steve say they can never keep enough in inventory to meet the demand.

Another favorite of the Newmans is 'Vulcanus' (2005). According to Karen, John Peat had been growing a few of Geraldine's plants in Florida for evaluation and shipped 'Vulcanus' to them because he thought it was especially noteworthy and should be grown for increase and marketing. When it bloomed for the first time, Karen says it took their breath away, and it continues to be one of Steve's favorites in the garden. It's tall with sturdy scapes and beautiful blooms that always open perfectly according to the Newmans.

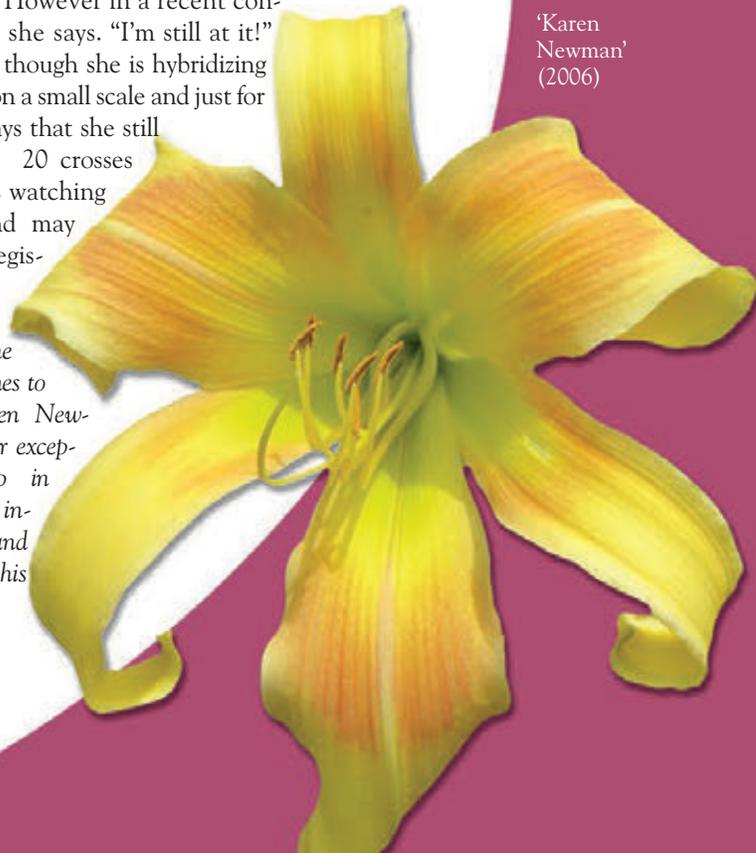
Karen remembers with a smile some of the stories surrounding the origin of the names for Geraldine's introductions and her sense of humor. She remembers asking Geraldine, "Who is Jeremiah Rumsey?" when she first saw 'Jeremiah Rumsey' (1998) in the garden at Sunnyside. She said that Gerry laughed aloud and said "Jeremiah Rumsey was one of my ancestors in the 1700s. He was known in life for reading his Bible through over 40 times...but he was also known for being mean to his wife. So I don't know

if he learned a lot from all his *Bible* reading!" Karen says today that she smiles every time she walks by the plant in the garden.

In October 2013, Geraldine and John moved back to Hesperia, Mich. to be closer to her family and help care for her mother. She rejoined the club that she helped found 30 years ago, and at the time told Karen and Steve that she would probably not be introducing any more cultivars. However in a recent conversation, she says, "I'm still at it!" And even though she is hybridizing now only on a small scale and just for fun, she says that she still has about 20 crosses that she is watching closely and may possibly register. ■

*Author's note: The author wishes to thank Karen Newman for her exceptional help in providing information and photos for this story.*

'Karen Newman' (2006)





# Diana Grenfell

AHS Life Member receives  
Royal Horticultural Society's  
prestigious 2016 Veitch Award



From far left: An undated archive photo of Diana Grenfell — Roger Grounds photo; (Left to right) Diana Grenfell is honored at an RHS meeting with the 2016 Veitch Memorial Medal by Sue Biggs, RHS Director General.

**By Maureen Strong**  
AHS International Membership Chair  
Region 4, Ontario, Canada

Diana Grenfell of Gloucester, United Kingdom was recently one of four recipients of the Royal Horticultural Society's prestigious Veitch Memorial Medal. Diana is an AHS life member (1997) and a winner of the AHS Service Award – International (2005). The Veitch Medal is awarded annually, usually to between three and five individuals who are deeply committed to some aspect of horticulture. The individuals may be of any nationality. The recipients must have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of the art, science or practice of horticulture. There is a wide range of criteria, and the honor is bestowed usually after years of involvement in an awardee's particular subject.

Diana's interest in daylilies grew out of an initial love of hostas. In the late 1970s, she led a Hosta Study Group for the British Hardy Plant Society, and the group was later persuaded to include *Hemerocallis*. This group eventually became the British Hosta and Hemerocallis Society (BHHS, 1983) which Diana co-founded with a daylily enthusiast. She became its first chairman, later a Vice-President, and she still holds this office today.

Once the BHHS was created, her main goal was to attain — for both hostas and daylilies — the highest profile possible but with the proviso that the two genera must be adaptable and suitable for a maritime climate.

In 1989, she founded Apple Court Nursery in Lymington, Hampshire which is on the south central shore of England. Daylilies became Apple Court's best-selling plants. The six color-themed daylily borders at Apple Court became the first official AHS Display Garden outside of North America, an accolade which Diana still cherishes today. It became a mecca for daylily enthusiasts from all over Europe.

Diana first visited the U.S. in 1987 to receive the American Hosta Society's Alex J. Summers Award of Merit (for outstanding service

to the development of the genus *Hosta* and/or the Hosta Society) and to speak at their national convention held at Longwood Gardens near Philadelphia. After touring many gardens, Diana found that the highlight was Dr. Darrel Apps' nearby Woodside Nursery.

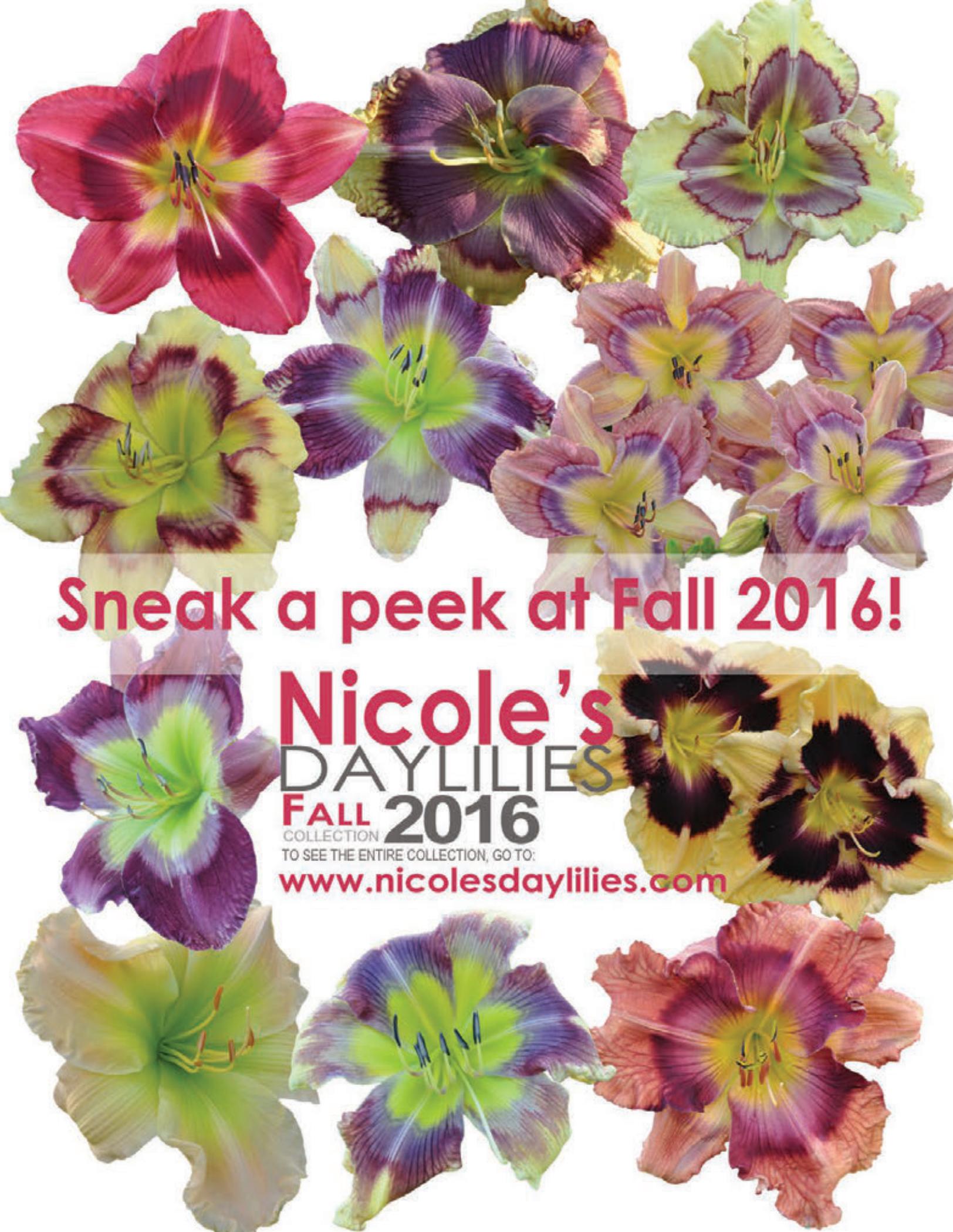
She also visited New Zealand to participate in their equivalent of the Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show, which gave her the opportunity to see how daylilies thrived in the wet and windy maritime climate there. She has also given a presentation at the American Hemerocallis Society Region 10 Mid-Winter Symposium.

In 1992 Diana was invited by Marc King (AHS Life Member, Italy) — who had been sending her southern-raised Lucille Guidry and Ida and R.W. Munson daylilies — to attend the inaugural meeting of HemEuropa in Switzerland where she met Francois Verhaert (AHS Member, Spain), Cor Govaerts, and Liselotte Hirsbrunner (AHS Life Member, Switzerland). Hirsbrunner is now the European Representative to the BH&HS. Diana attended several of the HemEuropa Summer Weekends and became a Vice-President of the now sadly defunct Society.

Florida's Daylily Mecca beckoned enticingly when Diana was writing *The Gardener's Guide to Growing Daylilies* in 1997. She was guided around the nurseries and introduced to breeders and nursery people by the hospitable Kevin Walek (AHS President [2006-2009] and AHS Registrar [2012-2015]). She attended the AHS annual convention in Jacksonville, returning to Apple Court with three suitcases full of daylilies, and a new perspective on how they flourished in a hotter and more humid climate than Britain's.

The move in 2003 from Apple Court on the south coast to the West Country unfortunately necessitated the reduction of daylilies from 700 to about 70, but her reward came in 2005 when she won the AHS International Service Award.

Diana continues to be very involved in daylilies and is certainly most deserving of the RHS Veitch Memorial Medal. ■



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# RED

n., adj. one of the primary colors  
 acronym, **R**etired **E**xtrremely  
**D**angerous (from the movie. "RED")

By Libby Hickman  
 Region 10, Tennessee

The hybridizing program of Lee and Jean Pickles in Region 10 may have never come into existence if it had not been for a daylily show. The Tennessee Valley Daylily Society (TVDS) was holding their annual daylily show in 1986 at a local mall when Lee strolled through. Suddenly something beautiful caught his eye. Not a storefront or beautiful mannequin but a flower with a magnificent glow. He was

hooked. And that's how it all started.  
 Before seeing all the daylilies at this TVDS show, Lee thought that all daylilies were either orange or yellow. As an aside, he didn't know red daylilies existed at that time. What a surprise to see all the variety of colors displayed. But one in particular that day, a beautiful light pink, caused a closer look. Its name was 'Lullaby Baby' (Spalding-W., 1975). While taking notice of such beautiful flowers in an array of colors, Lee was introduced to Denver Scott, a local hybridizer. Seeing the interest sparked in Lee's eyes, Scott invited the Pickles to come to the next TVDS meeting. Lee and Jean began attending meetings and acquiring a few daylilies. At this time, they lived in a townhouse with very little yard for daylilies, but this didn't stop them from buying a few more. It was this townhouse where the Pickles' Chattanooga Daylilies was born. However, it didn't take very long for Lee to realize that he needed a little more land for his new hobby, so he ended up renting land behind his church to plant his new daylilies.

Clockwise from lower left, facing page: 'Bogart' (2014); Lee Pickles pollinating daylilies in the greenhouse at his Chattanooga Daylilies (Bruce Kovach photo); Jean and Lee Pickles (Debbie Monbeck photo); 'Jean Pickles' (2008); 'Stolen Heart' (2016); 'Jaimie Pickles' (2016); and 'Nicole Pickles' (2016).

With this new selection of daylilies and more land, Lee decided to try his hand at hybridizing. He played around dabbing pollen for about ten years before deciding to introduce any of his creations. Some of the Pickles' first introductions were 'Bonbini' (Wedgeworth-Pickles, 1995), 'Choo Choo Caboose' (1998), 'Choo Choo Fantasy' (1995), 'Heart of Midnight' (Branch-Pickles, 1992), and 'Pardon Me Boy' (1995).

'Bonbini' (meaning "welcome" in Papiamento, the official language of Aruba) was a seedling that Lee found while on a daylily garden tour in Alabama with Denver Scott. Lee was looking around the garden and saw a small red bicolor seedling off to the side. Liking what he saw, Lee asked the garden owner if he could purchase the flower. He did, and used this flower for most of his diploid crossings. For several years, Lee's hybridizing focus would be considered "shotgun," dabbing pollen here, there, and everywhere. He was hybridizing with

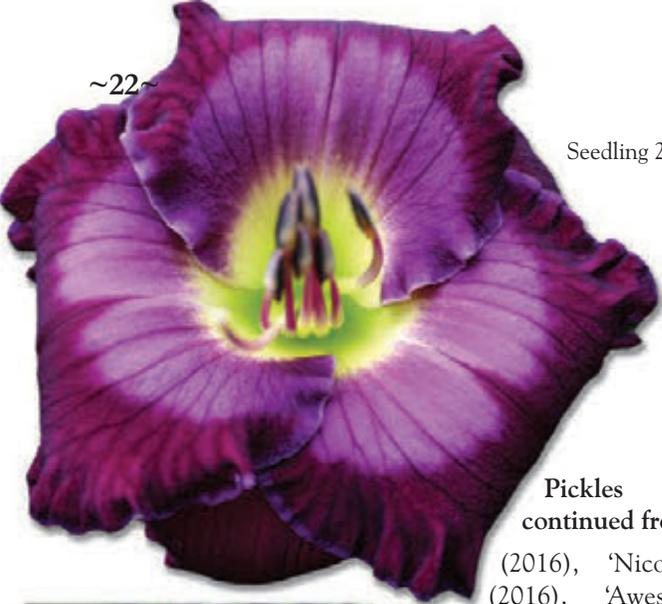
both dips and tets.

Space became a problem again, but in 1993 Lee found acreage in Hixson, Tenn.: two beautiful flat acres. He built a greenhouse and has been able to hybridize early in the season inside this greenhouse ever since. Seeds are planted in September and plants are usually blooming in about nine months.

Almost 30 years later and post-retirement (from medical education), the Pickles have introduced nearly 170 daylilies into commerce. Some of the Pickles' favorites are: 'Jean Pickles' (2008), 'Jaimie Pickles'

See Pickles, page 22





Seedling 2091



Seedling 4020

— All photos courtesy of the hybridizer unless noted otherwise

**Pickles continued from page 21**

(2016), 'Nicole Pickles' (2016), 'Awesome Bob' (2001), 'Doc Branch' (1998), 'Horny Devil' (2007), 'Groovin' (2011), 'Stolen Heart' (2016) and 'Bogart' (2014).

The Pickles' hybridizing focus is now on flat-formed, large flowers. Lee loved yellow, and he focused on them for several years, but now his true love is hybridizing red daylilies and just a few purples.

His fascination with reds began in 2008 when Jeff and Elizabeth Salter came for a visit. Jeff brought a red seedling as a "guest" for Lee to use in hybridizing (introduced in 2010 as 'Camelot Red' [Salter, 2010]). Lee was mesmerized with this red seedling and began acquiring more reds to use in hybridizing. Some of the first reds he used were 'Doug's Caress' (Holley-S., 2009), 'Home of the Free' (Grace-L, 2012), and 'Barbara Mandrell' (Kirchhoff-D, 2009). The first significant seedling from a red cross was Seedling 1004 ('Doug's Caress' [Holley-S., 2009] × 'Camelot Red') introduced in 2016 as 'Stolen Heart'. This is where the interest in a red program was generated. Lee has become so infatuated with reds that all of his hybridizing crosses in 2016 have been in

newsletters. Lee served the region two years as RVP and ten years as newsletter editor. He is currently serving as First Vice President of TVDS.

After attending a few regional meetings and being a little disappointed that there wasn't more information about growing and hybridizing daylilies, Lee had the idea of holding a meeting to which he would invite several hybridizers to speak on these daylily subjects. He collaborated with some of his other daylily friends, such as David Kirchhoff, and set the meeting into action. The meeting became known as the Mid-Winter Symposium (MWS), and as we all know, it has become very popular over the years.

The very first MWS was held in 1991 with 107 in attendance. It became so popular that in just a few years the attendance was up to almost 350. This particular meeting was the first of its kind in the U.S. As others saw its popularity, other regions began to hold their own winter meetings. MWS is still a very informative meeting and has definitely served its purpose for the daylily community.

In 2009, Lee was awarded the Helen Field Fischer Gold Medal for outstanding service to the American Hemerocallis Society. Established in 1950 and awarded to only one person annually (unless there is a tie), this is the Society's highest honor and is the official recognition for distinguished and meritorious service rendered the AHS by a member at the national level. It is named for the founder of the AHS.

Here in Region 10, we are thankful for the hard work and dedication of Lee and Jean Pickles to our region and the AHS. We are thankful for their contributions of flowers and knowledge as they mentor youth and other new members. It's hard to believe that none of this could have happened were it not for a simple daylily show; that was the hook that caught Lee and Jean Pickles. ■



Seedling 2060



Seedling 6004



Seedling 4042



Seedling 4025



Seedling 5033



Seedling 9080

the red category.

Since joining the local daylily society (TVDS) and the AHS, both Lee and Jean have held numerous officer positions. The need for good leadership placed the Pickles in active roles very quickly. Only three years after joining TVDS, Lee was asked to chair the Region 10 Summer Meeting being held in Chattanooga in 1989. It was such a success that Lee was elected Regional Vice President (RVP, now called Regional President). One of his responsibilities in this office was to produce the regional newsletter, *The Daylily Appeal*. Luckily, Lee's background in printing helped him achieve this task. He introduced Region 10 to one of the first four-color regional print





# FOCUS POCUS

*Featuring Linda Michaels' hybridizing*



'Tooky Tooky Bird' (Michaels, 2013)



Seedling: ('Dallas Star' [Ferris, 1976] × 'Malachite



'Adderbolt' (2010)

▲ 'Banshee Sonata' (2014)

— All photos courtesy of Linda Michaels

**By Linda Michaels**  
Region 4, New York

There comes a time when any new hybridizer starts to heed the words heard over and over again from nearly every club or symposium speaker: "Focus, focus, focus! Pick a goal and focus!" The speakers really seem to believe this. I believed it.

Shortly after I joined the Buffalo Area Daylily Society (BADS) in 1998, Pam Hoffman asked me to do some line drawings for a club presentation illustrating the various daylily shapes. Early on, I'd been taught to draw the negative space first — the space around objects rather than the objects themselves — and the concept was just contrary enough that it stuck. While working on the illustrations, I came to realize that round daylilies on a table are a block

with a sloppy hole cut in it, while spiders produce beautiful star shapes or — if twisty and curly — even more compelling asymmetrical fretwork. I had just heard that focus mantra for the first time. Yep, I would concentrate on spiders and quickly become the greatest spider hybridizer on the planet!

I had grown only round forms up to that point. The eye of 'Dragon Dreams' (Salter-E.H., 1991) was mesmerizing. That of 'Little Witching Hour' (Salter-E.H., 1988) was enthralling. I recall telling Elizabeth Salter, "Who needs drugs when you can just stare into the eyes of these daylilies?" Of course, by the time I met her, she had introduced so many far more intricate patterns, she might not have recalled what 'Dragon Dreams' or 'Little Witching Hour' looked like, but she smiled.



Seedling: 'Tooky Tooky Bird' × 'Banshee Sonata'-142



Seedling: 'Tooky Tooky Bird' × 'Banshee Sonata'-26



Seedling: 'Tooky Tooky Bird' × 'Banshee Sonata'-83

Prism  
[Doorakian,  
1999]  
× 'Adderbolt'

Seedling: ds228mpadd-9 × 'Banshee Sonata'



Seedling: 'Adderbolt' × 'Banshee Sonata'

My focus was quickly refined: I would produce spiders with Liz Salter eyes! When I got 36 seeds off the yellow 5:1 spider, 'Candlestick Park' (Dickerson, 1990) crossed with 'Little Witching Hour', I announced to Dan Trimmer that I'd soon reach that goal. He smiled. The following year, I got mud. From those 36 seeds, I was rewarded with 34 hideously brownish-grey fat blooms with zero hint of their dad's nifty eye.

Most people proceed with crosses based upon empirical knowledge, observing the traits of the seedlings and crossing in an effort to improve or transfer those traits. I decided to pursue the theoretical, a method Bob Carr often endorsed. Surely the genes for Liz Salter eyes were hidden in these deplorable seedlings, and they would show up when I crossed them with each other. I would have

to learn to embrace the ugly. I embraced the ugly for two more generations, and the seedlings just kept getting uglier. One did have quilled sepals but, with all due respect to my mentors, Bob Schwarz and the late Ned Roberts, unusual forms are little more than failed spiders to me.

Luckily, I lived on a city lot with limited space; otherwise I'd likely be crossing ugly on ugly and producing even uglier to this day. Even more luckily, I had been given a packet of seeds marked "Dallas Star" when I joined BADS, and I grew out 51 wonderful unusual forms and one spider in a range of colors from pink through lavender and deep apricot. Crossing these with named cultivars gave me several unusual form introductions. I also registered the sole spider from that packet as 'Banshee Whisper' in 2007 because it had proven to

be a marvelous parent. In a cross with a mislabeled daylily, 'Banshee Whisper' gave me 'Banshee Love Call', which I registered that same year.

I threw 5.6:1 'Tennessee Flycatcher' (Harris-Reinke, 1992) into the spider mix. Wowzer! The kids were tall and well-branched, and their blooms were yarn skinny. They were curly, twirly strings on sticks. With these, my new goal of producing spiders so emaciated that you'd have to catch them in just the right light in order to see them would be reached in no time. I remember telling Margo Reed that there'd come a time soon when every daylily I registered would be a true spider. Not some namby-pamby 4:1 formerly spider variant, but a true 5:1-or-better spider.

Then we moved, and these stupendous seedlings met the strong breezes of an open field, and their scapes slammed face first onto the ground. Dang! Where to go from here?

I still grew 'Dragon Dreams' and 'Little Witching Hour' and still loved them to pieces. I had purchased 'Chin Whiskers' (McCrae, 1992) because it was listed as a 9:1 spider; it isn't even close, and the registration has since been amended. I tried 'Little Witching Hour' pollen on it and got four intriguing kids. While I registered one as 'Mirror Shades' (2009), I used a fancy-eyed sibling far more because it was rather Liz Salter-ish, or at least 1980s Liz-ish. Crossing that seedling with the 5.4:1 'Tomorrow's Song' (Reinke-J., 1998) produced 'Instant Graffiti' (2014). It may never give me a spider, but it passes a wide array of patterns — and let's face it — I'd abandoned my goals years ago.

To appease my guilt at doing so, I studied the accomplishments of some of the greatest living hybridizers. Patrick Stamile concentrates on big round, small round and unusual forms, spiders, doubles, and double spiders; except for a brief dalliance with diploids in the beginning, he does concentrate on tetraploids. But Jamie Gossard concentrates on all of these forms in both ploidies. Had they ever just picked one goal to focus on?

One spider seedling that had flopped the instant it left the protected city environment was a cross of 'Banshee Love Call' (Michaels, 2007) with 'Tennessee Flycatcher' (Harris-Reinke, 1992). Skinny and branched enough, I kept using it despite its flaw. I noticed that it sometimes seemed to have a lighter chevron near the throat, but the bloom was such a pale pink that I had to hold it sideways to see it, and most of the time that chevron wasn't really there. But a seedling of 'Watchyl Protean Spider'

See Michaels, page 26



Seedling: Sibling of 'Ceresian Citroen'



Seedling: Sibling of 'Ceresian Citroen'

◀ 'Ceresian Citroen' (2015)



'Lennon Spex' (2012)



Seedling: 'Lennon Spex' × 'Wizard Deluxe'



Seedling: 'Wizard Deluxe' sibling



▶ 'Wizard Deluxe' (2015)

**Michaels**  
continued from page 25

(Kreger, 1997) with this pink seedling with the imaginary chevron most definitely had that pale chevron in each lavender petal of every bloom its first year, the chilly summer of 2008. After being moved to the selected bed, the plant never displayed that chevron again. It was registered as 'Banshee Sonata' — sans chevron — in 2014.

Everyone knows that the easiest way to make patterned daylilies is to cross two that have patterns. 'Banshee Sonata' had a pale chevron its first year, so the genetics must be there, right? Sure, theoretical hybridizing had not been good to me in the past, but I tried it once more and tossed 'Banshee Sonata' pollen on the multiple pale chevroned 'Military School' (Santa Lucia, 2006) as well as almost every other plant I grew in 2011. Two years later, there was a row of 21 skinny purple blooms displaying one to three near-white chevrons and most were held above the foliage on sturdy scapes. Knowing that 'Military School' has a cold dominant pattern that disappears after several days of high temps, and that the pattern on 'Banshee Sonata' must require near-arctic conditions, I studied the seedlings each day as the weather warmed to find those that

maintained the chevrons furthest into the season. I was so dedicated to — let's change that to "focused on," — picking the best of the bunch that I nearly missed the more dramatic pattern showing up among 46 seedlings six rows away.

To evaluate first bloom seedlings, I zoom through the rows because I can only deal with so much failure in any given day. I had to backtrack to be sure I'd really seen the new pattern. Yes, there it was, a skinny cream with a broken purple eye. From a cross of a not-even-unusual-form seedling that I'd kept due to its exemplary plant habits, one of those 'Dallas Star' (Ferris, 1976) seedlings crossed with 'Malachite Prism' (Doorakian, 1999) and then to my 'Adderbolt' (2010), abbreviated as "ds228mpadd-9," pollinated by 'Banshee Cradlesong' (2012). It was a cross that should not have produced patterns, yet two siblings also had patterned eyes.

Pondering the cause of this spontaneous pattern with Phil Fass and Brian Reeder, I guessed that it must have come from 'Malachite Prism'. They didn't agree, but they didn't offer any other suggestions. It wasn't until a most special July 11 in 2014 when all of the fifty-plus blooms on 'Banshee Sonata' in the lineout and breeding beds displayed that lighter chevron — the one I hadn't seen for six years — that I realized it and the broken-eyed seedling shared 'Banshee Whisper' in their ancestry. There surely must have been some



Seedling: ('Maude's Valentine' [Shooter, 1992] × 'Lavender Curls' [Gossard, 2004]) × 'Ceresian Citroen'



Seedling: (!'Wilson Spider' {Oakes, 1989} × 'Kindly Light' {Bechtold, 1949}) × 'Tomorrow's Song' {Reinke-J., 1998}) × 'Starlight Splash' (Reed, 2012)



Seedling: Unknown seedling × 'Ceresian Citroen'



Seedling: 'Maude's Valentine' × 'Lavender Curls'



'Instant Graffiti' (2014)



'Banshee Cradlesong' (2012)

magic in that packet of 52 shriveled seeds from BADS.

I registered a purple from a cross of 4:1 'Military School' (Santa Lucia, 2005) with 'Banshee Sonata' spider as 'Ceresian Citroen' and the cross of 4.2:1 "ds228mpadd-9" with 'Banshee Cradlesong' as 'Wizard

Deluxe' in 2015 even though I don't plan to introduce them until 2017 — a full twenty years since I made my first cross — because I wanted them to have real names for this article. I'll be crossing them with a number of patterned seedlings, but all of them have one glaring fault: they are too fat. I have

spent my life dieting and so, too, shall my daylilies. Finally truly focused, the goal is to turn them all into honest 5:1 or better patterned spiders.

I'm also focused on stippled spiders, brown spiders, skinniest-in-the-known-universe spiders, tetraploid spiders, and heck, I picked up that incredible 'Pigment of Imagination' (Norris, 2008) last year that is so very cool, and I really want to play with that, and... ■

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Rose F. Kennedy



Photo 2: (From left) 'Fluttering Beauty' (Joiner-J., 1999) and 'Desert Icicle' (Roberts-N., 1995)

All photos by John Stahl

Photo 1: (From top) 'Four-Play' (Pansing, 1998) and 'Curly Cinnamon Windmill' (Crochet, 1997)

# Duets

Visual harmony with daylilies

By John Stahl  
Region 4, New York

Over the past three to five years, as I moved through the garden photographing daylilies, I have incorporated what I call “duets” into my images folder. The word “duet” certainly implies the number two, and basically these images are of two different cultivars which are in such juxtaposition as to place both of them easily into one photographic frame. At first this was accidental, but I began to notice more opportunities. I rarely move the blooms; I just shoot them as the camera sees them. Once in a great while I may nudge one bloom to be a bit closer to the other, but that would be unusual.

When I'm shooting a duet, I don't know whether it will be a pleasing arrangement. That only comes to light in the computer. The

digital age has been a boon to my creative spirit; I don't have to worry about how many exposures are left on a roll. I take many shots, changing the angle, and adjusting the focus. More is better, and it allows me to maximize my study of the duet. The poor images can be deleted!

One thing I have noticed is that backgrounds can be quite distracting. Items such as discolored foliage and portions of secondary blooms fit into this category. My future goal is to plan ahead and eliminate the distracting elements prior to taking the photograph. As is my manner, I only use minimal editing of the photos. This usually comprises cropping and adding contrast and sharpening. I do not employ any color adjustments.

My choice of images is based only on one flower's position related



**Photo 4:** (From left) 'Clovis Point' (Mahieu, 2003) and 'William Mahieu' (Mahieu, 2003)



**Photo 3:** (From top) 'Osterized' (Hite-Davisson, 1999) and 'King's Golden Treasure' (Rasmussen, 2004)

to the second. I don't allow color or form to affect my selection. As indicated above, poor images can always be deleted. The results are often quite pleasing, but sometimes not. I prefer the blooms to be fairly close together, even overlapping, but you will see instances wherein the flowers have some distance between them. This "duet" technique offers the viewer interesting comparisons in size, form and color of bloom. Most of the time, the blooms are of contrasting colors, although there are instances where colors are similar.

**Photo 1:** 'Four-Play' (Pansing, 1998) and 'Curly Cinnamon Windmill' (Crochet, 1997); **Photo 2:** 'Fluttering Beauty' (Joiner-J., 1999) and 'Desert Icicle' (Roberts-N., 1995); and **Photo 3:** 'Osterized' (Hite-Davisson, 1999) and 'King's Golden Treasure' (Rasmussen, 2004) demonstrate flowers of similar color. In these cases, they are in the yellow family.

Photos 4, 5, 6 show similar forms. In these cases, unusual forms.

**Photo 4:** 'Clovis Point' (Mahieu, 2003) and 'William Mahieu' (Mahieu, 2003) is a nice contrast between a yellow flower with red eye and a red flower with a black eye. In **Photo 5:** 'Sita' (Clover, 2005) and 'Plein Air Paintbrush' (Burris, 2006) (see next page), two flowers of very similar form, but different basic color, form a pleasant portrait. **Photo 6:** 'Monacan Trail' (Murphy-J.P., 2005) and 'Szekely Gulyas' (Stahl-J., 2011) offers one bloom in full-frontal view and the other in a three-quarter view.

To demonstrate variations in form, notice **Photo 7:** 'Too Many Petals'

See Duets, page 30



Photo 5: (From left) 'Sita' (Clover, 2005) and 'Plein Air Paintbrush' (Burriss, 2006)



Photo 6: (From top) 'Monacan Trail' (Murphy-J.P., 2005) and 'Szekely Gulyas' (Stahl-J., 2011)

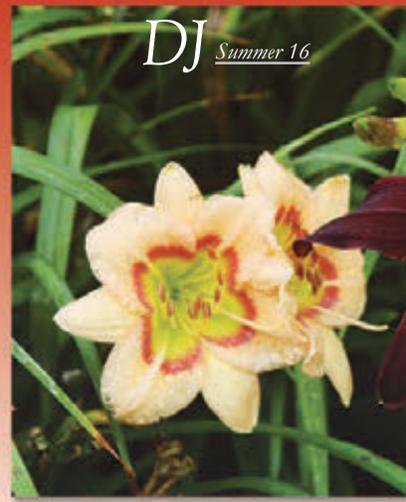


Photo 7: (From left) 'Too Many Petals' (Baxter, 2002) and 'Nagarjuna' (Clover, 2002)



Photo 9: (From left) 'Skinwalker' (Roberts-N., 1997) and 'Bela Lugosi' (Hanson-C., 1995)



Photo 11: (From left) 'Little Red Warbler' (Crochet, 1985) and 'Greywoods Tallyho' (Wilkinson, 2005)

## Duets

continued from page 29

(Baxter, 2002) and 'Nagarjuna' (Clover, 2002), showing a polymerous bloom and an unusual form. In **Photo 8**: 'Two Cats Mourning' (Clement, 2007) and 'Double Bold One' (Miller-J., 1981), we see an unusual form and a double. **Photo 9**: 'Skinwalker' (Roberts-N., 1997) and 'Bela Lugosi' (Hanson-C., 1995) shows a spider form and a single form.

For a comparison of size, in **Photo 10**: 'Apple Swirl' (Harris-JN., 2002) and 'Primal Scream' (Hanson-C., 1994), not only do we see a size comparison, but one of form and color. **Photo 11**: 'Little Red

Warbler' (Crochet, 1985) and 'Greywoods Tallyho' (Wilkinson, 2005) is a good contrast in size. In **Photo 12**: 'Eyes On The Prize' (Emmerich, 2002) and 'Little Boss Man' (Herrington-T., 2004) and **Photo 13**: 'Femme De Joie' (Hayward-M., 1979) and 'Ledgewood's Calico Blues' (Abajian, 2005), we have extreme contrasts in color; some might even say glaring.

Try it yourself! The challenge is fun and rewarding.

*Author's note: Camera Equipment- Canon EOS40D and EOS7D bodies, 24-105mm, 300mm and 28-300mm lenses used with a monopod or a tripod. ■*



DJ Summer 16



Photo 8: (From left) 'Two Cats Mourning' (Siemens, 2007) and 'Double Bold One' (Miller-J., 1981)



Photo 10: (From top) 'Apple Swirl' (Harris-JN., 2002) and 'Primal Scream' (Hanson-C., 1994)



Photo 12: (From left) 'Eyes On The Prize' (Emmerich, 2002) and 'Little Boss Man' (Herrington-T., 2004)



Photo 13: (From left) 'Femme De Joie' (Hayward-M., 1979) and 'Ledgewood's Calico Blues' (Abajian, 2005)

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When three is not enough



Above, from left: Fabien Bancel, Guénolé Savina, and Marc Reviriot pose in their gardens in France.

# FRENCH CO

## Enthusiasm from three

By Guénolé Savina  
Fabien Bancel  
and Marc Reviriot  
AHS International, France

In France, a group of us have fallen in love with daylilies and with the people who share that love. We follow the exciting progress being made by hybridizers in the United States. However, since last fall, new phytosanitary limitations prevent daylily nurseries from delivering to Europe because daylilies are host plants to a plant-eating bacteria, *Xylella fastidiosa*. There is no scientifically-proven method to fight it. Thus, imports are tightly controlled, and it has become necessary to re-think how we can make progress in our hybridizing without the help of new and wonderful plants from the U.S. Importing seeds is permitted, but a registered plant would always be better.

So now we must work closely together to create lines of French-touched daylilies. Social networks here make it easy to post pictures instantly and note experiences between us. Exchanging ideas, pooling our knowledge, and sharing plants, we have become a team try-

ing to push the daylily in new and exciting directions in France. Keep reading to learn what the three of us are doing.

### GUÉNOLÉ SAVINA

“First one plant, then 10, then 100, then 1000: this is a common pattern of many daylily collectors. I began by acquiring all the daylilies I could find at local nurseries and flower shows. My name is Guénolé Savina, and I live in Plouedern, a small town in Brittany, the “nose” of France, which is on the Atlantic Ocean and Channel Shores. Bathed by the Gulf Stream, our



‘Breizh Roz Limig’ (Savina, 2014)



The daylilies, top to bottom:  
'French Touch' (Bancel, 2015)  
'Keriel's Copper Compass' (Savina, 2015)  
Marc Reviriot seedling 49b-12



# THE CONNECTION

## hybridizers in France

winters are warm and wet, and our summers are generally a little bit cool.

"The real love-at-first-sight took place in 1999, when, as an employee of a nursery based in Scotland and specializing in *Epimedium*

(also known as Barrenwort, Fairy Wings, and Bishop's Mitre), I had the opportunity to participate in the Royal Horticultural Society's Spring Flower Show in Glasgow, Scotland. It was a particularly exciting show because a lot of specialty farmers and hybridizers showed their collections. Before I could return home, I gave my clothes to the Red Cross so I would have room

in my suitcase to pack the plants I bought.

"I was excited to plant what would become parent plants in my garden, such as 'Pardon Me' (Apps, 1982), 'Strutter's Ball' (Moldovan, 1984), 'Arctic Snow' (Stamile, 1985), 'Regency Dandy' (Salter-E.H., 1991), 'Strawberry Candy' (Stamile, 1989), 'Edge Ahead' (Sellers, 1993),



Savina seedling SH20130028

GUÉNOLE SAVINA DAYLILIES



'Breizh Kerez' (Savina, 2013)



'In Emma's Heart' (Savina, 2013)



'Jardins de Castillon' (Savina, 2015)



'Keriel's Prune Velvet' (Savina, 2014)



Savina seedling SH20142205



'Verone's Eyes' (Savina, 2015)

**Connection**  
continued from page 33

'Siloam Angel Blush' (Henry-P, 1982), 'Siloam Ethel Smith' (Henry-P, 1982), and more. A great start! I'm now 38 years old and still on a quest for new patterns, color combinations, and good adaptability to our climate.

"One very important point in my hybridizing program is that last constraint. We are far from Florida. Our cool summer nights tend to reduce or eliminate those luscious multi-colored and ruffled edges; the petals and sepals often stick together. Also, the color of some green-flowered daylilies are not as vivid as in warmer weather. My first goal — before falling in love with a pretty new face in the garden — is to watch seedlings and select only the best openers.

I started to hybridize pretty-face on pretty-face, but it seemed like I lost space in the garden for directed crosses. Choices are difficult, but I think that the more seeds I have from an important cross, the more flowers from which to select.

"I have registered about 40 daylilies since 2012. 'Breizh Roz Limig' (Savina, 2014, see previous page) is one of my best candy pinks; it means "pink candy from Brittany." It has good plant habit, and it opens 100 percent of the time after cool nights. In purples, I select

flowers that stay clean all day, even when it rains. Our gardens of Northern Europe deserve daylilies with all the wonderful and exotic characteristics such as fringed and pattern blooms. I was very happy the day I found what I later registered as 'Keriel's Pinkie Fringy' (Savina, 2014) in my seedlings. It has a large border and opens better than its parents. Also my seedling SH20130028 out of 'Keriel's Phoenix' (Savina, 2013) and 'Sabine Baur' (Salter, 1997) shows a nice lace of coral red, and it opens well here. My seedling



Savina seedling SH20150129



Savina seedling SH20132189

## FABIEN BANCEL DAYLILIES



Bancel seedling 1306f



Bancel seedling 1308d



'Magic Sun' (Bancel, 2014)



Bancel seedling 1214g



Bancel seedling 1315a



'Sweet Guimauve' (Bancel, 2015)

SH20150129 is one of its offspring and shows a more saturated set of colors.

"Another strategy I use to insure good opening is to hybridize spiders and unusual forms. I am totally in love with 'Cleopatra' (Thomas, 1964) and Dan Trimmer's 'Wild Horses' (1999) and 'Egyptian Queen' (2000), and they opened new doors for saturated chevron lily-shaped flowers. 'Breizh Louarn' (Savina, 2014) (meaning "Celtic fox") and 'Keriel's Copper Compass' (Savina, 2015, see previous page) show saturated black eyes. I have also worked for years with 'Bali Watercolor' (Stamile, 2002) and seedlings from it. I was stunned by seedling SH20132189 with its almost ethereal look, a nice pink with magenta and violet."

## FABIEN BANCEL

"My name is Fabien Bancel, I live in a small city called Sète, 30 kilometers south of Montpellier, and 200 kilometers west of Marseille. I am known as "hemero ca sete" on Facebook. And I am lucky to live on the Mediterranean sea shore, not only because of the very good wine that is produced here, but also because the summer temperatures in my region drive daylilies to be more ruffled

than on other regions. I have been growing daylilies since 2005. I was looking for information about *Hemerocallis fulva* when I discovered the American Hemerocallis Society's online database, and then the daylily bug was inside me. That is how I came to the most important passion in my life, after my family of course!

"At the beginning, I thought that daylilies were limited to the classic *Hemerocallis fulva*, 'Frans Hals' (Flory, 1955), 'Crimson Pirate' (Sass-E.H., 1951), and 'Stella de Oro' (Jablonski, 1975), which are the best known daylilies in France. On my quest to make daylilies more popular, I created a blog in 2011, and I met some passionate people such as Marc Reviriot (see below), who was one of the first to follow it. Last year I met Guénoilé Savina in a Facebook group and, as he wrote, we are now working together to create beautiful daylilies, testing our intros for each other, and trying to provide more and more information to the public about this easy-to-grow plant.

"I think there are two ways to love daylilies. The first way: every gardener can appreciate beautiful flowers. The second way concerns hybridization. Learning about your plants is a long process. It might take three to four years to know all the characteristics of a flower. Dur-

See Connection, page 36

**Connection**

continued from page 35

ing this time, you can learn how the traits appear in its kids. And what a feeling it is to see seedlings opening for the first time and to discover a true beauty! I love that!

“For the last four years, I have been working on breeding lines including big ruffled borders and double edges. When I bought my first seeds from the U.S. some years ago, I was lucky to get a cross from ‘Tropical Hot Flash’ (Trimmer, 2008) and ‘Parrots of the Caribbean’ (Trimmer, 2009). One of the seedlings from that cross is now one of my best parents for double-edged daylilies (Seedling 1010a). Quite tall, an instant rebloomer with big flowers, it has many qualities that can be given to its kids. Some of them are under evaluation (Seedlings 1206, 1214g, 1306f, 1315a). At this time, I have registered seven daylilies that are very pleasant looking because of their colors, easy-opening, and vigor. They are now used in a mix of crosses with my own seedlings or with cultivars bought from European sellers.

“I am very proud of each of my introductions. For example last year, I registered ‘French Touch’ (Bancel, 2015, see previous page), a nice pink with a heavy ruffled bor-



‘Nephelie’s Light’ (Bancel, 2015)



Bancel seedling 1010a



Bancel seedling 1206

der which is sometimes an inch wide during the warmer days. Although I have multiple goals, I prioritize seedlings with saturated colors that hold up from early morning to evening in the very warm sun of my region. ‘Magic Sun’ (Bancel, 2014) always opens perfectly, and it is a very clean yellow flower. Another 2015 introduction is ‘Sweet Guimauve’ (Bancel, 2015). (See seedling 1308d.) It is an instant rebloomer, has nice sweet colors, opens perfectly, and despite its low pod fertility, it is always appreciated. Some of its kids have an amazing and an hypnotic eye!

“I also registered ‘Nephelie’s Light’ (Bancel, 2015), a vigorous rebloomer with a lots of potential for a yellow bubble border on the reblooming scapes. I especially like round daylilies with straight and strong scapes. The bud count and the branching is not so important. When I send my daylilies to friends or customers, they never ask about branching. The flower is the most important aspect because the best-known daylilies are very old varieties (mentioned

above) with quite low bud count. So I try to introduce daylilies that are very vigorous. I remember reading a Tommy Maddox post on Facebook: “I introduce DLs only if they increase more than two fans per year,” and I agree with that. After years of crossing double-edged daylilies, I am now aware that most of France is too cool and not capable of growing them to their full potential. That is why I will now try to work with spiders and dips with green throats. I am very impressed with Richard Norris’s and Tom Polston’s marvelous introductions recently.

“Anyway, people here in France seem to be more interested in spiders and classic flowers than other forms, even though many people are becoming aware that the daylily world is large and full of possibilities. I think it is fun when I show a picture of a new seedling, there is always someone who says, “Oh so gorgeous. I love it!” And someone else says, “Oh I prefer the other one!” There’s so much to see, and so much to discover here in France. Let’s get to work! Spring is here!”

**MARC REVIRIOT**

“My name is Marc Reviriot. I live in the northwest of France in a region called Normandy, near the history-rich city of Rouen. The climate is quite unusual because it is never warm in summer, and it rains all year. The soil is fertile. Daylilies love our climate; they grow fast here.

“My first daylily was *Hemerocallis fulva* in 2010, and then I bought my first modern daylilies. ‘Parrot Jungle’ (Trimmer, 2004) surprised me so much that it drove me to the daylily world. Before it bloomed, I was only at the beginning of the discovering all the possibilities of daylilies.

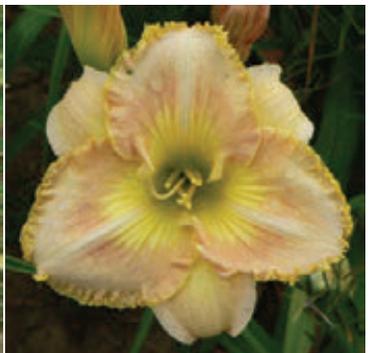
“A year later, another flower got me. It was a seedling with an amazing appliqued throat that I got from my friend, Fabien Bancel. And that was it. I was hooked, and I started on my own hybridizing

path.

“I have already succeeded in obtaining some interesting seedlings out of that seedling. The appliqued throat is different each time, and



Reviriot seedling 16a-12



Reviriot seedling 31a-13

## MARC REVIRIOT DAYLILIES



Reviriot seedling 47i-13



Reviriot seedling 82a-12



Reviriot seedling 116j-13



Reviriot seedling 121a-12



Reviriot seedling 09092a



Reviriot seedling 34g-11

it seems that I can work with many color combinations. Some relief sculpting and ruffled daylilies have even appeared. These results are encouraging me to go on with my work with appliqued throats.

“The very first seedling out of Bancel’s seedling was a vigorous plant with many buds which open perfectly in my climate. And its fertility is good. So many qualities! I have many different flowers now that can be compared with the most beautiful American appliqué throats. After many years working on appliqué throats, I found that my climate is conducive to growing that feature in daylilies. I’m guessing that it is our cool temperatures at night, and it is rarely warmer than 25 degrees C (77 degrees F) during the day. The sun is mild.

“I am so pleased to keep on working in that direction. However, in another way, the low temperatures can cause difficulties with flowers opening, and rain can cause dots on flower surfaces. The heavy ruffled edges that appear in Florida do not appear here. Re-bloom is also more difficult here. So no matter what daylily form or color I work with, my first goal is to create plants that perform very well in my climate. For example, I also like ruffled and double edged daylilies even if most of them don’t perform well in my garden. But fortunately, some of my seedlings are giving me hope for

the future. And I also like tiny daylilies, especially tetraploids. They are so pretty.

“In the future, what about a tiny and ruffled daylily? What about a tiny double-edged daylily? How about a tiny daylily with appliqued throat?”

There are so many directions that I would love to explore! However, even if a seedling goes in an unexpected direction, I love to be surprised, especially by new patterns or new color combinations!”

French daylily lovers are finding one another and communicating pertinent information to each other. In our Facebook-Daylily-Lovers group, Jerome Poisson is absolute fan of Karol Emmerich’s flowers. Eric de Toulouse loves toothy daylilies and Mary and Phil Gaskin’s work in Georgia (USA). Dany Pinson is looking for the darkest black, and Verone Belmondo dreams in pink.

All of us live this vibrant passion every day. We all have our unique stories with daylilies, but we have one thing in common: the desire to see new flowers opening in our gardens every day, and to have great friends through daylilies. We see and dream about the beautiful daylily pictures we see on the internet, but it is up to each of us to write our own reality with this versatile plant. ■



# WHY?

By Nikki Schmith, a proud new display garden owner  
AHS President  
Region 2, Illinois

There are more than 330 American Hemerocallis Society Display Gardens throughout the United States and parts of Canada, where you can view a variety of modern daylilies in a garden setting. As I visit dozens of daylily gardens each year, my heart flutters every time I notice the black and white scroll sign, indicating the garden's status as an official AHS display garden. So, about ten years ago, I set my sights on adding one of those signs to my own garden.

My husband asked his quintessential, "Why?" when I told him of my new plan. After nearly twenty years of marriage, you would think he knows my answer to that is always, "Why not?" But I stopped to think about the answer to his question.

First, I wanted to be an official display garden because some of the best daylily-centric gardens I have visited proudly display this honor, and I wanted to share that company. Something about legacy and tradition, and connecting people with plant spaces really inspires me to think big. I'm passionate about the care, selection, and rhythm of the daylilies in my collection. I love the story they tell as a whole, and the whispers they share individually. It would be nice to know that my gardening efforts rate among other spaces I enjoy visiting. I thought if I followed the standards and sprinkled in my own sparkle, visitors to my garden would have a pleasant time visiting me, doing some deep-couch sitting, and learning about daylilies, too! So, I downloaded the PDF application and guidelines

to find out what the road map to this distinction looks like.

From the AHS website at [www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org), the basic requirements to gaining display garden status are as follows:

The owner or public garden liaison must be a member of the AHS for two years or more, and must maintain his or her AHS membership in good standing to be eligible for a garden to be designated as an AHS Display Garden, an AHS Historic Daylily Display Garden, or both.

Although the number of daylily cultivars is not set, the garden must include a wide variety of daylilies.

The garden must be well maintained.

Plant markers should be maintained in good condition, with the name of both the cultivar and the hybridizer showing clearly.

The garden should be open to the public during bloom season.

Commercial gardens are requested to maintain a specific area designated as a Display Garden.

The annual renewal application must be returned by October 1.

A minimum of 50 cultivars registered in, or prior to, 1980 are required to be considered as an AHS Historic Display Garden.

To be added to the list of AHS Display Gardens and AHS Historic Daylily Display Gardens, the qualifying garden must be inspected by the appropriate AHS Regional President or his designated representative and recommended to the AHS Display Garden Chairman.

An AHS Display Garden is established to display the very best



From left, facing page: 'Godiva Jam' (Weston-J., 1996); AHS Display Garden signs from Nancy and John Falck's Historic Daylily Garden and Display Garden, Hem Haven, in Alabama (**Nancy Falck photo**), and John Stahl's Display Garden (**John Stahl photo**), Brookside Gardens in New York; Nikki Schmith's Display Garden, A Girl and Her Garden, in Illinois; and John and Marie Everitt's Display Garden in Indiana.

— Nikki Schmith photos except where noted

## *(Why not?)*

daylily cultivars to the general public. Its purpose is to educate the visitor about modern daylilies and how they can be used effectively in landscapes. There is no charge to apply to achieve Display Garden status, and there is no charge to renew!

After completing the application and choosing (only two!) photos to enclose with my application, I was more excited than ever to see if my gardens fit the bill. The requirements weren't much more than standards I already kept in my garden – all the plants are clearly marked, pathways are clear of debris, grass is clean, seating and shade are provided, a representative collection of all daylily forms are present. Aside from membership requirements, it wasn't much harder than that!

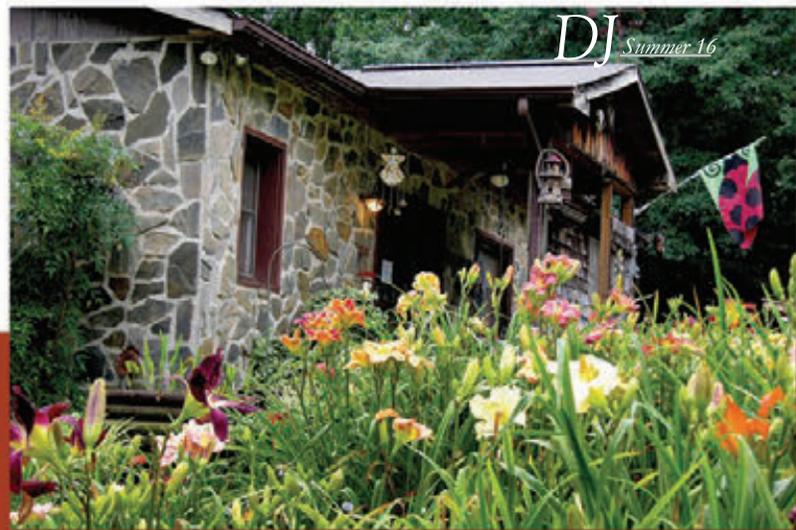
Some of the questions caused me to think more deeply about why I garden with daylilies, and why that matters to my neighbors and to other gardeners. I can invite Master Gardener groups over to see them in peak bloom; I can invite classrooms over to learn about hybridizing or about exhibiting; and this extra designation is like a pedigree on the wall for them to trust that they will have a nice daylily experience if they visit.

It wasn't long before the folks from AHS got back with me and asked for some other clarifying photos. To help with the requirement of having a regional representative visit the garden to evaluate it for my application, I provided the names of several regional representatives who had visited my garden in the past year. They offered to provide their reference for my case.

Within a short time, I received a letter welcoming my garden to the list of official display gardens! I showed the letter to my husband, who was a little less than impressed. He sees it as more work — more stress — but if it makes me happier he's on board! I see it as a seal of approval from an organization I view as an authority on daylily gardening and daylily life. I see it as AHS telling all its friends that my garden is worth the trip if you're in the neighborhood. And that is my WHY for becoming an official Display Garden. And it feels awesome.

If you wish to make your own sign indicating your status as a Display Garden, you can. Or you may choose to buy one from the AHS. The legacy signs you see in these photos are no longer available, as the foundry went out of business two years ago. I recently reported via the official AHS Facebook page this spring that a new supplier in Illinois has finally been found with the help of AHS member and co-founder of the Heart of Illinois Daylily Society's Jim Cruise. Newly designed signs should be available this year. Some display gardens have personalized flags; some have carved stone; some show off their display garden status with a wood burned sign. It is your choice how you choose to publicize your new status. Some retired Display Gardens are returning their signs to AHS for reuse. We ask members to contact [displaygardens@daylilies.org](mailto:displaygardens@daylilies.org) if you have a sign to resell back to AHS. This program allowed me the chance to get one of these legacy signs for my new Display Gar-

See **Display Gardens**, page 40



Tim Bell's Bell's Daylily Garden in Georgia  
— Meg McKenzie Ryan photo

Clyde and Kim Webb's Bear W. Daylily Farm in North Carolina  
— Chris Petersen photo

**Display Gardens**  
continued from page 39

den.  
No, I don't "get" anything from AHS for becoming a Display Garden. I'm learning its better to give without remembering, and take without forgetting. Adding my garden to the list supports AHS as an authority on where to visit to see good collections of our favorite vice. There are also many public and botanical garden spaces that are designated Display Gardens. Maybe you maintain a space where daylilies are featured; you could apply for this status, too, and become a daylily ambassador in your community. Someday when you

find yourself answering someone else's "Why?", I know you will find it's been worth the investment.

You can find the list of ALL the AHS Display Gardens by googling 'daylily display gardens;' it's the first link! The AHS website has the application and all the information you need to make the decision to share your gardens in this way. Think of how great it will be when your local news outlet gets the word that there is a new national Display Garden in town!

For additional information, contact Mary Lou Lundblade, AHS Display Garden Special Chairman, at [displaygardens@daylilies.org](mailto:displaygardens@daylilies.org) ■

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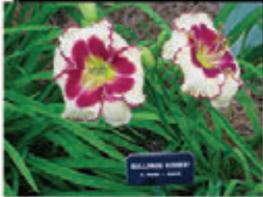
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'Gabby Abby' (2006)



'Sisters in Pink' (2007)



'Anam Cara' (2009)

# HAPPY SURPRISES

## Patti Waterman's hybridizing in Missouri

By Patti Waterman  
Region 11, Missouri

I was so fortunate to be raised in a three-generation household! My grandmother was the gardener and very tolerant and patient with the curious little girl who followed her around, asking questions and poking in the dirt. She specialized in edibles.

All this came back to me when I started raising children. For many years, I grew only enough vegetables for us to eat, canning and freezing excess for winter use. That ended as the children left home. My husband and I couldn't eat all that food. Besides, I had discovered daylilies the way so many others had, from the pages of the catalogs from Gilbert H. Wild and Son. I started landscaping with daylilies and loved them. After awhile, I wanted to do more with them. I found an entirely new dimension in a most unlikely way.

Before Internet-based word games, there was Scrabble® which was played by mail using a moderator. I was paired with many interesting players from all over the English-speaking parts of North America, but the one that changed my life was Alice Morzuch, a daylily lover from Chicago who dreamed of retiring to a rural area to hybridize and begin a daylily business. She shared a gift of seeds with me, and later shared her garden and expertise after she retired to a small acreage in South Central Missouri. She also introduced me to AHS, the Central Missouri Hemerocallis Society, and the wonderful gardens of Stewart and Mavis Smith and Jim and Rosemary Whitacre. Daylilies in those two gardens represented all the forms and colors available in the early 1990s.

Alice's seeds grew and bloomed. All featured full-formed blooms in a multitude of colors and shades, and I was totally hooked! My collection grew as I discovered club sales and new hybridizers, and I

made my first tentative crosses, wondering what wonderful flowers might result.

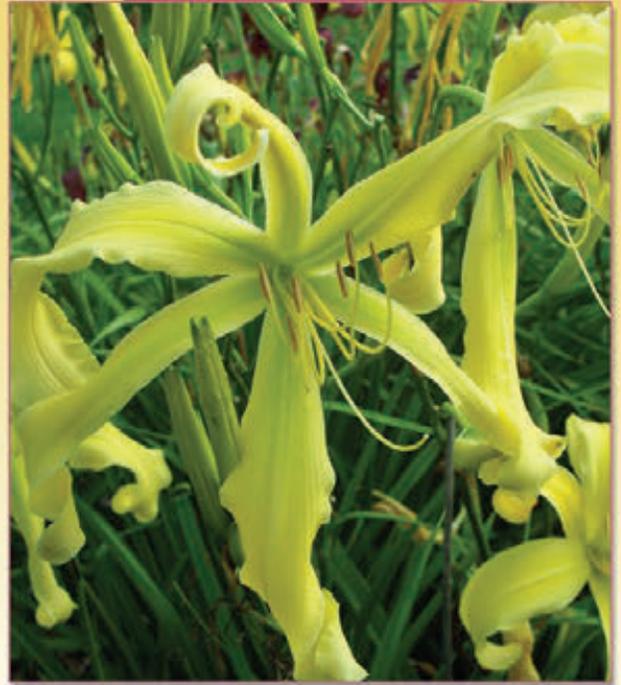
Those first efforts gave me a reality check. This wasn't as easy as I thought! And it took a lot of space for seedlings, but that could be remedied by moving the yard fence out (three times!) to make room for more beds. We do live in the middle of our farm! It took time — learning some things the hard way — and the kindness and generosity of mentors. There were so many friends ready and willing to share their knowledge, insight, pollen and even plants! I learned the importance of the entire plant: good foliage, branching and bud count, bloom habit and spacing, as well as a pretty face. I was introduced to older beautiful cultivars with interesting genetics from Frank Childs and John Lambert. I liked the round, ruffled look, but I was also totally fascinated with the longer-petal daylilies. I decided to work only with diploids due to greater availability of promising plants at that time. I was also discovering the wonderful movement that could result from these plants.

I introduced my first daylily, 'Gabby Abby', in 2006. A pretty, full-form, pink-blend eyed flower with a green throat, it is named (with permission) for my daughter's childhood nickname. While I have continued to use this plant successfully in my hybridizing, leading to two introductions so far, 'Precious Paige' in 2014 and 'Whiskers on Kittens' in 2016, my imagination and seedling patch have expanded down a truly free-form path to include unusual forms and open forms that do not quite fit in any category.

'Sisters in Pink' (2007), a crispate-spatulate with wonderful branching and bud count, was my first unusual form introduction. It is named for my stepdaughters, who joined a long-term research effort in the continuing battle against breast cancer after one of them was



'Diamond Jim' (2009)



'Mariosa Sundance' (2010)

All photos by Patti Waterman

forever changed by that dreaded disease. This special pink continues to play an active part of my hybridizing efforts.

Other special unusual forms followed, including 'Anam Cara' (2009), a lavender-pink eyed crispate, and 'Diamond Jim' (2009), a diamond-dusted near-white cascade with the palest lavender edging, named by and for my son. Much admired in Region 11 and by Spider Robin members, both continue to grow in popularity. 'Anam Cara' features complex colors that are unlocked in a wide variety of forms in seedlings, including unusual form doubles. I have several promising seedlings in secondary evaluation that demonstrate that variability in both color and form.

'Diamond Jim' is a reverse bitone in cooler weather and imparts beauty, grace and great plant habit to its seedlings. It is also a proven flower show winner. An active part of my hybridizing program for several years, it has produced many great seedlings, including my first 'Diamond Jim' introduction, 'Etched in Time' (2016).

'Mariosa Sundance' (2010) is a nine-inch soft-yellow crispate-cascade with a deep-green throat that spills down the midribs, and it reblooms. It is a wonderful garden plant, and I am currently using it to attempt to recreate that wonderful form in different colors. Its genetic background holds that promise as it is from a cross of ('Hot Toddy' [Hall-D.F., 1968] × 'Chin Whiskers') × 'Lola Branham' (Burkey, 1991). The prefix "Mariosa" is the name of a special place in

Osage County, Missouri where I live, a wetlands delta where the Osage and Maries Rivers come together before emptying into the Missouri River.

'Perfect Pitch' (2010), a simply beautiful deep raspberry-purple recurved open form, is another wonderful garden plant that has found some devotees. It and my 2015 introduction 'Mariosa Ringmaster' result from crosses involving breeder seedling #00-45g (Cerulean Star [Lambert, 1982] × 'Satin Bird' [Childs-F., 1982]) that I have used off and on for years. I continue to use it.

'Developing Story' (2011) is a delicate pink-lavender-melon polychrome crispate-spatulate that tends to be lighter in color in the morning, deepening to richer shades by evening. It has wonderful branching and bud count and is also proving to be a good parent for spatulates. I currently have five promising seedlings in secondary evaluation from a cross of my 'Developing Story' × 'Sisters in Pink'. I am also exploring its complex colors with a seedling that has complex colors. I'm hoping for a rainbow of colors in spatulate form.

'Music Please' (2011) is a cute lavender twisting crispate with a distinguishing watermark that I have always enjoyed but did not use in hybridizing until alerted to the fact that the branching and bud count is much higher in Iowa than in my garden! So I have



'Perfect Pitch' (2010)

used it the past two years and have more plans for it this year. I hope to see my first seedlings bloom this summer.

'Rowdy Rachel' (2011) is a very unusual color combination, a delicately shaded melon and lavender cascade-crispate with a lighter melon watermark and tiny green throat. A special flower with at least three different looks, it is named for my first gardening companion dog. Rachel was a sweet black lab cross who, after mangling more than a few

See Waterman, page 44

## 2011 intros



'Developing Story' (2011)



'Gothic Quills' (2011)



'Music Please' (2011)



'Rowdy Rachel' (2011)

different colors with good results all around. I pulled five seedlings from a cross with Elizabeth Shooter's 'Eternal Praise' (2006) for secondary evaluation just last fall. It is promising to be a very good parent.

I introduced 'Mariosa Mary Kathleen Edwards' in 2014. Named in honor of my late sister, it is a fragrant beauty in the open form she loved. I have not yet used it in my hybridizing program, but I look forward to the opportunity. Inspiration for just the right cross has not yet hit, but it will.

Another introduction from 2014 is 'Awesome Granny', a diamond-dusted pink-blend variable crispate with wonderful branching and bud count. Named to honor my two very different but equally awe-

## 2014 intros



'Mariosa Troubador' (2014)



'Mariosa Mary Kathleen Edwards' (2014)

### See Waterman continued from page 43

plants as a puppy, learned to walk down the rows (unless she was chasing a rabbit) and became very good at keeping the deer out of the yard! I am actively exploring the genetics of 'Rowdy Rachel's unique color and variable form.

Another introduction named for gardening companions is 'Sweet Talkin' Tom' (2011), which grabs one's attention from across the garden with its bright red, pinched crispate and cascading blooms. It holds its color well in the hot summer sun long after its namesake — tom turkeys — have taken to the shade. I have crossed it with other good reds in my garden, including my 2016 introduction, 'Karen Suzan' (2016). I should see blooms this summer.

'Gothic' Quills' (2011) is a quilled crispate and a 4:1 spider. It won the Region 11 Hybridizer Award at the 2013 Summer Regional in Tulsa, Oklahoma, my first award for any of my introductions. It has wonderful form and plant habit, good branching and bud count, and it reblooms, everything I strive for in my work. Thus I have used it extensively in hybridizing, crossing it with a variety of unusual forms and open forms in

some grandmothers, the blooms demonstrate a great deal of energy and movement. From my impressions upon seeing the first blooms, it appears to pass on its great form and plant habit to its seedlings.

'Aerial Ballet' (2015), featuring near-white ruffled quilled crispate seersucker-textured blooms, came from the same cross as 'Mariosa Mary Kathleen Edwards', and I have actively used it in my hybridizing program last year, crossing it with whites and lavenders of various forms. I have more plans for it this year. Another 2015 introduction that I used last year is 'Mariosa Ringmaster'. It is a stunning burgundy and purple crispate that demonstrates different looks, including sometimes having an "alligator" look on cooler mornings. I spread its pollen all over purple unusual forms in the garden. Both of these cultivars have proven very popular!

'Locomotion' (2015), is a spectacular, ruffled, white-edged deep purple blend crispate-cascade. It is fragrant and "moves" with twists and curls! I have some promising seedlings of good color and form from it in secondary evaluation.

Of course, 2016 is bringing a new set of exciting introductions. 'Etched in Time' is a brushed red-lavender blend reverse bitone crispate with layered blue-lavender and burgundy eye which exhibits variable bleeding, white ruffled edges and a deep green throat. It descends from 'Diamond Jim' breeding. It is joined by 'Fiddler's Tune', a deep, rich burgundy and purple crispate. The blooms exhibit lots of movement. It has given me inspiration for several crosses this year!

'Karen Suzan' is a very fragrant, rosy red, slightly recurved open form that is a sometimes crispate. It is a strong rebloomer. Named for Karen Blackmore, a fellow member of the Central Missouri Hemerocallis Society who spotted it from across the gardens, it is proving to be a very good parent for both cascade and crispate red seedlings

## 2015 intros



'Mariosa Ringmaster' (2015)



'Locomotion' (2015)



'Friend of the Heart' (2015)



'Aerial Ballet' (2015)



'Silent Partner' (2016)



'Etched in Time' (2016)



'Fiddler's Tune' (2016)



'Whiskers on Kittens'

that hold their color well. Several are in secondary evaluation.

'Whiskers on Kittens' is a red-veined reverse bitone which blooms ten percent polymorous and occasionally doubles. It is another strong rebloomer. I love that the 'Gabby Abby' line provides this kind of variety! And yes, I do have seedlings growing from this one and definite plans for future crosses.

'Silent Partner' (2016) is a pale-lavender crispate that curls and occasionally quills, with a large, green-yellow appliqué throat that has been a part of my hybridizing program for a couple of years. It is named for my husband who did not want his name on a daylily because he is not a "daylily person." He is, however, indispensable to my creative efforts. He is a farmer,



'Karen Suzan' (2016)

world before.

with all the skills and equipment that implies, and he has the patient foresight to lay out beds, work ground, and then edge the beds in such a way as to minimize maintenance. He also went straight to this blooming plant two years in a row and commented on it! So he is truly my not-always-silent of a partner in daylilies as in life!

What does the future hold down this free-form path? Good plants, a variety of eyes/patterns on different forms in a wide palette of colors, limited only by the requirement they be pretty, cute, or wildly different! What happy surprises lurk around the bend? Perhaps one is already in the garden and will prove to be something never seen in the daylily

Happy surprises are where you find them. ■

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▲ 1966 Robin logo



▲ 1971 Robin logo

# The rich history of the Round Robin

'...horizons widened...lifetime of friendships'

By Melodye Campbell  
AHS Awards and Honors Chair  
Region 4, New York

*From the President's Desk (1947)...*

*Our founders, the Hemerocallis Round Robin letter groups and other daylily fans, visioned an unassuming, friendly organization to exchange ideas, compare experiences, and publicize the desirable qualities of the relatively unknown flower. Little did they guess what they were touching off! It seems that the garden world was starved for dependable and practical daylily information.*

— (Harshbarger, 1947, p. 2)

If you take out the phrase, “the relatively unknown flower,” the quote becomes timeless. Yes, things have changed a lot since 1947, but not really. The exchange of information about our favorite flower still brings us together!

Back in the 1940s, communication between gardeners happened by snail mail. You must remember that a war was going on and gasoline was rationed, so garden visits were limited. For the cost of a three-cent postage stamp, however, one could stay in touch with gardening friends all over the country. These “chain letters” were called round robins.

For many years, *Flower Grower* magazine had a Round Robin department with round robins for many different gardening interests. According to Marie Anderson, General Director of the Garden-Club-of-the-Air Round Robins, the first Hemerocallis Robin began in the fall of 1941 (Anderson, 1947). After the war had ended, it was Marie Anderson who first thought about having a “Hemerocallis Get-Together” in July of 1946. At this time, there were seven Round Robins flying, with members from all over the United States (Anderson, 1947). The Midwest Hemerocallis Society (MHS) was formed on July 13, 1946 in Shenandoah, Iowa because of the Hemerocallis Round Robins (Lacey, 1968). It may have started out as a robin “get-together,” but it turned out to be the beginning of something big; the MHS eventually became the American Hemerocallis Society. In 1947, Viola Richards, member of the National Robin, stated, “one of the greatest of values has been the opening of new windows and the widening of horizons. Lifetime friendships have been formed with many in distant places because of mutual interests” (Richards-V., 1947, p. 116).



Mel Campbell

There you go, people; it's all about information!

The snail mail round robins have gone the way of the three-cent stamp, but with the Internet, many other avenues of communication have opened up for us, such as the AHS Members-Only Portal, Facebook, Pinterest, YouTube, websites like Charlotte's Daylily Diary, All Things Plants and our own AHS website. And there are still three email robins flying: the Mother Email Robin, the Spider Robin, and the Season Extender Robin. In past years, there were email robins for landscaping with daylilies, patterned daylilies, tetrobin, unusual forms, and many more.

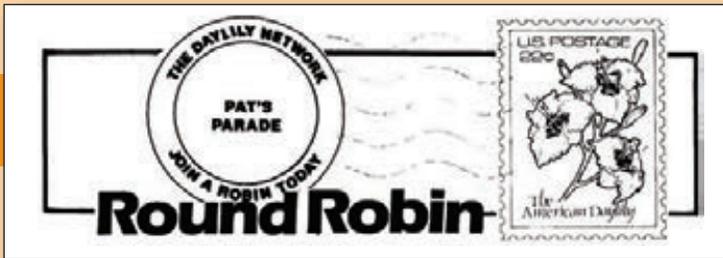
**If you are interested in starting up an email robin, contact the AHS Round Robins Chair, [roundrobins@daylilies.org](mailto:roundrobins@daylilies.org).**

Whatever means you choose to communicate with other daylily lovers, what goes around comes around, and the end result is the same: the “widening of horizons” by the exchange of information and the formation of “lifetime friendships” (Richards-V, 1947, p. 116).

Thanks to Region 11 and the Kathy Bouman Journal Scan Project, and AHS Archivist Ken Cobb with his hard-working committee members, we have access to so much of our Society's history. Past bulletins, newsletters and journals from the Midwest Hemerocallis Society, the Hemerocallis Society, and the American Hemerocallis Society can be downloaded from the AHS Members-Only Portal. I encourage you to take a step back into the rich history of our Society!

The Round Robin excerpts have always been an important part in AHS publications – from the Midwest Hemerocallis Society to *The Daylily Journal*. These excerpts are full of great information, and I don't know about you, but they are my favorite part of each issue! Below are just a handful of the round robin excerpts through the decades. While going through the archives, I discovered that members from previous decades pondered the same issues as we do today. Take a guess: what decade does each one come from? Answers are at the bottom of the page. No peeking!

1. “On the third and last day of our Hem Society meeting, the day began with a scheduled breakfast for Round Robin members at 7:30 a.m. ... We had a chance to meet many Robin members we had not previously met, and to make new friends of kindred interests. It is one of the most wonderful features of these get-togethers, to finally meet in the



▲ 1986 Robin logo



▲ 2004 Robin logo

flesh a person with whom you had been corresponding for years, and somehow or other, they ALWAYS turn out to be the nicest people, just as you had expected. With others, whom you had not known before, there springs up an immediate bond of sympathy."

2. "People should not buy too many, sight unseen. Soon they will have their garden cluttered up with inferior things. Of course, they will destroy them and plant the better varieties as this is the pleasure of gardening."

3. "A popular grower's catalog states of the *Hemerocallis* variety 'Dr Regel' (Mueller, 1904): "Low growing older variety valuable only because it blooms with the irises." I would like to differ with that opinion. Until we have a number of better early-blooming *Hemerocallis*, 'Dr Regel' — or any other similar — will be valuable, regardless of form or color because they do give us flowers when we want them, and most of us are beginning to want daylilies in our garden from April to frost. So, at least by us, any daylily that blooms in April or May is valuable, for at present there are very few of them!"

4. "Seedlings of unusually fine form and heavy substance resulted from crossing 'Capitol Dome' (Sass-H.E., 1955) × 'Soledad' (Kraus, 1951). I would not for a minute want all the daylilies in my garden to be wide, overlapping petaled, light yellows. I want some narrow petaled, some luscious spider forms, many miniatures (both wide and narrow), and endless colors, for the charm of *Hemerocallis* lies in the varied forms, sizes, colors, and personalities. The challenge to us amateur hybridizers is as "high as the sky" and altogether fascinating."

5. "It does seem such a waste to burn leaves or put them in the dump, or sanitary landfill. I've heard of one or two facilities that chipped up old Christmas trees and gave you a bag of mulch. Of course, some communities compost the leaves they collect and give or sell the resulting compost."

6. "Last August and September, I also reworked two large beds of daylilies. I gave away many plants to friends, replanted some of the stock I wanted to retain, lined out a large number of plants for future donation to the regional auction, and found room for some new acquisitions. Every year, I remake some beds, and thereby I avoid facing any single season with too many overgrown clumps, or too many newly-set plants. Because of the ideal subsequent growing conditions, the newly-reset plants had ample opportunity to get reestablished. I always look forward to seeing how these new beds turn out the following season."

7. "It never ceases to amaze me how many people, new to gardening, want to find out more about daylilies, their interest stimulated by articles they have read, or by seeing *Hemerocallis fulva* on the roadside. Many of the people who visit my gardens in the summer are new to daylilies, and the majority have driven from at least 30 miles away. Most are thrilled at the opportunity to see daylilies growing in the garden, and

many have lots of questions, often about hybridizing. I provide everyone who comes with printed material dealing with planting, cultural information, background information of the genus *Hemerocallis* as differentiated from the genus *Lilium*, the difference between tetraploids and diploids, the AHS with information on joining and membership benefits, and some tips on what things to look for in evaluating daylilies."

**To learn more about the history of the AHS, check out these resources:**

*A Fifty Year Affair: The Story of a Society and its Flower*, by Frances Gatlin, 1995

*A Passion for Daylilies*, by Sydney Eddison, 1992

*Daylilies and How to Grow Them*, by Ben Arthur Davis, 1954

The Daylily Journal archives through the AHS Members-Only Portal

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1. 1950 Fifth W. Kline, NY
2. 1947 H. P. Sass, Nebraska
3. 1952 Deanne M. Small, Chesterton, IN
4. 1961 Mrs. J.E. Heinemann, MO
5. 1972 Olive Jones, South Glens Falls, NY
6. 1983 Arthur Kroll, Pennington, NJ
7. 1990 Sally Millman, Gansevoort, NY

Answers

'Canochee Spirit' (Lane-D., 2009)  
— Ann Monroe photo



# MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

On behalf of the AHS Board of Directors, we appreciate each individual or club for their generous donation to one of the eight\* funds. We are saddened to learn of the loss of valuable AHS members. Your donation is a celebration of that AHS member's life, and for that, we thank you. We also encourage donations to honor an AHS mem-

ber's service to a club, region, or our Society.

Contributions may be sent to **American Hemerocallis Society, c/o Kathleen Schloeder, 2501 St. John Place, Alexandria, VA 22311.** Make all checks payable to the American Hemerocallis Society. Checks written to specific funds cannot be accepted. For memorial donations, please list the name and address of the survivor who is to receive an acknowledgment letter. All donations are tax deductible. For more information, see below. The following contributions were received prior to April 15, 2016.

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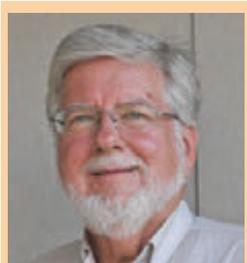
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# Bobbin' on the Robin



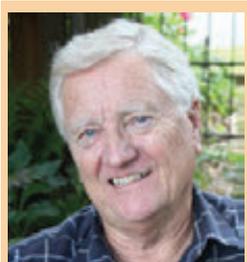
Michael Bouman

## SEED POD MARKERS

I seem to have been engaged in labor-intensive ways of marking crosses. I'm wondering if I should try the colored wire method? I'd need a lot of combinations and record keeping. That could be labor intensive. Where do I start? What sort of supply should I have and how many colors? Please, please...advise me kindly.

— Michael Bouman, St. Peters, Mo.

*E-mail Robin*



Pat Larsen Conway

Michael, I have used phone wire for several years. At the beginning of the season, make out a chart with the names of the cultivars that you plan to use, and list the wire color beside each name. Write the name of the cultivar on each wire package. I would advise that you lay all of the colored-

wire packages on a table in alphabetical order. It makes it a lot easier to find the wires for a particular flower. Once you have pollinated a flower, just wrap the wire around the base of the bloom, and if it sets a seed, you can refer back to your chart to find the pollen's source. I like to have 50 different colors. This is because I hybridize with both tetraploids and diploids. Another reason is that you might have some great seedlings that you want to use that will need their own separate color. If I see that I am not going to need many of a particular wire for a cross, I will twist two different colors together and record the name of the cultivar and corresponding colors.

— Pat Larsen Conway, Ark.

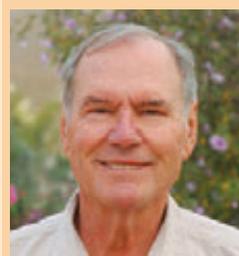
*E-Mail Robin*

I, too, like the wires and have maybe 90 different combinations stored in plastic plumber's helpers that have little drawers to hold zip lock bags of wires. Still, when the season starts I use paper tags for the first couple of crosses. Usually the first crosses are never planted, since they are never the best. I just get caught up in the excitement of the season. The record keeping is so

easy. I keep a set of 6 blank index cards and write the description of the wire and the pollen parent. When I harvest the pod I will write the pod parent and pollen parent on a cut index card and put them all into a zip-lock bag. It works for me. I used to use paper tags, but rain used to make some unreadable and Hurricane Bob one year stripped the late pods to strings on a pod.

— Patrick Stamile, Arroyo Grande, Calif.

*E-Mail Robin*



Patrick Stamile

I cannot use the wire method because I have too many cultivars. I use flagging tape — not in the red spectrum, it fools hummingbirds — either blue, white or green, and simply shorten the names to two or three letters, written phonetically. For example

GREEN DRAGON is GRN DRGN. The tape is stretchy, so when tying on, I pull it a bit, slip it on and give it a quick tie. It never comes off! Even if the cross does not take, the tape will stay on the end of the scape until I remove it. I use a black paint pen which does not fade. Then, after collecting the pods, I clip off the tape, and it stays with the cross while drying. Then it is added to the plastic bag full of seed, and into the refrigerator it goes. Very easy and cheap!

— Suzanne Eck, Woodstock, Ill.

*E-Mail Robin*



Suzanne Eck

I use colored yarn for hybridizing. You just need one color per cross representing the pollen parent. Yarn is cheap and comes in many colors; it is easy to tie; and it doesn't cut into the daylily. If you run out of colors, you can use two colors together. I keep records in a small notebook.

— Kathy Krattli, O'Fallon, Mo.

*E-Mail Robin*

I just had to chime in on this method of marking your crosses, as it hit a very painful nerve. BEWARE! A couple of years ago, I did this (had been for years, and it worked well) and noticed that one day some of my prized pods were no longer marked. What the heck I thought?! Later that week, after most of the yarn was missing, I noticed a bustle in the daylily patch and found it to be one busy woodpecker! Now really, there's no nest building in the beginning of September, is there? He proceeded to remove most of them, and he even knocked off some unripe

pods to the ground with his antics. I never found out what he did with them. Maybe he gave them to his lady bird as a pretty present.

— Linda Ball, Cambridge Wis.

*E-Mail Robin*



Linda Ball

I moved to using a combination of plastic pvc tags and paper clips last summer to mark my crosses. The paper clips come in a variety of colors, and you can attach small clips, one or two to a large clip to give an almost infinite number of combinations. Like with wires, you need to be aware that colors can fade; reds may look pink by season end, for example. You can buy tubs of 500 — 1000 paper clips from Staples. Just open the clip slightly and they easily hook on to the base of the bloom. I like the clips for high volume pollen crosses where I might hit 50-plus blooms a day (which you might have to do with some difficult-to-use pollens, like from some conversions). They hang easily and quickly, and they save a lot of writing time!

We have used most every kind of tag currently in discussion. In 2015 we purchased waterproof Strip Line Gardening Labels Signs Plant Hanging Tags. They come in multiple colors and perhaps sizes and come close to ideal. Be sure and use an oil based marker and not the usual Sharpie waterproof pens.

— David Kirchoff, Lawrenceburg, Ky.

*E-Mail Robin*



David Kirchoff

I've posted a couple of times in the past about using embroidery thread for marking one's daylily crosses. There are lots of colors available, as long as you use distinctive ones. Some of the close matches (lemon and white, for instance) can fade by the end of season, but black, red, blue, green, purple, brown,

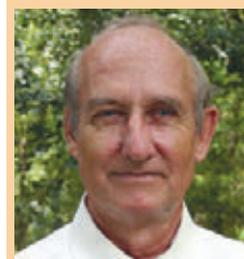
orange, white, and a host of other colors such as turquoise, chartreuse, lavender, etc. remain distinguishable well into September. They are easy to use as 6-strands or even as just 3-strands (separated), and the best thing is they barely show in the garden, unlike messy tags or even the wires. You can easily mix two colors (say black and red) for further crosses. If a pod doesn't form, they can be pinched off and let fall to the ground where they soon disappear, unlike wires.

— Oliver Billingslea, Montgomery, Ala.

*E-Mail Robin*

While I have and will continue to use the office supply strung paper tags for reasons that make sense

See Robin, page 52



Oliver Billingslea

continued from page 51



Ginny Pearce

to me, I wanted to offer a tip that I have found to make a huge difference in getting those tags to make it through months of windy and rainy days. I dab the hole and string junction with a bit of nail polish. I don't bother with this on a daily basis, but more like on a weekly schedule, and especially before the forecast

of heavy rain; it goes quicker that way. I don't have thousands upon thousands of tags so it's manageable for me. Now if I could just get the paper wasps to eat off the back side of those tags and not the written information. Maybe I should use clear polish over the cross info of the most important ones. Necessity is the mother of invention after all!

Also, I have a friend who uses pipe cleaners to identify his pollen parents. He cuts them into quite short pieces, but that's all that's needed to give it a couple twists around the base of the flower. I've been amazed at the vast variety he is able to find. Often they look like fuzzy caterpillars on the scapes, but I find the sparkly ones especially fun.

— Ginny Pearce, Grand Rapids, Mich.

E-Mail Robin

I got this idea from work.

I'm an electrician, and early on in my career, I found these little tags that had a number or letter stamped on them. So I would take these old ones home, and it gave me an idea: I would make some of my own. I got a lot of old aluminum printing plates (another story) and cut them 1 inch by two inches, punched a hole, and put a number on them. Then, in my book I would write that number down and my cross. I've used them for several years now.

— John Wagner, Kingsport, Tenn.

E-Mail Robin

### MOLD ON SEEDLINGS

I start seeds inside, on a very small scale. I plant the germinated seeds in damp seed starter in three-inch pots and place them

on self-watering trays. I have racks in two east windows that hold four trays of 24 pots each. Normally the rooms containing the seedlings are kept pretty cold, but this year it's been so warm that I have a lot of mold on some of the pots. I use a fungicide in the water, but it hasn't kept down the mold.

— Laura Teague, Madisonville, Ky.

E-Mail Robin

If you use a little bleach, less than a capful in a gallon of water, and spray the outside of the seed growing pots or trays, and repeat every time you water, the bleach will not hurt the seedlings. When I am putting in new daylilies, I usually soak them in a couple of gallons of water with a capful of bleach. It doesn't hurt the plants or the seeds. If using a smaller amount of water to seeds being started for sprouting, a few drops of bleach would be better, using an eye dropper.

— Julia Dawn Mason, Lakeland, Fla.

E-Mail Robin

### SEED STARTING

I built my first three-light seed-starting station in our unfinished basement several years ago. It accommodates three 48-inch shop-light fixtures suspended from chains. It's an inexpensive way to start daylilies and other flower/veggie seeds. The shop-light height is adjustable as seedlings grow. My late-father's old 48-inch long by 36-inch wide by 29-inch tall lab table fits perfectly under the hanging shop lights, and accommodates six 24-inch long by 12-inch wide by 2-inch tall seedling trays. I put a 72-cell insert in each tray to separate seedlings, but you can also plant directly in the trays or use 36-cell or other size inserts.

In a few days I'm going to build a second three-light seed-starting station in the basement.



Laura Teague



Julie Dawn Mason

I'll post pictures of the process on Facebook. Getting some of the components has been a bit challenging. For example, to connect the shop lights to the chains, I used to use a certain type of S-hook, which unfortunately is no longer available. The improvisation that I've had to do has turned out to be

fun. An electrician is coming tomorrow to install an outlet for this second station (currently there's just one electrical outlet downstairs). After considering various stand/table options for the new seed-starting station, I decided to purchase two 24-inch wide by 36-inch long by 36-inch tall greenhouse benches with ventilated shelves. I'll connect them on the 36-inch side to form a stand the same length and width as dad's old lab table.

I also have two free-standing 48-inch shop-light fixtures. I put bricks under the trays to elevate them from the concrete basement floor.

— Mary Baker, Omaha, Neb.

E-Mail Robin

### AHS BROCHURES

I'm speaking to a small garden study group in a few weeks, using a mostly -homemade Power-Point.

I remember a decade or more ago there was an Introduction to Daylilies brochure that showed a few color photos, basic information, and AHS contact information. I just checked out the AHS site and the portal, but didn't see anything like it. Are there still handouts? How do I get them?

— Megan Skinner, Allentown Pa.

E-mail Robin

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Mary Baker



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They are \$12 plus shipping for 100 full color glossy tri-fold brochures with a membership application included.

I actually just ordered 100 brochures for myself last week. I find tacking them up on grocery store bulletin boards, and leaving them at feed stores and garden centers always generates a bit of interest and a couple emails.

— *Nikki Schmith, Worden, Ill.*  
*E-mail Robin*

### HYBRIDIZER INFORMATION

I have a question regarding the AHS online database. Is there a way to access the list of hybridizers, and will it list their addresses? Specifically, I'd like to know where certain plants were born and raised, and I wondered if this information was available.

I know the hybridizer's address is listed on the registration form, but don't know whether that info resides anywhere on the database.

— *Gayle Lawrence, Bainbridge, Pa.*  
*E-mail Robin*



Gayle Lawrence

Information about hybridizers' names and locations is accessible through the Portal. Once you log into the Portal, go to AHS files in the green bar across the top of the page. Click on Administrative Files in the drop down menu. Scroll down a bit and you will find a link for AHS Hybridizer/Registrant list

(updated Nov 2014). Download either an Excel spreadsheet or a PDF. If you download the Excel file, you can sort the information. It's a great resource.

— *Melodye Campbell, Fairport, N. Y.*  
*E-mail Robin*



Melodye Campbell

### PLANT MARKERS

I have a question for the robin members, and I know it has been discussed before. However, I

did not save the information. I use black paint-ball markers on my stainless-steel daylily markers. In years past, I used a kind from one of the craft stores called De-coColor markers. They were excellent, and the writing on the markers would last for

years. I can no longer purchase this kind of marker because where I bought them no longer sells them. Plus, I have heard even if you order them online, they are not the same as the older ones I purchased before. I heard they changed the make-up of the paint, and it is no longer as sunfast as before. Staples is where I bought them, and they only carry Sharpies now, and they are not sun resistant at all. After you write on the plant markers, you are lucky if the color holds a year.

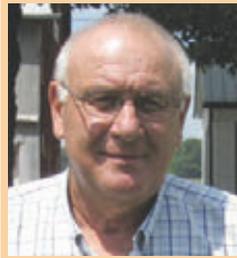
— *Bryan Culver, Waterford, Ontario, Canada*  
*E-mail Robin*

Bryan, I have been through the same pens and disappointments as you — have spent much time asking and looking — after markers have faded within one summer. Richard Norris recommended Ear Tag Markers for cows that you can get at the Tractor Supply stores (a chain here; hopefully in Canada as well). Those work. The key ingredient is xylene. This was determined by the State of California to be carcinogenic, and that's why the same brands now don't last; they've taken out the xylene. The cow ear markers have xylene, it's written right on it. Obviously, cow tags can't be fading, and it's an industrial use, not home crafts, so hopefully this brand will continue to be available.

— *Rob Laffin, Mariaville, Maine*  
*E-mail Robin*

Please note that xylene is a hydrocarbon that is highly toxic to dogs (probably also toxic to cats). Undoubtedly safe in lettering on a sign, but don't let Rover chew up the pen!

— *Stephanie Abraham, Scotland, Conn.*  
*E-mail Robin*



Bryan Culver

I have tried the oil-based Sharpies, and they do not last on my several hundreds of markers for more than a year. They fade very badly.

— *Bryan Culver, Waterford, Ontario, Canada*  
*E-mail Robin*

### PROTECTING OUR HISTORIC DAYLILIES

Today I learned that our North Carolina State University's JC Raulston Arboretum is having a lecture on the Svalbard Global Seed Bank. Of course, it does no good for us to retain daylily seeds in that manner, as we cannot reproduce the long-lost cultivars.



Ken Cobb

It does make me think of the value of our Historical Daylily Display Gardens, and the collections they hold. Of our 80,000-and-growing number of cultivars, I wonder how many are available commercially anymore, or if they can even be identified in gardens, much less being in official display gardens. Historical daylilies currently start at 1980 and prior. At least these historical gardens are a start, but just how many daylilies before 1980 still exist?

I know we are attempting — probably vainly in many cases — to obtain photos of all 80,000-plus of them. Many only exist as pictures! I wonder how many daylilies will have been named by the year 2100? We can probably estimate based on decades of experience. Plus, I wonder how many of today's cultivars will exist then, or even the cultivars of 2050? I hope more folks try to grow the daylilies of the past, and just not those currently labeled as "historical."

— *Ken Cobb, Raleigh, N.C.*  
*E-mail Robin*

### DAYLILIES: THINGS OR EXPERIENCES?

I read an article yesterday entitled, "Consumers shift preferences to buying experiences instead of stuff." It cited the record spending on air travel, an eight percent increase in restaurant sales, and big bucks spent on video games and

See Robin, page 54

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and Thad Brown



Robin, continued from page 53

streaming services. From nearly day one, I considered any daylily purchase an experience. That's because I planned to hybridize with them, and hybridizing is an ongoing adventure.

If you merely collect daylilies do you view them as experiences or as things?

— Linda Michaels, Burt, N. Y.  
E-mail Robin



Linda Kofstad

I will never be a hybridizer, but I can understand that creating a new daylily that combines the hoped-for characteristics of the crosses you choose to make would be a truly a w e s o m e experience! However, I consider it an awesome

experience to go out every morning to see which daylilies are showing me how beautiful they are on this particular morning. "Hey, look at me! I'm much more gorgeous than that spider form over there." A wonderful example of a viewing experience is watching Melanie Mason's 'Angus Pride' (2006). I always try to view it early in the morning when it is almost black, and then keep going back to see it as it changes to dark-red shades. It is certainly an experience, not a "thing!"

— Linda Kofstad, Hartland, Minn.  
E-mail Robin



Charlie Harper

My reaction to the question on whether daylilies are experiences or things, my answer is a resounding, "Yes!" Unless I'm content to just do my daylily experiencing in other people's gardens, they are not so much "things." However, as soon as I decide to have some in my own

garden, they become things that have an up-front cost. After five or six years, when the things have produced huge clumps, they become things that need management. And that, I guess, is another part of the daylily experience. I also delight in photographing them, where the

images become things to be managed, too! And that is also part of my daylily experience.

— Charlie Harper, Bowling Green, Ohio  
E-mail Robin

Daylilies are things, and even though I don't hybridize, they are also an important part of my ongoing gardening experience. Daylily conventions and regional meetings are experiences (not things), and what wonderful experiences they are. I've never been to one that I didn't enjoy.

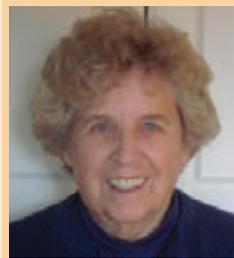


Rich Rosen

— Rich Rosen, Frankfort, Ky.  
E-mail Robin

I would never describe daylilies as "things." To me, daylilies are living parts of our world which need care, love, and friends, just like we do. I try to plant daylilies that complement each other, and I mix in perennials that help to show off the colors of the daylilies. I don't always succeed, but I sure have fun trying. I would call the care and nurturing of daylilies an experience because it involves so many facets: selecting, purchasing, digging, planting, watering, dividing, giving to friends, and pollinating. Also included for me are hybridizing for fun, keeping records, and always dreaming of next year.

— Marifran Hiltz, Franklin, Tenn.  
E-mail Robin



Marifran Hiltz

Daylilies are not just things to me, but part of my total gardening experience. Gardening is an important aspect of my life as it connects me with the earth, the rhythm of the seasons, my creative self and my Creator. Garden-



Kate Patrick

ing, being amongst the daylilies, gladdens the heart, lifts the spirit, and strengthens the body. I can't imagine life without being able to experience all that, and daylilies are a wonderful part of it all.

— Kate Patrick, Murfreesboro Tenn.  
E-mail Robin

The recent thread on "Experiences or Things?" was very interesting! I look at daylilies as both. The plants I buy are certainly things; they take up space and require maintenance. Enjoying them is an experience: going out to see them each day, taking pictures, hybridizing, watching the insects make use of the flowers. Going to regional meetings is an experience I enjoy.

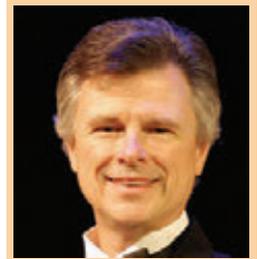
— Gayle Lawrence, Bainbridge, Pa.  
E-mail Robin



Gayle Lawrence

Just want to say that I have loved reading this thread. Without a doubt, our daylilies are both "things" and "experiences." My daylily collecting centers around trying to acquire all the Steve Moldovan, Roy Woodhall, and Ron Valente cultivars. At this point, I'm well over the halfway mark with the Moldovans, about a third of the Woodhalls, and over 3/4 of the Valentines. Yes, there plants are "things," but their daily blooms are experiences that are new every day, and they are never exactly the same.

— Mike Anders, Findlay, Ohio  
E-mail Robin



Mike Anders

Wow! Daylilies are so much a part of my life I can't say I think of them as things. They are living things in nature, and I don't look at them like I would a plate or a desk. Hybridizing daylilies means a lot to me. It brings me hope for the coming seasons, and I very much think of the seedlings as something maybe one step down from my children. I give them garden names, and I keep records on them to note their size,

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Wanda Evans

color, and form, and how they performed each bloom season. I do not usually sell seedlings, but I trade or give them to people I know who will value them as I do. If we care for them, they provide us with beauty that we can share with the neighborhood. I love it when people slow down to

look at my garden as they pass by. I always wave them in, and tell them to come and enjoy the garden with me.

If people don't have time to stop, they will tell me how much they enjoy seeing my garden. I know, in those few minutes that person passed by, they smiled and enjoyed the garden on their way to work or wherever they were going that day. That experience makes my day, too!

— Wanda Evans, Dayton, Ky.  
E-mail Robin

I'm guessing this question relates to whether we want a daylily because it enhances our experience of life in some way, or for some other reason, be it as a possession, or because we think it may give us a payout of some other kind. In my case, it is all about experience, which is why I will not buy a daylily unless I can picture how it will enhance the experience of my garden. Thus, I do not care much if it is something my friends also have, or what year it was produced, or what name it has. It is all about the plant itself, and what increased garden experience I expect from it. Of course, that experience also includes enjoying a flower that, to my eyes, looks uniquely beautiful on a plant that does not embarrass itself by not presenting those flowers well.

— Betsy Thompson,  
East Greenbush, N.Y.  
E-mail Robin

Daylilies have always been an experience for me because of my hybridizing. But now that I'm easing away from hybridizing, my introductions will be things that I hold on to for



Bill Jarvis

the memories that come with them. Of course, I'll still be able to experience daylilies by visiting other gardens!

— Bill Jarvis, Houston, Texas  
E-mail Robin

I have been following the things/experiences thread, and it is interesting. I would like to add this thought: By the time I got my first daylilies, I was close to 50 years old (48 or so, I think) and had spent much of my life in cities, living in apartments or rental homes, working in music schools, real estate offices, and churches. I did not think of my life as empty, or lacking in any way; if anything, it was overloaded. Now that I have daylilies (over a quarter-century by this time), I enjoy them deeply; as living plants, they call to me, with their changes day by day, as well as their complexities of shape, color, and texture, to say nothing of fragrance. Further, their blooms enliven the seasons, from early spring (the historic oldies start blooming in early April) to late fall. My hybridizing, far smaller in scale than many others do, and humbler in accomplishment, nonetheless gives me endless joy, as I see both results I had hoped for and results far different from expectations.

— John Ware, Mechanicsville, Va.  
E-mail Robin

I see my daylily collection as very different from a collection of baseball cards, chairs, paperweights, books, etc. Daylilies are alive and always changing! You can't put them on a shelf for 50 years. The "changeable" nature means you are always interacting with them.

— Margo Reed, North Garden, Va.  
E-mail Robin

I view my daylilies as pets. When I first purchased daylilies, they were simply plants for the



John Ware

yard, "things." But after watching them grow, going to meetings and shows, and hearing speakers, my whole view changed. I will never forget something that Tim Bell said at one of the first regional meetings I attended. He said he noticed one day that his daylilies weren't "singing and dancing like they should be" in a particular area. (He did a soil test, and found that years of pine straw had thrown off the pH in that bed, and he fixed the problem with soil amendments.)

I had never heard anyone use this type of personification when talking about daylilies. This was the point when I started viewing my daylilies more like pets than things. Of course, I agree with all of you that daylilies are an experience, and they can bring me to tears at times with their beauty, but they can also be a lot of work. They have a personality, just like my cats. Some of them will pout if they don't get enough sun, and others may thrive even when neglected. When Steven and I talk about plant performance, we talk about each cultivar's personality, whether it is happy where it's planted, who is "high-maintenance", and who is not, etc. They are our living botanical pets, and hard work or not, we love them.

— Jessie Worsham, Stockbridge, Ga.  
E-mail Robin

To be or not to be, a thing. How fun that Linda hit on a topic that set us all off like little rockets! I guess I fall into the lonely category of thinking of my daylilies as things. A daylily is a "thing" of beauty. To me it's a thread that will slightly change the tapestry that is my garden. The experience for me is trying to grow this thing of beauty to the best of my ability while inadvertently making all kinds of mistakes.

— Susan Okrasinski, Kingsport Tenn.  
E-mail Robin



Susan Okrasinski

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*Summer!*

— Nikki Schmith photo