Garden Visits to: Belgium, Holland, and Germany

July 16 to July 23, 2003

By AHS International Membership Chair Gisela Meckstroth with contributions from: Hemerocallis Europa Editor Jamie Vande and AHS Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society Member Janice Clark

Hemerocallis Europa Member Marjan Joosten’s Garden/Nursery in Rutten, Holland. Photo: Janice Clark
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Membership Rates
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Dual Membership (1 year)* .... $22.00
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*Dual Membership means: Two persons living in same household.

American Hemerocallis Society Region 2/Great Lakes Newsletter is published for the benefit of American Hemerocallis Society members residing in Region 2. As such, the editorial focus of the publication centers on:
• Hemerocallis.
• AHS and Region Two events.
• Region Two members and hybridizers.
Submissions are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and focus on the three criteria cited above.
A Few Words from Gisela

Early in life, about age six, I made up my mind to travel as much as I could possibly manage, and manage it I did, indeed.

Well, this has been a most interesting and busy “traveling” summer for me, and I am so grateful to be married to a man who is also interested in daylilies and who, therefore perhaps, understands my daylily and travel passion. Summer started with a trip to Germany to attend my class reunion and to visit daylily gardens in mid June. Then came the AHS National Convention, one day afterwards to wash clothes and to pick up more funds, and it was time to drive to Collinsville, Illinois, with Rosemarie Foltz from Canton, Ohio, to enjoy the wonderful gardens of our Region Two Summer Meeting. A few days later came our MCDS daylily show where I helped as placement chair then came, judging daylily shows at Southwestern Michigan HS and the Ohio DS. Once more a day at home to wash clothes, repack suitcases, pick up more funds, and off it was with Region 2 member Janice Clark (also an MCDS member) to Amsterdam for daylily garden visits in Belgium and Germany for the combined Hemerocallis Europa–Perennials Society/Specialty Group Hemerocallis meeting in Holland.

A detailed description of those garden visits will be posted in full color on our Region 2 web pages (http://www.ahsregion2.org) about the end of October. Another full-color report about the international visitors at our 2003 AHS National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, can also be viewed there.

Special thanks to RVP Ed Myers for giving permission and encouragement for the posting of this travel tale.

AHS Region 2
On-line Daylily Auction

February 4 through 22, 2004

During our Region 2 winter’s cold, icy, snowy February, you can stay in your rocking chair at home and still bid on those “must-have” cultivars and look at the beautiful photos and descriptions of them. From right now until February, though, you can donate daylilies that are on others’ “must-have” lists and that can benefit Region 2!

So, please don’t put off donating another day. Why not go to page 18 of the Region 2 Fall 2003-Winter 2004 Newsletter on these web pages and see how to do that.

DO YOU KNOW ...
that daylilies grow along the Internet Highway and that you can...

- Surf the Net and learn more about daylilies.
- Visit our Region 2 web pages and local club links at: http://www.ahsregion2.org
- Visit the American Hemerocallis Society Web-Site at: http://www.daylilies.org/daylilies.html
- You can “travel” to many interesting daylily sites by clicking on links on the AHS Web Site. If you don’t have a computer, visit your local library. Friendly librarians will be glad to help you navigate the high seas of the Internet.
A “Daylilies” Garden Visit to:
Belgium, Holland, and Germany

by Gisela Meckstroth with contributions from
Janice Clark (Columbus, Ohio) and Jamie Vande (Köln, Germany)

Hemerocallis Europa (HE) and the Gesellschaft der Staudenfreunde (GdS)/Fachgruppe Hemerocallis (Friends of Garden Perennials Society/Specialty Group Hemerocallis) held their annual business meetings in July in Ede, Holland, a city about an hour’s drive from Amsterdam, Holland. Their officials and most of their members are also AHS members, and I took this get-together as a good opportunity to get to know them. Janice Clark, a member of my local Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society, and I flew to Amsterdam a day early so we could meet Cor and Monique Govaerts, Francois and Martina Verhaert, Johan Vanheusden, his wife, their unbelievably handsome identical-triplets sons, and our international Youth member Ruben Billiet.

After a must-do canal cruise, Jan and I took off at noon from Amsterdam on July 17 in one of the few available fully air-conditioned rental cars driving towards the Govaerts’ garden in Nijlen, east of Antwerpen, Belgium. Lucky, lucky Jan and Gisela,

This is Monique and Cor Govaerts’ daylily garden in Nijlen, Belgium, just east of Antwerpen. It and Marjan Joosten’s are the most unusual daylily gardens Jan and Gisela saw on this journey. The home itself juts over the water and provides a wonderful, close-up view right from the living and dining rooms.

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Europe was enduring its hottest summer since 1947. We found Govaerts’ daylily seedling field and the lane leading through a stretch of woods to a most beautiful and unusual daylily garden. On their large property sits a lake, complete with an island in the middle and with its own footbridge leading to it. The island and the garden banks are fortified with a seawall-like structure. Daylily beds framed the lake all the way around, and various cultivars and perennials allowed the island to shine like a jewel. How picturesque! Johan Vanheusden had come with his family to meet us at Govaerts’ garden. After some cool refreshments and get-to-know-you conversa-

Belgium AHS Member Johan Vanheusden had this seedling in the gardens. I took the registration papers with me to the USA. It was registered as REALIZED FANTASY. A few weeks ago, Johan won 3rd place in Andy Fox’s famous “Rookie of the year” AHS E-mail Robin award! That is some accomplishment for a young Belgium hybridizer. Image by Johan Vanheusden.

Congratulations to you, Johan!
tion, Cor and Johan led the way to the daylilies, to Cor’s multitude of beautiful seedlings and to the many, many recently American-hybridized cultivars.

I had heard and read much about American daylilies that won’t open well in this, usually, much cooler northern European climate. Today, with ALWAYS AFTERNOON (Morss 1987), EL DESPERADO LOVE (P. Stamile 1994), MOONLIT MASQUERADE (Salter 1992), leading the way, most blossoms had opened wide and every bit as well as we see them in our northern Region 2. Many American cultivars with extra heavy ruffles and extra thick gold braids had had more difficulty even on this hot, hot day. What astonished me was to see so many American beauties really “strutting their best stuff” in this garden. Cor has created many seedlings that other hybridizers would, most likely, have registered, but he is following the very highest set of criteria for himself and
for his creations. Johan proudly showed off his newly registered REALIZED FANTASY and DARK EYED WARRIOR (both Vanheusden 2003). REALIZED FANTASY is of dark burgundy purple color. A light orange band emerges from the green throat and is followed by a lighter lavender watermark. Light lavender-rose ruffles turn into a white edge on the petals. The sepals are also edged in white. The color holds up very well in the sun. This is, indeed, a very striking eye catcher. Beautiful! I also spotted ANN BLOCHER (Spalding-Blocher 1980), lavender pink with a green throat, a cultivar I had heard so much about from Ohio hybridizer Bernie Grebus over the years, but one I had somehow never managed to see in bloom.

By now Jan and I had been without sleep for about 22 hours, and ahead of us was still the visit to Virginia Peck’s 1968 GOLDEN PRIZE in Verhaerts’ garden.

As Francois put it, “This one has been in our garden for over 20 years and will probably never ever leave us.”

Francois’ seedling 2002-071, a cross between ANGEL RODGERS and OCEANSIDE as a clump, above, and close-up at left. He hopes to register this year.

Dr. Tomas Tamberg, AHS Membership Chair Gisela Meckstroth, HE Vice President Gudrun Tillmann-Budde, and hybridizer Francois.

Image by Ruben Billiet.
Verhaerts’ garden, a 15-minute drive away, followed by dinner at our hotel, hosted by generous Cor and Monique.

Ruben Billiet, HE Vice-president Gudrun Tillmann-Budde, Dr. Thomas Tamberg (hybridizer of many registered European cultivars that include the famous 1989 BERLIN TALL BOY, a 72-inch tall tetraploid) and his wife, Christina, were already inspecting the great mixture of perennials in this exquisitely landscaped and impeccably groomed garden in the middle of this Belgian village of Pulle. Again, I was astonished to see so many new and old American cultivars in the Verhaerts’ display beds. I had expected to see more European hybridized cultivars than American ones. Only much later, during a “how to evaluate daylilies in the garden” session, would some reasons for this become clearer to me. Good looking cultivars this late afternoon were ALL AMERICAN BABY (G. Stamile 1994), beautifully branched with its delicate light lavender coloring and intricately patterned darker eye, and GOLDEN PRIZE (Virginia Peck’s 1968 tetraploid and HM recipient). Francois’ comment about the latter was, “This one has been in our garden for over 20 years and will probably never ever leave us.” Another unique light orchid purple with a large blue purple eyezone and large chartreuse throat was the American

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This lovely daylily above has SABRA SALINA, CHARLIE PIERCE MEMORIAL, and the Verhaerts’—as yet—unregistered, seedling fondly called “Garden Star” at right. “Garden Star” is from another Verhaert seedling that has SILOAM FRENCH DOLL and CHARLIE PIERCE MEMORIAL in its ancestry.

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“oldie” OCEANSIDE (Yancey 1986), loaded with open blossoms. Standouts were two of Francois’ seedlings, which may still be registered this year.

Francois had constructed an interesting, about 8-foot tall, “friendly neighbor” fence several years ago to serve also as an effective backdrop for the taller perennials and shrubs. He had erected two strong, grate-like wire fence sections parallel to each other, leaving about 4-5 inches of space between the two grates. He had filled the in-between space with mulch and created a sort of recycling fence “filler.” After the decomposed mulch falls out of the bottom, he adds new filler at the top. However, this decomposing process has created a bit more work than Francois is willing to do this summer; so he has begun to fill the top space with small lava rocks. A new idea. There was already so much to see and to learn about in these two Belgium gardens!

Other evergreen 8-foot fence sections caught my interest, too. It looked to me as if they had been grown from upright junipers that had been sheared into a fairly thin, about 8-inch wide, rectangular fence. These also served a dual-purpose, as a “friendly neighbor” fences and as an evergreen background for the shrubs’ summer foliage and for their interesting wintertime skeletons. We looked at lots and lots of Verhaert seedlings. As I had done in Govaerts’ garden, I wondered why he had not registered any of them. While we walked along all the garden paths and daylily beds, Dr. Tamberg and I exchanged thoughts about our scheduled demonstration of “how to evaluate cultivars and seedlings in the garden,” and I began to get an inkling about the “why nots.”

Much too soon, again, we had to bid Verhaerts and Ruben farewell and left for the hotel and a wonderful dining experience. We would
July 18 to 21, Holland: Ede, Veenendaal, Rutten.

drive from our meeting hotel in Ede. A large plaque designating the nursery as deposit of the “National Collection” greeted us at the entrance. Jan and I found many of the HE and GdS members already walking the wide, paved walkways, viewing single-row clumps in a large number of long, narrow daylily beds. Visitors could easily view cultivars from all sides. Wim Willemsen showed us the highlights. He grows and displays about 800 daylilies from hybridizers worldwide, but most of them are from American hybridizers. IN EXCESS (by Australian Scott Alexander 1994) stood out immediately. ALL AMERICAN BABY (Grace Stamile 1994) caught my eye again. There was a MINI STELLA...

see Gudrun and Tambergs again in Ede. Dining with Govaerts was a culinary experience. The hotel’s chef presented each of the artfully prepared and arranged courses himself. Sleeping with mosquitoes was not as pleasant, but it was Jan’s and my fault for opening all windows, not only the single screened pane, to let the cool night air in.

The daylily meeting started July 18 with a visit to Wim Willemsen’s nursery in Veenendaal, a short drive from our meeting hotel in Ede. A large plaque designating the nursery as deposit of the “National Collection” greeted us at the entrance. Jan and I found many of the HE and GdS members already walking the wide, paved walkways, viewing single-row clumps in a large number of long, narrow daylily beds. Visitors could easily view cultivars from all sides. Wim Willemsen showed us the highlights. He grows and displays about 800 daylilies from hybridizers worldwide, but most of them are from American hybridizers. IN EXCESS (by Australian Scott Alexander 1994) stood out immediately. ALL AMERICAN BABY (Grace Stamile 1994) caught my eye again. There was a MINI STELLA...
(Jablonski 1983) right next to a converted-to-tetraploid STELLA DE ORO. Then came ROSWITHA (Trimmer 1992), JASON SALTER (E.H. Salter 1987), PRISCILLA’S RAINBOW (Spalding-Guillory 1985), BEAUTY TO BEHOLD (Sellers 1978), MOONLIT MASQUERADE (Salter 1992), LOVING YOU (Wild 1976), a stunning clump of SERENA SUNBURST (B. Marshall 1982), and many others. I noticed a slightly different color eye zone in JASON SALTER. It was not quite as washed out as I usually see it in Region 2. PRISCILLA’S RAINBOW also showed a slight difference in eye coloration. Wim offered a SERENA SUNBURST petal as a welcome snack. It was the first daylily petal I have ever eaten, and a savory morsel it was.

One of the long beds was reserved for testing tissue-cultured cultivars. Two of the test plants were KING GEORGE (Rasmussen 1981) and FOOLED ME (Hein/Reilly 1990). I had intended to return to that bed to jot down the other cultivars’ names but did not find time. I noticed a long row of vigorous, eye-catching daylilies with the word “Spits” in their names. Wim explained that these were the results of his own crosses and that he uses the name “Spitsbergen” as a brand name for the series. What beauties they were; and, each one came with its own story. Wim gives all the credit for the wonderful variety of cultivars to his valued advisors Francois Verhaert and Cor Govaerts. I agree, they advised him well. Wim’s is a

Wide, paved walkways make it easy to inspect and examine the daylily cultivars planted in single-row fashion in Wim’s nursery.

Wim Willemsen and HE President Gerrit Snoek.
well-designed commercial daylily display garden where buyers can see the daylilies perform and where they can purchase what they have seen.

Buffet dinner, with wine, in the meeting hotel. Finally, there was time to talk more leisurely to some of the participants. HE president Gerrit Snoek greeted the meeting participants in German. Surprise! I had anticipated that English would be the unifying language. He introduced us, the visitors from faraway Ohio. Gerrit accepted gift plants John Benz had sent. He intends to grow them for future fund-raising HE-GdS auctions. Francois Verhaert showed slides of new American introductions and seedlings, taken during his May 2003 Florida visit. Dr. Tamberg followed with slides sent in by several European hybridizers to show of their efforts and achievements.

**Saturday, June 19: Bus Tour to Appeltern Gardens and to Bets Krosse in Oud Sevenaar.**

Saturday morning, an air-conditioned bus carried us from Wim’s nursery to Appeltern (no, not Appeldorn). “Appeltern Gardens” is a parklike nursery located between the rivers Maas and Waal, southwest of Ede. This is the kind of display garden one probably expects to see in Holland. The buildings offer large meeting rooms, a gift store, and lots of food items. A large number of outside garden “rooms” featured about 150 daylilies, “garden art,” exhibits of various paving materials, wall- and fence-building methods, and landscape ideas for large gardens, small patios, or courtyard gardens.

The deliberate focus on environmental friendliness of architectural garden accents was obvious. It was an excellent “how to do this in my garden” exhibition. The officers of HE and GdS held respective board meetings and then, after lunch, followed up with their separate annual business meetings. I would have liked to attend at least one of the two groups’ business meetings, but without an expressed invitation, I did not want to intrude.

Onward, to the formal, English-style garden of Mrs. Bets Krosse in Oud Sevenaar. A large, all-white garden in front of the home was a popular spot for us all. Picture perfect! Daylily plantings in the back garden area gave us another opportunity to look at a large number of cultivars and to evaluate their

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Newly appointed Hemerocallis Europa Newsletter Editor Jamie Vande, a British citizen who has lived and worked in Germany for many years.

“Fresh as Daisies” daylilies after one of the hottest days of the 2003 European summer in Bets Krosse’s garden.
summer heat-survival qualities. “My” winners were SWEET SUGAR CANDY (Stamile 1991), FLORISSANT MISS (Harris 1979), and JOAN SENIOR (Durio 1977). All three looked as fresh in the evening as they would have in the morning. Krosse family members put on a king-size barbeque meal served with cool drinks in a cool, lower-level room, its doors wide open to the warm, early evening breezes.

HE president Gerrit Snoek held a fundraiser auction on the backyard lawn as the sunlight faded. Wim and Marjan Joosten, his colleague nursery owner from northern Holland, added as much fun and friendly entertaining competition to this auction as does the “auction team” of Day-Kirchhoff to ours. The bidders had no (what has become—to me—indispensable) Eureka reference in the bidders’ hands, and the auctioneer made no references to the “average Eureka price” of the to-be-auctioned cultivars. (Oops, a “slip of the mind.” I was in another country with other customs, of course.) I surprised myself! Here I was, able to bid on a cultivar without consulting “that” reference. Remembering that I would not be able to bring this prize into the U.S.A., I asked Gerrit to raffle it off, and I donated the Euros to the HE newsletter. The person who won the cultivar promised he would always treat me as he would his own mother-in-law, of whom I reminded him. I hope he meant that as a compliment.

Back at the hotel, we had time to socialize, to show photos of the 2003 AHS National Convention, and to have cool drinks. Before going to our room, Jan and I noticed bridge players in a large room off the lobby. The players had just finished a tournament, and they insisted that we stay and play with them. No, we could not resist showing off our Columbus (Ohio) honed duplicate-bridge playing skills a bit. It was a wonderful way to meet more hospitable and interesting Dutch and Belgian people.

Sunday, July 21: Rutten, Holland, to see “Daylilies on Steroids”!

After we had made about 576 U-turns during the previous two days trying to follow driving directions (some written in Dutch), we decided to humbly ask for driving guidance. Gerrit offered to lead the way to Marjan Joosten’s garden in Rutten, north of Arnhem, provided I could manage to drive 130 km/hour (about 85 miles/hour)! We compromised on the Dutch speed limit of 120 km/hr (about 75-80 m/hr). He also asked...
us (or was that a warning?) if we were prepared to visit this garden, which was sitting about 6 meters (18+ feet) below sea level. WOW! Jan and I had come to appreciate the ingenuity and tenaciousness of the Netherlands’ people for having fought to keep the North Sea at bay for centuries, for having wrestled so much valuable land from it, and for grazing, grazing all day long, the vegetation in these Netherlands’ pastures must be so fat and nutritious that these cows could afford to rest most of the day.

Marjan’s nursery presented a spectacular view of the largest, tallest, fattest clumps of daylilies any of us had ever seen and would expect to only read about in fairy tales. At the corner of a small bridge at the beginning of the display garden stood a wonderfully grown CATHERINE WOODBERY (Wild 1967). I bet its scapes were just about 40 inches tall. Many honors winner MIDNIGHT MAGIC (Kinnebrew 1979) triggered a “click, click, click” in my exhibition judge’s mind. I noted that I would not be able to show scapes like these with their over-oversized blossoms in our AHS accredited shows in which cultivars’ scapes are judged against their registered standards. But what a sight these were as garden plants!

AHS member Jamie Vande, a “Brit” who speaks German fluently with a melodic Cologne accent and who will be HE’s newsletter editor, expressed his impression of this garden this way: “Here, Hemerocallis grow to giants like you have never seen. I’m a bit under 6 ft tall, and a huge clump of SOUTH SEAS (Moldovan 1993) could see me eye to eye! I am talking mutant cow manure on steroids with radioactive water works! It was unbelievable! A clear example of just how important water is to this genus. As they are growing on a polder (The defini-
tion of “Polder”: A tract of low land—as in the Netherlands—reclaimed from a body of water, as the sea.), the water table is directly under them, and the plants do not need to look far for a drink. I was fascinated how certain cultivars always stood out in the gardens, such as FAIRY TALE PINK (C. Pierce 1980) always looking perfect in any heat, DESPERADO LOVE (P. Stamile 1994) at twice its registered height, ROCOCO (Biery 1972) looking like dripping citrus peels, or FOOLEO ME (Hein/Reilly 1990) flashing like a beacon in the distance. Mostly, the plants were in enormous clumps, which showed another side of many cultivars. Particularly the Candies, which, for my taste are more attractive in 6-12 fan clumps; otherwise, there are too many blossoms! Who would have thought! CUSTARD CANDY (Stamile 1989) and ELEGANT CANDY (Stamile 1995) were very heat resistant. COURT MAGICIAN (Munson 1987) makes an imposing clump, as did the classic STAFFORD (Randall 1960). The latter, normally a 28 inches tall diploid, was a full 6 feet/about 2 meters high plant here, but the runaway eye catcher was INDIAN GIVER (Ferguson 1991). I saw a good 30 fans sell in a few hours! It was a fabulous sight! There was another astonishingly well-grown clump of JARDINART VAN MULDERS, (a cross from a seedling x TETRA CRIMSON PIRATE) by Belgian hybridizer Van Mulders, 1983. It is a very unusual cross, the only cross I know of with TET CP! Did you know that LITTLE GRAPETTE (Williamson 1970) can reach 120 cm (4ft)! Slap me silly, folks.”

Dr. Tamberg and I selected a suitable clump to serve as an example of an “excellent” garden plant and another, harder-to-find in this garden “bad” example clump for our “evaluating cultivars and seedlings in the garden” demonstration. I had brought handouts from our AHS Garden Judges Workshop 2 curriculum that I used to explain our official AHS point-scoring method for seedlings and cultivars in the garden and which AHS Garden Judges use in preparation of filling out their annual Garden Judges Ballots. Dr. Tamberg explained a point-scoring method European hybridizers have developed and which he continues to refine. I was surprised to learn that European hybridizers can send test plants, seedlings and cultivars, to designated evaluation/test gardens in Weinheim, Schortens, and Cottbus (each in a different part of Germany) where
Delicious homemade soup, lunch meat, cheeses, crusty rolls, and dessert. Combine that with lively daylily talk, and you could not spend a day any better.

Photo: Jan Clark

that would merit a seedling’s registration. After learning more about this method and after discussing the method with a number of hybridizers as to how they understood the system, I can now understand much better why I admired so many seedlings by European hybridizers in these gardens without finding a proportionate number of respective registered cultivars. My prediction: In a year or so, there will be numerous registration applications from European hybridizers landing on AHS Registrar Gretchen Baxter’s desktop.

designated evaluators point-score the plants at regular intervals during the season and for at least 2 years. One noticeable difference between AHS garden judges’ evaluation and this European method is the different-value point score for colors. For example, yellow, orange, and melon colors can earn up to 16 points in contrast to almost white, almost black, lavender, violet, eye, and edged ones at 20-points maximum. Evaluators also note the weather conditions at location and the weather/temperature on the night before viewing the plants. The cumulative scores are then published. Hybridizers can use these evaluations as a guideline for deciding on whether or not a plant possesses the desired qualities

Marjan's nursery where the combined groups were treated to soup, sandwiches, desert, and "Daylilies on Steroids" at 6 meters below sea level. Photo: Jan Clark

Another one of Marjan’s seedlings. As of July 2003, she had not registered any yet! There were so many outstanding seedlings in all these gardens.

Marjan Joosten’s Chicken House with Chickens. Photo: Jan Clark.
Sunday Afternoon, July 21: Journey to Germany

Most participants started their long journeys home in the afternoon. Jan and I aimed our tiny but mighty car for the former border crossing in Venlo. The European Union requires no border checkpoints, and 10 minutes after crossing, we reached my Sister Erika’s home near Krefeld, Germany. Tuesday, July 22 we drove a short half-hour to Hans-Ulrich and Ilse Kaiser, whom we had already met in Ede. Kaisers have created a wonderful combination landscape-hybridizer garden, about the size of John Benz’s and my own. Many perennials share the flower beds with daylilies, and Hans-Ulrich grows many of his seedlings and newer acquisitions in large 2-gallon size pots. Again, I was astonished to see so many beautiful and distinctly different “Kaiser” seedlings bloom.

These seedling plants showed off such distinctly different blossom coloring, well-proportioned, branched scapes, and healthy foliage. Why Kaisers have not registered them would have remained a mystery to me without Dr. Tamberg’s discussion of this tough and lengthy European evaluation process. Hans-Ulrich’s also explained his own stance. By the time he has evaluated any one of his distinctly different seedlings over the span of several years, his new seedlings look so much better that he, consequently, decides not to register last year’s best. What a loss to us growers who only buy registered cultivars!

Henny and Wim Willemsen had come from Veenendaal, and Jamie had driven from Cologne to visit here and to talk “daylilies” one more time.

Janice Clark, Jamie Vande, Henney Willemsen, Hans-Ulrich Kaiser, and Wim Willemsen.
Ilse and her husband let us in on the secrets of their fertilization method for the potted plants. Judging by their healthy and vigorous plants, their method is working well. After serving a fabulous, cooked-from-scratch dinner, Ilse offered coffee, ice cream, a variety of German Kuchen, and a wonderful homemade blackberry torte. Oops, and mountains of whipped cream, too.

So we ended our European daylily garden visits with a great big German Kaffee Klatsch. We had come for the daylilies and have formed warm friendships with lovely, hospitable daylily people.

MacMacMacMacMacMacMacMac MacMacht’s Gut
Good By
So Long
Tschüss
Auf Wiedersehen—Till we meet again!

Gisela and Hans-Ulrich Kaiser looking at a small section of the daylilies in Kaisers’ garden. Kaisers’ garden is just a 20-minute drive from Gisela’s Sister Erika’s home. Photo by Jan Clark.

Jamie Vande and Gisela trading notes about the marvelous

Ilse in her kitchen preparing a great big midday meal!

The photo of the absolutely most delicious desserts is, at the time of this posting,, in the hands of the AHS editor.

AHS International Membership Chair Gisela Meckstroth leaving Amsterdam’s Schiphol airport once again, this time however, with nothing but admiration for the members of the Hemerocallis Europa and Gesellschaft der Staudenfreunde/ Fachgruppe Hemerocallis. Photo: Jan Clark

A big Thank-You to Janice Clark for being such a good and patient traveling companion and for helping negotiate those 576 U-turns!