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American Hemerocallis Society

Membership Rates

Individual (1 year) ................... $18.00
Individual (3 years) ................. $50.00
Dual Membership (1 year)* ..... $22.00
Dual Membership (3 years)* ... $60.00
Life Membership ................... $500.00
Dual Life Membership ........... $750.00
Youth ........................................ $8.00

Dues are to be paid by January 1 of each year.
Make checks payable to the AHS.
Mail to: Pat Mercer
P.O. Box 717
Belzoni MS 39038
662-247-1251
gmercer@nlamerica.com

*Dual Membership means: Two persons
living in same household.

American Hemerocallis Society

Editorial Policy

The American Hemerocallis Society is a nonprofit organization, and the 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 2 events.
- Region 2 members and hybridizers.

Submissions are encouraged. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and focus on the three criteria cited above.
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Deadlines
Spring/Summer Issue: March 1
Fall/Winter Issue: September 1

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AHS Region 2 Treasurer
(see address on inside front cover)

Display Advertising Rates for (black-white) Inside Pages
Full Page .............................. $70.00
Half Page ............................ $45.00
Quarter Page ........................ $30.00

Make checks payable to AHS Region 2 and send it with your request to the editor.
(Please note the deadlines above)
From the Board

By Joanne Larson, Region 2 Director

Crocuses are blooming just outside the front door, the cardinals are staking out territories, and because the northern Illinois winter has been so mild, a few of our daylilies are peeking above the oak leaf mulch in the daylily beds. Not a good idea! March freezes can turn them to mush overnight.

The 14th annual 2006 Region 2 Symposium is history! Held in Cleveland several weeks ago, it again was a “show stopper” weekend. Thanks to Curt Hanson, Chair, his committee of hard workers, to all of the presenters, to the talented auctioneers and to those supplying and bidding on auction plants. If you missed this wonderful Symposium, read all about it later in this issue.

Here’s a brief review of actions taken at the October 29, 2005 AHS Board of Directors meeting:

• The database of registered daylily cultivars, 1890 – 2005, will be available on the AHS website this spring. A first! The updated 2005 CD containing the registered cultivars, 1890 – 2005, is now available from Jimmy Jordan, Publication Sales (see the order form near the back of your Spring, 2006 Daylily Journal.) In addition, the printed 2005 Checklist of Cultivar Registrations, and the Membership Roster are available for purchase.

• The Board supported the move of the Daylily E-Mail Robin from the former free hosting site to a commercial server. The move took place in January.

• Membership dues have remained the same, $18 a year for 18 years. After inflation, the real dollars have decreased to about $10 a year for an individual membership. The question of a dues increase will be brought before the general membership at the national convention on Long Island. If approved, the annual dues will become $25 a year for an individual membership.

• An updated version of the Judging Daylilies handbook will be sent to exhibition and garden judges at no cost. There have been numerous revisions since the last publication in 2002, and the Judges Education Committee determined that an updated version was necessary.

• The newest publication, Caught In the Web, Spiders and UFOs, is available for purchase. The supply is limited so order from Jimmy Jordan now. The order form is near the back of the Spring, 2006, Daylily Journal.

• Daylily season begins! For the flowers and for the friends, attend or, better yet, enter a daylily show. Visit gardens of members in your club. Visit display gardens in your area (list is in the Daylily Journal Supplement, spring, 2006). Attend the National Convention on Long Island, July 13 – 16 and/or attend our Region 2 summer meeting in Cleveland, July 21 – 23. But first on your summer agenda should be enjoying your own garden and daylily bloom!

Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have suggestions, concerns or questions about AHS.

John Sheehan Nominated for RVP

By Sharon Fitzpatrick

John Sheehan is a retired research technician from McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research has accepted the Region 2 nomination for RVP for 2007 and 2008. He has an undergraduate degree in Zoology and a Masters Degree in Oncology from the University of Wisconsin. John and his wife Donna reside in Madison, Wisconsin. John takes great pleasure in attending AHS Regional meetings, AHS National Conventions but his favorite annual daylily event is the Region 2 Winter Symposium in Cleveland.

For the past three years John has annually generated about 5000 daylily seeds, grown them for 3 months in his basement, and then planted them in a corner of Jean Bawden’s Earthspirit Farm. John registered 3 of his daylily plants in the summer of 2005 and hopes to add a few more in 2006. John and Donna’s Fitchward Garden, garden an AHS Display Garden, contains about 650 daylily varieties. John is now the RPD for Region 2. He has been a member of the Wisconsin Daylily Society since 1999 and has served as treasurer and president. He is now busy organizing the 2008 AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting which his group is hosting.

The Region 2 Nominating Committee consisting of Sharon Fitzpatrick, Lea Ann Williams and Mary Milanowski has nominated John Sheehan to serve a two- year term as Regional Vice President. The chair of the nominating committee shall present the committee’s nominee to the regional membership at the annual regional meeting and open the floor for additional nominations. The election shall be determined by a majority vote of the regional members.
Once again Curt Hanson and his many friends from several AHS regions had arranged a stimulating and successful Region 2 Symposium for all who were fortunate enough to attend. Daylily devotees from 23 US states (18 states and our 5 Great Lakes states) and from Canada enjoyed a wonderful weekend in Cleveland. The speakers presented a variety of topics ranging from an extensive recap of Brother Charles Reckamp’s many years of daylily hybridizing and his achievements, to AHS President Kevin Walek’s enlightening report about AHS happenings, to current hybridizing achievements and future goals, and to a “Pointers on how to use Microsoft’s PowerPoint” program to create educational daylily presentations for club- and personal use.

Curt’s organizing skills have allowed our symposium to evolve beyond the 5 Great Lakes States and northern hybridizing focus into an enriched exchange of knowledge and information that extends to all AHS growing and hybridizing regions. The richly varied topics should benefit AHS members no matter where they live. During the symposium plant auction, I realized that a large proportion of plant donors, volunteer auctioneers, and auction bidders live in other regions and, yet, it is Region 2 members who benefit from their generosity. I do think that it is truly an indication that AHS is one organization and that our regions’ members work together to make daylily events of benefit to all of us.

A very big thank-you to Registrar Lee Understultz and to Plant-Auction Chair Heidi Willet for their dedication, their patience, and their hard work. How about Lee and Kirk’s gift display! And how about Heidi’s colorful printouts of the silent and of the very lively auction-plant images. It was sad for us to learn of Heidi’s plan to move from Ohio. Energetic and capable Ways and Means Chair Nikki Schmith will move from that position to fill Heidi’s big, big shoes.

•  Region 2 Finances

Thanks to donations from several generous clubs, our annual anonymous donor, a substantial gift from the Greater Cincinnati Daylily and Hosta Society (GCDHS), the income from our annual Online Plant Auction, and the income from the Region 2 Symposium, our Region 2 stands on a solid financial base. Our Bylaws state that our “nonprofit organization is organized exclusively for educational and scientific purposes and especially to promote, encourage and foster the development and improvement of the genus Hemerocallis and public interest therein.” Symposium Organizer Curt Hanson, GCDHS President JR Blanton, and Region 2 Member Dan Bachman presented excellent and suitable suggestions to the regional officers on how some of the funds may be used to accomplish this purpose. Their suggestions will be presented at the July Region 2 Summer Meeting for approval (vote) by the membership.

•  Region 2 Summer Meeting 2006

President Doug Bowen and the Northeast Ohio Daylily Society have invited us all to the Region 2 Summer Meeting, aptly named “The Great e-Scape,” July 21-23 in Cleveland. The tour gardens will be terrific, and all activities will be enjoyable. Registration deadline for the lower hotel rates and registration fee is June 1, so why not send in your reservations right after you read this.

•  Election of the “Region 2 Director Nominating Committee”

Region 2 Director Joanne Larson will complete her 6th year as AHS board member on December 31, 2007. Therefore, the election of a 3-member nominating committee will be held at our 2006 annual business meeting.

•  Election of the Region 2 Vice President

Region 2 members elected the RVP nominating committee at the June 30, 2005, annual business meeting. This committee nominated current RPD John Sheehan (Wisconsin) as the RVP candidate, and John has accepted the nomination. The election will be held at the 2006 Summer Meeting July 22 in Cleveland.

•  2012 AHS National Convention

The Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society will host the 2012 AHS National Convention. Region 2 is proud to host the national convention once again in one of the Great Lakes states.

I hope you can find the time to attend our Region 2 Summer Meeting. Join the fun! See you there in July.

Gisela Meckstroth
6488 Red Coach lane
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
614-864-0132
gisela-meckstroth@worldnett.att.net

Mark Your Calendars for Events in 2006:

•  July 21-July 23: Region 2 Summer Meeting in Cleveland, Ohio.

•  2012 AHS National Convention

The Metropolitan Columbus Daylily Society will host the 2012 AHS National Convention. Region 2 is proud to host the national convention once again in one of the Great Lakes states.
Hello from “Mad City”—Wisconsin to all AHS Region 2 members.

Reporters from all over the warmer regions of the AHS have been keeping the E-mail Robin abreast of daylily foliage sprouting all over their gardens. Alas, those of us in Mad City, Wisconsin look out and see 6 inches of white snow and bits of a brown mulch underlay. Rats! In spite of a warm winter with only a few days of sub zero temperatures, we have months before we see daylily plant growth. For my part, I am fortunate—I see bright daylily blossoms every day! No, I do not have a greenhouse; instead, I have a computer screensaver showing last summer’s backyard daylily glory. Hey, don’t laugh—it helps!

It is time to pull out your summer 2006 calendar and be sure that you have left time to attend the AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting in Cleveland. From Friday, July 21st through noon, Sunday, July 23, the Northeast Ohio Daylily Society will present The Great e’-Scape Get Your Daylily Fix in 2006. During this meeting you will have the great fortune to have air-conditioned busses whisk you to the gardens of:

Curt Hanson
Jonathan Ford
Doug Bowen
Bob & Ethel Wilcox
Gerda Brooker
Clara Miller
Jim & Vera Biaglow
Henry Ross.

Pretty impressive eh?

Of course, there will be banquets, daylily auctions, bargain plants, and a perfect chance to visit with all of your daylily colleagues. There will even be an election of a new Region 2 RVP. Whew, just that thought gets my heart beating faster!

We were all pleased to see a great improvement in the involvement of Region 2 Members in the annual AHS Pop Poll. When all of the ballots had been counted last September, the voter response had risen from 11% to 14%—Sweet! Now, of course, we optimists want to improve that result. Therefore, I am trying a couple of new ploys to encourage Region 2 Members to vote for their favorite daylilies. In April I will be mailing out to each of the 27 Region 2 Club Contacts about 50 paper ballots for distribution to Club Members. My plan is for the Club Contacts to collect the ballots in mid-August and snail mail them to me in a batch. If each Club were to return 15 completed ballots, that alone would boost our vote to 24%! I also will be handing out ballots at this year’s Region 2 Summer Meeting in Cleveland. Many beautiful plants will be seen by attendees while on the bus tours. I will offer to collect completed ballots at the Meeting’s end. Of course, the painless electronic ballots will be available on the Region 2 Website and printed ballots will be available in the AHS Journal. Finally, again I will be offering a $100 certificate to a randomly drawn voter who votes before the September 1 deadline. (Hopefully this year’s winner will not have to wait as long for me to remember to send him his/her prize—sorry Steve!).

This column will now include just a brief mention of three important topics—all related to what we find in the AHS Region 2 Newsletter. For several years our very competent and patient Newsletter Editor, Gisela Meckstroth, would cajole Club Contacts to send Club updates to her for incorporation into our Region 2 Newsletter. I even got into the act last year. It was tough—folks are very busy and they put updating Club Data on the back burner. Yet, this Data is really an important tool for our fellow Region 2 Club Members. When someone wants to contact another Club, all he/she should have to do is look on the back page for contact information. Often, E-mail addresses or phone numbers are obsolete or the Contact is not longer on the local Club Board!

Let’s start off our NEW Newsletter Editor, Narda Jones, in the right fashion by sending her any local Club upgrades in a timely manner (nfjtech@sigeecom.net). Remember, there are only two Newsletters published each year—incorrect information will sit there for a long time!

If your Club has anything of interest going on (and who doesn’t!), just write up a short article and send it to Narda—take a quick look at a recent Newsletter to see what some Clubs are including—it is easy!

Lastly, if you enjoy writing—and many Region 2 Members have extensive writing skills from on the job experience—consider preparing a major article for the Region 2 Newsletter. How many of you know an elderly local daylily hybridizer or daylily gardener?? Grab your tape recorder and get an interview. In a surprisingly short time you will have the materials for an interesting (and perhaps timely) article. Go for it!

Region 2’s RPD — Who is John Sheehan??

I have lived in Madison, Wisconsin since 1962. The University of Wisconsin has seen fit to award me an undergraduate degree in Zoology and a Masters Degree in Oncology. After 31 years working as a research technician, I retired from the McArdle Laboratory for Cancer Research. For 39 years I have been married to my very understanding wife, Donna. We have two wonderful grown children.

The daylily bug bit me about 7 years ago (Donna has immunity). We now have about 675 daylilies in our Fitchward Garden. As you can guess, that is a very deceiving number for during the past 7 years we have dug up and given away at least 500 plants to make way for newer varieties. Two years ago our garden was granted AHS Display Garden status.

For 4 years I have annually generated about 5000 seeds, grown them for 3 months in our basement, and then planted them in a corner of Jean Bawden’s Earthspirit Farm. I registered 3 of my Introductions in 2005 and hope to add a few more in 2006. 20-30 plants are now in the introduction pipeline. It is amazing how quickly one gets used to tossing rejects “over the fence.”

I take great pleasure attending AHS Region 2 Meetings and AHS National Conventions; however, my favorite annual event is the AHS Winter Symposium put on by Curt Hanson and his crew. Nowhere else can you hear informative lectures, see beautiful new introductions and seedlings, have a chance to bid on one (or more) of 100 2005-2006 daylily plants, visit the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Zoo and Tropical Rainforest, AND take home a 3 pack of Northern Hybridizers Winter Dream Ale. Ahh, life is good!

I have been a member of the Wisconsin Daylily Society since 1999, served as Treasurer and President, and am now busy organizing the 2008 AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting which our group is hosting.
Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements
American Hemerocallis Society - Region 2
For the Period January 1, 2005 Through December 31, 2005

BALANCE FROM PRIOR REPORT 12-31-2004
Checking Account $1,915.84
Business Money Market Account $4,631.73
Certificates of Deposit $49,033.56
$55,581.13

RECEIPTS:
Email Auction: Plants $3,671.06
Regional Meeting Auction & Plant Sale $0.00
Contributions $13,750.00
Newsletter:
Subscriptions $148.55
Label Reimbursement $888.20
Advertising $45.00
Interest $984.50
Symposium 2005:
Registrations paid in 2005 $12,320.00
Auction/Raffle $13,850.00
Symposium 2006 - Registrations $900.00
PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS $46,557.31

TOTAL OF BALANCE FORWARDED & RECEIPTS: $102,138.44

DISBURSEMENTS:
Email Auction Expenses $0.00
Newsletters Printing $11,673.31
Postage $747.77
Editor expenses $650.49
Symposium 2005:
Hotel, transportation, supplies $16,338.01
Auction/Raffle $44.67
Office Supplies $40.38
Printing & Postage $30.14
RVP expenses $749.60
AHS Liability Insurance and Bond $520.25
RVP-Editor & Director Nat’l Conv. $1,400.00
Miscellaneous $363.61
LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS $32,558.23
NET INCOME FOR 2005 $13,999.08

BALANCE ON HAND 12-31-2005 $69,580.21

RECONCILIATION OF ACCOUNT BALANCES 12-31-2005
Checking Account $1,621.32
Business Money Market Account $27,958.89
Certificates of Deposit $40,000.00
$69,580.21

Prepared by AHS Region 2 Treasurer Bill Johannes 03/01/2006

Recent Donations to Region 2
By Bill Johannes, Treasurer

Thanks go to the following people and groups for their generous donations to Region 2 from September 1, 2005, to March 1, 2006:

- Central Michigan Daylily Society
- Chicagoland Daylily Society
- Greater Cincinnati Daylily and Hosta Society
- Indiana Daylily-Iris Society
- Wisconsin Daylily Society in memory of WDS Charter member Marianne Schumacher
- A Donor who wishes to remain completely anonymous.

Your gifts, payable to AHS Region 2, are very much appreciated. Unless their use is designated for a specific category, donations help defray the costs of the “Region 2/Great Lakes Daylily Newsletter” and other regional activities. Donations should be mailed to Bill Johannes, Region 2 Treasurer, 1964 Cardigan Ave., Columbus OH 43212. Donors will receive a letter acknowledging the donations.

Donations to the Online 2006 Region 2 Plant Auction

Thank you to all who donated plants to the 2006 Region 2 On-line Auction, And a big Thank-You to all of you who bid on the offered cultivars and other items.

We appreciate your support!
W

ow!! Can you believe I got talked into this volunteer job? For the many of you that don’t know me and may think I’m nuts, well you are in agreement with my husband. As if I didn’t have enough to do....of well, life is short so let’s have fun.

This is my first Editor’s message and I find that I really don’t know what I am suppose to be writing about in this column. I have just realized that I never read the “Officer Message” articles and just went on to read the features, updates, and looked at all the beautiful pictures. My how you take something for granted until you have to do it yourself. So I guess that my first goal is to get everyone to read these messages, since there is vital information in these columns for each Region 2 member.

I am fairly new to daylilies, having only been obsessive within the last 8 years. My husband, Scott, and I live in Evansville, IN in a small subdivision within the city limits. When we first moved to Evansville, I wanted lots of land. My husband wanted none. We comprised and bought a 0.8 acre lot with house. Loving the trees, seclusion, and perennial gardens, my husband then wanted to buy the lot next door, which we did. Now several years later, I have about 1000 perennials other than daylilies and about 800 varieties of daylilies. I haven’t started hybrizing, as I haven’t the time to get involved in another venture quite yet. Owning my own company (two to be exact), takes more time than I’d like away from my passion for gardening. But in the summer, you will see me out in the gardens doing whatever chore is needed. Oh, did I mention that we have this yard that drops about 70 feet from corner to corner? So yes, when I garden, I get a great workout too.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to contribute to this newsletter. It is published for all Region 2 AHS members and it needs to contain the information that you are interested in reading. If you have ideas for subjects, want to write an article, have thoughts for improvements, or just want to contribute images, then please contact me. I am just now learning what a big undertaking I have accepted and the amount of time required to get each issue out. So every bit of assistance will help. And since I am still learning about daylilies, I could use a little "expert" advice every now and then. The more conventions and symposiums that I attend, the more I realize that I don’t know anything. But I guess that is half the fun of learning.

Look me up, email me, or say hello at an event. I’ll probably be the one having fun and joking around. My philosophy is that life is too short. So I always try to have fun at whatever I’m doing. Happy gardening and see you at Summer Regional and National.

From the AHS Board of Directors
Proposed Dues Increase

(This letter is a reprint from a letter sent on the Daylily Email Robin on November 12, 2005)

AHS members attending the 2006 National Convention in Long Island, New York will be asked to vote on a recommendation made by the Board of Directors at the fall 2005 meeting to increase the membership dues as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Original Fee</th>
<th>New Fee</th>
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<tr>
<td>Individual</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual</td>
<td>One Year</td>
<td>$22.00</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dual</td>
<td>Three Years</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
<td>$83.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No increase to the current Life and Dual Life membership rate structures was proposed. If approved the new rates would become effective January 2007.

The last increase to individual or dual membership for one year or three years was approved by the membership in 1988. That was a 50% increase. Since then the American Hemerocallis Society has doubled in membership which precluded for many years the need to alter the membership rate structure. However, that growth has also necessitated the addition of a contracted treasurer, a sales publication sales manager and a webmaster. The salaries for the executive secretary, registrar, and editor have increased, but certainly not to market value for their efforts.

While the AHS owns some of the computer equipment that is used by its staff there is a need to replace many items that are in need of repair or are simply out-of-date. In other cases, the computer equipment is personally owned.

AHS continues to add services subject to the budgetary constraints of a non-profit organization all of which add expenses.

The improved judges training, the CD in addition to the annual check-list, and the various publications are designed to be self-sustaining, but the webpage and the requirement for general liability and workmans compensation insurance are not. Further, the Board has voted to add online registration capability in the near future. These additional services do not come for free.

The bottom line is that a dues increase is needed. After all $18.00 in 1988 is $29.30 in 2005 dollars and likely to be over $30.00 by 2007. The proposed rate for a single one year membership $25.00 represents a 39% increase, seems to be reasonable, and, is in line with, or less than, the vast majority of other non-profit horticultural organizations.

If you are unable to attend the Convention, please send your comments to John Holland Membership Chair at johnholl@ipa.net or 479-636-1374, Mary Collier Fisher, Chief Financial Officer at mfisher@rics.bwh.harvard.edu or 508-668-7399, or Kevin P. Walek, President at giboshiman@aol.com or 703-798-5501 by June 30, 2006.

Your friend in Daylilies,

Kevin P. Walek
The world of daylily hybridization, although fascinating, can be a fickle mistress. Hundreds of hours spent dabbing pollen, collecting pods, planting seed and of course the endless evaluating and culling of seedlings can result in a few base hits, a sprinkling of extra basers and that rare home run. Getting that slugging percentage higher is a goal all breeders strive for. A little extra thought in your crosses can mean a world of difference between how many get composited and how many are selected to move to the next level.

Many novice breeders go what I call “pollen berserk” and cross wildly, not considering if that had been done before or should it be done at all. How many times have you asked why a cross was made only to hear this answer “because they were next to each other in the garden”? Unlimited crosses may be okay for someone with unlimited time, space and workers but the vast majority of us do not fall into that category. Keeping track of your parents or pedigrees can be a way to separate some of the wheat from the chaff and keep your seed count at a more manageable number but keep results higher.

There are many reasons to keep parental records in your breeding program. Firstly it keeps you from making that same cross every year. If you have bloomed kids from a certain cross with no traits in the area you are exploring, why do it again and again? You can consult your “stud book” or computer data base before hand and know what crosses have been made to prevent duplication. Conversely you may have made a short cross of something and after seeing the results you wish you had made more seed of that cross, you can if you know the parents. If you have kids that are coming along but just are not where you want to be you can back cross by breeding back to one of the parents that display this trait you want to emphasize. The only way to do this is by knowing the parents. If you know the parents you also know which seedlings are sibs so you can do a sib cross. This is done many times to keep the same genetic profile but mix it up a bit more. The legendary hybridizer Ra Hansen always recommended to cross the prettiest flower to it’s best plant habit (branching, bud count, foliage, hardiness, etc.) sibling. Simple, if you know the pedigree! I have visted with a few veteran hybridizers who were not keeping records and claimed to be able to tell the parents by just looking at the kids. Not to cast aspersions on anyone but “HOGWASH!” with the vast gene pool available and the mixing of hundreds of lines it would be virtually impossible to predict parentage with any accuracy in this manner.

Many breeders line breed extensively, meaning they start out with a few cultivars that exhibit the characteristics they want and breed them amongst each other to refine these traits. The kids are bred to each other for more refinement for many generations. The problem with this is that, much like the old royal families of England, certain weaknesses appear. With those old kings it manifested many times as mental problems such as insanity from incestual relations, they never went outside their own bloodlines. The daylilies are affected mostly by loss of vigor or plant habit. Breeders counteract this by outcrossing every few generations. By keeping track of your parentage you know the bloodlines and can outcross with something that has the traits you are still desiring but of unrelated genes.

Keeping good records is also just good sense. It gives the hybridizer, both veteran and novice, that aura of respect. Your program looks more grounded and purposeful if you are involved enough to go the extra distance and record your crosses. Interest and thirst for knowledge come into play also. Genealogy is a hobby that many people do as recreation, keeping records to form a family tree. A similar case can be built for daylily genealogy, but of course we are not selective breeding for humans. It would be nice to have complete family trees for daylilies. How many generations is a cultivar from the species or is that fat bagel from that old skinny spider???? These would be wonderful questions to answer.

The most important reason for tracking parentage is knowing where you have been and where you are going. Knowing where your seedlings have been ancestrally or genetically can help you plot a course to where you are going. For example it is possible to have a bunch of kids of mixed colors from two parents of the same color, if you can go back another generation or two in your records or listed parental records in a check list or catalog, you may find the grandparents were of these other colors and know colors or any other trait you are working with can skip generations and show up in f2 or f3 kids. Knowing pedigrees can save a lot of wasted crosses and time. If you are very focused and want to breed for white daylilies with red edges, it is much easier to know what cultivars “throw” these type of progeny, by being able to research the parents you can pick out breeders that are more likely to advance you program. The same can go for any trait you are breeding for. I have been fascinated by the interest in spidery doubles recently. I had a few bloom in the seedling patch last summer, they seemed to be scattered randomly. I was able to check the seedling numbers and found they mostly shared one common parent. This was Hemerocallis ‘Frilly Bliss’ (Joiner 98). I was able to cross among these kids and bring lots of genetics together with that common doubling characteristic. Now I can plan to take that program where I want it to go by knowing where it came from.

This philosophy of record keeping is strong in Region 2 as well as across the country. A brief poll of noted hybridizers gave much the same reasoning with slight twists. Eric Denham of Dowis Ranch, Mareilles, Il. says he keeps track “to see where you have been and where you are going.

(continued on page 11)
A PASSION FOR DAYLILIES  
By Sharon Cusick, Cincinnati, Ohio

(Note: This article is a reprint from a November 7, 2005 email on the Daylily Email Robin with permission of the author. Images have been added by Sharon Cusick)

I was planting the bulbs of snowdrops (Galanthus nivalis). A neighbor had brought a hundred or so in a wide saucer. She said, “Make a shallow, broad hole and toss them in, without bothering to place the growing tips up.” So I did that, so easily, and covered them.

I thought of a morning last spring when I was bringing my three-year-old grandson to my house. As I came to an intersection and stopped, I pointed, and said to him, “Louie! Do you see all the white flowers blooming over there?” From his position in the back car seat I heard, “I see the plants. They are snowdrops. We grow them in our yard.”

I wonder what I knew of plants at three. I certainly did not know snowdrops. In the Detroit neighborhood in which I grew up, we had a small yard, and borders of plants that I remember with fondness. There were lilacs and flowering almonds, roses that bloomed all the summers long, and covered a fence. There were irises, blue squill, forsythias, and later hybrid tea roses and a hellebore. But I don’t remember ever being drawn in, included, or schooled for any care of the garden. I don’t remember ever planting anything, and I wonder why.

I did pit plums, for we made plum conserve. I podded dried ‘Scarlet Runner’ beans, and knew their beautiful, dry, shiny black and pink seeds. But I never watered tomatoes, nor cut rhubarb, nor planted anything, not even those beautiful bean seeds. I didn’t even mow grass, as my brothers did. I was taught to “police” the front lawn, which meant to pick up litter or sticks. I was sent out to cut flowers for indoor vases. Yet I came to love Clematis climbing, nonetheless, and counted in wonder the many layers of petals on the pale pink cabbage rose that grew beside our porch. And I do remember so loving trees, and feeling a relationship to them. I wrote poems about the willows, about growing with the grass under their branches. I wrote about the elm and its constancy in my young life, and about its infinity of seeds.

All this comes to mind because of the snowdrops, and because I have recently read A PASSION FOR DAYLILIES, and because I have digested so many other miscellaneous accounts now to do with one hybridizer or another. It has been fascinating to me to read of people that literally grew up in gardens, who were born into families of gardeners. Greg Pietrowski wrote for his website that he learned his gardening skills at the end of his grandmother’s cane. Most amazing to me are those families with seeming dynasties of gardeners, of interconnecting generations of gardeners focused on one genus.

Recently I was reminded of the words, “A garden is a lovesome thing,” from a 19th Century poem by Thomas Edward Brown. I think of that, too, and of how only one letter can change the word lovesome to lonesome. I am almost always alone when I work in my garden, but I am never lonesome. This is especially true since I joined the Robin. As I work, I am thinking of your garden forks and shovels, of your fall calves, of your fountain and birds, your cat that has learned to open a door, of your lined-out seedlings, and of your armadillos. I smile right there in the garden as I think of Tommy’s computer forgetting the location of the printer overnight, and I repeat aloud to the sedums, “It is right over there on the left.” I think of the display gardens I have visited, and you in them, leaning to admire Hemerocallis ‘Penny Pinsley.’ I think of singular moments, as when I stood beyond the people in Heidi Willet’s garden, to become acquainted with ‘Suzy Cream Cheese,’ blooming there in October. And because I have a fall sickness, I try to make a comparison to the spring sickness of daylilies.

A vast company of blackbirds sometimes keeps company, curving en masse to the topmost branches of the walnut, or to the tallest oak. For a time they huddle and creak like a hundred rusty hinges, then draw silent all at once. But they rise again, swerving off together, as though in response to some sudden signal I don’t recognize. Then they reassemble here again. One day a Cooper’s Hawk accompanied them, perched with them in the treetop, rose when they did, and disappeared with them. And they all returned together.

More often than any other, my grandson is the person who may enter my garden with me. He helps with his trowel, and rearranges the mulch with a small rake. He struggles with clippers. He shows me where a slug is, and lugs the hose. He holds a rose in one hand, though it interferes with clippers. He shows me where a slug is, and lugs the hose. He holds a rose in one hand, though it interferes as he reaches for the swing’s ropes. Sometimes a tribe of neighbor boys appears at the gate, and a spokesman asks permission to come into my yard. They swarm around noisily asking me questions, and they sniff things like the skunky cleome, or the silver-white leaves of the Helichrysum italicum that smell so like curry. One boy told me, “You are a flower fairy.” Then they reassemble and leave all at once, as though at some signal, like the blackbirds.

But, again and again, I think of that garden in the house where I grew to adulthood. I think of Stout and Nesmith, Perry and a Mrs. Popov, and others who registered daylilies the year I was born. I think of being in grade school when the Midwest Hemerocallis Society was formed. [continued on page 11]
I think of those who were working their wonders with colchicine while I was in college, all unaware, and how colchicine is derived from colchicum like those I grow, and which have such lovely, lovely, innocuous-appearing lavender-pink flowers. I think of a day in 1963 when I was along for the ride with friends, to visit a garden somewhere near Niles, Michigan. On that day I heard the word *Hemerocallis* for the first time. Only later did I learn that those roadside daylilies I had seen were *Hemerocallis*, too.

Now, all these forty-some years later, I wonder whose garden I was in that day, that year, and wish I could walk again among its beds, and really look this second time.

My garden here in Cincinnati is three-and-a-half years old. As I have planted my tulips and daffodils, I have reacquainted myself with the variations in the soil texture from one place to another. I have begun to recognize the differences between some of the diploid leaves and some of the tetraploid leaves, but not all. I have seen that some dormants have yellowing leaves now, and are relaxing, but not all. I say the names of the cultivars to myself as I weed and trim.

I have thought of the other plants besides daylilies that especially pleased me this year— the springtime *Camassia leichtlinii* ‘Blaue Donau’, with its long-lasting spikes of blue stars; the gatherings of *Geranium* ‘Rozanne’ that are still blooming a little, with their violet-blue faces and white eyes. For the first time I have enjoyed new late-blooming hostas, and yet more new hostas whose leaves are turning clear yellow or golden-orange, like the maples.

This small garden that I can never keep looking kept is a lovesome thing. "The veriest school of peace."

**Pedigrees (continued from page 9)**

Helps to plan crosses" Tom Polston of Pleasant Valley Gardens in Dayton, Ohio says it is important to “learn what each plant passes on to predict more accurate results”. Bret Clement, spider breeder from Indianapolis area says "you can tell what plants produce what characteristics. From tracking I discovered H. ‘Memory Jordan’ throws lighter edges" Don Jerabek, Watson Park Daylilies, also of Indianapolis thinks keeping parental records can “advance your program faster”. Steve Moldovan puts a different twist to it by trying to prevent rather than add to the program. By keeping track Steve says "where we came from tells us where we can go especially preventing disease and maladies such as rust and spider mites to create healthy plants without chemical spraying". Good idea Steve!

The only downside to all this positive reinforcement is the time factor. It does take a little to keep organized but once you establish your own system you will find the benefits far outweigh the small effort. Record keeping is not flawless and even the most attentive breeder will have a few “UNKS’ in their pedigrees. I wish to thanks those that gave their thoughts and those were handwritten by me in a hurry so any misrepresentation is my fault entirely.
For many in Region 2, finding doubles that are reliably consistent performers has been a hit or miss adventure. I have never grown many... specifically because I could never get enough recommendations on what would grow well in our colder regions.

The few that I did grow were fairly reliable when it came to throwing double flowers. *Hemerocallis* ‘Roswitha’ (Trimmer 92), and ‘Two Part Harmony’ (Kaskel 96) have grown very well for me... I can't recall a time when I had a single bloom on either cultivar... but some of my gardening buddies complained that their blooms weren’t always doubling. Who hasn’t had that experience... *H.* ‘Siloam Double Classic’ would behave that way for me certain years and I always attributed it to a “weather thing!”

Then there was selection.....how we wished we could have all those lovely doubles David Kirchhoff was creating down south....we could grow some but not as many as we would have liked. So instead of loading up on cultivars that we weren’t sure would do their thing.....especially when we needed them for the July AHS sanctioned flower shows, many of us just backed off from them. So come July at the show, what did you see, but the same old doubles, good ones...you bet....but what I wanted to see was “more....more colors, more sizes, more different, more better improved.

Pauline Henry, Charles Applegate and the Joiners have given us some of our most wonderful and reliable doubles, at least the ones that I felt comfortable in growing. But I needed to find more for myself and for my daylily friends. Enter the AHS Electronic Robin... ...email questions....what a novel idea for an old gal like me. Keep abreast of what’s new with *Hemerocallis* and the folks who love them and you don’t even have to dig in the soil! So...I asked..... “What doubles do well in our colder zones?”......and they graciously replied.

Julie Wilson in Creemore, Ontario (Canada), Zone 4 sent a wonderful list of newer doubles, several of Kirchhoff’s Truffles and I was pleasantly surprised to learn that they do well for her. Melanie Mason reports that her new introduction *H.* ‘Casey Jones’ is also a very good cultivar (I am tooting her horn since she hesitated to do so!). Lynn Lewis in Central Illinois (zone 5) has several of Grace Stamile’ s popcorn doubles and reports that they do very well for her.

Several of our neighbors in various Michigan cities (Zone 5) supplied long lists of double daylilies heartily recommended. Diane Pruden from Milford, growing almost 90 doubles, produced a list that resulted in a 2 hour internet photo hunt for the ones she told me about. I saw very new Petit, Shooter, Peat and Joiner creations. And Audra Burns writes “Doubles are a passion for me, especially layered ones....."I am a solid zone 5 garden and live close to Lake Michigan.....Winters can be quite harsh here.” Phyllis Cantini in West Bloomfield, Michigan said “Right after spiders and unusuals, is my love for the doubles. Doubles that are full, peony, lots of layers for hose-in-hose, or extreme ribbing ruffling (which counts as doubles).” She grows 167 different cultivars mentioning that David Kirchhoff’s 98 introduction of *H.* ‘Alexander’s Ragtime Band’ (a huge yellow cream blend) is one of her favorites!

AHS Region 2 Director and Exhibitions Chair Joanne Larson told me that some of Bob Scott’s Topgun named doubles are doing very well in our colder zones and are beginning to take rosettes in shows throughout the United States. She mentioned that his *H.* ‘Topguns Lola Scott’ and ‘Topguns Snowballs’ are doing very well in her garden. She also wrote, “A double that I didn’t mention because I have not acquired it yet is Dan Trimmer’s ‘Pat Neumann’.” “It’s a 1998 pink and cream blend which was growing in a spectacular clump in the Bordeleau garden near Green Bay (WI) during our Region 2 summer
meeting in 2004.” “It’s been on my list since then; if it grows and increased in Green Bay, it will do the same in my garden.” She went on to tell me that she doesn’t hesitate to try Joiner doubles in her Northern Illinois garden because they do well for her.

And Robin Calderon over in Kansas wrote, “Speaking of north-hardy doubles, we can’t forget Frank Kropf’s doubles that were hybridized in Central Missouri. While he is best known for his melon H. ‘Zella Virginia’, he also has a lot of really nice pinks, yellows, and a few reds and purples.” You should check out her website (Earlybird Gardens) on the Daylily Net. She also told me that she likes H. ‘Honey Crunch Cupcake’ (Tim Herrington) and hopes to add more of his “cupcakes” this year.

I also received several replies from robin members who are still enjoying growing many of the older cultivars. Some I had never heard of even having grown daylilies for some 20 years so I will mention just a few that perhaps some of you would like to add to your collections. Tim Fehr in Wisconsin wanted me know that George Lennington’s H. ‘Fuzz Bunny’ is the most consistent double that he grows. It’s a nice yellow with billiard size blooms that has never bloomed single! Others that were mentioned were H. ‘Double Sunset Glow’ (Miles 68), ‘Double Gardenia’ (Miles 73), and ‘Double Bold One’ (Miller 81). These would be wonderful additions to the reliable ‘Highland Lord’ (Munson 83), ‘Condilla’ (Grooms 77) and of course ‘Siloam Double Classic’ (Henry 85).

I have spent hours at my computer viewing doubles in the past week or so and have concluded that there is no way I could have chosen “hardy doubles” on photos and descriptions alone. Therefore I am thankful for those brave souls who weren’t afraid to test some of these newer cultivars and pass their recommendations on to others. And even though I will continue to add doubles from our reliable northern breeders (like H. ‘Shield and Banner’ (Applegate 2003))... a very nice bronze/orange blend with a green eye...I urge you to check out some of the doubles on my “new list”. You will no doubt be pleasantly surprised like I was to see that...hey, we can grow that one here...and those July flower shows in Region 2 just might begin to have lots “more better... more different......more doubles to delight you!”

**Recommendations of Double Daylilies for Northern Climates***

- ‘Adored Angel’ Joiner 98
- ‘Alexander’s Ragtime Band’ Kirchhoff 98
- ‘Anasazi’ Stamile 97
- ‘Big Kiss’ Joiner 91
- ‘Brianna Joy’ Balash-bailey 94
- ‘Cardigan Bay’ Trimmer 96
- ‘Casey Jones’ Mason 06
- ‘Charming Ethel Smith’ Terry 91
- ‘Dancing With Pink’ Kirchhoff 95
- ‘Don’t Look Back’ Kirchhoff 98
- ‘Double Amethyst’ Kirchhoff 94
- ‘Double Concerto’ Kirchhoff 96
- ‘Fairy’s Palace’ Petit 99
- ‘ Fancy Buttons’ Joiner 00
- ‘Fashion Bug’ Joiner 94
- ‘Fire Breathing Dragon’ Salter 95
- ‘Fiery Visitation’ Gambler 99
- ‘Fires Of Fuji’ Hudson 90
- ‘Formal Appearance’ Petit 00
- ‘Forsyth Tepaled Double’ Lefever 98
- ‘Forty Second Street’ Kirchhoff 91
- ‘Fresh Look’ Joiner 99
- ‘Honey Crunch Cupcake’ Herrington 99
- ‘Iddy Biddy Gal’ Stamile, G. 97
- ‘Impetuous Fire’ Petit 93
- ‘In Depth’ Stamile 90
- ‘Jean Swann’ Joiner 93
- ‘Jewelled Tiara’ Joiner 99
- ‘John Kinnebrew’ Salter 92
- ‘Just My Size’ Stamile, G. 02
- ‘King Kahuna’ Crochet 94
- ‘Lady Pierre’ Trimmer 98
- ‘Lucky Pierre’ Trimmer 99
- ‘Madge Cayse’ Joiner 91
- ‘Mecca Truffles’ Kirchhoff 02
- ‘Morning By Morning’ Applegate 94
- ‘Moses’ Fire’ Joiner 98
- ‘Mulberry Truffles’ Kirchhoff 99
- ‘Night Embers’ Stamile 97
- ‘Oddly Magnificent’ Shooter 99
- ‘Oh Danny Boy’ Kirchhoff 94
- ‘Paprika Flame’ Bennett 99
- ‘Peace On Earth’ Applegate 94
- ‘Peggy Bass’ Joiner 93
- ‘Peggy Effcoat’ Joiner 99
- ‘Peppermint Truffles’ Kirchhoff 99
- ‘Rachel’s Rosebud’ Crichton 99
- ‘Ragtime Ruby’ Joiner 01
- ‘Regal Puzzle’ Petit 99
- ‘Rose Corsage’ Stamile 99
- ‘Rose Storm’ Santa Lucia 99
- ‘Roswitha’ Trimmer 92
- ‘Root Beer Truffle’ Kirchhoff 01
- ‘Savannah Melody’ Joiner 95
- ‘Scarlet Marie’ Kropf 93
- ‘Shaman’s Magic’ Kirchhoff 01
- ‘Shield And Buckler’ Applegate 03
- ‘Siloam Cooper’s Chantilly’ Henry 92
- ‘Siloam Doug’s Double’ Henry 90
- ‘Siloam Joel’s Double’ Henry 95
- ‘Siloam Olin Frazier’ Henry 90
- ‘Thistle Pink Truffle’ Kirchhoff 00
- ‘Topguns Lola Scott’ Scott 99
- ‘Topguns Snowballs’ Scott 99
- ‘Totally Awesome’ Ward 93
- ‘Triple Layer Cake’ Kirchhoff 94
- ‘Tropical Delight’ Stamile 00
- ‘Twice As Nice’ Herrington 99
- ‘Two Part Harmony’ Trimmer 98
- ‘Upward Mobility’ Peat 03
- ‘Vision Of Love’ Kaskel 96
- ‘Voodoo Dancer’ Peat 01
- ‘Wonder Of Wonders’ Joiner 99
- ‘You Angel You’ Stamile, G. 93
- ‘Zona Rosa’ Santa Lucia 95

*Recommendations from Daylily Email Robin responses.*
AHS Region 2 - 2006 Summer Meeting
July 21 - 23, 2006

Registration Fee
$99.00 per Adult. $50.00 per youth under age 16. Late fee after June 1, 2006 will be $110.00

Hosted By
Northeast Ohio Daylily Society

Headquarters
The Hilton Cleveland South
6200 Quarry Lane, Cleveland, Ohio 44131
AHS Room Rate: $84 plus tax

Telephone
216-447-1300 AHS

Meeting Co-Chairs
Doug Bowen (440) 729-7531 digdug12084@aol.com
Curt Hanson (440) 423-3349 crintonic@core.com

This Year

Guest Speaker
John Rice

Gardens on Tour
Crintonic Gardens
Emerald Hill
Curt Hanson
Doug Bowen

Victoria Gardens
Biaglow's Garden
Jim & Vera Biaglow

Gerda Brooker
Rock Bottom
Wilcox Gardens
Bob & Ethel Wilcox

Jonathan Ford
Perennial Post
Gardenview Horticultural Park
Clara Miller
Henry Ross

Schedule of Events
Friday, July 21, 2006
9am - 5pm Registration, Bargain Plant Sales, Boutique, Silent Auction
12:30pm Exhibition Judges Refresher Clinic
12:30pm Exhibition Judges Clinic II
1:00pm Exhibition Judges Clinic I
3:00pm Garden Judges Workshop 1
5:00pm Round Robin Discussion Group
6:00pm Reception (cash bar)
7:00pm Hawaiian Luau (included w/registration)
8:30pm Daylily Plant Auction

Saturday, July 22, 2006
6:45am - 7:15am Registration
7:00am - 7:30am Breakfast on your own
7:00am - 7:30am Buses Leave for Gardens
Garden Judges Workshop 2 en route
12:00pm Lunch en route (included w/registration)
4:00pm - 4:30pm Buses Return to the Hotel
4:30pm - 6:00pm Bargain Plant Sale, Silent Auction, Boutique
6:00pm Reception (cash bar)
7:00pm Banquet (included w/registration)
Region 2 Business Meeting
Guest Speaker John Rice

Sunday, July 23, 2006
7:00am - 7:30am Buses Leave for Gardens
12:00pm Return to the Hotel

Information
Name: __________________________
Additional Name(s): __________________________
Address: ______________________________________
City: ____________________ State: ___ Zip: __________ Phone: __________
E-mail: __________________________
Number of persons attending: _______ Adult: _____ Youth: _____
Enclosed: $__________

Saturday Lunch Entrees: Chicken, Pork Chops, Fish or Vegetable Lasagna
Name: __________________________ Name: __________________________
Entree: __________________________ Entree: __________________________
Special Needs (Dietary or Physical): __________________________

2006 AHS Region 2 Summer Meeting and Garden Tour Registration
Mail To Registrar Amy Doerger, P.O. Box 74, Newbury Ohio 44065
Make Checks payable to: Northeast Ohio Daylily Society (NODS)

Clinics & Workshops
Please write the number of persons attending Judges Clinics and Garden Judge Workshops in the appropriate box below.

☐ Exhibition Judges Clinic 1
☐ Exhibition Judges Clinic 2
☐ Exhibition Judges Refresher
☐ Exhibition Judges Workshop 1
☐ Exhibition Judges Workshop 2

Reminder: All Clinic and Workshop Participants need to have with them a copy of the AHS Judging Daylilies handbook.
Guest Speaker - John Rice

After a career as a horticulturist for some of the wealthiest families in the country, John began hybridizing daylilies in the early 90’s. He was initially striving for edges on daylilies before they had become commonplace. Now his goal in hybridizing is to develop flowers of pleasing colors and various forms on hardy vigorous plants. John and his wife Annette plant over 20,000 seeds per year. Many of their crosses have been in the violet range, and teeth are a current focus. Most of their hybridizing is with tet, but Annette still maintains several lines of diploid breeding.

The Rices have a ten acre farm in central Kentucky just northeast of Lexington. Their farm is located in Kentucky’s famous horse country. About 2 acres are planted in daylilies. They also have a greenhouse for propagation and seed setting. Near their greenhouse is a farm pond.

Plan to Participate!
Make this years Great e-Scape your most memorable yet!

Digital Picture Request
As part of The Great e-Scape slide show presentation, we are asking all attendees to send in one or more of the following digital photos:

- Best Garden shot with a pet or critter.
- Most embarrassing garden picture.

Please include a couple of descriptive lines explaining each picture.

Digital Pictures can be sent in or emailed to
Laura Fraizer
P.O. Box 214
Novelty, Ohio 44072
madammix@yahoo.com

Boutique

Rental per space:
- $30 with one table.
- $50 with 2 tables

Show Us Your Stuff!
- July 21, 9:00am - 5:00pm
- July 22, 4:30pm - 6pm

A large area is available for those of you who wish to show and sell your daylily art, plant labels, garden structures, books and related garden items.

For Details to reserve tables contact:
Patti Gambino,
14789 Sleepy Hollow Drive
Newbury, Ohio 44072
basktladee@hotmail.com

Donating Plants

Please Support the 2006 Region 2 Summer Meeting Auction
July 21-23 in Cleveland, Ohio.
Proceeds go to the Region 2 Daylily Newsletter

Please send your donation information to
Doug Bowen
12084 Heath Road
Chesterland, Ohio 44026
digdug12084@aol.com
(440) 729-7531

The following 2 methods of donating plants works best:

1. Send a list (above or a post card) of plants to be donated now, and ship plants later, with labels and descriptions, by July 10th, 2006.

2. Bring labeled plants with descriptions and hybridizers’ names at regional-meeting time. If at all possible we’d like to know well ahead of time what you are bringing to allow us to prepare properly.

A digital picture would be appreciated.
Began in the early 1980's, Crintonic Gardens has evolved into approximately ten acres of arboretum with a daylily plot in the middle. Ponds and stone terraces accent meandering pathways through plantings of specimen trees and shrubs. The focus has been on creating a personal eden incorporating assorted collections of favorite plants such as arum, cyclamen, epimedium, hellebore, hosta, magnolia, oak and witch hazels.

The daylily show in the summer marks the equinox of the garden cycle, and is always a rapturous celebration of beauty! This year promises to be one of the most exciting yet, with more new and selected seedlings than ever. My own hybrids along with a large collection of new cultivars from the top hybridizers across the country will be on display. Of particular interest will be thousands of selected seedlings and future introductions from David’s and Mort’s “Daylily World” blooming on established plants!

The Northern Ohio Daylily Society has a fun weekend planned, and each tour garden offers a unique experience. David and Mort will be on hand as well as John Rice, Dan Hansen, Chris Rogers and the Salters. Many of you will certainly want to visit Steve and Roy at Moldovans Gardens in Avon Lake, and my neighbor Paul Lewis, an open garden with many new introductions and seedlings. We all look forward to celebrating a glorious week with you’all!

All of my daylily friends deserve a huge “Thank you”. Steve Moldovan and Roy Woodhall, Larry and Cindy Grace, Jeff and Liz Salter, Pat and Grace Stamile, Jane and Dan Trimmer, Curt Hanson, Dan Hansen, Ted Petit, The “Dave” and Mort, many many more. You name them and they were helping with suggestions, criticism, and encouragement especially after Malcolm passed away. But last and not least Michael and Sandy Holmes, with unconditional commitment to encourage, give a helping hand, advice and endless hours of talk and visiting one another. Without them, the grace of God and much work I would not be near with our hybridizing program where we are today It has been a most interesting journey for me, with the inspiration most definitely originating with my husband, who truly was the wind beneath my wings.

In 1994, Gerda Brooker and her husband Malcolm, Sr. started getting interested in daylilies. The interest grew into a passion, and both Mal and I began hybridizing. Well, I trailed behind by one year. Now almost twelve years later there is a story which is told in our daylilies. Our hybridizing program represent many years of hard, but most enjoyable work. My husband’s great energy, foresight and dedication are clearly seen in our hybridizing efforts.

Victorian Gardens grows approximately 600 to 800 cultivars representing various hybridizers, besides hundreds of our own selected seedlings in our display garden at home. We are also growing 10 to 15 thousand seedlings, away from the house which are yet to be evaluated. Besides daylilies our display garden features various perennials as well as annuals, shrubs and trees, and my pride and joy is a fish pond with a three tiered waterfall built by my husband. There is a Gazebo and Pergola and lots of shades under the harbor.

All images courtesy Northern Ohio Daylily Society
WILCOX GARDENS
Bob and Ethel Wilcox
12074 Parker Drive
Chesterland, Ohio 44026

This AHS Display Garden has been planted with the thought of color for four-season interest. A small concrete boy sits on a sandstone boulder by the driveway to greet visitors, and different themes have been incorporated into some of the island beds. When Ethel and Bob retired, they added daylilies to their garden; and very soon growing daylilies became one of their hobbies! Ethel is a retired school teacher, and Bob is a retired distributor. This residential garden was awarded the Lovin’ Care Yard Award in 1986 and again in 2000 by the Perennial Garden Club. It was one of the gardens on tour for the “Bi-Annual Garden Tour in the Country” several years ago.

There are over 450 different cultivars of daylilies in the gardens. There is uniqueness in design with a water garden, stone pathways, an antique plow from 1898, a gazebo, and benches on which to rest. Abundant are many of their garden daylilies which were awarded AHS rosettes for Best-in-Show and for the Best Registered Double Flower. During other years, their garden daylilies have also been awarded the AHS rosette for Best Registered Unusual Flower, Best Large Flower, Best Miniature Flower, and the Sweepstakes Award. Enjoy the garden. Welcome!

EMERALD HILL
Doug Bowen
12084 Heath Road
Chesterland, Ohio 44026

Situated in Geauga County, this 1 ½ acre AHS Display Garden features over 400 daylily cultivars, 50 hosta cultivars and a variety of perennials. The gardens are located on the top of a hill, surrounded by woods and ravines. At the base of the hill is a creek that is a tributary to Chagrin River. Half of the property includes the house and gardens while the other half is natural as woodlands, ravines and the creek. The steep driveway, which is the normal in Geauga County, can be intimidating, especially at night or during one of its snowbelt blizzards.

There are currently fifteen different flower beds. Each of these beds is uniquely shaped and is bordered by over 1,000 rocks that were hauled up from the creek. Of these fifteen beds, six of them are strictly daylily beds, two of them are strictly hosta beds and the remaining seven beds are a mixture of daylilies, hosta and other perennials. The various beds form islands with paths allowing one to meander through the garden. Included in the gardens are various benches, a small pond, an eight hundred pound fountain called the “Green Man” and various statues.

One of the most talked about areas of the garden is the ‘Character Bed’. The Green Man Fountain is overseeing his daylily bed that erupts into an assault of color during the month of July. Lurking below the surface and ready to attack are: the *Hemerocallis* ‘Loch Ness Monster’ (Couturier, 1992), ‘Gollum’ (Hanson, 1991), ‘Godzilla’ (Burkey,1987), ‘Dracula’ (Carter, 1995), ‘Lurch’ (Stamile, 2000) and the ‘Masked Bandit’ (Salter,1996). Just to name a few. But no need to fear, our super heroes will emerge just in time to save the day. The first wave includes: ‘Batman’ (Kaskel, 1998), ‘Spider Man’ (Durio, 1982), ‘Superman’s Cape’ (Houston,1998), the ‘Dark Avenger’ (Salter, 1988) and ‘Alias Peter Parker’ (Lambertson, 1995). The second wave, bringing with them a little comical relief includes: ‘Pee Wee’s Big Adventure’ (Hanson, 2003), ‘Me Tarzan’ (Hager, 1989), ‘George Jets On’ (Yost,1999), ‘Snufalufagus’ (Stamile, 2002) and ‘Spocks Ears’ (Hanson, 2004). You might even hear a ‘Yabba Dabba Do’ (1993). Holy Smokes Batman! All this action in one bed! Can it be true!
In addition to the collection from known hybridizers the garden contains over 200 selected seedling as well as 2,000 first and second year seedlings. Added to these seedlings are over 40 introductions that the Biaglow’s have introduced in the last ten years. The garden is an example of how to grow daylilies in limited areas. Seedlings can be found in three major beds with daylilies planted on 4” centers with 9” between rows. This year’s garden will feature 6 of their new introductions as well as numerous future releases.

PERENNIAL POST
Clara Miller
7751 State Route 534
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

Just south of Mesopotamia, Perennial Post is located in the heart of Amish County. Clara Miller, owner, has created a sanctuary bursting with color that brings peace to anyone that comes to visit. Clara’s love and knowledge of daylilies began in her apprenticeship at Rock Bottom Farms, inspiring her in 1991 to begin planting and planning her own nursery business. The Perennial Post opened in the spring of 1998. Since then, the garden beds have grown to overflowing with 260 varieties of daylilies and over 500 various other perennials.

Perennial Post is a combination of display gardens and nursery beds. One of the first things you notice when you arrive at this quaint country cottage garden is an arbor that is overflowing with morning glory and wisteria. There is a meandering path made of stone that lead you back to a slab bench surrounded by pines, ferns, hellebores, trillium and hosta. Further back are her digging beds which are large mounds of splashing colors that are the forefront for acres of green pastures and unlimited blue skies. On Mondays throughout the season Clara hosts an “Evenings In the Garden”. This is a time to stroll, share and learn. After one visit to Perennial Post you will agree that this is one of Ohio’s pieces of heaven.

BIAGLOW’S GARDEN
Jim and Vera Biaglow
15957 Prospect Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

The Biaglow Garden is located in the heart of Strongsville, Ohio and sits on approximately a one acre corner lot. Jim Biaglow and his wife Vera have been breeding and growing daylilies since the mid 1980’s when Steve Moldoven introduced the daylily “Vera Biaglow” to the world. Visitors to the garden are be treated to a collection of over 300 of the newest and best daylilies from: Petit, Salter, Stamile, Kirchoff, Moldovan, Hanson, Gaskins and others.

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ROCK BOTTOM FARMS
Jonathan Ford
7767 Parkman-Mesopotamia Road
Middlefield, Ohio 44062

Four generations of Fords have had the privilege of working this beautiful part of Ohio Amish country. The appreciation of nature and the beauty provided by gardening has been passed from one generation to the next. The employees at Rock Bottom Farms are committed to supporting the same joy of gardening for our customers. Rock Bottom Farms proudly displays the entire collection of Stout Silver Medal Winners. They are currently an AHS Display garden and a Eureka Reference Guide garden.

Rock Bottom Farms is open to visitors from May 1 through Labor Day. Starting with the second week in June, strawberries are available for picking. From July to August fresh blueberries are available for picking. Their greenhouse features streptocarpus hybridized by Jonathan Ford. Before, during and after peak bloom in mid-July each daylily plant is identified with a description and a color picture.

GARDENVIEW HORTICULTURAL PARK
Henry Ross
16711 Pearl Road
Strongsville, Ohio 44136

Established in 1949, Gardenview is a 16 acre horticultural park hidden within the City of Strongsville, a western suburb of Cleveland. The park was founded by Henry A. Ross, Director and is currently maintain by himself and the Assistant Director, Mark LaRosa. Henry Ross's purpose for Gardenview is to locate and obtain all kinds of extremely choice, rare and uncommon plants from throughout the world and to combine and display in the setting of an English Cottage Garden.

In 1961 Gardenview was given to the public as a gift with one condition that it must forever remain a Horticultural Park. Gardenview, a non-profit corporation, is exempt from real estate and other taxes and all of its contributions are tax deductible. The degree of maintenance of Gardenview is dependent on the amount of money produced each year by admissions, memberships and contributions.

Six of the sixteen acres of Gardenview are display gardens. These acres include an English garden, water fowl pond, water lily pond, hosta collections, rose gardens and herb gardens. There is a spring garden made up of bulbs, azaleas and perennial beds of daylilies, iris, peonies and rhododendrons. From March to May visitors can enjoy the numerous collection of hellebores that Henry Ross himself has bred. The 10 acre arboretum includes a showcase of over 2000 flowering and ornamental trees with over 500 varieties of crabapples. This garden is an All-American Selections Display Garden.
THE CLEVELAND WINTER SYMPOSIUM: In A Nutshell

By Curt Hanson

HMMMM, The festivities began Friday night with “Happy Hour” and an inspirational talk from AHS president Kevin Walek. Encouraging new ideas to continue the dynamics of one of America’s premier plant societies, Kevin has proven to be a “hands on” administrator with a fresh approach to promote, encourage and foster the development and improvement of the genus *Hemerocallis* and the public interest therein.

Melanie Vassallo charmed us with a preview of the National convention in Long Island, New York this July, showing us that the Big Apple is not just skyscrapers and show tunes. Joe Goudeau brought us some Cajun country daylilies and humor. Dan Hansen poked fun at some of the myths and elaborate demands involved in today’s ultra competitive high end daylily culture. Slides and digital images of future introductions and cool new seedlings followed. The hospitality room and pub was open for those to carry on into the night with fellowship and laughter.

During the breakfast hour, Sara and Steve Zolock of Belle Vernon, PA gave us an intimate tour of their garden and hybridizing program. AHS journal editor Allen McLain explained about our publications and invited us again to participate by writing creative and informative articles. Dave Mussar, the president of the Ontario club, presented an in depth biography of one of our regions pioneering icons, Brother Charles Recamp. David Kirchhoff provided a mixed bag of commentary, humor, and opinions on how to best serve our society. After lunch, Nikki Schmith presented us with a briskly paced primer on Powerpoint, providing tips for beginners and pros alike. Don Lovell gave us a tour of what we might expect at the National Convention in Minneapolis in 2007 and from the hybridizers of Region 1. Linda Agin of Alabama explained how her hobby in antiques blossomed into an obsession with daylilies, and Frank Smith of Florida gave us a glimpse of his world in orchids, landscaping resorts and building a daylily program.

After each speaker a door prize was randomly chosen. Most of these were $100 gift certificates from the top hybridizers. Soon we were back with a social hour and the anticipated famous buffet before the “great auction” got underway. Successful bidders got an exciting array of new and in some cases impossible to obtain cultivars. The hospitality room was again crowded with wine, micro-brews, and laughter, late into the night.

Sunday morning began with a continental breakfast and Charles Douglas of Browns Ferry North Carolina giving us a tour of his expanding daylily operation. Don Jerabek of Indianapolis mixed his subtle humor with an update on Watson Park gardens. The event ended with slides of 2006 introductions.

This brief overview only provides a glimpse of the official event. The real magic was within the personal camaraderie of seeing old friends and meeting new ones. The Winter Symposium is Region 2’s annual kickoff to another fabulous year in our gardens! We’ll do it again next year, and look forward to seeing you!
Kevin Walek, President of AHS, addressed the attendees early on at the symposium and then made himself available the weekend. As President-Elect, he had given a similar talk at another region’s meeting this past October.

In identifying important items for his two-year term as President, Kevin stressed increasing the membership numbers in AHS and improving lines of communication with local clubs, the regional and the national organization. It was clear that he values direct communication with the membership whether or not the individuals hold office or even aspire to hold official positions. At several times, he gave both his phone number and Email address and encouraged anyone with questions or suggestions to feel free to contact him directly.

Kevin told us that he had been giving specific assignments to Board members at the rate of about one per week since he assumed office on January 1. He expects results and implementation of these assignments by the summer board meeting that will occur at the AHS National Convention this summer.

Membership is critical! When asked for a show of hands, two attendees indicated that they were not AHS members. In an example to all and a demonstration of his commitment, Kevin stated that he would pay the first year membership for the first person who had raised their hand. He has also appointed a committee headed by Kay Day to explore ways to increase membership, in particular a voucher program for new members in which they would receive a dollar amount off the price of a daylily chosen from a list.

Highlights of other issues and initiatives underway are as follows:

- A dues increase will be proposed at the convention this summer.
- A committee headed by Peggy Jeffcoat has been formed to review all the AHS specialty awards and to have recommenda-

- Betty Roberts has reviewed motions previously passed by the boards since the founding of AHS and has provided him with a listing of seventy conflicting motions. Furthermore, Kevin’s review has found that the Policy and Procedures Manual is in conflict with many motions made by the boards over the years. Further work will be done to resolve these matters.

- A rewrite of the Regional Officer’s handbook is in process. Job descriptions in this handbook do not match the actual duties carried out by these officers.

- A frequent question has regarded AHS Insurance. What and who does it cover? What are we paying for? Are we perhaps paying too much for the coverage? Apparently this coverage was obtained without a bidding process. The master document is a one-inch thick binder. The policy contents need to be communicated to the regions.

- A committee is reviewing Round Robin Accreditation. This includes both the written and Email Robins.

- Another concern is that there is no master copy of AHS documents and several conflicting versions exist.

- A thorough review of conventions is being made and Regional Directors will be surveyed for suggestions regarding changes.

- Linda Sue Barnes has raised the issue that many veterinarians (according to the ASPCA) seem to think that hemerocallis plants are toxic to indoor only cats. This is contrary to the experience of numerous AHS members. This is something to be looked into in terms of an AHS response, etc.

- Kevin has written an article, which will appear in The Daylily Journal, about his philosophy for the AHS and his term as its President.

In concluding his remarks, President Walek stated that his goal was for “The American Hemerocallis Society to be the Number 1 plant society in America!”
Melanie Vassallo:
By Nikki Schmith, Dearborn Heights, Michigan

If I wasn’t already planning on making the trip to the East Coast for the national convention this year, I would be after Melanie Vassallo’s invitation! This year is the 50th anniversary of the host club, the Long Island Daylily Society, and they are very much looking forward to sharing their love of gardens with the hundreds of visitors this summer.

The theme of the convention is “Island Jewels”, and after seeing the wonderful photos of the 9 gardens that are on tour this year, I can understand why they picked that theme. “There will be no facet left unpolished,” Melanie exclaimed as she took us on a virtual tour of the public and private gardens we can expect to see this July.

There are hybridizer’s gardens, estate gardens, country gardens, collector’s gardens and public botanical gardens. There seems to be a lot of attention to detail, as the convention committee has arranged for many “extras” not seen at other AHS nationals. For example, convention goers will be allowed to sign up for specific buses, to prevent the chaos that usually ensues on garden tour morning. This should make for a more peaceful and efficient departure. There is even an already sold out optional bus trip to the Hamptons to see extra gardens! There’s also seating nooks outside behind the hotel which should be much appreciated by smokers. Best of all, they’ve requested a plant cleaning station outside with a large garbage can and a hose so nobody has to do the “swish & flush” cleaning method in their hotel room. WOW! There are 9 vendors set up in the boutique. No daylilies for sale there yet but there are going to be some awesome Hosta and perennials. Several tour gardens and possibly open gardens will have daylilies for sale so ask if you are interested. There will be plants for sale here in Melanie’s garden and orders will be accepted for plants to be dug after the convention. The same goes for at least three other tour gardens.

Melanie also took the time to explain the airport and transportation situation on Long Island and in New York City. She had a wonderful illustration of Long Island (which actually is an island) showing the three airports that convention goers may use as they travel to New York. Many of the nearby beaches were shown, as well as many historic sites to visit along the way.

At the pace registrations are being received, they could be sold out in as little as 8 weeks. Do not be disappointed; send in your registration as soon as you can. You can visit www.lidaylily.org for a registration form and the detailed schedule of events and open gardens.

The national convention is a fantastic opportunity for members of AHS. This will be my fifth convention and I like it more each time I go. I come home with a ton of inspiration for my own garden, as well as a wish list as long as my arm to add to my collection! You don’t have to know a ton of people to have a good time. You don’t have to be an officer in the region or in your local club to enjoy it. Some folks think the national is a time only for cliques or for reunions of old friends. If you are new to AHS, I recommend you stick your toe in the water and try it out. It is fun, organized, and worth every penny you will spend to attend.

The convention will head south for the next few years, so if I were you, I would really take this opportunity to uncover some “Island Jewels” on Long Island this summer.
Dave Mussar:  
Brother Charles Reckamp - The Man and his Mission  
By John Sheehan, Madison WI

Dave Mussar lives just outside Guelph, Ontario. At his Hillside Daylilies Garden he grows about 400 registered daylilies and has been hybridizing daylilies since 2000. Dave says that he wants to produce vigorous, hardy daylilies that will perform exceptionally well in northern climates. To achieve that goal he has been using many of the newest plants introduced by the late Brother Charles Reckamp of Techny, Illinois.

Today Dave presented a comprehensive discussion of the life of Brother Charles Reckamp including his work ethic, his ties with the early Tetraploid daylily hybridizers of the Chicago area, his connections with the noted Region 2 hybridizers, Steve Moldovan, and Roy Klehm, and most importantly, the legacy that Brother Charles Reckamp has left to the daylily world.

Brother Charles was born on a farm in Ethlyn, MO. He was one of the oldest of 20 siblings and grew up working hard to help his family eke out a living on their simple farm. As Dave explained, Brother Charles joined the Monastery of the Society of the Divine Word located in Techny, IL. Brother Charles’ superiors assigned him to start up “Mission Gardens” where peonies, evergreens, bulbs, and annuals would be grown and sold to the public. During the 1940’s Brother Charles was actively involved developing new varieties of iris, evergreens, and propagating Japanese tree and hybrid peonies.

In the early 1950’s area daylily hybridizers, Orville Fay and David Hall (each future Stout Award winners!) suggested that Brother Charles hybridize daylilies. In 1955 the first Reckamp Introductions were registered. They were *Hemerocallis* ‘Little Chief’, and ‘Mantilla’. As Dave’s images revealed, the early Brother Charles introductions were Diploids with strong, well-branched scapes and blossoms with soft, subtle hues.

Dave then described Reckamp’s first 5 Tetraploid introductions (1966) that included *H. ‘Changing Times’, ‘Loyal Subject’, and ‘Heavenly Harp’*. All were either progeny from ‘Crestwood Ann’ or directly resulted from Diploid seed conversion. Until the mid 1970’s Brother Charles’ daylilies were sold through Moldovan Gardens. In 1973 Reckamp received the AHS Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for outstanding results in the field of daylily hybridizing.

In 1975 the Religious Order closed the Mission Gardens as a commercial enterprise. Roy Klehm of Song Sparrow Nursery took over introducing daylilies for Brother Charles in 1977 and the gentle gardener continued to hybridize his daylilies at Mission Gardens until his death in 1996.


Dave Mussar ended his Presentation by wisely concluding that the legacy of Brother Charles Reckamp will be long lasting. Reckamp was a simple, unassuming man who was guided by the beauty of his daylily introductions, not by the call to market radical new forms or color patterns. He focused on his hybridization goals and stuck with them.
Joe Goudeau:
Some Like It Hot - Cajun Daylilies

By Dan Bachman, Lebanon, OH

Joe showed slides of current Crochet releases, both diploid and tetratploid, all with that Crochet look. I was especially taken by *Hemerocallis* ‘Go LSU’, a 5.5” tetraploid, deep purple with gold edge. Tim Tassin is one of the newer tetraploid hybridizers with creations containing all today’s required “bells and whistles”. Jimmy Terrio is another of the soon to be spotlighted tetraploid breeders. Joe showed many of Jimmy’s offerings in the hot, bright oranges. Ken Begnaud, who delighted us at the 2005 Symposium, was represented and is doing “diploids with gold edges, diploids with patterned eyes and other areas thought only possible in tetraploid varieties” according to Mr. Goudeau.

Of course the feature was the Goudeau hybridizing program. The emphasis is on modern tetraploids. Joe and Ginger are working with their own seedlings as well as with material from Larry Grace. The lines are quite advanced especially considering they are relative newcomers. There are six introductions for this year. I was most interested in *H. ‘Six-Four-Three Double Play’,* a 5” salmon pink diploid double out of Crochet’s ‘King Kahuna’ and ‘Blackwater Washout’, a 5” tetraploid ‘Lavender Blue Baby’ kid with violet purple and washed eye. Daylily collectors are anxiously awaiting the future series from the Goudeau’s baring the prefix Nekid Lady. As Joe states “you have to be special to be a Nekid Lady”. This personable duo will make a real statement with their Cajun daylilies.

Joe Goudeau telling everyone how he wants his daylily throats to match the color of his shirt.

Allen McLain says Mississippi has “Hot” daylilies too.

Melissa Begnaud, Ken Begnaud, Heidi Willet, Charles Douglas, Ginger Goudeau, Joe Goudeau, and Becky Owens enjoy meeting friends. Five States are represented here.

More Symposium photos!!!