

**WISCONSIN DAYLILY SOCIETY, INC**

February, 1997

Copyright 1997

Volume 8, Number 2

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER-Gene Dewey

There are a number of items which I would like to highlight this time:

--Gift Certificates: At each of our meetings a drawing will be held for a \$30 gift certificate from a daylily grower. Gene Woehler was the lucky recipient of the Flower Factory's certificate in January. This may be your opportunity to get a more expensive cultivar which has been on your want list. We will have certificates from Brookwood Gardens (Leo Sharp), Cordon Bleu, Windmill Gardens (Sarah Sykes), and Northern Daylily Gardens (Bud Foss). Bud added an additional \$10 to his certificate, for a total of \$40. Thanks, Bud!

--Kudos for the Region 2 Meeting: These still arrive. Dennis Anderson of Indianapolis wrote when sending his slides for the February meeting: "I really enjoyed your Region 2 meeting this year. A very nice set of gardens to visit and many very nice people! A job well done by all, give them my regards and compliments!"

Region 2 Symposium '97: This will be held in Indianapolis Feb. 28-Mar. 2. There will be many opportunities to learn from ten daylily growers and hybridizers, including our own Jean Bawden. The cost is \$70, including most meals (hotel extra). Contact Gene Dewey if you are interested in attending. A registration form was included in the Fall/Winter issue of the Region 2 newsletter.

Gene Woehler's favorite daylilies include: CODIE WEDGEWORTH, VERABIAGLOW, and BABYLONIAN PEARL.

Carole Maahs enjoys LITTLE RAINBOW, NAVIGATOR, and GENTLE SHEPHERD.

Wisconsin Daylily Society Officers

President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer
Gene Dewey 608-255-0858	Evelyn Thompson 608-274-1415	Phyllis Sanner 608-882-5211	Lloyd Ravet 608-249-7223

--1997 Garden Tours: Saturday, July 19 has been designated for tours in the Madison area; if you are willing to open your garden, please call Hiram Percy (845-9249). Harold Steen will be arranging for open gardens in the Milwaukee area on Sunday, July 20.

--WDS publications: Jean Bawden has put together an attractive three fold brochure about the WDS. It gives a list of our activities, membership form and contact information, some basic information about daylilies and the 1996/97 WDS calendar. I have revised and reformatted a two-sided handout about daylilies. If you want to have copies of either of these for presentations about daylilies, please call me (255-0858).

--One more to sell: We still have one DAYLILIES-- A FIFTY-YEAR AFFAIR for \$26.95. This book was done for AHS' fiftieth year and includes interesting history and good color pictures of cultivars. Please let me know if you want a copy.

Reg. 2 Popularity Poll

For those of you who are not AHS members, here is a copy of the top Reg. 2 daylilies for 1996.

1. BARBARA MITCHELL
2. SILOAM DOUBLE CLASSIC
3. JANICE BROWN
4. STRAWBERRY CANDY
5. FAIRY TALE PINK
6. ROSE EMILY
7. BLESSING
- CHARLES JOHNSTON
9. CONDILLA
10. PAPER BUTTERFLY
11. BROCADED GOWN
12. JOLYENE NICHOLE/RED VOLUNTEER

Julia Cook's favorites are: WHITE TIE AFFAIR, TRUDY HARRIS, and STRUTTER'S BALL.



Greetings, all you winter-weary, chilled gardeners! This is the editor, and I have a request could you, would you, please pick up a pen or pencil and write a few words about gardens you've seen, daylilies that are magnificent, catalogues that are out of this world, or little garden hints for the rest of us..... then..... would you mail it to me?????? I love hearing new things, especially this time of the year, and so do the rest of your fellow readers!

As you browse through this newsletter, you will notice little notes about personal favorites these came off the membership forms (and you thought no one read those!). A special thanks to those of you who put down some extra comments about those cultivars!

The January meeting was a dandy in spite of the weather..... our panel and the audience braved the snowstorm to chat about daylilies, propagation, fertilizer, pests (or lack thereof). Many thanks to the moderator, Wally Porterfield, and to the panel members..... Steve Lesch, Hiram Percy, Bill Powell, and Jean Bawden.

The February meeting had a video of many good garden cultivars and slides from Dennis Anderson's hybridizing program. The winner of the \$40 gift certificate from Bud Foss (Northern Daylily Gardens) was Hiram Percy.

This month has included several gardening treats..... the February meeting, the Garden Expo, held on February 15th and 16th, and the Region 2 Symposium in Indianapolis on Feb. 28th, March 1, and March 2. I've never been to the Symposium before, but if it's anything like the summer meeting, it will be tons of fun!

There are some big names there..... Judith Weston (hybridizer of LIGHTS OF DETROIT), and Steve Moldovan (STRUTTER'S BALL and DANCING SHIVA). There are some locals talking.... Lee De Jonghe of the WDS is doing a point/counterpoint with Gus Guzinski and Jean Bawden is talking about companion plants. Dan Bachman is going to talk about starting a daylily business, and there will be slides, food, and silliness! If you're interested in joining the frolic, call Don Jerabek at 317-923-3832 and ask him to add your name to the list..... then call the Holiday Inn East.... then call Hiram Percy 845-9249 to get in on the van rental.

p.2

***** Region 2 Mail-in Auction *****

If you haven't mailed your bids for the 1997 Mail-in Auction, you need to do it right away!!!! This is your last chance to perhaps get a real deal on some lovely, donated cultivars. This is the way that Region 2 raises money to have annual meetings/publish newsletters. Your bid must be one-half of the market value of the cultivar, and there are more than 100 to choose from. Donations and bidding sheets are found in the last Region 2 Newsletter..... the one with the stunning photo of Judy and Jack Ferreri's front garden on the front cover. It's also the issue that includes descriptions of last summer's tour gardens. You could own RUSSIANEASTER, IDA'S MAGIC, PIRATE'S PATCH, WILDEST DREAMS, or ERIN LEA.... or any of the other lovely things. Jerry and Caroline Benser of the WDS generously donated plants to the auction.

WDS SALE is AUGUST 9-10!!!

Please make the change on your calendar!!!!!!!!!!!!

Harold Steen is entranced with FAIRY TALE PINK (Pierce-80) which was a Stout Medal winner in 1990, MARY'S GOLD (McDonnell-84) which was an Award of Merit winner in 91, and SILOAM DOUBLE CLASSIC (Henry-85) which was a Stout Medal winner in 93. DC is a double, pink, fragrant, early/mid flower. FTP is a peachy pink that blooms midseason. MG is a midseason orange/gold self.

Evelyn Thompson has lots of favorites, including: LEMON CUSTARD, JOLYENE NICHOLE, POTOSI, INDIAN PAINT BRUSH, and ROYAL VIKING.

Robert and Marylou Griesbach list SEMINOLE WIND, ERIN LEA, and NOSFERATU as daylilies they wouldn't want to be without.

Mark Blank loves the yellows.... HYPERION, MARY TODD, and HAPPY RETURNS.

Art Blodgett mentions RAMONA'S MEMORY, BROADWAY DELIGHT, and RASPBERRY CANDY as personal favorites.

Dues are due!!!

If you don't see your name on the list below, you have not paid your dues for 1997. This is the final newsletter that you will receive unless you renew your membership. We don't want to lose you! Please send in the membership form at the end of this newsletter.

Jo Zachary	Shirley Burke
Byron Annis	Diana Smith
Jean Bawden	Sandra/James Wheat
Gene Dewey	Ron Williams
Stan Duke/Cynthia Henson	Lee De Jonghe
Janine Gross	Bud Foss
Jane/Hiram Percy	Betty French
Lloyd/Judy Ravet	Ruth Horrall
Phyllis/Don Sanner	Rick Ivik
Mike Shah	Robert Kowal
Harold Steen	Terri Maleszewski-Kane
Evelyn Thompson	Doug/Martha Maxwell
Gene Woehler	Patty/Lu Paulson
Arthur Blodgett	William Powell
Linda Ball	Debbie Tainter
Richard Berling	Patricia Wafer
Mark Blank	Sally Weber
Nancy Boone	Tom Wojtech
Leo Bordeleau	Dorothy/Ramond
Ann/Mark Buehl	Ramsden
Julia Cook	Janet Gordon/Dave Butcher
Michael/Patricia Daubs	Carole Maahs
Eugene Marks	Wally Porterfield
Patricia Diehnelt	Paul Meske
Frank Greer	Mary Jo Mielke
Robert/Mary Lou Griesbach	David/Nancy Nedveck
Anne Guis	Jerry Nelson
Edward Kraus	Reynold Peterson

Midwest Hybridizers' Meeting

The meeting of any Midwest hybridizers will be held in Dayton, Ohio on March 22 (Saturday) from 9-4. If you are interested in more information, please contact Gene Dewey for details.



Jerry Nelson enjoys SILOAM DOODLEBUG, SILOAM PLUM TREE, JASON SALTER, and MARY TODD/WILD TURKEY.

Describing JS, he states "it is a small-flowered gold with a red eye-zone. It is a good grower with great marking." Of the combination of MT and WT, he mentions that they extend the long bloom season with very similar shades of yellow. SPT is small-flowered, and the eye matches Lilium 'Hot Fudge' perfectly.

p3

Awards and Honors from AHS

For those of you who don't receive the Daylily Journal from the American Hemerocallis Society, here are the award winners for 1996.

- Stout Silver Medal- WEDDING BAND (Stamile)
(The Stout Medal is given to them most outstanding cultivar; it must have already won an AM)
- Donn Fischer Memorial Award-AFTER THE FALL (Kirchhoff) (Given to the best miniature)
- Annie T. Giles Award-CUSTARD CANDY (Stamile)
(Best small flower)
- Ida Munson Award -VANILLA FLUFF (Joiner)
(Best double)
- Harris Olson Spider Award- GREEN WIDOW (Temple) (Awarded to the best spider or variant)
- Don C. Stevens Award-SILOAM DAVID KIRCHHOFF (Henry) Awarded to the best eyed cultivar)
- L. Ernest Plouf Award-FROSTED PINK ICE (Stamile) (Best dormant and fragrant cultivar)

Awards of Merit

- STRAWBERRY CANDY (Stamile)
- CUSTARD CANDY (Stamile)
- VICTORIAN COLLAR (Stamile)
- SCATTERBRAIN (Joiner)
- RESPIGHI (Munson, RW)
- XIA XIANG (Billingslea)
- SILOAM AMAZING GRACE (Henry)
- TUSCAWILLA TIGRESS (Hansen)
- SPIDER MIRACLE (Hendricks)
- SUPERLATIVE (Gates)

Garden Tours-1997

The garden tours for the Wisconsin Daylily Society will be spread over 3 areas of the state, so you can hit one, two, or all three. The weekend of July 19th and 20th will be the Madison and Milwaukee tours, with Madison on Saturday and Milwaukee on Sunday. The following weekend, the gardeners of the LaCrosse area will be opening their gardens to all of us. LaCrosse is approximately a two- and -a-half hour drive from Madison on the interstate.

I've only seen Jerry and Caroline Benser's garden once, but I have never seen so many daylilies crammed into a yard!!!! You'll love it!

Root Pruning

The following post by Melanie Vassallo came off the internet round robin, and Melanie gave her permission to reprint it.

"I received a number of requests for the specifics on root pruning and will be glad to share what I learned with all of you. Please remember that I do not have any scientific background and this is just from personal experience. I'd appreciate any input from those of you with more education if I am wrong here.

I have tried to write down what I learned from Dan Hansen and from my experiences this summer. For you newer members, I moved in July, taking along with me my newly acquired daylily collection. We moved about 160 different cultivars in approx. 300 pots. While unpotting the daylilies I got to see exactly how beneficial the root pruning was. Most of the plants were in pots for four months. Potting medium varied from pure potting soil, garden soil, pure horse manure and mixtures of the above three mediums. Use of these different soils was purely based on how fat my wallet was at the time, not for any scientific experiment.

While looking at the root system on a daylily I can see three different types of roots. There are darker shriveled up roots, firm fleshy roots, and hairy fine white roots. The fine roots are called feeder roots and it's these roots that seek out nourishment and bring it to the daylily. The larger fleshy roots store this nourishment, and it is from here that the plant draws the nutrients. Finally, the shriveled up roots are old fleshy roots that have already been drained of nutrients and they are in the process of decomposing.

With this explanation you can see that it is important for the plant to have both fleshy and hairy roots. When I pruned my plants I selectively trimmed off the roots that hung down past 6" from the crown or base of the plant. I say "selectively" here because in a few instances the fleshy roots hung down past six inches while there were no hairy roots above this line. For those plants I pruned a good portion to 6" but left some roots longer (maybe 8 or 9") to allow some of the hairy white roots to remain. In most cases though I just cut a straight line all around the root system. It is much easier to handle your plants and view the roots if you first clean off all the soil with a hose. I use a nozzle with the spray set pretty hard, it hasn't seemed to

damage the plants at all. At the same time I also trim off the foliage to a height of 6". I believe this helps the plant divert its attention from maintaining all the foliage to root growth instead.

Today I unpotting many more plants and tried to pay close attention to how the potting medium seemed to affect plant growth. The best plant growth came from the soil that was a mix of horse manure and potting soil. The worst growth came from plain garden soil. In many of the pots that held just horse manure were also tons of mushrooms. (This year was a BIG year for mushrooms on Long Island. Cool and fairly damp conditions.) These mushrooms though did not seem to affect the plants. In some pots I had also stuck in small slips from some of my other perennials. The daylilies in those pots did not increase as well. The horse manure seemed to hold moisture in much better than potting soil. Plants in pure potting soil were much dryer but it was also much easier to remove the soil from the root ball. I had also tried to add worms to many of the pots and they thrived and multiplied in pots that had horse manure.

That's all I can think of for now. Hope I didn't bore you all too much. Happy digging, Melanie Vassallo, Long Island, NY

***** Daylily Talks

Hiram Percy and Jean Bawden have been busy giving talks in the past several months. Hiram gave a presentation to the Arbor Hills Garden Club about daylilies, using wonderful slides from Phil Korth. Jean Bawden gave a talk to the McFarland Garden Club on lilies and daylilies, and repeated the talk at the Garden Expo. She is giving a presentation on companion plants in the daylily garden at the Region2 Symposium.

Raymond and Dorothy Ramsden count EXOTIC ECHO, CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE, and SILOAM AMAZING GRACE among their favorites.

Phyllis and Don Sanner have lots of favorites: NEAL BERREY, TIGERLING, STROKE OF MIDNIGHT, PUMPKIN KID, and WAYSIDE KING ROYAL.

Wally Porterfield's 3 favorites are: WAYSIDE KING ROYAL, KINDLY LIGHT, and T'IS MIDNIGHT.

The Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc.

1997 Membership Application/Renewal

Please enroll me as a member of the **Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc.** for the year 1997

(January 1 to December 31)

Name (Please Print or Type)

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Type of membership: (Please check one)

Individual \$5.00

Family \$7.50

Business \$15.00

I enclose \$ _____ payable to **The Wisconsin Daylily Society, Inc.**

Mail entire sheet to: Lloyd Ravet, 4518 Turquoise Lane, Madison, WI 53714

Member Questionnaire

Are you a member of the American Hemerocallis Society? Yes No

Would you be willing to serve on a committee?

Would you be interested in being on tour in 1997?

Describe and name your 3 favorite daylilies.

Gene L. Dewey
2125 Fox Ave
Madison WI 53711

Jean Bawden, Editor
2806 Warner St.
Madison, WI 53713



The Wisconsin Daylily Society Newsletter
A not-for-profit organization promoting the enjoyment, awareness, and propagation of the genus *Hemerocallis*



LAST CHANCE!!!!!! SEND YOUR

MEMBERSHIP TODAY!

**CONTINUE RECEIVING THE NEWS
LETTER.....ATTEND MEETINGS ON**

MARCH 13.....

APRIL 13.....

MAY 8.

