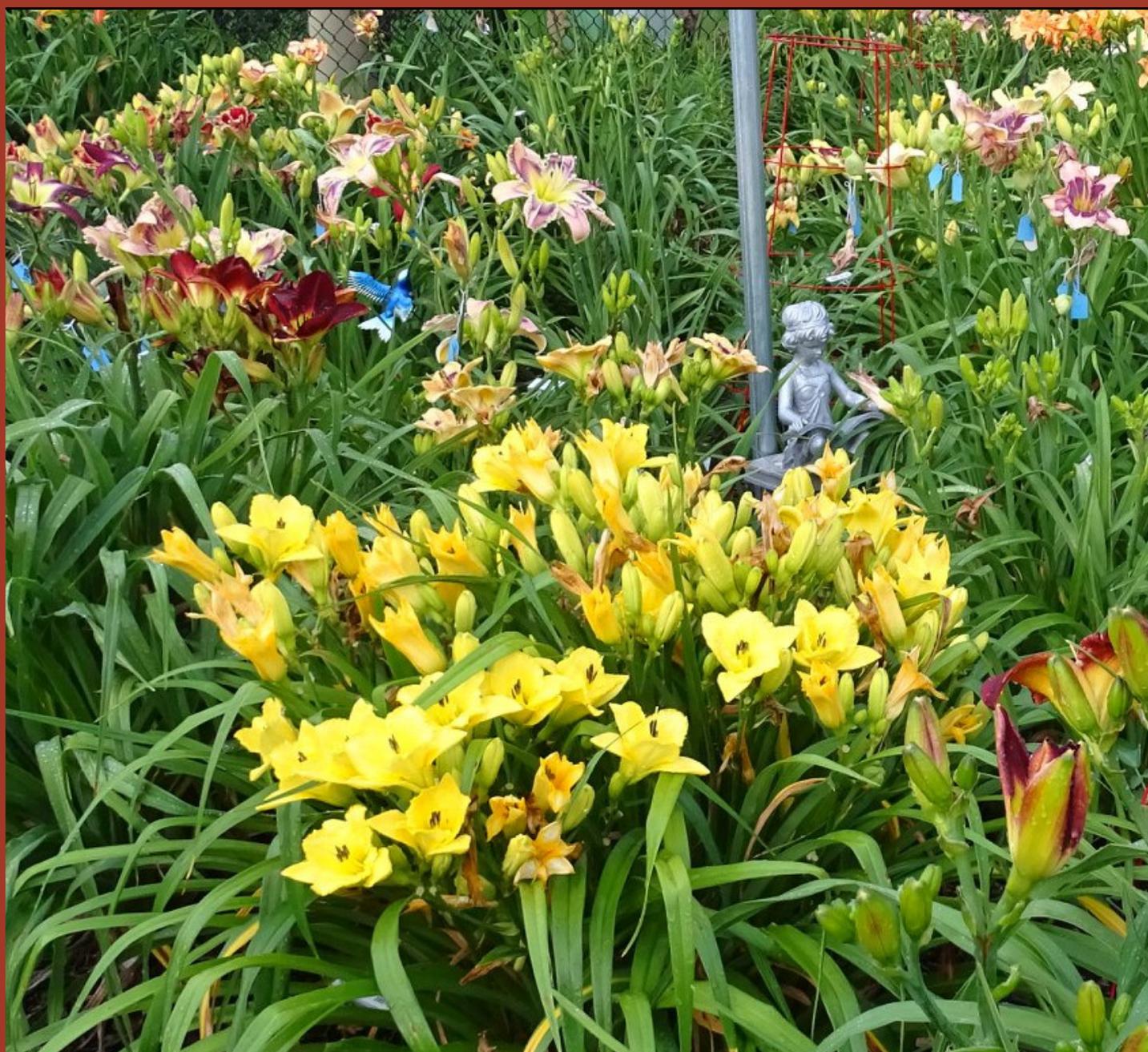




Daylily PIONEER

American Daylily Society Region 1: IOWA / MANITOBA / MINNESOTA / NEBRASKA / NORTH DAKOTA / SOUTH DAKOTA

Volume 21, No. 2 - Fall Edition 2020





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Note from the editor: Please send all corrections, updates and additions to: regionleditor@gmail.com

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On the front cover: Logo contains Scarlet Pimpernel Ripley, N. 2006, 2019 Stout Winner. Image credit to Nan Ripley. Garden image credit to Linda Ferguson.

On the back cover: Picture from the Morrissey garden image credit to Robin Lowe

We need your help!

In the spring edition, we want to have several vignettes or first person accounts of how the summer of 2020 went for your garden. Did the crazy weather affect your plants? Did you have an increase in sales? Did you have more or less time in your garden?

What we want

One or two paragraphs about the 2020 growing season told by you. Tell us the good, the bad and the ugly. We'd like to do many short stories. We'd love to hear from our region and all across the country. If you know someone online or through events, please tell them to contact us! Send an email with your story to regionleditor@gmail.com. Make sure to add a couple pictures to your email!

Business Minutes from Regional Meeting

Note from the editor:

As we all are painfully aware, 2020 meetings were canceled nationwide. That included the regional meeting. No meeting = no minutes.

Instead, please enjoy some pictures of seedlings from Pick a Daylily Garden in Lincoln, NE. All images are from Scott Keller.



Do you have some beautiful pictures you'd like to share? We want to see them! Send an email with the information about the blooms to regionleditor@gmail.com.

Congratulations

to Susan Holland for receiving the Regional Service award for outstanding service to our Region 1. Get all the details on her award in *The Daylily Journal* Vol. 75 No. 3

The Daylily Pioneer

Volume 21. No. 2

Fall 2020

The Daylily Pioneer is the newsletter of The American Daylily Society (ADS) Region One. ADS is a non-profit educational and scientific organization dedicated to promote, encourage, and foster the development of the genus *Hemerocallis*, commonly known as the daylily. Region One comprises Iowa, Manitoba (Canada), Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

Information is presented herein as a service to members and is not necessarily endorsed by ADS or by the editor. Rights to material published in this newsletter remain with the author; to reprint or otherwise reproduce material, please obtain permission from the author.

ADS Region One members receive *The Daylily Pioneer* as part of their membership in ADS, with no additional dues assessed. Currently, Region One publishes two issues per year, a printed issue for Spring/Summer and a digital issue for Fall/Winter (subject to change as needed).

Non-Region-One subscriptions are available for \$18 per year. To subscribe, send a check payable to ADS Region One to:

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Submission Guidelines

The Daylily Pioneer is published for the benefit of ADS Region One members. As such, the focus is on regional members, hybridizers, and activities.

The Editor encourages submissions. All contributions are subject to editing for length or size, grammar, and clarity.

Digital images may be used for both electronic and print media and should be of high quality and resolution. Please contact the editor for more information.

Send articles and photographs by email to regionleditor@gmail.com

Or send submissions by U.S. Mail to:

Sabrina Sumsion, Editor
ADS Region One Daylily Pioneer
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Deadline for the Spring issue of *The Daylily Pioneer* is March 1.

ADS 2021 National Convention

Diamond Dusted Daylilies in the South

75th Annual ADS National Convention May 20-22, 2021 Hattiesburg, Ms.

The Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society (HADS) and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Daylily Society (MGCDS) wish to invite you to the 2021 ADS National Convention in Hattiesburg, Ms.

The dates will be Thursday May 20 – Saturday May 22, 2021.

The Convention will be held at the Lake Terrace Convention Center, 1 Convention Center Plaza, Hattiesburg, Ms. 39401.

Convention Registration

Pre-registration is required

\$285 per adult postmarked by 4/15/2021

\$225 for youth members 18 and under

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2021 Regional in Marshalltown

Unfortunately, regionals had to be canceled to err on the side of caution. We value the health and safety of our members. As of right now, the plan is a party in Marshalltown in 2022!

Do you have memories from past conventions? Let's commiserate! Tell us the funny stories. Share pictures from past events. Let's remember the good even though we can't meet in person right now.

Please send stories as well as pictures to

regionleditor@gmail.com

Please include photographer names so we can give proper credit.



Message from Kris Henning, Regional Director



My goodness, what a year this has been so far! I hope you and your families are all staying safe and sound. It seems somewhat easier to social distance when you have gardens that you can work and play in to keep you busy. I am sure you all miss the activities in your clubs, the people, and visiting gardens (and plant sales!), as do I. I missed going to the Regional meeting in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and seeing everyone!

And speaking of Iowa, the Derecho in early August caused widespread destruction to the area. We all hope that our friends in the Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society and the Central Iowa Daylily Society are okay. See their messages in the "Club Reports" columns.

The financial end of the COVID-19 spectrum is hitting ADS Regions hard. All of us ADS Committee Chairs are being asked to pare down our yearly budgets if possible for next year, too. We are still ok financially, but we are being careful stewards of the bank accounts right now.

Since the National Convention in Savannah was cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns, our Board meeting was held by Zoom teleconference and went well. The Fall Board meeting in Biloxi, MS will also be held on Zoom for those who do not wish to travel yet (me included!). It will probably be the wave of the future to hold Board meetings this way for those who do not wish to attend in person.

I am hoping that the Regional in Marshalltown next year will be a go. It will be great to see all of you again! In the meantime, stay safe and garden on~

Message from Val Hofer, Region 1 President



Happy Fall Everyone!

2020 has been a strange year and will be a year everyone will remember but would love to forget. The national, regional and local meetings that have been canceled will only make for a reunion next year only sweeter. It has forced some of us to move into the 21st century kicking and screaming to learn the new technology out there, but we are adapting.

The bloom season seemed longer than normal this year and the rebloom in my garden has been wonderful addition since there is not normally a lot of it. Labor Day weekend I had over 10 plants still blooming, which is very unusual in my garden.

A big THANK YOU to all the presidents that had to change(cancel) the entire year's schedule, which meant a lot more planning and communication with board members and host gardens than normal to make everything run smoothly.

Hope everyone was able enjoy their own gardens (more than normal) this year and maybe sneak in a few with some safe social distancing. I know I was going through daylily withdrawals so I did participate in seeing a few member's gardens to cure my symptoms.

Looking forward to next year's fun and seeing everyone again.

Message from Sabrina Sumsion, Daylily Pioneer Editor



Greetings and nice to meet you!

I'm the new kid in town and I can't wait to meet as many people as possible. This has been a crazy year for everyone. Lots of events needed to be cancelled and so many opportunities to get to know others in the daylily world were missed. However, I have enjoyed seeing pictures from so many gardens. I love the variety of the daylily world.

I didn't even know this world existed until last fall! my friend invited me to a weird open garden thing that I didn't quite understand, but I went because it was her. That's when she showed me her pretties and explained everything to me. Wow! Daylilies were just the regular, small orange or yellow flower I saw in gardens before. Now I see the world of colors, patterns, shapes and heights.

My background is in marketing and publicity. I had a midlife crisis and thought going back to school to become a nurse would be a good idea. Yeah, don't ask about me if I'm sane. I don't have a good answer for you.

Being a new kid means there's a lot I don't know. I'll be including a Back to Basics in each edition. This will cover a small section of the daylily world that a beginner might not know. This edition is about ploidy system. That was confusing when I first started! Some other topics I am stashing away for future editions are things like pollination, common daylily diseases, winterizing tips, tagging tips, techniques for tracking crosses. Do you have any advice you'd like to pass onto a beginner? I'm all ears! Do you have an idea for a topic that should be covered in the Daylily Pioneer? Please pass it along! Send me an email at regionleditor@gmail.com. I'd love to hear from you!

Message from Steve Horan, Region 1 Publicity Director



Hello daylily friends. I last wrote to you in April of this year just as pandemic was settling in, travel was cancelled, and a new norm was being established. I wrote how thankful I was for an early start to spring and time in the garden. Now six months later, I can reflect on the gardening season that was. I spent lots of time outside: in the garden, on the golf course, and on the lakes. The daylilies were magnificent, and with the extra time outside without distractions of travel or time away from the house, I was ahead of schedule for all the different garden maintenance activities ... a first for sure! Hopefully, a vaccine will be with us by next spring. But I hope to maintain many of the good practices I managed to establish. Now if we can just get through winter.

I would like to comment on the popularity poll voting process this year. As usual, we were allowed up to ten votes and voting was done through the mail or online. New this year was to use any combination of the ballot choices or write-in choices, and the online ballot allowed for this as well. A great improvement! From an administrative standpoint, I was also able to do everything online. Another great improvement! Thanks to Rebecca Board and the folks at the national level of the American Hemerocallis Society for their efforts and support. I really appreciate it.

(See page 14 for more details on the pop poll winners!)

We are a better society for it.

Here's to hoping for a better 2021. In the meantime, stay safe and healthy. As always, happy gardening!



Janet M Haag's Stout Bed. All Images in this article are Janet Haag's.

A Stout Bed: Seventy Years of Winners by Janet M Haag

Part 1 -1950-1979

Like a lot of daylily lovers

I started with a few ditch lilies (fulva) and a couple of Stella de Oro's (Jablonski-1975). In 2003, my sister decided to buy me three day-lilies from Oakes Daylilies for my birthday. She wanted to know what color I wanted and I told her anything but orange. I received Good Impression (Sellers-1978), Illini Jackpot (Varner-1981) and Strawberry Rose (Peck-1980). A couple of them bloomed that summer and then I was hooked.

Those three daylilies started me on my journey of collecting daylilies. The blooms were large and colorful and so different from what I was growing in my Nebraska yard. Oakes, having sent plants to my address, starting sending me their catalogs. Near the back of their catalog was information on joining the American Hemerocallis Society. Next thing you know I'm an AHS member receiving the Daylily Journal four times a year. I read them cover to cover. I'd read about the daylilies that had won awards like Junior Citation, Honorable Mention, Award of Merit and the coveted Stout Metal.

I started buying daylilies that had won those awards but particularly the Stout Metal winners. A plan later formed that I wanted (is it a want or a need?) to have a complete col-

lection of all of the Stout Metal winners. My quest to find them all bordered on obsession, but there was no turning back. My three Stout beds currently contain all of the winners from 1950-2019.

I am not a hybridizer, a horticulture or science major, just a plain old collector.

I am a garden judge so these observations are my own as seen in my garden.



Once my Stout Beds were established I began to marvel at how far the world of daylilies and hybridizing them had come. There is something about those early plants for me that is just plain fascinating. The first winner in 1950, Hesperus (Sass-1940), is a tall (45") and stately yellow. On the Database



Hesperus (Sass H.P. -1940)

of Registered Cultivars it's listed as an orange/yellow self. It blooms later in the year and is still going strong when most of the others in the beds are done blooming. Who among us doesn't love a late blooming flower and tall too?

In the first 59 years of the award only one other plant, the 1953 winner Revolute (Sass H.P.-1944), a yellow medium self, is as tall as Hesperus registered at 46". The record for tallest plant in the bed will not be broken until 2017 when Heavenly United We Stand (Gossard-2009), a sunfast blood red with a 9" bloom, wins with a majestic height of 51".

My beds are arranged in chronological order for the awards. It is interesting to see how tall the winners were in the beginning years, dropped in the middle years, and are on the rise again recently according to their registered heights. The first ten years of the award from 1950-1959 saw an average height of 37.4", 1960-1969 dropped to 31.5" average height, 1970-1979 dropped some

more to 27.1". The next 20 years from 1980-1989 with an average height of 23" and 1990-1999 with an average height of 22.3" would have the shortest flower heights. The last 20 years, 2000-2009 with an average height of 28.3" and 2010-2019 with an average height of 34.3" are increasing in height. What will the next 10 years from 2020-2029 see?

The bloom size in the first 22 years of award was not recorded in the registration process. One exception is the 1965 winner Luxury Lace (Spalding-1959) listed with a 4.5" bloom. It is one of my personal favorites, such a dainty flower. Starting in 1972 in addition to color description and height, bloom size is now included. My guess would be that the bloom size in the first 20 years of winners averages 5"-6".

With a few exceptions in the first 30 years the color of the blooms tend to be some shade of either yellow or orange. You would think that would be kind of boring, but it's not. The color of each daylily bloom upon closer inspection is truly unique. Indeed, although they are a shade of yellow or orange, their descriptions prove something else.



Ruffled Pinafore (Millikan-1948) 1957 winner

Here are a just a few of their color descriptions: orange/yellow self, orange medium polychrome, yellow medium self, orange/yellow light polychrome with halo, red/orange light polychrome, dark yellow/orange self, orange/yellow light with halo, orange/yellow dark self, yellow light with halo, deep orange self, apricot overlaid pale pink, melon self, deep yellow self, and cadmium yellow self

The three first exceptions in color are Potentate (Nesmith-1943) the 1952 winner with a violet / red bloom as shown below



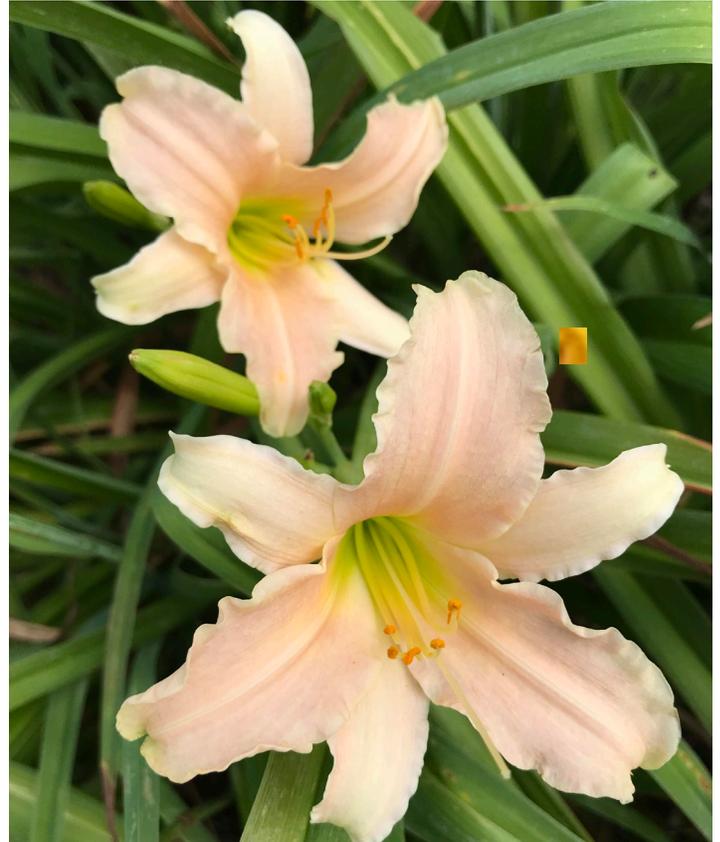
Potentate (Nesmith -1943)

and the 1962 winner Bess Ross (Claar-1951) described as a orange/ red medium self. My Bess Ross stands out in the sea of yellow and orange



Bess Ross (Claar-1951)

as a stop sign red color. As previously mentioned for it's bloom size Luxury Lace, is a pale lavender pink with a green throat. It is also the first daylily to mention having a green throat in it's description. The last three exceptions include; the 1969 winner



Luxury Lace (Nesmith -1943)

May Hall (Hall D.F.-1957) a pink blend,



May Hall (Hall D.F.-1957)

the 1973 winner Lavender Flight (Spalding-1963) a deep lavender self with yellow green throat and



Lavender Flight (Spalding-1963)

Moment of Truth (MacMillan-1969) a near white self, the 1979 winner.



Moment of Truth (MacMillan-1969)

Stay tuned for Part 2, 1980-2019 where things really start to change. Colors, bloom size and forms go crazy. There will be tiny blooms, huge blooms, eye zones, ruffles, gold edges, patterns, doubles, spiders and unusual forms. Daylilies are changing and showing up in landscaping everywhere.

(A couple more stout winners not mentioned in the article.)



Multnomah (Kraus-1954)



Green Flutter (Williamson-1964)

Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society Report Nancy Rash, President 2019-2020

It was an unusual year for CVIDS members.

The January 2020 meeting was canceled due to snow and ice. The February meeting had great attendance with double the programs. We were serious about the planning details of the Region One Summer Meeting. Then, COVID restrictions meant we canceled the March and April meetings and the May plant sale open to the public.

Determined to hold our annual club daylily plant distribution the committee brainstormed options to still select plants and created a relay system to create drop off and pick up points for the club plants.

10-12, 2020. Members were asked for input and after much deliberation, it was decided that the best decision was to cancel the summer meeting. It was extremely disappointing after the planning and anticipation of hosting our daylily friends in Region One. Thank you to all Region One members supporting our decision to cancel 20/20 A Perfect Daylily Vision.



Open garden in July of 2020. Image credit Lyle Moen



Seedling from CVIDS member Gary Oster's open garden. Image credit to Lyle Moen



Barb and Bob Papenhausen helped organize and distribute the club plants.. Image credit Keith Riewerts, CVIDS Member

Social distancing with masks did create some welcomed contact with fellow members. We sure hope to hold the postponed plant auction in the spring of 2021. The next decision was to hold or cancel the 2020 Region One Summer Meeting planned for July

Our planned Open Garden hosts for the Region One Meeting still held Open Gardens in July plus other members were added to the list. With several weekend dates, members were able to travel to see many beautiful gardens.



Storm damage from the Iowa derecho on August 10, 2020 at the home of Lynn and Sherry Moffit.

CVIDS has long held in August a second plant sale open to the public, a club meeting and club daylily plant return and auction and silent auction of iris plants (we are the Cedar Valley Iris and Daylily Society), all in the same long day. Members supported the decision to cancel the day's events. Another disappointment but the iris committee put together an email silent auction with delivery so the iris could be planted before fall.

But before the silent auction was held, we experienced the derecho in Iowa with Cedar Rapids being the hardest hit area in Iowa. Many members throughout eastern Iowa and over the state line into Illinois suffered damage with extensive losses. Trees and limbs down, a car lost and extensive home damage was reported. The loss of tree canopy will change the amount of sun and shade now provided in some gardens. One member related how her hybridizing tags blew away! Lots of unknown x unknown seedlings!

CVIDS members are tough and are looking ahead to the possible opportunity to meet in person one or two more meetings. If the annual hybridizer spotlight cannot be held, we can share via email the prepared PowerPoint presentation. We recognize club members that are eager to show the seedlings from their hybridizing program.

The Cedar Valley Iris Daylily Society was organized

in 1990 and we have 10 of the original charter members. 2020 is our 30th anniversary. We were busy with the Region One Meeting planning and the opportunity to celebrate our 30th anniversary had not been planned. The virus and the derecho both have postponed or eliminated the chance for a celebration.

Our annual and final celebration of the club year has been the Fall CVIDS Banquet and Photo Contest. A speaker and plant auction is the highlight. We have yet to make a decision about our last two meetings. You can check our website at cvids.org to see how the year turned out.



Seedling from Heather Harroun's hybridizing program. Image credit to Heather Harroun

Central North Dakota Daylily Society Report Lisa Schmidt, President 2016-2020

Well I think this year was pretty much a bust for everyone. The virus has really changed a lot of things and kept most of us home for a long time. We were able to spend a lot of time in our individual yards but even then I still didn't get everything completed that we wanted. Our club in North Dakota was able to get together for our auction in June, with a pretty good turnout of at least 50 members. We were able to tour a couple of gardens in July, with a real good representation of blooms for our Beautiful Blossom Blast.



Beautiful Blossom Blast in June of 2020. Image credit to Lisa Schmidt

The Blossom Blast is a great opportunity to see some of the flowers other members are growing in our area. Members can bring up to 10 blooms off scape and all attendees get to vote for their favorite bloom. The top 2 blossoms with the most points win gift certificates to a local greenhouse. We chose to cancel all other meetings this year.

One of the meetings we were going to have was to hear from the Director of the International Peace Gardens, since he was not able to come to our meeting, I went there to visit the Peace Gardens, for the first time in a long time....it was really nice! One of the most interesting sites at the Peace Gar-



International Peace Gardens. Image credit to Lisa Schmidt.

den was the Conservatory where they have desert plants from the deserts in North America, South America and Africa. The International Peace Garden is the furthest you can get into Canada without having to quarantine upon return, and Canadians can't even come into the states that far without quarantining. I would definitely recommend visiting the Peace Garden if you ever get to North Dakota. Personally, I did participate in some online auctions, like the national ADS auction, Nebraska's club auction, and Barb Sautner's garden sell off.

Hopefully next year will be much better. We are making lots of plans to have fun times..... New Year here we come!

Happy Gardening!



Mary Ethel Anderson (Salter-E.H., 1995). Image credit to Lisa Schmidt.

Nebraska Daylily Society Report Linda Ferguson, President 2018-2020

Nebraska Daylily Society postponed

our January meeting due to bad weather. We met at the new community building in Scribner in February. Tim Morrissey, a board member, and Scott Keller, our treasurer, gave presentations of each of



February Meeting. Image credit to Linda Ferguson

their hybridizing programs. Helen, Betsy and Mark Langemeier were our hosts for the meeting.

Good food, good friends and an enlightening program were the highlights of the day. The weather was much better than our previous January date as well.

Our May, July and August meetings were canceled due to Covid restrictions.

We mailed out club plants in May, to members who had earned them the previous year. Karol Emmerich was the hybridizer whose plants we chose this year. There was also a Facebook auction of plants from Jamie Gossard.

July garden tours were managed with masks and social distancing. Our garden hosts were Micah Lewis in Blair, Tim Morrissey and Annette Langan in Omaha. We all enjoyed getting out and about and getting to see some new gardens and old friends.

August found us hosting another Facebook auction



Micah Lewis at her open garden in July. Image credit to Linda Ferguson

of Phil Korth and Paul Owen plants. Phil was to have been our August speaker. Paul's plants were from the Kahnk garden, which was one of our host gardens for the Region 1 meeting in 2019.



At Annette Langan's open garden in July. Image credit to Linda Ferguson



Tim Morrissey at his open garden in July. Image credit to Linda Ferguson

Pop Poll Results by Steve Horan, Regional Publicity Director

It is time to report on the results of the Popularity Poll for Region One. I want to thank everyone for taking the time to vote with all the distractions you may have been dealing with in your lives. We did not have a Regional this year of course and so we could not turn in our ballots in person. But we still had 32 people who voted online or through the mail. Way to go!

Congratulations to David and Valjean Hansen for winning with Avianna Grace. I do not grow this one but the pictures I have seen are fabulous. Way to go! I had a chance to visit their garden at the 2018 Regional and it was a great pleasure for me to see their garden and talk with David and Valjean in their own garden setting.



Avianna Grace (Hansen-D.V 2016) Image credit to Mary Baker.

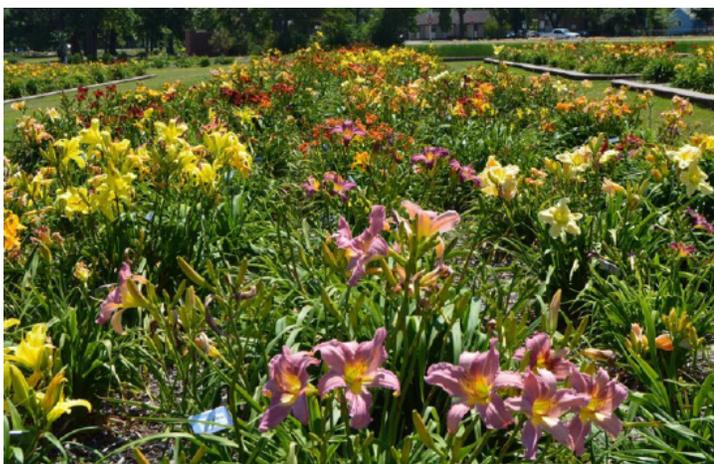
Here are the results of the top five vote getters and ties for Region One.

1. Avianna Grace, David and Valjean Hansen, 2016, 11 votes
2. Kathy Larson, Don Lovell, 2015, 9 votes
3. Pixie Chick, Phyllis McIntosh, 2006, 8 votes
4. Vicky's Radiance, Paul Owen, 2010, 8 votes
5. I Lava You, Sandy Holmes, 2009, 6 votes
6. Mountain Radiation, Tom Keast, 2012, 6 votes
7. Riot Act, Paul Owen, 2014, 6 votes

Some statistics about the vote:

160 cultivars received votes
91 received only 1 vote (56%)
31 received more than 2 votes (19%)

Update from the Historic and Modern Daylily Display Garden by Joan Zettel



NDSU Modern Display Garden. SISTER OF MINE (Nan Ripley 2009) in the foreground.

Greetings from the beautiful Historic and Modern Daylily Display Gardens located on the NDSU campus in Fargo, ND. So many of you have been generous with this fabulous garden over the years, and I wanted to thank all of you for your generosity! If you're ever downsizing your daylily gardens, or if you receive gift plants that you don't have room for, please keep donating to the display garden in mind. If you get in contact with me, we can work out the details of getting plants to NDSU. I have reasons to travel to the Twin Cities, to Grand Forks and to western North Dakota. We also have relatives in Iowa who travel this direction. Hopefully, in 2021 we will be able to have a Regional Meeting! You can access the current NDSU daylily cultivar list to see what we already have at <https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/plantsciences/research/gardens/daylily-cultivars>. It is updated yearly, usually in November. Or, if it is easier, just send me a list of what you have, and I will check for you.

In the growing season of 2020 we were able to add 115 daylilies to our collection! 22 historic daylilies were donated, 49 historic daylilies were purchased from Dan Bachman's sale at great prices.

Our Modern Daylily Display Garden was able to add 28 daylilies from donations, and 16 from purchases. We are very excited and grateful for these donations!

Guidelines for Establishing a Region One Hybridizer's Bed at NDSU's Historic Daylily Display Garden

Donors will pay all plant shipping expenses to send daylilies to NDSU. NDSU will not reimburse any shipping expenses.

NDSU staff will plant, label, and maintain all plants.

NDSU is a 501(c)(3) organization and will provide a written donor acknowledgment letter upon request if donors need it for income tax return documentation.

Hybridizers will include information for the label including plant name or seedling number, year of registration, hybridizer's name, and indicate whether the daylily is diploid or tetraploid. Please also include scape height for each daylily. Label format will be consistent with those currently used in the beds.

All plants will go into the circular bed directly south of the current Lenington All America Bed. Daylily scape height will determine plant placement.

NDSU will not be held liable for any damage to any plants.

When plants are divided, excess divisions will not be returned to the hybridizer.

NDSU cannot sell plants. The student-run Horticulture and Forestry Club conducts plant sales as a fundraiser and has sold daylilies from the collection in the past. Please provide written permission for the club to sell any divisions from plants. No excess divisions will be sold without the hybridizer's written permission.

NDSU retains the right to dissolve the bed at any time due to unforeseen circumstances. NDSU will contact hybridizers if this happens.

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

Before shipping plants,
please contact Barbara
Laschkewitsch at:
NDSU Dept. of Plant Sci-
ences
Loftsgard Hall 166
Fargo ND 58108
Phone: 701-231-7484

Shipping address to send
plants by USPS is:
Barbara Laschkewitsch
Department of Plant Scienc-

es
NDSU Dept. 7670
PO Box 6050
Fargo ND 58108-6050

Shipping address to send
plants by FedEx, UPS, or an-
other carrier service:
Barbara Laschkewitsch
NDSU Department of Plant
Sciences
Loftsgard Hall 166
Fargo ND 58102

Remembering gary Schaben: A Tribute from ADS Region One by Kathleen M. Lamb and Mary Baker

GARY SCHABEN, AWARD-WINNING DAYLILY HYBRIDIZER AND AMERICAN DAYLILY SOCIETY REGION ONE PUBLICITY DIRECTOR (RPD) FROM 2000-2004, PASSED AWAY THIS MORNING (9/15/2020) WHILE WATCHING THE SUNRISE SURROUNDED BY HIS FAMILY. THE ORIGINAL VERSION OF THIS UPDATED ARTICLE WAS FIRST PUBLISHED ON PAGES 66-72 IN THE SPRING 2007 ISSUE OF THE DAYLILY JOUR-



About gary Schaben: "I Was Born in a Little Log Cabin that I Helped My Father Build."

by
Kathleen M. Lamb and Mary Baker

gary told us he always envisioned

that an article written about him would begin with that sentence. It's the least we can do for gary, who inspires us and countless others to hybridize,

including his talented nephew John Becker, creator of the gorgeous Hemerocallis 'Tie Dyed Moon' (Becker/Schaben, tet, 2003).

gary's love of gardening began in his home town of La Crosse in central Kansas, which gary describes as a dry and dusty prairie. The lone shady oasis belonged to a neighbor couple who had emigrated from Germany along with their iris collection. While an eight-year-old boy, gary would watch John, a cobbler, work in his shed on leather shoes and harnesses. When John tired of gary, he told gary about the bear hiding in the basement. gary would quickly retreat to the adjacent house, where Pauline welcomed him with freshly baked cookies they enjoyed in her beautiful garden, where it always felt cool on the hottest of days.

After moving to Minnesota, gary's sister-in-law gave him some *Hemerocallis fulva* to plant in a wet area of the garden. gary liked its vigor and hardiness and then discovered that daylilies also came in yellow. In 1989, gary's mother-in-law told him that the gentleman from whom she rented pasture land, Marion Hagerstrom, grew and created daylilies in all sorts of colors. gary frequently visited Marion, and Marion gave him lots of seedlings to play with. Gary quickly became enamored with daylilies; as a result, gardening took on a whole new meaning. In addition to physically working in the dirt and designing artistic beds, he became hooked on creating his own daylilies. Sadly, gary's first promising seedlings bloomed the summer after Marion passed away.

Personal and Cultivar Awards

gary did quite a bit of hybridizing with daylilies before his involvement began with his local club, the Hemerocallis Society of Minnesota (now known as the Daylily Society of Minnesota or DSM), and the American Hemerocallis Society (also known as the American Daylily Society or ADS). It started when gary learned about a seminar at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum by Norm Baker, who owned

and operated a nearby daylily nursery. gary joined DSM and ADS, and he quickly became an active member of both societies.

Kathy Lamb met gary and his wife Rita through DSM, and Mary Baker met them while attending ADS regional events. gary served as ADS Region One Publicity Director, a position he held for five years from 2000-2004 while Mary was regional vice president (now known as regional President or RP) and Kathy was regional newsletter Editor.

Over the years, gary and Rita generously contributed many daylilies and extensive time to local and regional events. Rita served as ADS Region One Director from 2004-2006. gary and Rita received the ADS Region One Service Award in 2003 for their outstanding service and dedication to our region.

gary received the Honorable Mention award (HM) for H. 'Debbie's Vows' (tet, 2001), 'North Wind Dancer' (dip, 2001), and 'Remembering Joan' (tet, 2001) in 2004. gary was awarded an HM for 'Minnesota Morning' (tet, 2001) in 2005. In 2007, gary received HMs for 'Emma's Song' (Schaben/Rice, tet, 2003), 'North Wind Drifter' (dip, 2001), and "Paha Sapa 'Thundercloud' (tet, 2003. gary was awarded HMs for 'North Wind Billet Doux' (dip, 2005) and 'Paha Sapa Dreamcatcher' (tet, 2005) in 2008. In 2011, gary received HMs for 'Captain Jack' (tet, 2007), 'Hakuna Matata' (dip, 2007), and 'North Wind Curly Joe' (dip, 2006). 'North Wind Dancer' went on to receive the Award of Merit (AM) in 2007, the Lambert/Webster Award in 2007, and the Stout Silver Medal in 2011.

gary's introductions have also earned top ranking in the ADS Region One Popularity Poll, with 'Debbie's Vows' placing first in 2003, and 'North Wind Dancer' placing first in 2004 and 2005.

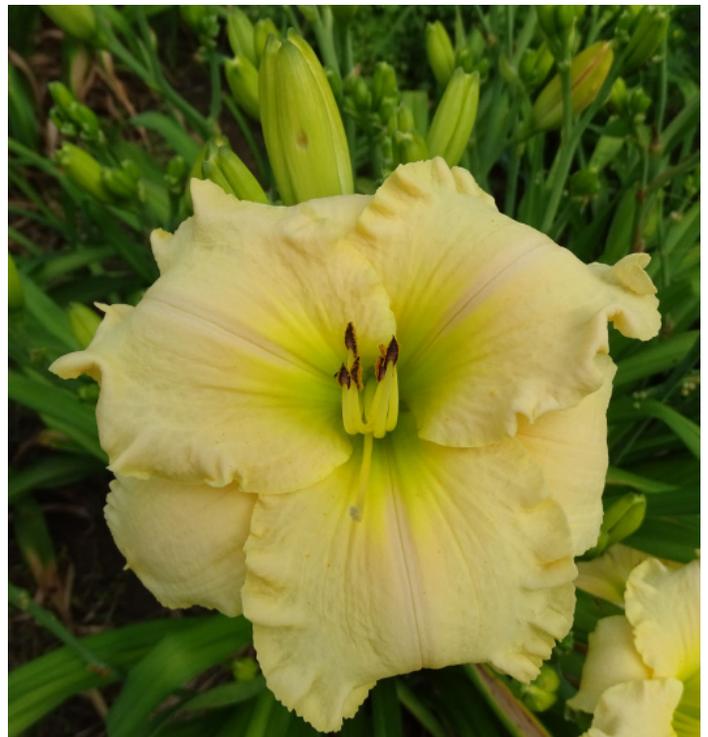
Hybridizing Goals

gary says he is always working on everything and enjoys exploiting unexpected characteristics that occur with various genetic combinations. He looks at daylilies from the bottom up, avoiding "to die for" blooms on plants that fail to thrive. His real passion is for vigorous, hardy cultivars with great

plant habit, excellent branching, healthy foliage, and overall plant proportion and balance. If all that is in place, he then looks at the blooms, selecting for clear color as well as excellent form and substance.

gary's favorite hybridizing direction is for complex patterns with fancy faces. His second love is working with spiders and unusual forms, which he admires for their gracefulness. Fancy, full-formed whites also intrigue him, and he works on these a little at a time.

gary has never worked toward yellows, but his white program has produced four outstanding yellows with large size, excellent form, and substantial green infusion. All four have different parentage. While visiting gary's garden, Mary fell in love with 'Metabelle Beth' (tet, 2005), which has a Marion Hagerstrom red seedling as a grandparent. 'Metabelle Beth', named for gary's granddaughter, is a pale cream buttermilk polychrome with a pink blush, shocking green throat, heavy substance, perfect form, well-branched scapes, and a bud count of 35-42.



Metabelle Beth. image credit to Mary Baker

Another outstanding cultivar in the yellow family is 'Lemon Shadows' (tet, 2006), with 6-inch bright

lemon yellow blooms and fringed edges. 'Our Friend Craig', named after the late Craig Stahl, is out of 'Concrete Blonde' X 'Just Another Yellow' and features flowers ranging between 6 and 7 inches with an intensely green infusion. When Mary first noticed that one, Rita asked, "Have a little yellow with your green?" Mary feels her late hybridizing mentor Oscie Whatley would be pleased with the incredible, perfect yellows gary has created in his quest for whites.

Full Formed Near Whites

We love 'Apostle of Hope' (tet, 2001), out of 'Admiral's Braid' X 'Angel's Smile', for its many green-throated gold-edged blooms presented beautifully on well-branched scapes. gary says the cornerstone in his white tetraploid hybridizing program is his lovely pale yellow sculpted seedling TOV, out of 'Just Another Yellow' and 'Great White'.

'Emma's Song' (Schaben/Rice, tet, 2003) is one of the most refined edge-no-eye cultivars we have ever seen. Fertile both ways, each graceful cream white flower becomes lavender at the edge with a clear green throat that complements the flower nicely. Mary used 'Emma's Song' in her hybridizing program, and it is the pollen parent of two of her 2013 registrations 'Megan's Smile' and 'Princess Molly'.

gary's outstanding tetraploid seedling T980-1, registered in 2007 as 'Pioneer Panache', is a creamy white polychrome as radiant as a pearl. 'Pioneer Panache' grew en masse in Kyle Billadeau's lovely 2007 ADS National Convention tour garden. 'Pioneer Panache' features 6-inch nicely rolled back blooms with tremendous green throats on vigorous plants. gary generously designated that all sales proceeds from 'Pioneer Panache', available for sale for the first time during the 2007 ADS National Convention, will go to ADS Region One—yet another demonstration of gary's continual support for our region.

Spiders and Unusual Forms

A significant parent in gary's diploid spider and



North Wind Dancer image credit to Rita Schaben

unusual forms hybridizing program is his outstanding award-winning cultivar 'North Wind Dancer'. A beautiful garden plant in its own right, 'North Wind Dancer' has produced spectacular seedlings for gary and many other hybridizers. 'North Wind Dancer', out of 'Lola Branham' and a seedling, is a bud builder that blooms over a long period of time, and it frequently passes this characteristic as well as its gracefulness to its kids.

We also love 'North Wind Drifter' (dip, 2001), a full sibling to 'North Wind Dancer' with a different look yet equally dramatic effect. 'North Wind Drifter' has ramrod straight 44-inch scapes featuring many beautiful well-spaced 8 1/2-inch bright lavender pink blooms that draw attention from afar.

'North Wind Billet Doux', named for Kyle Billadeau, is from ('Indian Giver' X 'North Wind Dancer'). Although its blooms are smaller, gary feels that 'North Wind Billet Doux' might be an even better parent than 'North Wind Dancer'. In gary's words, 'North Wind Billet Doux' would "grow on an ice cube." It begins blooming earlier and continues blooming longer than 'North Wind Dancer' in Mary's garden. gary describes it as a "gracefully ruffled violet lavender with pale lavender edge and patterned eye of gray, lavender and blue over chartreuse throat and green heart."



North Wind Billet Doux. image credit to Mary Baker

Other exciting daughters of 'North Wind Dancer' (with 'Susan Weber' as the pollen parent) include 'North Wind Curly Joe' (dip, 2006), a soft clear pastel pink becoming cream and then green in the throat on twisting, curling flowers over 8 inches in size, and its very different sibling 'North Wind Moe' (dip, 2006), featuring 7-inch-plus diameter pinched crispate flowers in screaming hot clear pink.

gary's 'North Wind Larry' (dip, 2006), out of ('Noel Weston' X 'Marked by Lydia'), is the third of "The Three Amigos" gary introduced in 2006. 'North Wind Larry' features ruffled yellow flowers with delicate beige overlays on multiple branched scapes that present the blooms well.

Complex Patterns on Fancy Faces

gary initially used his greenhouse to get something really dormant with dramatically patterned eyes. Out of (tetra 'Exotic Echo' X 'Flameburst'), he produced 'Surfing on the Styx', a 4-inch red with a variable smoky black eye pattern that changes with the weather. 'Surfing on the Styx' has five- to six-way branching and a high bud count. Its dormancy and hardiness are dominant, and it is incredibly fertile both ways. gary has crossed it with a variety of cultivars, beginning a line of patterned faces on ultra hardy plants.

From gary's 'Surfing on the Styx' line came the exquisite 'Ciara Marie' (tet, 2006) as well as a future registration. 'Ciara Marie', from ('Surfing on the Styx' X 'Magnificent Rainbow'), is named for the granddaughter of Karen Schock, an ADS Region One friend from North Dakota. 'Ciara Marie' produces many heavily diamond dusted violet lavender blooms with a patterned eye, small silver edge, and deep green throat on very well-branched scapes. Flowers are fertile both ways. gary's future registration out of ('Surfing on the Styx' X 'Tie Dyed Moon') features large flowers with an amazing eye pattern present on the sepals as well as the petals on vigorous, very dormant plants.

The work of Steve Moldovan inspired gary to cross his award-winning 'Debbie's Vows' with Steve's 'Mountain Majesty' to create the beautiful 'Paha Sapa Thundercloud', which consistently reblooms in Kathy's garden. gary feels that 'Paha Sapa Thundercloud' is the prettiest bi-tone he grows. 'Paha Sapa Thundercloud' is a rich purple with lavender sepals and a lovely, graceful form with an exotic broken eye pattern. It is fertile both ways, hardy, and very vigorous, and is yet another gary says "could grow on an ice cube." Curt Hanson grows 'Paha Sapa Thundercloud' in his garden and feels it is spectacular.

The cross 'Paha Sapa Thundercloud' X 'Gerda Brooker' produced the elegant 'Paha Sapa Dream Catcher' (tet, 2005). The triple-edged blooms, presented on well-branched scapes, tend to dramatically change color depending on weather and soil. Per gary's web site description, "I have seen this eye so blue it will take your breath away with lavender cream petals, and then I have seen it pink/peach with red violet edging and more of a purple eye; sure wish it would stay blue but that tends to come with cooler temperatures I think, or it could be that it just has an attitude." Whatever the color, it's always striking and is fertile both ways.

'Captain Jack' (out of 'Pioneer Panache' X 'Julie Newmar') features an incredible high contrast eye pattern, dramatic edges, and shark's teeth on a plant that has proven to be winter hardy in gary's zone 4a garden. Can daylilies get any fancier?



Captail Jack. image credit to Mary Baker

The Schabens' beautiful Gardens with a Northern Exposure was a featured tour garden during the 2007 ADS National Convention jointly hosted by DSM and ADS Region One, an open garden during the 2013 ADS National Convention hosted by DSM, and a tour garden during regional meetings hosted by DSM.

gary, thank you and Rita for all you have done for our region, for DSM, and the mentoring and inspiration you gave to so many daylily enthusiasts. You will be missed.

Contributions

A contribution at the Supporting Donor Level has been made by the General Fund by
The Nebraska Daylily Society
Scott Keller, Treasurer
5911 Robin Court
Lincoln, NE 68516-2365

The donation is in memory of Helen Langemeier

A donation at the Other Level has been made by
Shirley Racek
5708 N Street
Omaha, NE 68117-1748

These contributions have been submitted and listed in The Daylily Journal.

Newbie Corner

I may have the skills to put together a newsletter, but I'm still new to this daylily world. I'm including a newbie corner for people like me who are new to all the daylily terminology.

Ploidy

According to the American Daylily Society's website, "The number of sets of chromosomes within a cell or organism. Further referred to by the number of sets: one set is a haploid, two sets is a diploid, three sets is a triploid, four sets is a tetraploid, etc." (American Daylily Society, 2002)

So what does that mean as a daylily lover? If

you simply want to enjoy the beautiful flowers, it doesn't mean much. If you want to hybridize to make new flowers, the ploidy impacts whether two plants will breed together easily.

Want to learn more about hybridizing? The spring edition will have an informative article from Scott Keller with lots of hybridizing tips!

-Love, Sabrina

The American Daylily Society. (n.d.). The American Daylily Society. Retrieved October 14, 2020, from <https://www.daylilies.org>

How I Fell in Love With Daylilies by Micah Lewis

Verona I. Pearson was a lovely woman, my best friend and beloved Mother who loved gardening, growing flowers and animals. She was diagnosed multiple times with cancer, but was able to easily take treatments in stride until the chemotherapy treatment of summer, 2010. The summer of 2010 chemotherapy treatments challenged Verona's very will to live. My father, Roger L. Pearson, passionately sought out things that would motivate her to get out of bed, get dressed and walk. She loved to walk her gardens every morning and this was the one thing that kept her spirits up. During the months of July and August, the only flowers blooming in the family gardens were a handful of bright yellow, diamond-dusted gold, and sparkling apricot daylilies.

In an effort to encourage her to walk outdoors each day, dad diligently sought out more daylilies and found there was a wide variety. He began purchasing several different cultivars and he and I would assist her out of bed, help her with her dressing tasks, and slowly walk the garden each morning. In a few short weeks, Verona was able to successfully be rehabilitated and regained her prior level of function of health and purpose-driven life.

She eventually lost her fight against cancer when it returned again in 2011.

Dad found he had invested in several lovely solid colored daylilies and he and I had become infatuated with their blooms, each with different plant passions. Dad was drawn to the darkest black-purple blooms and I was drawn to the large, diamond-dusted beauties. In 2017, I made a commitment to clear a strip of overgrown Nebraska prairieland and begin another family daylily garden at my home in Blair, Nebraska. This enthusiastic commitment became a passion project with a zeal for daylilies that could meet the demanding environment of Nebraska's bitter winters, dry summers, and the cold wet spring and fall seasons to ensure superior performance even when neglected.

In July of 2020, this drought-tolerant performance

was put to the test when cancer once again struck our family. But this time, Roger found himself in a fight for his life. I, who had become a licensed occupational therapist, found myself rehabilitating him in my home in Blair, Nebraska. At the beginning of homecare therapy, dad was too weak and unsteady on his feet to safely leave the house. Each morning, I would walk the gardens and bring in a variety of different daylilies and place the blooms throughout the home to keep up his spirits and remind him of his goal to be able to return to his home and walk his gardens. And again, these plants seem to have an amazing healing power.

During the few weeks of rehabilitation, dad had an opportunity to see a lovely unnamed daylily that I hope to name after him, Roger L. Pearson. This will be my first introduction and I am quite excited about this plant. It is a cultivar that reminds me of



my Father. It's rugged, tough, resilient, sturdy, has great density, and it's deep, rich ruby-dusted purple burgundy red color reminds me of his heart. And over the last three years these blooms, just like dad's heart, seem to just keep get-

ting larger as the years go by. This family journey has been a blossoming dream which has become the answer to achieving a life-time of family healing, health, and has been a means to an end for a purpose-driven life.

Editor's note: I have known Micah Lewis for over twenty years. She's the one who took me to my first Nebraska Daylily Society meeting. She told me her whole daylily story not long ago. She touched my heart when she told me how the end of the blooming season feels like losing her mom again. The first bloom of the season brings her mom back. Do you have a story about how you fell in love with daylilies you're willing to share? Email me at regionleditor@gmail.com.

