

AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
REGION 6
Newsletter No. 4 - 1966

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HELLO AND FAREWELL DEAR FRIENDS:

After three years and mailing out some 7,200 newsletters consisting of around 108,000 pages, the time has come to bid you fond farewell. It has been an honor and pleasure to serve you as Regional Vice President for the past three years and the many daylily friends made during this period will be valued always. Not only do we have the largest membership of any region but it is my opinion that we have the friendliest and most enthusiastic membership. Let's keep it that way, folks. I would like to thank all of the friends - Region 6 members and subscribers from other Regions - who have written so many glowing letters about our Region 6 Newsletter. I love you all.

Well, the "season to be jolly" is finally over and I can sum up the whole bit very briefly - MORE FUN, MORE FOOD, MORE FAT. Now that calm and peace has again settled upon us, I am unable to think of an excuse for not getting out this very belated newsletter. My only excuse is that Fall is such a terribly busy time for me - digging orders, discarding and moving hems around, planting my daylily seeds, lining out last year's seeds, making new beds for new arrivals, and much more. Before I knew it, we were in the middle of December and I figured you would be too busy to do much reading. Daylily material is always so welcome during the cold winter months so my last newsletter may have a better reception at this time. It's the same theory as old BLANCE HOOKER looking good when it ushers in the season but isn't it a dog when it repeats its bloom when better varieties are blooming?

I know all of you hem folks must have gone into winter hibernation by now - just as I plan to do as soon as this newsletter is on its way. I received so many Christmas cards - with notes enclosed but some nice long hem letters would certainly pass away the time until next bloom season arrives. I agree us hard working hem folks need these few months of rest but let's not over do it. This is the time to plan for next season, plan what you want to add, and what you want to cross. Letters to and from friends can certainly help with any problems you may have.

It seems December is the social month of the year and we find ourselves in the midst of folks that know nothing about daylilies. They are nice but cannot compare with hem season and hem friends. I offer you another of my very corny poems to explain my feelings:

I DO NOT LIKE YOU VERY WELL,
THE REASON WHY I'M GLAD TO TELL.
IT'S NOT YOUR LOOKS, YOUR SMILE OR CRAZY WHIMS
BUT JUST THE FACT THAT YOU DO NOT LIKE HEMS.

To all hem members who grow hems just for their beauty, may 1967 be your very best season. To those who have the added pleasure of making their own beauty by spreading pollen, I would add - MAY THE GOOD LORD TAKE A LIKING TO YOUR SEEDLING PATCH IN 1967.

EDNA LANKART

DALLAS POPULARITY POLL

HEMEROCALLIS GROWERS OF DALLAS

Last October 6th your editor presented a program in Dallas. It is always a pleasure to meet with this club. There was a large crowd present and this time, I did not forget my slides. Everyone was busy exchanging plants before the meeting and this seems a good idea and lots of fun. You might try it in your club. Members of the club brought their list of top ten favorites which your editor brought home to tabulate. If you have never conducted a popularity poll, it would surprise you to know the wide selection of varieties. There were hundreds of varieties listed as favorites so not even the top favorites received many votes. These are the results of the poll:

Number	Daylily	Votes	Number	Daylily	Votes
1	JAKE RUSSELL	13	7	LITTLE STINKER	6
2	LUXURY LACE	9	8	BITSY	5
3	CARTWHEELS	7	9	CURLS	5
4	FRANCES FAY	7	10	MISS MINTY	5
5	BARON	6	11	PAPPY GATES	5
6	GAY GENELLE	6	12	SATIN GLASS	5

Those receiving 4 votes each were ASTRONAUT GLENN, BRIGHT DANCER, CATHY JANE FRINK, GRAND CANYON, EMPIRE, LAVENDER FLIGHT and MAY HALL.

HEMEROCALLIS GROWERS OF DALLAS held their annual Christmas party on the night of December 10th. Mrs. Elmore (Dora) Klenk was kind enough to have the party at her lovely home again. It was beautifully decorated, there was an exchange of gifts among over forty who were present and a delicious buffet meal was served. As you know, those Dallas folks really know how to do things in a big way. Of course, this had nothing to do with the fact that we had our first cold spell of the year on the same day. We had been having nice Spring weather up until then and all of a sudden it hit us with 22 degrees. That weather man sure knows how to hurt a person.

REGION 6 JUNIOR CITATION WINNERS

1966

Hughes Garden	Y 29	Waltermire	64-5CW
Hughes Garden	GERALDINE	Lucille Warner	MATTIE MAE BERRY
Edna Lankart	2-64 (BLUE VISION)	Melinda Warner	ZIPPETY
Norton	65-10-1	Williamson	RUTHIE
Mildred Schlumpf	SARALOU MERRELL	Greenwood	GELA HARKEY

If I have overlooked anyone, I am sorry as just the last name of the hybridizer is listed and no address given. I am sure all others are as proud to have won these Junior Citations as your editor is. May there be many more in the future so all of you Awards & Honors Judges get with it next bloom season.

IN MEMORIAM

Mrs. J. W. Perry - San Antonio, Texas

Always a quiet, kind and friendly person, Wilma Perry will be sadly missed in that lovely garden which she left October 8, 1966. Those of us who had the privilege of knowing her will thank God that He gave us the joy of her friendship, the opportunity to travel with her, and the happy remembrance of daylilies enjoyed together through many gardens and many years.

Mrs. Paul (Margaret) Kane

BULLETIN BOARD

REGION 6 MEETING FOR 1967 - This is the most important early date to remember. The BRAZOSPORT HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY will host the 1967 meeting at Lake Jackson and I must tell you right off - this is going to be a REALLY BIG DEAL.

May 26-27th is the date and since this is relatively early in the Region 6 bloom season, you may plan to attend this meeting and later go on to visit gardens in other areas of the state and then plan to attend the National Convention in Oklahoma City. Winter is the time to plan the trips you wish to make so do plan to start the season in the Brazosport area. They will certainly get the season off to the best start ever. In case you are unable to find BRAZOSPORT on the map - it is not a city, it is an area which surrounds the mouth of the Brazos River and includes three separate cities - FREEPORT, CLUTE, and LAKE JACKSON, located approximately 60 miles directly south of Houston. The Brazosport Hemerocallis Society draws its members, some 45 strong, from many miles in all directions. Since this area is noted as a resort spot, you may wish to come early and stay later and by all means bring the family. The beach is lovely and arrangements can be made with local pleasure boat firms for deep-sea fishing over the weekend, should there be enough interested. The cost would be from \$12.00 to \$15.00 per person for these chartered trips. A fishing trip like this is a real experience so bring your husband along even if he is not interested in hems. The early Spring newsletter will give more information as to how to make reservations for the fishing trip. You will have to advise them 4-6 weeks ahead of time in order to have boats chartered.

There will be more guest plants than in most regional meetings as their guest plant chairman has really worked hard for a number of years. There will be many of the best and latest seedlings on display here and this alone would be worth the trip. These have been well cared for and should make a real show. There will also be many creations from the Brazosport members.

ANOTHER ADDED ATTRACTION - There will be many very good varieties donated by members of Region 6 and also other Regions, as well as many good varieties purchased by the Brazosport group. The MAIN ATTRACTION will be a brand new variety from Mr. W. B. MacMillan of Abbeville, LA. This most impressive seedling will be registered as BRAZOSPORT. It is a child of VIOLA PARKER X CLARENCE SIMON and carries the size, shape, and coloring of its pod parent. The entire stock, except for several plants, has been purchased by the Brazosport group and several of these plants will be offered in their gift plant drawings. For either garden beauty or hybridizing, this is truly an outstanding daylily and well worth trying to win. (Sure hope your poor old editor is lucky enough to win one because I will certainly be in there trying.)

Editor's note: Do keep this date open as you will be missing a great meeting and a chance to visit with many other hem enthusiasts if you miss this one. So many have written me to the effect that they would not miss this one for anything so I feel sure it will be one of our very best meetings. Your editor is certainly all excited about it and can hardly wait for the time to get here. The group at Brazosport has planned and worked for three years to make this a most memorable meeting so let's show them we appreciate all their efforts by attending. MORE TO FOLLOW in the next newsletter.

* * * * *

The BRAZOSPORT HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY has a real Go Go President - namely F. W. Hall and I'm sure many of you have met him along the hem trails with his camera. The highlights of the Regional Meeting and National Convention and many gardens of collectors and hybridizers were viewed through the eyes of Mr. Hall's camera at their August meeting.

FROM A LETTER TO ALL RVPs AND DIRECTORS

from Bill Vaughn

Copies of the new BEGINNERS BULLETIN are now being sent to all new members who have joined the AHS since last January 1st. Garden clubs, etc. may purchase these for 10¢. Individuals wishing a copy may send 10¢ plus a 5¢ stamp for return postage. Order from Mrs. Arthur W. Parry - Signal Mountain, Tennessee 37377.

Editor Note: There are different methods of growing and caring for daylilies in the different areas of our society so instructions are given for, I believe, six sections of the U. S. Your editor wrote those for the Southwestern area but seems to have misplaced her copy at the present time.

DEADLINES for articles, material, ads, etc. for the national publications are as follows:

YEARBOOK.....	March 15	Summer Journal	July 1
Fall Journal	November 1	Winter Journal	February 1

Much material used in the Regional Newsletters could be re-used in the national publications. If you need an article from your newsletter and it is worthwhile and of national interest, send it on to the EDITOR - Mrs. Arthur W. Parry.

Mr. Vaughn goes on to say we should give a short description of the new hems we like. Just giving the name of a new hem is not enough as 90% of the people reading the article won't know the plant by name - much less the color, form, etc. A variety may be famous in your own Region, yet unknown to members of other regions.

BULLETIN BOARD

Your Editor (Edna Lankart) will have the pleasure of meeting with the GULF COAST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY at Nederland on March 9th. I will speak a little (Never know what about until I get up and start talking) and will also show some slides. I am really happy to be back among these grand folks SO...You'all come.

April 27th I will meet with the HOUSTON HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY for the same purpose as above. I can't imagine what they think I can tell them as there are so many advanced growers and hybridizers but like I said before - what I lack in knowledge I make up in sheer nerve. I will do my best to have an interesting program for both clubs so REMEMBER April 27th. It will certainly be a pleasure to see many old friends from that area again. If I am lucky there may be a few early hems blooming at that time.

REGION 6 MEETING FOR 1968

FLASH!!! THE LUFKIN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY of Lufkin, Texas, will host our Region 6 Meeting for 1968. I was so happy to have the invitation from Mrs. H. D. Johnson, who will be Chairman of the meeting.

Mrs. Truman Largent - Rt. 5, Box 325, Lufkin, Texas, will be Guest Plants Chairman and Co-Chairman of the Meeting. Anyone wishing to send guest plants for display should certainly get them to Mrs. Largent in March or early April. Mrs. Johnson would like to feature guest and gift plants from Region 6 members. Editor's Note: Mrs. Johnson, a list of commercial growers for Region 6 was included in the 1965 Fall Issue of our newsletter. If you do not have it, I will send you a copy.

This will be a new area for our meetings so let's do all we can to help them make a big success of the meeting.

THIS AND THAT FROM MERTIE VAUGHN'S SCRAPBOOK

Gulf Coast Hemerocallis Society

POPULARITY POLL: Members of AHS vote annually for the daylily variety which they consider the best for that year. Every member vote, cold and warm climate, is needed to give meaning and value to the poll. All registered and introduced varieties are eligible for the vote, but many of them are not worth a vote. That is why so many of them last only one or two years on the Poll. It is understandable that some variety may be highly popular in the North, but not in the South - and the other way around. Combined votes place varieties among the Select 100. A study of the Popularity Polls for the years 1959 to 1965 points up some interesting facts: (1) 30 varieties were on the Poll for 6 years, but 7 were dropped in 1965. (2) Only 11 varieties made it from 1959 until 1963. (3) 5 others making the Poll in 1959 lasted only 4 years, until 1962. (4) In 1960 another new 18 varieties made it each of 5 years but 2 lost out in 1965. (5) In 1961 15 newcomers stayed for 4 years, but lost 2 in 1965. (6) In 1962, 9 new varieties held on through 1964, but lost 2 in 1965. (7) 15 new ones entered the race in 1963-1964 and lost 3 in 1965. (8) All 15 that made it in 1964 also made it in 1965, (9) The year 1965 saw the entrance of 15 new varieties. Finally, it should be pointed out that the top winner, FRANCES FAY, received 426 votes while the 4 that tied for the bottom received only 40 votes each! About 60% of the varieties considered were dormant; 30% evergreen and about 10% semi-evergreen.

YELLOWING: CHLOROSIS causes foliage tips and edges to yellow but the veins remain dark green. Garden conditions that cause it are lack of sun; shortage of 3 essential elements and trace elements (nitrogen, phosphorus, potash and carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, magnesium, iron); excess soil acidity that keeps plant from using the iron; or excess water. A shortage of chlorophyll (green color) not only causes yellow foliage, but starvation of the plant because chlorophyll enters into the process whereby 85-95% of plant food is manufactured. Yellowing may show up on individual plants among others that are in perfect color. There are two kinds of chlorophyll, blue-green and yellow-green. Sometimes we think plants with yellow chlorophyll have chlorosis but they are all right. (TREATMENT: - (1) Dr. Hava says that not much Epsom Salts is needed, so he prefers to mix it with cottonseed meal or some other fertilizer. (2) A gardener throws 2 handfuls of Epsom Salts (magnesium sulphate) on the plant and waters it in, (3) Apply chelated iron to plants anytime of year. (4) Use combination of chelated mineral (trace) elements in case of mineral deficiency. (5) Dig the plant and dip in solution of permanganate of potash at rate of 1/2 tsp. to gallon of water to perk it up, (6) Dig a big handful of gypsum into the soil around the plant and water in thoroughly, (7) Treat with solution of potassium permanganate, 4 tsp. to gallon of water, by slowly pouring 1 quart to each plant. Make a trench around the plant to hold water, 75% effective. (8) Work in iron sulphate (copperas) around the plant. (9) Sprinkle powdered commercial sulphur around plant but not on foliage and water it in for needed acidity. Rainwater does the same thing, (10) Try Sequestrene, the green foliage stimulant, samples of which were given out at Dallas Convention.)

(DAYLILIES FROM SEED: - The current high cost of new introductions prompts many gardeners to produce their own new plants over a two-year period. It can be fun, but even the professionals do well to get 5 top varieties out of 2,000 seedlings! Amateurs should not load their best plants with seed pods and expect plant increase, also.)

MINIATURES AND DWARFS: Increased public interest in daylilies has led to production of new types. Considerable attention is centered on flower size and scape height - on dwarfs and miniatures with an array of large, medium or small flowers on low scapes. Neither the miniatures nor the dwarfs are new, but were found among the original wild species used by Dr. Stout in his early hybridization program. Most gardeners have long since composted the miniatures PRODIGY and MARTHA WASHINGTON because of their tall scapes, but enjoy PLAYBOY, LITTLE CHERUB, MATINEE, ALWAYS WIN, COCKLE SHELLS, and LADY INARA. Both dwarfs and miniatures now come in a wider color range and in bicolors and bitones thanks to Lenington, Williamson, Saxton, Fischer, Shilling, Dr. Hava, Dr. Kraus, and others. Actually 3 classes:

1. miniatures - 1 1/2" flowers - wiry scapes 20" or over
2. miniatures - 1 1/2" flowers - wiry scapes under 20"
3. dwarfs - medium to large flowers - heavier scapes under 20"

Miniatures need shorter, wiry scapes for plant balance. Dwarfs need heavier scapes to hold up larger flowers. Too few miniatures are low enough. Jack Romine and others feel that more dwarfs are obtained by using large flowered plants as pod parents and small ones as pollen parents. Overfeed this group and they grow tall, as do others.

INSECTS AND RELATED PESTS: So far none (unless rot) have caused great alarm or damage. Widespread sale and transfer of plants from state to state spreads some of them. Some suggested treatments: (a) For insects, spray with a good sudsy detergent, dishwasher strength, into the bud area or wherever damage is located. Powdered detergent can also be used. (b) Nematodes are prevented by porous, airy soil. Sugar dehydrates them and marigolds grown, or chopped and worked into soil may kill them. (c) Aphids can usually be controlled by rain or overhead watering. Grow garlic in beds or sprinkle garlic powder or Chlordane over and among plants in early spring. (d) For snails use Snail Bait; for sow-bugs and slugs use Sowbug Killer and Snail Bait. Fill shallow cookie sheet with 1/4" of beer and let slugs drown in it. (e) Good soil treatment for grub worms, wireworms, pill bugs, slugs and underground pests: water lightly with a solution made by dissolving 4 standard-sized moth balls per gallon of water. Pour around edges and between plants. Two or three treatments about 10 days apart should relieve the condition. Use Chlordane; - OrthoDieldrin. Spider mites (f) In winter spray other plants weekly with Malathion or every 2 weeks with Klethan. (g) Kill moles by placing castor bean seeds in runs. Seed cover is poisonous to them.

DOUBLE DAYLILIES are a popular novelty and always attract attention. They are still in the developmental stage but improvements are coming fast. Both Dr. Stout and Dr. Kraus made considerable headway with them before they died and their plants are being introduced by others. Presently Dr. Miles and others are busy with them. There are not many good ones yet, but all-around good varieties that have outstanding good qualities have finally been produced. Many people have never seen highly developed doubles - only freaks found in seedling beds. Not everyone knows that: Really good doubles look like double daffodils (2) They come in all colors, sizes, shapes, bloom habits, texture, height, etc. (3) Often the number of petaloids depends on temperature. (4) Many doubles have 12 or more petaloids, no stamens, no pistil, very little or no pollen, can't be bred and some resemble the old KWANSO. (5) Those with no pistil can't be pod parents. (6) Those without stamens have only a little pollen on the petaloid margins. (7) It is difficult to get enough plants or pollen for a breeding program since they bloom at different times. Specific objectives: scapes must be shorter and stronger to bear flower weight; bud count needs further improvement and type of doubling can stand more attention. Hose-in-hose is one flower inside another.

HUMUS is soil made from completely rotted compost and contains valuable plant foods. It improves both sandy and clay soils and is the only answer to dry powdery soil. Texas' Harris County Agricultural Agent says that humus changes and may disappear within a year, because heat in the Gulf Coast area tends to burn out organic growing plants. For new beds, add about 4" of humus (thoroughly rotted compost) over the top and work into soil. For old beds, work it into soil around plants.

REMEMBER that compost not fully rotted is not humus, and if added to soil around plants will heat as it decomposes as well as rob soil of nitrogen. If Cyanamid Granules were not added to compost pile, treat humus with it at least a month before using in order to kill weed seeds, etc. Or fumigate it for 72 hours with Methyl Bromide Gas canisters under plastic sheets to kill everything. Follow directions.

MULCH is simply a layer of organic material placed upon the soil's surface by Nature and by gardeners to protect plants that can't take undue summer heat or winter cold. It is hard to realize that full sun in New England has about the same bearing as almost complete shade in the

Southwest. ADVANTAGES: Lessens summer cultivation; during drought reduces evaporation and need for frequent watering; helps control disease; usually promotes better plant growth and bloom; keeps roots cool in summer and warm in winter; prevents erosion by wind and rain; keeps soil porous and absorptive; controls soil temperature to around 70 - 85 degrees for good bacteria activity; keeps garden paths from packing and muddying shoes; when decayed, adds humus to top of soil; prevents splashing plants with mud during rains or watering.

DISADVANTAGES: Fire hazard; shelters pill bugs; must be kept away from daylily crowns; grass clippings and sawdust rob soil of nitrogen; peat moss blows in wind; and must provide ventilation, if plastic is used. Choice of Material depends on personal preference regarding appearance, availability of the material, and price. Best mulches are organic in origin: plant waste; newspaper; low-growing ground cover plants; excelsior; pin straw; cottonseed hulls; sawdust, green or dry Spanish Moss; bagasse (sugar cane pulp); etc. Paper and plastic mulches add not a thing to soil, but control weeds, moisture and temperature. Mrs. Hardy says "Mulch by all means." She mulches the year round. Cover soil completely around and between plants, but keep from crowns. Sawdust Mulch Recipes: Mix 7 lb. nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia per 100 lb of 1-2 year-old sawdust. Or sprinkle lawn fertilizer or sulphate of ammonia on top of soil, then spread sawdust, using 2 lb. per 100 sq. ft. 1st year; 1 lb. - 2nd year; and 1 lb. 3rd year.

DAYLILY SURPRISES: (a) Branching may be marvelous on a plant one year and poor the next, or the other way around. Wide branching avoids bunching and crowding of flowers. (b) Some daylilies planted in spring or early summer will bloom the first year, but there is no guarantee that they will. They need a summer to root. (d) Some daylilies which bloom from early to late one year may not bloom at all the next year. (e) Some clones have good branching and bud count on young or recently divided plants, but few on 3-year clumps. Sometimes it works the other way around. (f) Branching can be overdone, for some super-branched varieties inter-tangle both bloom and scapes in big clumps (g) Modern daylilies pay off only when grown well, because they are bred for beauty instead of for old-fashioned hardiness and vigor.

FERTILIZERS furnish growth minerals that are taken up through roots or through stems and leaves of plants. Trace elements, generally too deep in the ground for roots to reach, are now added to some commercial fertilizers and are listed on the bag in addition to the 3 big elements expressed as 5-10-5, etc. Use of both organic and inorganic fertilizer is recommended. Too much commercial fertilizer will burn, stunt, or kill plants; is fast acting and adds no humus. Dry fertilizer remains unusable by plants until dissolved in water. Heavy rains or over watering may wash it down below the root's reach. Nitrogen produces stem and leaf growth and rich green color. When lacking, leaves yellow and the plant may be stunted. Use sparingly to prevent excessive foliage growth. Phosphorus is needed for cell growth, bright flowers and good seeds. Too little of it causes old leaves to spot with yellow and stems and leaves to tinge purple. It stimulates root growth and plant maturity. Potash is the potassium in wood ashes which makes for stronger and healthier plants, brightens color, increases disease resistance, and aids the plant's chemical processes by which chlorophyll (green color) is made. RECOMMENDED FERTILIZERS: Carl Pool's products, - Liquid Soil Sul; BR61 Plus Magic Green for foliage color and more bloom; Root Activator; and Superthrive. Have your dealer order from Magnolia Seed Co., in Dallas. Use Rapid-Gro and Take Hold when transplanting. Terra Tonic is a liquefied fish and seaweed for leaf and foliar feeding. Atlas Fish Emulsion is a liquid especially for forcing increase. ****AQUA HUMUS**, a new product developed by American Humates, Inc., Dallas, Texas, has been approved by commercial gardeners (vegetable) and home gardeners like it. It is available in 14 oz. plastic jars and 5 lb. bags, as well as in 20 lb. and 50 lb. bags. Garden stores will distribute it, and smaller size is sold by mail. It is different in that it combines the customary chemical fertilizer formula on a base of concentrated fulvic and humic acids. This base is leonardite, an organic ore something like coal, which is strip-mined in Wyoming. The base is coal black, odorless, and disperses in water. This offers a source of instant humus which gels and prevents nutrients from leaching out, prevents burns, and improves soil texture.

WISE WAYS TO USE FERTILIZER: Fertilize before mulching, thus providing nitrogen that mulch may take from soil. Chemical fertilizer should not be allowed to touch plants, especially the crowns. If the garden is fertilized heavily one year, use only 0-14-14 next year. Superphosphate or bone meal with 0-14-14 hardens off plants for cold. No nitrogen after bloom season discourages top growth and leaves plants better able to battle summer heat and drought and winter cold. If flowers grow and bloom well, don't ruin them with extra fertilizer.

COMPANION PLANTS FOR DAYLILIES: During the first and second years, fill in between daylilies with annuals and perennials with lavender blooms, gray foliage, and spiked flowers for contrast. Some afford shade for roots in summer. The same edging used on all beds and borders gives a feeling of unity. Take your choice of these or add others: allium; annual phlox; artemisia; ajuga (nematodes); biennials; Baptisia; bergamot (horse mint in several colors); blue ageratum; butterfly weed; blue platycodon; campanula; Chinese forget-me-not; English primrose; foxglove; glove thistle; hardy asters; herbs like garden sage and lavender; fever few; Love in a Mist (Nigella); Louisiana iris; lythrum; liriopse (chinch bugs); plumbago; petunias; perennial phlox; lupines (if you can grow them); larkspur; salvia (but not red); Shasta daisies; silver mound; seabiosa; stokesia; sedum altissimm; tansy in white or pink; tritinium; veronica; dwarf periwinkle (vinca); marigolds (for nematodes); garlic for aphids; portulaca. Don't forget that hollyhocks can be most attractive.

WHAT'S NEW AT LANKART GARDENS

As mentioned in the last newsletter, I planned to add more new varieties as soon as I could make up my mind to part with more money. It didn't take much talking to convince me, so many more new varieties were added in November. More of the lawn just had to go, as well as a number of huge Althea shrubs, a few Mimosa trees, some hedges and a number of roses. Each fall I thin out the jungle and do away with many things I was not happy with. Mimosa's are very pretty and give nice filtered shade but their roots seem to stay on top of the soil and take up the moisture and plant food from my daylilies. I am now adding Sunburst Locust in their place as their roots seem to go down and they are fast growing.

I am really proud of one of my new beds - you must all come and see this latest addition as this is where most of my new and latest daylily purchases are planted. Some are guests, some are gifts, but I came by most of them the hard way - via my bank account. Do let me tell you about some I moved into this bed from other spots in my yard and also the new ones I just couldn't live without.

Among the new 1966 J. C. winners you will find these:

BREATHLESS BEAUTY (Hall-Pittard) The real dark purple I flipped over at Jackson. I hope it is half as pretty here.

LAKESHORE and **SEA WARRIOR**, two more winners from Pittard but these were recommended highly to me and not seen in bloom.

PINK EMPEROR and **SWEET HALLIE**, two from Maxwell that I heard were really pretty but have not seen them bloom.

RUTHIRE, which was listed as **RUTH'S FANCY** but could not be cleared for this name. This is the cute, low, eyed pink from Lucille Williamson. In another bed you may see her lavender **REBECCA ROBERTS**.

LILA (Hyde) A 4 1/2 inch clear lavender-blue with a green throat, with grand branching. I can't imagine why his **MAIN EVENT** did not receive a J. C. as it was loaded with tags at the Shreveport meeting, You may see this lovely ruffled apricot peach overlaid pink and also **PRENTISS LEJAY** in my garden.

Those listed below were not J. C. winners this year but some have won awards earlier and are still top favorites - some are brand new.

DALLAS FAIR is one of the prettiest ruffled deep melons I have seen and DALLAS CHARM is a wide pastel pink melon that was one of the prettiest seen anywhere. Both are from Bertie Ferris. Her TOY FAIR, a cute small pink will also be seen here.

RENEE (Dill) Small pale yellow with extra wide ruffled edges that is on so many wish lists. It may be "related" to HORTENSIA (Branch) which also has very deep ruffling. My plant of this has been very slow to increase, which does not make me too happy.

RALPH HENRY and PEACH PINWHEEL are two very wide petaled varieties from Hall in melon and peachy melon. I was interested in these for petal width and did manage to get some crosses from them and then promptly lost all except a tiny division of RALPH HENRY. I know these are grand daylilies but suppose they did not like our miserable hot summer weather.

There has been much said about the deeper edged varieties from Mr. Hall and since most are pale pink with deeper pink ruffling, I hastened to add the following varieties - PINK LIGHTNING, STEP FORWARD, HAUNTING BEAUTY, HEAVENLY HANDWORK and BRIDAL SHOWER, Mr. Hall told me to line breed so I am following his suggestion and am using his line. Why should I work twenty years building up a line like this when I can just cross these beauties?

HONOR CADET a new near, white from Dr. Gore that will be introduced soon. I have not seen it bloom but if it is better than SHEPHERDS LIGHT it just has to be mighty good and if Dr. Gore introduces it, it is bound to be good. I plan to do some crossing with these near whites, also.

I moved some very good melons into the new bed and also bought a few more - even though I keep telling myself I have enough melons. Some that are exceptionally good to my way of thinking are ROCKY FORD, ANNIE WELCH, IRISH VAGABOND, KINGS GRANT. At present there is only one more melon I would like to add and that is Fay's KATHLEEN ELSIE RANDALL.

I'm sure many of you noticed the large clumps of MOONROCKET and a lower numbered ruffled chartreuse (Knower 62-92) both hybridized by Franklin H, Knower and grown in the Chapman Garden at Jackson. I had taken good slides of both clumps and decided I must have one of them and finally decided on the numbered one which has now been named MESA VERDE. It is from FULL REWARD and a ruffled seedling, I am also trying his BLACK PEARL, a deep miniature maroon on 16" scapes.

Munson creations I especially liked and acquired were the large recurved rose pink JIMMIE KILPATRICK, FOUNTAINHEAD a large rich pink to rose pink, and INCOMPARABLE a lovely round flesh pink. One I want to add now is Munson's IDA MUNSON an extremely large blend of cream, pale rose, pink lilac and orchid. This I must have.

The RVPs are lucky to receive all Regional Newsletters and in the last Region 12 (Florida) newsletter there was an article by R. W. Munson, Jr., giving a list of his favorites for 1966. I was very happy to notice that quite a few he listed as his favorites had been added to my garden recently. Now maybe I am becoming an expert at last.

Three new one's from that dear fellow Mr. MacMillan from Abbeville, LA - BETTY BENNETT BROWN a very pretty clear pink with green throat. SWEET GEORGIA BROWN, a very striking rich salmon pink and nice form. MARY PICOU is a large rose pink but I have not seen it bloom. Now if just had 23RD PSALM I would be happy. I do have PRAIRIE MAID (Marsh) which is also a pastel with a rosy eye but has more ruffling - I have about decided I like the latter the best as it is softer and was certainly one of the hits at Jackson. I hope it does as well in my garden.

CLARENCE SIMON (MacMillan) is a very good melon yellow of low compact growth. It was named in memory of his very good friend so am sure it will prove to be tops, I do not have PRESIDENT GILES but do have some seedlings that have it in their background. There will be lots of good MacMillan seedlings scattered here and there. Needless to say, I will cross them and hope to come

up with some real doozies.

RASPBERRY RAPTURE (Williamson) seems to be a larger and more improved RASPBERRY FRILLS - if that is possible , Both are a colorful bright raspberry rose with a bright deep red eyezone. They will be growing nearby so I will be able to compare them.

My three J. C. winners will be seen in this new bed the huge CREAM GIANT, my last year's winner FABULOUS FELLOW, which is a very large yellow and my 1966 winner listed as Lankart 2-64, which has been named BLUE VISION and is a low growing lavender blue. The slide of this one was well received at Jackson, Austin, and Shreveport as it is so near blue.

There will also be some of the very top red varieties growing in my new bed. From Claar there are these wonderful varieties - SAIL ON, FLEETA, BLAZING BEAUTY, BRILLIANT RED, LIBERTY. If I can convince myself I can afford RED SIREN, I will have quite a line of Claar reds to work with. BAYOU BEACON (Cockerham) is said to be a most outstanding velvety red with extra strong well branched scapes and nearby are more brilliant reds from Waltermire Gardens - VELVET GEM and HOLLY SUE. Two new ones from Florida are GATHERING STORM, a dark red from Fleishel that I have heard many good things about. Also, from Mrs. Fleishel is LANCELOT which she thinks is her best red. I admired a very pale yellow seedling at Jackson and was pleased to learn Mrs. Mederer had named it PURE MOONLIGHT, a very appropriate name. Nearby will be her JAMES MCGEE, a large salmon rose with a huge green throat. I just may cross this with Edith Sholar's PEARL NELSON which also has a huge green throat but coloring is more of a rose beige - I may add a bit of Wynn's PLUM LINE which is a deeper plum color but also has a very green throat. I may get something interesting here.

WINSOME LADY (Gates) was a sensation in the seedling bed and loaded with tags. This one is a clear true blush pink with a deep green throat. LAVENDER DRIFT (MAXWELL) is a pretty lavender pink. I moved all I had left of EMPERORS ROBE (Fay) to my new bed as it is still a top favorite and since writing the last letter, I have had some seedlings come up from it.

I regret to say that one of my top favorites also disliked our Texas weather here in my garden and several other Texas gardens - this is Fay's BEAUTY PAGEANT, a vibrant pink with large green throat and very heavy branching for our climate. I liked it so well I ordered another plant and after it got hot here, all died except for one tiny sprig. It is worth \$25.00 just to grow it as an annual if nothing else - most spectacular and won best scape in the Dallas show for Robert Miller. There has been some discussion about WHITE JADE being in its background as it is most temperamental down here. I did manage to use its pollen for quite a few crosses and set a few pods on it also so I hope to get one that looks like BEAUTY PAGEANT but likes Texas. I recommend this beauty very highly to cooler areas - you can't beat it for beauty.

I added SUMMER SPLENDOR (Bro. Charles) because it has very large size blooms, very wide petals, and has extremely heavy substance - and is apricot buff. Should be a good parent.

Two new additions I hope to cross are the fabulous WINNING WAYS and EMPIRE. The latter is a ruffled yellow of very good form and not as yet introduced. Both from Wilds. Maybe I will get a hundred dollar one from this cross. DAZZLER GOLD (Childs) was added for its huge beauty and in case I decide I must get with it and work on the tetraploids. Another gold I have heard is sensational is BROADWAY GOLD (Farris) - said to be a 10" bloom with petals 2 3/4 inches wide on a 17" scape. I doubt if it will reach that size here but it should be a whopper, anyhow. I should cross it with Moldovan's CRESCENT MOON which is an improved CARTWHEELS with wider segments deeper color and more ruffling. Can't beat that.

I moved HEAVENLY PROMISE (Terry) to the new bed as it is certainly tops with me. This very frilled recurved bloom proves all hems do not have to have wide petals to be outstanding.

It was my intention to plant all low growers in front of this bed and this includes some of my

numbered seedlings that were low and outstanding in the seedling beds. One can never tell how they will act when moved so if some turn out to be tall dogs, I just may do as I told Carl Sauer I would - place his name on the markers instead of mine. I did take a chance and moved the miniature lilac (Lankart 60-63) , the recurved miniature pink (Lankart 63-3A) and the small flowered round pink with a tiny penciled ruby eye (Lankart 600-63C) to the new bed. These are the ones so many liked at the slide shows. Another low growing small lavender is PITTARD LM64-I2 which I remember as a real doll. You will also find LITTLE RAINBOW that so many have already described, GREEN FLUTTER (Williamson) a small chartreuse that was a hit at the Dallas Regional Meeting, LAVALIER (Lambert) was added to this bed because it was liked by so many that saw it last season. It is a near white with heavily overlapped segments, green throat and wonderful branching. Should be good for hybridizing.

There will be many new and very good named varieties blooming in the yard and display beds, including some very good seedlings and guest plants from Miss Edna Spalding, C. G. Simon Nursery, Lucille Warner, Bertie Ferris, Pearl Hancock, Ernest B. Turner, Edith Sholar, Mrs. W. K. Carson, Ivy Barron, Lucille Williamson, Maggie Sheffield, Nedra West, Davis Hall, and many others. There will be many of my own seedlings and possibly a thousand other named varieties not mentioned in this article. If I have tempted you, do come by for a hem visit this season.

I may decide to add a few more sensational new ones if I can SWING IT. Among a few I must have that I can think of right now are IDA MUNSON, TWENTY THIRD PSALM, Y 29 from Huges' Garden - this was an exceptionally good yellow with grand branching, MOON VALLEY (Sholar), Marsh 61-10 a very pretty true pink, CHOICE CHILD (Simon) a low small lavender and just about on top of the list is ORIENTAL SPLENDOR (Stutson) - Hey Bill, just remember I am on top of the waiting list. I would like to cross this with my 600-63C. I am also on the waiting list for Miss Edna Spalding's two latest beauties - SUDIE a real beauty in pink and GLOBETROTTER a large rose pink. Both were most outstanding and must haves. These will be released by C. T. Tanner at Cheneyville, LA.

INCIDENTALLY, speaking of Miss Edna Spalding, Mr. Tanner wrote me some time back that she had broken her right arm. I hope it mends well so she can get out and spread that pollen in a few months. This may well be your best year so hope you are chipper as every again, Miss Edna No. 1 (I'm Miss Edna No. 2) and I'll write you about that "little deal" you mentioned in your last note as soon as I finish this newsletter.

I did not intend for this to be so lengthy but maybe this will give you EAGER BEAVERS, who can't wait for the new ones, something to look forward to during the cold winter months. To those who prefer the popular priced hems - just wait a few years and these will come down. There are so many beautiful daylilies priced at less than \$5.00 that were priced at \$25.00 just a few years back, so patience has its own reward.

TO HAVE A MIND AT PEACE
A HEART THAT CANNOT HARDEN
GO FIND A GATE THAT OPENS WIDE
UPON A LOVELY GARDEN

DID YOU KNOW?

If you have a very good daylily blooming and would like for others to see it later - place the bloom in the freezing compartment of your refrigerator. It will remain perfect until it is taken out of the cold - then it will melt. Hybridizers who had a real doozy blooming the day before take note and refrigerate them until visitors come by.

YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW

In my last newsletter I mentioned having trouble getting seed to germinate from EMPEROR'S ROBE. Later I did have some to come up and J. L. CRUSE, JR. from Woodville wrote that he soaked his seed for two days then took them out with the intention of planting them outside. Forgetting to plant them - that night he put them back in water, letting them stay two more days, In a week 50% of the seed came up and he expected 60 - 75% would germinate. He states, "I believe the main point is to soften up the outer shell of these seed.

ROBERT MILLER of Dallas advised that he had fairly good luck in getting them to germinate and also found the pollen of ANNIE WELCH to be highly fertile. It was not a good pod parent however as it set seed pods but dropped them after they were quite large. This was on a first year plant but the second year he harvested a few seed pods from it. Editor's Note: I believe the dormant varieties especially resent setting seed pods after the weather gets hot. If it is both very hot and dry, very few will set seed pods.

CORRECTION

On page 59 of our last Journal there is an article entitled "REGION 6 SUMMER MEETING" which lists me as the writer. I wish to advise that I did not write this article and would like to know who did so that they may receive credit for it. It mentions the members had presented me with a life membership and an AHS charm as a token of the esteem and affection this Region feels for me. You can see that some might think this a bit presumptuous coming from me. So speak up AUTHOR. It was a nice article so take credit for it.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

We are very proud to have one of our own members on this committee - MR. ROBERT W. SCHLUMPF, P. O. Box 36067, Houston, Texas 77036. Mr. Schlumpf has been working very hard trying to come up with answers to our daylily problems. With the help of both hemerocallis societies at Houston and Brazosport. Eighty members were supplied with questionnaires and from these, reports were received from 20 members. If you think you may have information on our problems and would like to help, I believe Mr. Schlumpf has extra copies of the questionnaire. This could be very beneficial in time if a good number of experienced growers would participate in this project.

Mr. Schlumpf would like to know if anyone has contacted our Texas State Department of Agriculture about the possibility of doing research on daylilies. If you have, please advise him. At present Dr. D. L Gill, Pathologist, Coastal Plains Experiment Station, Tipton, GA 31794, is one of the few who has offered to help. Mr. Schlumpf has obtained a few permits to mail diseased daylily plants to Dr. Gill. It is unlawful to mail them without a special permit, Dr. Gill mentions "actually a good number of the problems we have seen are due to or associated with nematodes." Instructions will be given later as to how you may pack and ship diseased plants for a diagnosis. Let's hope that one day we will come up with a cure for crown rot.

If you have an unusual daylily problem, I am sure Mr. Schlumpf would like to hear about it and also if you have found anything to be beneficial for daylily "ailments." There will be more on reports from Mr. Schlumpf in later newsletters. He is doing a grand job so let's all give him all the help we can.

TIPS FROM YOUR EDITOR

During the "summer rotting months" I continue to try new cures for this costly problem and while browsing through a seed store I noticed a product new to me. It is called PLANTATION NEMATODE & ROOT ROT CURE so I obtained a circular about it and was quite impressed. Most cases quoted were on fruit trees that no longer produced fruit and also vegetable plants such as tomatoes, okra, and others that are most susceptible to nematodes. This product is supposed to cure both nematodes and root rot and what appealed to me is the fact that it was safe to treat the plants as they are growing by making a saucer around each plant and watering it with a diluted solution of this product. It will not harm plants, trees, or shrubs but actually stimulates the growth of a new root system and brings back new growth within 2 to 3 weeks. Why not try this on your ailing plants this year. I was not able to do too much experimenting but as I remember I dug up several daylilies that were suffering from symptoms of root and crown rot. I trimmed off the effected parts and soaked them in a solution of this product for about six hours and one time overnight. They were allowed to dry out before replanting and I used a good bit of brick sand around the roots and crown. By doing this several were saved so I certainly plan to experiment more this season. By watching your plants carefully for the first signs of crown and root rot (a sickly stunted look with leaves or foliage turning yellow) they can be watered at once and I believe many can be saved. I will report more to you on this later. Incidentally, this product is manufactured by Plantation Garden Co., San Antonio, Texas. To me it has a strong smell of garlic and you may have heard that planting garlic between plants is a cure for many things.

MIRACLE MULCH - Have any of you tried this in place of regular peat moss or mixed it in the top several inches of your soil to serve as a mulch and to keep the soil from packing? This is made of finely shredded pine bark and seems to last much longer than peat moss. I would love to be able to afford enough of this to mix in my many beds as Mrs. T. Frank (Elizabeth) Davis mixed this in her new beds here at Waco and you have never seen such healthy flowers of all kinds. Even such hard things to grow here as roses and chrysanthemums were just out of this world in her new garden. We are so happy to have Elizabeth here in our club as she is a wonderful horticulturist and we learn much from her. Our gain is Shreveport's loss.

We have another exceptionally good grower here at Waco and this is Mrs. F. A. (Patty) Waldrop. If you attended the Regional Meeting here a few years back you will remember the lovely garden at the large two storied brick home. As well as I can find out, the secret to her green thumb is that every time she plants a new daylily she digs a huge hole and adds a large amount of well rotted cotton burs and sharp sand in the bottom of the hole. Her daylilies have tremendous root systems as they grow down into the burs and sand mixture. It stands to reason the roots can grow better, receive more moisture and plant food in this friable mixture than in hard pan soil. Remember friends - it is better to plant a quarter plant in a five dollar hole than it is to plant a five dollar plant in a quarter hole.

MULCHING DAYLILIES - About the only mulching I find helpful is the one mentioned above. If a mulch is placed directly on top of the soil here it will soon blow away, especially in March. Right now we are having a terrific south wind that would blow any mulch except a rock mulch clear into the next county. I do plan to buy more of the MIRACLE MULCH and shredded cane litter (if I can find it) and mix the two together to cut down on the expense. Before hot weather sets in I plan to mix this in the top several inches of soil. The mixture with soil helps hold it down

TIME FOR AHS DUES

RIGHT NOW is the time to pay your dues to AHS - our Region 6 is the largest now so let's at least keep it that way or even grow much larger. Do make it a rule to pay your dues right after January 1st and be sure you are listed in the yearbook. It is a hard habit to break so the other day as I was writing Lucille Warner, I started to send her my usual check for my dues when it occurred to me I AM NOW A LIFE MEMBER and will no longer have to pay dues - thanks to all of you wonderful folks. To those of you who have

subscribed only to our Regional Newsletters - how about joining our national, also? I promise you, you will. really enjoy the three journals and the yearbook - a real hem addict should not be with out them.

\$5.00 for individual membership
\$7.50 for family membership (2 persons)

Send dues to: Mrs. Jay E. Warner, Secretary, P. O. Box 18002, Dallas, Texas 75218

REGIONAL DUES

MR. MARTIN McMILLAN RVP - 6706 Lupton Drive, Dallas, Texas 75225, is our new RVP for 1967. You have been wonderful to me and I hope you will cooperate with Mr. McMillan as you have with me. Remember our newsletters are only as good as we make them so send in your \$1.00 to cover expenses of the regional newsletters to Mr. McMillan and do send in any news you may have that will be of interest to the whole region. As editor of this newsletter for three years, I can tell you that it is quite a job. There is a lot of work attached to it and you are never able to please all members at one time. I would suggest that you have a voice in this newsletter - just write and say what you would like. I might add this also - there are over 500 members in this Region and while not too many will send in news items, quite a few will write wanting information. With this large membership and high postage, this is an added cost the RVP must take care of. I would like to suggest if you need information, please enclose a five cent stamp to cover postage on reply. I am sure this will help our new RVP.

REQUESTS FOR GUEST PLANTS FOR REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR PLANT SALES AND PLANT DRAWINGS seem to be getting out of hand. Those dealers trying to make a living from the sale of daylilies are complaining. The Board voted to ask all to confine their requests to the dealers in their own region and only request plants from other regions for NATIONAL CONVENTIONS. This information should be passed on to each future guest plant chairman for regional meetings. Also they should be called REGIONAL MEETINGS and not CONVENTIONS. Your editor is only a small dealer but has received many requests for guest plants and free plants so I can imagine how many requests the large dealers receive. I certainly agree with the Board - it was time to call a halt.

INFORMATION ON CAUSES OF BRANCHING

John Boots - Region 12

Recently Mr. Boots typed a 300 page thesis for a student in agriculture - what it boiled down to is this:

- 1. Plants grown in humus branched MORE than plants grown in sand.
- 2. Plants grown in the sun branched MORE than those grown in shade.
- 3. Plants given extra nitrogen branched MORE than those grown in nitrogen deficient environment.

Editor's Note: Be careful with the amount of nitrogen you apply - and use only in early spring. In our hot climate a plant given too much nitrogen really suffers from heat and drought.

MRS. JACK FISHER - Austin, Texas - Thanks for all the kind words in your article on page 34 in the last Journal. Would you believe I have had quite a few write me about it -saying how nice it was and request back issues of our newsletters? How about that?

MRS PAULA (Margaret) KANE - San Antonio, Texas - TWENTY THIRD PSALM was perhaps the most outstanding daylily that I saw on my trips in 1966. I emphasize "I" because each of us see different things in different daylilies. It had impressed me everywhere I had seen it but in its home-grounds in MacMillan Garden it was marvelous, indeed. PEACH PINWHEEL (Hail) is a real beauty. The first year is probably not a good time to judge it but the blooms were exquisite and it bloomed over a long period on low stock scapes. One of my favorites, which I bought on the recommendation of a Robin friend, is ELEGANT MISS (Hail) and cost only \$2.00. It is a soft pink, simply beautiful and bloomed over a long period.

At HODGES GARDEN the daylilies were beautifully grown and mulched with pine needles. Many of the older varieties were very showy but many plants were mislabeled. VIOLETTE LACE, an interesting lavender was badly burnt by afternoon. LYNN HALL was not opening properly and HOOPER CONNELL did not live up to my recollection of it in Edna Lankart's garden - just a big yellow and the green did not come far out of the throat. Sometimes the sun bakes out the green but this garden was in much shade.

CONCERNING LATE AND REPEAT BLOOMERS - Your editor often hears of or reads about a variety that repeats four and five times a year and when I do, I go out and have a talk with mine as I never seem to have any that keep blooming like this and wonder why. If they bloom twice, I am happy and if they bloom three times, I am overjoyed. PAPPY GATES, EBONY PRINCE, ROSIE MEYER, CHRIS RITCHEY, RINGO, CHIPPER CHERRY, ROSEMONT, and LAVENDER BONANZA were some of the best repeat bloomers for me in 1966. I do know that it takes an established clump and sufficient moisture for repeat bloom. I am not interested too much in the so called late bloomers from other regions as they do not bloom late here - mostly in August and it is too hot to enjoy daylilies or have them bloom at their best. Our repeat bloomers bloom much later here - I still had blooms on a number of varieties in December but the blooms are not too attractive after it turns cold. ROSIE MEYER always blooms up until freezing time.

In bringing this newsletter to an end, I must apologize for being so late. I had hoped it would be on its way by January 1st. But my father was hospitalized with a heart condition on December 30th and the family was staying with him around the clock until we were able to locate three nurses to take over.

There is not much news from our members. As your Publicity Director, I will still need news for articles in our newsletters. I hope to see you along the hem trails this next season. I will close with a nice poem. I can't remember where I read it or the author but as you read it, you will be sure it is not one of my own.

* * * * *

Count your garden by the flowers - Never by the leaves that fall;
Count your days by golden hours - Don't remember clouds at all.
Count your nights by stars, not shadows - Count your life by smiles, not tears;
And with joy on your birthday - Count your age by friends, not years.