

MoKanOk Daylily, Spring 2009

Flint Hills Hemerocallis Society

By Ruby Zabel

Talk about saving the best for last! The program at presented by Chris Parsons, a local hybridizer and member of our FHDS group. Chris began his program by asking that we “be gentle” as this was his first program attempt from behind the projector. No need to worry! Chris wowed the group not only with his daylily creations, but with his photography skills. It wasn’t hard to see where his heart is headed—lots of crispates, spider variants, large blooms and green throats. Almost intoxicating!

Final action was taken to make several changes to our by-laws. One change would increase dues and another would increase our daylily drawing budget, effective immediately. By-law changes last year included eligibility requirements for club participation drawings and for the hybridizer program drawings. First and foremost, to be eligible for daylily drawings, FHDS members must also be a member of AHS. Club participation drawing qualifiers would include (at least two)-- hold FHDS office; act as chair or co-chair of a FHDS committee; organize and host a wash and tag session for the Farmers Market sale; donate or dig 20 double fans for the sale; work at the club sale; organize and host the pre-sale pot luck. Hybridizer program drawing qualifiers would include (at least one)-- hold a regional or national office; act as a regional or national committee member; attend a regional, national or winter gathering meeting; be an AHS Display Garden; write an article in the regional or national newsletter; give a daylily program to a club or civic group; vote in the AHS popularity poll; bring a new member into FHDS; volunteer two hours at the Bloom Show or Manhattan Garden Show; be an active garden or exhibition judge.

Steve Amy, 2009 Regional Meeting Chairman, solicited volunteer workers for the upcoming AHS Region 11 Meeting in Manhattan, July 3rd, 4th and 5th. He assured us there will be jobs for everyone! We hope to see you there!

MoKanOK Daylily, Summer 2009

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Independence Day in America is a tradition that has long included celebration, friends and fireworks and in Region 11 AHS this year it also included fantastic daylily gardens!

Manhattan's Flint Hills Daylily Society hosted the 2009 annual meeting and tour "Prairie Promenade", featuring seven tour gardens, each with their own unique "flower fireworks".

Rick and Irene Johnson wowed even fellow club members with their new Oriental Garden—a limestonelined pond embraced by a huge Catalpa tree. Literally thousands of daylilies scattered over several acres, birdhouses and rustic arbors, and rock pathways lured visitors in all directions. And the quaint little privy was over the top!

Steve and Jane Amy's Garden featured a huge bubbling rock, a unique new garden wall, a one-of-a-kind Wizard of Oz garden, and a gazillion gorgeous daylilies including several dozen John, Fay and Elizabeth Shooter cultivars.

Joe and Bernadette Schmidt's Garden portrayed well the Kansas prairie with its expansive grass ways, bermed garden island beautifully planted with grasses and roses, flowers everywhere, and an old-fashioned Kansas windmill.

Steve and Maureen Thien's Mateo Tipi Gardens, beautifully manicured "home of the (silver) bear", was delightful, with bears lurking everywhere and daylilies galore, including Steve's hybridized seedlings.

Pat and Fred Freeman's Garden beckoned visitors down and around and up again through the multi-level, well-manicured grounds with its beautiful daylilies.

Ann and Dave Redmon's Garden, embraced by surrounding cedar woods and native prairie plants, featured many new spider and unusual form daylilies as well as Region 11 hybridizer daylilies.

Frank Schmeidler and Ralph Diaz's Garden, once a small courtyard garden with many unique small trees and shrubs, a brick courtyard and fountains overlooked by giant Oriental and Trumpet lilies, now includes the neighbor's yard, and daylilies, daylilies, daylilies! everywhere.

We hope you were there to share our "Prairie Promenade" and the memorable "flower fireworks", that you enjoyed our Independence Day celebration as much as we did!

Report of the Prairie Promenade

Steve and Maureen Thien—Mateo Tipi Gardens By Robin Calderon

What would one expect to find in garden designed and maintained by a soil scientist? Perhaps plants grown in rows in a very precise and scientific manner- laboratory/greenhouse style? Not so at the Mateo Tipi Gardens of Steve & Maureen Thien in Manhattan. Their garden is very warm & welcoming, a perfect place for a relaxing stroll on a summer day. The name ‘Mateo Tipi’ derives from an Indian legend and means ‘home of the bear’. There are bears at every turn in this garden, luckily they are all friendly!



Maureen and Steve Thien

With just the perfect balance of sun for the daylilies and shade for the people, we could have spent much more time in this garden and still not see it all. Daylilies were grown to perfection and clearly labeled.



Seedling 57-A



Seedling 57-B

A huge clump of a seedling from ZADA MAE X SILOAM DOUBLE CLASSIC was loaded with buds. Unfortunately, it was in deep morning shade and had not opened completely in time for our earliest bus. I was tempted to return later in the day just to see this one!



Seedling 23-B

Plenty of the Thien’s own seedlings were nestled in the beds right alongside named varieties. There were several seedlings that were deserving of registration, including two from sdlg Purple Points X Cousin Jewell. One had an almost electric glow to it and the other reminded me of the K-State wild-cat logo with its black purple eye and striking white midribs.



There was sign in the garden that read “Speak to the earth and it will teach you”. Steve and Maureen have listened and learned well. Grandmother Earth is happy here.

Pat and Fred Freeman

By *Patti Waterman*

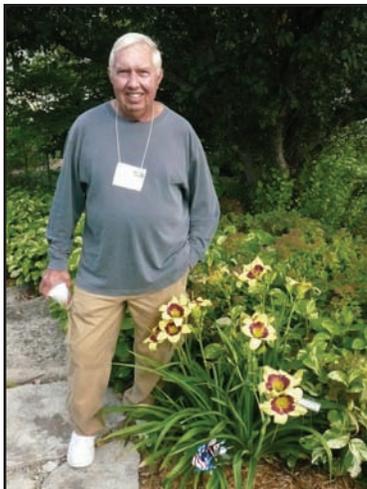
The delightful Freeman Garden was such a special treat in so many unexpected ways, from the daylily-draped entry to the grand view of the gardens as you rounded the side of the house.

A large sweep of coneflowers was a showstopper, as were the bright, bold displays of color by the daylilies. Only a few large stumps, crowned tastefully and colorfully by large potted floral displays, hinted at the destructive force of the tornado that brought great changes to this garden one year ago. While the changes must have been dramatic, they were quite transparent to first time visitors. Every flowerbed was beautifully designed, the daylilies were easy to view and identify, and were very well grown.



Fred & Pat Freeman

One special feature was the mixing of many wonderful older daylilies with newer varieties. Visitors were commenting over varieties they had not seen in years or not at all. One that caught my eye was H. 'Indian Pumpkin' (Wild 1983) with its bright color and dramatic eye, while not far away the wonderful 'Tongue Twister' (Tankesley-Clarke 2003) was showing off with two large blooms. Also notable among many gorgeous clumps was the outstanding 'Southern Patriot' (Faye Shooter 2003) guarding the top of the hill.



John with Faye's 'Southern Patriot'

The blending of daylilies with so many other beautiful plants designed to attract and nourish bees and beneficial insects as well as the colorful hummingbirds made this a very welcoming garden for all its visitors. The hospitality of the gardeners was evident at every turn.

Thank you Fred and Pat for sharing your treasure with us.



Patti Waterman

Another star in this garden, standing like a sentry, was their one remaining undamaged large tree; a stately English Oak. It truly made an elegant statement and focal point for a lovely garden.



Patti Waterman

Flowers taste good!



Ann and Dave Redmon

By *Michael Bouman*



Ann & Dave Redmon

Was it April or July? It was 66 degrees and partly cloudy when we got off the bus at the garden of Ann and Dave Redmon at 9 a.m. This would be a test of the cool-weather openers! Ann and Dave enjoy daylilies in the context of what seemed a “woodland landscaping” concept. The trees keep the property cool, and the shade requires a resourceful approach to plantings.

There is a wealth of plant material worked into a harmonious arrangement, and a distinctive collection of daylilies is integrated, not dominating the visitor’s experience. All the plants receive a passing “window” of sun during the day. In this “glade,” it was delightful to see the cooling effect of Munson’s classic lavender daylily, EGYPTIAN IBIS. I never tire of seeing it, though it has become rarer in our gardens where the owners strive to update their collections a bit every



Gray Witch



Brooklyn Van Hoozer
Future daylily fan

year. A cool color like this settles an entire field of vision when you’re viewing dozens of different plant specimens. It becomes a visual oasis.

In this cool temperature and shade, the brilliant color of Jeff Salter’s CIMMARON ROSE stood out like a beacon of beauty. No question of why he flagged that one. Visually, it is a magnet. It draws you into one of Ann’s islands of dappled shade where there’s a carpet effect of Purple Knockout Salvia that I mistook for the invader, Ajuga! Ann corrected me playfully, in Latin, “Salvia Lirata.”



Stack the Deck



Springfield Clan

The Redmons grow a nice sampling of spidery daylilies, with good showings of Margo Reed’s work, with the arresting colors of GRAY WITCH and BROWN WITCH contrasting powerfully with the gigantic red SPRINGFIELD CLAN of Jane Trimmer. Elizabeth Shooter’s STACK THE DECK looked exemplary at that hour even growing in partial shade.

The Schmeidler/Diaz Garden

By *Dan & Jo Ann White*



Frank Schmeidler and Ralph Diaz

One of our great loves is DAYLILIES but a close second is our love of visiting and touring others' gardens. We have been to gardens all across this great country of ours, but few have compared with the garden of Frank Schmeidler and Ralph Diaz. When our bus arrived, Ralph and Frank personally welcomed us to their garden. It was a nice touch that our bus was warmly greeted by the owners at all the gardens on the Flint Hills Daylily Society tour.

Frank and Ralph have a bungalow style home with stone terraces in the front. There is a small stone house next door and they have extended their landscaping talents to include that neighbor's yard. Every inch of their smaller urban garden is



loaded with charm, including a wooden gate opening to the neighbor's yard where they have placed about one-third of their five hundred or so daylilies. The stone pathway through the neighbor's yard was added just in time for the tour. The gardens blend beautifully and both were included on the tour.

Words are inadequate to describe this garden. The design, plant selection and placement are like a series of fine paintings. The plantings in the front yard extend all the way to the street. Stone terraces separating the two levels contain daylilies and other perennials interspersed with tall Asiatic lilies, grasses and evergreens providing a variety of heights, color and texture. We even spotted a clump of rhubarb among the plantings and it looked great. Pots overflowing with plantings lead up the stairs to a porch where a pair of wicker chairs and a small table flank the front door.



One side yard has an amazing statue of St. Francis and a Voodoo Lily in a very lush setting. The other side yard is also beautifully landscaped culminating in two benches flanking each other at the gated entrance to the neighbor's garden.



Both paths lead to a backyard that is truly stunning.

Asiatic lilies form the backdrop to a fountain in the center of the back yard that is surrounded by paths, walkways and statuary each accented by just the right tree, shrub or plant. There are several gargoyles, iron fencing and other classic elements.

Huge old trees mingle with specimen trees of all sizes and shapes. There are Japanese maples, weeping spruce, conifers, magnolias, dwarf ginkgo, tree peonies, hydrangeas, hostas, hellebores, coral bells, interesting ground covers and many lily varieties. Lily varieties include hundreds of daylilies, LA hybrids, Asiatic/Orientals, Longiforum/Orientals, Asiatics, Trumpets, Asiapets, Orienpets and Orientals. There was a remarkable clump of Kwanza Gold. A collection of bonsai is displayed on wide steps leading to the new addition at the back of the home. Large areas of glass make the addition the perfect spot to view the gardens year round. There are shaded areas as well as partial to



Greywoods Tally Ho

full sun beds. The back yard is composed of numerous sitting areas and garden rooms, perfectly arranged for entertaining small or large groups.

Thanks to Frank and Ralph for all the work and creativity they put into their garden and for sharing it with us.

Irene and Rick Johnson **Prairiewind Gardens - Olsburg** By *Julie Lea and Chris Parsons*



Rick & Irene Johnson with Tom Hulbert

If you believe the Kansas prairie can't be turned into a paradise, you need to visit Rick and Irene Johnson in Olsburg.

Rick and Irene began working on their labor of love more than 30 years ago, and it is a beautiful sight for lovers of daylilies, trees, perennials and shrubs. The sweat equity they have invested would be worth a fortune if you could quantify it, but the results are sweeter by far than mere money.

The beds are artfully arranged throughout the yard, and each is bordered with native limestone. Specimen rocks are intermingled with specimen plants. A love of art, and a sense of humor are also evident, in a subtle, tasteful way.

The new Oriental Garden with two connecting ponds is so perfectly sited and finished

that it seems to have sprung from the earth. Rick and Irene, along with friend Tom Hulbert, have combined their creativity with engineering know-how to form this oasis. Rick's skill with cedar tree poles, seen throughout the yard in trellises and fences, was especially apparent in the beautiful entrance to the new area.



Julie Lea & Chris Parsons

With more than 1,000 well-grown cultivars, it's almost impossible to choose a "bloom of the day." But, Dennis Mitchell's "Kayla's Song" was especially beautiful, as were several of John Shooter's cultivars, including "Bubble Yummin' Mama."



Julie Lea & Chris Parsons



Kayla's Song

Irene and Rick have created a garden that is thoughtful, tasteful, occasionally whimsical, and always in harmony with the setting. Isn't that what we all strive for?

Thank you, Rick and Irene, for sharing your labor of love.



Julie Lea & Chris Parsons

The Garden of Bernie and Joe Schmidt

By *Kathy Krattli*



Bernie & Joe Schmidt

Joe and Bernie Schmidt have turned their piece of cow pasture into a beautifully designed masterpiece. The first acre, where their house is, was landscaped first. After that was completed, they soon felt the need to expand their garden into the second acre. Their 300 or so daylilies were accented with other perennials, and with shrubs and evergreens put in just the right places. A tall windmill sits at one end of the garden looking out over it all.

Besides daylilies, the Schmidt garden includes a vegetable garden and an orchard with apple, peach, pear, and apricot trees. Also included are grape vines and blueberry bushes.

An attractive vine-covered trellis was placed at one end of



Kathy Krattli

one of the daylily beds and provided shade for a garden bench. I hope that Bernie and Joe had a chance to sit down on that bench, relax and enjoy the view, after this event was over. I'm sure they didn't have much time beforehand.



Kathy Krattli

The "Oscie Whatley Memorial" seedling bed was hosted by the Schmidts. You could tell that all ten plants had been given lots of tender loving care as they all looked very healthy. Unfortunately all of them were not in bloom, but there were more blooming than in last year's garden. Dan White, a member of the Greater St. Louis Daylily Society, won the award this year for his beautiful burgundy unusual form seedling.



Seedling K01 Jerry Mix

Seedling B09 Dan White



Andrea Weaver

Seedling G04 Dave Niswonger



Seedling F05 Bob & Kelly Riggs



Seedling I02 Kathy Krattli



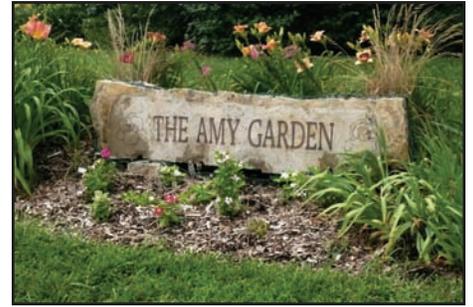
Jane and Steve Amy – The Amy Garden – Wamego

By Andrea Weaver



Steve & Jane Amy

It was a dark and stormy night.... Isn't that how a good novel starts? Well, that is what happened on Friday night, but it sure didn't dampen our spirits the next morning as we started touring gardens. Nor had it bothered the daylilies, as they were in fine form that day. It was a pleasant, overcast morning, perfect for daylily-watching.



The Amy garden was in full bloom as we arrived at their home in Wamego. The front yard was beckoning me to come take a closer look. Rasmussen's H. KING'S GOLDEN TREASURE and H. TIGER SWIRL were two that first caught my attention. John Shooter's GRANDPA'S WHISKERS was looking marvelous, with a double purple edge, trimmed in gold.



As I wandered to the back, there was a wonderful shade garden, with over 100 varieties of hostas and two water features. After passing under a quaint sign which read "I'm a Hemaholic" (which I think we all can relate to), there was a large open area, filled with a variety of daylilies and other perennials. There were wonderful pastel displays of H. BIRD BATH PINK, H. WEBSTER'S PINK WONDER and Elizabeth Shooter's H. LILY MUNSTER. Jane has a "OZ" themed bed, filled with daylilies such as H. DOROTHY AND TOTO, H. MAGIC OF OZ, and H. SCARECROW.



Webster's Pink Wonder

They also had a beautifully arranged bed full of Region 11 hybridizer's plants. QUEST FOR BRILLIANCE was visible from clear across the garden, Michael Bouman's H. PEPPERMINT WIND has several flowers open that day, and there were several nice specimens of TOPGUNS plants from Bob Scott.

Steve and Jane also have some marvelous metal wind sculptures to accent the daylilies.



The Amy garden hosted the Garden Judges II clinic that afternoon, and was a splendid garden to carefully examine the daylilies in. A delightful relaxing time was had by all visitors that day!



Tiger Swirl