

The CVIDS Newsletter

Please note the time change for our next meeting on page 5!

Jackie and Jean's Excellent Adventure

March 2002

by Jackie Westhoff and Jean Hecht

One fine day last June, the 5th to be exact, Jackie and Jean took off very early in the morning, bound for Charlotte, North Carolina. Flights were uneventful, and we arrived at the appointed time. We immediately headed south, since we had been advised that it was a bit too early for the Gardens in this area. The plan was for six days of daylily touring. We had made our itinerary based on retail nurseries, display gardens and people we've met on the Internet and at the Mid-Winter Symposium in Chattanooga. We would also make a side trip to visit a cyber-friend of Jean's, who has a beautiful garden in South Carolina, although very few daylilies. We found a motel in Blythewood, SC and made arrangements to head to Jim and Peg Jeffcoat's Singing Oaks Garden the next morning.

We were up bright and early the next morning for the short drive to Jeffcoat's. The main display beds were near Peg and Jim's home, on the inside perimeter of a fenced area, with a gazebo surrounded by beds. Jean took note of some newly planted introductions of Jamie Gosard's, and we wished they were closer to blooming. Across the road, visitors were treated to the longest continuous beds of daylilies you can imagine, lined out plants that kept going and going and going



She who dies with the most daylilies, wins.

along a curved path. Cultivars which were in bloom included DESTINED TO SEE (Grace), ANTIQUE FRINGE (Sellers), LAVENDER HANDLEBARS (Ned Roberts), BRYANT MILLIKAN MEMORIAL (Millikan-Kercheval), ETCHED IN ORANGE (Jack Carpenter), OXYMORON (Gates), FEEDING FRENZY (Gates), and MAGIC OF OZ (Heather Herrington).

Next was the backyard garden of Dan and Jackie Lovett in Camden, South Carolina. With a beautiful brick wall along the driveway as a backdrop, the blooms of FRILLY BLISS (Jan Joiner) caught our eye. The Lovett's focus is on hybridizing and they offer seeds for sale each season.

Never being known to go in a straight line we backtracked to Lugoff and headed for the garden of

Memory Jordan. Memory has a wonderful garden to browse and to add to your wish list. Some that we liked are: LOBO LUCY (Ned Roberts), LEONA ESTHER (Jack Carpenter), MAMA'S CHERRY PIE, (Shooter), YANKEE TRADITION (Santa Lucia), LAVENDER BLUE BABY (Jack Carpenter), COSMIC RAY (Webster), and CRANBERRY EYED PICOTEE (Bomar).

It was late afternoon by the this time, but since it had been sort of hazy and cloudy all day we decided to head to Sassafras Garden anyway. Floyd Boatwright has sandier soil, and due to lack of rain for many months, his plants were somewhat small. However, Jackie had ordered from him earlier in the spring and his selection and reasonable prices made up for the temporarily diminished size. From there we drove to Florence, South Carolina, and spent the night.

Day three saw us heading to Georgetown, SC. The first stop was at Roycroft's. What a great set up they have. Lots of shade cloth over the potted hems, plus beautiful display beds close by. The plants in the pots are huge. Familiar varieties are grown here like we never see them in Iowa. Among *(Adventure continued on page 2)*

(Adventure, continued from page 1) them: BENCHMARK (Munson), JOSEPHINE MARINA (Jack Carpenter), and STRUTTER'S BALL (Moldovan). We were both really taken by the introductions of Wyatt LaFever. Among our favorites were FORSYTH VIVACIOUS, FORSYTH FLAMINGO and FORSYTH GARRETT MASON. We also were impressed with BELLE ISLE LIPSTICK (Roycroft) and EXQUISITELY SUBVERSIVE (Hanson). There is also a nice lounge area here with restrooms and a photo gallery.

We went back into Georgetown to try and figure out where to head next. Little did we know that we had been only a couple of miles from Penny Royal Daylily Farm while we were at Roycroft's. I guessed a few more miles on the rental car wouldn't matter. Bob Glenn is hybridizing for those heavy gold edges that makes Jean shudder. He was an interesting man, though, and his granddaughter Katie was so very proud of her namesake intro, KATIE MY LOVE.

That afternoon we also visited By the Lake Daylilies, the lovely backyard garden of Verna Smith. She's a very pleasant lady who seemed thrilled to have people come and visit her garden. For that matter, that was the response we received in most gardens. People were sort of amazed that we had come all that way to see the daylilies of the Carolinas. Verna insisted that we each take home a plant from her small area of plants that she has lined out for sale. Jean was thrilled to bring home a fan of Reckamp's TECHNYS SPIDER. Both of us wish we could

remember the name of the huge pink Joiner doubles growing in one of her beds! That night we stayed in Georgetown. It seems that we brought the rains with us from Iowa, and the moisture made all of the locals quite happy. We were used to rain as it had been a wet spring back home, but we didn't count on knee deep water in the streets on a walk back to the hotel from downtown. After a change of clothes we got back in the car and managed to find an excellent seafood restaurant on the river.

Browns Ferry Gardens, also in Georgetown, was our stop for the next morning. We happened to hit their annual open house weekend. What a deal. Burgers, salads, iced tea, (of course it was 'sweet'-- after all, this is the south) and desserts. They had large pots of daylilies ready to go, along with many other potted perennials. They also had lovely display beds. All the daylilies were stunningly well grown; their secret is the use of Nutracote. MOSES FIRE (Joiner), BEAUTIFUL MELODY (Joiner), TIE AND TAILS (Moldovan) and TECHNYS SPIDER (Reckamp) were looking good. We were also treated to a peek at some of Charles Douglas's selected seedlings. June 1st and 2nd are the dates for the open house for 2002, where they promise "plenty of bloom, food, and cold drinks".

Having never been to Myrtle Beach, and being so darn close, this seemed to be the perfect time to stop for a brief visit. Now, I don't know if we were in the "low rent" end of Myrtle Beach, or if

the entire place is sort of stuck in a time-warp. The hotels looked like they were out of the 60's, and hundreds of very young people were "scooping the loop" all night long. There was a noticeable lack of restaurants and bars—just hotels and kids! We walked barefoot along the beach, took a break from daylilies and enjoyed watching all those kids coming and going.

Bright and early the next morning, we were up and on our way to Marietta Gardens, just over the border into North Carolina. What a huge place—acres of daylilies. We saw PERSIAN RUBY (Trimmer), SIGNED IN RED (Sellers), BIG SUR (Stamile), PURPLE PINWHEEL (Kennedy), and PARTY PINAFORE (Kirby). John Shooter took us on a golf cart tour of some fabulous selected spidery seedlings of his daughter, Elizabeth's. We are not fond of viewing loads of seedlings, as it is oftentimes a frustrating experience to see a flower you can't live without and know you will have to, at least in the short term. Hopefully, these flowers were far enough through the process of potential introduction so we will recognize them soon in their catalog. It would be very easy to spend an entire day at Marietta, but we had other gardens to see, so...

Back to South Carolina, and on to Lancaster, where we visited Creekside Daylily Gardens, owned by Bob Richardson. There was some major renovation of beds going on here in preparation for the 2003 national convention which will be

(Adventure, continued on page 3)

held in the area. Lots of older spiders are to be seen here: DIABOL-QUE (Lambert), HARBOR BLUE (Lake), and FLUTTERBYE (Childs). We also admired a more recent introduction of Bill Reinke, BRADLEY BERNARD, an unusual form.

Next stop was another garden in Lancaster, the private garden of Dan Robinson. This garden is a must see, at least for those who are interested in plants other than just daylilies. Meandering paths cover two acres, planted with shrubs, daylilies, and other perennials. It was stunning! Many years of careful attention have gone into creating this very beautiful place. A favorite bed featured all white flowering plants: HEAVEN ALL DAY (Jack Carpenter), SNOW BRIDE (Gates), and CHARLESTON SNOW (Kennedy) for daylilies, plus salvias, daisies, a magnolia, Easter lily, gypsophila, peonies, and Siberian iris. Farther into the trees, a wonderful array of shade loving plants greets you without the predominance of hostas.

Many of you know of the purchasing frenzy which overtook us on our 1999 trip to Florida...an empty suitcase on the plane going down became a suitcase stuffed with daylilies on the way home (note from Jean: this was Jackie's buying frenzy, all my purchases fit into my small carry-on.) Vowing not to repeat this madness, we traveled without an extra suitcase. We did well for the first couple of days, but then resolve began to weaken. No problem. A call back to Memory Jordan, and our box of huge double fans was waiting when we arrived home. Making room for our other

purchases to take on the plane was quite a trick, so GO AHEAD, take the empty suitcase.

Our last day of touring found us in Rock Hill, South Carolina at the home of Becky Adams. Becky is a true southern hostess. "Would you like something to drink?" she asked. Next thing you know there was soda, juice, champagne, rolls and cookies, all out on the deck. One of Becky's children was to be married in the garden later on that month, then the entire garden would be dismantled since they were moving to a new home. What a shame to leave such a beautiful setting. Cultivars we saw here included FANCY FACE (Jack Carpenter), LORD OF RINGS (Moldovan) and OKLAHOMA KICKING BIRD (Marley). Becky then took us to the site of their as yet unbuilt new home. There she has an established whimsical garden, known as 'The Ghetto'. Becky has bought every bit of southern yard art that she has been able to get her hands on, including everything from pink flamingos, a rusted out car, and rusty bedsprings (used as an arbor). There was even an old cabin with a rocker on the front porch surrounded by painted tires with plastic flowers.

We had planned to also visit Iron Gate Gardens on this day, but hadn't read the catalog close enough before we left. Turns out they weren't open on that day of the week. It was our first disappointment of the trip.

We both agreed that this trip was more enjoyable than the one we took to Florida. Less gardens with a focus on hybridizing meant fewer seedlings, and less frustration at not being able to buy those beauties. As always, we found daylily people to be

friendly and very hospitable. Many growers had a good ratio of dormant plants for us northern enthusiasts. We saw lots of beautiful Salter daylilies and wished we had better information on what might thrive in the Midwest.

Region 1 Popularity Poll

Region 1

(Iowa, Manitoba, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota)

Rank		Votes
1	STRAWBERRY CANDY	35
2	BARBARA MITCHELL	26
3	SILOAM DOUBLE CLASSIC	23
4	JANICE BROWN	21
5	CHANCE ENCOUNTER	18
	CUSTARD CANDY	18

AWARDS & HONORS-2001

Stout Silver Medal

The highest honor bestowed on a cultivar by AHS for distinction, beauty, and performance over a wide geographic area.

IDA'S MAGIC (Munson-I.88)...88

Runner's up: **JAN'S TWISTER** (Joiner-F. 91)-50; **DRAGONS EYE** (Salter-E.H. 91)-44; **WINEBERRY CANDY** (Stamile 90)-36; **SUSAN WEBER** (Branch 89)-32

Lenington All-American Award

The winner must have been registered for at least ten years and give an outstanding performance in the different regions. Selected by the AHS Board of Directors.

MING PORCELAIN (Kirchhoff-D. 81)

(From *The Daylily Journal*, Vol. 57, No. 1—Spring 2002)

CVIDS Meeting Minutes, February 16th, 2002

Betty Miller called the meeting to order and took roll by asking people to name their favorite double daylily. Eighteen members and one guest were present.

Frances Ater then showed slides of his gardens and seedlings. In his southern location he can overwinter gladiolus and cannas if they are well mulched. At one point he and his wife had over 1500 named daylilies, 50 hostas, 40 ornamental grasses and 60-70 irises. He showed us seedlings of some of the types of daylilies he is interested in developing. One type he is working with is large flowers, and he has bred a spider with a 14 inch wingspan (the width if you unfurl the petals fully). He is also working on developing double spiders, variegated foliage, and streaked daylilies. He stressed that you do not need to purchase the most modern introductions to breed interesting plants and that old daylilies such as KINDLY LIGHT, JEAN, ZELLA VIRGINIA and OPEN HEARTH can be used to make interesting new flowers. He recommended that if you are interested in hybridizing you should get a mentor who can help answer your questions.

Betty started the business meeting with old business. Gerald sent in the \$50 we voted to go to the Joe House Scientific Fund at the last meeting. Jean announced that she had ordered \$500 in club plants from both Iron Gate and Covered Bridge daylilies. Both of these firms insist they do not have rust. She asked that the shipment arrive the week of the spring sale (which will be on May 5th). Sylvia had talked to Susan Anderson at Vander Veer Park in Davenport about our selling other plants than daylilies and iris, as the other clubs were doing so. Susan said we could bring herbs and that she will know more after the next Vander Veer

board meeting. Marilyn Little's idea of buying our plants as a club and then immediately auctioning them off instead of growing them on for two years was discussed. This way we would not need to worry that in two years the plants would be lost to members who drop out of the club. The issue of the plants depreciating in value would also be eliminated. Marilyn mentioned that if the plants we purchase do grow well for us we could voluntarily donate them to a later sale. Jean suggested we could try selling half the order we will be getting in this spring as a trial experiment. The club voted by a show of hands to try auctioning off a part of our spring shipment right away this spring. The auction committee will meet and try to iron out the details of how we would proceed to do this. Also under old business we discussed if we want to use club moneys to buy door prizes that will be drawn for at each meeting. It was decided that presently we don't need this inducement to attend.

Under New Business, we decided that we would handle the plants for the spring sale the same as we did the fall sale; namely, that the folks with rust in their gardens not donate daylilies, but instead other plants such as irises.

At the March meeting we will decide whether and when to hold an April meeting and/or auction meeting.

Joy Adams asks that members who have any extra gardening catalogs this year to donate them to the Riverside Gardens library.

Gerald has been working on lining things up for the 2003 regional we are hosting. He has reserved the Day's Inn at Fort Madison for July 11th and 12th. We have the banquet room for *(Meeting minutes continued on page 5)*

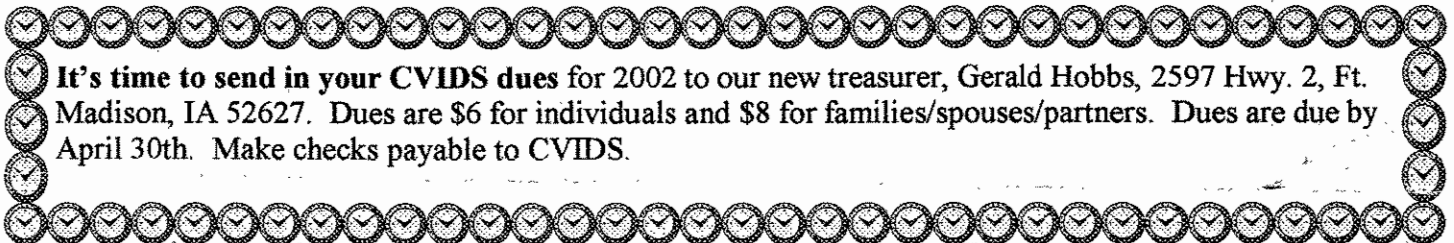
(Meeting minutes continued from page 4)

Friday and Saturday nights and he has arranged for 35-40 hotel rooms to be available at \$55 per night. He went over a tentative schedule of events for Friday and Saturday. On Friday from 4:30 to 7 p.m. we would have a registration desk, plant sale table, social hour and slide show. On Saturday morning the buses would leave at 7:45 a.m., due to return at 4 p.m. Breakfast would be available at the gardens and lunch would be in Keokuk. On Saturday at 5:30 p.m. we hold the social hour, at 6:30 p.m. the banquet, at 7:30 p.m. Ted Petit would speak and at 8:15-10 p.m. would be the auction. On Sunday gardens would be open in the area for touring.

Upcoming Events:

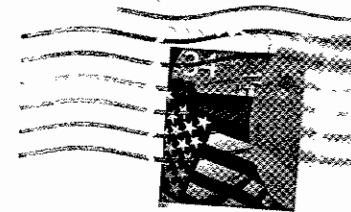
March CVIDS Meeting, Sunday, March 10th, 1:30 p.m., (note the time change!) North Liberty Community Center. Lynn Stoll will speak and show slides about the National Conventions she has attended.

Dwarf Conifer Symposium, Monday, March 11th, Scheman Building, Ames, Iowa. Topics will be *The Dwarf Conifer Story and Recommended Species for Iowa* by Justin 'Chub' Harper, *Uses of Dwarf Conifers in the Landscape* by Glenn Herold, and *Conifer Companions* by Gary Whittenbaugh. . Cost is \$30. Registration runs from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The symposium runs from 12:30 to 5 p.m. For more details see www.lifelearner.iastate.edu and click on "non credit programs" then "March 2002", or call Janet Gardner at (515)294-5366. Please pre-register by March 4th. You may register by fax by calling (515)294-6223.



It's time to send in your CVIDS dues for 2002 to our new treasurer, Gerald Hobbs, 2597 Hwy. 2, Ft. Madison, IA 52627. Dues are \$6 for individuals and \$8 for families/spouses/partners. Dues are due by April 30th. Make checks payable to CVIDS.

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