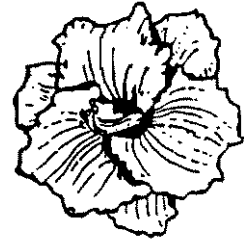




Cedar Valley Iris & Daylily Society



May, 1996

MINUTES OF MARCH 16 CVIDS MEETING

by Jean Hecht, Secretary

The spring meeting of CVIDS was held on March 16 at the home of Jean Hecht with approximately 20 people in attendance. A welcome was given by Barry Stoll, with a short introduction by each member.

Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was discussed by Lynn (see p. 3). The current balance in the treasury was less than this time last year, but a \$500.00 donation has been given to Riverside Gardens, and the club daylilies have been selected and purchased already this year. The silent auction has been a success; in 1993 the club purchased \$525 worth of daylilies, and made \$506 back on these plants in 1995. The August sale was better advertised, and more profitable, but we still had lots of leftover daylilies. They are lined out at Betty Miller's, Donna Helgens', and Stolls' for the 1996 sale. Sale of 50-year AHS books were completed. All books have now been sold.

New Business and 1996 Activities

Brochures were distributed for the Japanese Iris Convention and Garden Tour, while will be held in St. Louis from June 13-15. The May meeting will be held at Walnut Hill Gardens on May 25. Brats, burgers, buns, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Also, bring tableware and silverware. The 1998 auction plants will be distributed to members who have been active in club activities for over a year.

The group discussed spring sale options. It was agreed that we should have a spring sale, but there was not time to get things done this year. Morrison Park in Coralville was discussed as a possible site. Jean will check to see if this would be possible for next year. The club will hold its annual public plant sale and potluck in Monticello on August 24 (fourth Saturday of the month). Publicity will be handled by: Jackie for the Monticello area, Lela for Cedar Rapids, Jean for Iowa City and Coralville, Betty for Fairfield, and Gerald for Ft. Madison. Nice plants that members want to donate should probably go into the auction, not the sale, as the general public doesn't want to buy expensive plants.

The CVIDS summer garden tour and banquet will be July 27. Sarah Sikes will be coming to tour with us and speak at the banquet that evening at the IMU. The McDowell, Hadrava, Stoll, and Adams gardens will be on the tour. Members of other area groups have expressed an interest in attending. After discussion, it was decided they would be allowed to attend with an additional charge of \$10.00 per person. The group discussed whether to rent vans or possibly even a bus, but it was decided to wait to make this decision until we had an approximate number of attendees.

CVIDS will host the AIS Region 21 convention May 31-June 1, 1997. IMU will be the headquarters. A planning committee was established, consisting of Joy, Jackie, and the Stolls. Others are welcome to join in. CVIDS has been approached to host a National Siberian Iris Convention in 1999 or 2000. Hybridizers would provide the plants if we can provide the garden space. They usually send 600-800 plants. Registration is limited to 200 people. It was decided we would extend an offer to host the convention.

New officers were elected: Barry Stoll, president; Gerald Hobbs, vice-president; Jean Hecht, secretary; Lynn Stoll, treasurer and newsletter editor. Lynn made a request for items for the newsletter.

Jean told the club that Pat and Grace Stamile's daughter had recently been killed in an automobile accident. It was suggested that a memorial in her name be sent to AHS. Fred suggested \$50.00. This was passed. As soon as Pat and Grace decide how they want to establish a memorial, the funds will be sent.

Lynn then showed slides of club daylilies and highlights from the last two national conventions.

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

May 25: Spring CVIDS Meeting and Potluck at Stolls. Many new Siberian and species iris should be at peak bloom, along with bearded iris and companion plants. Brats, burgers, buns, and beverages will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Also, bring tableware and silverware. (See below for directions to Stolls.)

June 1-2: AIS Region 21 Convention, Omaha, NE. Everyone is welcome; you don't have to be an AIS member to attend. For information, contact Sally Bergei, President, Greater Omaha Iris Society, 9042 Jones St., Omaha, NE 68114 (402-397-6381).

June 13-15: National Japanese Iris Convention and Tour, St. Louis, MO. \$85 registration includes bus tours, two dinners and a lunch, slide show, Japanese iris show, Ikebana demonstration, and auction. For further information, call Annabelle Wiseman (314-327-8018) or Don Delmez (314-724-4274).

June 14-16: National Siberian and Species Iris Convention, Westford, MA. For information contact Marty Schafer, Registrar, M.A.S.S. MEDLEY, 337 Acton St., MA 01741. 1-508-371-0173.

July 12-14: Midwest Regional Hosta Convention, Davenport, IA. For information, call Convention Chairman Gene Boyd (319-355-8847 Evenings).

July 12-14: AHS Region 1 Convention: An opportunity to tour some nice gardens and enjoy fellowship with other daylily lovers. As with the AIS regional convention listed above, all daylily lovers are welcome; you don't have to be an AHS member. For information, contact Gerda Miller, 2769 Adams-Taylor St., Lenox, IA 50851. 515-333-4388.

July 18-20: AHS National Convention: Denver, CO. Details can be found in the most recent issue of *The Daylily Journal*. Plan now to attend; daylilies on display which thrive in Colorado are also likely to grow successfully in Iowa (not always true for conventions in the Deep South!). For more information contact Warren Wiekhorst, Registrar, 2385 N. Academy Blvd. #244, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909. Tel. 719-596-7724.

July 25: CVIDS Club Tour and Dinner. We are honored and excited to have Sarah Sikes as our guest and speaker. Details will be provided in the next newsletter.

Aug. 24: CVIDS Annual Plant Sale: Riverside Gardens, Monticello, IA. Plan now to set aside some plants to contribute to our main public fund-raising activity, and join us for a pleasant potluck picnic in the gazebo in this beautiful setting!

Note: If you have dates and other information about other 1996 plant society meetings, sales, etc., please send the information to the Editor so that it can be included in the Calendar of Events in the next Newsletter.

Directions to Stolls: From I-80 Exit 265 (Atalissa), go south 1/4 mile, then turn right (west) on 310th St. Go 1.0 mile on 310th St., then turn right at Johnson (into lane marked "Private Property"). Extra parking in field in front of house.

CVIDS TREASURER'S REPORT -- 3/16/96

Lynn Stoll, Treasurer

BALANCE, 3/25/95		\$1,916.00
INCOME		\$2,200.86
Dues	\$ 174.00	
Auction of Club Plants (\$506 daylilies, \$55 Siberians)	560.58	
Sale	1306.10	
Interest on Savings	35.18	
AHS books	125.00	
EXPENDITURES		\$3,109.24
1995 Daylily Purchases (Rollingwood Garden [Salter])	\$ 410.00	
1995 Siberian Iris Purchases	308.00	
Return slides to Salters	8.50	
4 Newsletters	182.97	
AHS 50th Anniversary Books (carton of 10)	249.50	
Advertising for Monticello sale	129.95	
Donation to Riverside Gardens Building Fund	500.00	
Banquet	47.32	
AIS Membership for Gerald Hobbs	12.50	
1996 Daylily Purchases	1260.50	
Cordon Bleu	329.00	
Iron Gate Gardens	262.00	
Floyd Cove (Stamiles)	344.50	
Jack Carpenter	325.00	
BALANCE, MARCH 16, 1996		\$1,007.62

SPALDING DAYLILIES FOR REGION ONE GARDENS

by Frederick P. W. McDowell and Lynn Stoll

Region One members who attend AHS national conventions in the South find much satisfaction and stimulus in seeing the beauty of hundreds of Spalding daylilies in the convention gardens. These cultivars are notable for their consistently fine form, usually with generous ruffling, and for their vibrant and clear colors. Most of them are in the sixteen to twenty inch range for height, and as a result, many have clusters of terminal buds with minimal branching. However, the overall beauty of the flowers justifies the inclusion of some of them in our gardens. Alas, almost all of them are evergreen, and many of them are tender in our Northern gardens. For these reasons, many Northern gardeners have become wary of trying any Spalding cultivars. This is unfortunate, because some of these Southern beauties are vigorous and hardy in Region One, and give considerable pleasure to growers who take the trouble to discover the hardy ones.

Neither of us has been a consistent collector of Spalding daylilies, but we have grown a fair number of them over the years, and have noted some that have proven to be vigorous and

hardy performers for us, as well as others that have been problematical in Region One. We can recommend the Spalding cultivars cited here with confidence, and we hope that Region One gardeners will give some of them a try. They are by now in the five to fifteen dollar range, so there is not too much outlay involved. All are evergreen in foliage habit, unless we indicate otherwise.

Perhaps the most beautiful of the Spalding daylilies are the pinks, which range from very pale cream pinks to deep rose. Three of the best known are **JOLYENE NICHOLE**, **LULLABY BABY**, and **YESTERDAY MEMORIES**. **JOLYENE NICHOLE** (1984) is one of the rare Spalding daylilies registered as Dormant. The gorgeous ruffled rose pink flower was a popular contender for the Stout Medal in 1995. For the large, perfectly formed round flower, we both think that the scapes should be taller. But oh, what a seductive shade of pink, with its slight lavender infusion! (It's registered at 14", so it's definitely a front-of-the-border plant. But many garden visitors comment that the flower is so beautiful that they don't care about the height.) **LULLABY BABY** (1975) is probably the most popular Spalding daylily with Lynn's garden visitors. It's a beautifully sculptured 3 1/2" ruffled pale pink with a green throat. AHS judges have recognized it with an Award of Merit and the Annie T. Giles award for small-flowered daylilies. Registered at 19", it grows about 26" here, with outstanding branching and bud count. To Lynn's eye, the proportion would be better if the scapes grew at the height it is registered; but even so, it's a gorgeous clump with many open blooms, and is a favorite in both of our gardens. **YESTERDAY MEMORIES** (1976) is a very beautiful deep pink which won the President's Cup at two national conventions. It's also very popular with garden visitors. Our only reservation is that it resents being disturbed, and is often not very good the season after being lifted.

Other fine Spalding pinks have performed well in our gardens. **SENT FROM HEAVEN** (1976) is an early-blooming cream with a light pink blush, sometimes also including a bit of a yellow infusion. It's been attractive and dependable in both of our gardens. The famous **HOMEWARD BOUND** (1976), an outsize light pink with hints of yellow, does well for both Fred and Lynn; Fred says that it needs to be established to perform at its best. It has been extensively used in hybridizers' programs, in both its diploid and converted forms. **REGINA RACHELLE** (1985), introduced by Guillory, is a peach pink that has performed well for Fred. Then there is **SUDIE** (1966), a long-time favorite of Fred's and of his garden visitors. It is absolutely hardy, and it is a delightful shade of pale pink, taller than many of the Spalding cultivars with a good bud count and always a predictable, first-rate performer. On the darker side of the pink spectrum, one of the most vigorous Spalding cultivars in Fred's garden is **SIMPLE GUY** (semievergreen, 1977). Here we have a dashing, bright rose pink that approaches a cherry red, and calls attention to itself especially in a clump at the front of the border. (Fred observes in passing that he has never seen a red Spalding cultivar, and there may in fact be none.) Another cultivar that has impressed Fred is **WILL RETURN** (1983), a lavender with a nicely blended purple eyezone, a most refreshing daylily. It's grown well for Lynn, also. Finally, there is the highly regarded **PRISCILLA'S RAINBOW** (1985, introduced by Guillory) which has done well for Fred, though it does not like to be disturbed and is best when well established. It is an entrancing cream to light lavender with a rainbow-like lavender-to-purple center zone. It was one of the stellar performers at the Philadelphia national convention in 1990, and Fred decided then and there to give it a try. Our opinion is divided on **PINK CIRCLE** (1981), a nice medium pink with a darker eyezone, which has performed well for Fred but not for Lynn.

There are some notable yellow, orange, and cream-colored Spalding daylilies in our gardens. There is the often spectacular **WINGS OF CHANCE** (1985), which is a favorite of both Fred and Lynn for its beauty and distinctiveness. This Award of Merit winner was for Fred a deserving candidate for last year's Stout Medal. **WINGS OF CHANCE** is a clear yellow with a brilliant red, banded eyezone, taller than most Spaldings, a well-proportioned plant with an impressive bud count. Our only caveat about this cultivar is that, while it's a good grower, it does not multiply rapidly, and nurseries regularly sell out of it quickly. **JOLLY LAD** (1980) is one of Lynn's favorites among the Spalding daylilies in her garden. This is partly because of its

beautiful buff apricot flower with a soft orange halo, but also because it's often the earliest large-flowered daylily to bloom in the garden. Lynn has recommended it in previous articles on season-extenders; it would be beautiful even in midseason, but in early June it's especially welcome. Lynn has grown it since 1986 and it's shown no hint of tenderness in either of our gardens, so we feel very confident in recommending it.

Equally distinctive is **PUMPKIN KID** (1987), the name suggestive of its light to medium orange flower with its red eye giving it an air of brashness. **BRILLIANT FORECAST** (1984), a yellow with a greenish cast, forms a nice clump quickly in Fred's garden. **LOYAL HAND** (1977) is a well formed, large-flowered, nicely ruffled yellow cultivar, still of considerable distinction. Fred likes the large-flowered **FAMA** (1988), a cream with a violet and green sheen. While it is a beauty, it is strongly evergreen, and Fred has not grown it long enough to recommend it unconditionally. However, it did survive the rigorous 1995-96 winter, so is probably hardy. **RUFFLED ORIGINAL** (1984) is another Spalding cultivar on which our opinion is divided. It's a beautifully formed, ruffled light yellow; the blooms consistently open well, and the bud count approaches 30. The flowers are displayed well, and it rapidly forms a beautiful clump. It has proven itself totally hardy and vigorous in Lynn's garden over a period of several years. However, it has less satisfactory in Fred's garden, so we cannot recommend it without this qualification.

Two other Spalding cultivars that have proven to be dependable and vigorous in Lynn's garden are **PURPLE ROMANCE** and **LACY BONNET**, both introduced in 1981. **PURPLE ROMANCE** (1981) is a wonderful rich purple with a darker halo and green throat that attracts the attention of many garden visitors. It's grown from a single fan into a large clump in 5 years, and has never shown any sign of tenderness. The proportion is good, and the individual blooms are well displayed in a clump. **LACY BONNET** (1981) is a pretty ruffled ivory white with a green throat. It's a vigorous grower which forms a well-proportioned clump, with each blossom well displayed.

This may be the place to pass on our experience with some of the Spalding cultivars that for one reason or another we have not found satisfactory. Some of these, regretfully, are among the most famous members of the Spalding pantheon. **MARTHA ADAMS** and **ROSE SWAN** are surpassingly beautiful, but are not dependable in this climate even with mulching. This same comment applies to **BLUE HAPPINESS**, which lacks vigor for us even though it's registered as semievergreen. **EARLY APRIL**, **POPSEY BILL**, **YELLOW FEVER**, and **GREEN PUFF**, while good growers, are yellow daylilies that have been superseded by more recent creations in this color class; the same judgment applies to the pink cultivars **JOYFUL OCCASION** and **SADIE LOU**. Spalding cultivars which have failed to thrive in either of our gardens include **JOHN BIEMAN**, **ELLES**, **JEROME**, **PINK SOUFFLE**, **ROSELLA SHERIDAN**, **AGAPE LOVE**, **ATTRIBUTE**, **JOHN CARLO**, and **GRACEFUL EYE**, to mention some that we recall. Some of these are grown successfully by Gerald Hobbs, at the extreme southeastern tip of Region One, so if you can provide them with a gentler microclimate than most of the region has (or perhaps a more reliable heavy snow cover in winter), they might reward you with good performance. All are quite beautiful, and would be well worth growing in the right environment. Gerald also lists **ELSIE SPALDING**, **ETERNAL BLESSINGS**, and **STARRY SKIES**, which apparently do well for him.

Although neither of us is actively trying to build a collection of Spalding cultivars for the North, each of us has recently noted a few promising cultivars which we think are worth evaluating for their performance in Region One. One of these is **LAVENDER TONIC** (1983). Visitors to the Oakes garden at the Knoxville Convention were greeted by a large mass planting of **LAVENDER TONIC** as they entered the garden. The broad sea of ruffled lavender flowers, each one perfectly formed, almost took one's breath away. Visitors who were looking for only the very newest were reminded that an "older" daylily can also be very beautiful indeed. (Many of us also took note of how striking such a mass planting can be in landscaping!) Others are **PEACH HORIZON** (1984), which Patricia Steinborn says is very vigorous in Missouri; **PEAR ORNAMENT**,

which Fred has seen growing quite well in Missouri; DOORBELL SOUNDING, a dormant; and KELLY'S GIRL (1983) and KIMBERLY SUE (1991). The latter two cultivars impressed Lynn greatly during a visit to Cordon Bleu Farms last year, since they were among the very few daylilies fully open on a 55° day, following a night in the mid-forties! All that we can say about their performance at this time is that both KELLY'S GIRL and KIMBERLY SUE have survived the winter of 1995-1996 in Lynn's garden in good shape.

We are aware that there are many more recent Spalding cultivars than the ones we have discussed here. Both of us would appreciate the comments of other growers in the region on their experiences with any Spalding varieties, and particularly of the ones we have not grown. We both would like to supplement the Spaldings we do grow with others of outstanding merit, without having to rely entirely on our own trial and error method. It is our collective responsibility to keep the gardening public and ourselves informed of the cultivars that deserve inclusion in our gardens at present, while we look for improved varieties in our ongoing search for perfection. Some Spalding daylilies are truly beautiful and merit a place of honor in our Northern gardens.

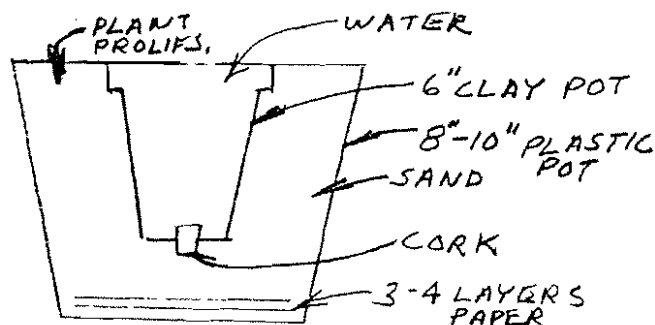
FEBRUARY 1996 INDIANAPOLIS SYMPOSIUM

by Gerald Hobbs

Elenora and I went to the Indianapolis Symposium in February. It was a very interesting and informative program. There were over twelve hours of talks, and I will only briefly list some of the hints and information given to us.

Ted Blaney's talk on soil ecology was very good. He said earthworms are very beneficial to the soil, with nightcrawlers much better than the common garden worm. The garden worm works the top few inches of the soil horizontally, which makes a good network of aeration, but the nightcrawler makes vertical burrows three to four feet deep, carrying a lot of material up and down for longer periods of the year. These vertical burrows promote much better drainage and bring up trace minerals. A colony can do five tons or more of castings/year/acre, and the castings bloom to five times the volume in microbes promoting bacterial activity in the soil. He also theorized that this up and down travel by the worms exchanges gases and water. A good colony might have ten to twenty burrows per square foot. They also buffer the soil to a pH of between 6 and 7. The castings have a network of mycelia which hold them together during dryness and expands with moisture, making the soil more friable. Heavy mulch is good for them, but too much fertilizer can kill them. Blaney said to maintain predator insects by having a diversity of small composite flowers with continuous bloom for them to feed upon. Good ones for this are Queen Anne's lace, feverfew, achillea, coreopsis, daisies, liatris, and wildflowers. His definition of beauty was unification of diversity.

The diagram at the right shows a method Blaney uses to start proliferations in the shade. You can put a clear plastic bag over this to make a greenhouse effect. This works well for a lot of different cuttings dipped in Rootone™. The water transpires through the clay pot to keep the soil moist, and you must add water occasionally.



Randy Burner told us all how to be a PHD: Post Hole Digger or Professional Hem Digger. He uses a post hole digger to plant clumps in a few seconds, and a long-handled, foot-powered bulb planter to plant seedlings. Other tips from the audience: when using Round-Up™ use a rolled cardboard tube as a shield, or cut both ends out of a gallon milk jug; thistles and plants with tap roots can be injected with a hypodermic needle. Milorganite was promoted as a useful product for a slow release, non-burning fertilizer carrying many trace minerals but low on salts and monitored to eliminate heavy metals out of the sludge at the source. It is thought to be a deterrent to deer and rabbits. Products containing thiram, such as Hinder™, are also good deer and rabbit repellants.

Jamie Gossard gave a slide show and talk on spider hems, which are becoming popular with several growers. Clarence and Beth Crochet gave a slide show on several southern gardens and some of the new daylilies on the market; it's amazing what is coming! Crochet's talk was one of the most entertaining and funny presented.

Dick Henley showed tet conversion on crowns and seeds. He also showed how to inject did scapes to get tet pollen, all with the herbicide Surflan™ combined with DMSO. On crowns, this has about a 20% success rate, and you lose many plants. DMSO is also very dangerous to handle, which all goes to explain why the converted dips are so expensive -- some going for \$200-\$300.

Dr. Patricia Henley had some very good slides clearly showing diseases of leaf streak, spring sickness, and crown rot, as well as evidence of thrips, spider mites, and aphids. Thrip adults are shades of straw and brown to nearly black, with four wings. There are about 6,000 different kinds. The immature thrip is pale colored creamy to yellowish to greenish, about the size of an exclamation mark from a typewriter. (!) They have rasping/sucking mouth parts and leave a track of excavated tissue on the underside of parallel-veined leaves. The track looks whitish or silver from the top of the leaf, and may cause discolored areas on the flowers. They may cause roughened, scarred areas of scapes and seed pods.

Aphids hide inside the fan and feed on young leaves by sucking the juices out of them. Tiny white skins and shiny "honeydew" deposited by aphids are visible on the leaves as they grow out of the fan, mostly during the cool part of the year when there are fewer active predators. Insecticidal soaps and malathion are good to use at that time.

Earwigs eat the top layer of flowers in irregular spots. They hide in the mulch and feed at night and may leave small black droppings. You have to spray at night under lights to lure them out. Spray with insecticidal soap or Sevin™ -- but remember that Sevin™ will aggravate mite problems if used alone, and may kill beneficial predator insects. Earwigs are over 1/2" long, almost wingless with two horns on their back end. You won't see them in the daytime.

There are many good insect allies out there to help you, and indiscriminate spraying may destroy them. Some are green lacewing larvae, six-spotted thrips, minute pirate bugs, damsel bugs, assassin bugs, lady beetles and their larvae, predacious ground beetles (at night), small wasps, trachinid and syrphid flies, spiders and predatory mites.

A good way to get fast plant increase is to use a 5-gallon plastic nursery pot. Mix 3" rotted leaf mulch, 3" Peter's Professional potting soil, and a little 12-12-12 fertilizer in the bottom. Put in the daylily and almost fill with more Peter's Professional potting soil, water well, and add about an inch of garden soil. Plant the whole thing down flush in the garden and backfill with more rotted leaf mulch. Do this in the spring and you will have many more plants than just planting in the garden.

Foliar feeding is much more efficient than soil surface feeding. Phosphorus doesn't move down to the roots and should be incorporated into the bed before planting. Nitrogen makes plants more subject to fungus, makes soft tissue, and attracts insects. Gypsum makes clay soil more porous. Alfalfa pellets make a good slow release fertilizer, while adding organic material to the soil.

There were many more tips; this is just a sampling. Club members should consider attending one of these symposiums if they ever have the opportunity.

"UN-SILOAMS": THE OTHER GREAT MINIATURES

by Lynn Stoll

One of our goals as an official AHS Display Garden is to maintain a varied selection that is representative of the wide range of colors, sizes, shapes, and patterns available in modern daylilies -- not just the big, round, ruffled pretty faces! One aspect of this goal is represented by our growing affection for miniature and small-flowered daylilies. Although these are unfortunately often overlooked by daylily growers, they are wonderful in the front border of the garden, whether it's a mixed perennial garden or a large daylily collection. Also, these little jewels are perfect for townhouses and the other small gardens that are becoming increasingly common in our society. They offer an opportunity for a wide variety of daylilies in a relatively small space. Many have high bud counts and provide a long period of bloom. Many also extend the bloom season with early and repeat bloom. (I have found that a larger percentage of miniatures will reliably rebloom in our garden, compared to the large-flowered cultivars.) The Donn Fisher Medal (DFM) is the highest award voted by the judges of the AHS for a miniature daylily (under 3"); the Annie T. Giles (ATG) award is the highest award for small daylilies (3-4"). Small/minis are also eligible for the Stout Medal, Award of Merit, and Honorable Mention.

The one cultivar familiar to gardeners who may have only a single daylily is, of course, the wonderful reblooming golden yellow *STELLA DE ORA*. Aside from *STELLA*, when most daylily lovers hear the term "miniature daylilies," they immediately think of Pauline Henry's superb *SILOAM* series. In writing this article, I do not mean in any way to denigrate the Siloams. (Indeed, last time I checked the computer, we were growing 76 different Siloams!) I have never seen a Siloam cultivar I haven't liked, although many of them are very similar to others that I already grow. Just as the term "Uncola" tacitly recognizes the overwhelming popularity of cola soft drinks, so my reference to "Un-Siloams" acknowledges the popularity and quality of the Siloams. But what about other fine small-flowered daylilies that don't have that familiar prefix? Let me introduce you to some of my favorites that deserve to be much better known.

Some of these belong to the large class often referred to as "Little Yellow Varmints," or LYV's. *STELLA DE ORA* is the quintessential LYV, of course. But while *STELLA* blooms here in June and from August to frost, it does not bloom during the peak daylily bloom season in July. So if you want a LYV or two for the border during July, you need a few others besides *STELLA*. There are a large number of excellent cultivars in this class. One LYV that I'm especially fond of is *SUN PIXIE* (Hudson, 1982). *SUN PIXIE*, a dormant, is the tiniest daylily we grow, and with a height of 14", it's perfectly proportioned -- and very cute, to my eye! It's an early bloomer (about two weeks later than *STELLA DE ORA*), and it usually reblooms in August. *BUTTERPAT* (Kennedy 1970) is a soft butter yellow with good substance and outstanding branching and bud count. It's an attractive midseason dormant. Another older LYV that I like very much is *JEST* (Searles 1965), a winner of the AHS Lenington All-America Award. This cute lemon yellow mini is a dormant with great branching and bud count. *BUTTERFLY CHARM* (Dunbar 1986) is an

evergreen which is exceptionally vigorous and totally hardy here. The round, ruffled yellow flowers have outstanding substance, feeling like they've been lovingly carved out of wax. **BUTTERFLY CHARM** is extremely floriferous; I've often counted 50 or more buds on its wide-branched scapes, and it also usually reblooms in August or early September. A very floriferous small clear yellow with good proportion, extremely heavy ruffling, and great substance is Johnson's **ONO** (1977). An interesting novelty is Hager's **SIR BLACKSTEM** (1989), a yellow gold mini with black scapes and buds which create an novel effect in the garden. An evergreen with good bud count, **SIR BLACKSTEM** has performed quite well in our garden for several years.

There are also a large number of excellent **LYV**'s with cheery rose or red eyes. The earliest of these to bloom in our garden (late May to early June) is Bryant Millikan's **MONKEY** (1984), which I've mentioned in previous articles about season-extenders. **CAROUSEL PRINCESS** (Soules 1980) is a small lemon yellow with a distinctive creped texture and a rose eye. **LITTLE CADET** (Durio 1979) is an outstanding cream yellow with a red eye, with good branching and bud count; it's probably the best of this color class in our garden. An even lighter buff yellow/cream with a large rose eye is Sholar's excellent **TODD MONROE** (1976), also with very good bud count, vigor, and rate of increase. A fine recent addition to this class is Kroll's **LEPRECHAUN EYES** (1994), a ruffled greenish yellow with a red eyezone and a striking bright green throat. All of these are dormant, except for **CAROUSEL PRINCESS**, which is semievergreen.

I've heard it said that every commercial daylily grower's fondest dream is "**STELLA DE ORA** in Pink." No such creation has yet appeared, but there are many fine pink minis. **PINK PUFF** (Jablonski/Sharp 1988) has been described as an approach to a pink **STELLA**, but it does not rebloom. In spite of this "fault," it is a wonderful small pink daylily with a rich pink color and a very round form with good substance. **PINK POWER** (Jablonski/Sharp 1989) is a soft cream pink blend, larger and lighter in tone than **PINK PUFF**. **LULLABY BABY** (Spalding, 1975) is another fine light pink mini. (For a description, see the accompanying article on Spalding cultivars for the North.) **LITTLE FANTASTIC** (Cunningham 1978) is a rich rose pink with super branching and bud count; it's another variety I recommend enthusiastically to garden visitors. Kirchhoff's **CHORUS LINE** (1981) is a classic clear pink with a rose band; a totally hardy evergreen, it's a very popular ATG winner. Millikan's **FANCY DEAL** (1988) is an excellent dormant medium pink with a red eye. **LITTLE MONICA** (Gates 1983) is a charming pink with a rose-red eyezone; it's an exceptionally vigorous and hardy evergreen. Finally, **TEENA** (Childs 1960) is a delightful orchid and cream pink bicolor which seems to have been completely forgotten; I find it truly charming.

There are a number of fine red minis that I recommend enthusiastically to garden visitors. I think that **LITTLE ZINGER** (Lankart 1979) is one of the best of the red minis we grow. This clear, non-fading dormant red has won the Donn Fisher Medal, as well as an Award of Merit. **PARDON ME** (Apps 1982) is another very popular dormant red mini which performs well here. **LITTLE RED WARBLER** (Crochet 1986) is a dark red with a maroon eyezone which has been very vigorous in our garden. It grows about 6" taller than its registered 18" for us. One unusual red mini is the unregistered **NASHVILLE STAR**, introduced by an anonymous hybridizer in 1989. It's a great landscaping daylily which increases extremely rapidly. The flower is a spidery burgundy wine red mini with a hot orange star in its throat. **NASHVILLE STAR** is unusual in that it rarely blooms the year after transplanting, apparently putting all its energy into increasing. Subsequently, however, it provides masses of glowing color in the garden. Another unusual reddish mini is **MEXICAN MAIDEN** (Apps 1985). This well-branched and heavily budded dormant is a distinctive color which is registered as melon red, although to my eye it has more of a coppery cast to it. However one describes the color, it's unique and very attractive.

Turning to the purples, there are several fine minis in this rather small class. One of the richest colors is that of **VELVET SHADOWS** (E. Salter 1981), a well proportioned dark violet purple with a chalky eye. **PURPLE RAIN** (Chesnik 1985) is a bright grape purple with a large black eyezone. It's an attractive flower and an adequate but not exceptional garden performer. **POMPEIIAN PURPLE** (Apps 1985) is another rich purple mini which deserves to be better known.

ALPINE MIST (E. Salter 1988) is a cool, hazy lavender purple with a lavender blue eye which is very aptly named; it's a distinctive color and a good garden performer. **AMETHYST ART** (Kropf 1989) is a very good small amethyst to rosy lavender hose-in-hose double which is an interesting garden subject.

Among the near-white or cream small/minis we grow, my overall favorite is Millikan's **QUAKER BONNET** (1987). This round, ruffled near-white is a good grower with a good bud count. An established clump is a truly lovely sight. The whitest mini in the garden is **MOSEL** (Kirchhoff, 1982). It's an early bloomer which occasionally reblooms here. The flower form and proportion are excellent, though the bud count is barely adequate. **MOSEL** is an evergreen which has been in our garden for six or eight years; it appears to be hardy and increase reasonably well here, although the foliage isn't especially appealing in the spring. **LITTLE FAT CAT** (EC Brown, 1993) is a very vigorous small creamy near-white with good form; to my eye, it's a little too tall for the flower size, but its floriferousness would be valuable in the small garden. **SUGAR COOKIE** (Apps 1984) is another hardy evergreen which grows well here; it has earned the Annie T. Giles award and the Award of Merit.

In the melon/peach to bronze group, I always think first of **LYNN'S DELIGHT** (Albers, 1992), which was named for me after I relentlessly nagged the hybridizer to introduce the guest seedling we were growing. It's a small ruffled light apricot with a pink infusion which increases rapidly. Further, we've counted over 40 buds on a single scape. The quality that I found most appealing is that it's a very early bloomer (it blooms along with **STELLA**, sometimes even a little earlier). Like **STELLA**, it is finished blooming by July; although it reblooms regularly for the hybridizer in South Carolina, it has rebloomed here only once. **LITTLE BRONZENE** (Gates 1973) is an attractive bronze/yellow blend which is very creped and ruffled; it's a perfectly proportioned mini, and a very hardy evergreen. A truly outstanding dormant bronze mini is **TINY GRIT** (Faggard 1986). **TINY GRIT** is a ruffled bronze-cream bicolor with a faint red halo and extraordinary branching and bud count (50+ buds per scape), giving it a long season of bloom. It grows taller than registered here, but it needs the extra height to display the many blossoms. A novelty mini in this color class is the vigorous coppery double **CARPENTER SHAVINGS** (Kropf 1977). **SUPER DOLL** (Joiner, 1984) is a reliable and lovely ruffled apricot with a green throat; it's a very early bloomer. Another fine cultivar in this color class is Simpson's **PEACHY PIE** (1988), a pretty toasted peach blend with fine form and good garden performance. **BERTIE FERRIS** (Winniford 1969) is a cute persimmon orange mini. A winner of both the DFM and the Stout Medal, it's a classic which is still attractive in today's garden. Finally, **TROPICAL SHERBET** (Hudson 1977) is a pretty orange sherbet blend and an extraordinarily vigorous grower.

With Pauline Henry increasingly turning her attention to hybridizing large flowers, I believe that many of the most exciting new minis and small-flowered daylilies are now coming from Elizabeth Salter and Grace Stamile, both in Florida. Elizabeth Salter has been hybridizing and introducing minis for many years, formerly as Elizabeth Hudson before marrying Jeff Salter. In comparison, Grace is a relatively new star in the hybridizing world. All of the minis I have listed in the preceding paragraphs are diploids. However, both Elizabeth Salter and Grace Stamile have recently introduced some extraordinary tetraploid minis, in addition to some outstanding diploids. Elizabeth's tetraploids are most often beautifully formed polychromes with superb branching and bud count. Her diploid minis feature complex eye patterns which are almost magical; this is reflected in many of the whimsical names, which include words like Magician, Dragon, Fairy, Mystic, Munchkin, Witch, Dream, Wizard, Elfin, Enchanted, Pixie, Sprite, *etc.* In recent years we've acquired over fifty recent introductions by these two hybridizers. Because of their Southern origins, however, I don't want to comment on these until I've had a chance to evaluate them through at least two Iowa winters. So these will be the subject of a future article. I'm hopeful that many, perhaps most, will be as hardy and vigorous as Elizabeth's **DRAGONS' EYE** (1992) has been in both Fred McDowell's garden and ours. This stunning rose pink with its large bold red eye has displayed excellent branching and bud count,

along with good increase and generous proliferations. We hope this will prove to be typical of these fascinating small cultivars.

All of these delightful minis and small-flowered daylilies deserve to be more widely grown. Even those of us who are cramped for space can find room for a few of these charming, compact plants. Many of the cultivars discussed here are season extenders, either with early bloom or rebloom, and most have generous bud counts. Like the more famous Siloams, they provide an abundance of bloom in a relatively small space. Why not try a few?!

SIBERIAN IRISES: TREASURES OF THE SPRING GARDEN

by Lynn Stoll

(written for The Iowa Horticulturalist, April/May/June 1996)

The word "iris" usually brings to mind a vision of stately, billowing clumps of tall bearded or "German" irises. Many Iowans have fond childhood memories of "Grandma's flags." But recent cold, soggy springs in Iowa have played havoc with many plantings of tall bearded iris (TBs), with heavy losses from crown rot. Some Midwestern iris lovers are now discovering the delights of Siberian iris, either as companions or replacements for TBs. Siberians are graceful and wonderfully adaptable members of the Iris family which are virtually immune to crown rot, leaf spot, borers, weak stalks, and other problems in the TBs. I believe that these hardy, easy-to-care-for, long-lived perennials are ideally suited to Midwest gardens. They are very cold-hardy once established. They form beautiful clumps in a few years; the clean, grass-like foliage is attractive all summer, and the slender stalks (ranging from about 18" to about 42") are quite wind-resistant. The main period of Siberian bloom coincides with the mid- to late-season TB bloom, although some varieties bloom quite a bit earlier or later. Some even rebloom. Colors include white, all shades of blue and purple, pink, lavender, wine-red, and some recently introduced light yellow bitones.

Many iris lovers grow one or two older Siberians, often the vigorous and reliable **CAESAR'S BROTHER** (introduced in 1932). While these are still useful for landscaping, anyone who tries a few of the newer varieties will be delighted by the variety of forms and colors now available from outstanding hybridizers like Bob Hollingworth, Currier McEwen, and Marty Schafer. The newer varieties also have better branching and bud counts, providing a longer period of bloom. Some have quite extended periods of bloom; the lovely blue-violet **SPRINGS BROOK** frequently blooms for us from late May till mid-July, continually sending up new stalks and making a stunning blue companion plant for the early daylilies! While the later bloom never matches the main flowering in May, there are always 4-8 flowers in bloom on a clump at any one time -- enough to make an impact in the garden.

Many of the newer Siberians are tetraploids, which have double the number of chromosomes found in the naturally occurring diploids. Tetraploid flowers tend to be larger, with bolder patterns and stronger ruffling, *etc.* Diploid flowers are usually (but not always) smaller; however, the diploids generally compensate by putting up more flower stalks. The resultant diploid clumps have a mass flowering effect that is often characterized as "butterflies fluttering in the breeze." Both diploids and tetraploids are equally vigorous, and the foliage is just as attractive. Flower stems are generally shorter in tets.

Siberians are at their best in established clumps, and take several years to reach their full potential. A first-year plant of even the newest and best Siberian is inevitably disappointing in

comparison to a large, free-blooming mature clump of a much more "ordinary" variety. These mature clumps develop into graceful masses of glowing color which grow more beautiful with each year. I often wonder if the extra time Siberians need to become established may be a major reason that they are less well known and less popular than their tall bearded cousins. A newly planted TB rhizome of a respectable size is likely to produce some bloom the first spring after planting, and usually produces an impressive clump of bloom the year after that (if it doesn't succumb to rot, scorch, or borers!). In contrast, a newly planted Siberian is unlikely to bloom at all the first year, and rarely makes much of an impression even the second year after planting. These graceful beauties don't really come into their full glory until the third year and beyond. The problem, of course, is not with the plant but with our expectations for it. So, I hope that readers who are trying a few Siberians for the first time will be patient. You'll find that you will be rewarded in a few years with a lovely, trouble-free jewel that will give you pleasure for many years to come.

As noted above, some Siberian irises also rebloom. I've been interested in reblooming bearded iris for quite a few years, but until about five years ago, I never realized that some Siberian irises can also repeat. This all changed one day late in June when I was weeding one of the daylily beds, and straightened up to find myself staring at several big, beautiful blue flowers of **SPRINGS BROOK**. When I looked carefully at my big clump, I saw that there were a lot of spent bloomstalks, some just recently finished, half a dozen in bloom -- and still more emerging from the clump, promising several weeks of bloom yet to come. I vaguely recalled having heard of Siberians which were advertised as rebloomers, but had never seen one do so. I had just assumed, as with so many of the reblooming TBs, "Yeah, but not in Iowa!". I thought this extraordinary performance from **SPRINGS BROOK** might just be an aberration. But over the next few years, I observed repeated rebloom from **SPRINGS BROOK**, **REPRISE**, and **CORONATION ANTHEM**, and sporadic rebloom on several other varieties.

One important point is that remontancy in Siberian irises is a very different phenomenon from rebloom in bearded irises. The bearded irises with which most people are familiar bloom in the spring, then take a few months off, and repeat again in late summer or fall. Reblooming TBs in this area most often bloom in September and early October, until they are killed by the first freeze. In my garden, most years I have a lot of emerging bloomstalks killed by frost, but very few that actually succeed in opening. In contrast, Siberian irises will simply continue to put up new stalks in the spring, after the first flush of bloom is over; usually there is no noticeable break in this cycle.

No one seems to know exactly what produces repeat bloom in Siberian irises. Genetics and cultural conditions both seem to play a major role. Good repeat bloom seems to be correlated with abundant water; certainly the flood year of 1993 produced more repeat bloom than we've seen before or since. Also, there is a consensus that even among varieties that are genetically inclined to repeat, the phenomenon is likely to occur only in large well established clumps that have been undisturbed for a few years. I should also note that, in general, we do not pamper any of our perennials. In one sense, this "tough love gardening" allows us to select the really hardy garden performers which we can recommend to customers with absolute confidence. But I suspect that a little pampering would increase the amount of repeat bloom we observe in our Siberians. Many people who are successful with reblooming TBs lavish extra attention (and extra fertilizer) on their favorite rebloomers, and this would probably also hold true for Siberians.

What do we recommend for iris lovers who want to try a few Siberians? Dr. Robert Hollingworth of Michigan is one of my favorite hybridizers of state-of-the-art Siberian irises. The relatively few Siberians he has introduced have won a disproportionately large share of the medals awarded to Siberians by the American Iris Society in the last ten years. These include three recent winners and a runner-up for the Morgan-Wood Medal, the highest honor that AIS judges award to one Siberian each year. These Morgan-Wood winners and runner-up are all simply superb. **JEWELLED CROWN**, the 1993 medal winner, is a stunning large, flared deep wine-

red tetraploid with a circular gold blaze. In our garden, it tends to bloom a little too far down in the foliage for my taste, but it's a vigorous grower, and the flower is just out of this world. **LADY VANESSA**, the 1992 medal winner, is a lovely ruffled wine-red bitone which is very popular with garden visitors. A diploid, it, too, is a vigorous grower and gives a beautiful effect in a clump. **SULTAN'S RUBY**, the 1994 medal winner, is a real beauty: a velvety, opulent deep wine red with a large round gold signal. **WINDWOOD SPRING** (runner-up to medal-winner **MABEL CODAY** in 1991) is a charming short light blue, very ruffled and flared, with large feathery stylearms and a prominent white blaze. All of these beauties are stunning in a clump, and unlikely to be mistaken for any other Siberian iris. ↵

Several other Hollingworth Siberians are less well known, but also rank among my own personal favorites. **HELIOTROPE BOUQUET** is probably the most distinctive clump in the garden, in terms of color. Visitors often head clear across the garden, straight toward the tall mound of glowing heliotrope/mid-mauve with blue shading to get a better look at its well-formed, flaring flowers. It's a stunning clump when established. **HELIOTROPE BOUQUET** is one of the earliest Siberians to bloom, and also has a long bloom period, with many late bloomstalks continuing to appear after the main bloom period is finished. **PAS DE DEUX** is a charming light yellow bitone, with white standards and light yellow falls. As the flowers age, they turn creamy white. This forms a particularly lovely clump effect, with bright yellow buds contrasting with newly opened light yellow bitone flowers and older ones of pure cream. **PAS DE DEUX** is a much more vigorous grower than the better known **BUTTER AND SUGAR** (McEwen), and its broad, round form is a great improvement in this color class. **CONTRAST IN STYLES** produces a particularly interesting clump effect; the profusion of wine-red blooms appear dotted with small light blue stars or bees, a result of the contrasting blue stylearms. **CORONATION ANTHEM** is a large, very ruffled mid to deep blue tetraploid with a creamy yellow blaze that fades to white. It has a beautiful full, rounded form and is an extremely vigorous grower. It blooms as profusely as most diploids, and has also shown a tendency to rebloom frequently in our garden. **HIGH STANDARDS** at 44" is an extraordinarily tall tetraploid which forms a graceful, attractive clump. This pleasing clump effect is a result of its proportion, with large purple flowers on tall stalks. It's a wonderful addition to the back of the perennial border. In general, all of these Hollingworth Siberians are distinctive, beautifully formed, vigorous garden performers, and mature into beautiful clumps with good proportion and many bloomstalks.

There are a number of outstanding Siberians by other fine hybridizers that I have found to be dependable performers and very popular with garden visitors. Bea Warburton's large blue-violet **SPRINGS BROOK** was mentioned earlier in connection with its strong reblooming tendency. Her **ISABELLE** is another excellent light yellow bitone. The pale yellow to cream flowers in the clump are nicely set off by contrasting bright yellow buds; with good proportion and many bloomstalks, the clump effect is particularly pleasing, very similar to that described above for **PAS DE DEUX**. **ISABELLE** and **PAS DE DEUX** are probably the best Siberian iris varieties available in this color class. Two excellent pure whites are **KING OF KINGS** (Varner) and **GULL'S WING** (McGarvey). Both are relatively tall and late-blooming; both are vigorous, free-blooming plants with excellent flower form. Helsley's **MABEL CODAY**, the 1991 Morgan-Wood Medal winner, is a beautifully formed clear medium blue which I often recommend to visitors. **PINK HAZE** is an older McGarvey introduction which is still one of the best sources of saturated pink color in Siberians; it won the Morgan-wood Medal in 1988. The flower form isn't as wide and ruffled as some of the newest Siberians, but visitors love it for its rich lavender-pink color. Several of Steve Varner's introductions which have been good growers and fine clump-makers for us are **DEMURE ILLINI** (1985), a grape-red with a large white signal; **ILLINI CROWN** (1985), a deep wine red; and two older pink/lavender bitones, **ILLINI CHARM** and **ILLINI ENCORE**. The latter is one of the few Siberians that will almost always bloom the first year after transplanting, and produce enough bloom to make a significant garden effect the second year.

Two particularly interesting Siberian irises were introduced in 1988 by the Japanese hybridizer Ho Shidara: **HELICOPTER**, a deep blue-violet, and **RIKUGI SAKURA**, a pink. Both are

flat in form, with 6 falls; I find it particularly interesting that this Japanese hybridizer selected among his Siberians a form that looks so much like a Japanese iris! Both **HELICOPTER** and **RIKUGI SAKURA** are very free-blooming and extremely vigorous growers, forming large, dramatic clumps in 2-3 years.

All of the Siberian iris varieties described in this article are excellent garden performers, widely available, and relatively inexpensive. I recommend any or all of them with no reservations. Your patience in giving them a few years to mature will be rewarded by some beautiful, long-lived jewels in the spring garden.

Siberian Iris Convention

If you're already "hooked" on Siberians (or want an unsurpassable introduction to these beauties), consider attending the national Siberian and species iris convention in Westford, Mass., June 14-16, 1996. Six outstanding gardens featuring Siberian and species iris will be on tour. Registrations are being strictly limited, so register soon if you're interested. Registration fee: \$90 if paid by April 16, \$110 thereafter. Send check (payable to "ISM" (Iris Society of Massachusetts)) to Marty Schafer, Registrar, 337 Acton St., MA 01741. (508)-371-0173. Hotel headquarters is the Westford Regency (1-800-543-7801). Registration includes two days of garden tours and all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday luncheon.

Sources for Siberian Irises

Chehalem Gardens/Tom & Ellen Abrego, P. O. Box 693, Newberg, OR 97132. 50+ varieties of Siberians, 35+ varieties of Spurias from various hybridizers. Nice selection, reasonable prices. Fall shipping only.

Earthart Gardens, RR 1, Box 847, So. Harpswell, ME 04079. (207)-833-6327. New and recent introductions of Currier McEwen. Fall shipping only.

Ensata Gardens, 9823 E. Michigan Ave., Galesburg, MI 49053. Primarily Japanese iris, but also list 40+ Siberians. Spring and fall shipping. Catalog \$2.00.

Joe Pye Weed's Garden/Jan Sacks & Marty Schafer, 337 Acton St., Carlisle, MA 01741. (508)-371-0173. Siberian and median iris introductions and *I. versicolor* selections of Schafer/Sacks, Bea Warburton, and Thomas Tamberg, plus a few from other hybridizers. Fall shipping only.

Walnut Hill Gardens/Barrett and Lynn Stoll. 999 310th St., Atalissa, IA 52720. (319)-946-3471. 60 varieties of Siberians in catalog, 300 on display, along with bearded iris, 400 varieties of hosta, and 1600 different daylily cultivars. Spring and fall shipping. Catalog \$2.00 (refundable with first order).

Windwood Gardens/Bob and Judy Hollingworth. 124 Sherwood Road East, Williamston, MI 48895. (517)-349-8121. Hollingworth introductions only. Fall shipping preferred; spring shipping at your risk.

MEMBERS, MAY, 1996

Dues paid through year in parentheses; *please check to see if this information is correct!* If you haven't paid your 1996 dues, please send a check to the treasurer (\$5.00 individual, \$7.00 family).

Jim and Joy Adams, 14421 Richland Rd., Monticello, IA 52310. 465-3898. (1996)
 Mary Baker, 7114 S. 49th St. Omaha, NE 68157-2273. 402-731-5152. (1996)
 Linda and Bob Bang, 2505 Muddy Creek Ln., Coralville, IA 52241. 351-8450. (1996)
 Bernie Barker, 1100 W. 1st St., Monticello, IA 52310. (1996)
 Jean Boyd, RR 1, Box 43 Cedars, Delhi, IA 52223-9713. 319-927-5259. (1995)
 Kenneth and Betty Capps, Rt. 1, Packwood, IA 52580. 515-661-2975. (1996)
 John Ellis, 2114 Mulberry Ave., Muscatine, IA 52761. 264-1990. (1996)
 Lela and Jerry Hadrava, 615 Rosedale Rd., Cedar Rapids, IA 52401. 362-1375 (1996)
 Jean Hecht, 105 N. Dubuque St., N. Liberty, IA 52317. 626-6159. (1997)
 Donna Helgens. 14984 Amber Rd. X44, Monticello, IA 52310. 465-3949 (1996)
 Shirley Hendricksmeier, 1066 Blondeau St., Keokuk, IA 52632. 524-2139. (1996)
 Kay and Kenneth Hill, 23085 Co. Rd. X14, Conesville, IA 52739. 725-4387. (1996)
 Elenora and Gerald Hobbs, 2597 Hwy. 2, Ft. Madison, IA 52627. 372-4178. (1996)
 Norma Hurlbut, 2810 Cedar, Muscatine, IA 52761. 263-8623. (1996)
 Marilyn Little, 501 E. 4th St., West Liberty, IA 52776. 627-2910 (1996)
 Barbara Mansheim, 1429 Avenue E, Ft. Madison, IA 52627. 372-1289. (1994)
 Frederick McDowell, 1118 E. Court St., Iowa City, IA 52240. 338-2338. (1996)
 Betty Miller, RR 4, Box 292, Fairfield, IA 52556. 695-3447. (1996)
 Phyllis Miller, 1704 Des Moines St., Keokuk, IA 52632. 524-4494. (1996)
 Verne and Mary Moore, 489 Hodgin Rd., Springville, IA 52336. 854-6406 (1995)
 Judy Nauseef, 3962 James Ave. SW, Iowa City, IA 52240. 338-9207. (1996)
 Arlene Otto, 917 N. Calhoun St., West Liberty, IA 52776. 627-2927 (1995)
 Renee and Bryan Perkins, 142 W. Main, Box 866, West Branch, IA 52358. 643-2880 (1996)
 Barry and Lynn Stoll, 999 310th St., Atalissa, IA 52720 946-3471. (1996)
 David and Connie Wells, RR 3, Box 79, Fairfield, IA 52556. 515-472-9413. (1995)
 Jackie Westoff, 137 Monterey Trail, Monticello, IA 52310. 465-52310 (1996)
 Deborah Wharton, RR 2, Box 172, Keokuk, IA 52632. 524-1056. (1995)
 Cassie Wilkinson, 708 3rd St., Kalona, IA 52247. 656-3002 (1995)

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

We are very pleased to welcome our newest members:

Mary Baker
 Bernie Barker
 Betty Miller

Linda and Bob Bang
 Kenneth and Betty Capps
 Deborah Wharton

We all look forward to getting to know you during future club activities! All members are encouraged to contact these new members, invite them to their gardens and include them in their gardening ventures.

1996 CVIDS SILENT AUCTION

Beginning five years ago, CVIDS has been using a portion of the club funds to buy some choice daylilies and iris for the club. It was originally agreed that these plants would be distributed among active members to grow for two years. At the end of the two years, the members would keep a plant equal to the size they had received, and all increases would be given to the club for auction or sale. (We have learned that the Siberian irises usually take three years before being ready for auction.) It was hoped that this would be self-perpetuating, allowing club members to grow some choice new cultivars and providing income for additional club plant purchases and other club activities. This program has proved to be a great success. In the last two years, daylilies which were purchased in 1992 and 1993 for \$925 brought in \$905 in the 1994 and 1995 auctions -- and club members are now growing a total of 92 plants of fine quality newer daylilies, at bargain prices for the members and virtually no cost to the club.

Based on its initial success and members' enthusiasm, this program has been greatly expanded in the past two years. Beginning with this year's silent auction, we will have a much larger number of plants to offer. In addition, several members have generously contributed extra plants for this year's auction.

The plants listed below for our 1996 silent auction have been grown since 1993 or 1994 by CVIDS members. Siberians are indicated as (Sib.). The "suggested minimum bid" for daylilies is approximately half the average price listed in the 1996 edition of "Eureka Hemerocallis" or comparable catalog value for iris. The procedure for the mail-in auction is as follows:

1. Please make your bids uneven amounts (*e.g.*, \$19.42, \$21.36) to reduce the likelihood of ties.
 2. Send the back page of this newsletter to Lynn Stoll, 999 310th St., Atalissa, IA 52720, by June 15. Do not send payment at this time.
 3. Lynn will notify winners, who will then be asked to send checks for their winning bids to the Treasurer.
 4. Plants will be delivered at the August 24 sale in Monticello. For those with winning bids who are not able to attend the sale, plants will be shipped for a small additional fee.
 5. In case of ties, the earliest postmark will win. All plants will be distributed; any not bid on in the auction will be put in the public sale in Monticello.
 6. **Growers:** Please notify Lynn by June 20 how many plants will available for distribution at the August sale. Please specify whether this number is for fans or double-fan plants.
-