



# NEDS Bulletin

*Publication of the  
New England Daylily Society*

Editor: Debbie Carpenter

April 2010

## Meeting Agenda for April 10, 2010

- 8:00** Set- up for hospitality (volunteers needed to help)
- 9:00** Board meeting
- 9:30** Social time (Food donations from members, last names A-L)
- 10:00** Morning program: Charmaine Rich
- 12:00** Lunch break ( Potluck )
- 1:00** Business meeting, drawing for door prize plants
- 1:30** Afternoon program: Paul Owen—"Slightly Different Nursery"
- 3:30** Clean- up (volunteers needed to help)

### Upcoming meetings and activities:

- May 8** Members plant sale and auction
- July 10** NEDS Exhibition ( Set-up on July 9)
- July 14** Western Mass Open Garden Tour
- Aug. 28** Public Plant Sale and Auction
- Oct. 2** Guest Speaker : Brian Culver
- Nov. 13** Guest Speaker: Melanie Mason ; "Soup's On"

All meetings held at Tower Hill Botanic Garden  
11 French Hill, Boylston, Mass

See <http://www.towerhillbg.org> for directions

*This publication is emailed or mailed free of charge for one year to all new American Hemerocallis Society members in New England. After one year there is a \$5.00/year fee for members receiving it by mail to help defray the cost of printing and postage. Please contact the editor to receive the NEDS Bulletin in color by email.*

## Notes from the President

I hope everyone enjoyed last month's speakers. Mike was a nice surprise and gave a really great, informative talk. I always like to hear about what grows well for us, here in the north. And Charles and Heidi Douglass put on quite the show. Their program was incredible and I was very happy to get WAY PAST THE BOONIES (That describes where I live to a T, we don't even have a traffic light in Sandown). Our next meeting will feature Paul Owens in the afternoon, I look forward to seeing what he is doing. Don't forget it is also the pot-luck. But before lunch, as a special treat Charmaine Rich will give us a peak at what she has been doing. She is on the cutting edge of hybridizing for sculpted forms, and is sure to have some real beauties to show off.

In the next 6 weeks is both the Can-Am Classic and the National. Both are filling up fast so get your registration in. I got a new GPS with Canada in it for the CAN-AM, so this time I'll know where I'm going. And we are already planning what gardens to stop at on the way to and from the National. Luckily my husband enjoys driving. He doesn't enjoy me getting him up at 4AM to leave, but that is a small price to pay for him to stop (again) at the George Washington Masonic Monument in Alexandria on the way down. If he wants to go on the tour, we have to be there by 1 PM, so we have to leave early. He's got a list of card stores (he collects sports cards worse than I collect daylilies) longer than the list of gardens I want to stop at. It will be an interesting trip!

Don't forget about the upcoming summer. The NEDS open garden tour is July 14, and I'm really looking forward to seeing all the gardens. This is a really great opportunity to see what grows well in our area. A huge thanks to Lori Jones for organizing this. She has inspired me to start planning next years trip (Eastern Mass) already. Ideas and suggestions are always appreciated. The Regional is in Albany this year and starts on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Melanie Mason said it better than I ever could, so with her permission I have copied her email to the northern climate robin. I will also have hard copies of the hotel info and registration form for anyone that doesn't have computer access.

I will finally be taking a (planned) day off. TSO is playing (Beethoven's Last Night) at the Wang this week so I'm taking Friday off. The weatherman is saying it will be 70 degrees out!!!! Could Spring

really be here. This warm weather may not be the tease I was thinking it was. It is the perfect time to move plants before they quite wake up. The entire cat garden is being moved this year, up to the mountain of mulch. Hopefully I'll be able to turn the mountain into a molehill and presto – instant gardening space. I've spent the last couple months planning what goes where, but in the end, there will be some last minute adjustments. My new arrivals will start coming in at the end of the month, and I still don't know where they are going. We'll see what Mother Nature did this year, as it was cold with little snow after January.

The cats are happy once again. We have shutters on the sliding glass door that we keep closed all winter to keep the cold out. We have opened them and put up the indoor greenhouse. Each year the cats destroy the plastic cover, so this year I bought an entire new greenhouse. I use heating pads to warm the bottom and the cats have been known to move the trays of seedling over to claim the pads for them self. This year I put one on the third shelf for the seeds and one on the bottom for the cats. So far, peace has reigned, but I don't expect that to last. Cappuccino has declared this her cat perch and play area. She will share the heating pad, but not so much the top. Two cats will fit on the top as I have seen Cappy and Rocket up there but only once, as she doesn't usually allow this. It's been up for a couple of weeks and there are already pin prick (claw) holes as she climbs the side to get to the top. This cover will only last this year, again.

--Kim Walters

### Membership list:

We are getting together a membership list to be handed out to our members at the May meeting.

There will be a separate sign up sheet at the April meeting. If you cannot attend and want your info included, email me ([ownedbycats@comcast.net](mailto:ownedbycats@comcast.net)). We want to include name and address

This is an opt-in only. If you do not sign up or send me your info, you will not be included, nor will you get a copy.

This will never be on the internet. It will be printed one time and handed out.

## For the Pot Luck:

Come one, come all – it is time for Spring!!

And with Spring, comes the Spring Potluck. Bring soup, stews, salads, bread and most important (chocolate) desserts. Remember, even at Tower Hill, there are no microwaves or refrigerators, but there are plugs for crockpots in the kitchenette area. If you can't bring anything, there is a \$10 charge.

Can't decide what to bring or need more info, contact me a 603-275-0488 or [ownedbycats@comcast.net](mailto:ownedbycats@comcast.net)

## Secretary's Report March 13, 2009

### NEDS Board Meeting

Attendance: Kim Walters, Adele Keohan, Dorothy Campbell, Jocelyn Spragg, Mike Maher, Lisa Bourret, and Paul Bourret

1. There is a conflict at THBG for the second Saturday in March, 2011. If we cannot resolve the conflict, the board voted to have the NEDS meeting the third Saturday.
2. The region is making donations to the club display gardens. NEDS has two, Heritage Museum and Gardens, and the garden at Elm Bank. Kim Walters took an action to contact Dan and Barbara, the chairs of these gardens concerning this.
3. Jocelyn distributed the budget for 2010 and it was discussed. The board decided to increase the door prize line item (amendment was offered at general meeting).

### Program

The morning program was a presentation by Mike Huben on Local Treasures, daylilies hybridized by New England breeders. The afternoon program was given jointly by Charles and Heidi Douglas of Browns Ferry Gardens who also donated several of their 2010 introductions for auction (many thanks to them!).

### Business Meeting

The business meeting was presided over by the President, Kim Walters. There were 63 members present. Five, Shirley Ann Robbins, Jerry Robbins, Claudia Conway, Kirstie Whittall and Lois Libby were in attendance for the first time and Ann Fuentje was a guest. Welcome all.

1. Kim reminded all members of the March 15th deadline for submission of material for the Region 4 newsletter.

2. The treasurer presented the treasurer's report for 2009 which was accepted as written.
3. The treasurer presented the proposed budget for 2010. Lisa Bourret made an amendment to increase the door prize line item to \$2500, and the amendment was approved. The 2010 budget was approved as amended.
4. The concept of having a members' information list was again discussed. It was decided to produce such a list on paper for those who wanted their information published. A signup sheet will be available at the next meeting for those wishing to get on the list.
5. A request was made on behalf of the May Sale chair for people wishing to reserve a sales table to send an email to the chair at [weedingaway@COX.NET](mailto:weedingaway@COX.NET).
6. Door prize plant winners were:  
STAR OVER OZ Nicki Dricken  
SNAKE IN THE GRASS BOO Lori-Ann Jones,  
donated to Kirstie Whittall  
SUGAR PLUM JAM Marcia Kilpatrick

--Respectfully submitted,  
Dorothy Campbell, Secretary

## March Program Notes



Heidi and Charles Douglas photo by Deb Carpenter

Pat Wessling here, Wareham, MA, Zone 6, underwater mostly. After a flooding weekend. Four inches of rain at least. My backyard is under water, my streets are flooded, but what a heck of a weekend I had with the Douglas'!

Heidi and Charles arrived Friday evening on time and so well prepared for their speaking engagement at NEDS. They are the most engaging couple! They are sweet, entertaining and hysterical! Heidi has the most

entertaining wit and wisdom and Charles has all the charm of a true southern gentleman. They were totally gracious to our club, its members and guests. Their amazing generosity astounded our treasurer enough that she even thanked them for such a generous donation. They really went over the top! Their presentation is well thought out and totally entertaining. They both have some wonderful hardy dormant plants that do so well in our area. We look forward to many more in the future, Heidi and Charles. You are both real troopers for being dragged around through all that rain!!

You cannot go wrong with these two presenting! They put on a wonderful program. It is also nice to make such wonderful friends in the process! Book them if you can!  
--Pat Wessling ,Co-Program Chair

## April Program Notes



*Paul Owen* SPRING IS HERE!! SPRING IS HERE!! I am so excited to see that all the snow is gone from my yard finally!! I am not sure that is true for us all but it should be soon and finally the first day of spring has sprung here on the South Coast of Massachusetts. We have had our first bouts of coastal flooding and incessant rains. Ahhhh New England! But on a brighter note, we have Paul Owens, of a Slightly Different Nursery and Charmaine Rich of sculpted northern hardy daylily fame coming for our April Meeting! YAY!!!!!! What a great meeting it will be! Charmaine will be presenting her gorgeous stuff in the morning and then Paul will have us hooting and hollering in the afternoon. For those of you who have not met Paul, he is a MUST see! He is a total character and a wonderful guy! He has some of the most hysterical stories of the garden and garden customers I have ever heard! You will love him! The meeting is April 10, 2010 beginning at 10:00 with Charmaine's presentation followed by the potluck luncheon, a brief business meeting, the drawing of the

door prize plants we are so well known for and then Paul's WILD RIDE!!!!

This is a NOT TO BE MISSED presentation!! His plants are wonderful, northern hardy, great garden performing plants! We will also be auctioning off a few of Paul's plants he is kindly donating to the club! I will be bringing Paul in early as I have to be there for the board meeting so anyone that wishes to schmooze with Paul in the morning over coffee please arrive early to do so! I look forward to seeing you all there! It is SPRING!!!  
--Pat Wessling

## April Door Prize Plants



FLAMING FLAMINGO (Laprise 2007) Tetraploid, SEV , 42" tall, 7" bloom, M-ML , 3 -way branching and 25 buds. Unusual Form Variable Crispate. Brilliant orange with a raised glossy red eyezone. Value \$125.



HEAVENLY ORANGE BLAZE (Gossard 2008) Dormant, Tet, Blooms Early, Fragrant, 41" scapes, 8" blooms. 4-5 way branching, 21 buds. Fertile both ways. UFO Cascade. Value \$100



I KNOW WHO HOLDS TOMORROW (Bomar 2005)  
 Dormant, Diploid, Fragrant, Blooms Midseason,  
 Reblooms, 26" scapes, 6" bloom. Fertile both ways. Pink  
 with a soft cream pink edge above very green throat.  
 Value \$50

### Notes on 2010 Regional

From Melanie Mason in Upstate NY:

First order of business is to let everyone know that  
**WE ARE HAVING AN AFFAIR!**

Yes, Hudson Adirondack Daylily Society is hosting  
 the Region 4 summer meeting this year in Albany,  
 NY, and our title is, "Daylilies, a Capital Affair". Our  
 Region 4 web-site ( [www.ahsregion4.org](http://www.ahsregion4.org) ) now has  
 all the information on the Region 4 Summer meeting  
 (thank you very much Tom Rood!).

You will find all the pertinent data on location (super  
 hotel with free airport AND train station connections  
 AND full breakfast every morning, all for \$89/night!)  
 Registration, Schedule, Tour gardens (with pics),  
 Open gardens (with pics) and.....

Info on our very special FOCUS ON FOUR auction  
 on Friday night which will feature  
 recent introductions by our very own talented home-  
 grown hybridizers. If you are a region four  
 hybridizer, look for an e-mail shortly from Frank  
 Almquist who is coordinating things, but you can read  
 all about it on-line and get ahead of the game by  
 contacting him directly at [falmquist@hvc.rr.com](mailto:falmquist@hvc.rr.com) .  
 HADS is offering an incentive to the first 25  
 contributors.

Not to slight hybridizers from other regions, our  
 Saturday auction will have plants from all over the

country, and if you happen to want to contribute to  
 this auction and get your plants out and about in  
 Region 4, we would MOST welcome them! You can  
 contact Frank or me, for that.

( see separate email for brochure)

### Member Spotlight



**Carl and Elaine Wickstrom**  
**GOLDEN SKEP FARM ~ Berlin, MA**

Well, we've always gardened..... huge vegetable  
 gardens and always lots of flowers both for cutting as  
 well as drying. Not to mention fruit trees for jams and  
 jellies and lots of herbs that we knew the bees loved  
 so we could have lots and lots of honey. Carl's kept  
 bees since he was eight years old... bees *and* sheep.  
 When we were dating way too many years ago, Carl  
 said Elaine was the first girl who didn't laugh when he  
 spoke of his then hobbies (little did he know then that  
 she'd been a seed saver from about the same age that  
 he'd been keeping bees).

An old beekeeper friend of ours, Bill Wood, was also  
 an avid gardener who also happened to be messing  
 around with hybridizing daylilies with many of his  
 hybridizing hem nut friends from NEDS – whatever  
 that was. He tried to get us interested but we didn't  
 bite because we were too busy trying to get our kids  
 educated and getting our newly acquired old farm (as  
 in Circa 1740 old) into shape. So, he gave us his  
 excess daylilies for a little garden as a house warming  
 gift..... hmmm..... Bill is no longer with us but his  
 daylilies sure are.

Eventually, the kids went off on their own and didn't  
 call home for money any more..... so we were trying  
 to decide what to do when we grew up because Elaine  
 had just been laid off from a really good job and Carl  
 said he didn't want to die behind a desk. About that  
 same time, Elaine had the opportunity to become a

Master Gardener through the old Worcester County Extension Service and Umass. Great!

We'd always planned on early retirement for Carl because our families didn't have a great history of longevity and Carl said he'd either like to sell flowers or ice cream because you never meet a grouch buying an ice cream or flowers.. Then he said that the only thing he knew about ice cream was how to eat it but that the both of us surely knew a lot about flowers and how to grow them. Great!

Well, Garden A was our vegetable garden and that's where the first rows of daylilies were planted.... then came Garden B which we had to dig out and replant after having a backhoe remove VWBug sized rocks. Meanwhile, we'd joined the American Hemerocallis Society to learn more about these wonderfully easy to grow plants. Great!

About that time, we went to our first daylily meeting at NEDS in Waltham where we spent a stressful day listening to Bobbie Brooks and others from the club talk about their hybridizing efforts and hearing terms like "pod parents", "pod fertile", Dips, Tets, UFO's, polytepals, etc. What had we gotten ourselves into??? What on earth were these people talking about??? We'd never seen so many very different daylilies in our lives. Bobbie buttonholed us at that first meeting and asked us to speak about beekeeping at an upcoming meeting. Well, we could handle that – bees we knew something about. Then we won 'BEN ADAMS'. Great!

Carl retired from his job in October of 1999..... Halloween to be exact..... easy to remember. We opened the farm to the public in May of 2000.... he got on his knees and paid homage to our first customer..... she almost turned around and ran away screaming. But she was brave and stayed and bought and others came and bought and word of mouth spread about these two crazy people who have the most lovely spot where they sell hostas and have some really pretty daylilies in colors and shapes you've just never seen as well as a nice selection of annuals,

perennials and herbs. And we continued to attend NEDS meetings and gradually became familiar with the terminology and got more comfortable with the jargon. Then came Garden C..... and Gardens D through G..... where can we squeeze in a Garden H? Perhaps our three acre hayfield??? Great!

Eventually, the sheep, chickens and geese got donated to Heifer International and the orchard got ripped out (same backhoe guy - he loves us) to make room for guess what..... yep..... more daylilies. Carl even dabbled around a bit with pollen but the customers kept taking up more and more of our time and the challenge became how to find nicer and nicer plants for all these people we'd introduced to the wonders of the DAYLILY! All of our spare time was spent running around to other daylily folks and if we were heading out to visit friends, we always "googled" to see if there were any growers in the area so we could combine the trip – that's how we first met people like Melanie Mason and her wonderful farm in the hills of New York and Bob Scott in Oklahoma (we rode around his place with our new granddaughter screaming her lungs out because she was terrified of the golf cart – Bob was a very good sport) then there were the daylily garden tours sponsored by NEDS – we met more people crazier than us! Great!

Growing daylilies is definitely more than a hobby for us now and we're exceedingly more comfortable with the NEDS meetings than when we first started out and are thrilled as can be that they are now being held in a first class facility, Tower Hill, just four miles down the road from where our farm is located instead of having to trudge all the way to Waltham and (horrors) have to get on Route 128! So, for those of you who have to trudge all the way out to the country from the 128 area, you have our sympathy but the friendships and the camaraderie of all these wonderful HEM NUTS is definitely worth the trip.... first class place for a first class group! Bill would be pleased.

Stop by for a visit ~ Elaine & Carl

[www.goldenskepfarm.com](http://www.goldenskepfarm.com)

# NEW ENGLAND DAYLILY SOCIETY ORGANIZATION

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