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### ***Executive Member List***

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### ***President's Message***

At the time of writing of my last newsletter message to you, we were all eagerly anticipating the season of daylily blooms. And what a season it was! Many people reported more scapes on their plants than they had ever seen. It was indeed a very exciting summer for NSDS both from a bloom standpoint and from a maturing of our club. The brilliant hues of green foliage from a very wet spring rewarded us with a spectacular bloom season.

Most members reported an earlier than usual bloom season, although mine was quite a bit later than many others' gardens. When it was sunny and warm in other areas of the province, I enjoyed the fog banks. Therefore, in mid-September I still have quite a bit of bloom left, although with the cool nights they are not all spectacular. I am enjoying many of the spider varieties because they are not fussy openers after cool nights. My beloved doubles are pretty much finished except for Three Tiers and Cabbage Flower. Three Tiers is not doubling well after the cool fall nights but Cabbage Flower has really surprised me with stunning double blossoms and lots of buds left to go!

Those almost daily showers in June and early July are almost forgotten as we have entered a very dry fall. Don't forget to water your newly acquired daylilies as they need to grow anchoring roots before winter to keep them in place during the freeze and thaw cycles of late fall and early winter.

I have had the privilege of serving as president of NSDS for nine months now. When I took over as president in January there were about 8 people present at our AGM. At that meeting we voted and decided to move our monthly meetings to Hammonds Plains Rd. It has proven to be a positive decision for our club. We have had new members join at almost every meeting and our membership at last count was 69 with approximately forty people in attendance at our regular meetings. In one way it has been very convenient for Brian and Linda Smith as it is very close to their home. On the other hand it has meant lots of extra work for them. They have been an integral go-between for our club and the church caretakers and have taken on many extra duties and responsibilities. Our heartfelt thanks go out to them for their work on behalf of NSDS.

Even though our club did not have regularly scheduled meetings during the summer, it was a very active time. Most of you were present for a wonderful Daylily Daze bazaar. This third annual event has grown in popularity every year. This year there were well over 100 people present with lots of daylilies bought and sold. A variety of workshops were well attended and appreciated by all. It was so great to see people from all over the province in attendance with a small group that traveled all the way from New Glasgow. Initial planning is now underway for next year's event. We'll be looking for new recruits to help out!

I was glad to attend all of the open gardens except for Edward Kimball's. The word from others that visited Edward and Jennifer's garden was that he and Jennifer have a great garden with a nice selection of daylilies. As far as the other gardens are concerned they were marvellous. I won't go into detail about each one but refer you to Barb's article about the garden tours.

If you are like me, you are enjoying those last daylily blooms and reblooms from the summer of 2006. It will be close to eight months before you see the real live blossoms in your garden again. From now on it is photos that will have to satisfy your craving for daylilies. Enjoy their happy faces as you put your gardens to bed for another year! Don't forget to visit the websites for new introductions and make your suggestions to Coral for babysitting plants for 2007.

Yours in Daylily Gardening,

Allan Banks  
President NSDS

## ***Daylily Bazaar***

The 3rd annual NSDS daylily bazaar, "Daylily Daze", was held in Hammonds Plains at the First United Baptist Church on August 5th. It was a wonderful success with approximately 150 people in attendance which included the vendors, workers and attendees.



There were 12 vendors, many of which were selling daylilies but there were also other items such as perennials, wrought iron garden products, soaps, stained glass, daylily coasters, & jellies, wooden cutting boards and folk art. The NSDS table sold daylilies donated by club members and held a raffle on 5 select daylilies. There was also a lovely door prize made up of a substantial amount of donated items and gift certificates.



Workshops were held throughout the day on a variety of topics such as Dig and Divide, Daylily Basics, Stout Medal Awards, Flower Arranging using Daylilies, Hybridizing and a Daylily Slideshow. All the workshops were well attended and enjoyed.



The local Girl Guides looked after the canteen with refreshments available during the entire day.



We received wonderful reviews from those who attended the Bazaar. It was also a financial success raising \$1700.00 for the club. Thanks to all who helped for the hard work and dedication. We are looking forward to an even bigger and better event next year.

Linda Smith  
Secretary\Treasurer NSDS

## ***Garden Tours 2006***

As a new but very enthusiastic member of NSDS I eagerly awaited the time for the three area Garden Tours. Little did we know what would transpire due to the cumulative effects of such overwhelming variety, beauty, enthusiasm, and an amazing willingness to share.

I was somewhat surprised by the added information of earlier or later 'peak Bloom dates' announced by the garden owner, but we took advantage of these and stretched out the joyful time at both ends. There certainly is noticeable bloom difference in the three areas I visited.

So off we went to Brian and Linda Smith's Daylily Heaven with two not-so-addicted- friends. Brian's gardens were immaculate as usual and I'd gladly have



taken one of every plant displayed but had to be content with photographing them... This is where I found my first love of the season, Antique Rose, and

Bernice discovered Frozen Jade, and we drove home intoxicated by its extreme fragrance. Who knew daylilies could be sooo fragrant?

The next trip was to Petite Riviere. Don Longton's delightful property is very close to the beach, and it was a brilliantly sunny day. What a dream... what colour. Don's Seedlings take up most of his growing space and even though he tries to grow 1,000 seedlings every year, he seems to know each one personally, - habit and parentage. The plants look like giant leaks, so robust and healthy; then one sees the flowers, every colour one can hope for, all with frills and ruffles, gold braiding and edgings. So distractingly beautiful I forgot to smell for fragrances and this is important to me! Don mentioned that he has to reduce his stock by one third and that the "unchosen" ones would be trashed and I was horrified. But then hybridizers look for overall magnificence and my untrained eye saw only beautiful flowers.



On the way to the Valley I stopped in at Carol Harvey's delightful garden. What a surprise to see another grower so close to Metro. Carol has all the daylilies you wish you'd known about last year or had purchased the year before. Her garden is a marvellous selection of robust beauty. I know it's going to be on my frequent visitation list. Carol's lovely smile is reflected in the beauty of her gardens.



Canning Daylilies was not new to me, but as always a sea of beauty.... Just the memory one needs to have tucked away for the bleak winter months. Wayne and Wayne were everywhere and always ready to answer questions.... This was my third time to their 'open garden' and every year it is better. Just wait for their hybrids now that Big Wayne has retired!



After having seen Marie Stewart's webpage I expected a farm of sorts. Not a bit of it! Marie has a city size garden at her new house and has a masterful collection of daylilies which she uses mainly for hybridizing and the sale of seeds all over North America. She is undoubtedly an expert on space utilization. Not a square inch unused and all "top of the line" plants.



Mrs. Chetwind's garden is a place of magic. One expects 'little people' hiding behind each bend in the path... It was a place of charm, colour, texture and variety, and so many unusual ideas and combinations. I hope a little of her energy and spirit rubbed off on me.



Coral Kincaid's garden was a surprise too. Not rows of beautiful plants but a large home garden surrounding her house with little pockets everywhere to explore. A home garden but with ten times the normal density of plants. It is the history of daylilies all in one garden. Her collection of Reklamp's soft pastels remains a memory of delight. Now, how to sort and process all 300 photographs.



Next, we had a quick visit to Timberlea, to see Ed and Jennifer Kimball's city garden. Their garden stood out boldly on their street, beautiful perennials with wonderful design and colour. Ed showed me his new bed of seedling daylilies with the pride that can only be recognised when one has grown from seed!

The final trip was a lovely drive down to Allan Banks' on the Eastern Shore. This foggy area must be great for daylilies....I've never seen so many proliferations! Could it be the sea air? Another garden of outrageous colour and wonderful plants! The garden is built on the steepest hillside and can you believe he built the steps himself this year? Well done Allan! I found my second love of the season... Beautiful Edgings.... How could I not have known this beauty before!



The gardens were all lovely, but what really made the occasions spectacular were the gracious and generous attitudes of the hosts and hostesses. How fortunate we are to have such knowledgeable, enthusiastic, and generous members. My thanks and appreciation to you all. Well done! But now I'm totally hooked!

Barb Downham

Following is a bit of info about two NSDS Open gardens that Barb and her cohorts were unable to visit this summer.

Sandra Frank's quiet manner masks her acquired knowledge about daylilies and garden plants in general. Sandra knows her daylilies and I was especially impressed with her seedling bed. She is doing a great job hybridizing daylilies and it's nice to see another NSDS member taking an interest in this aspect of daylily culture. I envied the space that she has available to expand her love of daylilies. Beside her seedling bed, she has been busy creating special display beds with daylilies mixed with perennials in a balanced and artistic manner. Visiting her garden was a wonderful way for my partner and I to start our day of daylily garden visitations.



I had heard much from Coral, Tim Cross, the Waynes' and my neighbour about Chester and Dot Reese's garden on the water's edge in Port George. "Sea Edge Perennials: Daylilies & More" is an environment similar to my own beside the ocean and I was especially eager to view how Chet's daylilies were faring. My mother and I were met in the early evening by Chet and his wife and given private tours of an incredible garden. Beautiful flowing gravel pathways were bordered by an assortment of perennials, including approximately 250 varieties of daylilies. I think it was the height of the plants that mesmerised me most. The tallest astilbe that I have seen! A large natural pond edged with clumps of daylilies was spectacular and drew my attention out to the Bay of Fundy and the setting sun. I know I am supposed to be in a frenzy about the daylilies (which were wonderful), but it was the ensata irises that wowed me that evening. For those of you who were unable to make the journey you missed an amazing garden. I hope that when I am 80 years old my gardens look as nice as theirs do!

Allan Banks

## Hybridizers Corner



by Don Longton

It's wonderful to see membership and attendance at our meetings growing and the enthusiasm everyone has! I think the new location for meetings was a good move.



Thrip damage



This season was an odd one for me. Once again, I was plagued with earwigs so I had to spray almost daily for several weeks, but they are still there. Then thrips damaged close to 30% of my buds, which eventually dropped off. Then, it never really got hot here as it usually does and the flowers on some cultivars would not open fully or set pods. To add to this I have Daylily rust which arrived with a new plant sent up from the US.

Thankfully, rust apparently does not survive our Winters.

On a positive note, I was fortunate to have a wonderful showing of first time seedling bloom. There were many beautifully ruffled, large flowering plants with incredible branching and vigor. I was more than pleased with the one year old plants that looked more like two year olds in size and performance. I must be doing something right!



Pasa Doble

Thanks to everyone who attended my garden, I invited several Garden Clubs and held several open garden days..overall I was pleased with the turnout . Several enthusiasts gave me long wish lists! Patience is a difficult one when you see clumps of beautiful 'party dresses' with frills in wonderful colors in front of you.. Every year there is something that everyone seems to want and it varies each year, last year it was Licorice Candy and this year it was Pasa Doble and of course several of my own favourite seedlings that I can't promise to anyone right now.

This year was the year I was supposed to line out some of my three and four year old seedlings to establish how they react and recover from dividing and to evaluate if any are worth registering. According to the Daylily Robin, this was a bad year for branching and bud count directly attributed to the Spring weather, so I couldn't really get an accurate assessment of some of my oldest seedlings. The overload of Spring rain and lack of sunshine produced huge plants with longer foliage than normal and incredible growth. A lack of available space and feeling overwhelmed with what I have now has forced me to scale back and cull out the plants that I don't use in my hybridizing program. I found it too much for one person to handle and it takes up all my time. I rarely get away from the house!

SO... In September, I began digging up almost 1/3 of my two and three year old seedlings clumps marking the keepers and relocating them and putting the rest up for sale at \$10 per clump. (That went well!) Once I cleared the back bed which was a sort of kidney shape, (which I liked the look of but found a nuisance for cataloguing) I expanded it, making it square. Now I have a good start on a lining out bed which can provide long rows, making all access so much easier. I now have almost everything relocated for Winter. In Spring, I plan to dig up and relocate many of my registered plants and divide and pot the ones that will be available.

Thank you for your encouragement and support! ☺



## ***UP COMING EVENTS***

1) The Nova Scotia Daylily monthly meeting is usually held the second Thursday of every month at the Hammonds Plains Baptist Church unless notified otherwise. Next meeting will be November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2006

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