

the PETALOID

Patriot Daylily Society • C/O Partridge Hill Gardens 23 Partridge Hill Road Dudley, MA 01571-6201

www.patriotdaylilysociety.org

PDS Members Daylilies Win Honorable Mentions

Congratulations to George Doorakian, whose beautiful H. *Nancy Britz* won an Honorable Mention in the AHS 2006 garden judge voting. The description from Nor'East Daylilies website indicates H. *Nancy Britz* is a dormant, diamond dusted cream with pink highlights with a bright green throat extending 30% onto petal surfaces producing kids with large bright green throats. Not well known, but customers indicate it is one of the best in its class.

Congratulations are also in order for Mike Huben's hardy reblooming H. *Early and Often* which also won an Honorable Mention this year. Mike writes "H. *Early and Often* is a true northern rebloomer like H. *Stella De Oro*, and one of the first to leave the yellows and golds behind. *Early and Often* starts blooming within one week after Stella, then blooms and reblooms continuously for at least 9 weeks in my experience. I commonly see up to 3 sets of scapes per fan, the scapes staggered a month apart. *Early and Often* does not take a midsummer rest the way Stella does."

The AHS Honorable Mention Award is the first official "stamp of approval" by the



Mike Huben's H. *Early and Often*

Society where good performance goes beyond the local or regional level. Therefore, to win, a cultivar must receive and be credited with a minimum of 12 votes.

These votes must come from not less than four different established regions of the Society. In voting for this award, the judges must cast their votes only for cultivars observed in their own respective regions and which have been registered and introduced for at least two years (on a calendar-year basis).

Patriot Daylily Society Christmas Party

The annual Patriot Daylily Society Christmas party was held December 2 in Rhode Island. It was again generously hosted by Kate Reed in her lovely home with two toasty fires going in the fireplaces. A delicious menu of bruschetta, stuffed mushrooms, homemade chili and beef stew as well as plenty of wine and desserts were enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Kate Reed for hosting such a wonderful and festive event.



George Doorakian's H. *Nancy Britz*

President's Message

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season and I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year filled with beautiful daylilies. This month, on January 6, we'll be having our first PDS Photography Contest in memory of John Pike. It should be a lot of fun to see everyone's photography and is a lovely way to remember our friend John. You won't want to miss this meeting!

We are asking members with last names beginning with A-L to please bring a refreshment to the January meeting.

To continue our fund raising efforts, please bring your seeds for the Lily Auction to benefit Patriot Daylily Society. Bag the seeds in lots of 6 or 12 and label them clearly with the pod and pollen parents. Every little bit helps, so we encourage you to donate whatever you are able.

Our continuing Patriot Daylily Society programs for late winter will include: February 3 - Kate Reed will present a Powerpoint presentation of her wonderful trip to Holland, England and Belgium. March 3 - Mary Collier Fisher will present *AHS Exhibition Show - How to prepare daylilies for exhibition*. This lecture is a must for anyone exhibiting daylilies.

Nina Lapierre, our current newsletter editor, will be resigning this month to have additional time to prepare for a fine art exhibit as well as to maintain her graphic design business and her daylily hybridizing efforts. Anyone interested in taking over as newsletter editor, we ask you please contact Mary Collier Fisher.

In closing, I regret to announce that I am resigning as President due to increased responsibilities at home and in business. It's been a wonderful and rewarding year as PDS' president. I've been able to learn so much and as always, I will take away more from the experience than I feel I have offered. I fully plan to stay involved with PDS. At the January meeting we will discuss the future and moving forward. The happiest of New Years to you all,

— Ellen Laprise, President, PDS

The Marty Wray Memorial Fund Daylily Babysitting Program is Launched

The Marty Wray Memorial Fund will be used to encourage Patriot Daylily Society members to grow new and interesting cultivars. Each year, PDS members, also members of AHS, in good standing may submit their names in January for a drawing, if they are currently not growing a plant in the program. Five names will be drawn each year to host a Babysitting Plant. To be eligible, members must attend 5 meetings in the past calendar year. The members whose names are drawn must choose a cultivar they wish to grow and submit it to the Babysitting Chair. If the plant meets with the approval of the Chair, the member may order the plant they have selected. The Society will reimburse up to \$100. for a plant, which the member will pay for out of pocket and submit the invoice to the Treasurer for reimbursement. The plant will be grown in the member's garden for 3 years and then returned to the Society in its entirety for auction. If the plant has increased sufficiently, the member will be given 1 fan to keep. Pods cannot be set on Babysitting Plants during the 3 years. Members will be notified when the plant is about to bloom so pollen may be used. Set seeds from pollen could be used to auction for additional revenue. The plant holder will be notified when the plant is to be returned. The Treasurer will keep paperwork on the fund and will notify PDS members at the annual business meeting.

Remembering Marty Wray

My name is Gina Merenda. I am writing because I happened upon a memorial to Marty Wray on the website. Marty was my nurse practitioner and I was shocked and to be honest, truly devastated to learn of her passing. The last time I saw her was in late January 2006. She was truly the kindest medical professional that I have ever encountered. I am 31 years old, and lost my brother two years ago. He was only 34 yrs old and when I spoke of this to Marty, she was simply the kindest person. She offered advice and more importantly a kind heart. She always made even the most awkward of medical appointments pleasant.

I was hoping that it could be passed along to those that knew and loved her that she was as kind and caring as she was professional to me. She always took the extra time to sit with me whenever I had questions. It is going to be very difficult to return to the office and not see her there. I just wanted to say that I feel fortunate to have known her and that she will always be in my thoughts.

Thank you very much,
Gina Merenda

Enter your Seedling Photos for Display at the Regional Convention

by *Lori-Ann Jones*

We have all taken pictures of our drop-dead beautiful seedlings this year and CDS has asked me to compile our members seedling pictures to run on a continuous loop at the 2007 Regional. In order to accomplish this in a timely fashion, the deadline for sending in pictures is May 31, 2007. I do hope you take pity on my soul and send your pictures during the cold months, and not when it is time to go out and play in the garden!

Here are the rules for submission:

1. The photo must be a seedling and not a registered daylily.
2. The dimensional size of the photo should be no larger than 3456 x 2304.
3. Do not send e-mail size photos.
4. Send one (1) photo at a time to knollcottage@yahoo.com
5. It is imperative that the subject line in the e-mail read: SEEDLING PICS FOR 2007 REGIONAL CONVENTION
6. If you want credit for your seedling, your name should appear within the photo image along with a garden name or a seedling number if you wish.
7. You may send a disc if you prefer to:
Lori-Ann Jones
216 Belanger Road
Southampton, MA 01073-9399
8. My phone number is: 413-533-5622
9. Please write somewhere on the envelope 2007 REGIONAL CONVENTION.
10. Please include your phone number and your e-mail address so I may contact you a notify you that your disc has arrived or if I encounter any difficulty.

I am looking forward to seeing all those wonderful seedlings.

Patriot Daylily Society Online Store

by *Patsy Cunningham*

We've opened a PDS Online Store on Cafepress at <http://cafepress.com/patriot-daylily>. With a few clicks of your mouse you may easily purchase T-shirts and other items with beautiful daylily artwork, some with the Patriot Daylily Society name printed on them. In the future, we can upload additional designs and photos and make them available to our members and to the public at large. We currently have several T-shirt, mug and tote designs available for online purchase. There is no cost to PDS for the store as long as we stay within their guidelines and any profit from these items goes directly to the Patriot Daylily Society.

Vinegar as a Safe Herbicide by *Nina Lapierre*

For those of us who dislike using chemicals, an inexpensive and environmentally safe weed controller is right in our kitchen cabinets – white vinegar. Vinegar is a 5-6% solution of acetic acid which if applied properly, will burn the foliage of emergent weeds. While not as effective long term or as immediate as commercial weed killers, vinegar can do a serviceable job especially on annual weeds growing in gravel or between stones in a walkway. It can also be applied in garden beds, with a bit more care. Results with several applications are quite effective with best results obtained on newly emerging weed growth.

For best results, spray before annual weeds have had an opportunity to establish. Choose a dry, calm day when no rain is predicted and apply after all dew has evaporated. Place full-strength vinegar in a pint spray bottle with 1 teaspoon dishwashing liquid and 1 tablespoon mineral oil. Using a piece of cardboard as an overspray shield to protect grass and desirable plants, saturate the weeds and all areas around them with the vinegar mixture. Results are more immediate if vinegar is applied in 70+ degree sun. A reapplication each month is necessary to keep emergent seeds too damaged to germinate, especially with weeds growing in gravel. Household strength vinegar will decrease the pH of soils temporarily but will not cause any long term shift in pH. Vinegar is biodegradable and will not harm pets or humans. The biggest drawbacks I have found are: Reapplication will be needed after rain. Vinegar will eventually corrode the mechanism of the spray bottle, requiring replacement. Also, some weeds are difficult to eradicate, especially weeds with long tap roots so frequent reapplication is necessary.