

Gardening in 3D by David Jewell, Lindsay, Ontario

When I say gardening in 3D, I am sure your mind jumps to height, width and things jumping out at you, like on a movie screen but in this example, it's not the case. Instead I wanted to talk about something interesting that I have noticed, not only in my gardening life but in many of the gardens that we visit during conventions. What my three "D"s stand for are this: Daylilies, Dogs and as an added touch, Dandelions.



Man's Best Friend

In my often warped perception of reality, I have noticed something that has always interested or intrigued me and that is the connection and mostly the reality of this article which if I titled it properly, would have been called "Gardening in 2D", but not as catchy. Dogs and daylilies, for some unknown reason, seem to go hand in hand.

From my first foray into daylilies, I noticed this without giving it much thought. I would often visit the gardens of Anne and Don Martin and of course be greeted by their faithful companion who would tour me through the gardens, and I am sure was trained to lead me to the most expensive daylilies available. In the back of their house was a slab of granite with a loving message carved into it in memory of a friend before.



Sweet Puppy Kisses

As my circle of gardens grew, so did my new four legged friends. I would often spend as much time with the dogs in the gardens as I would looking at daylilies. I am sure it must have been my animal magnetism at work. Again the circle was not that big so it must have been just my area of the world and nothing really special going on. Of course, I had my best friends too, Damian and Lucy, and I



am sure they were just as excited about my new daylilies when I brought them home, or it could have just been the smell of other dogs. My hybridizing program was fairly new when the unthinkable happened, like a daylily bloom, it seems that our lives with our companions are far too short. In February, after over 15 years together, Damian passed away followed by Lucy three months later. My only recourse to keep them alive was memorializing my closest friends. Three plants were selected and thus, three introductions: "Man's Best Friend", "Damian Carlton Jewell" and "Sweet Puppy Kisses," and after several years wait, Lucy's plant will be introduced in 2014. I dedicated a small corner of my garden to them, a quiet shady spot with a plaque and a Celtic cross.



Damian Carlton Jewell

As the daylily bug bit harder, I found myself wanting more new and exciting plant, which landed me at my first official daylily meeting, the ODS CAN/AM classic. To my wildest fantasies appeared Melanie Mason and McGee, oh yes and I believe Bob was there too. Enough about Melanie and Bob, right there in the hotel attending the daylily meeting was a dog!! Well, Melanie and Bob were also there. Every meeting I would go to, for me, it was as much the excitement of the four legged friends as the daylilies and those two legged creatures too. McGee stopped coming but in her place came Corie equally as thrilling to see but somewhat aloof unless you have treats. Then I learned of Jamie Gossard's secret hybridizing program, red poodles. No it's not a new daylily form or some diploid conversion technique, it's MORE DOGS. Almost everywhere I went where there were dogs there seemed to be daylilies,

or should that be the other way around? I think I like it here, people would present at our CAN/AM meeting and right smack in the middle of the presentations, there they were- dogs and puppies, well some people like cats too but hey we all can't be perfect and have great presentations.

This spring was my biggest daylily journey ever and yes even in the far reaches across the border of our continent, believe it or not, there are dogs, err daylilies, I mean. At Mike and Sandy Holmes garden I met one of Eric Simpsons' Cavalier introductions "Ferguson" oh yes, and his daylilies are nice too. Along with Ferguson was Kim McCutcheon's friend, Sheila, and there were people there but I can't seem to remember who. There seemed to be dogs here and there, however, when I visited Jamie Gossard's gardens, I am sure that he had them hidden away. I peered through the greenhouse windows trying for a glimpse at the red poodle hybridizing program but they were nowhere to be found. Even with a journey as far south as Kentucky, I found the ever popular daylily dog combo at Daylily World, the home of Ruffeé and Max. Mort Morss and David Kirchhoff are lucky enough to be able to have their daylily program there in exchange for being servants. The daylilies were nice.



One of the most unique Doglilies that I saw was at the home of Tom Polston and Doug Sterling. Pulling up on the bus, I saw a lady standing, holding what I thought was a Siberian Husky puppy. I said to my



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bus mate can you please take a picture of me holding the puppy. I wanted to send it back to my best friend and gardener in Canada. To my surprise, it was a full grown miniature husky. To me, it was the everlasting cute puppy. Tom had nice daylilies too. Dogs and daylilies are a logical combination it would seem.

So, lots of 2D talk so far, but what about that third "D"? Well as I mentioned earlier, I wanted to send the picture of me and the Polston Doglily to my friend and gardener back home. Jim's life also revolves around two things: his gardening business "My Kawartha Gardener" and his Siberian Husky Misha, who unfortunately suffers from separation anxiety and has to go everywhere with Jim. But Misha is no ordinary garden dog. She is a remarkable gardening dog. I am sure at this point you are saying, "yeah, yeah she digs holes..." but Misha has developed a taste for believe it or not dandelions.



Lucy's Flower for 2014

One spring while working in a garden (Jim was), a large pile of dandelions was forming, Misha [with Jim, below] walked over picked one up and gnawed the root to a stub. She ate the flower and dumped the greens. Over time and with the approval of her doctor, the behavior continued. We began to call it dandelion drunk. She would literally eat the flowers of any that were around and pull the plant out of the ground and eat the root to the point that her face was covered in dirt and she had a glazed look from all the treats. Life was good! You pay for a gardener and you get a second one for free, and to boot the weeds are carried away and composted!

My observation is true. There is a connection between dogs, daylilies and dandelions. It's in the plants we name; it's in the company we keep; it's in our garden greeters and the weeds we pull. It's odd and yet magical and probably not going to change. Dogs and daylilies are a unique combination that are here to stay... and those stupid dandelions, too.



There are scholarships and prizes for AHS youth members! Make sure to mark on your calendars the following award and application submission deadlines.

Youth Awards and Scholarship submission deadlines:

AHS Youth Photography Award
November 1, 2013 submission deadline

**Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award
Bertie Ferris Scholarship**
Application period January 1 –March 31, 2014

Mabel Matthews Scholarship
April 1, 2014 application deadline

Details for awards and scholarships can be found on the AHS web site, www.daylilies.org

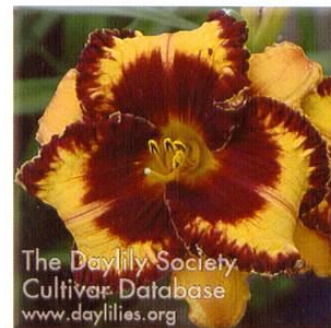
Holiday Traditions Contest for all youth members! A special prize will be awarded to the winner. Everyone entering will be included in a drawing to be held January 1, 2014. Pick a holiday in November, December or January. What tradition is practiced by you or your family to commemorate this holiday? To enter, send your name, the name of the holiday and a brief description of the tradition to the AHS Youth Chair [contact info above right] by email or snail mail.

(Entry examples: Jane Doe; Thanksgiving; I help collect and distribute food for needy families OR John Doe; Christmas; every year the children in our family make ornaments to decorate the tree.)

Kathy D'Alessandro, AHS Youth Chair,
2076 Silo Lane, East Greenville, PA, 18041,
kadales@verizon.net

Youth Group **Halloween Contest** on the AHS Portal
<http://www.daylilynetwork.org>

Visit the Youth Group to find the hidden ghosts and goblins for your chance to win HALLOWEEN TRICK, Salter 2005 [photo below from AHS data base.]. Find them all and you will be entered in a drawing to be held November 30, 2013.



Upcoming AHS Regional and National Events

Visit <http://ontariodaylily.on.ca/> for details and registrations information on the 18th Annual Can-Am Classic, hosted by the Ontario Daylily Society.

For details and registration information on the 2014 National Convention in North Carolina, visit <http://www.daylilies.org/2014convention/index.html>