



Notes from

# HORNBAKER GARDENS

*"The Princeton Perennial People"*  
22937 1140 N. Ave., Princeton, Illinois 61356

NEWSLETTER No. 19

(815) 659-3282

JUNE 2002

## Thank You

So many of you have made supportive and favorable comments concerning our decision to be closed on Sundays next year, that we just want to say a big, public thanks for your understanding attitude. We look forward to our weekly "vacation" next year, and trust that we will see you during our regular Monday through Saturday hours.

We will be  
closed on July 4

## Daylily Clumps Priced To Sell

At the end of iris season last year, we decided to thin out the iris field, eliminating some varieties, reducing the number on some varieties, and giving more room to the good sellers. We crated up lots of the overflow, and sold them for \$1.00 each to customers who came to pick up their iris orders, see the daylilies, or otherwise shop at our nursery.

Now we are going to do something similar in the daylily field. We have over 600 varieties of daylilies out there, and we would like to make some space to bring in some of the new varieties. In order to make space without plowing up any more

land (which then has to be kept weeded), we are going to have a major sell-off of daylily clumps this year.

Kathy and Molly just spent two days pricing clumps. Of the 600 varieties out there, nearly 450 are available in clumps this year. Some we will sell until they are gone, some we will sell to reduce the space that they are taking up, and some we will sell just to thin out somewhat. According to Molly, "Mom is giving this stuff away!" In other words, these clumps are price to sell.

For those of you who have not bought daylily clumps before, perhaps a short explanation is in order. You can purchase starts of daylilies by placing an order. We dig these orders in August, after the bloom season, because we don't want to divide clumps in the middle of the bloom season. However, if you want an entire clump, we will dig that for you right on the spot, drop it in a plastic bag, and you can take it with you. Some customers, of course, take the clump home and divide it

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## Picnickers Welcome

In the shady area next to the parking lot are located some picnic tables. You are welcome to use them, along with the tables and chairs in the gazebo. We know of several groups, families or friends, who like to meet here, picnic and visit together, enjoy the gardens, and maybe even

shop a little. Lemonade and ice water are generally available up near the retail room. We do ask that you take your trash with you. We generate enough as it is.

Larger groups may want to reserve the gazebo ahead of time. Just give us a call.

## Hosta 'Remember Me'

We just received a shipment of a brand new hosta about which we are very excited. It is 'Remember Me', a sensational white-centered sport of 'June'. It is listed as forming a medium-small clump, which would make it smaller than 'June', probably because it has so much white in it. The leaves have excellent substance and the centers are very white, with some streaking into them from the blue-green margins.

A portion of the wholesale price that we paid for this plant goes to the Grand Rapids, Michigan, affiliate of the Susan G. Koman Foundation for breast cancer research. 'Remember Me' is named not only in honor of the late Sandy De Boer, an employee of Walters Gardens, Inc. (the wholesale nursery from whom we obtained these plants), but also in honor of the thousands of women who battle this deadly disease.



# Antique Millstones From China

Many of you have noticed with interest the millstones lying on pallets directly across from the checkout room. Until recently, we didn't even have a sign up explaining what they are. And we have only recently figured out just how they were operated. There are bases and tops. The tops have an extra hole through which the grain was poured. The tops also have a hole in the side from which a rod or peg would have protruded. Presumably a leather strap would then run from the peg to a harness on an ox or other animal, who would walk in a circle

causing the top to grind against the base. We tried to talk Rif (our dog) into playing the part of the ox so that we could test a set of millstones, but he would have none of it.

These are actual antique millstones from China. The same people who make the hand carved granite lanterns that we carry are picking them up all across the China countryside, where they are no longer being used, and shipping them over here.

The stones sell for \$170.00 each. They are worth it just for their antiquity, but

you can use your creativity as far as how to display or use them. We plan to build a bubbling fountain with one of them.



## Daylily

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up in order to mass plant that variety, but we think that most customers plant the clump as is, in which case they have an instant mature clump.

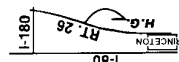
In any either case, the clumps are real bargains. On a per fan basis, they are priced lower than most wholesale prices. Depending on the variety and how long it has been in the field, clumps generally have from 5 to 20 fans per clump.

Clumps are priced from \$20.00 to \$50.00 each. You pick out the clump that you want, so you will see exactly what you are getting for your money.

In some cases, the clump price is based upon the largest clumps in the group. For example, if there are 20 clumps of a certain variety, and three of those clumps are larger than the others (and will therefore be chosen first), we have priced

the clumps based on those big ones. After they are gone, we will reduce the price for the rest. If you want a smaller clump in the first place, we'll negotiate a price. We are ready to wheel and deal, so come take advantage of it. Am I starting to sound like an automobile commercial?

Peak bloom season for daylilies generally starts just after July 4 and runs for about three weeks.



Directions: From the intersection of I-180 and Rt. 26 (5 miles SE of Princeton), go toward Princeton on Rt. 26 about 1/4 mile and take the first left. Go 2 miles to the top of the steep hill.

**GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE**



We accept

Princeton, Illinois 61356  
22937 1140 N. Ave.,

**HORNBAKER  
GARDENS**

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