

On Friday the 13th Jan Teague, Ralph & Phyllis Haehn, & Mark Druckenbrod, took a tour of the Draime Legacy Gardens and the Salem Kent State Campus. The reason for this tour was to establish the location of the NODS KentState Scholarship Garden, see the facility, and the accomplishment of the present Horticultural students with their gardens. We were very impressed with the staff we will be working with and the facilities.

We met up with Mathew Butts and Phil Pfeifer at the Draime Gardens at 1 pm. Phil gave us the royal tour of this wonderful estate garden which the Kent State Horticultural students look after. The estate will be willed to the Kent State University after the passing of Mrs. Draime & in the mean time the students are doing a fabulous job of keeping this large 10 acre estate in pristine condition. Words fail me to describe this wonderful property with its many diverse plants, trees, hidden gardens and artwork throughout, it rivals any public garden I have ever been to including my exposure to a few in England. The second part of our trip took us from Warren down to the Salem Campus of Kent State University. Here we met Stan Jones who is in charge of the Horticultural program. They put up a much appreciated lunch for us as we discussed their programs & the Scholarship. Thank goodness Mark was there to ask many pertinent questions regarding the students courses etc.

After our late lunch we did a walkabout to see the Hosta Garden and look at the sight chosen for our NODS Daylily garden. The sight is on a rise with a back drop of large Grasses and Red Trees behind that (sorry I never did ask what the red trees/bushes were behind the grasses) & beyond that an open field. It is located in close proximity to the greenhouse and the parking lot so will have a lot of good exposure to students and visitors. The garden will be approximately 40 feet long by 12 to 15 feet deep, which means we will need a good number of daylilies to do it justice.

Stan would like us to provide 5 to 7 plants of each cultivar we will be donating so we (NODS members) will have to co-ordinate our efforts to come up with the plants. The thought is to have the garden progress from Species daylilies on up through the transitions to our present day marvels of UF, & fancy eyes, & from mini's to monsters, to represent as many forms as we can. Kent State will supply the labor & material to get the garden ready, plant the daylilies and maintain the garden.

It might be nice if we supply the stakes and labels for our daylilies as they just use the smaller aluminum markers with only the plant name. We had some trouble identifying some of the Hosta as we toured that garden as the tags were missing or buried under foliage.

It was a long day and extremely hot but very rewarding to see the enthusiasm of Kent State for our participation in their program. The Horticultural program is continually growing with students attending from all of NE Ohio. The exposure of our daylily garden will be of benefit to both Kent State and our own Hemerocallis Society & what a legacy it will be for NODS.