

NEWS

LONDONWOOD GARDENS

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FAYETTEVILLE GARDENER DONATES DAYLILIES FOR NEW LONDONWOOD DISPLAY

About 250 new daylilies have found a home at Lendonwood Gardens, thanks to Fayetteville gardener Bob Stassen. The perennial plants, representing 23 cultivars, were donated from his own garden, complete with labels.

Not only did Stassen donate the plants, he also helped prep the new bed on Saturday, August 26, by helping dig out rocks, fertilizing, and planting the daylilies. He also added his expertise on garden design with suggestions on placement within the bed.

When asked what his favorite daylily is, he said, "I love them all. For quick response and immediate impact, you can't beat daylilies." He said he received many of the cultivars from friends, from fundraisers and from daylily hybridizers. Stassen finally confessed one of his favorites is "Dutch Yellow Truffle," a double lemon-yellow rebloomer hybridized by David Kirchoff, which will highlight the new Lendonwood bed.

Lendonwood volunteers, including president Roger Endo, had prepared the large 30-foot by 20-foot bed by removing some struggling shrubs and clearing other plants. Nevertheless, a great number of hidden rocks had to be dug up and removed before the daylilies could be planted. Several scoops of rich dirt were added to the bed as well.

"We are pleased to have another showcase for daylilies, right near the entrance," Endo said. "In summer, these flowers offer a splash of color just when we need it. We are very grateful for Bob's gift of these beautiful perennials."

Stassen also is an expert on rhododendrons, serving as president of the Ozark Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society. Lendonwood has a large collection of rhododendrons and azaleas on display in spring.

Helping with the daylily project were Lendonwood board members Endo, Dave Torline, Pauline Hale and Melba Dagy.

Lendonwood Gardens is a botanical garden supported by volunteers, memberships and contributions. The garden is open to the public year-round, from dawn to dusk. Botanical highlights include major collections of azaleas, rhododendrons, daylilies, hostas, peonies, Japanese maples, dogwoods, and many other plants and trees. The garden has become a popular rental venue for outdoor weddings and other special events.

For more information about Lendonwood, see the garden's web site at www.lendonwood.com, or call 918-786-2938.