

MoKanOk Daylily, Spring 2012

Flint Hills Hemerocallis Society

by Ernie Minton

In the fall/winter 2011 issue of the **MoKanOk**, we looked at the net profit from our club's only principle fundraiser over the past several years. Although we collect nominal club dues from members, our major source of revenue is our fall plant sale. The graphic data we presented in the last issue suggested that new approaches to revenue generation will likely be important in coming years. In fact, at our first meeting of 2012, our treasurer's report confirmed that our club expenses for 2011 exceeded our revenues—yikes!

The requested topic for this submission to the **MoKanOk** was to be around club fundraising. We also look forward to learning of innovative ideas other clubs are utilizing to help resource the activities of their clubs. At this point, our fall plant sale remains our key fundraiser. It is scheduled for September 8, 2012, and we are hopeful the net profit trend line bends upward!

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With the relatively mild winter, early arrival of warmer spring temperatures and above average precipitation in February and March, daylily enthusiasts experienced early breaks from dormancy and rapid foliage growth in April. Those factors could have been predictive of a spectacular bloom season around Manhattan. However, lower than normal rainfall in April and especially in May (2.11 and 1.36 inches versus normal rainfall of 3.17 and 5.09 inches, respectively), combined with warmer spring temperatures caused many plants to stop in their tracks. In general, most plants bloomed early and many seemed to terminate more quickly than normal.

On June 23, 2012, our club held its annual Members Garden Tour that attracted about 30 members. An unexpected but much welcomed early morning rain served to moderate the morning temperature. Five gardens were highlighted on the tour and the consensus was that all were affected by the mild winter and spring weather. Even on June 23, most gardens were past peak bloom and some of the plant foliage was clearly distressed.

The next regular club meeting was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. (Social at 6:30 p.m.), Monday, August 6, 2012 at the Manhattan Fire Station Auditorium, 2000 Denison Ave., Manhattan, KS. The meeting featured guest speaker Bob Faulkner--Natural Selection Daylilies.

Visitors were invited to attend.