Oscie Whatley's Daylily Records, Vol. 1

1950s to 1969

By Michael Bouman (2017)

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Introduction

Oscie B. Whatley, Jr. was born in 1923 and grew up on his family's plant nursery in Longview, Texas, 65 miles west of the Louisiana border. He trained as a pilot in St. Louis during World War II and flew transport aircraft in the European Theatre. While in training, he met and married Dorothy Henderson in November, 1943. After the war, he attended college and became a manufacturing engineer with McDonnell-Douglas. During the 1950s he and Dorothy started a family in University City, just west of the St. Louis city limits.





It's safe to assume that Oscie grew flowers and vegetables from the beginning. He knew about daylilies, of course, and as any gardener would, he probably explored the local plant nurseries. One way or another, he met William Dill, a nurseryman who had been working with daylilies since 1934 and who was selecting, naming, and introducing the daylilies of Dr. Charles Branch of Piper, Illinois.

I first heard of Dill when I corresponded with Doc Branch in 1998 in connection with a profile of Oscie for *The Daylily Journal*. Branch recalled Dill as "one of the dearest friends of my past. He would come and stay at my house for 3-4 days during peak daylily bloom and sit for hours in front of the better flowers

taking data on the blooms. Then, when he finished we would go over his notes and pick the following year's introductions.

"He was here when my HORTENSIA first bloomed in 1960. I noticed him going back to it several times that day. After our evening meal we sat down as usual to talk about the day's notes and he said, 'Doc, I'd sure like to introduce that ruffled yellow seedling, but it wouldn't be fair to you or it. If someone like Julia Hardy would introduce it, it would win the Stout. It has to be introduced by someone with immediate national exposure.' So he and I went to the Chicago national convention a few days later, met and talked with Mrs. Hardy, and she asked for a guest plant. The next summer, I was called to the house with an 'urgent' telephone call. It was Julia. She said, 'your seedling just bloomed. It has to be introduced! And I want to be the one to do it! It will go through the awards in record time and win the Stout Medal.' How prophetic!!"

Will Dill had been a charter member of the American Hemerocallis Society in 1946. He had connections throughout the United States. He registered 72 cultivars between 1951 and 1968, winning the Stout Medal posthumously for the daylily RENEE in 1971. Dill was Oscie Whatley's first mentor, but Oscie tended to absorb information and knowledge from everyone he met. He was the epitome of the lifelong learner. He remembered the first daylilies he acquired from Dill this way:

"[I gave him] the astronomical sum of \$30 for a starter collection. I began working with English cultivars from Perry and Yeld, because the British achieved width before the Americans. I wanted to create tailored, yellow flowers with wide forms, and it seemed to me that I could move toward something distinctive by taking a different path from the other hybridizers I knew about."

When Oscie's Aunt Mary Stevens, who owned a plant nursery in Ft. Worth, Texas, learned of his new hobby she sent him a plant of the 1953 Stout Medal winner, REVOLUTE. Oscie told me, "It was the most beautiful daylily I had ever seen. It wasn't wide, but it had a quality of color that set it apart."

Aside from Dill, there were several other experienced hybridizers whose names weave in and out of the notebooks. Earl B. Rexroad was twenty years older than Oscie, and I don't know much about him. Oscie's slide library included Rexroad's two 1962 registrations, apparently photographed at a daylily show where Oscie won "Best in Show." Rexroad registered nothing more until 1987, four years before he died.

Rexroad's ORANGE MONARCH and



PINK MINT



Irma Searles (1908-1996) was a nationally renowned teacher of Ikebana floral arranging. In a brief hybridizing career between from 1957 to her last Journal entries in 1973, she earned two Honorable Mentions, one Award of Merit, and one Lenington All America Award. [I scanned her Journal and placed it online in the Region 11 area of the AHS Membership Portal.]

George Pettus was Oscie's contemporary. He registered 32 cultivars between 1962 and 1985, earning five Honorable Mention awards. Pettus served as the President of AHS in 1968 when the National Convention took place in St. Louis. He died in 2009 at age 86.

Harold L. Harris was Oscie's contemporary and fellow resident of Florissant, Missouri after Oscie moved there in 1964. He registered 58 cultivars between 1971 and 1983, earning four HM awards and two AMs. Oscie told me Harris decided to stop hybridizing because daylilies were "ruling his life." John Benz acquired the remaining Harris seedlings and registered 63 more between 1984 and 1990. Those releases earned seven HM awards and one Award of Merit. Oscie observed to me once that Harold Harris had achieved better results than he did with Whatley's tetraploid conversions.

Also active at that time was Louise Bellagamba (1912-2007) who was a Master Flower Show Judge. She registered 21 cultivars between 1978 and 2001.

For Midwesterners in the 50s and 60s, "Daylily Mecca" was Sarcoxie, Missouri, where the growing fields of the Gilbert Wild Company contained 300,000 seedlings. Every year after the Wild company removed its selections from the seedlings, visitors were allowed to roam and dig as many leftovers as they wanted for a dollar a plant. Some of Oscie friends made the tedious 300-mile drive there as if heading for the gold fields.

Oscie and his fellow hybridizers founded the Greater St. Louis Daylily Society in 1960. In 1964 he moved his family to a new subdivision in Florissant, Missouri in the northern suburbs of St. Louis. He laid out garden beds on about a quarter of an acre of flat ground in the back yard and grew his daylilies in the glare of a treeless landscape. Everyone in the neighborhood added trees and shrubs to their lots, and the neighborhood eventually took on a lush appearance.

Oscie came into national attention at the 1968 AHS National Convention in St. Louis. His future diploid registrations created a sensation. For the next thirty years he was a major contributor to progress in developing the genetic potential of the hybrid daylily. He continued to open genetic doors for other hybridizers until his death from pancreatic cancer in 2005 at the age of 82. His cultivars earned more AHS awards than those of any other individual hybridizer in the three-state region of Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma. In 1984 he received the AHS Bertrand Farr Award recognizing contributions to hybridizing.

I was lucky to make a career move from Vermont to St. Louis in 1995, early in my own journey as a hybridizer. I knew about Oscie Whatley and arranged to meet him as soon as I got to town. He drew me into the activities of the daylily club and took me with him to meet the people in the Columbia, Missouri daylily club that fall. I became one of a huge network of people who considered him a "best friend."

I wrote about Oscie several times and edited a piece he wrote for the Region 11 newsletter on the subject of setting goals in hybridizing. He taught me to make tetraploid conversions using a chemistry kit and instruction sheet he had developed for anyone interested. Before his surgery in 2003 he had me dig a fan of his seedling 6421 to be sure that I had it. He registered that seedling as SASSY SALLY in 2004.

After Oscie passed away, I worked with Dorothy and the family to liquidate his daylily garden in 2007. Dorothy passed away in 2009 and their daughter, Linda Polkinghorne saved Oscie's daylily records, such as they were. With her permission, I have scanned his garden notebooks, registration papers, and color slides for study and publication. You can consider this booklet my Study Guide to your exploration of the compiled records.

Oscie Whatley's Character

Anyone studying Oscie Whatley's daylily records should bear several things in mind about the man and his intellect.

- Oscie was naturally friendly, courteous, generous, modest, and curious. He would take the
 initiative to engage people, but never overpowered them. His conversation was relaxed. Wry
 humor came readily to him. I never heard him make a joke at someone's or some group's
 expense. He made everyone feel welcome in his life.
- He had wide-ranging curiosity and wide-ranging plant interests. He hybridized dogwood trees
 and geraniums, bought hybrid daffodils, sampled various kinds of columbines, irises, lilies,
 hostas, roses, and peonies.
- He believed in working on distinctive results in hybridizing. Moving in a circle of serious
 hybridizers, he absorbed their doctrines about using the best parent plants available, working to
 achieve something better, avoiding wasted effort. He was always on the lookout for
 breakthrough material to work with. He horse-traded for plants or pollen all the time.
- He enjoyed lab work and experiments. He liked to make precise drawings. He liked to keep detailed records of his work with a microscope or with chemical solutions.
- He did not believe in putting collected seeds into any order for planting. Though he never said
 this to me, it was evident when we planted his seedlings. He did not consolidate seeds from
 several pods of the same cross. In all of his seedling maps, you will find the same cross in
 random locations throughout the bed. It's as if he saved seeds pod by pod and planted them in
 whatever order they came out of the refrigerator.
- His prose was easy-flowing and compact in construction. There were no wasted words. His feeling for the plants and for his values imbued his descriptions.
- His record-keeping stressed economy of expression, shorthand, code, and abbreviations. I
 believe he was more comfortable with numbers than with written words.
- I believe he was dyslexic, but I don't know if he realized the scope of his challenge. I didn't realize this until I studied his notebooks. His difficulty involved the process of hearing a sound and thinking of how to speak or write it. The difficulty only seemed to affect combinations of sounds that were novel to him, such as the local place name, Carondelet, or the word

"Finlandia." In everyday conversation, you'd never guess he had a difficulty. And if you knew that he had studied American Sign Language at the Community College, and that he liked the sound of certain Italian words such as "Italia," you'd be shocked when you saw his garden notes.

Overview of the Notebooks

Oscie's slides and notebooks help correct each other, yet neither set constitutes a complete record of what he wrote or photographed. He began hybridizing in the early 1950s, but the earliest records he saved date from 1960.

I have compiled all the notebooks just as they are into a PDF e-book, Oscie Whatley Garden Notebook Compilation, and have added an index at the beginning so that the student of this material can follow Oscie's journey through time rather than in the discontinuous order the notebooks offer.

Oscie favored small 6-ring binders that would fit in a pocket. Each notebook is arranged in reverse chronology and is jammed with pages. He wrote in pencil, ball point pen, sometimes calligraphic pen, and occasionally a standard ink pen. He used several methods of abbreviation and provided himself occasionally with keys to his abbreviations because of the complexity of making readable notes quickly in a cramped space.

He wrote the notebooks for his own short-term reference. Nothing in them suggests that he wanted to have a "stud book" that records in a systematic way the pedigrees of the plants he registered. These books are primarily lists of each year's selections and maps of his seedling beds. Those lists are the source material for understanding his interests and methods of work. There are also sections of scientific notes, small business notations, reminders about plants he had seen or judged for AHS awards, and some records of his tetraploid conversions. The notes on his conversions are incomplete. He was not compiling a history of his work in that field but a convenient reference for several experiments with chemistry and a microscope.

It strikes me from looking at his first notebook that it is, in fact, a filing cabinet in which the pages have been arranged in an order that suited his needs in the early 1970s, and that some material of no particular importance to him has been discarded. In "Notebook One" we are plunged into something more like a memory book of someone on the edge of national fame, someone riding the wave of discovery with an eye to making every inch of garden space count.

Oscie's gardening habits are relevant to studying his notebooks:

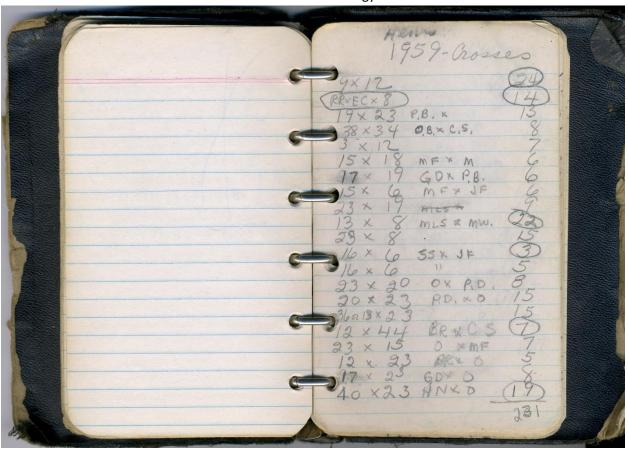
- In the years that I helped Oscie transfer his seedlings from metal trays in a cold frame out into his seedling bed, I saw numerous ways that uncertainty could lie behind the apparent authority of his written record. Garden labels were green plastic about 1.25" x 6." They became brittle over time and were sometimes removed by squirrels. Oscie marked the labels with a No 2 pencil, a durable practice limited only by the legibility of his writing.
- During hybridizing season, Oscie apparently didn't make daily notes of his daylily crosses. He wrote plastic push-on tags at the end of the morning, from memory, and put them on the

- blossoms he had crossed. These often fell away during the summer, as they do in my garden, and he relied on memory and guesswork in notating a pollen parent. When a cross tag is missing, there's always a chance that an insect was the hybridizer.
- Oscie's seedling beds were not large, but mapping them required good vision from some distance because the pencil markings on the green plastic labels were not easily read.
- Although there was a lot of guesswork, there was also a formidable "garden intelligence" at
 work. You can see revisions in his notebook when he changed his mind about parentage. One
 clear example is his TARTA. His revision note about the pollen parent says "Age of I?" Having
 grown AGE OF INNOCENCE myself, as well as TARTA, I realized that his guess was on the money.
 AGE OF INNOCENCE has a distinctive way of not quite opening flat, and TARTA inherited that
 trait.
- Oscie's habit with abbreviations was to write the minimum necessary to remind himself a year or two later. "SG" might be the abbreviation for SILOAM SHOW GIRL. I'm sure that "Pete. Bog." was a wry abbreviation for PETITE BOUQUET. "SFM" might have stood for SILOAM FAIRY MIST initially, but he used it consistently to mean SILOAM MEDALION. There is no saved slide of a seedling from SILOAM FAIRY MIST. The student of his crosses needs to make a table of abbreviations and look for clues throughout the notebooks. I made such a table as I transcribed the lists in his notebooks and am publishing that in PDF form at the same time I publish the notebooks. Since there is so much guesswork, your guess might be better than mine.

From Diploids to Tetraploids, c. 1951 - 1969 [Return to Contents]

Oscie's notes are written on 3" x 5" ruled white looseleaf pages. Generally he only wrote on the right hand page of seedling maps and selection lists, leaving the left side available for follow-up notes. The e-book compilation of his notebooks includes everything except blank pages. To follow in the compilation, just click the appropriate hyperlink at the top of the document.

"Hems 1959 - crosses" is the earliest data in Oscie's chronology.



Compare this with the first page of Irma Searles's Journal:

1957						
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		0		0		
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It is obvious that the Searles Journal is a "fair copy" from her notes and that it is for the edification of anyone interested in her methods and achievements. She could have written this fair copy in 1973 when she ceased hybridizing. Searles adopted a practice of numbering each cross. Oscie didn't following that practice.

The first question about Oscie's "1959 Crosses" is whether 1959 is the current year or the previous year. Does this page date from 1960 and does it sum up his results from 1959? At face value, that's what it means. This question of whether a map is keyed to a "hybridizing year" rather than a "mapping year" dogged him throughout his career. In other words, using a different heading, the two choices are "This is a map of my seedlings in 1959" or "This is a map of the results of my work in 1959, made in 1960." The notebooks are full of places where he changed the designation of the year at the top of the page. This makes a difference to the student of his work because if this is a record of what he did in 1959 and planted in 1960, we can make guesses about his parent plants with 1959 as the latest possible date of

registration. On the other hand, if "1959 crosses" is a way of talking about a seedling bed planted in 1959, the latest registration he could have used was 1958. I am opting to take this as a record of work in 1959 that he planted in 1960.

At this point in his hybridizing career Oscie is using a double code to remind himself of what is in the ground. Each cross is recorded on the left. I think he has assigned a number to each named cultivar in his collection. He probably had a separate numbered list and opted to memorize the numbers to save space. He appears to have added abbreviations of those cultivar names in the middle column, likely at a later date when going back over these pages. Occasionally, there is an inconsistency of matching an abbreviation with a number code. The numbers on the right probably represent seedlings in the ground. As long as plants in his collection had names beginning with unique initials or combinations, this system of abbreviations might hold up for a year or two, but as he added and subtracted breeding plants it would not serve well.

Number 23 is "O." Is that the abbreviation for Charles "Doc" Branch's OKAY (1956) which Will Dill was selling and Irma Searles was using, or is it Anna Sheets' OLEN (1958) a yellow self, or David Hall's OPALINE (1955) a cream blend? I doubt it was Hamilton Traub's OPHELIA (1959).

OKAY OKAY

(Dr. Charles E. Branch)

The daylily "OKAY" located in full sun goes through a color change from honeydew melon in a.m. to lustrous glowing pink in p.m. In late afternoon under real hot sun the glistening sheen becomes a white frost with the pink showing through. In this last stage the beauty is not surpassed. Blooms midseason and remains open evenings. Dormant. Have a few plants at \$15.

DILL GARDENS

4730 Heege Avenue

Affton 23, Missouri

OKAY

During database research on these abbreviations, I ruled out cultivars with eyes, prominent veins, and (for the most part) evergreen foliage habit. I looked at daylilies registered in "the latest possible year" and in the five or six years prior to that. Oscie had only a fleeting interest in eyes and he disliked veining. OKAY was available, and if Will Dill recommended it, Oscie would have used it. But I don't think the color shifting nature of it suited Oscie's purposes. Anna Sheets was just beginning to register daylilies in 1958, when Oscie made these crosses, and I wonder how he would have known about her work. David Hall's work was very well-known, and Oscie used a lot of his plants. Conjecture: it's OKAY or OPALINE.

Number 20 is "P.D." Is that David Hall's PARTY DOLL (1958)? That's a plausible guess, but the going gets rough as the list of codes continues.

The system has challenges for the researcher. Look at the second line. What is "RR x EC x 8?" There are two ways to read it, "(RR x EC) X 8" or RR X (EC x 8). However one reads it, there is clear evidence of time before 1959. The 1959 seeds were created using the result of a hybrid (either RR x EC or EC x 8). If Oscie made that hybrid, it would have been in bloom for the first time in 1959 or earlier, meaning a cross made in 1957 or earlier. The answer turns up in Oscie's 1962 map, where he uses parentheses to clarify: (RR x EC) X 8. Later, it seems a selection from that cross is written as (RR x EC x 8).

There's no explanation why RR and EC don't have numbers just like every other cultivar in his collection. What's the difference between 8 and either RR or EC? Conjecture rules! Is this a cross of RED RAMBLER (George Lenington, 56) X EMERALD CENTER (Mrs. T. A. Walker, 57)? Also, can we safely assume that Oscie made the RR X EC cross? No, we can't. That could have been a seedling someone gave him in 1959 or earlier. My own hybridizing records have such abbreviations when a friends give me unnumbered seedlings. In the case of Oscie Whatley in 1959, we don't know.

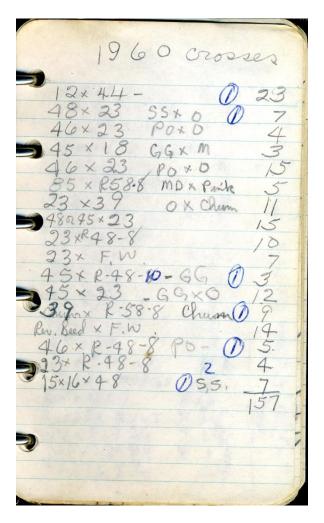
One has to consider the possibility of errors in notation, but one must bear in mind that Oscie was keenly interested in these plants and was as attentive as a person can be when going back over his notes. Since the notes were for his short-term use alone, he left no record of why he circled some numbers on this list or the whole cross on line two.

There is no record of what he did in previous years. In his recollection, he began to hybridize in the early 1950s. He may have discarded earlier notes or lost them.

His crop of seedlings in 1960 contains 231 plants.

1960 [Return to Contents]

His list of "1960 crosses" uses the same coded system we've just examined.

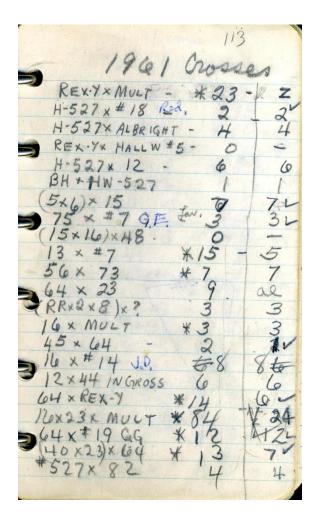


The previous system is in use, but he has added notes with a different pen. In one instance he has written the number 39 over the word "Chum" which is an abbreviation for CHUMMY. He's trying to make himself stick to number codes for cultivar names. We see "selection numbers" in this list, too, as in "R-48-10" or "R-58-8". If this were Oscie's later coding system, the 48 would indicate the year of selection. I might believe that for R-58-8 but not for R-48-8. It's an open question whether these are Oscie's selected seedlings, Earl Rexroad's, or someone else's. He appears to have an Earl Rexroad seedling in the fourth line up from the bottom, "Rex. Seed."

What is the meaning of the circled numeral ones?

1961 [Return to Contents]

Oscie records more detail in his 1962 record of 1961 work, but his meaning remains obscure to the outsider.



I assume the column on the far right is the number of seedlings in the ground. The number to the left of that may be a seed count. What does the asterisk mean?

I noticed his use of the term "incross" in the left hand column. That suggests that cultivars 12 and 44 are genetically related. I have guessed that these numbers mean BOLD RULER and CHRISTINE SMITH, both by David Hall in 1958, but no parents are listed for these in the AHS database, so how would Oscie know they share the same genetic material? It could be that he made a point of getting to know David Hall, whose cultivars were released by the Wild Nursery.

Rex-Y could be a Rexroad seedling. Another possibility is that this is the yellow seedling Rexroad noticed in the Wild seedling fields and brought back for Oscie's use. The "Wild seedling" was the magical parent that yielded Oscie's breakthrough daylily, JAKARTA, but we don't know if "Rex-Y" is that seedling. If it is that seedling, used as a pollen parent, then the pod parent numbered 45 is Doc Branch's SOLO. There is a mysterious superscript "4740" to the right of the Y. The asterisk may denote crosses of high interest. It does not yet indicate "Tetraploid."

"Mult" is Stout Medal winner, MULTNOMAH. H-527 is someone's seedling. It is tempting to imagine it's one of Hall's. "Albright" is ALLBRIGHT (Hall, 1955). I think it likely that "H-527" is identical to "HW-527". The use of the "#" sign before a numeral may distinguish a numbered selection of someone's from

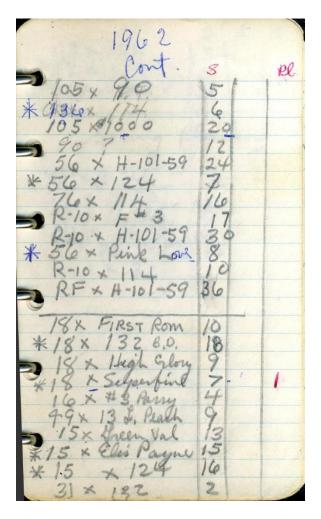
Oscie's code for his own collection. It could even denote an early system Oscie used to number his own selections.

There is a point of confusion with the abbreviation GG, three lines up from the bottom of the first page of this map of 1961 work. GG may be GARNET GARLAND (Betty Nesmith, 1957) or a small number of other things, but since "#19" is most likely not a named cultivar, GG has to decode "64." On the next page, however, GG decodes "60" in several places. (In my transcription of the notebook maps, you'll find some of my guesswork.)

The 1961 pages show how quickly Oscie Whatley built a wide network of sharing. Look at how much unique material is in his work now!

1962 [Return to Contents]

1962			1962
CROSS.			Cont
	5 - P	- Keep	5 Sous S P Keep.
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* 23× (46× R-58-8)	6		45 x R.58.8 x F-1500 3
23×(15×R.F.) ? 46×R-58-8×× J	18		23 × 109- Line 14 5*106 × 130 8
(5×16) × 48]	18		56 × A× × 18 ×
* PF x 125	13		(45×23)×23×R-8 8
(23x15) x 23 BACH	13		(15×16) × Pany = 3 16
40x23x FM o F.R.	3		RRXEC)× 82
* 36 x x R.F.	11		× 136 9 16
. 136 × (48 x 23)	20		76 x Peti x Bog. 21
* 56 x LAV. X	38×		76 × LAV-X (98 × 23) × E& 8. 13
23× 136	17		R-10 x Conv. ? 43
23 x R=14-101-59	4		73-Cx 124. 4
* 136 x (41×R-58-8)	7		4.90×105 1 4
2(15×/6)×48] x	7		(HOX23) X 1000 10.
FISHER 1500 =	The second second		(15×16)×48)× 60. 18
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R-10 X FIRST R.	4 20		164 x 14ALL 60-47 20:
23x \$25	16		1105× 90 22
* 23 x \$ 25 * R-10 x Hob Master	8		(15x1L) x 1005 24
child x LAV X	2		Chunx R-58-8/x LAV? 5



Oscie decided to keep more details when he laid out the pages in 1963 for work done in 1962. It looks like he intended to count seeds, then plants, then keepers. Again, this is a map of the garden bed, not a list of his crosses. I think the seed column amounts to a count of seedlings in the ground because once he designed the pages for this year he didn't use the empty columns on the right. Numerous items are overwritten in blue ink. Five rows up from the bottom, it looks like a 1959 cross of (RR x EC) x 8 has yielded a seedling that he used as a pollen parent with 136. It's just (RR x EC x 8) on this page, so it doesn't have a selection number at this point.

David Hall's 1962 GLOBE MASTER is the only recognizable name fully spelled out. As the 1962 list continues, the notation of the year is in blue ballpoint pen, so this is an update after the original pencil notations. One notation is especially mysterious. It reads "76 x Pete x Boq". This may be Mary Lester's 1960 PETITE BOUQUET. I doubt the x between syllables means a cross of two one-syllable plants.

As the 1962 list continues, the cultivar he noted as "Pete x Boq" is rendered "Pet Bog." He must have enjoyed the suggestion of "Peat Bog" in that abbreviation, as he stayed with that form or its variant, "Pete Boq." A reference to "Fas Mod" is probably Mary Lester's 1960 FASHION MODEL out of MULTNOMAH. A reference to "Em Isle" is Orville Fay's 1954 EMERALD ISLE. (When I interviewed Oscie

in 1998 he told me Orville Fay was his mentor. But when I asked him about Will Dill, he said, "Oh, I'd forgotten Will. He was my first mentor!")

Will Dill was about to strike paydirt in 1962 when he registered his RENEE, which marched up the pyramid of AHS awards. Dill passed away in 1969, two years before RENEE won the Stout Silver Medal. Here is Will Dill in the early sixties.



Oscie's 1962 records continue with the year fully stated in blue ink. There are blue ink updates all over the page. "Em Isle" is back, along with "Pet B." and "Pet. Boq". "Fas Model" is FASHION MODEL, and PINK LOVE is by Laura Pearl Hancock of Steele, North Dakota, 1961. A number of Hall seedlings are in use. The list continues with more information on outcross parents. "Pink L" in pencil is filled out to "Pink Love" with blue pen. "First Rom" is Mary Lester's 1960 FIRST ROMANCE. HIGH GLORY is Elmer Claar's 1961 Chinese yellow. SUPERFINE is a 1960 Fay-Hardy, color unregistered. "Green Val" is Hubert Fischer's 1955 GREEN VALLEY, an "aureolan yellow self." Oscie is also using a seedling, "Fisher 1500," that I presume came from the same Hubert Fischer in the Chicago suburbs. "Elis Payne" is Mary Lester's 1958 ELIZABETH PAYNE, a pale canary self.

The final page seems to complete this list, but without any blue ink updates and without a year notation. "Green V" is no doubt GREEN VALLEY. The bottom half of the page is titled "Spring Planting" and lists six crosses.

It might be useful at this point to list the apparent seedlings in Oscie's arsenal and to note variations in how he rendered them:

R-58-8	Possibly a Whatley red seedling from 1958. He liked this method, but there's no way to
	know for sure where this plant originated.
R-H-101-59	could be someone's selection from 1959. There's a guest seedling H-101-51-A and B
	from Laura Sue Roennfeldt. This is something else.
Fisher 1500	Most likely a seedling of Hubert Fischer's.
R-10 and R-8	Seedlings. R-8 may be shorthand for R-58-8. I'm inclined to guess that these are Oscie's
	red seedlings. Oscie often writes only what he needs, short-term.

F-1500 Probably "Fisher 1500"

Parry #3 Seedling from Mrs. Arthur Parry of Signal Mountain, TN?

(RR x EC) x 8 Represented as a pod parent on this list \$1000 Mystery: see the "Wild" guess below.
Hall 60-47 Probably a recent David Hall seedling

HW-26-55 Unknown

R-39-D, R-16 Possibly more Whatley red seedlings.

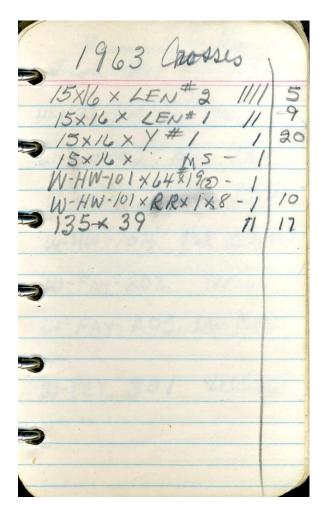
HW-55-113 Unknown

H-101-59 Same as R-H-101-59 earlier in the list. F #3 Could be an Orville Fay seedling.

Here's a wild, "Wild" guess. I've been looking for the parents of JOMICO, Oscie's first registration. He gave the parents as "seedling X (SOLO x WINNING WAYS)." There is no abbreviation of WINNING WAYS early enough in the notebooks to have produced JOMICO. The name SOLO is also absent, except as a small notation in blue ink at the top of the second page of 1962 crosses. Cultivar number 105 in his maps is SOLO. In his 1962 work there is a mysterious abbreviation "\$1000." It's crossed with 105. Could "\$1000" mean "I hit the jackpot!"? Knowing Oscie's ability to wheel and deal for unique breeding material, and his knowledge of the Wild Nursery's bountiful fields, I can imagine that he obtained a bud or a single blossom from a "future" that would be named WINNING WAYS a year later, and he promised or decided not to reveal that he got it. So "\$1000" also means TOP SECRET. The lack of "\$1000" on the pod parent side of the list suggests that he only had pollen, not a plant, and not much of it. Wild.

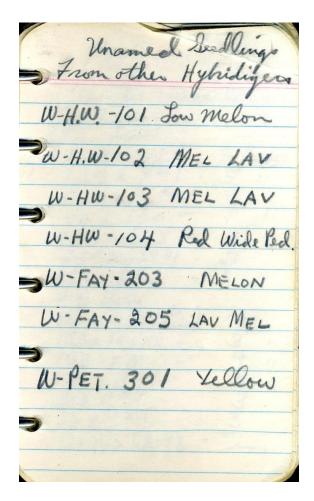
1963 [Return to Contents]

Oscie's growing body of work was about to move from University City to a new house in Florissant, a thirty-minute drive north and an easier commute to McDonnell Douglas. I don't know if he knew he was moving in the summer of 1963, and I surmised the move was in 1964 from a 1968 garden write-up in *The Hemerocallis Journal* that spoke of the Whatley garden being only four years old.



The lists for the 1963 work are found in several notebook locations and the plants themselves are in more than one garden. His method of notation is new. There is evidence on subsequent pages that the strokes represent a count of pods and the numerals in the far right column are a number of seedlings in the ground.

Compilation Page 21 contains a page headed, "1963 Crosses." This list apparently continues after a few intervening notebook pages on page 23. In my index on the compilation, I have called this apparent continuation "1963 crosses again." The intervening material begins with a list of unnamed seedlings from other hybridizers.



What is the meaning of the prefix "W?" It is not a color. Is it a way of identifying something in the Whatley garden? The "HW" is a puzzle. Fay is Orville Fay, Oscie's mentor in Chicago and a leader in the "tetraploid revolution" that was gathering momentum at this time. "Pet" is probably George Pettus.

The next list of seedlings is unique in the six notebooks in that it defines an off-site location, "1963 crosses @ Mr. Baldwin." I don't know who Mr. Baldwin was where he lived.

In my transcription of the 1963 notes, I have combined the lists that I think belong together and then have continued with the list at Mr. Baldwin's because it is in a different format.

If these lists are also maps, then the planting is a lot more organized. On the other hand, this list of "1963 crosses" may also have begun as an organized tally of seed pods in the refrigerator, and Oscie wanted to review his use of specific pod parents.

Why are there no entries in so many places in the far right column? If this were a seed count, I would assume there were nothing but squishy seeds in those pods, but that makes little or no sense when one considers the ease of diploid hybridizing. In the first line, to have only five seeds from four pods is unbelievable.

1963 Crosses		1963 Crosses	
40x23x64 x Pink#2 wild H0x23x64 x P-HW-K		HW-26 55 x C Cheary 1) HW-26-55 x 62-93	35
0 20 × 147 × Pence 1		12 × 62.93 12 × Chip Cherry 12×64×219-2	3
2 20 × 147 × Renee 1 W-fed-301 × Renee 1 V RR×1×8× K #1LAV 1		126(5 Gree) X LAV 1 126 X LAV 1	1 1 1
A - 1 1 1 - 1 1 1 1 1	23	126 x Findlander 1 64 x # 19 x 145 L.G. 11	3
12 × 44 × 12 × 44 × 82 / 12 × 44 × 62 - 93 /		@ RR × 2 × 8×149 × Clear Rose (Bd) 1 D RR × 2×8×? × LAV, LILY 1 PR × 2×8×? × 135 PM, 1	25 51
LEN#3 X Silv. King 11	8	O 64 x #19 fox x R-W. #5 1	4
12×44×82×62-143		14×12×82 x Clear Rose 1 44×12×82 x 6-143	1

The 1963 list is rich in its use of codes. What is the meaning of the circled numbers on the left? What do the check marks mean?

Decoding

15 x 16 A saved seedling without a formal number

Len #1, Len #2 etc Lenington seedlings

Y #1 Conjecturally, a yellow cast-off seedling Earl Rexroad brought back from the

Wild nursery for \$1

MS innumerable possibilities for decoding this

W-HW-101 Low melon guest seedling from?

Pink #2 Wild Wild surplus seedling

HW-K ?

Del Conjecturally, BELINDA (Julia Hardy, 1956) Possibly BELOVED BELINDA (David

Hall, 1961) HM 67, but I think Oscie would not have used a single syllable code

for this.

Renee RENEE (Will Dill, 1962) Stout Medal, 1971. Ruffled yellow

W-Ped-301 Usually, read "Pet" for Oscie's "Ped." This is a George Pettus seedling

K #1 Lav Someone's seedling

RR x 1 x 8 Seedling

Eag Scout EAGLE SCOUT (David Hall, 1960) HM 66



Clear Rose Garden nickname. "(Red)" with it reminds Oscie that it leans toward red.

Silv King SILVER KING (Sally Lake, 1959) Light yellow self. AM 67

Possibly one of Oscie's own selects. He might be trying a numbering system No W prefix as in the "HW" guest plants above? 1955 selection by HW?

CC CHIPPER CHERRY (David Hall, 1961) AM 1969

#19-2

R-W-#5

126 (S Goose) Decodes 126 to SNOW GOOSE (David Hall, 1956) HM 62

Finlander FINLANDIA (Claar-Parry 59) HM 64

145 LG Decodes 145 to LAVENDER GREEN (Bob Kennedy, 1962) HM 64

120 LC Decodes 120. Two strong possibilities are LADY CAPRI (Mrs. D.S. Porter, 1963)

7" golden apricot; or Lucille Clark (Hooper Connell, 1955) HM 58, yellow.

Lav Lily LAVENDER LILY (Bob Kennedy, 1962)

135 DM Decodes 135 to DM. There are two DM daylilies that won HM awards in 1962.

DREAM MIST (RW Munson, 1958) described by Munson as a "very full, round

formed ivory cream rouged pink rose. Munson considered it one of his significant achievements. AM 66. The other possibility is DAISY MCCARTHY

(David Hall, 1957), a pink self. There are several other possibilities.

Someone's seedling. From RW Munson? Or is it "White #5" from "R?"

127 (LR) Decodes 127 to LOUISE RUSSELL (Russell-Fay, 1959) a dormant pink. AM 64?
98 L.S. Decodes 98 to LUCKY STRIKE (George Lenington, 1957) AM 63, a pink blend.
Fas Mod FASHION MODEL (Mary Lester, 1960) AM 67, pink melon from MULTNOMAH

Love [blur] Pink LOVE THAT PINK (David Hall, 1962) AM 68

143(SC) Decodes 143 to SC. Anybody's guess what that is.

140(PM) Decodes 140 to PM. Innumerable possibilities. I like Earl Rexroad's PINK MINT

(1962) because Oscie exhibited it.

78(T) Decodes 78 to TOWHEAD (David Hall, 1955) HM 61? . The number seems too

low for 78 to be Doc Branch's yellow TABLEAU (1960)

(OL) OZARK LULLABY (Doc Branch, 1956) chrome yellow self

Del Linda BELINDA (Julia Hardy, 1956) flesh pink

C. McCool COLLEEN MCCOOL (Willard King, 1959) yellow from Stout Medal winner FAIRY

WINGS

84(PI) Decodes 84 to PI. Lots of possibilities. PINK IMPERIAL (David Hall, 1955) AM 61

or PINK ICING (Sally Lake, 1962). It came from Frank Childs' AM-winner LYRIC by Fay's FRANCES FAY, which was on the way to winning the Stout Silver Medal. This would have appealed to Oscie because of its parents even though PINK ICING didn't win any awards. Other possibilities are PINK ILLUSION, PINK ICICLE,

and PEACH ICE!

139(HS) Decodes 139 probably to HANS SASS (George Lenington, 1956) HM 62
Par Beach, PB PARADISE BEACH (Steadman Buttrick, 1959) barium yellow self. HM 63

Ton Willy TONY WILLE (Elmer Claar, 1961) light yellow self. HM 62, AM 66.

St. Pat SAINT PATRICK (Hugh Russell, 1959) light yellow self. HM 63

Pinard PinARD (Doc Branch, 1956) dormant yellow with a pink underglow

5076 Unknown numbering system.

Burn Day BURNING DAYLIGHT (Hubert Fischer, 1957) HM 64, AM 67

Strut STRUTTER (Doc Branch, 1957) light yellow

If you return to the index at the top of the compilation and click on "1963 @ Mr. Baldwin's," you'll see a different format for noting what's in the ground. The right column gives the number of rows of each cross within larger rows. I imagine those larger rows are really strips and that Oscie planted across each strip rather than lengthwise.

Decoding:

L.T.P. LOVE THAT PINK (David Hall, 1962)

P.R. PINK RHYTHM (Frank Childs, 1961) HM 62 or PINK REFLECTION (Frank Childs,

1959) AM 63

F.M FASHION MODEL (Mary Lester, 1960)

Lav. Green LAVENDER GREEN (Robert M. Kennedy, 1962)
G. Dew Drop GOLDEN DEWDROP (Ophelia Taylor, 1955)

CC CHIPPER CHERRY (David Hall, 1961)

Lav Lily LAVENDER LILY (Robert M. Kennedy, 1962)

S King SILVER KING (Sally Lake, 1959)

Green Envy GREEN ENVY (George Lenington, 1953) one of the oldest Oscie is using

Reney RENEE (Will Dill's future Stout Medal Winner)

It is likely that the list of "Guest Plants" immediately following the list of seedlings at Mr. Baldwin's also dates from the same year. There are twelve guest plants, some of them named cultivars, from Irma Searles (local), Ed Stone (local), Wilma Bryant (region 11, OK), Hazel Lacey (region 11, KS), George and Lucille Lenington (Kansas City, MO), James Marsh (Chicago), and Laura Sue Roennfeldt (local), who registered seven cultivars between 1961 and 1966.

It looks like Oscie found the original system of codes a bit shaky in 1964 and used abbreviations for newer material. I don't see any instances of his erasing a name and replacing it with a numeric code. His daylily colors are yellow, pink, lavender, and red

1964 [Return to Contents]

Oscie moved his family to a new subdivision in Florissant, MO in 1964. Florissant is one of a cluster of towns forming the northern suburbs of St. Louis. His one-acre lot didn't have much more than a quarter of an acre of usable ground for daylily beds. The small front yard sloped up to the ranch-style house. The flat ground behind the house was ideal for gardening, but a steep hill at the back was mostly unusable. When he laid out the garden design he allowed plenty of lawn space before filling the periphery with plantings. On the slope at the back he later added peonies and some hostas as well as a dogwood tree he hybridized.

This picture from *The Hemerocallis Journal* in 1968 shows convention attendees in his garden.



This was the Whatley home in 1991, after the trees had matured



Here is a panoramic view of the back yard beds taken in 1997, taken from the patio outside the kitchen door and garage entrance.

Left:



Middle: the local golf course is just beyond the ridge.



Here's the right side, showing a compost bin of recent construction:



The format of the 1964 notebook pages is simplified. The numbers on the right are plants in the ground.

1010	1		
1964 Crosses.		1964 Casses.	
west led read west		of yesses.	-10
		East led good 5	
76x Pet. Bogx Cawn Snow	7	01 x Findlander	2
76×114×149	5	03×11	12
117 X Rennee	3 '	03 x 11 2 56 x Les for x x135	4
LALYLYNNX135	2	56x 11 -1 x Les #1	5
117×01	6	124x L.C. x LP MIX.	4
= 105×90×03	6	012 × 155×20.	17
63x Replee	8	Ten Yx16 x 105x 1000	16
91 x 03	616	Len Yx Renel	5
= 03 XEM-ISL	6	23×40×WW incress	21
F3X03	7	Les. # 2 x W. 80 x Lux ta.	3
W101×03	30	20x155x Knot Hill	1
Bli Sper X 03	6	20 x 155 x Casmere	3
303 LP25	6	-12 x Casmere	12
105 × 90-2 × 03.	2		14
20 X 155 X 03	5	Thum × 152 hence	1/2
	3	ORF 125 x LT.P.	15
> 105 x 90 X GR. CHAND	The state of the s	117 × 143	2
OIX GR. PARd	18		
BRICK	(Michigan)	Bruk	
Lating Control			

This is a map. The page I've placed on the right is several pages later than the one on the left. I think he has begun to number his selections, 01, 02, 03 and so on. There's no key to the identity of these, but we know from AHS registration papers that 03 is going to be named JAKARTA. It is a breakthrough daylily.

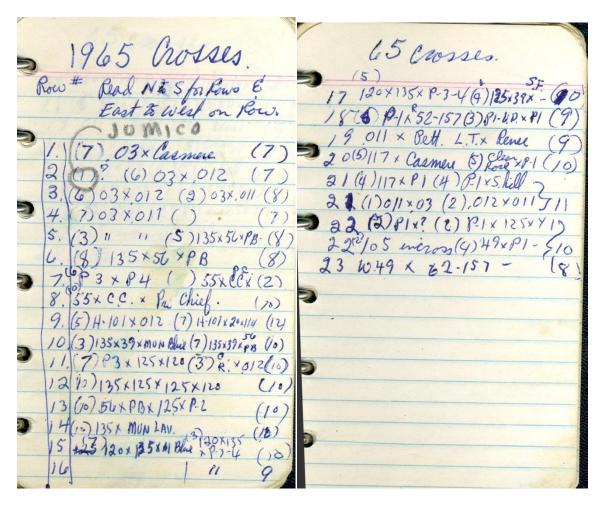
The writing is as clear and careful in this set as anywhere else. Many names are spelled out. 105x1000 was 105x\$1000 in 1962. This may be SOLO X WINNING WAYS. He has eight numbered seedlings in play, guest seedlings, and the following cultivars:

PETITE BOUQUET (Mary Lester, 1960) DAWN SNOW (Bob Kennedy, 1960) LADY LYN (S.A. Calhoun, 1962) HM 66 RENEE (Will Dill, 1962) Stout Medal 71 EMERALD ISLE (Orville Fay, 1954) HM 62 BLITHE SPIRIT (Hubert Fischer, 1955) GRAND CHAMPION (Mary Lester, 1960) AM 67 GRAND PARADE (Steadman Buttrick, 1960) HM 62 **AM 68** LOVE THAT PINK (David Hall, 1962) SILVER KING (Sally Lake, 1959) AM 67 PREMIER PEACH (David Hall, 1962)

CAREY QUINN (David Hall, 1960)	AM 66
CHIPPER CHERRY (David Hall, 1961)	AM 69
NOB HILL (David Hall, 1962)	AM 68
LILAC CHIFFON (Mary Lester, 1959)	
FINLANDIA (Claar-Parry, 1959)	HM 64
WARM WELCOME (Doc Branch, 1957) maybe	
LUXURY LACE (Edna Spalding, 1959)	Stout Medal 65
CASHMERE (Wild Nursery, 1963)	AM 70
THUMBELINA (Hubert Fischer, 1954)	HM 56
ROSY FUTURE (Mary Lester, 1955)	
HANS SASS (George Lenington, 1956)	HM 62
COOL VALLEY (Doc Branch, 1960)	
FASHION MODEL (Mary Lester, 1960)	AM 67

1965 [Return to Contents]

In his second season at the new house, it looks like he did less hybridizing. There are only two notebook pages of 1965 crosses, 23 rows of seedlings.



The format of these two pages stretches the limit of what each line can hold. Row numbers run down the left side. Within rows, numbers in parentheses are a seedling count, with the number on the far right being the total for the row. There is a single seedling with unknown parents in row two. At a later date, and in pencil, Oscie has written JOMICO above the list and circled the (1). JOMICO was Oscie's first registered daylily (1968). He gave the parents as "seedling X (SOLO x WINNING WAYS)." I have hypothesized that he crossed SOLO with WINNING WAYS in 1962 in a cross written "105 X \$1000." This would bloom for the first time in 1964 and if he crossed it with a seedling and got one seed, that would have been this single seed with "?" parents. It's a huge leap of the imagination to get to that conclusion, but it is remotely possible.

His 1964 map shows 16 seedlings from a seedling X (105 x 1000), so if my guesswork is correct, the pedigree of JOMICO is in the 1964 map for sure. Finding "JOMICO" in the 1965 map is puzzling.

There are abbreviations such as "Mun Blue" and "Mun Lav" that make me think he's working with Bill Munson's plants

Decoding:

Casmere CASHMERE (Wild, 63)

03, 011, 012 Presumably, Oscie's informal numbering of his selects

PB Petite Bouquet (Mary Lester, 1960)

P3, P4, P3-4 unknown

CC CHIPPER CHERRY (David Hall, 1961)
PC, Pr Chief PRAIRIE CHIEF (James Marsh, 1963)

H-101 guest seedling

C.R. CORTIS RICE (Kraus-Lehman, 1961) HM 64, AM 67. There are other possibilities

S.F. STEP FORWARD (David Hall, 1963) AM 70 pink seems the most likely

PI PINK ICING (Sally Lake, 1962)?

LD LAVENDER DRIFT (T.B. Maxwell, 1965) 6" dormant pink, or LADY DAPHNE

(Mamie Howell, 61) dormant pink, HM 65. [Both from Louisiana hybridizers.]

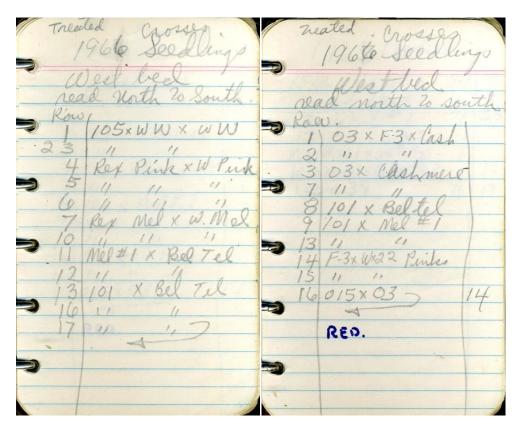
LT LEMON TWIST (George Pettus, 62) is likely.

S.hill SPRING HILL (Fay-Hardy, 60) dormant cream, HM 65

This is the last map of his work with diploid daylilies.

Robert Griesbach, one of the "tetraploid pioneers" in Chicago, taught Oscie a method of treating germinating diploid seeds with a colchicine solution. Griesbach favored this method because the conversions were more stable than those obtained by treating plants. However, the treatment usually killed more than 80% of the treated seeds. Oscie learned both methods used a microscope to measure pollen grains and stoma cells of the leaves. "It's often very difficult to know how to work with a plant if you're just guessing about the pollen," he told me. "Some blossoms have too little tet pollen, so you have to check different anthers, different blossoms, different days, and learn how your plant operates." After 1965, Oscie was focused on tetraploids.

1966 [Return to Contents]



This page was originally dated 1967 because that's when he made the map, but he erased the 7 and wrote 6 because this is a map of the work he did in 1966. The only seeds planted in 1967 were the result of Oscie's determination to produce his own line of tetraploids.

I have taken a wild guess that 105 in Oscie's numbering of his breeder plants is Doc Branch's SOLO. The number first appears in his 1962 map, and the cultivar is much used. The use of "WW" tells me that Oscie acquired an actual plant of WINNING WAYS when it was available. I surmise that "105 x WW" is a keeper seedling from a cross he noted in 1962 as "105 X \$1000." The cross in Row 1 is a back cross of 105 X WW to its pollen parent, WINNING WAYS.

Decoding induced tetraploid parent plants

possibly SOLO (Doc Branch, 1960) light yellow self. AM 66

WW WINNING WAYS (Wild 1963) 6" greenish yellow self, Stout Medal 1974

Rex pink seedling from Earl Rexroad

W pink Wild seedling?

Rex mel seedling from Earl Rexroad, melon color

W mel Wild seedling?

Mel #1 Mystery. Is Mel a color or is this a seedling from "Mel?"

Bel Tel BELL TEL (David Hall, 1964) 7" pale frosted yellow with deep green throat

F3 and F-3 Fay seedling?

Cash CASHMERE (Wild 1963) 5" creamy yellow brushed rose. HM 66, AM 70

03 Whatley selection, the future JAKARTA

a named cultivar in Oscie's collection, possibly acquired with SOLO in 1960

W x 22 Pinks Mystery. W may be "W mel" from several lines earlier.

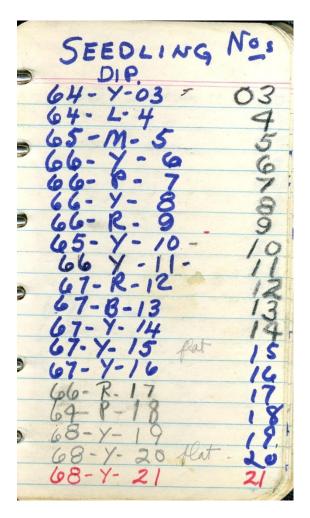
015 Whatley selection, the future JOMICO

RED Mystery.

We know from Oscie's description of JUTLAND in a 1973 ad that he also used CHETCO (Ezra Kraus, 1956) AM 61, Chinese yellow self; SHOOTING STAR (David Hall, 1951) AM 59, yellow self; and MASTER TOUCH (David Hall, 1964) AM 74, pink. We don't know if the list above represents his first attempt to treat seeds. Assuming he remembered correctly in 1972, why are the parents of JUTLAND not in this list of crosses behind his induced tets?

1967-68 [Return to Contents]

I am not sure about the chronology of the notebook pages for 1967 and 1968. The pages are somewhat disordered in the notebook, and some of the years are erased and overwritten. I think these pages date from 1968, the year his garden was on tour during the AHS National Convention. These pages begin with a formal set of seedling numbers for his diploid selections. He made this list in 1967 and evidently updated it in 1968 and 1970.



Formal numbers are on the left, and the previous informal numbers are on the right. His system includes a color descriptor, P(ink), Y(ellow), R(ed), L(avender), M(elon), and B(lend).

He saved a slide of 64-L-4:



Oscie was 45 years old when his garden was on tour at the 1968 AHS National Convention. It is not an exaggeration to say that people were thunderstruck by what they saw of his work. Here is the write-up of his garden in the Fall *Hemerocallis Journal* in 1968:

GARDEN OF MR. & MRS. OSCIE B. WHATLEY

This garden proves that daylilies bloom and branch better in the direct sun. There was not a single tree to shade them as this garden was started in 1964. There must have been more rain in this area as I have never seen plants grown better. The foliage was a deep green and the colors were very rich and brilliant. I believe Mr. Whatley mentioned that he used only fish fertilizer and if this is correct, we should all go out and buy some. I think Mr. Whatley should advise our editor (Ben Parry) as to exactly what he used.

In this garden we all flipped over the Whatley seedlings. They were under number and about six of them were truly perfection. These were bright waxy ruffled blooms of amaryllis form and some were in the deeper shade of gold. These were the best seedlings in their color class

and if Mr. Whatley doesn't introduce them, we may all get up in arms. I don't know what he used to get them but he sure hit the jack pot. It would be hard to choose the best but it would possibly be Whatley 64-Y-03. Oh how I would love to stroll out and find one like that in my seedling patch. A clump of MISSION MOONLIGHT (Reckamp) was a solid mass of pale yellow. The low well-branched scape made it an ideal plant for landscape value. DREAM AGAIN (Unger) was another low growing pale yellow which often has eight segments. PRAIRIE DELIGHT (Marsh) was a good true pink with a green throat. His PRAIRIE CHARMER made an eyecatching clump in many gardens. This is a pale pink with a purple eyezone. KING OF HEARTS (King) was a lovely bright deep very velvety red with a green throat. GRACIOUS (King) was a large flat creamy golden yellow with a slight eye and good branching. SPACE AGE (Hughes) was a pretty ruffled golden yellow. Two Fay tetraploids I liked here were LADY CYNTHIA, a well formed creamy melon and KATHLEEN ELSIE RANDALL, a blend of creamy melon, gold and pastel pink.

All beds in the Whatley garden were long and about five feet wide which made it easy to view all plants. The outer edge of the garden was up on a higher area and I must admit it was not too easy climbing up and down this steep area which was covered with grass (they tell me Mr. Whatley wears golf shoes to dig in with) but there were more of those beautiful very ruffled Whatley seedlings up there so I ventured on up—usually with a helping hand. It was worth the climb as they all had such strong well branched scapes and such heavy substance.

It was with regret that I took the last look at them and also Lenington's LOLABELLE.

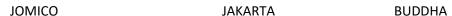


Oscie Whatley in the Pettus Garden, 1968

Oscie's work with diploids set the stage for the reputation he would quickly develop with tetraploids. His registrations from the diploid selections were paced out over four years:

67-Y-15	JOMICO (1968) Seedling X (SOLO x WINNING WAYS) First reg.	AM 1974
64-Y-03	JAKARTA (1969) SOLO X Wild seedling	AM 1975
66-R-17	BUDDHA (1969) Wild seedling X JAKARTA	AM 1975
66-Y-8	JAVA SEA (1970) JAKARTA X EMERALD ISLE	
67-B-13	MALASIA (1970) JAKARTA X CASHMERE	HM 1973
68-Y-20	CHARBONIER (1970) JAKARTA X seedling (JOMICO)	AM 1976
66-Y-6	WABADA (1971) JAKARTA X seedling	HM 1974
68-Y-21	VANDALIA (1971) CASHMERE X JAKARTA	
68-Y-23	OLIVETTE (1972) MALAYSIA X sibling	HM 1976

His saved slides did not include a complete collection of his registrations.









JAVA SEA







VANDALIA



It is instructive to look into Oscie's registration forms for these and other cultivars to see how he observed and described his plants. I'll quote from the forms.

JOMICO (1968) [registration papers missing] Named for the company where his daughter worked.

JAKARTA (1969): "extended bloom, quick-shedding, scant branching, 27 buds, the substance is very heavy, large green throat, very good parent." Introduced by "Region 11 Newsletter in 1970." In 1998 Oscie told me about how JAKARTA funded the purchase of a nice set of lamps for his living room: "There were a lot of big daylilies then," he remembered, "but they were unsymmetrical. JAKARTA was obviously different, and it threw symmetrical seedlings. When the tour bus arrived at my house, a southern woman stepped out with a crowd of people who were watching every move she made. She took a long look at JAKARTA and asked in a loud voice, 'how much do you charge for that plant?' I had never charged more than \$5 for a plant, but I decided to ask her what she thought it was worth. She said, 'I'll give you \$50 for that plant' and I said, 'It's yours!' Before the bus pulled away I had sold nine pieces of that plant at \$50. Nobody at the convention had offered to buy my plants until she did. After that, my plants were in demand."

BUDDHA (1969) "Large green throat against black background of petals and sepals. Velvety texture. Heavy substance, sun resistant, holds up perfectly in rain, quick-shedding. Arching blue-green foliage. Graceful scape with high, wide branching and 25 buds. Introduced by Region 11 Newsletter." Oscie told me that the Wild Nursery loved to sell BUDDHA because it was virtually self-dividing in the field.

JAVA SEA (1970) He had not registered JAKARTA yet, but gave its seedling number as the pod parent of JAVA SEA. He did not mention its reblooming trait on the registration form, but he told me that trait made it popular with landscapers. If you look back at the picture of the front of his house in 1991, that mass of yellow flowers is JAVA SEA. He gave its bud count as 20. Introduced via the Region 11 newsletter in 1971.

MALAYSIA (1970) "Color is a blend of gold and rose that is smooth and attractive. Scant branching, 25 buds, heavy substance. Introduced via the Region 11 newsletter in 1971."

CHARBONIER (1970) The AHS registration data sheet gives the pollen parent as "66-Y-015" which is JOMICO. It doesn't matter that "66" is rendered in other places as "67." The only important number is the seedling number "015" which in his system was never used for more than one seedling.

Unfortunately, Oscie was not thinking about future researchers when giving parentage. JAKARTA was his stellar attraction and it sufficed to simply give JOMICO's seedling number because the cross was made before JOMICO was named. In truth, the cross was made before JAKARTA was named, too. According to the AHS data sheet, CHARBONIER was a 6" beige self with a 32" scape and 50 buds, a vigorous plant, rapidly increasing, with scant, close branching, and "very large for this round form and flatness." Introduced via the Region 11 newsletter in 1971.

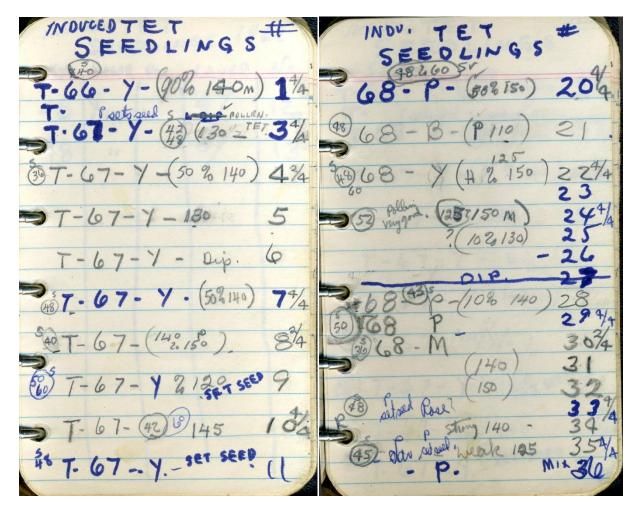
WABADA (1971) light gold, bud count not given, no additional comments on the data sheet. Introduced by James McKinney in 1972.

VANDALIA (1971) buff yellow, 6.6" flower on wide branching, with 27 buds. No descriptive comments on the data sheet. Introduced by James McKinney in 1972.

OLIVETTE (1972) AHS registration sounds like a self cross of MALAYSIA, but the registration form says it's a sibling cross of MALAYSIA. Introduced by James McKinney in 1973.

1967 Tetraploids

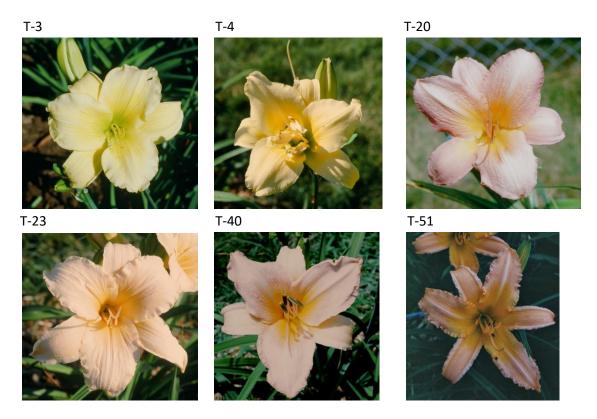
The first results of Oscie's conversion of germinating seeds are listed in the notebook under "1967 Selects - Induced." The numbering system for selects employs a capital T for tetraploid and D for diploid. The year designation, as in "T-66-Y-1," can vary in his notes. It is not critical because the number on the right of the formula is all that matters. "T-1" is enough to identify tetraploid seedling number 1.



The notes follow microscopic analysis of the pollen and leaf cells. The parents of these seedlings aren't written down! The pages are not in order. It appears that there are 61 selects. These either come from the earlier list of treated seeds or from a missing list that included the plants in the background of JUTLAND. His first tetraploid registration, BELLERIVE, came from this list:



A few pictures remain of these early tets:



T-100 T-106





Confusion sets in now. A map of 1967 Tet seedlings is crossed out, but the pages are saved. These same crosses reappear in a 1968 map in a different bed. Did he rework his beds and transplant those seedlings in 1968? That is more likely than the extinction of the whole 1967 crop!

	1967	The same of the sa	1
THEAT	ET- SEEDLING	35	1
Row !	LI SEEDEN G	10	
	WEST END	SEED	PLANI
(Tel	X ENVOY	5	
	0 × T-1		
7 17-1	X GER SMITH	14	
	NX BC-65 on M-65		
T-	1 & G. SMITH		
1	-1 × T-2	3 ×	
	11.		
C-	1-1		
I T	- XKEK	11	
1.7	-1 × M/65-6	12	
	-1 × M OR BC-65	6	
	. /	S. C. S. Section 1	
P	10 × 76 10 × 76 10 × 77 ?	2	
P	80 × 713	1	
0217	1 × LC	6	
	10	1	
	C × T!	1	
P	ROX T-3	1	
OL	09AL 5 x T-1	1	
		1	
			-
			-

1968 [Return to Contents]

Oscie treated more diploid seeds with a colchicine bath in 1968 and he planted his first generation of tetraploid seeds. Those seeds were listed on the 1967 page he crossed out. The treated seed list is written very carefully, with two columns of numbers on the right. He focused on his own diploid selections, his unnumbered seedlings, and just four outcross parents. The seedling he would name MALAYSIA is the pod parent on the sixth line, CASHMERE X 03, which was named JAKARTA. The sibling cross (incross in his usage) resulted in a diploid selection he named OLIVETTE. He has repeated the cross that yielded OLIVETTE for tetraploid conversion. Of his other selections on this page, only 66-Y-6 went on to be registered as WABADA.

His outcross parents are:

Mis Moon MISSION MOONLIGHT (Brother Charles Reckamp, 1965) HM 70

Pink Para. PINK PARASOL (Olville Fay, 1965)

Win Way WINNING WAYS (Wild, 1963) Stout Medal, 74

FLEETA FLEETA (Elmer Claar, 1960)

1968 Treated	TET. SEEDLINGS				
CROSS.	12	15		. (Read E 2 W)	#
MIS MOONX66/-6-	54	12	5.1	The state of the s	12
66-P-7 X PINK PARA.	58		2	KER X T-1	3
64-7-63 × WIN. WAY	35	18	2	Lady C x T-1	75
66-R-9 x 67-R-12	56	25	[3]	T-1 & ENVOY 925	5
66-P-7 x 64-L-4	189		3	PRO. X T-1	1 40
Cas. x 03 incross	10	5	03	7-1 × G. Smith	2
66-R-9 x FLEETA	22	4	3		
66-7-6 x Y-16 AND Z	.1.		[3.		11
PX127× 66-P-7 5	70	-	3		
66-7-6 x (63× 101)	11	-	9	T-1× M-650 BC-67	5
66-y-6x 66-4-8	8	-	4	1. //	
66-P-7× (03 ×101)	17		LI	7-1x Y. Cham	2
			5	7-1× M-65-6	5
			6	T-1 × M-65.6 a BC-67	5
			06	- 1 1 m 1 1 m 1	7
			-	5/6 + X-le 0 07 x 12 5 11	11
			* ,	y-6 x 03 x 101	" 3
			1		

The map of the 1968 Tet seedlings says the bed is on the east side of the house. It gives row numbers and a count of plants in the ground. The circled numbers with superscript "s" are measurements of the stoma cells on the leaves under microscopic examination.

Decoding:

KER KATHLEEN ELISE RANDALL (Orville Fay, 1965) Tetraploid. AM 71

Lady C. LADY CYNTHIA (Orville Fay, 1966) Tetraploid

ENVOY ENVOY (Brother Charles Reckamp, 1966) Tetraploid

Pro. PROLIFIC (Orville Fay 1965)? All daylilies in the AHS database beginning with "Pro"

between 1959 and 1969 are registered as diploids.

BC-67 BRIGHT COPPER (Orville Fay, 1968)? HM 73. If so, what is the meaning of "67?"

Ger Smith GERTRUDE SMITH (Orville Fay, 1966) Tetraploid. HM 72

Sur P. SURPRISE PACKAGE (Orville Fay, 1965) Tetraploid

Y. cham YELLOW CHAMPAGNE (Nathan Rudolph, 1967) Tetraploid

Lav F Tet. LAVENDER FLIGHT (Edna Spalding, 1963)? Stout Medal 73. Whose conversion?

Y-6 Whatley diploid seedling, the future WABADA
Whatley diploid seedling, the future JAKARTA

L.F. Perhaps LAVENDER FLIGHT again

Mix T² Most likely T² means "second generation of induced tetraploids." If that's the meaning,

then "Mix" means he threw pollen from anything good at his T-6 pod parent.

W Way WINNING WAYS (Wild, 1963) Stout Medal, 74

Ch. Times CHANGING TIMES (Brother Charles Reckamp, 1966)

MISSION MOONLIGHT (Brother Charles Reckamp, 1965) HM 70 This is in a section of

diploid crosses

P-7 Oscie diploid select, shorthand style

R-9, R-12 Oscie diploid selects

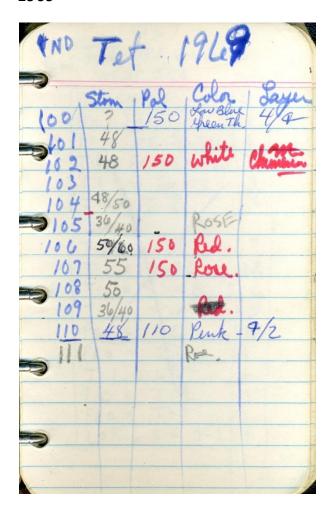
Par Pink PARIS PINK (David Hall-Julia Hardy, 1967) 6" brilliant rose pink

L-4 Oscie diploid select, only diploid seedling picture he saved. Never registered.

The bottom of the map has Oscie's summary of the seeds from his cross of L-4 X P-7.

AHS performance award judges (Garden Judges) in his garden in 1968 voted the Junion Citation award (special and distinctive seedlings) for three seedlings, the future JAKARTA, WABADA, and JOMICO. The JC award carried no clout and still doesn't. It does not automatically place a seedling in line for a subsequent award, but many hybridizers see it as a competitive edge in marketing.

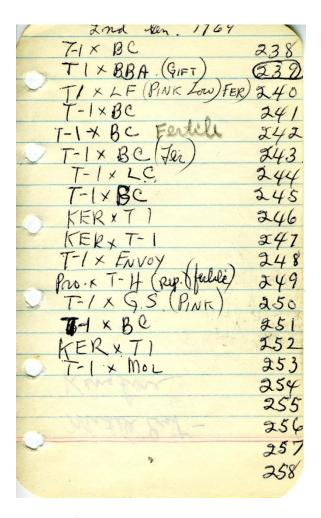
1969



The 1969 selects appear to be from first-generation induced tetraploid seedlings, and they number 100 through 111, with no names of parents, only microscope data and occasional color descriptors. Originally, Oscie wrote "2nd generation" and "1968" but overwrote the 2 with a 1 and the 8 with a 9. He is using a 100 number series for first-generation and a 200 number series for second generation.

TET. Seed	Verigo
ALL STATES	Set.
LCX TI per. (ty)	
RECXITA	202
	(203)
* T-1 × Envoy	204
T-1 x KER	205
T-1 x FNVOY	206
T-1 × BC (Rep) FERTILE) LOW	207 w 208
KERXT-1 Bift	200
TER-XT-1 LOW (Rep)	210
T-1XLC	211
T- (X &S.) (But) (FERTILE)	212
KERXTI (Best) FERTILE,	213
1-1× LC	214
7-1 X BC T-1 X LF (FIRTILE)	2/5
T-1x C.T. (Fer)	216
7-1xBC	218
	- Cr

2 ml gen, Seedling	ig
0/969	
ProxT-1? (fix) Rep	219
	2201
Tx 1xBCon Mol.)	221
7-1XLF(FER) Best	222.
TIXLF (FERTILE)	223
KERXTI	224
O T-1×BBA.	225
T-1 × BC-	226
T-1 * BC PINK	227
O T-I XLE	228
T-1 × BC	229
KERX J-1 (High)	230
7-1 × BC (FERTIL)	231
T-1x C.T. Rep (Fer)	232
T-1x C.T. Rep (Fer) Pro x T-4 (Longe Table)	233
T-1 x LF - (white) FERTILE)	234
TIXBC FERTILE	235
TIXBC	234
T-1 × Mol	237



This list of 53 2nd generation Tet seedlings involves outcross parents previously guessed or identified, plus a few new ones.

GS GOLDEN SURREY (Orville Fay, 1967) HM 72

LF Tet. LAVENDER FLIGHT (Edna Spalding, 1963) Stout Medal 73

Pro PROLIFIC (Orville Fay, 1965)? Tet conversion?

Mol or MOL Not a cultivar. Possible abbreviation of a Steve Moldovan guest plant or seedling

BBA BONNIE BARBARA ALLEN (Virginia Peck, 1967) AM 72

Mop Mopsy (Mildred Schumpf, 1968) Diploid, evergreen. Writing error?

Oscie saved only two slides of these second generation tet selects.:

222 CALAVERA (1971) T1 X Tet. LAVENDER FLIGHT



The registration data on CALAVERA indicated that the spent blooms were shed quickly, the flowers had heavy substance and diamond dusting, the scape was graceful, with ample, wide branching and 20 buds. The daylily would be introduced by Jim McKinney in 1972.

No 248 is the only unregistered seedling picture from that series:



There is no garden map for 1969 in the notebooks.

Jim McKinney is an important part of Oscie's journey as a hybridizer. I don't know when they met, but it could have been at the 1968 AHS National Convention in St. Louis. I will begin Volume 2 with the little I know about McKinney and then continue with the next ten years of Oscie's career, culminating in a breakthrough toothy daylily, YUMA.