

see what Mother Nature presents you with, then take it from there. Much of the hybridizing thus far has been done by a few institutions and relatively few individuals, amateur or otherwise. The mechanics of hybridizing are not difficult and many more amateurs could get into the act. If you have limited space for growing seedlings to maturity, concentrate on valuable, creative crosses that are not likely to overload you with seed, e.g., the Kosar-DeVos triploid \times diploid cross explained earlier. It takes only one viable seed to make a breakthrough that will expand the horizon of future magnolia development.

Bill Seidl gardens in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

A Magnolia Safari

by J. Bon Hartline

It was four years ago, late summer, when Joe McDaniel stopped by my home on his way back to Urbana. He had several *Magnolia grandiflora* twigs with the most intriguing leaves I have ever seen. At first glance, they looked normal, but many had a most unusual extra growth on the underside mid-rib, or on the tip of the leaf. The growth was in the shape of a Calla lily flower.

Joe told me the Magnolia tree was



The Van Buren, Ark., tree (photo Bon Hartline).



The Springfield, Missouri, tree (photo Bon Hartline).

on the campus of Southwestern Missouri University at Springfield. He also mentioned a similar tree in Van Buren, Arkansas.

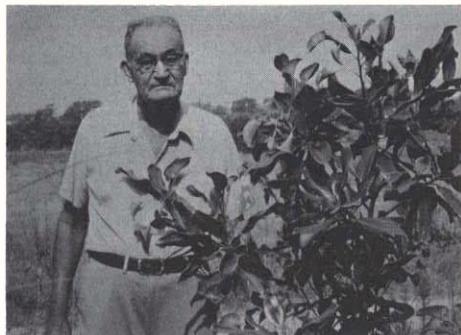
While at my nursery, he budded several branches on some of my trees and eventually one bud stuck and grew. Alas, a heavy snow storm the next winter broke off the budded limb.

Two years ago, my wife and I went to Springfield the last of October, found the tree and got permission to take some cuttings. One cutting rooted quite well but, after transplanting, finally succumbed to “?” and died.

In late August of this year (1983), we again went back to Missouri and got a few more cuttings. The tree is about 25 feet tall and almost as wide and looks like all other *M. grandiflora* until a close look shows the unusual leaf growth, which appears on about 20 percent of the terminals.

Having some spare time and being in the area of Van Buren, Arkansas, we decided to try to find the other tree that Professor McDaniel had mentioned. Off we went to Arkansas and after about an hour or so of asking questions at nurseries and garden centers, we got a lead to the old nurseryman that Joe had mentioned. We didn't even know his name or anything about him except that he had been in the business a very long time.

We found him at home, introduced



Nurseryman L.H. Harwell with Van Buren Tree (photo Bon Hartline).

ourselves and told him Joe had told me about his tree.

His name is L. H. Harwell and indeed he did have the tree and took us to see it. Mr. Harwell had found it in a row of his seedlings and had transplanted it into his yard. The tree is about 6 feet tall and shows a good number of Calla leaf growths.

The visit had to be cut short because Mr. Harwell's wife had died just the day before. He is a most pleasant gentleman, and under other circumstances, we would have enjoyed a very pleasant visit. I did take some pictures, and he allowed me a few cuttings.

I certainly hope my *Magnolia grandiflora* 'Harwell' roots and grows. It is a genetic wonder!

Bon Hartline is a nurseryman and orchardist at Anna, Illinois.

Registrar: Del Tredici

Peter Del Tredici, whom many Society members met at the 1981 meeting at Arnold Arboretum at Harvard University in Massachusetts, has agreed to serve the A.M.S., and horticulture in general, as International Registrar of Magnolia Cultivars. He is a plant propagator at Arnold Arboretum and also has written on a

number of botanical and horticultural subjects. His latest effort is a book, "A Giant Among the Dwarfs," published by Theophrastus, P.O. Box 458, Little Compton, Rhode Island, 02837, for \$15.

The book is on the magnificent conifer called Sargent's weeping hemlock. It describes the tree's outstanding landscaping qualities that have been enhanced with the years since it was planted in many gardens during the 19th century.

Peter is now at work completing an article for *MAGNOLIA* that will describe new magnolia cultivars that have been registered since the "Checklist of Magnolia Cultivars" was published in 1975 by AMS and the American Horticulture Society with Jack Fogg and Joe McDaniel as co-authors. Jack had begun to work on the update article, but died before it could be completed.

Peter asks anyone who has a magnolia for registration as a named cultivar to get in touch with him as soon as possible to obtain a registration sheet. At this time, he says, about 40 new cultivars have been registered. Peter's name and address is listed with the other A.M.S. officers in this issue.



Magnolia delavayi grown in a pot by Dick Figlar. For scale, the leaf at 11 o'clock next to the flower, is five inches across (photo Dick Figlar).