

The Dixie Daylily

AHS Region 14

Alabama—Mississippi

Spring 2006



Heemerocallis 'Specially for Sarah' (Billingslea 2005)

AHS REGION 14 OFFICERS AND LIAISONS

Regional Vice President

John Falck
Post Office Box 192
Fairhope, AL 36533
251-928-3340
hemhavennursery@
mindspring.com

Regional Publicity Director

Linda Beck
Post Office Box 91
Tupelo, MS 38802
662-842-0520
beckblmr@tixroads.com

Secretary

Jo Anne Burrage
352 Henry Wells Road
Caledonia, MS 39740
662-356-4310
oakleafcreek@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Tom Adams
5916 Oak Bayou Lane
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
228-872-3200
rxdoc@bellsouth.net

Editor, *The Dixie Daylily*

Oliver Billingslea
6291 Thach Road
Montgomery, AL 36117
334-277-0994
obilling@mail.aum.edu

Exhibition Judges

Henry Little
2468 Erie Lane NW
Brookhaven, MS 39601
601-833-4064
h3little@tislinc.com

Garden Judges

Earl and Barbara Watts
60 Serene Meadows Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601-268-3884

Historian

Lorene Smith
14078 Highway 11 North
Cottondale, AL 35453
205-553-3097

Membership

Kay Davis
1140 Patterson Lane
Elberta, AL 36530
251-987-1987
daylily@gulfnet.com

WEMEFT (W.E. Monroe Endowment Fund Trust)

Rita Davis
849 Poplar Springs Road
Florence, MS 39073
601-845-4955

Protocol

Jack Harrison
3743 MacLamar Road
Montgomery, AL 36111
334-288-7176

Cover: H. 'Specially for Sarah'

(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

Webmaster

Paul Aucoin
2553 Dunmore Drive
Hoover, AL 35226
205-824-3592
aucoin@mindspring.com

Youth

Bob and Sheila Watson
Post Office Box 26
Moselle, MS 39459
601-582-0549



AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

President

Kevin Walek
9122 John Way
Fairfax Station, VA 22039
703-798-5501
Giboshiman@aol.com

Executive Secretary

Pat Mercer
Post Office Box 10
Dexter, GA 31019
478-875-4110
gmercer@nlamerica.com

Editor, *The Daylily Journal*

Allen McLain
Post Office Box 192
Belzoni, MS 39038
662-247-1251
dljournal@bellsouth.net

AHS Region 14 Representative

AHS Board of Directors
Barbara Watts
60 Serene Meadows Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601-268-3884
bhv@netdoor.com

AHS Membership

Dues are payable by January 1.
Make checks payable to AHS.
Mail dues to the Executive Secretary.

Individual:

1 Year	\$18.00
3 Years	\$50.00
Youth	\$8.00
Individual Life	\$500.00

Family:

1 Year	\$22.00
3 Years	\$60.00
Dual Life	\$750.00

AHS REGION 14 CLUB PRESIDENTS

ALABAMA

Birmingham Daylily Society

Jim Chappell
900 Smoke Rise Trail
Warrior, AL 35180
205-647-0688

Blount Iris and Daylily Society

Margaret Millican
1560 County Highway 26
Hayden, AL 35079
256-352-4947

Central Alabama Daylily Society

John Besse
612 Bienville Circle
Birmingham, AL 35213
205-871-0853

Cross Trails Daylily Society

Ronda Mullins
P.O. Box 482
Kinston, AL 36453
334-565-3528

Cullman Iris & Daylily Society

Essie Hollingsworth
96 County Road 1
Vinemont, AL 35179
256-737-9806

East Alabama Hemerocallis Club

Charles Milliron
2273 Lee Road 45
Opelika, AL 36804
334-749-8613

Mobile Hemerocallis Society

John Keown
2210 Pratt Drive
Mobile, AL 36605
251-473-4609

Montgomery Area Daylily Society

Georgia Rehnberg
P.O. Box 125
Coosada, AL 36020
334-285-1324

Northeast Alabama Hosta-Iris- Daylily Society

Mary Kearney
385 Kearney Place
Guntersville, AL 35976
256-582-4839

North Alabama Daylily Society

Randy Stephens
446 West Limestone Road
Hazel Green, AL 35750
256-828-3127
Co-President: Tony Thompson

The Riviera Daylily Society

John Falck
Post Office Box 192
Fairhope, AL 36533
251-928-3340

West Alabama Daylily Society

Joyce Ochoa
317 Riverdale Drive
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406
205-752-6681

Wiregrass Daylily Society

Terri Money
4007 State Hwy 134 E
Headland, AL 36345
334-693-3055

MISSISSIPPI

Brookhaven Daylily Club

Randy Preuss
2263 Old Highway 27 North
Monticello, MS 39654
601-587-0148

Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society

Nancy Chain
47 Nobles Road
Sumrall, MS 39482
601-268-3611

Jackson Hemerocallis Society

Shelton Holliday
1096 Raymond Bolton Road
Raymond, MS 39154
601-857-8026

Marion County Hemerocallis Society

John Dawsey
30141 Bonnie Street
Angie, LA 70426
985-986-2284

Meridian Daylily Club

Jim Smith
3954 B Paulding Road
Meridian, MS 39307
601-483-1687

Miss-Lou Daylily Society

Rosa Duck
1126 Lower Centreville Road
Centreville, MS 39631
601-645-5938

MS Gulf Coast Daylily Society

Bob Goolsby
1935 Korman Drive
Biloxi, MS 39532
228-388-7352

North Mississippi Daylily Society

Bettie Pruitt
907 McGowan Drive
Southaven, MS 38671
662-280-0097

North MS-AL Daylily Society

Juanice Hayes
1069 New Hope Road
Columbus, MS 39702
662-328-0531

The Red Hills Daylily Club

Johnna Williamson
905 South Church Avenue
Louisville, MS 39339
662-773-5932

South Central MS Daylily Society

Charlie Baker
3762 Hwy 45 South
Waynesboro, MS 39367
601-735-3735

The Dixie Daylily

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The Dixie Daylily Guidelines

The editor invites submissions on the following:

Articles on Daylilies
 Articles on Daylily Culture
 Profiles of Region 14
 Hybridizers
 Garden Write-ups
 Features of Historical Interest
 Articles on Photography
 Scientific Studies Involving Daylilies
 Club News and Events

If possible, please send material by e-mail. Digital images are preferred over photographs and slides.

All submissions will be edited for length, grammar, clarity and style to ensure the highest possible quality in our publication. If you have any questions, please call me at 334-277-0994, or e-mail me at: obilling@mail.aum.edu

Advertising Rates

Full Page	\$120.00
Half Page	\$65.00
Quarter Page	\$35.00
Front Cover	\$250.00*
Back Cover	\$100.00

*The cover for the Spring 2006 issue was paid for by Oliver Billingslea.

Deadline for the Summer/Fall Issue of

The Dixie Daylily

June 21, 2006

Send items to:
 Oliver Billingslea, Editor
 6291 Thach Road
 Montgomery, AL 36117
obilling@mail.aum.edu

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENT
JOHN FALCK

Can it be 2006 already? I look out at beds that need planting, pots and beds that need weeding, and general yard work that needs to be done and wonder if all will be completed by spring. I know many of you are in the same predicament. We've had unseasonably warm weather which allows some outside work, but it also encourages weeds to think it is already spring. Still, knowing that I will be seeing the lilies begin to bloom in mid April makes me eager to complete the garden tasks.

This fall and winter I've been able to visit quite a few clubs in Alabama and Mississippi. Every club seems to be very busy promoting daylilies, its members enjoying being with one another. The social aspects complement the programs and work sessions. I am especially glad to hear your interests and concerns about Region 14 and the national AHS. I hope to complete visiting all clubs and display gardens before next fall.

I would like to congratulate Tom Adams for being named to the AHS Exhibitions Committee. Also, I want to thank and congratulate Henry Little for accepting the position of Region 14 Exhibition Judges Liaison. I know these two will help promote daylilies, especially daylily shows, in our region and throughout the AHS world.

Right now the anticipation of seeing everyone at the Spring Regional Meeting in Huntsville is a bright spot on a very dreary winter day. The tour gardens should be spectacular; both the unique features of the individual gardens and the beauty of the daylilies, many very new, should add a "WOW" factor to this year's meeting. Also, all exhibition and garden judges' workshops are scheduled. The energetic North Alabama Daylily Society members have many "extras" planned for those who attend. Also, remember that the NASA Space Museum is right next to the convention hotel. That can be a fantastic family side attraction.

Many clubs are having shows in May and June. Even the Mississippi Gulf Coast Society that was so devastated by Hurricane Katrina is planning its second show for May. Also, I know clubs around the region have scheduled interesting programs and speakers for the coming months. I would encourage all to support their clubs' activities and enjoy the programs and fellowship at these events.

Please let me know the dates, times, and places for any shows or special events planned by the local clubs. Many times people assume someone else will spread the word about events and programs. If I know plans, I will try to attend or at least inform others in the region.

I hope to see all of you in Huntsville in June.

John Falck

REGIONAL PUBLICITY DIRECTOR
LINDA BECK

We awoke this morning to see ice crystals shimmering from the needles of the pine trees. It seems strange that it is already time for the Spring column.

Since Spring is the time for new growth, it seems appropriate that this column inform you about the benefits of becoming an AHS member if you are searching for something new to do in 2006. The AHS provides its membership an opportunity to attend presentations by famous and up-and-coming hybridizers as well as a connection with others who share an interest in daylilies. Regional clubs open their meetings to special guest speakers and invite everyone to attend. Garden tours are a highlight for many members. It is exciting to see what someone else can do within the space of his or her garden. The opportunity to learn is offered to all.

Register for the Regional Meeting in Huntsville, AL, on June 16-17. There will be so many activities, this meeting could be a vacation. Floridian Ted Petit and Canadian John Peat will present their hybridizing programs.

We want to encourage our youth to participate in the Youth Digital Photography Awards. This will be our second year to offer the contest. Region 14 will give an award of \$25 in each of four categories, and the winning entries will be published in the 2006 Summer/Fall issue of *The Dixie Daylily*. Entries should be submitted digitally by e-mail or on a CD by regular mail to Oliver Billingslea, editor of *The Dixie Daylily*. His e-mail address is obilling@mail.aum.edu

If you wish to donate plants for the auction in Huntsville, please send me your list by the first of June. Include your garden name, the description of the plant and the *Eureka* price so that I can compile a booklet.

Remember to cast your ballot in the Popularity Poll later on this summer. This past year 23% of our members voted. This year we will pass around the ballots for those who wish to vote early.

We wish to extend sympathy to the families of Louise Boswell and Bruce Garner, members of the Montgomery Club, who recently passed away.

We look forward to seeing you in Huntsville.

Happy gardening,

Linda Beck

Spring Meetings:

- 2006 Huntsville
- 2007 Hattiesburg
- 2008 Dothan
- 2009 TBA

TREASURER'S REPORT
TOM ADAMS, TREASURER

February 15, 2005—December 31, 2005

Cash on Hand @ 2/15/05	\$22,211.84
	<u>\$22,211.84</u>
CD Investment @ 2/15/05	23,050.65
TOTAL FUNDS	\$45,262.49

RECEIPTS

Fall Regional Meeting	\$841.83
5% Club Pledges	942.85
Plant Sale—Jackson	614.00
Plant Sale—Meridian	954.50
Plant Auction—Jackson	6,339.00
Plant Auction—Meridian *	4,744.00
Dixie Daylily—Ads	120.00
Dixie Daylily—AHS Label Allowance	595.45
Dixie Daylily—Subscriptions	<u>3,199.23</u>

* Reduced by \$135 for insufficient funds check received at Meridian

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$18,350.86
	<u>\$18,350.86</u>

CASH ON HAND	\$40,562.70
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EXPENDITURES

Allowance—RVP + National	\$ 1,199.00
Allowance—Director	1,000.00
Reimbursements	245.44
Dixie Daylily—Printing 3 issues	16,033.32
Dixie Daylily—Mailing 3 issues	1,611.47
W.E. Monroe Endowment Fund	500.00
Meeting—Jackson	857.19
Meeting—Meridian	648.53
AHS Insurance	228.50
Editor's Salary	0.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$22,323.45
	<u>-\$22,323.45</u>

CASH ON HAND	\$18,239.25
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Cash on Hand @ 12/31/05	\$18,239.25
CD Investment	23,050.65
CD Interest	<u>497.17</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	\$41,787.07
	<u>\$41,787.07</u>

Tom Adams

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
BARBARA WATTS, AHS REGION 14

An important issue will be presented to the membership at the Business Meeting, Friday evening, July 14, 2006, at the AHS National Convention in Long Island, NY. For several years at every board meeting there has been a discussion of a dues increase. In my last report, I mentioned that the Executive Committee, Long Range Planning Committee and Finance Committee had been directed to monitor carefully the financial outlook of the Society. At the fall board meeting (October 29, 2005, Dulles, Virginia) there was much discussion and finally a decision to recommend a dues increase to become effective January 1, 2007, if approved at the Business Meeting. The increase would be:

Single Membership (1 year):	\$18 to \$25
Single Membership (3 years):	\$50 to \$70
Dual Membership (1 year)*:	\$22 to \$30
Dual Membership (3 years)*:	\$60 to \$83
Youth Membership (1 year):	\$8 to \$10

* Two individuals at the same address, one publication

Life membership would not change:

Individual:	\$500
Dual	\$750

AHS has not had a dues increase since 1988. We are aware that during this lapse of time prices have increased. We also know there is a possibility of losing membership as a result of a dues increase. Regardless of whether or not we increase dues, every person affiliated with AHS should make membership a priority. We need to resolve to try to retain members and make a special effort to recruit new members, especially young adults who will add new energy and enthusiasm to our ranks. We should be sure that we meet the needs of new members. We need to involve them in projects and instruct them in daylily jargon. We need to answer questions concerning sources of daylilies, planting and care procedures, soil, fertilizer, insects and insecticides and never become complacent, nor take the attitude that "everybody should know that." The atmosphere at meetings should be one of "open arms"—"we want you to feel a part of this group!" If the officers of every club would make a special effort to plan interesting and informative programs, involve their members in "fun" and educational activities and let these members know that all of this is part of the American Hemerocallis Society, it would help each individual feel good about being a member of a local club, AHS Region 14 and our national organization. I think AHS membership is dependent on a real "grass roots" effort, and I challenge clubs to assist AHS by making membership a very important consideration!

Barbara Watts

National Convention Update

As you perhaps know, one of the ways we have been able to hold down costs for our regional publication, *The Dixie Daylily*, is to deliver to our printer on a single CD our magazine completely prepared and ready to print—or so I thought. Completely “ready” was a fact “almost” true. Nancy and I have done the layout, graphic design—everything, apparently, except for the conversion of each digital photo from RGB (the red, blue, and green of color monitors) to CMYK (the cyan, magenta, yellow, and black used by professional printers). Although I have been doing the conversions for the print involved in each issue, Wells Printing has actually been doing the conversion for each color photo—hence some of the color problems my printer and I have had to work out just prior to the final run. For instance, in the last issue Paul Aucoin’s *Ipomoea tricolor* ‘Heavenly Blue’ Morning glory was actually a “Barney purple” before we got it corrected. To solve this problem and allow me to do the color conversions myself, our Region 14 officers have purchased the Adobe Creative Suite 2 Premium edition of software. Talk about “bells & whistles.” This program has got everything; it is a package replete with not only In Design CS2, and Photoshop CS2 (which is what I need to do the digital photo conversions), but Illustrator CS2, GoLive CS2, Acrobat 7.0 Professional, and Corel Painter IX—the entire collection obtained for less than the retail cost of Photoshop CS2 alone. Now if I just have enough courage to open the packages.

In looking back over the past year, I want to comment on what really makes the Region 14 newsletter a top quality magazine. Those are the “featured articles” authored by so many Region 14 writers. While your editor has written several articles (I especially loved covering the HADS Show), during the past year, we have had superb articles by Sarah Hegwood (three articles, in fact), Kathy Homsey, Tom Adams, Linda Beck, Ruby Anderson, Doyle Pierce, “Gaston Goldenrod,” as well as guest features by out-of-Region writers, Tim Bell (Region 5) and Julie Covington (Region 3). This is not to mention the excellent Regional Tour Garden write-ups by Juanice Hayes, Linda Touchstone, Phyllis and Jim Riddle, Lea Anne Parker, and Randy Stephens. In the present issue, the talents of Dave Flanigan, Olive Langdon, Rita Davis, Kathy Homsey (for a second time), Emma Hood, Bettye Huckaby, and Tommy Maddox come to the forefront, along with guest features by Ted Petit (Region 12) and John Peat (Canada). It is these writers that make *The Dixie Daylily* the great magazine it is. When you have the opportunity, please congratulate these gifted contributors.

Oliver Billingslea

With great pride and joy, the Long Island Daylily Society would like to invite you to share our love of gardening with daylilies. Come celebrate the 50th anniversary of LIDS, July 13th through July 16th, as we host the American Hemerocallis Society’s 2006 National Convention.

Our theme of “Island Jewels” conveys our feelings about our gardens. While not as large as those in some parts of the country, no facet will be left unpolished. We offer you 7 private gardens and lunch tours of two public gardens. We hope you choose to stay an extra day or two and visit our fantastic open gardens, stroll our marvelous beaches, or catch a train into the ever-exciting New York City.

The convention hotel, the Melville Marriott, is right in the center of Long Island and easily accessible by the three airports of LaGuardia, J.F. Kennedy, or Islip MacArthur. You can access its web page by first visiting www.lidaylily.org and clicking on convention information. If you have the opportunity to choose between these three airports, I’d recommend Islip MacArthur as it is small, rurally located and you won’t have to deal with city traffic.

The seven private gardens we invite you to share with us are as follows:

Paul Limmer’s garden is the ultimate daylily collectors garden with the spotlight on a multitude of newer variety daylilies. Louise Peluso’s garden is the epitome of elegance with stunning views of Long Island Sound. You will notice the scent of sea air the second you step off the bus. George and Joan Rasmussen’s garden, home of *Hemerocallis* ‘Adorable Tiger’ and *H.* ‘King George’, will capture your imagination as you can see what two devoted gardeners can do with incorporating two hybridizing programs (both daylilies and hosta) together with a fantastic collection of other plant material. Pat Sayers’ gardens are filled with an abundance of mature trees and shrubs. The daylilies and rose collections are planted in the old English style with formal beds surrounded with brick walkways. John and Muriel Stahl’s garden is a wildlife refuge that blends wonderful features for the birds together with a cutting edge spider, ufo, and polytepal collection. Melanie and Don Vassallo show you how they grow daylilies and still manage to entertain a horde of teenagers in a family garden setting that is just chock full of specimen spider and ufo daylilies. Carolyn Young’s garden is set in the heart of Long Island’s Pine Barrens and has one of the best historic daylily collections on the island.

Melanie D. Vassallo

INFORMATION FOR THE SPRING REGIONAL MEETING
HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

**The American Hemerocallis Society
Region 14 Spring Meeting
Alabama and Mississippi
June 16-17, 2006**

Host Club: North Alabama Daylily Society
Chairman: Randy Stephens

Headquarters: Marriott Hotel and Convention Center
5 Tranquility Base
Huntsville, AL 35805
(256)-830-2222

Room Rate: \$83.00 + tax (Single or Double)

Thursday Activities:

4:00-7:00 P.M. Early Registration
7:00-9:00 P.M. Reception at Across the Pond

Friday Activities:

7:00-1:00 P.M. Willie Markus Garden Trip
9:00 A.M. Registration Begins
10:00 A.M. Plant Sales Begin
10:00 A.M. Vendor Sales Begin
11:00 A.M. Clinic Instructors Luncheon
1:30-3:30 P.M. Exhibition Judges Refresher Clinic
1:30-4:30 P.M. Exhibition Judges Clinic I
1:30-4:30 P.M. Exhibition Judges Clinic II
1:30-3:30 P.M. Garden Judges Workshop I
3:45-4:45 P.M. Garden Judges Workshop II
3:45-4:45 P.M. Youth Clinic
6:00-7:00 P.M. Sandwich & Salad Bar
7:00-9:30 P.M. Business Meeting
Trevor Cole, Speaker
John Peat, Speaker
Slide Show/Auction

Saturday Activities:

Breakfast on Your Own
7:30-11:20 A.M. Garden Tours
11:20 A.M.-12:30 P.M. Lunch
12:30-4:30 P.M. Garden Tours
1:30-3:00 P.M. Youth Supervised Activity
4:45-5:15 P.M. RVP/Club Presidents Meeting
7:00 P.M. Awards Banquet
Ted Petit, Speaker

Region 14 Hybridizers

Send slides which you would like to have shown at the Region 14 Spring Meeting to:

Elaine and James Smelley
4831 Devon Street
Moss Point, MS 39563 Phone: (228)-475-9736

Deadline: June 1, 2006

Please send slides of 2006 introductions or selected seedlings, with a description of each slide as to parent-age, size, color, etc. Limit: 5 slides per hybridizer.

If you are at the meeting, you can pick up your slides after the program; or we can mail them back to you after the meeting.

We must receive your slides by June 1, so that we can organize the program and handouts.

**Auction Plants
Region 14 Spring Meeting**

The Spring Meeting Auction is scheduled for Friday night, June 16. We very much need Region 14 members to contribute one or two double fans of top quality plants, so that we can continue to finance our Regional activities, especially the publication of our newsletter, *The Dixie Daylily*. The quality of our newsletter depends upon your generosity.

If you can contribute, please send the name of cultivars and their value to:

Linda Beck, RPD
P.O. Box 91
Tupelo, MS 38802 Phone: (662)-842-0520

Linda must receive this information no later than June 1, so that she can provide a list of plants and donors for those attending the Region 14 Auction. If you do not send a price, the average price in *Eureka* will be used.

Bring your plant(s) to the June 16 Meeting in Huntsville. Someone will be near the registration desk to receive them. In lieu of bringing the plants, you may bring or send self-addressed post cards with plant information to be mailed to you by the successful bidder.

Your editor, Oliver Billingslea, thanks you.

REGION 14 AWARDS

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE SPRING REGIONAL MEETING: HUNTSVILLE, AL

All participants at the Regional Meeting are eligible to vote in nine categories regardless of American Hemerocallis Society (AHS) status.

1. Vice-President's Cup

This award is given for the best clump of a registered cultivar, regardless of flower color or size, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Top Award/Discretion of RVP
Donor: Region 14 (RVP obtains and presents)
Recipient: Owner of garden

2. Region 14 Landscape Award

This award is given for the best use of daylilies in landscaping in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: West Alabama Daylily Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

3. Amy Stewart Memorial Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered pink daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: Birmingham Daylily Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

4. Ethel Barfield Smith Memorial Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered double daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: Jackson Hemerocallis Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

5. Jim Terry Memorial Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered red daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

6. Bennie McRae Small or Miniature Daylily Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered small or miniature daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: North MS-AL Daylily Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

7. Johnny Edward Kelly Memorial Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered spider or unusual form daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Discretion of Donor
Donor: MS Gulf Coast Daylily Society
Recipient: Owner of garden

8. Ben Arthur Davis, Sr. Memorial Award

This award is given for the best clump of a registered eyed or eyed and edged daylily, seen in a tour garden.

Award: Waterford crystal vase
Donor: Meridian Hemerocallis Club
Recipient: Owner of garden

9. Sally Lake Memorial Award

This award is given for the best seedling or named, but unimported, daylily, regardless of size, growing in the Sally Lake Bed.

Award: Top Award/Crystal or Discretion of Donor
Donor: Central Alabama Daylily Society
Recipient: Region 14 Hybridizer

Non-Voting Awards:

Award of Appreciation

This award is given in appreciation for hosting the Sally Lake Bed.

Award: Statuary
Donor: Region 14 (RVP obtains and presents)
Recipient: Owner of garden hosting the Sally Lake Bed

Award for Best Article in *The Dixie Daylily*

This award is given for the best article written for *The Dixie Daylily* (Summer/Fall through Spring issues) by a member of Region 14. The RVP selects two people to review the articles and select what they consider to be the best. If there is need for the opinion of a third person, the RVP will select a third person.

Award: Daylily hybridized by a Region 14 hybridizer
Donor: 2006: Henry Little
Recipient: Author of selected article

Awards donated by clubs are funded through 2008.

YOUTH DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS: 2006 AN OPEN LETTER FROM YOUR EDITOR TO THE MEMBERSHIP

Once again I challenge the membership of Region 14, through your local clubs, to sponsor a youth at the Region 14 Spring Meeting in Huntsville, AL, June 16-17, 2006. The registration fee is a mere \$15, and a double room is \$83 per night. If each club takes up this challenge, just think: we could have a minimum of 24 youth attending the Regional Meeting in Huntsville. Wouldn't that be grand? Youth liaisons, Bob and Sheila Watson, are planning an "adventure" for the youth at the Spring Meeting. Just the fact that they will eat together, sit together, ride a bus together, and attend a garden judging clinic together, will be great fun, and they are always given responsibilities, such as helping with the Friday night auction.

I also ask all club presidents to encourage participation in the Youth Digital Photography Awards, which are open to all of the Region's youth. By participating in the program, the youth provide the editor of *The Dixie Daylily* a nice photographic feature for publication in the Summer/Fall 2006 issue. The rules for the photography awards are the same as they were last year. The deadline for submission by e-mail or by CD is June 21, just after the Regional Meeting. There are four categories, and a youth photographer may submit up to five entries in each category: (1) individual bloom, (2)

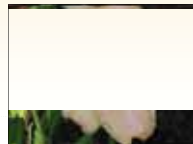
cultivar clump, (3) daylilies with companion plants, and (4) landscape. In the individual bloom category, the photograph may be of any registered cultivar. The photographer must identify the cultivar, its hybridizer, its year of registration, and the garden in which the photo was taken. The same applies for the cultivar clump, which should show the foliage, the scapes, and the flowers to give a total picture. In the daylilies with companion plants category, the photographer must identify the most prominent daylilies in the picture *and* companion plants in the picture. The photographer must also identify the garden in which the photo was taken. In the landscape category, the photographer may, if he or she wishes, identify some of the daylilies, but must identify the garden in which the photo was taken. The photographer must be a Region 14 youth member (18 or under as of June 21, 2006). Once again, Region 14 will give an award of \$25 in each of the four categories, and the winning entries will be published in the 2006 Summer/Fall issue of *The Dixie Daylily*.

A panel of three judges will evaluate all entries in respect to clarity, accuracy of color, and composition. See the article on photography, "Going Digital: The Art of Photography 101," in the Winter 2006 issue of *The Dixie Daylily*, pp. 18-22, for some pointers on photography.

"I also ask all club presidents to encourage participation in the Youth Digital Photography Awards which are open to all of the Region's youth."

—Oliver Billingslea,

Editor, The Dixie Daylily



H. 'Linda's Magic' (Digital Photo by Greg Preuss)

Last year, I pulled up the AHS Website section on "Guidelines for Clubs and Individuals to Interest Youth in Daylilies," and this is a summary of what I found; I think it is worth repeating again this year:

1. Clubs could assign each of their youths a mentor, to reinforce the daylily connection.
2. A club could invite a youth group (4-H, Scouts, Brownies, etc.) to participate in a club function.
3. A club could buy a year's AHS membership for a youth interested in daylilies. The cost is only \$8.
4. A club could sponsor a youth either to our Regional Meeting or to the AHS National Convention.
5. Each club could ask a youth to write for our Regional Newsletter. They could ask him/her to write about a garden visit, or to write about his/her collection of daylilies. (Allen McLain is doing this in *The Daylily Journal*.)
6. Clubs could encourage youth to do artwork or take daylily pictures for their yearbooks (I would add to this now the opportunity for entering digital shots in our Region 14 contest).
7. Clubs could encourage youths to take Garden Judge and Exhibition Judge clinics and cover the fees.
8. They could encourage youths to participate in an AHS show and show them how to groom their daylilies.
9. Clubs should visit their youth members' gardens.
10. Clubs could encourage their youth to apply for the Christine Erin Stamile Youth Award, discussing with them a year in advance the rules as printed on page 10 of the 2005 Winter issue of *The Dixie Daylily*.
11. Clubs should seek out corporate sponsors to establish a scholarship for youths involved in horticulture. (The Meridian Daylily Club has done this.)
12. Each club should encourage older youth members, who have an interest in horticulture, to apply as graduating seniors for The Bertie Ferris Youth Scholarship Award. AHS is offering two \$1,000 scholarships in 2006.

GARDEN TOUR PREVIEWS:
REGION 14 SPRING MEETING, HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

Capstone Daylilies

Located just east of Athens, AL, is the newest of the tour gardens, a small backyard daylily garden representing one man's retirement hobby run amok. Dave Flanigan (and especially his wife, Yvonne) could never have imagined what would come from responding to a small advertisement in his local paper offering the "best of the old and newest of the new" daylilies. Stunned by the eyes, edges, ruffles and brilliant colors of the newer daylilies, he purchased a few, and once you visit his garden, you'll clearly know "the rest of the story."

Several specimens of *Rosa* 'Knock Out' highlight the entrance, and as you step further into the garden you are immediately attracted to a small circular bed containing a number of Dave's favorite daylilies including *Hemerocallis* 'Belle Cook', *H.* 'Bill Robinson', *H.* 'Flecia Grace', *H.* 'J. T. Davis', *H.* 'Bella Sera', *H.* 'Chartered Course', *H.* 'Michael Miller', and *H.* 'Mrs. John Cooper'.

A gently sloping carpet of hybrid Bermuda lawn (you'll want to go barefoot!) leads to a series of raised beds filled with approximately 700 registered cultivars with heavy emphasis on the newer large-flowered specimens. Among the highlights in these raised beds are complete spring collections from Pat Stamile for the years 2003 through 2005, and major collections from the Salters, Jack Carpenter, Dan Trimmer, Larry Grace, David Kirchhoff, and John Kinnebrew, Jr. This June, the garden will also contain the spring 2006 collections from the Kinnebrews, Tim Bell, Jesse and Terah George, and Pat and Grace Stamile.

Although the garden is small in area, hostas, ferns, and ginger are nestled in the several shady locations. You will also enjoy azaleas thriving under the shade of dogwood trees (one dogwood exhibiting variegated green and yellow leaves) and several containers of Orienpet lilies which are crosses between Oriental and trumpet lilies. Bringing additional interest to the garden is a sweet gum tree which has been genetically engineered to eliminate the "sticky balls."

A specially constructed lath house with a misting system provides a home for yet another hobby—the growing of tuberous begonias. Although these begonias are challenging to grow in the heat and humidity of the South, you will be able to enjoy their exquisite beauty during your visit.

While Dave Flanigan claims that his artistic talents for garden design are simply those of an armadillo—he digs holes—he is sure that you will truly enjoy how well those holes have been filled in this cozy garden space.

Precious' Petals

The transition from being Hank Williams, Jr.'s chief photographer to ensuring that the only music in his beautiful daylily garden is provided by the birds is indeed an unusual one, but such is the case for the irreplaceable Tony "Precious" Thompson. Tony and his wife Susie (who does all the work) are always anxious for you to visit Precious' Petals where nearly 700 daylilies are neatly displayed in visitor-friendly beds. The garden contains the complete Stout Medal collection with significant numbers of cultivars from most of the major hybridizers exhibited in beds small enough to get up close and personal with the individual blooms.

Among the daylily highlights in this garden are extensive collections from Ted Petit as well as John Peat. The largest collection of Pam Erikson cultivars in Region 14 is another not-to-be-missed feature. As will be the case in all of the gardens on tour, a special bed has been prepared for guest plants provided by our hybridizer friends.

Near the center of the garden, an attractive gazebo provides a 360-degree view as well as a relaxing spot to join Tony for a Samuel Adams while you share tall tales about your daylily-growing prowess. Just beyond the gazebo is a beautifully designed koi pond which always enchants visitors. The Thompsons' love of birds is evidenced by numerous habitats for their feathered friends including an attractive bubbling rock which provides moving water for them year 'round.

During the winter, Tony designed and built innumerable birdhouses to be given away as bus prizes during the upcoming Regional Meeting. Those who saw specimens at the recent Midwinter Symposium in Chattanooga, TN, observed the work of a meticulous craftsman. For Tony, these birdhouses are a work of joy.

One cannot leave this well-designed garden without a stroll through the accompanying shade garden filled with hostas, tree ferns, azaleas, rhododendrons, Japanese maples, and hellebores. You'll also enjoy hundreds of native North Alabama wildflowers and moss-covered stumps collected from the mountains. One final feature adds marvelous structure to the garden—a stone fence built in 1790 which was moved from a farm in Tennessee and reassembled in the shade garden area.

The garden is an AHS Display Garden and a National Wildlife Federation Backyard Wildlife Habitat and is located just east of Hazel Green, Alabama, where you'll likely find Tony talking and Susie working to maintain this extraordinary garden.



The Stephens Family Garden

Under the spreading canopy of a virgin hardwood forest lies one of North Alabama's botanical treasures. The Stephens Family Garden, located just west of Hazel Green, features an extraordinary collection of nearly 2000 registered daylilies judiciously spotted in the sun-splashed spaces between spectacular red oak, white oak, and beech trees.

The garden initially featured an extensive selection of hostas; the sight of nearly 500 mature clumps of hostas is a memory not easily forgotten. But on one of their hosta buying trips, the Stephens spotted some daylilies and the rest is history. After several trips to central Florida and visits to most of the major hybridizers elsewhere in the South, the Stephens now have a collection which contains cultivars from approximately 50 hybridizers with a large number from the Stamiles, Salters, Trimmers, Kinnebrews, Kirchoff/Morss, and Larry Grace. They grow every daylily introduced by Larry Grace and by John Kinnebrew, Jr.

The formal AHS Display Garden area is centered upon a reflecting pool with a pair of large bronze herons providing water aeration for the fish and several varieties of water plants indigenous to North Alabama. Around the pool are beautifully shaped daylily beds entirely bordered with neatly manicured boxwoods. There are individual beds for each year between 2000 and 2006 containing the introductions from that specific year. The "superstars from the 1990's" are located in a separate bed with older cultivars spread throughout the extensive garden. A highlight of your visit to this garden next June will be plantings of the 2006 spring collections from the Stamiles, John Kinnebrew, Jr., Dan Trimmer, Jack Carpenter, Bob Carr, John Rice, and Frank Smith. The Sally Lake Memorial Bed for 2006 is located in the Stephens' garden.

One cannot leave this garden without noticing a marvelous selection of Japanese maples highlighted by *Acer palmatum* 'Tamukeyama', 'Red Filigree Lace', and 'Red Pygmy'. And if this were not enough you will also be stunned by the newest additions to the garden, a beautiful and growing collection of the newest and finest hydrangeas, including *Hydrangea serrata* 'Fuji Waterfall' and 'Purple Tiers', and *H. macrophylla* 'Oregon Pride.' Between the Sally Lake Memorial Bed and the AHS Display Garden is a large bed containing the favorite perennials of the Stephens family including salvias, gauras, iris, and cannas.

Randy and Karen Stephens look forward to your visit to share the beauty and love incorporated into this remarkable garden.

The Huntsville Botanical Garden

Widely regarded as one of the better municipal botanical gardens in the South, the Huntsville Botanical Garden is home to one of the more beautifully designed daylily gardens in the North Alabama area. The first daylily plantings occurred there in 1984 and through the efforts of Grady Kennedy, one of North Alabama's early hybridizers, the daylily garden was developed. The Kennedys donated 543 cultivars, the railroad ties, the top-soil and the landscape cloth for the beds and installed the irrigation system for the garden.

Today's garden is laid out in a most attractive semi-circle design with 30 beds of daylilies located in 5 rows with 6 beds in each row. At the top of the garden a large gazebo overlooks the gently sloping garden which is bordered in the rear with mature oak leaf hydrangeas. A path through the hydrangeas leads to a shady nature trail area filled with 13 different varieties of native azaleas and nearly every shade loving plant imaginable. The daylily garden is filled with an impressive variety of the older heirloom and newer cultivars. Among the thirty beds are those containing plantings from Elizabeth Salter, Grace Stamile, Larry Grace, John Kinnebrew, Jr., Pauline Henry, Patrick Stamile, and Grady Kennedy. Recent additions include several beds of the very newest daylilies and a complete Stout Silver Medal collection recently enhanced by a significant donation of plants by John and Nancy Falck. A new bed contains approximately 25 introductions from Jesse and Terah George generously provided as guest plants for the garden. The garden now contains over 850 registered cultivars representing the efforts of more than 100 hybridizers.

The person who is responsible for the incredible volunteer efforts required to maintain the daylily portion of the Huntsville Botanical Garden is Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh, an 85 year old bundle of energy who took over care of the garden in early 1987. Considered the matriarch of Huntsville daylily aficionados, she spends countless hours overseeing and being involved in the planting, weeding, dead-heading, and lining-out of these daylily beds. You will enjoy seeing the results of her nearly 40 year love affair with the daylily.

Willie's Daylilies

In a serene pastoral setting a few miles from the homestead of Davy Crockett near Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, lies the marvelous daylily sales garden of

Willie Markus. For those of us in North Alabama, it is one of our favorite spots to visit, exchange tidbits about daylilies, and invest in some of the newer cultivars.

Willie will tell you that “daylilies are easy to grow but to grow them well requires effort,” and he grows them really well. Nearly 2000 registered cultivars are grown in narrow raised beds of sandy loam topsoil mixed in equal parts with leaf mold compost. Even though this is a very large garden, it is essentially weed free. The lush foliage and beautiful blooms result from liberal doses of “Nutricote” and epsom salts with near continual watering with soaker hoses.

A goodly amount of garden art as well as several water features add charm to the garden; however, the most attractive aspect of a visit to Willie’s Daylilies is the ability to purchase even some of the newer cultivars at most reasonable prices.

If there appears to be sufficient interest, we plan to take a bus through the rolling hills of southern Tennessee to Willie’s garden on Friday, leaving at approximately 7:30 A.M. and returning early enough to attend the afternoon workshops. If you wish to purchase daylilies, we will have them dug, packaged and delivered to you prior to the Saturday evening banquet.

A visit to Willie’s Daylilies combines a most scenic trip with the opportunity to meet and talk with one of the most “down to earth,” genuine and generous growers of daylilies whom we count among our best of friends. You will also see well grown daylilies that have met the test of time as well as many of the newer registered cultivars. Plan to join us on this outing!

A Visit to “Across the Pond”

While you are in town for the Region 14 Spring Meeting in Huntsville, you are invited to “Across the Pond” to meet Trevor Cole, one of the featured speakers. For those who arrive early, there is a reception at the establishment, Thursday evening, 7-9 P.M. “Across the Pond” is a one-of-a-kind nature/water garden store founded by this native Englishman transplanted into the American South. Trevor is a frequent lecturer and exhibitor on all aspects of pond-keeping.

At this unique store, bubbling fountains and a quiet reflecting pool greet you in the front courtyard. You can hear the soft cascade of a waterfall in the nature garden out back. A babbling brook meanders through display gardens filled with different water gardens and an interesting assortment of native flora.

Text, *Dave Flanigan*

Background, *Wayne Reed*

*Register Today
for the
AHS Region 14 Spring Meeting
Huntsville, Alabama
June 16—17, 2006*

*For the
Registration Form
see page 7
in the
Winter 2006 issue
of
The Dixie Daylily*

*or for your convenience
go to
the AHS Region 14 Website*

ahsregion14.org

*and download the
Registration Form*



*Congratulations!
Region 14 Hybridizers
Honorable Mention Awards in 2005*

*W.H. Smith
Hemerocallis ‘Yazoo Jim Terry’*

*Earl Watts
H. ‘Suburban Wrennetta’
H. ‘Suburban Tassy’*

*Jesse George
H. ‘Coach’s Fast Break’*

*Terah George
H. ‘Key Lime Special’*



“FLOWERS FROM The Dixie Daylily”:
AUCTION QUILT FOR REGION 14 SPRING MEETING

The 100% cotton quilt pictured here has been made by Nancy Billingslea and will be given as an auction item at the upcoming Region 14 Spring Meeting in Huntsville, AL, June 16-17, 2006. Entitled “Flowers from *The Dixie Daylily*,” it features 20 photographs taken from the Region 14 newsletter over the past two years. The quilt is designed, pieced, embroidered, and machine quilted by Nancy; her husband, Oliver, helped with the selection and cutting of the fabric. Featured in the quilt are daylilies from Region 14 hybridizers, including Linda Agin, Paul Aucoin, Larry Grace, Jesse George, Kemberly Roberts, and Earl Watts, as well as several out-of-Region hybridizers, among them Jack Carpenter, Karol Emerich, Lee Gates, David Kirchhoff, Ned Roberts, Jeff and Elizabeth Salter, Victor Santa Lucia, Frank Smith, Pat and Grace Stamile, and Dan Trimmer. The size of the quilt is 71” x 101”. Bidding will begin at \$400, which is the cost of the fabric and photo preparation. Bids by mail will be accepted and should indicate a maximum bid, though such bids are liable for no more than a \$50 bid above the final “in



“Flowers from The Dixie Daylily”

(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

house” bid. They should be sent to the editor and postmarked by June 1, 2006. Phone bids are permissible during the actual auction Friday evening, but bidders must have arranged for their “in house” contacts. All bids above the actual cost of the quilt will be considered donations to AHS Region 14 and are tax deductible. All proceeds, including the cost of producing the quilt, go to Region 14 in support of *The Dixie Daylily*.

AHS REGION 14 DISPLAY GARDENS: 2006

An AHS Display Garden is established to show the very best daylily cultivars to the general public. Its purpose is to educate the visitor about modern daylilies and how they can be used effectively in landscapes. In an approved AHS Display Garden, a visitor can view a large number and wide variety of labeled daylilies in a well-maintained garden setting.

In Region 14, there are 35 Display Gardens. This spring, we encourage the membership of Region 14 to take advantage of one or more of these open gardens by calling ahead to arrange a visit. AHS Display Gardens provide a lovely excursion and give the visitor the opportunity to see cultivars of every size, shape, and form from a number of hybridizers.

Alabama

Edna Alderman
Tabby Tails Garden
2202 Magnolia Cove
Birmingham, AL 35243
205-970-0967
jkalderman@hotmail.com

Paul and Judi F. Aucoin
Shantih Daylily Gardens
2553 Dunmore Drive
Hoover, AL 35226
205-824-3592
aucoin@mindspring.com

Jim and Kay Chappell
Chappell Gardens
900 Smoke Rise Trail
Warrior, AL 35180
205-647-0688
jchappell@ix.netcom.com

Kay and Leo Davis
Dixie Daylilies
11430 Patterson Lane
Elberta, AL 36530
251-987-1987
daylily@gulfnet.com

Ethel Dodd
Dodd's Daylily Garden
270 Sutton Bridge Road
Rainbow City, AL 35906
256-442-5752

Gary and Jo Anne Dunham
Brittany Ridge Gardens
645 County Lake Road
Sulligent, AL 35586
205-695-6219
cherokee@fayette.net

John and Nancy Falck
Hem Haven
20205 Lawrence Road South
Fairhope, AL 36533
251-928-3340
hemhavennursery@
mindspring.com

Jesse and Terah George
JTM Gardens
781 Bird Farm Road
Jasper, AL 35503
205-387-8897
jtmgardens@sonet.net

Huntsville Botanical Garden

4747 Wallace Drive
Huntsville, AL 35805
256-830-4447

Joe and Olive Langdon
Langdon Garden
4832 Mill Springs Circle
Birmingham, AL 35223
205-956-1516

John and Sarah Lunsford
Lunsford's Lilies
309 Meadow Wood Lane
Brent, AL 35034
205-926-4388

Fred and Kathleen Manning
Daylily Place
10019 Route Road
Lillian, AL 36549
251-961-2583
fredcm@gulfnet.com

Charles and Joyce Milliron
Iron Lily Garden
2273 Lee Road 45
Opelika, AL 36804
334-749-8613
mill3411@bellsouth.net

Ric and Terri Money
Ric-A-Tee Daylily Gardens
4007 State Hwy 134E
Headland, AL 36345
334-693-3055
tmoney@ala.net

Vickie S. Pearce
Siblings Nursery and Daylilies
Rural Route 3, Box 127
Eutaw, AL 35462
205-372-3687
siblingsdaylilies@aol.com

Randy and Karen Stephens
Stephens Family Garden
446 West Limestone Road
Hazel Green, AL 35750
256-828-3127
randy.stephens@msn.com

Janice R. Tate
Jan's Daylily & Iris Garden
11510 River Road
Hamilton, AL 35570
205-921-3767
jantate@peoplepc.com

Tony and Susie Thompson

Precious' Petals
104 Perdido Drive
Hazel Green, AL 35750
256-652-5977
susietee@mchsi.com

Mississippi

Thomas and Patricia Adams
Bayou Bend
5916 Oak Bayou Lane
Ocean Springs, MS 39564
228-872-3200
rxdoc@bellsouth.net

Ann and John C. Arledge III
Arledge Gardens
2512 Rolling Meadows Road
Gautier, MS 39553
228-497-5170

Troy and Linda Beck
Beck's Bloomers
205 State Park Road
Tupelo, MS 38802
662-842-0520
beckblmr@tsixroads.com

Calvin and Willodean Becton
Cat Walk Blooms
14590 Highway 21 North
Philadelphia, MS 39350
601-656-1799

Narvel and Nelda Broom
Singing River Daylily Garden
1811 Singing River Street
Pascagoula, MS 39567
228-762-1994

Jo Anne Burrage
Oakleaf Creek Daylily Garden
352 Henry Wells Road
Caledonia, MS 39740
662-356-4310
oakleaf@futuresouth.com

Edd and Nancy Chain
FigLily Acres
47 Nobles Road
Sumrall, MS 39482
601-268-3611
nchain1@bellsouth.net

Dorothy Hasson
Dorothy's Daylilies
585 Goss-Bunker Hill Road
Columbia, MS 39429
601-736-2418

Stanley and Juanice Hayes

Hayes Daylilies
1069 New Hope Road
Columbus, MS 39702
662-328-0531

Rissa and Bill Lawrence

Victorian Place Garden
201 Lawrence Road
Caledonia, MS 39740
662-356-6019
victorianplace@cabene.net

Henry and Lisa Little

Silent Sentinel
2468 Erie Lane NW
Brookhaven, MS 39601
601-833-4064
h3little@tislink.com

John D. (Doyle) Pierce

Sans Souci Jardin
610 49th Avenue
Meridian, MS 39307
601-479-4323
crazydoyle15@aol.com

Randy and Schanta Preuss

River Road Daylilies
2263 Old Highway 27 North
Monticello, MS 39654
601-587-0148

Ted and Sandra Preuss

River Road Daylilies
2143 Old Highway 27 North
Monticello, MS 39654
601-587-7676
tspreuss@telepak.net

James Townsend

Swan Lake Daylily Garden
1687 Sandersville Sharon Road
Laurel, MS 39440
601-649-3183
jtowndsend@e-gate.net

Earl and Barbara Watts

Suburban Daylilies
60 Serene Meadows Drive
Hattiesburg, MS 39402
601-268-3884
bhw@netdoor.com

Helen Wheeler

Big Stump Daylilies
38 Quince Circle
Columbus, MS 39702
662-327-1904
bigstump@bellsouth.net

YESTERDAY'S MEMORIES
BY OLIVE LANGDON

*Meet My Friend
Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh*

Our son, Joey, was three in 1962 when Joe and I decided that our family should attend our first American Iris Society National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. There we met Rosa Belle, also a first AIS Convention attendee, and our friendship stuck! That friendship has lasted through these years. We have shared many memorable times together, but there have been sad times as well. Rosa Belle lost her husband and our good friend, Richard Powell Van Valkenburgh, in 1986. While he was with his doctors at University Hospital in Birmingham, it was good to have Rosa Belle as our house guest. She was there for our sad times, too. My mother was confined to a wheelchair for many years and she delighted in Rosa Belle's frequent visits. So, these are just some of the reasons I responded to our editor's request that I spotlight Rosa Belle and tell of her myriad horticultural endeavors and accomplishments through the years, as well as a little bit about our travels together. She will not only be present, but instrumental and involved, in our upcoming 2006 AHS Region 14 Meeting in Huntsville, Alabama.

Rosa Belle is a native of Huntsville and a long time dedicated member of the Huntsville First United Methodist Church. She lends her lovely singing voice to its Sanctuary Choir and has done so since 1939. She also sings at her church in the Ladies Choir and with its Triphony Singers. She has been soloist with the First Huntsville Community Chorus for over sixty years, and she sang professionally at the Huntsville Jewish Synagogue for twenty-five years. She was even invited and sang "The Holy City," a cappella, in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. Ask her about this one.

She and Dick are the parents of three accomplished children: Charlotte V. Byrd, a professional artist who has provided numerous horticultural renderings for various iris, daylily, and hosta causes; Richard, recently selected as the 2005 Alabama Realtor of the Year; and Robert, a successful business owner. Rosa Belle has nine granddaughters and nine great grandchildren. Needless to say, all enjoy their visits with her and she is the frequent hostess for family occasions.

As for her love of flowers, this began as a child and continues to date as she does arrangements for her church. In addition to that 1962 American Iris Convention, we may add thirty-four more to her attendance record to date, including the 2005 one in St. Louis. Surely, this is something of a record! She has also served in various positions in the local and regional iris groups through the years. In the mid-seventies, she was newsletter editor and RVP for our Region 24, AIS. After many years as an active judge, she was awarded Judge Emeritus by the AIS, a special honor. Very, very quietly, I surmise that the iris just may be her favorite flower—not that I said that!

Rosa Belle also worked diligently during the early formative years of The American Hosta Society. She served as a judge, having received her credentials during the American Hosta Society presidency of Eldren Minks.

The first daylily "school" Rosa Belle attended was at

the Valdosta, Georgia, National Convention in 1964. This was her first AHS Convention. The school was conducted on the picturesque banks of the Suwanee River. The test was a monster and she was quite sure that she had failed. Of course, she had not. She became fully accredited as an AHS Exhibition Judge and always served well.

Because there was no Huntsville daylily group at that time, she became active in the Birmingham Area Hemerocallis Society, holding various offices and serving as its President. Even without a local club, Rosa Belle organized displays of daylily blooms so that the daylily did become more popular in north Alabama. When Huntsville did form a local group, she also served as its President.

Rosa Belle, Joe, Joey, and I did a great deal of traveling in the Sixties and Seventies to areas where most of the newest and best daylilies were being hybridized. On one of our garden-hopping trips, Rosa Belle and I became enamored with a gorgeous yellow daylily, *Hemerocallis* 'Arla', hybridized by the renowned Dr. Stout. We agreed that it was a must-have and decided to share its cost. That cost to each of us was twelve and a half cents. Those were the days!

During that period, the national awards were primarily bestowed upon the leading Southern hybridizers who were concentrated in the then best growing areas, which were Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas.

We routinely visited Julia Hardy's well-kept nursery in Mt. Olive, Alabama, close to Birmingham. On one of those visits, Mrs. Hardy told us that she had just returned from the garden of Orville Fay in the Chicago area and had



So struck were Rosa Belle and Olive when they first saw H. 'Frances Fay' at Mrs. Hardy's garden in Mt. Olive, Alabama, that Rosa Belle decided she would plant a fifty foot row of it.

(Photo by Linda Sue Barnes)

purchased the entire stock of a breathtakingly beautiful daylily, which she would market. We were stunned when she told us that she had paid \$1,000.00 for the daylily as this was truly shocking in the then daylily financial arena. That daylily became *H. 'Frances Fay'*, a melon color, and went on to achieve great popularity and AHS awards. Before *H. 'Frances Fay'*, most of the introduced daylilies were tall. Not only was it short, but it had excellent branching and bud count. Truly, the wise Mrs. Hardy had made an excellent investment. It was soon on the want list of daylily connoisseurs all over the country. Rosa Belle wanted a fifty foot row of it! We did not dare think that melon wasn't the hottest and most innovative color out there!

Pauline Henry lived in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, well off the beaten path for most, but daylily enthusiasts beat that path to her garden, us included. Interestingly, and for many years, many came back home with a daylily named for themselves. Hence *H. 'Siloam Bertie Ferris'* and *H. 'Siloam Merle Kent'*, all the way to *H. 'Siloam Virginia Henson'*.

Our Florida trips at that time were confined to Bill Munson's Wimberlyway Gardens. Here we saw Bill's mother, Ida Munson; his sister and her husband, Betty and Joe Hudson; and Bill's then very young niece, Elizabeth Ann Hudson. We understood the family to be immersed in daylilies. Bill was already becoming known for his hems with eyes and washes, his water markings, and his emphases on lavender and purple colorations. In the garden was always the little child, Elizabeth Ann Hudson, who soon became an award winning pioneer in the hybridizing of miniature and small-flowered daylilies. Today she's known as Elizabeth Salter. We'll never forget the rich colors we saw in *H. 'Persian Market'*, and I was so flattered when Bill named a rich purple, *H. 'Olive Bailey Langdon'*, for me.

Over in Jenkinsburg, Georgia, we had the wonderful pleasure of meeting and knowing Frank and Peggy Childs. We made an annual trip to the Childs' Garden, leaving at dawn and greeting the daylilies as they opened. This excursion consumed the day. About noon, Mr. Frank would go down the road to the barbecue stand for our lunch, which we ate under their big old oak trees. During the afternoon, we made our selections. Invariably, we would purchase the entire current collection, but by the slow way, one by one, as

their great daylilies were fetching the fifties and hundreds! The Childses were years ahead of their time, especially in their white and lavender lines. Peggy was also hybridizing some small-flowered hems, her pinks being exceptionally lovely. Frank's *H. 'Catherine Woodbery'* was simply beautiful.

Louisiana was a real hot bed for the newest and best. We often visited the Abbeville garden of Mr. W. B. MacMillan, a reserved and elderly gentleman who taught Sunday school in the Methodist church. Many of his introductions bore Biblical names, such as *H. 'Amazing Grace'* or *H. 'Twenty Third Psalm'*. His hybridizing was showing greater width in petals and sepals and his pinks were known for their depth of color. Of course, all of these Southern travels were to see diploids. A few tetraploids were then available in the north, but the blooms were quite tailored. We loved diploids—then.

Might as well since they were the best of those days!

We also visited the garden of Lucille Guidry which was near Mr. Mac's. She was the nurse hired to care for the MacMillans, especially the fragile "Peggy Mac," Mrs. MacMillan. Mr. MacMillan gave Lucille plants that he was not using in his hybridizing program. With these, she was trying very hard to produce some good daylilies. And produce some good daylilies, she did! Her newest introductions were appreciated for several years. It was always a joy to visit her beau-



Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh

tiful garden and see first hand daylilies like *H.* 'Janet Gayle' and *H.* 'Becky Lynn', both of which won the Stout Medal.

Rosa Belle and I will not forget one particular visit to the garden of hybridizer Olivier Monette and his wife, Hazel. Olivier had been a gardener for Mr. Mac, and Mr. Mac had got him started in hybridizing too. We had stayed in the Monette garden until nearly dark, when we discovered we had a flat tire. Unfortunately, this was one of the trips that Joe had not made. Olivier had to change our tire to get us on our way and out of his hair. It was a bit frightening driving back through the boonies to town.

In Iowa, Louisiana, we also visited Elsie Spalding, who was well known for her pure color in pinks as well as for her rounded forms. Her fame became quite large; and, as it increased, so did her prices, which appeared to coincide with the amount of stock on hand and the size of a particular plant. Her waiting list was always long, but she produced some gorgeous daylilies, such as *H.* 'Lullaby Baby' and *H.* 'Yesterday Memories'.

Closer to home, we frequented the garden of Jim Terry in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. His reds were good, as red was probably his favorite daylily color. Yet, his *H.* 'Count Your Blessings', a 6" pink blend, became one of his most famous daylilies. Jim gave generously to his region. I will always remember that he and I worked on the first rules and regulations for the Sally Lake Memorial Bed. He had many friends. He was a Southern gentleman.

Over the years, Rosa Belle, Joe, and I attended several National Conventions. A highlight of the Dallas National Convention in the Sixties was our meeting Bertie Ferris. Bertie later became President of the American Hemerocallis Society, as well as one of its earliest benefactors. She was the epitome of a daylily devotee. Long before bus trips became stylish, we took so many of these illustrious daylily-based motor trips, and they helped form a lasting friendship.

Back at home, Rosa Belle worked, worked, and worked in her own daylily garden. She became a Master Gardener, and was one of the fourteen charter members who organized the Huntsville Botanical Garden in 1979. She organized its first sale for the public, the proceeds from which built the beautiful gazebo we enjoy in the Botanical Garden today. For all such contributions, she was awarded Volunteer of the Year by the Huntsville Botanical Garden in 1995.

Some of her work for the Garden involving daylilies began in 1985 as she aided the late Grady Kennedy and his wife, Lois, in the establishment of the Huntsville Botanical Daylily Garden. Their first order of business was the acquisition of land. The Kennedys donated 600-650 hem cultivars for the Botanical Daylily Garden at that time and provided railroad ties, soil, landscape cloth, and an irrigation system for the then thirty beds of daylilies. In the early days of the Garden, garden club ladies volunteered their services in planting the daylilies. At the beginning, sadly, there were no markers on the first daylilies planted there. Identification of them was only by a numbered tag attached to the root. The ink soon faded, leaving 600 or so unidentified hems. To rectify this problem, Rosa Belle removed those without identification and replaced them with daylilies from her own beautiful garden.

Interest peaked when all these new and wonderful daylilies began to bloom. Rosa Belle, from the outset, began working to create various beds of interest. One of the first was a complete Stout Silver Medal Bed which, when studied, shows the history of the daylily from 1950 to the present. Another more recent bed is one which features spiders and unusual forms, since there is a great deal of current interest in these among AHS members. Rosa Belle also established a bed of Grace Stamile's small and miniature daylilies, as well as another bed which offers a collection of the daylilies of Elizabeth Salter which are 3" and under. Still another bed features the Siloam series of the late Pauline Henry. With this sort of planning, the Botanical Daylily Garden now has over 100 hybridizers represented, including many of those cultivars we first saw on our travels together.

In showing the Garden, Rosa Belle points to the evolution of the daylily. New colors and quite distinct colorations add much to the daylily. The daylily also boasts far richer hues than in the past. We now enjoy various color combinations which simply did not exist just a few years ago. Modern flowers display petals and sepals which are much



Rosa Belle organized sales from the Garden, the proceeds from which built the beautiful gazebo we enjoy in the Botanical Garden today.

(Photo courtesy of Olive Langdon)

wider. Textures are much improved, and eyes and halos are now larger. Profuse ruffling and knobby edges are now widely seen. How different all this to the long ago famous *H.* 'Frances Fay'!

Among hybridizers whose daylilies are seen in the Garden are Billingslea; J. Carpenter; Carr; Durio; Ellison; Gates; George (Terah and Jesse); E.R. Joiner; Kaskel; Kirchoff; Moldovan; Morss; Petit; Pierce; Salter (Elizabeth and Jeff); Sellers; Sikes; Stamile (Grace and Pat); Soules; Smith; Trimmer (Dan and Jane); Webster; and Wilson.

Rosa Belle welcomes the daylilies of any hybridizers who would like their works to be seen in the beautiful Huntsville Botanical Garden. She promises to do her best to see that every daylily is happy there. All the while, she extends her warmest and sincerest invitations for each of you to attend the 2006 Huntsville Regional Meeting of the AHS.

olive Langdon

AHS REGION 14 GARDEN JUDGES: 2006

ALABAMA

Name	Term	Instructor	New	Hon.	Name	Term	Instructor	New	Hon.
Linda Agin	2009				Frank Huckaby	2010			
Ruby Anderson	2006	I			Rissa Lawrence	2006			
Judi Aucoin	2010				Henry Little	2010	I		
Paul Aucoin	2010				Lisa Little	2010			
Nancy Billingslea	2009				Allen McLain	2008	I		
Oliver Billingslea	2006	I			Kemberly Roberts	2008			
John N. Falck	2007				Bill Robinson	2006			
Nancy Falck	2007				Elaine W. Smelley	2010			
Paul Furr	2009				James Smelley	2010			
Jesse George	2008				Erma Stennett	2007			
Terah George	2008				Linda C. Touchstone	2006			
Charles Hamil				H	Kevin Vaughn	2010			
Joe M. Langdon	2010				Barbara Watts	2010	I		
Olive B. Langdon	2010				Earl Watts	2008	I		
Clyde F. Manning	2010								
Kathleen Manning	2010								
Charles E. Milliron	2009								
Joyce Milliron	2009								
Terri Money	2010		N						
Gaye Moore	2007								
Faith Qualls	2009								
Mary Sloan	2006								
Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh				H					

We NEED YOU
as a
GARDEN JUDGE

Plan to take Garden Judges Workshop 1
at the Spring Meeting in Huntsville.

If you
took Workshop 1 in Meridian,
plan to take Workshop 2 in Huntsville!

MISSISSIPPI

Name	Term	Instructor	New	Hon.
Patricia Adams	2008			
Thomas R. Adams	2008			
Charles E. Baker	2010			
Linda Beck	2008			
Troy Beck	2008			
Mary E. Bonds	2009			
Norma Jean Breshears	2010			
Thomas R. Breshears	2010			
Jo Anne Burrage	2008			
Dimple Campbell	2010			
Don Campbell	2010			
Nancy Chain	2009			
Rita Davis	2008			
Bob Goolsby	2006			
Juanice Hayes	2006			
Stanley Hayes	2006			
Sarah E. Hegwood	2007			
Kathleen Homsey	2008			
Peter Homsey	2008			
Bettye Huckaby	2010			



Garden Judges Instructor Allen McLain teaches a Garden Judges 2 Clinic in the Crockett garden at the 2005 Region 14 Spring Meeting in Jackson, MS.

(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

AHS REGION 14 EXHIBITION JUDGES: 2006

ALABAMA				Name	Term	Status	Instructor
Name	Term	Status	Instructor	Henry Little	2009	EX	
				Lisa Little	2009	EX	
Ruby Anderson	2006	EX		Allen McLain	2009	EX	
John Besse	2009	EX		Larry E. Pickel	2009	S	
Edwin W. Brown	2007	EX		Randy Preuss	2008	E/j	
James E. Burrell	2006	S		Ted Preuss	2007	E/j	
Laura Carlson Doran	2007	S		Kemberly Roberts	2009	EX	I
John N. Falck	2009	EX		Bill Robinson	2009	EX	I
Nancy Falck	2009	EX		Murrel G. Slaid	2006	S	
Amalia Harrison	2009	EX		Elaine W. Smelley	2006	EX	
Jack Harrison	2009	EX	I	Ralph Sowell	2009	S	
Nell Keown	2007	EX		Linda C. Touchstone	2009	EX	
Beverly Klamer	2008	EX	I	Mrs. Edward B. Warren		E/h	
Joe M. Langdon	2008	EX	I	Sheila Watson	2009	EX	
Olive Bailey Langdon	2008	EX	I	Barbara Watts	2009	EX	
Clyde F. Manning	2006	EX		Earl Watts	2009	EX	
Leon G. Meadows	2009	S		Tammy Wilkinson	2006	S	
Charles E. Milliron	2006	E/j					
Joyce Milliron	2006	E/j					
Joyce S. Ochoa	2006	EX					
James B. Riddle	2009	S					
Phyllis Riddle	2009	S					
Bill Rogers	2007	EX	I				
Sarah Sikes		E/h					
Lorene F. Smith	2006	EX	I				
Elizabeth Strong	2009	EX					
Rosa Belle Van Valkenburgh		E/h					
Sam Windham	2009	EX	I				

LEGEND:

EX = Senior Exhibition Judge
 E/j = Junior Exhibition Judge
 S = Student
 E/h = Honorary Exhibition Judge (ineligible to judge)
 I = Accredited Clinic Instructor

MISSISSIPPI

Name	Term	Status	Instructor
Patricia Adams	2009	EX	
Thomas R. Adams	2009	EX	
Hilton Anderson	2008	EX	
Huey L. Arnold	2008	E/j	
Patricia D. Arnold	2008	E/j	
Grace Auwarter		E/h	
Mary Bonds	2009	E/j	
Norma Jean Breshears	2008	EX	
Thomas R. Breshears	2008	EX	
Nelda R. Broom	2008	EX	
Dimple Campbell	2009	EX	
Nancy Chain	2009	S	
Sarah E. Hegwood	2009	EX	I
Kathleen Homsey	2008	EX	
Peter Homsey	2008	EX	
Janice Kervin	2009	EX	I
Elly Launius		E/h	



Exhibition judges Amalia Harrison, Olive Langdon, and Charles Milliron evaluate entries during the Hattiesburg Show, June 11, 2005.

(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

In Their Own Words

Region 14 Featured Speakers: John Peat and Ted Petit

John P. Peat resides in Toronto, Canada. He has been hybridizing daylilies since May of 1991, in McIntosh, Florida, and testing cultivar hardiness in Toronto for the same length of time. During the first seven years John produced a seed crop averaging three to five thousand seedlings per year. More recently his crop has increased to ten thousand seedlings per year. The first color catalog from Cross Border Daylilies, his company, was launched in September of 1998, with ten registered introductions.

An active member of the American Hemerocallis Society (AHS), John was an integral part of bringing the eastern provinces of Canada to Region 4 of the AHS, and was a co-founder of the Ontario Daylily Society, serving three terms as its President. John is the chairman of the now internationally recognized Canadian-American Daylily Meeting, which is held in Niagara Falls, Canada, every spring. Further, in January of 2001, a core group of individuals met to form the Canadian Hemerocallis Society (CHS), with John as the President. John still serves as its President, and the club has now grown to over 280 members and produces a color journal.

In the fall of 2000, John co-authored *The Color Encyclopedia of Daylilies*, containing over 1,300 color pictures with full descriptions of each daylily. Also, in 2004 he co-authored *The Daylily: A Guide for Gardeners*, published by Timber Press of Portland, Oregon. John has appeared on several television shows in Canada promoting the daylily, and also to his credit he has won various

A Canadian in Florida: The Hybridizing Program Of John Peat



A rich velvety purple with a light purple watermark and a gold edge above a green throat. H. 'Ana Maria Margetts' is indicative of the quality Canadian John Peat is achieving in his hybridizing program.

(Photo by John Peat)

awards for his activities in the Canadian Hemerocallis Society and for articles written for Regional Newsletters of the AHS. John has also been speaking internationally for several years on his hybridizing program and daylilies in general.

John's career in hybridizing began while on vacation in Florida in 1990. After spending a week frolicking in the sun down in Naples, he decided to visit his friend Ted Petit in McIntosh for the second week of his vacation. John had no idea he was arriving in the middle of peak bloom time for daylilies and his "friend" Ted had plans to put him to work. He was asked to put out pollen on certain colored daylilies with edges. Thinking his "friend" was insane, he mer-

rily did what he was told—after all he was staying on the property at no cost to himself. It was a couple of days into this insane activity when he happened upon a seven-inch tangerine orange flower; he instantly tossed the pollen away that he was told to use and began to spread the pollen from this magnificent flower out over the garden. Ted became very concerned that he had lost his helper as he had disappeared for over an hour. When he found John still dabbing pollen, he asked why it was taking so long to finish using the pollen he was given. John replied, "Oh, that ugly little thing! I found something far

larger and more brilliant in color to use," as he walked Ted over to the seven-inch flower under the cabbage palms. Ted laughed and proclaimed, "Yeah, it is nice, but nobody likes orange daylilies." Subsequently, the seven-inch daylily was named *Hemerocallis* 'Gail

Fox' (Petit '96) after John's favorite aunt. The following year when the crosses that John had made were blooming, he had no way of claiming them as his own because there was no way to distinguish the breeding from Ted's. It was then that John decided that if he were going to continue to fly south to help out in the garden, larger tags must be used for his crosses so that he could distinguish his seedlings from Ted's. His addiction had thus begun.

No two hybridizers will use the same parents in the same way in a breeding program, as tastes vary greatly. John loves bold eyes with prominent, thick picotee edges, hence his introductions of *H.* **'Jammin' With Jane'** ('05), a large six and three quarter inch flower with a bold black eyezone and a quarter inch black-purple picotee edge surrounded in gold; *H.* **'Erratic Behavior'** ('02), a chevron shaped candy apple red eyezone that varies in shape and pattern from day to day; and *H.* **'Vivacious Pam'** ('02), a 35-40 budded pink flower with a brilliant red eyezone and picotee edge.

Dark purples with rubber orange edges are another area that John has concentrated breeding, and it has paid off with his *H.* **'Promised Day'** ('02), a bright purple with a huge orange watermark and a glowing rubber tangerine edge, and *H.* **'Rubber Ducky'** ('05), a light violet lavender flower with thick rubber orange, ruffled edges. *H.* **'Descriptive Details'** ('03) and *H.* **'Madonna Arsenault'** ('03) also carry that rubber orange edge that John is fond of.

Of course, as most people love, he has his line of purple to near blacks with gold edges, which include *H.* **'Ana Maria Margetts'** ('04), a deep purple with a striking and bold gold edge, and his more famous *H.* **'Forces of Nature'** ('00), a dark purple flower with a bright gold crimped heavy bubbly edge and chalky watermark above a green throat. *H.* **'Scarlet Macaw'** ('05), on the other hand, is a very heavy spaced rose-pink with a heavy crimped gold edge.

Of course John does not limit himself to his favorite types. His hybridizing efforts are very diverse as seen with *H.* **'Reyna'** ('02), a very large cream flower with a faint pink to violet overcast, plus a darker violet cream pink eyezone surrounding a bluish burgundy band bleeding in toward the throat. *H.* **'Craig Green'** ('04) is an unusual form daylily with petals and sepals surrounded by large gold sharks teeth. *H.* **'Gamma Quadrant'** ('03) is a golden-yellow flower covered in stipples or speckles of burgundy-purple, and his *H.* **'Spatial Anomalies'** ('03) has a complex eye made up of rings of varying colors of purple and slate-gray-blue that reflects the sunlight similar to that of scales on a silver fish.



*John has concentrated on breeding dark purples with rubber orange edges, such as *H.* **'Promised Day'**. This cultivar also carries a huge orange watermark. (Photo by John Peat)*

About the only type of flower that John doesn't breed is the miniature, probably because he is just shy of six feet tall and doesn't want to hurt his back breeding these little ones; however, he has introduced a pony *H.* **'Piglet and Roo'** ('98), a clear baby ribbon pink peony double measuring a little over three inches in diameter. *H.* **'Piglet and Roo'** was an accident, but it has become a favorite and still resides in the garden for all to see.

This year the front cover of his catalog boasts the flower *H.* **'Linda Sierra'** ('06), a cream flower with a pink overlay sporting a powder blue eyezone and picotee edge. This flower was so captivating to visitors this past year that Francois Verhaert proclaimed, "That is the prettiest flower I have seen in all of the Florida gardens I visited in 2005." No word of a lie, Francois has given permission to John to quote him and has ordered three fans of *H.* **'Linda Sierra'** to add to his collection and breeding program.

Next year, John will have just shy of 20,000 brand new seedlings blooming, a bumper crop which everyone in the garden blames on the fact that John was doing too many vitamin B's in the form of "Relacore," which gave him far too much energy in the heat of the Florida sun. They may be right, but if that is the case he plans to continue with "Relacore" throughout every breeding season.

John Peat

Growing up in the sub-tropical conditions near New Orleans, Ted Petit fell in love with gardening at an early age. When he moved to the University of Florida in Gainesville to pursue his doctorate in brain research, he decided he was going to settle there and build himself a large garden. He purchased 25 acres of old growth sub-tropical forest and began clearing a spot for his garden and his house. Little did he know that one of the foremost daylily hybridizers in the world also lived in Gainesville. As an avid gardener, it was inevitable that Ted would eventually meet William Munson, Jr., and become good friends. This turn of events changed Ted's life, not only turning him on to daylilies, but with the natural curiosity of a scientist, to the excitement of hybridizing them. Bill's generosity and kindness also meant that Ted's early lines would be based heavily on Munson's work.

As with any hybridizing program, the early days were not easy. To make matters worse, Ted landed a position as a Professor at the University of Toronto in Canada, which meant that he would have to commute to his Florida gardens, whenever possible—a long commute to say the least. Fortunately, classes were over by early May, just in time for Ted to jump on a plane to begin his hybridizing in Florida. He bred plants for eight years before he introduced his first plants. Mentioning this to Bill, Bill commented that eight years is not a long time to start a hybridizing program, to which Ted responded, "I could have become a brain surgeon in that time!"

Several years before its release, Bill Munson

Shock Appeal: The Hybridizing Program of Ted Petit



Exemplary of a line of extra large daylilies which Ted is pursuing, this 8" copper rose specimen has been registered and introduced as H. 'Gary Colby'. Each flower is enhanced with a 1" gold edge.

shared pollen from *Hemerocallis* 'Ida's Magic', then a highly anticipated plant. Ted used it heavily, wanting the then elusive gold edge on all of his flowers. He felt that the contrast, especially with the dark flower colors would be striking. One of his first crosses involved the near black H. 'Midnight Magic', resulting in H. 'Edge of Eden' ('94). This was the beginning of Ted's long line of gold edged dark flowers, which include cultivars such as H. 'Quest of Eden' ('01), H. 'Bohemia After Dark' ('00), H. 'Baby Jane Hudson' ('02), and H. 'Jane

Mahan' ('04). Since the gold edges first appeared on the lavender and purple lines, many of Ted's heavy gold edged flowers appeared in this color range. One of his earliest breaks was H.

'E t e r n i t y ' s Shadow' ('96), which lies behind many of his lines. His early purple/lavender lines included H. 'Forbidden Desires' ('95) and H. 'Banquet at Versailles' ('95), which led to plants such as H. 'John Peat' ('01) and H. 'Leaving Me Breathless' ('03). Combining these lines with lines from Larry Grace led to his 2006 introduction, H. 'Gary Colby' ('05), an 8" copper rose with a 1" gold edge.

Ted quickly became infatuated with the gold edge, trying to increase its size and put it on every color. One of his early breaks again

came from his use of H. 'Ida's Magic' and H. 'Midnight Magic'. He got a red with a wire gold edge which he named H. 'Romeo Is Bleeding' ('96). This became the start of his gold edged red lines, which resulted in plants such as H. 'Drowning in Desire' ('96),



Indicative of Ted's innovative breeding program is this "future" out of *H.* 'Gary Colby' x *H.* 'Leaving Me Breathless'. Featuring a 1" chartreuse edge, it clearly has what Ted calls "shock appeal." (Photo by Ted Petit)

H. 'Jack of Hearts' ('00), and his upcoming *H.* 'Streetcar Named Desire' ('06).

Ted had always loved double flowers, such as hibiscuses and camellias, so it was only natural that he would fall in love with double daylilies. Thanks to the guidance of Bill's sister, Betty Hudson, then one of the foremost breeders of double tetraploids, Ted began to breed double daylilies. His first year's introductions included *H.* 'Impetuous Fire' ('93), a red double based on Betty's lines. From there, Ted tried to expand the double tetraploid lines to include every color, including pinks, such as *H.* 'Memories of Paris' ('95) and whites, such as *H.* 'Company of Swans' ('94). Ted quickly realized that the traits of the modern single flowers needed to be brought into the doubles. Bringing gold edges into the doubles resulted in flowers such as *H.* 'Nature's Crown' ('03) and *H.* 'Susan Pritchard Petit' ('01), named for his wife. He also worked heavily with eyed, picotee edged doubles, producing flowers such as *H.* 'Cardassian Border' ('00), *H.* 'Cosmic Dancer' ('01), and his 2006 introduction *H.* 'Gerrie Frankenberg' ('05).

Bill Munson had also produced a striking eyed, double edged flower by combining *H.* 'Ida's Magic' with Tet *H.* 'Siloam Virginia Henson'. With shared pollen, Ted crossed this Munson seedling with *H.* 'Admiral's Braid' to produce *H.* 'Mardi Gras

Ball' ('96). This began Ted's eyed, picotee edged line, which continued on to give him other plants such as *H.* 'Strawberry Lightening' ('01), *H.* 'Queen's Coronation' ('03) and *H.* 'Lady Betty Fretz' ('05). Ted decided that he wanted to combine the large ornate look of these flowers with the complexity of patterned eyes, including patterned picotee edges. Some of Ted's early patterned daylilies included *H.* 'Time in a Bottle' ('01), *H.* 'Through the Looking Glass' ('01), and *H.* 'In His Image' ('03). His more recent releases show the pattern continuing around the petal edge as a multiple banded picotee, creating a rainbow effect, as in his 2006 introduction, *H.* 'Send Me a Rainbow' ('05).

With the emergence of extra large flowers, Ted has now begun to concentrate on breeding huge flower size in all types. He is currently working with ornately ruffled, heavily substantanced 8" flowers with great drama and shock appeal. As the color blue has begun to emerge in tetraploids, much of his efforts are also focused on breeding in this direction.

In addition to his hybridizing program, Ted has co-authored two daylily books, *The Color Encyclopedia of Daylilies* (2000) and more recently *The Daylily: A Guide for Gardeners* (2004), both published by Timber Press. Ted has also written many articles for gardening magazines and journals, including *The Daylily Journal*, published by the AHS, and the Canadian Hemerocallis Society's *The Canadian Daylily Journal*. His "The Patterned Daylily: The Next Frontier" appeared in its first



Another cultivar with "shock appeal" is this impressive seedling from a cross of *H.* 'Alexa Katherine' x *H.* 'Gary Colby'. (Photo by Ted Petit)



This interesting daylily from a cross of *H. 'Mrs. John Cooper'* x *H. 'Lady Sings the Blues'* shows some of the patterning Ted has been pursuing in a multiple banded picotee, creating a rainbow effect. (Photo by Ted Petit)

issue, Summer 2001. Ted has also starred in a half hour television special on daylilies aired on Home and Garden Television (HGTV).

With the continued success of his garden, Le Petit Jardin, Ted has recently become a part-time professor at the University of Toronto. His wife Susan and his

son Gavin have also recently become involved in the garden, making it a family affair. These events have given him more time to dedicate to his gardens, his hybridizing program, and writing new daylily books!

Ted Petit

Hurricane Katrina devastated homes and gardens from Florida to Louisiana, with destructive winds reaching as far north as Tennessee.

Coastal residents watched hurricane winds snap trees, tear down power lines, and peel roofing. Then came the water. With horror, they witnessed a storm surge beyond anything known sweep away buildings, homes, and gardens.

Every garden has a story, full of poignant memories.

All night the storm raged; by 10:00 a.m. the next morning we turned on the radio and learned the eye had not arrived. Watching from the windows, we could see the winds beginning to increase.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., winds roared; you could actually see swirls in the wind like mini tornadoes as they slammed the house. With the worst gusts, the walls vibrated. The pressure against the windows was intense. "Our large maple tree in the front yard had limbs twisted from it. One large limb hit the door and raked the front of the house." Kathy recollected, "It was too much for me; I retreated to an inner hallway to wait it out."

After the storm, Peter and I went out to take pictures and assess the damage. The house received minor damage considering the intensity of the storm. The greatest loss was our trees. Nearly all the trees and garden structures were gone. Over 60 trees were topped throughout our home property and nursery. Amazingly, a simple birdfeeder survived unscathed.

"The daylilies did great; in fact, a daylily bloomed the next day—wouldn't you know it would be *Hemerocallis* 'Driving Me Wild'."

—Peter and Kathy Homsey, Gulfport, MS

We decided to leave when we learned the storm was going to be a Category 5. We were able to get to a motel in D'Iberville just above Interstate 10.

We loaded up Lois' mother and father, both in their 80's, and our two dogs for a terrifying stay in the only room we could find. There was only one room left, so we all crowded into it and waited out the storm.

We went back to our home the next day. We

*Before and After
The Storm:
Poignant
Memories
of
Gulf Coast
Gardens
by
Kathy Homsey*

had heard from Lois' niece, who had been by our house, that it looked OK, just had a couple of trees on it. "Oh, how looks can be deceiving," said Herb.

Plants that had been brought inside for safekeeping along with all the furniture looked like they had been stirred in a big cauldron and poured out in a muddy tangled mess. This all had to be cleaned up while ripping out wet sheetrock and insulation to prevent mold from growing. Herb exclaimed, "Thank goodness, we had boarded up those big bedroom win-

dows or those trees would have been inside and the only dry floor in the house would have been flooded."

Outside from 2 to 8 feet of brackish water had covered the gardens and three vehicles had been submerged. When the water receded, trees and debris crushed plants. "At least half are not coming back," said Lois. "It seems that the expensive ones were most affected." Herb remarked, "Those old diploids are tough!"

—Herb and Lois Tufts, Ocean Springs, MS

We evacuated to a high school that is a handicap shelter to help. The only real damage we got was water. Two big pine trees knocked a hole in the roof and water just poured in.

Trees and debris fell on the beds. Dirt covered several plants when the trees fell on them. The only daylilies we lost were some purchased in cans. The cans had been crushed and covered during the storm.

"A couple of redbuds tried to bloom" said Bob. "They were that confused."

—Bob and Merrill Goolsby, Biloxi, MS

We went to Montgomery, Alabama, to get away from the storm. We were only able to drive 40-45 mph. Narvel recalls, "Before I left, I boarded every window and door. I never worked so hard for nothing; it did not do a bit of good."

Narvel was feeling sorry for a friend who did not board any of his doors or windows. He just knew his huge live oaks would cause him problems.

"The way it worked out, when I got home I had all the damage and ended up staying with my friend," said Narvel.

"We got 44" of water in the garage and 37" in the house," exclaimed Narvel. "The first thing I noticed in the garage was the door blown in and the deep freeze blown all the way into the car."

When Narvel tried to move the freezer, it nudged the damaged garage door and the door flew down, knocking him to the ground and opening a big gash on the side of his face. Narvel said, "I spent 5



As the storm approached an eerie blue green light filled the atmosphere. This scene shot in the Homsey garden the morning of the hurricane shows a birdfeeder, but ominously no birds.
(Photo by Kathy Homsey)



The morning after Katrina, Peter and Kathy faced an inordinate amount of destruction in their garden. The birdfeeder was one of the few things unscathed.
(Photo by Kathy Homsey)

after that storm. If it weren't for the church groups and volunteers, I do not know what we would have done."

—Narvel and Nelda Broome, Pascagoula, MS

hours in the emergency room. Most of the people were in for lacerations or spider bites."

Everything in the house was turned upside down. Mud was thick throughout the house. "It stank and was plumb sickening," said Narvel. "We are slowly recovering. The kids all came down and helped." A week later, some people from his son's church in North Carolina came and helped put in sheet rock, roofing and hardwood floors. Two guys with the crew stayed for two weeks and did their cabinets. "They would not take any pay, but only money for materials," Narvel said.

They ended up taking orders for cabinet work throughout the neighborhood. The Broomes invited them to live with them while they worked.

"I have never met so many good people in my life as I did with them."

*A Visual Impact of Hurricane Katrina:
Photographs of the Gulf Coast Garden of Lois and Herb Tufts*



Our garden may not have been a "Display Garden" candidate, but our Walkway Garden daylilies may be up there for the tonnage impact award. Aside from the two 90' oaks that fell on them and the 6-8 feet of brackish water that surged over them, there was this little Bobcat running back and forth while removing the oak trees. Note the JAWS, capable of munching dozens of cultivars in a single bite.

(Photos by Herb Tufts)



Rita Redux: A Journal of How "The Lost 40" Came To Be by Rita Davis

Sept. 1996

I'm going to make a new garden at the farm! It will be carved out of the forest, so the first task will be to remove trees. Too, a design needs to be made for the garden which is to be planted on a slightly sloping hill.

Sept. 1997

Many trees of pine, oak, and hickory are cut. A stump grinder is brought out to work on most stumps, and the main garden is plowed with tractor and tiller. Seems to be lots of days where all I do is to pick up limbs and sticks from the fresh soil. The ground will have to be tilled several times in order to get it nice and smooth. Top soil and sand are delivered by dump truck loads. Other amendments are added and the garden area is tilled several more times.



A massive clearing begins to take place as plans unfold for what will become "The Lost 40 Daylily Garden."
(Photo courtesy of Rita Davis)

The design has developed into six individual beds with sidewalks between them and a big round center for placement of a concrete table and chairs with plantings around the area. Each entry to the sidewalks will have big trellises later. Also an iron gazebo will be placed over the concrete table and benches, making a nice focal point for the center of the main garden. The addition of a watering system and sprinklers just about completes the bed.

Oct. 1997

First plantings of daylilies in garden. There are over 300 clumps to be moved from their temporary home to the area. Since the dirt is so soft and fresh, I plant rye grass seed on top of the planted area in order to hold the small clumps in place and to keep the soil from washing away the first fall and winter. (Little did I know how hard it would be to pull all that grass up come the following spring! Luckily, all daylilies survived their first year on the sloped hill.)

With the main bed nearly finished, more studying is done of the landscape up from the main garden toward an old barn, and I decide to cut more trees for the addition of what is called an "extension bed" on the hillside. This area slopes

even more than the rest of the area. The end of the year brings the completion of all the sidewalks with their borders in the main garden.

1998 & 1999

More trees are cut and stumps dug or ground as the first extension bed is developed by the laying and anchoring of landscape fabric over the tilled dirt. To plant additional daylilies, all I have to do is cut the fabric and dig the hole and plant. Some holes have to be amended for better soil and some do not.

2000

Several gullies that have been made over the years from washes are filled in with the addition of many loads of dirt brought up from the back ponds and hills in the pastures. This takes several weeks to complete. Then centipede grass is spread out and watered by sprinklers several times a day until the grass becomes established.

2001

With the acquisition of more daylilies, another extension bed needs to be laid out. And with more cleared land, plans are to add another small garden plot up close to the barn. Mostly, what needs to be done for this bed is to run a disc tractor over the dirt several times and then put down more landscape fabric. I decide to border this bed with some miscanthus and "muhly" grasses at the corners. Later, other daylilies will be incorporated with several different colors of cannas and Japanese irises at the edges for contrast.

The first iron arbor and gazebo for the main garden is purchased and put in. These additions are so pretty that more arbors will be added over the next few years. Plantings of different flowers such as clematises, jasmynes, roses, wisterias, honeysuckles, moon vines, cypress vines, morning glories, and Black-eyed Susan vines will be placed on the arbors. Two tall trellises will be erected in the middle of the larger beds with plantings of more clematises and other blooming vines for visual interest.



A tractor with a massive plow and disc breaks up the fertile Mississippi loam, where a forest had previously stood.
(Photo courtesy of Rita Davis)



After the ground has been finely tilled, Rita plants one of the first daylilies in one of several extension beds, as "The Lost 40" begins to take shape. (Photo courtesy of Rita Davis)

2002

A pretty pine knot post is found in the woods and anchored in the garden with an ornamental mailbox affixed to one of the arms for tools, pens, and such. I add more perennials and annuals in and around borders of beds.

2003

On a shopping trip, I discover a rather unusual iron gazebo and bring it home with no idea of where to place it, but know it would look pretty alone or somewhere special (In 2004, the gazebo got situated in the middle of the Sally Lake Bed). Meanwhile, an old vacant church on our property is burned to the ground by vandals and big foundation stones are found under the rubble. They are hauled to the garden as their appearance will remind me of the old Methodist church they supported for many years. The upright stones are placed along the front of the extension beds.

2004

Deer have invaded my gardens on several occasions, but not as much as this year, so two different kinds of fences are erected around all the beds. One is a double row of electric wire along with a motion detector light at the Sally Lake Bed. Many extra sprayings of rotten egg mixtures and deer resistant sprays are applied to the gardens as well. These methods work well, but are not very pleasant to see. Extra care is taken to be sure that the electricity to the fence is off before working in the beds, but I suffer several times before remembering to disconnect the current.

Beds are reworked and new acquisitions of annuals and perennials are planted. Fertilizing, watering, mulching, and spraying occupy many hours. Two stately aluminum statues of daylily blooms with buds are brought home and placed between the rows of daylilies. Later on, I find and purchase some Italian pottery and colored ceramic gazing balls to put in the garden.

Along with attending club meetings, flower shows, and doing my everyday gardening, I participate in plans made by the Jackson Hemerocallis Society to host the 2005 Re-

gional Meeting. I volunteer to host the region's hybridizer's seedling bed called The Sally Lake Memorial Bed, as well as to offer my garden for one of the tours.

At the Jackson club meetings we go over committee selections for workers during the convention. For my garden, menus must be selected for refreshments, a port-O-let rented, and tables and chairs arranged for seating guests. Several of my Alabama friends offer to help me for the tour. Several club members agree to lend their help with the refreshments.

Selecting a sight and preparing the Sally Lake Bed took up most of the year. The gradual plantings and record keeping along with maintenance of these special cultivars take extra care. The location and design of this special bed is separate from the other beds. It is important to display the seedlings where they can be observed from all angles.

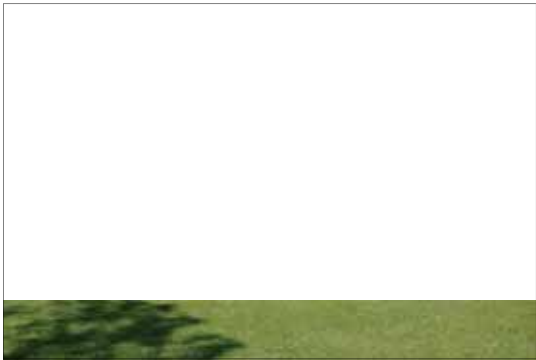
2005, June 4

During the Region 14 Spring Meeting, nearly 200 members tour "The Lost 40 Daylily Garden" located in a country setting out from Florence, Mississippi. Hybridizers from the region displayed their best seedlings in the Sally Lake Bed featured in this garden with 77 clumps planted in a circle. The winner this year was Sharon Price from Alabama.

This garden won the Region 14 Landscape Award for the best use of daylilies in landscaping, tied for the Vice President's Cup Award for the best clump of a registered cultivar with *H.* 'South Sea Enchantment', won for the best clump of a pink registered daylily with *H.* 'South Sea Enchantment', won for the best clump of a registered spider with *H.* 'Marked by Lydia', won for best clump of a registered red daylily for *H.* 'Daddeco Segrest', and won for the best clump of a registered small or miniature daylily for *H.* 'Crimson Icon'. Our RVP presented a beautiful marble bench to me for hosting the Sally Lake Bed.

2006

Our theme for the 2005 Regional Meeting was "Mississippi Magic." It has been a magical experience for me to share this story with you and my garden with so many members.



At the 2005 Regional Meeting, visitors enjoy "The Lost 40," Rita's lovely garden.

(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

LANDSCAPING WITH DAYLILIES IN NORTH MISSISSIPPI BY EMMA HOOD AND BETTYE HUCKABY; DATA ORGANIZED BY LEWIS BAILEY

The North Mississippi Daylily Society

The concept of starting a daylily club in our area was the idea of a lady who enjoys gardening in every aspect. Anna Yarbrough is responsible for organizing the original North Mississippi Daylily Society. She was the first President and held that office for two terms in the mid-90's.

The club started meeting at a local steakhouse in Batesville, Panola County, MS. After meeting at several different locations, Scoot and Betty Wilson, charter members of our club, were able to secure space at their church, First United Methodist in Batesville, where we met for several years.

Although our membership represents residents from eight counties in northern Mississippi, the majority of our members are now from DeSoto and Tate Counties. For this reason, we recently relocated to the First Regional Library in Hernando, DeSoto County, MS. We have recruited about twenty new members since our move and anticipate continued growth. DeSoto County borders the Memphis Metro area and ranks 35th among the nation's 100 fastest-growing counties. Many of our members are also members of the Memphis Area Hemerocallis Society.

Our club provides members with educational speakers, craft information and demonstrations, garden and daylily videos and the latest gardening news. At the AHS National Convention in Cincinnati this past summer, one of our members, Jay Laundré, was honored with the *Lazarus Memorial Award* for the "Best Video Recording Relating to Daylilies." The video is entitled "Flight of the Hummingbirds." We also boast eleven Master Gardeners from both DeSoto and Tate Counties and we have more members who will soon be studying for that title.

The garden essays and pictures which follow represent years of work by our happy gardening friends. We hope everyone enjoys the pictorial tour of our handiwork.

The Garden of Ann and Lewis Bailey

Ann and Lewis Bailey moved to Southaven, MS, in May, 1998, onto a ¾ acre lot. They built their first daylily bed in July, 2001; their second in 2003; and their third in 2005. They now have a total of approximately 240 known cultivars and 20 unknowns that were pass-along plants from family. Their number of cultivars is constantly increasing since they belong to both the North MS Daylily Society and the Memphis Area Hemerocallis Society.

Among their daylilies they have planted cleome, gaura, rose moss, and white verbena for additional color. The 2005 garden was created around an existing island of crepe myrtles, juniper, and Japanese maple. They left a walkway between their fence and the daylily bed to allow visitors an access to their Shelties.



This view of arbor and backyard is from the original 2001 Bailey Daylily Garden. (Photo by Ann Bailey)

They list *Hemerocallis* 'Peggy Jeffcoat' (Joiner, J. '95) and *H.* 'Lady Neva' (Alexander-Moody '70) as two of their favorite daylilies. They like most spiders and doubles.

The Garden of Carl and Emma Hood

Carl and Emma Hood built and moved into their home in Olive Branch, MS, in 1973. The entire 4 acres had been cleared and was just bare earth. There were not any trees left except on the back property line where they had left a couple of small oaks.

Having always loved trees, Emma's parents insisted on helping plant some. With a donation from the DeSoto Extension, 500 loblolly pines were planted along the eastern edge of the property. Some fruit and pecan trees came later; however, azaleas which had been at a previous residence and some from the parents' homes were immediately used to landscape the beds around the house. Because of limited resources, all the work had to be done by the Hoods.

While their five children were in school, planting grass and tending the yard were enough; however, a friend and co-worker, Buddy Beaver and his wife Ivon, convinced Carl that daylilies would be an excellent addition to the sunny yard. The Beavers' love of daylilies was contagious. They even convinced the Hoods to join the Memphis Area Hemerocallis Society.



As established in 2005, beds in the Bailey Daylily Garden are bordered with a lovely river rock, adding a touch of elegance. Seating under the crepe myrtles provides a pleasant spot for viewing the garden. (Photo by Ann Bailey)

When Buddy informed them that a north Mississippi group had been formed, they decided to give it a try. The rest is history.

The Hoods have incorporated the daylilies into the landscape and really enjoy the beauty of every flower and tree that has been planted to enhance their yard. Carl has built the beds, laid the bricks and stones, and has created paths which lead to many enjoyable rest spots around the property. A new addition is a garden dedicated to Stout Medal winners. Though not yet complete, they hope to have all entries from *H. 'Hyperion'* to *H. 'Fooled Me'* by this spring. They particularly like red and dark daylilies and cite *H. 'Spider Man'* (Durio '82) and *H. 'Tuscawilla Blackout'* (Hansen '92) as favorites.

The Hoods have not yet dabbled in hybridizing and only have about 200 named cultivars; but, no telling what the future will bring. They are trying to introduce their grandchildren to the tranquility which one experiences when gardening.

The Garden of Bettye and Frank Huckaby

Bettye and Frank Huckaby have been growing daylilies since 1990, but have lived in Hernando, MS, only since 2000. They grow nearly 400 different cultivars. Their two acre garden, Hosanna Gardens, consists of a bed featuring Stout Silver Medal winners, one featuring cultivars hybridized by Earl and Barbara Watts, other display beds with daylilies by numerous hybridizers, daylily sale beds in the back, and various other perennial beds. The garden is accented with white crepe myrtles and contains a small shade garden along with six acres of mature pines and oaks in a woodland area.

Bettye and Frank enjoy growing all kinds of plants, but they consider the daylily to be the perfect perennial. Therefore, most of their garden is devoted to growing daylilies.

Among their favorites in the Watts bed are *H. 'Suburban Barbara Huff'* ('97) and *H. 'Suburban Nancy Gayle'*. Two other favorites in their garden are

H. 'Musical Medley' (Stamile '01) and *H. 'Fairest of Them'* (Salter '02).

The Garden of Jay and Marcia Laundré

Jay and Marcia Laundré moved to Southaven, MS, in 1988. The daylily addiction worked its way into their lives in the year 1992.

Within a ten-year period, a simple daylily purchased at Walmart ignited a love for daylilies that created a garden full of over 800 cultivars. The addiction hit so hard that most annuals went by the wayside to make room for the hardy perennial.

In 1999, they joined other daylily addicts and became members of the Memphis Area Hemerocallis Society and the North Mississippi Daylily Society. In their struggle to recover, they've been told there's relatively little hope in overcoming their addiction.

As part of their collection, they grow a number of introductions from Emma Chandler, a local hybridizer from Millington, TN. They particularly like *H. 'Emma's Heart Stopper'* ('97), a 10" rose cream blend of unusual form. At the other end of the scale, they cite Cindy Dye's *H. 'Choco Taco'* ('98), a 2¾" dark mauve with a plum eyezone.

The Garden of Dorothy Tatum

Dorothy and Joe Tatum have lived in Coldwater for almost 36 years. Joe is strictly involved with his hunting ventures. But he supports Dot with much admiration for her garden. She is a Tate County Master Gardener and grows many perennials including hostas, begonias, coneflowers, liatris, peonies, cannas, and many ferns, just to name a few. She also has bulbs of almost every variety, banana plants, clematis, hibiscus, camellias, forsythia and Japanese bamboo. But, her true love is the daylily.

She was introduced to the daylily by a long-time friend, Mrs. Walter Bolin, whose husband was a well-known hybridizer in this area during the late 1970's and early 1980's. His introductions, *H. 'Kings Gold'* ('80) and *H. 'Hernando Star'* ('80), have been widely used by others. Mr. Bolin is deceased now; but, Mrs. Bolin lives in Hernando and still enjoys daylilies.

Dot has been raising daylilies seriously for about fifteen years and started hybridizing as a hobby about ten years ago.

Her garden boasts over 700 named cultivars and numerous seedlings which she has crossed. Many of the NMDS members visit and enjoy her serene and lovely garden each year.



The newest circular St. Francis bed in the Hood's garden awaits the planting of more daylilies. (Photo by Emma Hood)



The back yard arbor has a wrought iron railing from the church where the Hoods were married. (Photo by Emma Hood)



The entrance to the Huckaby Garden features white crepe myrtles. (Photo by Betye Huckaby)



The display beds in the Huckaby Garden feature a vitex or "chaste" tree in the background. (Photo by Bettye Huckaby)



The Earl and Barbara Watts bed is a favorite part of the Huckaby Garden. (Photo by Bettye Huckaby)



This graceful arbor provides an entrance to the garden of Jay and Marcia Laundré. (Photo by Jay Laundré)

The Garden of Scoot and Betty Wilson

Scoot and Betty Wilson have lived in their home in Batesville, MS, for 53 years; however, even though both of their mothers were long time flower lovers, they were not. That is, until about twenty years ago, when a neighbor brought them a 5 gallon bucket of daylily roots. They were all hybrids, but not named. The Wilsons said they really did not want the flowers, but the neighbor talked them into planting them anyway.

The next year when they bloomed and were so gorgeous, the Wilsons were hooked. After that, Betty and the neighbor would visit garden after garden buying flowers. Scoot would laugh and tell her not to buy anymore; but, she kept buying and he kept setting them out.

At one time, they had about 700 cultivars; but, they have pared it down until, at present, they have about 400 named daylilies.

They have never hybridized because of space and time. Yet, their love of daylilies has inspired many friends and neighbors to become involved in daylily gardening.

Emma Hood & Bettye Huckaby



The garden of Dorothy Tatum features a mysterious owl atop a post. (Photo by Emma Hood)

ALONG COUNTY ROAD 14
BY OLIVER BILLINGSLEA

For nearly a half century, Van Sellers has maintained an old homeplace near Kings Mountain, NC, giving it a flavor of the Old South. At one point he had plans for a great deal of wrought iron to be placed about the gardens, but high maintenance resulted primarily in the imposing iron gates from which the garden receives its name. Curving brick walks, urns, and beautiful plantings of both daylilies and hosta afford elegant views from almost every angle of a well-maintained seven acres. For five decades, Iron Gate Gardens has been an evaluative paradise for daylilies. If one is traveling along Interstate 85 just west of Charlotte in mid-June, it's a must see.

Located about eight miles north of Kings Mountain, today the garden is managed by both Van and his friend and fellow hybridizer, Victor Santa Lucia, who those in the daylily world will recognize as Grace Stamile's brother. This past June I had the opportunity to spend a morning at the gardens and to sit and talk with Van at some length.

Van told me he registered his first cultivars about 1967, among these, *Hemerocallis* 'Iron Gate Premier', a tetraploid, and two diploids, *H.* 'Iron Gate Gala', which was a lavender, and *H.* 'Iron Gate Galaxy', which was persimmon. I didn't ask him, and I don't know if a source for these cultivars exists today. Within twenty years, Van Sellers was to be awarded the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for excellence in hybridizing. Some of his most famous near-whites are *H.* 'Iron Gate Glacier' (1971) and *H.* 'Iron Gate Iceberg' (1972), as well as *H.*

Iron Gate Gardens of Kings Mountain, NC

'White Temptation' (1978). These are still listed in *Eureka*. Among his yellows, *H.* 'Beauty to Behold' (1978) won an AM in 1985 and the prestigious Lenington All-American Award in 1993. One of his most famous doubles is *H.* 'Exotic Echo' (1984), which won an AM in 1994. He has created many reds, such as *H.* 'Big Apple' (1986), winner of an AM in 1992, *H.* 'Sound of Cannons' (1993), *H.* 'Mister Lucky' (1995), a 3/4" red with a dark red eye-zone, and *H.* 'All American Chief' (1994), a huge 9" red self. These later two have become among the most popular Sellers cultivars ever introduced, winning Awards of Merit in 2003 and 2004 respectively. Among his pinks, one of his most vigorous early registrations was the tet *H.* 'Pink Monday' (1981). More recently, his *H.* 'Dankie' (1997), a 6" rose with a yellow edge, has received a lot of attention, as have two HM winners for 2004, *H.* 'Reforma Boulevard' (1997), a 6" purple with a light purple watermark and darker purple eye, and *H.* 'Claudine's Charm' (2000), a 5 1/2" raspberry purple with a raspberry watermark and white band. Two of Van's most recent introductions include *H.* 'Chosen Ruler' (2004), a 6 1/2" medium red out of his *H.* 'Big Apple' line, and *H.* 'Josette Lise' (2004), a 6 1/2" lavender rose with a huge light peach watermark and gold edging.

But Van Sellers has not just been a hybridizer. He has been an exhibitor for other hybridizers as well, purchasing daylilies from all parts of the country and



A large planting of *H.* 'Waiting in the Wings' (*Stamile* 2000) graces this landscape shot of Iron Gate Gardens. A curving path wanders past a rose hydrangea and a bench for sitting.

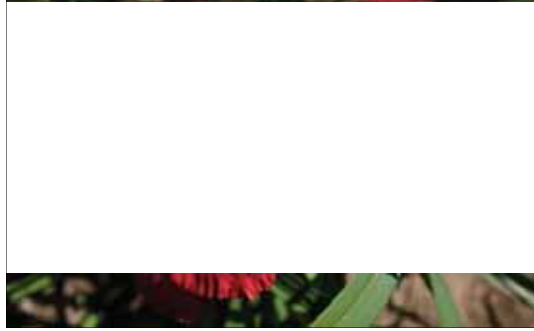
(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

from hybridizers large and small. For years, Van was known as a principal distributor of Pauline Henry's "Siloams." She would ship a small amount of her stock from Siloam Springs, Arkansas, where she had her garden, to Iron Gate Gardens in North Carolina, where Van would multiply and then introduce her varieties for her.



Garnering an HM in 2000, *H. 'Dankie'* (Sellers 1997) is a large, lovely rose pink with a yellow edge and a creamy yellow throat. (Photo by Julie Covington)

(I have purchased many a "Siloam" from Van Sellers). I remember first seeing Oscie Whatley's *H. 'Ram'* (1994) at Iron Gate as well. Most of my own plants got better distribution because of Van. I recall my *H. 'Margaret McWhorter'* (1992) having been one of Iron Gate's favorites. When I visited this year, they



Vivid rich red *H. 'Satan's Fire'* (Santa Lucia 1998) was one of the many cultivars with which I was unfamiliar prior to this year's visit to Iron Gate. (Photo by Oliver Billingslea)



Hostas cover the shady areas of the garden, providing a cooling effect with their leaves of blue and green. Sunlight spills in to effect a lovely glow. (Photo by Oliver Billingslea)



Photographic venues appear through the garden amid graceful urns and brick walls. Cone flowers, Gloriosa daisies, a yellow calla, and a variety of ground covers enchant this corner of the garden.
(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)



Lacecap hydrangeas are planted throughout the gardens. Their blue-violet tones and lovely leaves contrast nicely with the daylilies.
(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)



Another kind of lily is the graceful calla, which I found blooming as a specimen along with Gloriosa daisies and coneflowers.
(Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

had high praise for *H. 'South Sea Enchantment'* (1996).

As Van reminisced, he talked about some of the hybridizers from the Fifties and Sixties, such as Edna

Spalding and W.B. MacMillan. He said he used to correspond with Miss Edna, who was converting diploids in those days, and that they traded “tets.” He said he recalls the original *H. 'Stella de Oro'* (1975) having



This daylily shares a Region 14 connection. Registered as *H.* **'Pauline Owens'** (2005), it is a cross of *H.* **'South Sea Enchantment'** x *H.* **'Tropicana Treat'**. Victor Santa Lucia has registered several cultivars from this outstanding cross. (Photo by Oliver Billingslea)

better branching than the tissue cultured clones that have flooded the market today. Of course he knew all the greats of the time, such as Orville Fay, Brother Charles Reckamp, Buck Quinn, Virginia Peck, James Marsh, and of course Bill Munson, who early on was producing marvelous tets.

In the late 80's Van met Victor Santa Lucia, and they became partners. Vic began registering his first daylilies in the early 90's. Among these were *H.* **'Seal of Approval'** (1990) and *H.* **'Brazilian Emerald'** (1992). More recently, he has added *H.* **'Zona Rosa'** (1995), a 5½" double which is a cerise-rose blend; *H.* **'Desert Flame'** (1996), a 5½" orange red self; *H.* **'Grand Central'** (1997), a 5" luscious cream melon blend with a gold edge; and *H.* **'Satan's Fire'** (1998), a 4½" rich red with a darker eye. Among his 2004 registrations is *H.* **'Smiling Tiger'**, a 7½" bright gold with a sienna red eye.

It was a glorious morning, and I was able to scout out not only the many impressive cultivars Van and Vic collect from all over the country, but some of their futures as well. Curving paths led to hydrangeas

and in the shady areas exquisite plantings of hosta. Amid a setting of pine, maple, sweet gum, and laurel oaks, there were gorgeous daylilies blooming. I saw my own *H.* **'Marquesas Islands'** (1996) blooming, a 7" striking rose self, which I haven't seen in years. I knew Iron Gate had it, and there it was. But what really bowled me over were the hot pinks, corals, and roses Victor Santa Lucia has gotten from a diploid cross of *H.* **'South Sea Enchantment'** x Jack Carpenter's *H.* **'Tropicana Treat'**. One of the progeny, *H.* **'Fond Romance'** (2004), an 8" rose with a deeper rose eyezone, was introduced in 2005. Several others, including *H.* **'Pauline Owens'**, a huge 8" deep rose, were introduced this spring. I'm as proud of these daylilies as if they were my own. What is particularly exciting is the genetic potential in both size and color they hold for conversion into tets.

As I think the photos for this article show, Iron Gate Gardens would be a lovely excursion along County Road 14, though you do indeed have to take county roads 5 and 15 to get there. It's well worth a trip.

oliver Billingslea

Putting in a New Daylily Bed: The Craft of Gardening 101 by Oliver Billingslea

New members—that’s what this feature is all about. In her Director’s Column, our AHS Board member, Barbara Watts, suggested that we should never take our new members for granted. Keeping that in mind, I thought it might be helpful to share with our readers what I would do if I were beginning a daylily collection and putting in a new daylily bed this spring.

It’s not too late to put in a new daylily bed, even as late as mid-April. The most important thing is to select a spot that gets a lot of sun and where tree roots or shrubs won’t sap the strength of your plants. Use a product like “Roundup” to kill grass roots prior to tilling, or till and remove the roots as best you can. Bermuda, nut grass, Johnson grass, or other invasive root systems will need some sort of prior treatment, because even the smallest bits will drive you crazy later, if you allow them to remain in the soil.

As far as the shape of your bed, it’s really what you like. I prefer curving beds, because in my opinion their flowing quality enhances a landscape. Beds that are no more than six to eight feet wide will allow the optimum viewing of your plants.

Till your new bed thoroughly to a depth of at least eighteen inches. Depending on the friability of your soil, you may need to import topsoil. In the part of Montgomery where I live there is a heavy white clay base, which means that I pretty much have to plant on top of that. Flower beds raised a foot above the surrounding grassy areas will enhance drainage. To prepare your bed, I would suggest using a combination of top soil, planting mix, potting soil, and cow manure—all of which can be found at your local garden center. Other components, such as mushroom compost, can be added sparingly. Some growers use a goodly amount of pine bark mulch. If the soil seems heavy, some coarse sand might help. The main thing is to set up a bed that is easily workable—one that you can literally dig down into with your hands, even after it’s been there awhile.

When you are ready to plant your daylilies, you will want to put a handful of fertilizer around each, being careful not to get it on the leaves. You can use a slow release fertilizer, such as “Nutricote,” which works nicely as warm weather arrives, or you can use a balanced fertilizer, such as 13-13-13. When I put in a new plant, I water it in thoroughly, and after about a week, when new feeder roots are developing, I water with a gallon of “Miracle-Gro,” providing repeated feedings at ten day intervals. Watering is the most important aspect



Welcome
to the
World
of
Daylilies

of growing beautiful daylilies—especially after the scapes have begun to appear and during the entire bloom season. During warmer weather, I water every three to four days. As the flowers begin to appear, I hit the plants again with “Miracle-Gro.” They respond beautifully.

It’s best to soak your plants by placing a hose in the bed, but I often set up sprinklers and water overhead to discourage insects,

such as spider mites, which can become threats in gardens allowed to become dry. Watering seems to drown most spider mites. In the early spring, aphids may pose a problem—they love cool weather—but a little “Malathion” prepared according to directions and poured into a squirt bottle can take care of them. Later on, thrip can damage emerging buds, but again I use “Malathion.” I spray just the buds. Use chemicals sparingly! “Malathion” breaks down quickly, and if you don’t overuse it, you won’t harm too many of your beneficial insects.

As far as treating for leaf streak or rust, a chemical like “Immonox,” which is used on roses for black spot, can be applied at intervals (a couple of weeks apart) alternating it with “Headline.” “Immonox” inhibits fungus; “Headline” is very effective in inhibiting the spread of rust. Rust really shouldn’t worry you too much, because it tends to disappear every winter with repeated frosts, and it generally won’t return until after the bloom season is pretty much past, particularly if you spray three or four times between early April and late June. I use latex gloves to protect my hands and a small squirt bottle.

If I were putting in a new daylily bed this spring, I would select a few companion plants to give color prior to the daylilies flowering in May, June, and July. I particularly like low-growing begonias, several of which are sun-resistant. *Begonia semperflorens* ‘Cocktail Series’ offers several varieties with bronze foliage. “Whiskey” (white) and “Gin” (pink) are very nice. *Ageratum houstonianum* ‘Blue Danube’ makes a good border plant, and *Salvia farinacea* ‘Victoria’, which is a deep blue, provides height and affords a nicely textured contrast with the daylilies.

The choice of individual daylilies is up to you, but if I were putting in a bed for the first time, I would seek to create a collection of not only large-flowered cultivars, but other forms as well. I would choose plants from around \$15 or less, that are known to grow well in Region 14. I would first consult Region 14’s Popularity

Poll and select several from there. *Hemerocallis* 'Moonlit Masquerade' (Salter '92), a cream with a purple eye, can be purchased for about \$8; *H.* 'Ed Brown' (Salter '94), a pale pink blend with a gold edge, for about \$12-15. Among Stout Medal winning daylilies, I would choose *H.* 'Bill Norris' (Kirchhoff, D. '93), a brilliant gold, *H.* 'Elizabeth Salter' (Salter '90), a deep peach-pink, and *H.* 'Barbara Mitchell' (Pierce '84), a world-class light pink that for years was at the top of the Region 14 Popularity Poll. These three should cost respectively no more than \$10, \$8, and \$5. Depending upon your taste, you might add several doubles, spiders, or daylilies of unusual form to your collection, as well as a few small-flowered or miniature cultivars. Two of the best doubles are *H.* 'Siloam Olin Frazier' (Henry, P. '90), a 5¼" rose self, @ \$10, and *H.* 'Peggy Jeffcoat' (Joiner, J. '95), a 6½" cream-blush self, @ about \$15. Spiders and unusual forms add a lilted motion to any garden. One distinctive unusual form is *H.* 'Trahyta' (Childs, F. '82), a 6½" grayed violet with a dark purple eye, which can be purchased for about \$6. In stark contrast is *H.* 'Ruby Spider' (Stamile '91), a 9" ruby red self with a yellow-green throat, @ about \$14. Very beautiful is *H.* 'Wiregrass Greenstar' (Cooper, E. '93), an 8½" pale lemon yellow with a light lavender halo, @ \$14.

Among the true spiders, *H.* 'Kindly Light' (Bechtold '49), a light yellow-green self, is hard to beat @ \$5. A great small flower is the Stout Medal winner *H.* 'Strawberry Candy' (Stamile '86), a 4¼" strawberry pink blend with a rose red eye, @ \$8. Other personal favorites include *H.* 'Dragons Eye' (Salter, E.H. '91), a 4" pastel pink with rose-red eye, @ \$5 and *H.* 'Coyote Moon' (Kirchhoff, D. '94), a 3½" medium yellow with a gray cinnamon halo, @ \$8. Favorite miniatures include *H.* 'Mary Ethel Anderson' (Salter, E.H. '95), a 2½" buff cream with a wine-red eye, @ \$10; *H.* 'Bubbly' (Joiner, J. '89), a 2¾" apricot double, @ \$5; and *H.* 'Spacecoast Tiny Perfection' (Kinnebrew, J. '98), a 2¾" melon self with a gold edge. Although fairly new, it should sell for about \$15. Growing a few historic daylilies would add interest. It would be great to have a few classics from the past, such as George Yeld's *H.* 'Apricot' (1893), the first registered cultivar; *H.* 'Hyperion' (Mead, F.B. '24), a 40" tall light yellow; or *H.* 'Frances Fay' (Fay '57), a classy melon.

Many of the Display Gardens listed in this issue sell daylilies and would be a good place to start building your collection. Local clubs have plant sales, as will the Regional Meeting to be held in Huntsville this June.

Oliver Billingslea



*Please Join Us
 For our 14th Annual
 Daylily Sale*

*Friday, June 9, 7 A.M. to 6 P.M.
 Saturday, June 10, 7 A.M. to 6 P.M.
 Sunday, June 11, 1 P.M. to 6 P.M.
 Rain or Shine!*

*Holliman Gardens
 174 County Road 88, Gordo, AL 35466
 205-364-6149
 All other visits by appointment only!*

"I Can't Afford to Wrong Her" by Tommy Maddox

I keep going over in my mind that I am about thru with the seedlings and time to ponder things racks my brain. I will bloom 1800 or so next year. I will get to keep maybe 10 after a rigorous culling process for a couple of years. It would seem to me a blind hog could do a better job of hybridizing. My compost pile is about to take over my yard. Some have asked me why I keep bringing in more bark, why not use the compost pile. Beauty is skin deep, but ugly goes slam to the bone. I don't want to take a chance of those ugly genes in that compost pile getting into my seedlings. I can ugly-up a seedling without help from Mother Nature. There is so much ugly in that pile even grass refuses to grow on it. My property value is going up every year, that is the only good consolation I see. We sell property down here in Biloxi according to how high it is out of the flood plain. My wife claims if I keep hauling in pine bark, some day we will be looking down on our neighbors. We came home from a couple days in Florida last year and some archeologists from Mississippi State were digging in my compost pile. They thought it was an Indian burial mound. They did find my lost hearing aid. I thanked them.

It is beyond me how UGLY can abound to the degree it does. Even in some of my relatives, which will have to wait for another day. When I go back later in the fall to see how the seedlings that I selected that summer are fairing, the pretty ones are usually gone. They seem to die of being overwhelmed in a sea of ugly. As I have told you-all before, I don't keep whining, hypochondriac, sneezing, yellow leaf daylilies. I can't stand daylilies that have to be moved all over the yard to find a place they will be happy. (Many people don't know this but that is why Red-Necks prefer house trailers. If your neighbors are uglier than your family, hook up and move.) If they can't get happy pretty fast they go to the burial mound. The ones that make it through the winter and survive the yearly Daylily Flu season are usually pitiful examples of their parents anyway. My wife's favorite hillbilly song is, "Your the reason our children are so ugly." She knows it by heart, even I can sing it now. She is too sweet a lady to accuse me of anything like that, but she seems to sing it a lot when I'm around.

Last week as I was going out to work in my flowers. My wife gave me a letter to mail and some garbage to put in the can. My subscription to Fortune Teller Weekly is in the landfill and my garbage is somewhere in Omaha. Any Registered Southern Red-Neck who can trace their ancestors back to a British Penal Colony system keeps a family fortune teller handy. My last six month check-up to my fortune teller didn't have a good reading for me, as usual. She was having to use

a gallon wine jug, her State approved crystal ball was in the shop for a vertical hold problem. I felt at ease though and confident my future was in good hands. After all anybody who buys wine in glass gallon containers will reek with class, since most of the people I know buys wine in the cardboard boxes with the little spout in the bottom. She said the reception was bad and snowy having to use the gallon jug, but she would do the best she could. She said she didn't understand it but it appeared to her that I would be in the market for a blind pig soon. I told her she was good. My long term reading had not changed to my chagrin. I would eventually be hanged by the State of Mississippi for unnecessary volumes of typed deception. Well at least I'm about to get some hybridizing help. My wife said "If the State could see your hard drive they would hang you tomorrow." I am trusting my fate to a woman that I go out of my way to keep happy. I can't afford to wrong her. Gotta' Go.

Tommy Maddox

Errata *The Dixie Daylily*

Inadvertently, we printed the wrong photo for *Hemerocallis* 'New Orleans Darling' on page 30 of the Winter 2006 issue of *The Dixie Daylily*. The cultivar pictured was a seedling by Paul Aucoin (*H.* 'Crystal Singer' x *H.* 'Spacecoast Dixie Chick').



H. 'New Orleans Darling' (Aucoin 2005)

(Photo by Paul Aucoin)

On page 13 of the Winter 2006 issue, there is an error in the Boykin article. Item 13 should read "360 degree sprinkler heads," not "180 degree."

On page 25 in the Townsend article, the auction referred to is not the "Daylily Auction at our Regional Meetings," but the Lily Auction on the internet.

On page 28 in the Aucoin article, *H.* 'Kiss of Magic' was changed after we went to publication to *H.* 'Kissed by Magic'.

On page 8, and my pick of the litter, under *H.* 'Ed Brown', the text should read "first runner-up to the Stout Medal," not "winner."—The Editor.

Club News : ALABAMA

Birmingham Daylily Society

Kay Chappell, Reporter

3rd Sunday—2:00 P.M. January, February, March

4th Saturday—11:00 A.M. September

1st Saturday—11:00 A.M. December

Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, AL

President:	Jim Chappell
Vice President:	Debbie Daniels
Treasurer:	Bill Daniels
Recording Secretary:	Edna Alderman
Corresponding Secretary:	Nancy Milton

We began our meetings this year with very special guests Earl and Barbara Watts from Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Earl and Barbara have a lovely garden, Suburban Daylilies. Earl has hybridized several nice daylilies and brought several to share with our club. He also gave us a great slide show and shared some of his growing tips. Earl and Barbara have had active leadership roles for several years in the AHS. Barbara who is presently serving on the AHS Board of Directors shared some information on publications. Earl invited everyone to come visit them and especially to come to the Regional Meeting in 2007. Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society will be the hosts. We look forward to being there and also attending this year's Regional Meeting in Huntsville, Alabama, June 16-17, 2006.

We look forward to another great daylily year. We welcome anyone to attend our meetings.



Central Alabama Daylily Society

Lea Anne Parker, Reporter

2nd Sunday—2:00 P.M.

Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, AL

January, February, March, April, May, June—Plant Sale, July, August, September—Picnic, November, December—Christmas Party

President:	John Besse
Corresponding Secretary:	Lea Anne Parker
Recording Secretary:	Mary Norsworthy
Treasurer:	Paul Kacmarcik

Central Alabama was well represented at the Fall Regional Meeting. For those of you who were not able to go, Tim Bell's program was outstanding. We laughed all the way through the program because of Tim's delightful sense of humor. His hybridizing program is so beautiful. If you have an opportunity to see his program, please don't let it slip by.

In November, we had Dave Glass, the President of the Birmingham Camellia Society to speak to our club. He has a marvelous slide show of different cultivars and wonderful information on how to improve their culture in our gardens.

December brought our annual Christmas Party, which was held at The Club and hosted by Ruth Turner. The food was delicious and was topped off with The Club's famous orange rolls. We had Christmas ornaments which resembled Fabergé eggs as door prizes.

The new year was inaugurated with the first of our semi-annual business meetings. We have lots of plans for 2006 that have us very excited about what is around the corner!



Cullman Iris and Daylily Society

Janie Gilbert, Reporter

3rd Tuesday of each month—5:30 P.M.

Call 205-647-0688 for meeting location.

President:	Essie Hollingsworth
Vice President:	Jim Chappell
Recording Secretary:	Sue Rodgers
Corresponding Secretary:	Evelyn Davenport
Treasurer:	Deannie Geiger
Historian:	Dorothy Holmes

Region 14 is so very fortunate to have such a beautiful magazine. The last issue, Winter 2006, was excellent. The photographs were spectacular. Kudos to our editor Oliver Billingslea.

Cullman Hemerocallis Society continues to do well under the leadership of President Essie Hollingsworth. Plans have been made for a very busy year.

In November, Jim Chappell presented an excellent program complete with slides of his daylilies. He covered topics such as the terminology of plant parts, typical garden pests, and fertilization.

On December 13th, we had our annual Christmas party at the Senior Center in Cullman. We had a great crowd and a super time. There is always a lively, no holds barred, "Dirty Santa" gift exchange.

In January, Pete Douthit presented a program on "First Aid for the Gardener." Pete is a retired paramedic and told us how to care for everything from simple garden scrapes to snake bites.

Cullman Society will take a bus tour this spring, May 24-27. Jim Chappell is finalizing the plans for this trip. These trips are always worth the time and we are excited. ALL ABOARD!



Montgomery Area Daylily Society

Jack Harrison, Reporter

3rd Sunday—2:00 P.M.

Contact President for Meeting Location

February, April, August, October, December

President:	Georgia Rehnberg
1 st Vice President:	Linda Agin
2 nd Vice President/Parliamentarian:	Jack Harrison
Recording Secretary:	Barbara Barnes
Treasurer:	Cecil Barnes
Corresponding Secretary:	Amalia Harrison
Devotional Chair:	Darlene Peters

The October in-house auction was very profitable. Members were so generous in their donations. One cultivar that brought high bids, offered by Amalia Harrison, was Jack Carpenter's *Hemerocallis* 'Worth It All' ('03), a fragrant 6½" tetraploid of rich pink.

At the Christmas party, we enjoyed a festive holiday feast and played the dirty Santa game. We installed the same set of officers as the previous year, which proves that if you do a job too well, you have to continue to do it.

The highlight of our February meeting was the visit and program given by Patrick and Grace Stamile. We had visitors from Mississippi, Florida, and Georgia, as well as several members of the Blount Iris and Daylily Society and Alabama hybridizers Jesse and

Terah George of Jasper. The flower photos from the Stamiles showed astonishing colored patterns and forms.

In April, the club will participate again in Montgomery's Horticulture Festival. Our annual mall sale will be held in May.

An anticipated fun trip is our bus tour of Jack Carpenter's and Josie Bomar's gardens in Texas with a homecoming by way of the gardens of Barbara and Earl Watts, James Townsend and Henry Boykin.

This winter we lost two of our most valuable members with the deaths of Louise Boswell and Bruce Garner. Those of you who came to the 2000 Regional Meeting in Montgomery will remember the beautiful Boswell garden and the delectable rum cake Louise served. Bruce was an expert on Montgomery, Alabama, and southern history. He was a tour guide for years at the First White House of the Confederacy and knew so many details about the Civil War. May each rest in peace knowing we loved them.

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North Alabama Daylily Society

Dave Flanigan, Corresponding Secretary

Co-Presidents: Randy Stephens and Tony Thompson
Recording Secretary: Susie Thompson
Treasurer: Karen Stephens

With exactly five months until the Region 14 Spring Meeting in Huntsville, over forty members of the North Alabama Daylily Society met at the Meridianville Middle School for a working-planning meeting. We continue to add new members each month as enthusiasm for the meeting increases. With only minimal advertising, we are a bit surprised that many folks have already registered for the meeting; we anticipate over 200 registrants.

Randy Stephens went over all the planning decisions and pointed out a few areas where we still need a bit of support. The tour gardens are in their winter doldrums, but areas where the 2006 introductions are to be planted have been properly amended, and we are ready to receive these introductions from eleven of the South's premier hybridizers.

We have a goodly number of auction plants already on hand and promised. We have also been quite fortunate in that we have already collected over 50 door prizes, as well as prizes for bus contests, and we have an amazing number of beautiful and useful gifts that will be featured in Tony Thompson's Chinese Raffle.

Wayne and Karen Reed, a multi-talented couple, who have been incredible in support of our club and the Region 14 Meeting brought some daylily note cards, a daylily desk calendar, and some large advertising posters as examples of their past month's work. Don't be surprised if you see these items at the Spring Meeting. At the end of the meeting we were treated to some culinary delicacies graciously provided by Roger and Cherry Hooper. All in all, we think we have made a lot of progress in assuring that each of you will truly enjoy the Regional Meeting in Huntsville on June 16-17. If you have any comments or questions about the meeting, please contact Randy Stephens at 256-828-3127 or randy.stephens@mchsi.com

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The Riviera Daylily Society

Kathleen Manning, Reporter

2nd Sunday—2:00 P.M.
The Boy Scout Building, 2101 Cypress St., Foley, AL

January, March, May, July, September, November

President: John Falck
Vice President: Fred Manning
Secretary: Kay Davis
Treasurer: Nancy Falck

The Riviera Daylily Society met on January 8 and after all the storms and other incidents of last year finally announced its new officers, as listed above.

Nancy Falck gave a great program on her lap top computer and showed some great pictures from the National Convention in Cincinnati, Ohio.

At the November meeting we had the pleasure of having Charles Douglas from Browns Ferry Gardens located in Georgetown, SC. He showed many landscape slides as well as his many introductions including the "Plantation series." He was informative about his program and his goals. Thanks Charles!

President John Falck talked about the upcoming Spring Regional Meeting to be held in Huntsville, AL, in June and also encouraged that everyone become a member of AHS.

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The Wiregrass Daylily Society

Susan Wallace, Reporter

2nd Saturday—1:30 P.M.
First Christian Church
1401 Cherokee Avenue, Dothan, AL

September, October, November, January, February, March, April, May, June

President: Terri Money
Secretary/Reporter: Susan Wallace
Treasurer: Anne McCuistian
Parliamentarian: John Cooper

The Wiregrass Daylily Society has really been growing these past few months. We were privileged to have Dan Bachman from Valley of the Daylilies speak at our January meeting. He has some very exciting introductions with names that are just fun. *Hemerocallis* 'Work With Me Annie' ('04) and *H.* 'Choo Choo Ch'Boogie' ('04), named for classic R & B music, will find new homes in the Wiregrass area this spring. These were given as door prizes at our January meeting.

February brought Doyle Pierce with his hybridizing presentation. He was the winner of the 2004 Sarah Sikes Slide Sequence Award. He also shared some slides of his lovely gardens and even lovelier seedlings. We will all continue to encourage Doyle to start introducing some of his "babies."

Bibbs Gamber, member of the Wiregrass Daylily Society, has been very generous to donate all of her *Daylily Journals*, *Dixie Daylily* issues, *Hemerocallis Checklists*, *Eureka* reference guides, and video cassettes of various gardens to the Library in Headland, Alabama. What a treasure they have and a wealth of information to offer the general public on our favorite genus *Hemerocallis*.

The club has been busy with preparations for the 2008 Regional Meeting. Many things have been accomplished; many things are left to do. We are excited about the opportunity to host the Regional Meeting and hope that everyone will start making plans now to attend.

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Club News : MISSISSIPPI

Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society

Nancy Chain, Reporter

3rd Sunday—2:00 P.M.

Multi-purpose Center, Extension Service Conference Room
952 Sullivan Drive, Highway 49 South, Hattiesburg, MS

January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October

President:	Nancy Chain
Vice President:	Don Campbell
Secretary:	Maureen Tobler
Treasurer:	Freddy Walter
Publicity Director:	Martha Slaid

Landscapes in the Pine Belt are coming back together—minus lots of trees. Every gathering has gardeners showing “before and after” pictures. The club is coming back strong, as members are completing clean-up and want to get back to gardening.

Sixty-one members gathered in October to hear Charles Douglas from Browns Ferry Gardens in Georgetown, SC. Charles showed us slides of his registered cultivars, beautiful gardens and commercial areas. He explained the whys and wherefores of growing all cultivars in pots—something that some of our members are doing.

Our Christmas luncheon was a joyous affair with eighty-one members, including some from the coast whom we had not seen since Katrina.

The year 2006 began with a bang as Bill and Joyce Reinke from Stephens Lane Gardens in Bells, TN, delighted the club with a program about their spiders. Bill did most of the talking, but Joyce added pertinent information from time to time. They were expecting a crowd of about twenty-five, and we were pleased to surprise them with an audience of eighty+.

The Hattiesburg Area Daylily Society really encourages membership in the AHS. At every meeting, AHS members have the opportunity to enter a drawing for a daylily given by Earl Watts. This year, Earl is encouraging membership by giving new members a daylily. The first members to present Earl with their “Welcome to AHS” brochure were Jeff and Brenda Johnson. The first week in February, they visited Suburban Daylilies and went home with *Hemerocallis* ‘Mary Alice Stokes’, a 2001 introduction by Dan Hansen.

HADS has several upcoming events, including having a booth at the Gulf Coast Garden and Patio Show, February 24-26. The Show is being held in Hattiesburg this year because of Katrina damage to the Gulf Coast Coliseum. HADS and the MS Gulf Coast Daylily Society will share a bus to the 2006 Regional Meeting in Huntsville. Our half of the bus is already filled to overflowing! We really are looking forward to this Regional Convention. The Steering Committee for the 2007 Regional Meeting, which will be held in Hattiesburg, is busy planning. Planning is well underway for our 11th annual daylily show—“Every Day is a Holiday with Daylilies!”—to be held June 2nd at Turtle Creek Mall in Hattiesburg. We would love for you to come!

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Meridian Daylily Club

Mary Alice Stokes, Reporter

2nd Saturday—11:00 A.M.

Meridian Community College, Hardin Hall, Room 122

January, March, May, July, September, November

President:	Jim Smith
Vice President:	Pete Connolly
Secretary:	Martha Williams
Treasurer:	Gloria Jolly

A potluck supper on Friday, November 11th, in the home of Jay and Gloria Jolly, welcomed Eddy Scott and his wife Cindy, of Countryside Daylilies in High Springs, FL. Eddy has some beautiful introductions to his credit and we were pleased with his presentation on Saturday morning, November 12th.

Our annual Christmas dinner in December was held in the beautifully decorated home of Pete and Pat Connolly. Food and daylilies are powerful magnets and a lot of our club members attended. Awards were presented for our local Hybridizer of the Year contest. The judges were Earl and Barbara Watts. Henry Little was the top winner with a beautiful seedling; Doyle Pierce was both 1st and 2nd runner-up; Lisa Little was 3rd runner-up, and Jim Smith was 4th runner-up. All of the photos submitted by hybridizers in our club were displayed for members to see.

At the first meeting in the New Year, Meridian Daylily Club was pleased to welcome Bill Waldrop of Marietta, GA, as our guest speaker. If ever there was a daylily enthusiast, it is Bill. His excitement about all things daylily was apparent in his commentary as we watched slides of his beautiful seedlings. If you want to have an exciting speaker full of love for daylilies, you could hardly do better than Bill. His friend, Larry Grace, came along with him and participated, along with Bill, in the Q/A session following the presentation.

Bill has one beautiful introduction to his credit, *Hemerocallis* ‘Pastor Laurie Ann Moeller’ (’06), which is a cinnamon peach blend with a gold ruffled edge and a green throat. At the auction, it sold for well over the original price. Look for this one!

Our RVP, John Falck, is to be the guest speaker for the March meeting and we are looking forward to his visit.

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Miss-Lou Daylily Society

Joan McDaniel, Reporter

Last Saturday—12:00 Noon

Call Club President for Location in McComb, MS

March, May, October

President:	Rosa Duck
Vice President:	Kelly Wall
Secretary/Treasurer:	Fay Atwood

The Miss-Lou Daylily Society met Saturday, October 29, 2005, in the Community Room of the Pike County National Bank for its semiannual covered dish luncheon. Kelly Wall presided in the absence of President Rosa Duck.

Carl McDaniel asked the blessing prior to the meal. Mr. Wall welcomed the members and thanked those who opened their gardens for the spring tours: Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Johnson, Dr. and Mrs. Dewey McNiece, and Rev. and Mrs. J. Frank Smith.

The tables were centered with colorful autumn leaves, orange pumpkins, miniature black kettles, and fall fruit which accented the foliage. Autumn arrangements were placed as accents in the large room. Mr. Wall thanked Faye Barron and Fay Atwood for the tasteful decorations.

Mr. Wall appointed the officer nominating committee. Dr. McNiece, Chair, Carl McDaniel and Faye Barron will report at the

spring meeting.

Henry Little told of the Extension Garden showcase and workshops held each year near Crystal Springs. He and Mrs. Little took an assortment of daylilies, ranging in price from \$4.00 to \$60.00, and all were sold. He urged members to attend this showcase offered by the Extension Service and to enjoy plants that can be successfully grown in Mississippi, including the best of the new introductions.

Those attending the October club meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Alexander, Mr. and Mrs. Alton Atwood, Ms. Ethel Hodges, Ms. Burnyce Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Little, Mr. and Mrs. Carl McDaniel, Dr. and Mrs. Dewey McNice, Mrs. J. Frank Smith, Ms. Margaret Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Polie Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Storey, and Mr. Wall.

Following the plant exchange, the meeting was adjourned to March 25th, 2006, with Group One hosting.



MS Gulf Coast Daylily Society

Tom Adams, Reporter

2nd Saturday—2:00 P.M.

St. Martin Public Library, LeMoyné Boulevard, Ocean Springs, MS

September, October, December, January, February, March, April, May, June

Please call (228) 388-7352 for the location of the June activity.

President:	Bob Goolsby
Vice President:	Rusty Ingram
Secretary:	Pat Adams
Treasurer:	Jeri McBroom

January marked our second meeting of the year. We were pleased to have Paul and Judi Aucoin from Shantih Gardens as our guests. We learned details of their hybridizing successes and we were blessed to see more of Paul's extraordinary photographs. The Aucoins are a credit to Region 14 and are at the forefront of those who make us the most renowned AHS Region.

The January meeting followed our Christmas Party held at a local restaurant. As many noted, the party provided an opportunity for the first interaction with some members since "the storm." (Some were still too engaged in clean-up to attend our October meeting.) Members agree that club activities provide a welcome respite from the destruction that surrounds us. We also agree that our club has a role in the coast's recovery effort. Therefore, "the show will go on" when we have our second daylily show on May 20th at Edgewater Mall. (If you are close enough to transport scapes, we encourage you to enter, especially since club members are likely to have fewer entries.)

At the time of this writing, a February visit from Jeff and Elizabeth Salter nears. The Salters will be followed in March by a program from Linda Agin. (Like the Aucoins, Linda is another outstanding Region 14 asset.) We are excited about these programs. Join us on March 25th and 26th at the Annual Herb and Garden Fest in downtown Ocean Springs. The Fest has been selected as one of the Southeast Tourism Society's top events. In April, our RVP will visit. John will provide tips on grooming daylilies for exhibition, helping to set the tone for our daylily show.

Daylilies and storms teach us to "take one blooming day at a time." As the 2006 bloom season approaches, we wish for all the best blooming days ever.



North Mississippi Daylily Society

Emma Hood, Reporter

2nd Saturday—9:00 A.M.

First Regional Library, 370 W. Commerce Street, Hernando, MS

March, April, May, September, October

President:	Bettie Pruitt
Vice President:	Frank Huckaby
Secretary:	Emma Hood
Treasurer:	Betty Huckaby
Historian:	Jay Laundré
Parliamentarian:	Fern Mann

At the October meeting, our outgoing President, Scoot Wilson, introduced the new officers and swore them in. Bettie Pruitt, our new President, hit the ground running. We know we are in for a very productive year with lots of new ideas and involvement since we now boast a membership of fifty-one.

We are planning a bus tour again for spring of 2006; however, it will have to be a one day trip again as many members are unable to schedule a longer trip due to family or work restrictions. Therefore, we deferred planning our destination until the March meeting. Since some members had hoped to consider a 3-day trip to Huntsville for the Regional Meeting, Betty Wilson volunteered to check the rate for renting a van for any members interested in attending as a group. An update on that information is scheduled for March as well.

Frank Huckaby presented a program on "Putting the Babies to Bed." It was a very informative presentation on preparing daylilies for their resting period. He also mentioned the importance of the National AHS Society and provided a handout with the name and address of the Executive Secretary, Pat Mercer, for those who want to join. He enumerated the publications which members receive and the price of belonging to the society.

We planned our annual Christmas Party and decided to provide poinsettias for decoration and as attendance prizes.

On December 3rd, we held our Christmas Party at the First Regional Library in Hernando. Thanks to the diligence of the Huckaby and Laundré families, the room was beautifully decorated.

We agreed to send one of the poinsettia table decorations to Louise Davis, a very special member beloved by all, who was recently released from the hospital. The remainder, along with many other gifts provided by the members, were offered as attendance prizes.

Even though the Party is not considered a regular meeting, we agreed that some decisions had to be made regarding our spring agenda. We voted to provide expense money for a speaker to be featured at a future meeting.

In conclusion, Bettie Pruitt read a lovely story about the origin of the poinsettia as the Christmas flower. We will have to enjoy its beauty and wait with great expectation for the return of our favorite flower, the daylily, in the spring.



North MS-AL Daylily Society

Linda Beck, Reporter

2nd Tuesday—Buffet Supper—6:00 P.M.

THE DAILY GRIND, Amory, MS

January, February, April, May, June, July, September, October, December

President:	Juanice Hayes
1 st Vice President:	Jo Anne Burrage
2 nd Vice President:	Donna Grant
Secretary:	Nancy Gerhart
Treasurer:	Reggie Rose
Parliamentarian:	Jo Anne Dunham
Historian:	Mary Fondren

The North MS-AL Daylily Society held its annual Christmas Party the second Tuesday night in December. The speaker guests were John and Nancy Falck of Fairhope, AL. John spoke on the importance of joining the American Hemerocallis Society, encouraged the youth to participate in local and regional activities, and talked about the qualifications for becoming a display garden.

In January, Karol Emmerich from Springwood Gardens in Edina, Minnesota, was the featured speaker. Karol presented slides of her garden, home, and daylily introductions. It was interesting to see the transformation from a small garden plot in the city to mass acreage in the country. Springwood Gardens will be on tour for the upcoming National Convention in 2007.

Donna Grant did an outstanding job in preparing our 2006 club yearbook. Donna printed 25 extra books, and 11 new members joined at this meeting. Currently, we have 67 members.

We discussed plans for our annual picnic and walking tour of gardens. This is a special event that the members enjoy. A bus trip is being planned for late spring.

Two of our members have applied for Display Garden status. Gary and Jo Anne Dunham have received notification of acceptance for "Brittany Ridge." Donna Grant, on the other hand, has just recently sent in her application. These gardens are unique in their own way and have many interesting features.

President Juanice Hayes encouraged everyone to register for the Regional Meeting in Huntsville.

Jo Anne Burrage planned some wonderful programs for July and October 2006. Larry Grace from Dothan, AL, will be our speaker in July, and William Cureton (Captain Compost) from Birmingham, AL, will entertain us in October.



South Central Mississippi Daylily Society

Rachel Wiseman, Reporter

1st Sunday—2:00 P.M.

Calhoun Community Center, Hwy 84 W., Laurel, MS

January, March, April, May, September, October

President:	Charlie Baker
Secretary:	Mary Lou Hull
Treasurer:	James Townsend
Hospitality:	Betty Cline and Carol Byrd

Our September 2005 meeting was canceled due to Hurricane Katrina which caused considerable damage in our area. In October, many of our members were still dealing with the effects of the storm, so we postponed the election of officers until our January 2006 meeting.

New officers are now in place and a full program is planned for 2006 with presentations by Henry Little in March, Fred Manning in April, local hybridizers in September, and Terah and Jesse George in October. We will also participate in Garden Judges Workshops and have a booth at the Laurel Day in the Park on May 6th. We will end the year with our Christmas Party in early December.

A decision was also made to place emphasis on building up membership this year instead of holding our annual Daylily Show.

Outgoing President, Martha Kidd, was pleased to present a Medal of Achievement to youth member Greg Preuss for his accomplishments with daylilies. Keep up the good work, Greg!



A Memorial Gift

Members of the Montgomery Area Daylily Society recently contributed a substantial gift to Region 14 in memory of Louise Boswell and Bruce Garner, two of their club members who recently passed away.

As Louise's son-in-law, Paul Furr, has said, "Louise was a giving person. Someone could give her something, and she would literally beat them back home, giving them more than she received." Louise was known for her rum cakes, and for her roses, as well as her daylilies. She was, according to Paul, "the life of the party." Recently, her garden was featured in *The Montgomery Advertiser*, and contributed to a successful sale by the Montgomery club the following weekend. She dearly loved her Yorkies, Mitzi and Princess.

According to his friend Guy Meadows, Bruce and his late wife Agnes were avid daylily growers. He kept a complete listing of all the daylilies they grew. They bought many of their first daylilies from Neal Berrey of Montgomery. Over the years, as his wife's illness progressed, their collection dwindled. In his later years, Bruce enjoyed traveling and visiting daylily gardens. Jack Harrison recalls that Bruce was an expert on Montgomery, Alabama, and southern history, especially that of the Civil War, and that for years he served as a tour guide at the White House of the Confederacy.



Digital Photos Wanted for HYBRIDIZER'S ISSUE WINTER 2007

*Send a CD with 5-10
of your best "Futures" or Registrations
to*

*Oliver Billingslea
Editor, THE DIXIE DAYLILY*

*Deadline:
JUNE 21, 2006*

In the Winter issue of The Dixie Daylily, we plan to feature Region 14 hybridizers. This is your invitation to be a part of this important issue.



WHAT'S FORTHCOMING

The 2006 Region 14 Spring Meeting: Garden Write-Ups

The 2006 Sally Lake Memorial Bed

AHS Region 14 Flower Shows: 2006

The 2006 Youth Digital Photography Awards

Breeding Small-flowered and Miniature Tets in the Delta

The Stamile Pinks

The Hybridizing Program of Henry and Lisa Little

Flora, Fauna, and Fireflies: An Evening in the Garden

Blue Hemerocallis: A Murder Mystery

A Portfolio of Region 14 Hybridizers: Winter 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER—2006

June 16-17	Region 14 Spring Meeting Huntsville, Alabama
June 21	<i>The Dixie Daylily</i> Summer/Fall Deadline
	Deadline: Youth Digital Photography Awards
July 13—July 16	AHS National Convention Long Island, NY
September 1	Popularity Poll Deadline
October 7	Region 14 Fall Meeting Meridian, Mississippi
October 15	<i>The Dixie Daylily</i> Winter Deadline
December 31	AHS Membership Renewal Deadline

AHS CONVENTIONS

2006	Long Island Daylily Society July 13—16 Joan Rasmussen (NY); Melanie Vassallo (NY)
2007	Hemerocallis Society of Minnesota July 25—28 Mary Baker (NE); Kathleen Lamb (MN), and Rita Schaben (MN)
2008	Combined Texas Daylily Clubs May 15—18 Maureen Valenza (TX)
2009	Sunbelt Daylily Society May 2009 Dan Hansen (FL); Chris Rogers (FL)
2010	Valdosta Hemerocallis Society May 2010 Tim Bell (GA); Floyd McNeal (GA)
2011	Baton Rouge Daylily Society May 2011 Joe Goudeau (LA)

Welcome New Members to AHS and Region 14

Aldridge Botanical Gardens
3530 Lorna Road
Hoover, AL 35216

Debbie Anderson
3644 Altadena Drive
Birmingham, AL 35243

Barbara Arnold
125 Walnut Drive
Enterprise, AL 36330

Pat Birkholz
P.O. Box 84
Aberdeen, MS 39730

Brooke Bishop
1375 Holiday Road
Vernon, AL 35592

Sam and Gloria Criddle
123 East Commerce
Aberdeen, MS 39730

Linde Crowe
6100 Wilmer Road
Wilmer, AL 36587

Thelma Davis
203 Oak Street
New Augusta, MS 39462

Ginny Du Frene
15 A Thames Lane
Purvis, MS 39475

Sue Eddins
104 Culloden Court
Dothan, AL 36305

Janet M. Gentry
320 North Church Avenue
Louisville, MS 39339

Janie Gilbert
244 County Road 85
Crane Hill, AL 35053

Shirley Gosa
12455 Highway 171 North
Winfield, AL 35594

Carolyn Hawkins
1921 Avery Road
Oneonta, AL 35121

Marvin Hemphill
173 C B Warner Road
Louisville, MS 39339

Juanita Landrum
6312 Mountain Side Trail
Pinson, AL 35126

Gary L. and Teresa Lee
530 State Line Road
Wilmer, AL 36587



H. 'Impish Delight' (above) and H. 'Blue Oasis' (below) continue to reflect some of the amazing work of E. H. Salter. (Photos by Oliver Billingslea)



Betty Lynn
491 County Highway 58
Guin, AL 35563

Bettie McDonald
293 Blaylock Road
Guin, AL 35563

Jerry Marlowe
9 Paddock Drive
Fairhope, AL 36532

Louise Merritte
1000 Newsome Road
Wilsonville, AL 35186

Bettie Pruitt
907 McGowan Drive
Southaven, MS 38671

Charlotte Riley
631 County Road 15
Headland, AL 36345

Barbara Roberts
P.O. Box 98
Aberdeen, MS 39730

Toni Sivert
951 Rose Street, Room 140
Northport, AL 35476

Linda Snellgrove
36006 State Highway 134 E
Headland, AL 36345

Betty R. Tanner
3756 County Road 38
Section, AL 35771

Becky Todd
753 State Highway 44
Guin, AL 35563

Brenda Walker
415 Blaylock Road
Guin, AL 35563

Richard and Eloise Warfel
1071 Tara Drive
Hernando, MS 38632

Brenda Warren
20016 Walnut Main
Aberdeen, MS 39730

William and Patricia Wente
1797 Sigma Road
Columbia, AL 36319

Mary C. Williams
3513 Tall Pines Lane
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

Olivette Yancey
403 Oak Avenue
Como, MS 38619

THE DIXIE DAYLILY SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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1 year (three issues) - \$15.00

Make check payable to: AHS Region 14

Mail to: *The Dixie Daylily* Editor
Oliver Billingslea
6291 Thach Road
Montgomery, AL 36117



H. **'Born to Reign'** (Emmerich 2005) shares a Region 14 connection. Although a Minnesota introduction, it first bloomed in Larry Grace's greenhouse near Dothan while Karol was hybridizing there. (Photo by Karol Emmerich)

American Hemerocallis Society—Region 14

Oliver Billingslea, Editor
6291 Thach Road
Montgomery, AL 36117

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