

# MoKanOk Daylily

Fall/Winter 2020

The Journal of the American Daylily Society  
Region 11

## **HISTORICAL HYBRIDIZERS OF REGION 11**

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**How Region 11 contributed to the modern daylily**

*Region 11 hybridizers played an important role in the development of AHS and are still influencing breeding programs 50 years after their deaths.*

## **REMEMBERING BOB TANKESLEY-CLARKE**

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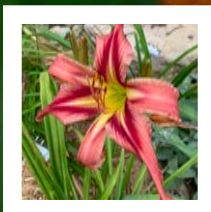
*Celebrating the life of our former regional president and his hybridizing*

## **IN ADDITION**

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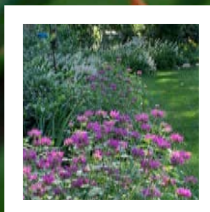
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The Region's  
Newest Display  
Garden



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Club News



# Editorial Policy and Rates



## ADS Membership

The American Daylily Society (also known as the American Hemerocallis Society, Inc. ) is a non-profit service organization dedicated to educating people about daylilies, promoting the cultivation and enjoyment of daylilies, and fostering the on-going improvement of this perennial flower (genus hemerocallis).

ADS website: [www.daylilies.org](http://www.daylilies.org)

### Individual

One year	\$25.00
Three years	\$70.00
Youth	\$10.00
Life	\$500.00

### Dual

(2 people, same address)

one year	\$30.00
Three years	\$83.00
Life	\$750.00

To encourage new members, and as an incentive for current members to renew their memberships for 3 years, the American Daylily Society and some dedicated daylily nurseries have partnered to create the Voucher Program. When you join or renew your membership for 3 years, you will receive a voucher that may be redeemed at participating daylily nurseries. Vouchers are worth \$25.00.

Send all dues, address changes, and membership inquiries to:

### Beverly Winkelman

17103 Herrington Road

Pearland, TX 77584

Tel. 832-567-4708

E-mail: [secretary@daylilies.org](mailto:secretary@daylilies.org)

## Editorial Policy

The *MoKanOk Daylily* is the official publication of the American Daylily Society Region 11. It is published for the benefit of the American Daylily Society members residing in Region 11 (Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma). The editorial focus of the publication centers on: 1) Hemerocallis (daylilies); 2) ADS and Region 11 events, or 3) Region 11 members and hybridizers.

## Submission Policy

Submission of articles, club updates and pictures is important to keeping the *MoKanOk Daylily* interesting to all members of Region 11. Please share local happenings and items of interest. All submissions are given equal consideration and will be published is at all possible. The editor reserves the right to edit for space, grammar, and focus on the three criteria above.

Submit all articles and photos to: [mokanokeditor@gmail.com](mailto:mokanokeditor@gmail.com)

Deadlines:

Summer/Fall August 1

Winter October 15

Format requirements:

All text submission need be formatted in Word, Pages (Mac users) or a plain text document. Do not send PDF files of written text.

Spreadsheets need to be in Excel or Numbers (Mac users)

All photographs must be JPG or PNG format.

Editor's address:

508 Valley Drive

Manhattan, KS 66502

Cover photo:

H. Middle-earth, Tankesley-Clarke, 2004.

## Out of Region Subscriptions:

The subscription rate for out of region is \$18.00 per year. Please make checks payable to *AHS Region 11* and sent in care of the editor.

## Advertising Rates

ADS Region 11 welcomes advertisers in our regional journal reaching some 380 members across three states.

### One Issue

Full page	\$100.00
Half page	\$75.00
Quarter page	\$30.00

### Yearly (3 issues)

Full page	\$250.00
Half page	\$200.00
Quarter page	\$75.00

For more information on advertising, contact: [mokanokeditor@gmail.com](mailto:mokanokeditor@gmail.com)



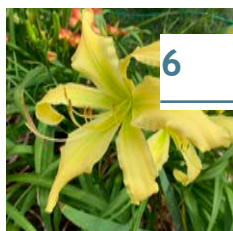


# In this issue...

Welcome to another edition of the MoKanOk Daylily. In this edition we reflect on the loss of long-time Region 11 supporters: Bob Tankseley-Clark, Sharron Gregory and Zena Purdum. We look back on some historical characters who contributed directly to the development of the modern daylily from our Region. We celebrate a new display garden and the fact that in the face of these uncertain times, gardeners have found solace in doing what we love: being in our gardens.

We also welcome a new Regional Treasurer, Chris Tyler, along her long-time sidekick Rick, as Carol Schultz moves on to become Regional President.

*Christopher E. Runner*



## 6 2020 Popularity Poll Results

Participation continues to decline in the Popularity Poll but the winner is a regional hybridizer!



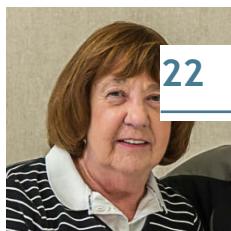
## 11 Remembering Bob Tankesley-Clarke

Region 11 mourns the loss of our former Regional President and prolific hybridizer. Nancy Rold with Eric Tankesley Clarke reflect on Bob contributes with tributes by Paul Owen and Michael Bouman.



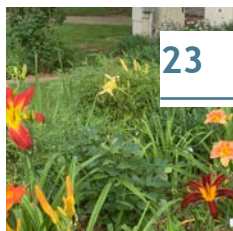
## 15 Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

Region 11 has made some major contributions to the development of the modern daylily. In this issue we look at three: George Lenington, Wilma Bryant, and Oscie Whatley.



## 22 Remember Sharron Gregory

Jan Capps pays tribute to one of the founders of the Prairie Winds Club and former MoKanOk editor.



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Laura Ross of Lawrence, KS, has become the region’s newest Display Garden. She reflects on her journey.

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I had to cut an article on social media platforms due to space limitations - it will be in the winter edition, so enjoy the results of the Pop Poll.

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Carol Schultz presents her final report.

### Regional Secretary’s Report

No secretary report as we didn’t have a summer meeting..

### 9 Online Auction Volunteers

Oscie Whatley bed for 2022.

# Regional Director

## Zoom 2020 Board Meetings - a unique experience

- by Sue Calbreath

On October 24 the Fall Board meeting will be held in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and is available via Zoom for those who still do not feel safe traveling. I will be taking advantage of the Zoom platform.

### 2020 Awards and Honors

The American Daylily Society presents awards and honors at our Annual National Conventions. In 2020, with concerns for large gatherings and travel, we had to cancel the National Convention and chose to stream the awards ceremony instead.

The Awards and Honors part of the convention was videoed at the Desoto in Savannah on May 26, 2020. Rhonda Veroeven, Awards and Honors Chair, presented the awards. If you missed the presentation on the 26th, can watch it on Youtube at <http://youtu.be/BWs3sZ6yX7s>. Or search "2020 Award and Honors Presentation." You'll enjoy it.

### Our Region's award winners are:

**Bob Scott** received 2 Honorable Mentions for *H. Topguns Apache Warpaint* and *H. Topguns Sharon Scott*.

**Wesley Coats** received a Youth Photography Award; Beginner Division for his photo of *H. Clueless*, David Kirchhoff 1998.

**Judy Grots** received the Tricolor award for her design, *Dreams in the Darkness*.

### New role on the Board:

After the last board meeting, I was assigned the position of Newsletter Awards Chair. I will be responsible for getting the judges and for categorizing the articles and getting them to the judges. The winners will be announced at the National Convention in Hattiesburg.

Consider writing an article for the MoKanOk. There are many talented writers in our region, and we need you to keep our newsletter interesting and informative. Articles could be written about the many hybridizers we have in our region, or about caring for daylilies or obituaries about one of our members or a humorous story to mention a few ideas. Yours could be selected for an award!



Wesley Coats' Clueless



Apache Warpaint



Judy Grots' Dreams in the Darkness



# Regional President

## Support the Region's online auction!

- by Ann Redmon

Hello to all my fellow Region 11 daylily friends!

Hope you have had a wonderful daylily season in spite of all the challenges brought by Covid! I know that we all missed our regular group activities-meetings, sales, garden tours and of course our Regional Summer Meeting!

My 2 local clubs did manage to have member's garden tours, modified to allow for social distancing, but still great fun and good to have a chance to see each other and chat at a distance. And the gardens were glorious! Hope that your clubs managed to find ways to connect in spite of the pandemic. Some clubs held Zoom meetings, some simply skipped meetings and a few have begun having in-person meetings again. We all cope the best way we can.

We have, unfortunately, had to make the decision to cancel Winter Gathering 2021. That has been our major fund raiser in recent years. In order to keep our Region financially stable (and able to print the MoKanOk) we are hoping to hold an online sale or auction. A few people have already generously sent lists of daylilies that they will donate to this endeavor. But we really do need more. Please seriously consider going through your collection and noting what you think would be 'in demand'. Newer plants by Regional Hybridizers, other 'newish' intros or those that are rare/difficult to find would be especially good. As the Region reimburses for postage, it doesn't really pay to offer \$5 daylilies. Those are better offered in local club sales where postage isn't an issue. Since most of our clubs were unable to hold their annual sales, our clumps should have had plenty of time to increase, so check them out and send a list to either Lois Hart (legwh85@mokancomm.net) or myself (annred97@gmail.com). It doesn't have to be a long list.

In order to have an online sale, we do also need someone to step up and be in charge of it. If you've got some time and feel that this is something you could do, please let me, Carol Schultz, Lois Hart or Christopher Renner know. There are several possible options—there are Facebook groups that do sales, there is the Lily Auction and recently I have seen ADS sponsored sales held online by at least one Region. Some things to look into. I think that what we are envisioning is a sale perhaps in late Feb/early March with shipping in the spring.

Hope all of you are in good health and spirits! If not, please reach out to friends and family! Even if you are doing well, reach out. Lots of people could use a friendly voice, if not a hug!

It seems way too soon to think about the Holidays, but by the time this reaches you, they will be close. Not sure what form they will take this year, but I wish you all well and hope that you can connect with family in some way!



photo by C. Renner

**2020 Lambert/Webster Award Winner:  
Explosion in the Paint Factory, Howard-R.,  
2013**

# 2020 Popularity Poll Results

## Member participation lags at 18%

### - Christopher E. Renner, PR Director

The results of the 2020 Popularity Poll give the region's best liked daylily to a regional hybridizer, Dan White (Greater St. Louis Daylily Club), for his H. A Green Desire. With 17 votes, it beat Gossard's H. Heavenly United We Stand and H. Neon Flamingo by one vote for the top spot.

We had fewer members vote in this year's poll than last year - 62 for 2020 down from 68 for 2019. The number of cultivars voted on also declined from 226 to 207. In the 2019 poll, 159 received only 1 vote whereas this year 135 cultivars received one vote. As a percentage, the numbers remain the same for 2020 as 2019: with 65% of the cultivars voted on receiving 1 vote and 25% receiving more than two votes - In 2019 the number receiving more than 2 votes was 27%. I cannot account for the missing 10% in the data of this year's AHS report - the ADS platform gives no reason for the difference in the total.

Tied for second place are H. Heavenly United We Stand and H. Neon Flamingo, both introductions by Jamie Gossard with 16 votes each. Third place goes to H. Mayor of Munchkinland with 13 votes. We have a three-way tie for fourth place with 12 votes each: H. Carnival in Mexico, H. Gothic Quills, and H. Heavenly Dragon Fire. Finally, rounding out the top ten is H. Anam Cara, H. Catspaw Sunrise Sunset, and H. Sebastian the Crab each receiving 11 votes. Three regional hybridizers are included in our top ten vote getters: Dan White, Patti Waterman, and Diana Plahn.

The Early-Bird Voter Award goes to Eileen Garrison who got her ballot in on May 3. Kansas gets the bragging

rights to "Most Members Who Voted" with 28 AHS members voting. Oklahoma had 19 members vote and Missouri had 15.

Several hard copy ballots arrived a week after the official deadline of September 1. Two ballots arrived 12 days after the deadline and by that time, the votes had been tabulated and the results sent to the AHS Board. I strongly encourage people who vote the paper ballot to mail their ballots by the first week of August to ensure that they arrive in time to be counted. The restructuring of the US Postal Service has made the delivery of mail much slower than it once was. Delivery within Manhattan often takes three days as all our mail is taken to Kansas City to be processed and then returned to Manhattan for delivery. I know, it makes no sense, but that is how the Postal Service is running.

Finally I would really like to know why more of our members don't take the time to vote. It takes all of 5 minutes, if that! The Pop Poll is an organizational mandate, every region has to conduct one. The online ballot is simple to use and you can go back and change your votes until September 1. We should have at least 50% of our membership voting.

Now comes the process of constructing the ballot for 2021. A Green Desire will be retired and all cultivars that received 3 or more votes will go onto next year's ballot. Interestingly enough, that makes exactly 50

candidates for the ballot. If those aren't enough to meet your fancy, members can still vote for up to five write-ins. It will be interesting to see next year's results as we have a couple of regional up and comers - H. Cloudhunter and H. Windswept Morning Angel received 10 and 9 votes in this year's poll. Maybe they will make it to number 1 next year!



photo by C. Renner

A Green Desire, White-D., 2006



# Regional Treasurer Report

## Introducing the next treasurer

**-by Carol Schultz, ADS Region 11 Treasurer**

E-mail: adsregion11treasurer@gmail.com

Like many people, I feel ready for the challenges of 2020 to pass and look eagerly for 2021 to offer more energy and renewal. Through all of this it has been wonderful to see the flowers blooming in the garden, to be surprised at a lot of first-time re-bloomers, and to see the pictures of daylilies in other gardens around the country.

With each change of treasurer, the by-laws state that the Region should conduct a review of the accounts. Josh Winzer of the Tulsa club recently completed the review and has reported that all is in order. Many thanks go out to Josh for conducting this review.

As I wind down my duties as your Treasurer, I have the pleasure to introduce Chris Tyler of the Topeka Daylily Society as the next ADS Region 11 Treasurer. I probably met Chris years ago, but just became more aware of her in 2018 as the co-organizer of the regional meeting held in Topeka that summer. We had a lot of communication

back and forth about finances since we used the Region 11 Square device to collect credit card purchases at that meeting. Always on the look-out for my replacement, I asked her to consider taking on this responsibility. I am very grateful that she has accepted the position of treasurer and am confident that she will do a great job.



A full accounting of income and expenses for 2020 will be published in the Spring 2021 issue of the MoKanOk. The budget for 2021, approved by the Board, was published in the Summer 2020 issue.

## Meet Chris Tyler...

**-by Chris Tyler, incoming ADS Region 11 Treasurer**

When Carol Schultz approached me regarding the regional treasurer's position, I am pretty sure the infamous words, "it will be easy" were mentioned. For the last 5 years Carol has performed her job as our region 11 treasurer very well and she should be commended. I want to thank you Carol for helping to make my job an easier one!

Rick and I live on acreage along with our 4 horses, 2 Labradors and 2 cats in Wakarusa, Kansas. We are Kansas natives and love the country life and all that it brings with it. We have two grown sons, daughter-in-laws and three grandkids, all of whom have the "gardening bug" showing in the beauty of their gardens.

After retirement as the Development Director of CASA of Shawnee County, I became interested in daylilies in 2004 while visiting a neighbor's garden. I was overwhelmed at all the different colors, sizes and forms the daylily had to offer and its performance in our Kansas weather. I joined the Topeka club and became the Membership Chairperson shortly thereafter. The rest is history, filling several club officers positions and co-chairing the Summer Gathering in 2018.

Besides daylilies, Rick and I are members of the Heartland Peony Society. I am involved in the Kansas Associated Garden Clubs with The Queen of Spades as

the Topeka chapter. I also have had the opportunity to take AHS clinics and have become both an AHS Garden Judge and AHS Exhibition Judge. I would suggest if you really want to expand your knowledge of daylilies, take one or both clinics offered, you won't be disappointed.



The AHS is offering clinics online, dates of the clinics can be found in the Daylily Journal or on the AHS website site.

Along the way, while traveling across the United States I have met several daylily hybridizers which in turn has expanded my collection and my viewpoints of growing daylilies. I have truly treasured these friends with their valuable information and their future introductions.

After 16 years of being involved with daylilies, Rick and I grow hundreds of cultivars or as Rick has mentioned "too many or not enough". I feel it is not the number of daylilies I grow, but the *quality* of daylilies

# Regional Treasurer Report

most. While being members of 3 daylily clubs we have enjoyed getting to know so many daylily gardeners that share our love of this wonderful plant, and as many of you know several hours can be spent talking about the particulars we grow.

While 2020 has been daunting, I know as you do that our gardens have been our safe havens. And while the

Summer Meeting and Winter Gathering have been cancelled during these trying times your continued support is valued for the future of our region.

I look forward to working with everyone while continuing to make our region a successful and enjoyable one!

## Auditor's Report

October 3, 2020

To: Region 11 Board of Directors Re: Audit for period ending 5/31/20

Region 11 Directors,

I have completed the audit of the Region 11 financial records for the period ending May 31, 2020. The procedures implemented, recommendations, conclusion are detailed in the following paragraphs.

### Verification of Cash Balance - Bank of America Checking

The ending cash balance per the May bank statement was \$37,312.87 which tied to the accounting records.

### Testing of Disbursements

Checks 1259 - 1674 were issued during the period audited. Sample groups of these checks were tested for appropriate documentation, and no misstatements were discovered. All sampled disbursements were properly accounted for, and receipts were available for verification of each payment.

### Testing of Deposits

A sampling of deposits in the check register were compared to the bank statements, and no material misstatements were discovered.

### Conclusion

The audit of Region 11's financial records revealed no material misstatements. All disbursements and deposits tested were properly recorded and documented. Carol Schultz should be commended for her work during her tenure, and Region 11 has been fortunate to have her serve in this office.

*Joshua Winzer* Auditor

## REGION 11 DONATIONS TO THE AMERICAN HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY ENDOWMENT FUND

**100 Giving \$100 by Lois Hart in memory of  
Judie Branson and Sharron Gregory**

**Two contributions to the AHS General Fund, Supporting Donor Level,  
by Topeka Daylily Society  
in memory of Judie Branson and Michiko Bayless.**



## Region 11 2021 Plant Auction

-by Carol Schultz, in-coming Regional President

Do you love Facebook, computer web sites, Internet auctions and shopping and buying online? If you do and also love buying daylilies at reasonable prices, please consider volunteering to organize our Region 11 daylily sale/auction.

We have support lined up: Nikki Schmith our former ADS President, has offered to assist in setting up our first sales. We also have the possibility of using an existing Facebook page. All we need is a team of people who have a passion for computers and social media along with their passion for daylilies.

**What is your passion?** As president of our local club for several years I always encouraged people to find what they really enjoyed and use that energy to serve. Some love the digging and planting (great helpers at the annual Farmer's Market sales); some love the blooms and showing (I'm in this category), some love the creative process of hybridization, some love the hospitality aspect (we always had delicious potlucks), and some (like me) like the "club work" - the organizing and planning of events.

**So what are you passionate about?** Share some of that passion with Region 11. Contact any member of the Board (address and phone numbers are located on the last two pages of this journal) and share your idea and how you want to implement it. Local clubs have demonstrated their creativity in staying connected during this pandemic, expand that activity to the regional level. "Wouldn't it be fun to....." Send your ideas to the Region 11 Board - be warned though that this is not "....why don't you...." It is "this is what I want to do, and I want to see if anyone else thinks this would be fun."

Right now, your Region 11 Board is actively searching for someone with a passion for auctions and/or sales. We need someone who can think creatively of new ways to distribute our beautiful daylilies to a wider audience while making money for Region 11.



## 2022 Oscie Whatley Seedling Competition

- by Michael Bouman, Regional Hybridizer Liaison

Bill Shoemaker in Tulsa reports that he has a bed ready to receive seedlings for the Oscie Whatley Seedling Evaluation at the 2022 Regional Meeting.

"Our Regional will be June 17th to the 19th, 2022," he reports. Shoemaker's address for mailing plants is: 206 N. Main Street, Sand Springs, Oklahoma 74063

Hybridizers can contact him by phone at: (918) 361-8322 or e-mail at <billshoemaker44@gmail.com>.

Bill asks that if you send him a plant, you contact him and let him know you are sending plants so he can expect them. The address is a flower shop that rents from Bill. He lives in the county and does not have packages delivered to his home address. "Long story," he said.

### Here are the ground rules:

**Eligibility:** A hybridizer may submit one seedling of up to five fans, and should alert the garden host if there are restrictions about using pollen of the guest seedling. Hybridizer should also state what the final disposition of the guest seedling will be; if to be returned, hybridizer pays shipping cost. Guest seedlings may not be used as pod parents.

At the time of the regional meeting, the seedling must be unregistered and have been hybridized by a person who is a living member in good standing of a Region 11 daylily club. The hybridizer must have registered at least one cultivar with AHS before the year of the Regional meeting.

**Confidentiality:** Hybridizers are expected to avoid disclosing that they have entered the competition, even if asked. Seedlings in the bed are assigned random numbers by the host to assure anonymity.

**Registration of the winning seedling:** The winning seedling is to be formally registered with AHS within one year.

# Regional News

## Garden Judges Corner: 2020 Cultivar Awards

- by **Christopher Renner**

The 2020 Cultivar Awards winners were announced on October 24 by AHS. They were streamed live and can be watched on Youtube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tsi8CFEFAMs>.

In our call for more of our AHS members to become Garden Judges, the process by which the Cultivar Awards are determined is central to our reasoning. These awards are determined by the democratic process of voting. We have 22 Garden Judges but we could have another 50! This would impact the results at a national level and help promote our regional hybridizers to the national stage. In looking at the votes for the Stout Medal, in which Garden Judges can only vote for one cultivar, Region 11 had only 12 of its 22 judges vote for this year's award. This is a disappointment. As you will read later in this edition the second most prestigious award AHS gives, the Lenington All American, is named for a Region 11 hybridizer. Region 11 has a long and proud history when it comes to contributors to daylily cultivation. We need more of our members to take the step and become Garden Judges! I know only a fraction of the cultivars listed on the ballots I vote, but that does not deter me. It challenges me to get



Sterrett Gardens photo.

**I Lava You**

out and see more gardens and learn about what hybridizers are doing. It also challenges me to have a critical eye about some of the cultivars I grow so that I bring into my garden newer varieties to help keep me up on what is happening.

The **Stout Medal** went to Sandy Holmes' 2009 introduction, H. I Lava You. It received 37 votes in total with Region 11 Garden Judges contributing only 1 vote. The region's garden judges gave their nod to H. Riot on the Kindergarten Bus with 4 votes.

For the **Award of Merit** the top winners were H. Isabelle Rose, H. One Eye Willie, H. Tidewater Elf, H. Big Bird's Friend and H. Thomas Tew. This latter cultivar is popular with our region's judges getting 8 of our votes - the most votes from a single region! Isabelle Rose garnered a total of 88 votes from 13 regions. Region 4 finds it particularly favorable where it collected 23 votes. Other contenders popular within our region were H. Barbara Mandrell (6 votes) and H. Black Panther (5 votes).

For the **Honorable Mention Awards**, Region 11 gave the most votes to a long-time favorite in many gardens, H.

Little Anna Rosa, Williamson, 1984. In total it received 22 votes from 7 regions, with 8 coming from Region 11. The top winner was H. Off to See the Wizard, Herrington-K., 2009. It received 62 votes from 10 regions, 4 of which came from Region 11. Other top winners (in order of votes received) were H. Asheville After Dark, H. Orange Clown, H. Flying Monkeys, and H. Mississippi Bill

Robinson, but Region 11 only contributed 5 votes to these winners with Asheville After Dark getting 4 of those.

Speciality Awards totals were not broken down by regions. The largest vote getter was H. Black Arrowhead (Harris Olson Spider Award) by Roberts-N., 2002, with 71 votes. H. Thomas Tew received the Don C. Stevens Award (Eyed) beating out H. Flight of Orchids 51 to 36 with Hotlanta coming in third with 27 votes. Marian Quinlan gave me H. Thomas Tew after a national convention some years ago. It is always one of the first blooms I have in my garden each season and has performed well in the garden.

So, why aren't you a garden judge? It has never been easier to be one. All the resources to become a garden judge can be found on the AHS website at <https://daylilies.org/daylilies/judges/garden-judge-resources/> Debbie Smith, Director of Judges Education, is willing to organize an online course for 2 people. Contact her at: [judgeseducation@daylilies.org](mailto:judgeseducation@daylilies.org). I'm willing to come to clubs to do the Garden Judges 1 workshop in-person (provide we adhere to COVID guidelines and do it on a Saturday or Sunday). We need YOU to become a garden judge!



C. Renner photo.

**Little Anna Rosa**



C. Renner photo.

**Thomas Tew**



# Remembering Bob...

## Bob Tankesley-Clarke: A Story That Ends Too Soon

-by Nancy Rold with Eric Tankesley-Clarke

-Photos provide by Eric Tankesley-Clark

Region 11 has lost another of the strong pillars of our community. Sadly, Bob Tankesley-Clarke passed away on September 25, 2020. His passing has touched the hearts of many as evidenced by an outpouring of sympathy and memories from across national daylily groups.

Bob Clarke was born on November 6, 1936 outside of Chicago, but grew up in Iowa and graduated from the University of Iowa. Fortunately for us, a position teaching Art and Art History at Washington University brought him to St. Louis where he met Eric Tankesley while they were both singing in a local chorus. They later sang together at Carnegie Hall with the St. Louis Symphony Chorus! Life-long partners of more than 43 years they hyphenated their last names and began a garden in their St. Louis home.

Eric already had an interest in iris. Perhaps in self-defense, Bob picked up a boxed "red" daylily at a Venture discount department store as his contribution. Eric nodded, "Go ahead, you can't kill a daylily." Unfortunately, that is just what happened when the cat got hold of Bob's first daylily! Fortunately, Bob's daylily story does not end there.



Curio, 2002

The pair made weekly visits to Shaw's Garden (Missouri Botanical Garden) and its library. There an American Hemerocallis Society (AHS) Daylily Journal caught Bob's eye. He borrowed it to peruse its contents and returned for more. Thoroughly smitten, he promptly ordered his first plants from Gilbert Wild in Reeds, MO. His current garden still holds some of



Bob Tankesley-Clarke with his introduction H. Kashan in 2003

those 1978 purchases.

A career change eventually brought the pair to the Jefferson City area. A man of many talents, Bob had a heart for senior citizens and worked as a policy writer for the State of Missouri in the Division of Aging. Bob and Eric established Adamgrove Iris and Daylily Nursery in California, Missouri. It was here that Bob began his hybridizing journey in 1982. His first registration in 1987, Adam's Apple, set the stage for a total of 223 lifetime registrations with names ranging from A to Z.

Bob loved double daylilies so it is no surprise that his inspiration came from the work of mentors David Kirchoff and Frank Kropf. His interest in miniature-small daylilies came via hybridizers Ben Hager (diploid) and Jack Romine (tetraploid). Bob knew that he did not want to pursue round flat forms, so he was also drawn to the work of local hybridizer Rosemary Whitacre, who championed the spider and unusual form (UF) daylilies. Bob's own contribution was the mixing of these interests to pioneer the spider and UF doubles. Curio (2002), Jester (2008), Jokester (2011), Lakota (2005), Prankster (2006), Prodigal (2011), Shawnee Shore (2007) and the infamous Trickster (2004) are all registered as both double and unusual forms. Trickster earned Bob the Region 11 Hybridizer



# Remembering Bob...



Shawnee Shore, 2007

Award in 2007 and was awarded an Honorable Mention (HM) by AHS garden judges in 2008.

An artist with a keen eye for color, Bob loved various touches of brown in his daylilies. Brown tones overlay many of his red, orange and yellow base daylilies. Accompanying him through his garden and slide presentations opened my eyes to the subtleties of layered color that he was painting with his genetic lines. I remember coming home from a Region 11 summer tour knowing that I had to have the rose-tinged “buff” Salvo (1993) for that reason.

Eric believes that the breadth of Bob’s work is one of his important legacies. Scrolling through the 23 pages of Tankesley-Clarke daylilies in the AHS online database, one



Kaki, 1996

finds cultivars with bloom size ranging from 1.75” (Kaki, 1996) to 8” (Volcano Tankesley-Clarke, 1998). The array of colors includes the deep wine red of Queen of the Night (1998) and the cream white Magian (2011). Garcia Lorca (2006) has captivating rose-violet tepals set off by a wide melon-gold throat. Icon (1998) is one of his few eyed cultivars. Abbey Lane

(2004) and Volcano Tankesley-Clarke were awarded the HM in 2008 and 2006 respectively. Kashan (1994) brought him the Region 11 Hybridizer Award in 2003. Eric says that Bob was probably most thrilled with Sultan (2012) a brilliant red-orange tetraploid double with a wide orange-gold edge. Ragtag (2006) was a favorite for its graceful form. Bob proudly carried a dried scape of Prague (2008) to meetings to show off the branching of an exceptional scape that carried 70 buds.

Bob began by coding his first year of seedlings with the letter A and had reached Z in the last year he was able to make his own crosses. After Bob’s

stroke, Eric would drive Bob in a golf cart amongst the daylilies so that Bob could direct him in carrying pollens to selected pistils. Today those seedling codes go to FF with many selects waiting in the garden for names. We are fortunate that Eric plans to introduce some of those tetraploid doubles and spidery diploid doubles on Bob’s behalf.

Bob may have come to AHS for the flowers but he definitely “stayed for the people” as so many of us have. He made quite an impact on those people.

Bob was generous. Bob gave freely of his time and gardening knowledge. He spoke at meetings around the country and always made time to patiently and enthusiastically answer the questions of those new to daylilies. He made people know that they mattered to him. He was a mentor to many. He visited my garden annually, shared keen observations and gifted me with plants he knew would further my hybridizing goals. His very vigorous cultivar Score (2008) has become an important parent in my lines. Ann Redmon considers Bob and Eric among her favorite



Volcano Tanksley-Clarke, 1998



# Remembering Bob...

daylily people through the years. She has a select tetraploid seedling out of his Middle-earth (2004). Patty Waterman was inspired and encouraged by Bob. Her 2019 Slivers of Sunshine and another future are from his Cuckoo (2006).

Bob was passionate in his service. Bob put his all into any task he took on. He served our local club as President several times. He had good ideas and was willing to work to bring them to fruition. He advocated for more of us to become garden judges and facilitated trainings. He was a great encourager during Columbia's 2011 regional meeting. He served faithfully as an exhibition judge at our flower shows right up through our most recent show in 2019. As a clerk I lowered each specimen into his view at the wheelchair and he would quickly offer his observations and opinion on points to the rest of the panel. He seemed to especially love judging the seedling entries.

Bob was a promoter. Bob cared deeply about Region 11 and wanted the rest of the country to know about the wonderful people, gardens and hybrids in our region. He encouraged regional hybridizers to get their work seen in other regions by guesting plants and donating to out-of-region auctions. He knew that we needed a platform from which to promote our region and when elected as Region 11 President (2003-2006) he quickly put together an organizational meeting to share his vision of a Region 11 off-season meeting that could be similar to the symposia he had attended in other regions. Thus, the Winter Gathering was born in Joplin, MO! He wanted it to start in Joplin because of the geographic proximity to all 3 states and because there was no club to serve that area of the region. In later years the Winter Gathering moved to the Kansas City area to provide nearby airline service for national/international speakers. Since its inception, the Winter Gathering auctions have generated considerable revenues for the region which support our high quality MoKanOk publications. The Winter Gathering is also a showcase for regional hybridizers. Regular attendees from neighboring states of Arkansas and Iowa as well as occasional visitors from more distant regions have joined us and learned about the great things happening in Region 11. Most important to all who attend, Bob's vision has allowed us a relaxed venue in which to get to know our fellow gardeners from across the region as dear friends.



Sultan, 2012

As Region 11 President, Bob made it a goal to travel to a meeting of every club in the region. Frieda Alexander remembers that he encouraged a small group of individuals to start the Ozark Daylily Society in Springfield which now serves the gardeners of SW Missouri. He went to their first two meetings and helped lead and direct them through the process of starting a daylily club. He was one of their first guest speakers and he enthusiastically provided a wealth of information about daylilies and the regional programs and activities. He donated many daylilies to help start the garden at their Botanical Center. He remained available to answer any questions as they moved forward with the club. It seems only fitting that a memorial service for Bob is planned for the summer of 2021, hopefully in that Springfield garden.

In 2008, Bob was recognized for all this tremendous service to the region with both the Wilma Award and the AHS Region 11 Service Award.

We hope that this overview has sparked your own fond memories of our dear friend through the years, Bob Tankesley-Clarke. He will be greatly missed.

# Tributes to Bob...

**-by Paul Owen (originally sent as an e-mail to Lois Hart, edited)**

I first met Bob when he spoke at a R2 Winter Meeting nearly 20 years ago, and it wasn't hard to notice he was also a bit different, so we hit it off from the start! He really didn't like to fly, which I think led to your mentioning he was a major hybridizer "in R11" - somewhat a hidden gem, for sure. We always had fun together, but it wasn't until I was on a road trip with Ron Azzanni from St. Louis to Overland Park (to do a schtick there for the R11 annual soiree) that I truly got a chance to learn much more about Bob's breeding program... as we picked him up on the way. For all those hours to and fro, as well as time at the convention, I was totally blown away.



C. Renner photo.

**Prague (2008)**



E. Tanksely-Clarke photo.

**Trickster (2004)**

hero of R11... the late Frank Kropf. Since I happened to have met Robin Calderon at that same meeting (God, ya just can't help but LOVE a gal with her work ethic!) who was maintaining a lot of Frank's work... I hit her up for as many of Frank's doubles as I could as well. Once I had a chance to see Frank's plants in action (my fave being

For years before that event, I'd grown frustrated with trying to find UF doubles that could survive in zone 5 (where I spent my first decade breeding dl's, and still breed for to this day), and had rather figured it was a lost cause. As you might guess, Bob had a LOT to say about that... so after getting home, we exchanged a bevy of plants we'd been working on. He sent me several of his AMAZING UF's (my fave was "Prague"), as well as two absolute dynamo performing UF doubles... "Prankster", and "Trickster". The latter two were totally amazing to me because they not only were rock-solid hardy, but it was the first time I'd seen a UF double that had lateral branching (and not the typical "terminal W" top branching that drives me insane).

Bob had explained to me that his work was based primarily on yet another somewhat unsung

"Double River Wye"), I could indeed see how Bob drew out what he wanted - it all made sense.

For me, their flowers have a more "startling" look to them than other UF doubles (a lot of which come from the Joiner family lines) that are more "soft" looking... though the latter had better foliage, they were very tender and terminally branched. It's taken 3 generations of blending these lines now, to really feel like I've gotten anywhere... but it's odd to me that Bob would pass the very year I'd introduce my first from these efforts that he set forth - "Hemerogasm". A heady name, I know... but I think Bob would have liked it (for some reason), and besides, it was HE who taught me that one-word names are SO much easier to deal with!

With just this one goal, I've ridden over 25K seedlings to their death over the past 16 years... but you should see my selection beds now! Thanks to Frank, Bob, and Robin... I've been incessantly entertained, and I'm definitely grateful for all they've done... Sorry to barge in like this after not having written in years, but I just needed everyone to know that Bob was more than a "major hybridizer in R11." His vision is still VERY much alive and well here in R15, and now spreading throughout the north (at last!) daylilies.

**- By Michael Bouman**

I remember the visit to Region 11 Paul wrote about. Paul was a speaker and energized auctioneer at our February Winter Gathering, maybe 2011. Bob showed pictures of his new daylilies Sunday morning.

When I first started collecting daylilies in the 1990s, Bob and Eric's Adamgrove catalogue was something I read every year. I got to know them in the late '90s and enjoyed growing a sample of plants that Bob sent me several years later because he wanted more exposure. Those plants did really well for me! My personal favorite of his is AYR. Don't know why, just something about its personality in the garden.

Bob had a gentlemanly demeanor when talking about his daylilies, and one sensed right away that there was encyclopedic knowledge of the merits and demerits of every plant.

Bob and his partner Eric were very particular about photography, meticulously careful about lighting, composition, color. When AHS launched the Portal in 2011 I approached Eric about pictures, and he sent me a disc with nearly everything Bob had done.

Then a year or so later, Bob was disabled by a stroke and Eric provided the kind of care we would all hope for. Eventually Bob was able to return to our Winter Gatherings and participate in roundtable discussions in the limited way that was possible for him. I am so sorry we lost him, but sorrier still that he lost his life. He was "present" when with people, always engaged and attentive. I think anyone who knew him carries a spark of something positive because of that association.



# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

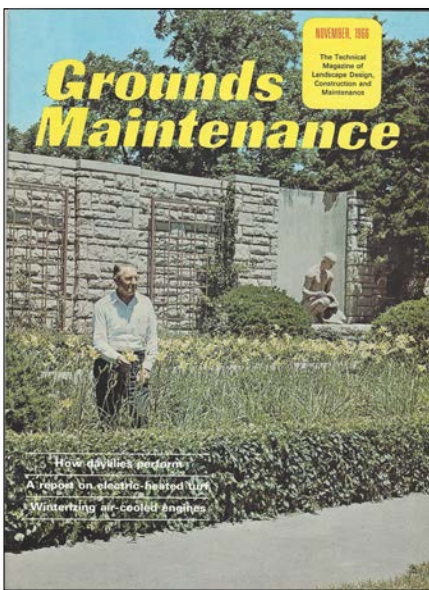
*In 1946 a group of people came together to start an organization that we continue to endeavor in fulfilling their vision. Along the way many people have contributed to its advancement and continued success in diversifying the genetic gene pool that creates our beloved daylilies. Many important hybridizers have come from our region and their work continues to influence the modern daylily. We explore three in this edition - all of whom have awards names after them - and others will be explored in future editions of the MoKanOk because knowing our history helps us make meaning out of the present and envision what the future can be.*

## The man from Kansas City: George E. Lenington

by Gayle Yelenik

George E. Lenington was born in 1902 in Chicago, reared in Kansas, and settled in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1936. He was the son of Grace and Charles Lenington who ran a small nursery. George grew up in a family that encouraged the love of flowers. He often said “he learned his love of flowers through enforced periods of weeding as a child.”

Lenington began studying floriculture at the University of Kansas but had to leave school at the end of his second year due to financial difficulties. In 1946, after a seven year association with the home office of the Kansas City Life Insurance Company, he became superintendent of their building and grounds. A mutually satisfying arrangement was made to beautify the grounds with 260 daylilies from his own collection. This garden was located at 3535 Pennsylvania.



Lenington on the cover of *Grounds Maintenance*, Nov. 1966 (Lenington family archive)

In addition to creating this display garden of his daylilies, George Lenington involved the public in helping to evaluate these plants. He recognized and emphasized that there should be different considerations in evaluating a daylily seen on a display table at a competitive flower show and evaluating how a daylily performs in the garden throughout the day. He believed that guidelines were needed to



Lenington with his seedlings (Lenington family photo)

objectively evaluate daylily cultivars for their vigor and hardiness, not just for their beauty. Visitors to the gardens were given an opportunity to evaluate daylilies that were identified by numbers, not by names. Then they received a sheet that revealed the names of the plants.

Mr. Lenington's passion for and knowledge about daylilies led him and his family to many significant achievements in and contributions to the world of daylilies, both on local, regional, and national levels. He was very pleased that his wife, Lucille, and his son, Bob shared his interest. He was also proud that Bob majored

# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

in horticulture at the University of Missouri, later hybridizing and registering a daylily named Mizzou!

Among other highlights:

- George Lenington was one of twelve members who served on the first Board of Directors for the national Hemerocallis Society, predecessor of the American Hemerocallis Society, thus being a charter member.
- He was elected to be the third President of AHS, serving from mid-1948 to mid-1949. He also served as Secretary and Treasurer of the national Society as well as editor of its publications. During his tenure as President, ten regions were established. The intent was to convert a midwest organization started in Shenandoah, Iowa, in 1946, into a national daylily society.
- George Lenington was a hybridizer and made his first registration in 1951. In all, he registered 139 daylilies. Seven of his cultivars achieved Awards of Merit.
- In 1952, Lenington Nurseries in Kansas City, Missouri, was founded by his son, Robert, who had just graduated from college with his horticulture degree, and by George and his wife and hybridizing partner, Lucille.



Red Thrill, Lenington-G., 1984  
Photo by Christopher Renner



Going Places, Lenington-G., 1981; Honorable Mention 1988 (Lenington family photo)



# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

- A fourth member joined their team when Alice Marie married Bob in 1953. Bob and George continued working in their Kansas City jobs during the week and worked in the gardens on weekends. Lucille and Alice



White Formal, Lenington-G., 1965  
Award of Merit, 1972; Honorable  
Mention 1969; Lenington All American  
1977

Photo by Christopher Renner

worked in the gardens during the week, while Alice also took care of her and Bob's two children.

- Lucille Lenington registered 82 daylilies. Their son, Robert Lenington, registered one daylily.
- George E. Lenington was the 1955 recipient of the Helen Field Fischer Medal. This medal is the Society's highest personal award given in recognition of distinguished and meritorious service rendered the Society by one of its members.
- In 1970, he received the Bertrand Farr Medal for outstanding contributions in the field of hybridizing.
- George Lenington established and funded the Lenington All-American Award, with the first award given in 1970. This award is given annually to the daylily voted the best performer over a wide geographic area by the members of the ADS Board of Directors.
- He won his own award in 1977 with the cultivar, White Formal.

## Still True 72 Years Later!

When Lenington was President of the national Hemerocallis Society in 1948-1949, he wrote the following in an open letter to members:

*"In these hectic high-speed days of political speeches, world unrest and jet propulsion, don't you get a lot of satisfaction out of your garden? After a trying day at work and with my blood pressure up several points because of material shortages, high prices, or other present day complications, the quickest and surest way for me to find relaxation and forget my troubles is to put on old clothes and get out in the garden.*

*There I find a calm assurance that the world is still O.K. - in the feel of the soil and the beauty of the flowers. In every sprouting seed and each unfolding bud there is a promise of something new - something better; a better day - a better world."*



Lenington Gardens in 2020. Photo by Dylan Manning.



# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

## Wilma Bryant: A “True Horticulturalist”

- by Ann Large

The Central Oklahoma Hemerocallis Society was established on July 11, 1958 in the greater Oklahoma City area, with Wilma Bryant being a founding member. In addition, she was a founding member of Tulsa Area Daylily Society, known as TADS, founded within the last 20 years. She truly loved her passion for daylilies and was a “true horticulturalist” according to her lifelong friend, Peggy Estes.

Wilma was a lifetime member of AHS and both an Exhibition Judge and Instructor and Garden Judge. The AHS database of cultivars credits Wilma with 77 registered daylilies under the name of Bryant-E, which was her husbands’ first name initial, typical of women in the 60’s and 70’s. Her first daylily was a diploid by the name of “Rockabye” and introduced in 1962. Although Wilma previously hybridized many daylilies, this was her first registered introduction.

Later in life she started registering her daylilies as Bryant-W and AHS credits her with 40 additional introductions. Her plants were always diploids but she did purchase Tets for her display garden. In the beginning, she focused of small and miniature cultivars but later expanded her selections. In Midwest City, she lived in a small, quiet neighborhood and on a corner lot so lots of people noticed her gardens. Her garden was always pristine



Fantasy World, 1985  
(photo by Brenda Jindra)

with 600 display plants in the front and side, along with sometimes as many as 1,500 seedlings in the back. She collected large rocks everywhere she went and her beds were neatly outlined. There is one thing you’ll never see in a heartland garden. Planted in the very back, against a fence, on the center of her property line was a huge California Redwood! She told me she regretted planting it only because of the root system. Her house was unmistakable.

True to most every plant person, Wilma grew a variety of plants. The huge pine tree in her front yard was understored with 50 to 70 hostas. She belonged to the American Hosta Society, the Japonica Garden Club of



Wilma Bryant, June 1995 (photo by Brenda Jindra)

Midwest City and the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society.

Wilma won numerous awards for her introductions throughout the years. In 1986, she won the AHS Region 11 Hybridizer’s Award for “Winter Ballet” and she won again in 1988 with “Fantasy World”. She told us her favorite cultivars were “Cantique” (a lot of people still grow this), “Scarlet Gown” and “Winter Ballet”. With her sidekick, Peggy Estes, they attended all regional and national meetings while they were in good health.

Wilma and Peggy were known through AHS and many called them “the Oklahoma Girls”! Wilma held many COHS offices, including being our President.



Summer Wind, 1982  
(photo by Brenda Jindra)



# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

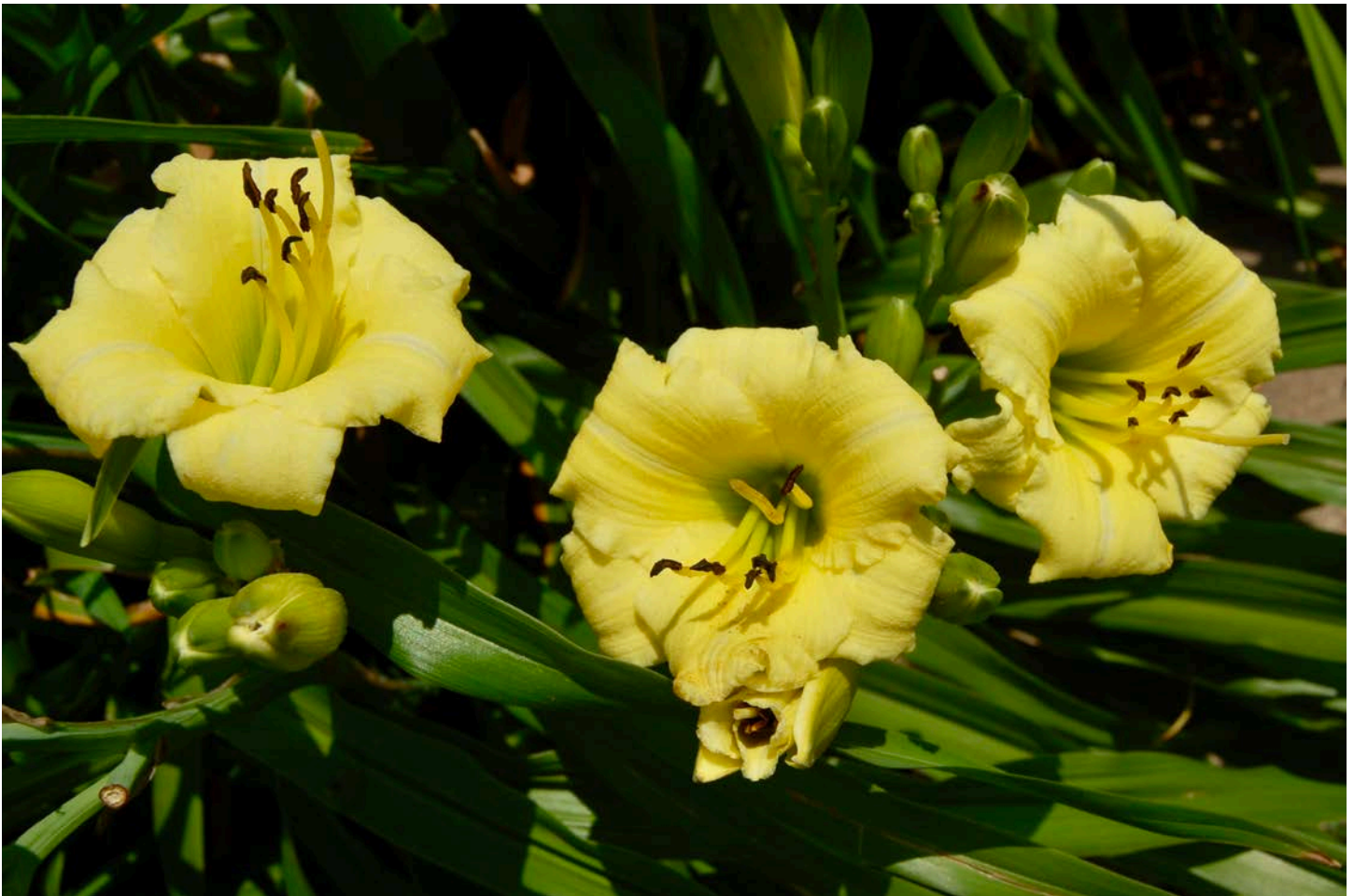


Snow Elf, 1974  
Honorable Mention 1980  
photo by Brenda Jindra

In her later years she was our perpetual “Parliamentarian” and a stickler for the rules of order and our by-laws. She served positions at both AHS national conventions in Oklahoma City and numerous positions during our regional meetings. Wilma was always generous to open her garden for touring.

In the early 2000’s, COHS decided to sponsor in perpetuity, a regional award. A committee thought long and hard on just what the name of this award should be. We decided to honor our 2 outstanding Oklahoma hybriders Wilma Bryant and Wilma Marley. And now you know where “The Wilma Award” got its name for the best grown clump at a regional meeting.

Wilma passed away on June 11, 2005. How fitting it was daylily season. Her casket spray was a collection of her beloved daylilies from her own yard. Wilma left her collection of daylilies to her club and we were honored with her generosity. It’s our hope that Region 11 will continue to grow and acquire beautiful daylilies hybridized by Wilma Bryant. It is also our hope that our region might be able to help populate the AHS database with photos of Wilma’s cultivars. Enjoy Wilma’s daylilies as photographed by Brenda Jindra.



Tiny Clouds, 1999; photo by Brenda Jindra

# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

## Oscie Whatley and the Modern Daylily

- by Michael Bouman

- photos by Michael Bouman unless otherwise indicated.

When Oscie B. Whatley, Jr. burst into national prominence in 1968 he had been hybridizing for twenty years and had registered only one daylily, JOMICO, that same year. His backyard garden in Florissant was on the AHS National Convention tour. His selected seedlings ignited a firestorm of interest.

This write-up of the tour appeared in the Fall 1968 issue of *The Daylily Journal*:

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

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



Whatley in Pettus Garden at the 1968 National Convention; photo from the AHS archives

*their color class and if Mr. Whatley doesn't introduce them, we mal all get up in arms. I don't know what he used to get them but he sure hit the jack pot. It would be hard to choose the best but it would possibly be Whatley 64-Y-03. Oh how I would love to stroll out and find one like that in my seedling patch...The outer edge of the garden was up on a higher area...There were more of those beautiful ruffled Whatley seedlings up there so I ventured on up. It was worth the climb as they all had such strong well branched scapes and such heavy substance.*

Seedling Y-64-03 was "Jakarta" and would be registered in 1969. Oscie told me this story about how it launched him onto the scene.

There were a lot of big daylilies then, but they were unsymmetrical.

JAKARTA was obviously different, and it threw symmetrical seedlings. When the tour bus arrived at my house, a southern woman stepped out with a crowd of people who were watching every move she made. She took a long look at JAKARTA and asked in a loud voice, "how much do you charge for that



Jakarta, 1969

plant?" I had never charged more than \$5 for a plant, but I decided to ask her what she thought it was worth. She said, "I'll give you \$50 for that plant" and I said, "It's yours!" Before the bus pulled away I had sold nine pieces of that plant at \$50. Nobody at the convention had offered to buy my plants until she did. After that, my plants were in demand."

I suspect the "Southern Woman" was Julia Hardy of Mt. Olive, Alabama, who had launched "Doc" Branch's HORTENSIA on the fast track to the Stout Silver Medal. She may have recognized the qualities of Branch's best work in Oscie's seedlings. After all, Oscie built on Branch's SOLO and Wild's WINNING WAYS to produce his jaw-dropping diploids.

Oscie was born in 1923 and grew up on his family's plant nursery in Longview, Texas. He trained as a pilot in St. Louis during World War II and flew transport aircraft in the European Theatre. While in training, he met and married Dorothy Henderson in November 1943. After the



# Historical Hybridizers of Region 11

war, he attended college and became a manufacturing engineer with McDonnell-Douglas. In 1947 he was a 24-year old father of two, making his first daylily crosses in University City, just west of the St. Louis city limits.

I came to know Oscie when I moved to St. Louis after bloom season in 1995. I had no knowledge of the plants that had made him famous, but I knew he was important in the world of daylilies. I helped him plant his seedling crops thereafter. In 1996 he gave me six of his introductions and when I saw them in bloom I was awed. I decided to try to build on what he had done. When he passed away, the family gave me access to his garden notebooks and papers and 35mm slides. In 2017 I assembled scans of the notebooks and wrote four lengthy "study guides" to his hybridizing records. These materials, along with other things I have written about Oscie, are available for download from my web site at [www.daylilylay.com/library/index.htm](http://www.daylilylay.com/library/index.htm).



Candor, 1988

Consider this: his first three registrations went on to win the Award of Merit within six years. He won awards for four of his next six diploid registrations from his 1968 tour garden.

But Oscie Whatley in 1968 had already moved away from diploid hybridizing. Since 1961 he and his friend Harold Harris, together with George and Jane Pettus across town, had been learning to double the chromosomes of germinating diploid seeds. They had jumped on the tetraploid bandwagon. Oscie had his second generation of tetraploid seedlings in the garden by 1968 and he had already converted seeds from the future "Jakarta." One of those became his first tetraploid registration, BELLERIVE (1971).

For the next thirty years Oscie was a major contributor to

progress in developing the genetic potential of the hybrid daylily. He became expert at converting diploid plants rather than seeds, and his drive for unique genetics led to a succession of conversions of the best diploids.

Typically he would demonstrate the value of a conversion with one new registration and then move on to something else.

He put together an inexpensive starter kit with instructions for doing conversions and sold these to other hybridizers, including me. After receiving the Bertrand Farr Award for his contributions to hybridizing in 1984 he wrote a series of articles on "The Art of Hybridizing" for *The Daylily Journal* in 1988. He continued to produce stunning, distinctive daylilies until his death in 2005 at the age of 82. His cultivars earned more AHS awards than those of any other individual hybridizer in Region 11.

People who know his daylilies will disagree about which are the best of any color class. He loved vibrant color, healthy and vigorous plants, big flowers.

He preferred to work for plants that looked great across his big back yard, so there was no investment of time in fancy patterns because he felt they had no impact from a distance. He tolerated inconsistent bloom only if the daylily was a showstopper on its best days. Hence, if you grow RAM you will understand that its color power and size changed Oscie's world. If you grow PARABOLA you will see its signature dome-like appearance only once in a while. But if you grow BUTTER CREAM, I doubt you will ever let it out of your garden.



Butter Cream, 1998



Great Expression, 1994

# In Memoriam

## Remembering Sharron Gregory

- by Jan Capps

Prairie Winds Daylily Society lost a pillar in our club this year. Sharron Gregory passed away on March 30th. She and her husband, Harry, had been founding members of PWDS and worked tirelessly doing whatever jobs were needed to be done. She loved daylilies and grew around 300 different hybrids. Two of her favorite hybridizers were Tim Herrington and Melanie Mason of whom she spoke of often and had several hybrids. Sharron loved



Sharron Gregory

going to Winter Gathering and the various Region 11 Summer Conferences. Meeting different hybridizers and talking to them about the goals they were trying to achieve with their new crosses was a highlight. Oh, and also, touring all the beautiful gardens! Sharron and Harry's gardens were on the Region 11 Summer Conference in 2008 and won The Wilma Award for the best grown daylily, Egyptian

Ibis. Their backyard is an oasis of daylilies snuggled around a fishpond with a waterfall, and many bird feeders.

Sharron and Harry joined Wichita Daylily Society soon after they moved to Wichita, and Sharron held various offices through the years to come. She became a garden judge and spent many hours critiquing the different daylilies in many gardens. In the Spring of 2009, they were asked to be the editors of the MoKanOk Magazine



Butterfly Garden at Botanica; photo from Botanica

which they did until 2012. When Prairie Winds Daylily Society was formed, Sharron was its driving force. She was always ready and willing with whatever duty was to be done. Along with her time spent with our club, she became a valuable Docent at Botanica, The Wichita Gardens. She worked in the Butterfly Garden, the Children's Library, and studied to become knowledgeable of the Chinese Garden. Due to her expertise, when Botanica had a tour coming to visit the Chinese Garden, they would call Sharron to give the tour. Sharron had also become a Docent at the Sedgwick County Zoo, which also was a soft spot in her heart. Sharron also loved birdwatching and accompanied Harry on trips to Arizona, Texas, Washington and Maine as well as many nearby birding spots.

Sharron's legacy will live on in so very many ways. Her gardens, Botanica, the Sedgwick County Zoo, and her many friends who will miss her dearly.



## Region 11 on Facebook:

Please join the Region 11 community on Facebook to share photos of your clubs' activities and your gardens. Join at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/489706981093136/>



# Regional Display Gardens

## The Region's Newest Display Garden

- by **Laura Ross**

When we moved back to Lawrence, Ks. from Los Angeles, CA, one of the things on my "must have" list for a house was enough space to garden. After spending 2 years on the West Coast where my garden consisted only of pots, I wanted a yard larger than a postage stamp. The house we chose was almost a blank slate and

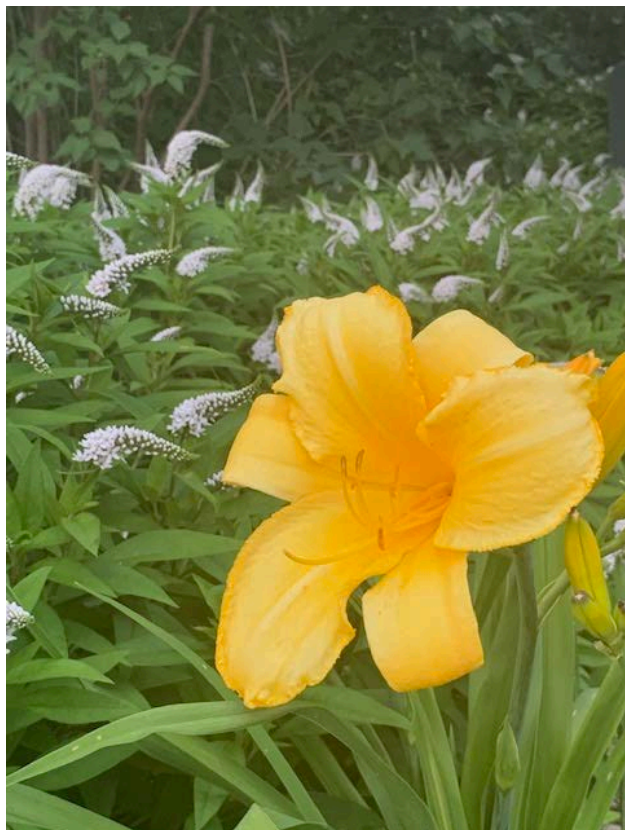
sat on corner lot. To quote Steve Amy, "never met a plant that I didn't like" so began my "collecting" - my husband calls it "hoarding."

Before I joined the American Daylily Society, I thought I had a great collection of daylilies. I had 15. I would scour local nurseries for different cultivars. After receiving my first issue of *The Daylily Journal*, I about died. There were SO MANY daylilies.

In February 2019, I went to a Lawn and Garden show in Topeka, KS. It was there I joined the local club. I was so thrilled to go to meetings and be with others who like daylilies as much as I do. That summer I went to my first summer Regional meeting. I had a blast! I enjoyed touring everyone's garden and meeting people from different areas. It was there that I decided I wanted to have a display garden.

One of the things I hate hearing when I talk to people is the response to my love of daylilies. "I don't like those old ditch lilies." I want to show people that there are so many different types, colors and styles of daylilies to choose from. I believe gardens are meant to be shared and enjoyed.

Please feel free to stop by and wander anytime. Just call, text or email so I can give my husband the heads up to expect some company. Tel: 424.247.3133. E-mail: [lauraross95@gmail.com](mailto:lauraross95@gmail.com).





# Regional Club Happenings

## Central Missouri Daylily Club

-by Nancy Rold

CMDC was able to hold its annual picnic and sale using recommended virus precautions this year. Members dug, cleaned and labeled a nice assortment of plants. Many of the cultivars had been dug from the garden of the late Julia Semon last spring and fostered all summer by members.

On Friday evening a few members chose contact-free plant drop off and waved to all from the parking lot. Others brought their own meals and spread out at picnic tables to linger and enjoy each other's company after shopping the pre-sale offerings.

President Carol Schultz treated us to honey ice cream cups from a local beekeeper. It was great to get caught up with daylily friends after six months without a meeting.

Saturday found us setting up booths at both farmers' markets in town. The markets had instituted COVID precautions all season and we had the usual brisk

business. It feels so good to see beautiful flowers being dispersed to gardens throughout the area.

Our October meeting has been postponed to April 2021. Terry and Ashton Lopp will present their hybridizing programs.



Debbie Nix at Boone County Farmers' Market Sale

## Ozark Daylily Society

-by Beverly Long

Our club was able to maintain three activities despite the virus-imposed restrictions.

We were able to continue working in our Daylily Beds at the Botanical Center - a wonderful form of socializing and social distancing. Thanks to wonderful weather and care of the beds by a dedicated group of club members led by Cindy Arrowood, our daylilies were in full bloom and spectacular over the Fourth of July weekend. Many community members visited the gardens and were very pleased with our display. We anticipated another month of beautiful daylilies. However, our new nemesis - the free ranging deer decided they wanted dessert and cleared our beds the following week. Because the deer continued to return nightly -we were forced to install clear fences around each bed. In most cases they worked but occasionally the deer tore through the fences and took down plant signs to reach their treats. We will continue working with the Garden and trying other methods of addressing the deer problem.

Our second major activity resulted from a gift to the club by one of our members, Cliff Garland, who is



Alice Havard, Wayne Merrill and Debbie Nix;  
photo Nancy Rold.



# Regional Club Happenings

downsizing his daylilies. He gifted the club with over one hundred daylily plants. We rent spare beds at the Springfield Community gardens - so the club has planted them and will care for them for use in future sales and other club activities. We truly appreciate this generous donation.

The one event we kept on our calendar was the annual Picnic and Members Daylily Auction which was held on September 13. Minus the picnic, thirteen members attended our auction in the well-spaced and shaded corner of the Botanical Center's outdoor roof garden. Walt Long had ordered some beautiful and unusual daylilies from Gregg Connell Favorite Things Daylily Gardens in Resaca Georgia and club members all eagerly bid for their favorite daylilies.

We're beginning to create a calendar of hopeful events for next year.



Connie Ernett with one of her creations at Botanica;  
Jan Capps photo

## Prairie Winds Daylily Society

*-by Jan Capps*

This year has been the year of uncertainties! One minute we can meet and the next we can't, one minute we can have snacks and the next, we can't! It has surely been a difficult year to make any plans!

We had our June meeting sitting in lawn chairs on a members driveway. It was a gorgeous evening so that



Prairie Wind members with Connie Ernett;  
Jan Capps photo

worked out great! I think everyone was just ready to socialize and talk about daylilies - a great diversion!

In August we celebrated the club's 12th birthday. Terry Pitts, a Region 11 hybridizer, spoke to us about growing bigger and better daylilies and also showed pictures of his 2020 introductions. They are outstanding - you won't want to miss them!

Then in September we were fortunate to have Connie Ernett, give us a tour of her artwork that is part of Botanica. Most of her pieces are bronze, however, she also has pieces in other medias such as cement, tree branches, and wood. We were all very excited to see her work and hear about her inspirations! Our October meeting is the last meeting before our winter break. We usually have a potluck dinner and evening of bingo at Botanica, but we've already been told that will not happen. So, next month will be another adventure!!!

## Bluestem Daylily Society

*-by Faye Woodson*

I am sad to tell you that the Bluestem Daylily Society will be disbanding effective December 31, 2020. We have struggled for the last few years to maintain membership and felt it was time to make this decision.

Thank you everyone for your support and encouragement over the years.



# Regional Club Happenings

## MoKan Daylily Society

by **Connie Snow**; Photographs by **Gayle Yelenik**

Long-time Mo-Kan member and daylily friend, Zena Purdum, died on September 27th. Zena was 97 years old and an avid gardener and daylily addict for many of those years. She was a mentor to several of us in Mo-Kan and was always generous with her gardening and daylily knowledge, expertise, and time. She was also generous with sharing daylilies with her family and friends. Zena hybridized daylilies and registered one, Tom Collier (Purdum-Collier, 2006.) Her dear friend, George E. Lenington, named a daylily in her honor: Zena



Zena Purdum; Gayle Yelenik photo



Zena, Lenington-G., 1985

(Lenington, G., 1985.) Zena used to jokingly say that she was like her namesake, a late bloomer!

Zena once served as a Mo-Kan officer as Secretary. Her Raytown garden was once on tour when Mo-Kan hosted the Region 11 summer meeting. She often welcomed members to visit her gardens on Mo-Kan tours, even as she made moves and downsized her gardens. Her passion for daylilies and gardening was always strong, and there was never a good reason NOT to buy more daylilies, no matter her age or how many she had. We will really miss her kind and optimistic spirit.

Congratulations to Lois Hart, current Mo-Kan Daylily co-president. She has

served our club for years in multiple officer positions and with her expertise. She is one of our best go-to members and a valued officer and liaison of Region 11 and ADS. She now has a flower named just for her! Dan Bachman just registered one of his NEW daylilies as, H. 'LOIS HART' (Bachman, 2020). Lois said she picked out the introduction that is now named after her.



Lois Hart, Bachman, 2020

Members completed moving our Loose Park Garden bed daylilies. They will now be located in three different locations at Loose Park and will be more visible to park visitors. The club sold divisions from those plants to club members. The funds will help with club activities, a yearly student scholarship(s) to various universities in Missouri and Kansas that have agricultural programs, Region 11, and stipends to three local charitable organizations selected by our members.

Future club meetings and activities to be worked out. In person meetings are iffy, as our meeting place only allows 14 attendees in at any one time. If we are able to hold our December meeting, we will vote on club officers for the next two years, 2021 through 2022 and hold our annual photo contest. In May we might have a flower auction outside at Loose Park.



Tom Collier, Purdum-Collier, 2006



# Regional Club Happenings

## Central Oklahoma Hemericalis Society

**-by Kathy Scurlock**

Of course, COHS in the Oklahoma City area had to cancel all our spring activities, like everyone else. We did, though, organize a one day local tour on Saturday, June 20 to visit four member's gardens, our display garden at Will Rogers Park and Bobby Scott's business in Yukon. We wore masks and drove our own cars and sadly did not meet for lunch as we have done in the past. Not everyone was able to make it to every garden, but overall,



Dean Reusser Garden

approximately 15-20 people joined our tour. We even had two visitors from the Tulsa group, which was a nice surprise! The member's home gardens we visited were Dollie Glover, Theresa Beecham, Dean Reusser and Judith Miracle. We thank them for their hospitality! Bobby Scott generously dug and gave away a very nice sized daylily fan to everyone from

our tour that came to his nursery. He had a great selection of other sunny and shady perennials for sale there, as always.

By September, after cancelling everything except for our outdoor local garden tour in June, our club was eager to hold our September meeting. Our special guest hybridizer, Tim Bell from Sycamore, Georgia, had been scheduled to come to Oklahoma City for our May meeting, but we rescheduled for September and hoped for the best. It was the BEST!! Of course, we took masking and distancing precautions and suspended our usual pot luck meal, but had a very good turnout, considering! We even had three members that drove down from Tulsa to attend!

Several members took Tim to an early dinner in Bricktown and enjoyed discussing growing and hybridizing daylilies in greater detail and gaining information and tips. His presentation at the meeting

was full of beautiful pictures of his gardens and plants with lots of laughter and funny stories. The laughter seemed especially welcome during these trying times. He brought nearly a hundred plants to auction and gave our group a great opportunity to enjoy many of his lovely registrations. Seven of his plants will be added to our group's Display Garden at Will Rogers Park. Even though we didn't have our usual dinner, one of our



Tom Bell

members, Theresa Beecham, prepared individual sacks with sweet treats inside for everyone to take home.

In October, which is our last meeting of the year, we had plan to have our meeting with a Member's auction as a fundraiser. Our members would have been bringing increases from previous door prize plants and other daylilies and perennials from their gardens to donate to the auction, but our board voted and decided that it was too much of a Covid risk at this time. Our next meeting will be in February of 2021, hopefully!

## Tulsa Area Daylily Society

**-by Sheila Baker**

The Tulsa Area Daylily Society (TADS), like everyone else, has been unable to have regular meetings, shows or sales. We have managed to figure out ways to keep the group active in spite of Coronavirus.

We met at the home of Bill and Cherry Shoemaker to distribute our Nesting Daylilies. They have a lot of outdoor space for everyone to spread out and social distance. We had a great time picking out our daylilies and also getting to see the amazing daylilies in the Shoemaker gardens.

TADS members also put together a very impromptu garden tour. We toured five different members' gardens and even managed to have a surprise birthday cake for

# Regional Club Happenings

Marilyn Clay. The gardens we toured were: Marvel Barron, Marilyn Clay, Josh Winzer, Linda Morton, Sheila Baker, and Bill and Cherry Shoemaker. Everyone had very different gardens and a wide variety of beautiful daylilies. We all had a really good time visiting at a distance and getting to enjoy some of the members' gardens.

Since we were unable to have our live member auction of daylilies, which were purchased along with the Nesting Daylilies, our Board came up with the idea



TADS impromptu garden tour



TADS new display beds at the Tulsa Garden Center

of having a Facebook auction. Each week different daylilies are posted on the TADS Facebook site and members can bid on them for a few days. This has been very successful and fun for the members.

The most exciting news we have is the fact that we were able to establish Display Daylily Beds at the Tulsa Garden Center. We were given four beds in a prime area of the Tulsa Rose Garden

and we have been working on filling them up with beautiful daylilies. Due to social distancing, we have had a very small group doing the bed prep and planting. Club members Kathryn Earle, Linda Morton and Sheila Baker have been working together to bring this project to fruition. We all look forward to seeing the fruits of our labor next summer.

We look forward to the day when we can return to our meetings and activities, but until that day comes, we will continue to come up with inventive ways for our club members to interact.

## Wichita Daylily Society

*-by Dennis Zitterkopf*

The Covid-19 pandemic modified the Summer Plans for the Wichita Daylily Club (WDC). Our plans for presentations by different growers and hybridizers were all cancelled. We enjoyed a June daylily garden tour courtesy of two of our members. We were unable to have our regular June meeting so began posting photos of member submitted photos of their daylilies on our Facebook page.

Planning for the July meeting was interesting - the meeting was planned and announced and then we learned Botanica was open only during limited day time hours. Meeting was cancelled followed by learning the communication about daylight only hours was incorrect, so members were again informed the meeting would occur. An auction of many Region 11 hybridizers plants was conducted including Ivory Plume by Jim Fry. Attendance was sparse but we persevered and decided the August meeting (usually our Birthday celebration meeting) should be cancelled due to the rapidly changing situation with Covid-19 in the city.

The yearly daylily sale did occur on 29 August jointly with the local Hosta Club, Daffodil Club and the Rose Club. Members were asked to wash and prepare their own offerings for the sale - normally we have a communal wash and preparation activity but we changed our mind due to the virus concerns. The sale was well attended.

Botanica has remained closed for the evening so the September meeting was an afternoon gathering, again a sparse crowd but everyone enjoyed being together again. Our next meeting will be 12 Oct, 2:00pm, in Botanica. Our bylaws require we have elections for Officers in October so the meeting will be brief - except for any new business or announcements that are known about.

A guided tour of the newly refurbished Joyland Amusement Park carousel area will occur after the business meeting. That alone will hopefully entice many to attend the brief business meeting, so we've



# Regional Club Happenings

encouraged members to put that on their calendar now! Botanica currently requires the wearing of masks and social distancing.

Theodore (Ted) Eberly passed away on August 25, 2020. Ted and his wife Jan joined the Wichita Daylily Club in 1984 and Ted served as Club President in 1997. Both Ted and Jan were active members of the club and were always busy with their students. He will be missed.

## Greater St. Louis Daylily Society

-by *Josh Wilson*

Like most clubs, the Greater St. Louis Daylily Society hasn't been able to hold meeting or host events this year. However, this has given us the opportunity to try something new, and move our annual auction online.

We were able to set up a website and run 168 auctions over 7 days. Each day some auctions would close and new plants would be put up for auction. Each day there would be about 34 running auctions for members to bid on. After the final day of the auction, members who won plants were able to travel to an outdoor pick up location to pay for and collect their plants. Considering how quickly we were able to change the auction format and set everything up. It was very much a success story for the club.

To finish out the year we will be doing a Zoom club meeting, and continuing the tradition of showing off club member gardens in a slide show of 2020 highlights. Hopefully next year will bring in person meetings and good health for everyone.

## Topeka Daylily Club

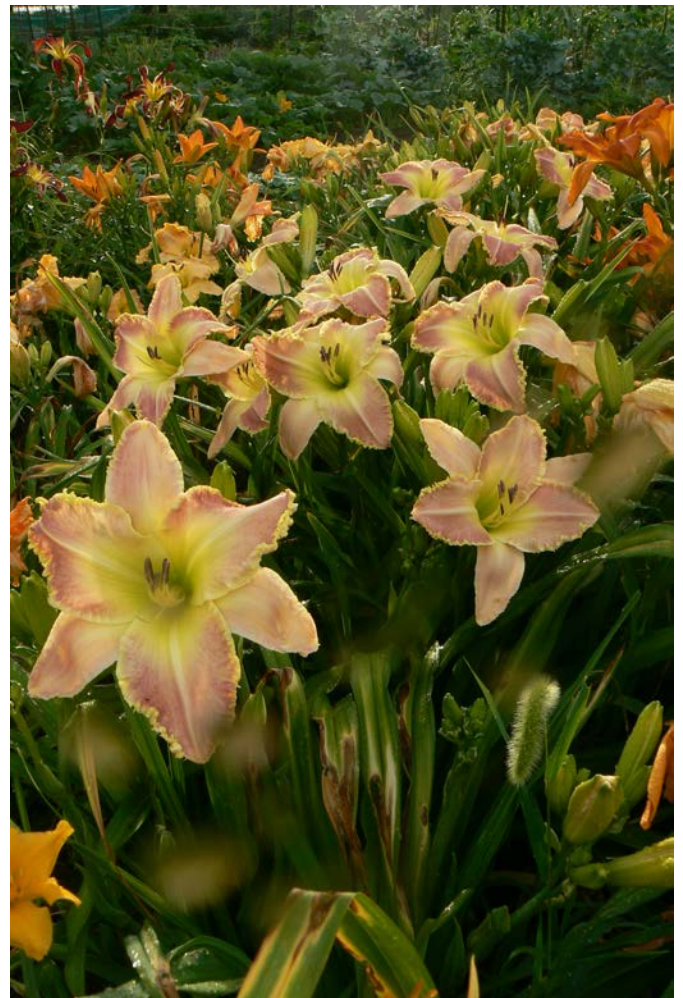
- by *Debra King*

We have, unfortunately, not been able to have our usual meetings as we continue to social distance and follow guidelines set up by our area. We've done our best to continue to share our love of the daylily through our Facebook page by sharing members photos from their gardens. We have been enjoying those gardens that have had some late blooms and some reblooming plants. A couple of those pictures shared were one from Jim and Helen Fry's garden of "Sensational Six" taken in September and one from Debra and Jeff King's garden of "Mary's Baby" taken late in the day in October.

## Flint Hills Daylily Society

- by *Laura Hall*

The Flint Hills Daylily Club is continuing preparations for the 2021 Regional. The club has rented a plot from the Community Gardens the last two years. Bus and Registration plants were planted and are flourishing. Some auction plants were also planted both at the Community Gardens and at Shirley Masterson's garden. Club members have met several times this summer to weed and tend the plot. Ann Redmon has the adjoining plot filled with her seedlings and has watered the FHDS plot thru out the summer. All we need now is a COVID free summer in 2021 so we can share our bounty with those attending the 2021 Regional.



A Perfect Vision blooming in the bus plant beds this summer.

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