

*Daylily Growers
of Dallas*

CELEBRATES
FIFTY YEARS
with
'Dallas Legacy'



Hemerocallis 'Dallas Legacy' (Hansen-D. 2008)



Daylily Growers of Dallas

Special History Booklet Celebrating Fifty Years, September 20, 2008

DGD Celebrates Fifty Years: 1958 - 2008

By *Binion Amerson*

The Daylily Growers of Dallas was organized September 25, 1958 as the Hemerocallis Growers of Dallas. At that first meeting, 17 individuals were in attendance. Founder was Lula Mae Purnell. In addition to Lula Mae, known charter members include: Bertie Ferris Bon Robertson, Avilda Roquemore, and Lucille Warner. Avilda Roquemore is the only living charter member.

But Wait! We may actually be older. A second club—the Dallas Hemerocallis Society—was established in January 1957. We know that it still existed as a separate club as late as 1969. It is still a mystery as to its disappearance.

The first Society member from Dallas in 1947 was Dr. Lloyd H. Shinners, Director of SMU's Herbarium. His name does

not appear in American Hemerocallis records beyond 1947. Late 1940s members include Mrs. William H. Benners, Mrs. L. R. Hogg, Mrs. Laura R. Jones, C. M. Nevitt, Mrs. P. A. Rawlins, and Mrs. Gross R. Scruggs. And, according to AHS Registration Archives, there were daylily hybridizers in the Dallas area as early as 1945 (by Mrs. Raymond C. McIver), 1948 (by Mrs. Alex Vaught), 1951 (by Mrs. L. R. Hogg), and 1953 (by Mrs. L. O. Butler). With the formation of daylily clubs and the popularity of the flower, more and more hybridizers appeared in the Dallas area beginning in the late 1950s.

Early records were lost with the disappearance of the "Club History Scrapbook." By spring 1983, the name had been changed to the Daylily Growers of Dallas. From 1959 to 1991 the club existed as two groups—the

Big Dee Unit (which met in the day) and the Fluorescent Unit (which met at night). Each group had its own Chairman and there was an overall President. Since January 1992, DGD has met as one daytime club. See Page 3 for a list of all Presidents and Unit Chairmen.

The DGD has been very active in the AHS and in AHS Region 6 activities through the years, having held AHS National Conventions twice (1965 and 1977) and AHS Region 6 Meetings seven times (1959, 1970, 1979, 1982, 1989, 1998, and 2005). Daylily Growers of Dallas has produced two AHS Presidents: Bertie Ferris (1969) and Kay Day Pricola (2000-2001).

The DGD has produced four AHS Helen Field Fisher Gold Medal Award winners:

Continued on Page 2

H. 'Dallas Legacy' (Hansen-D. 2008)

By *Binion Amerson*



H. 'Dallas Legacy' (Hansen-D. 2008)

In celebration of the Daylily Growers of Dallas 50th Anniversary, Dan Hansen of Lady Bug Daylilies in Florida has registered a new daylily cultivar. It is named *Hemerocallis 'Dallas Legacy'* (Hansen-D. 2008) and is being given by DGD to all members in attendance at the September 20, 2008 DGD Meeting.

Description. EV 24" Midseason 6.5" Recurrent. Round, flat, ruffled, near white to pale pink, yellow watermark and green center. 5-way branching, 25 bud count, fertile, great vigor, outstanding garden plant!

(MANDALAY BAY MUSIC x MICHAEL MILLER) x tet TUSCAWILLA SNOW-DRIFT. Combination of Jeff Salter, Pat Stamile and Ra Hansen's programs!

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DGD's History: 1958 - 2008

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(Lula Mae Purnell (1966), Bertie Ferris (1970), Virginia Henson (2003), and Kay Day Pricola (2007). This is the highest personal award presented by AHS.

DGD has produced one AHS Bertrand Farr Silver Medal Award winner: Ury Winniford (in 1983). This national award is given for outstanding daylily hybridizing. Ury Winniford produced one AHS Stout Silver Medal Award winner: *Hemerocallis 'Bertie Ferris'* and one AHS Donn Fisher Memorial Award winner: *H. 'Bertie Ferris'* (in 1973). He also produced one AHS Annie T. Giles Award winner: *H. 'Little Greenie'* (in 1978).

For AHS Region Six, DGD has produced 11 AHS Region Six Service Awards winners. Lula Mae Purnell won the award in 1977. Charlyene Owen won in 1978. Ury Winniford won in 1979. Bertie Ferris won in 1981. Joyce Lewis won in 1988, Virginia Henson won in 1991, Tom and Kirksey Hughes won in 1993, Gene and Eloise Koonce won in 2000, and Kay Day Pricola won in 2003.

DGD members Joyce Lewis won the AHS Newsletter Award in 1984 and Keith Kinney won the Award in 1997. This Award is presented to the best Regional Newsletter throughout AHS.

The AHS Tricolor Medal Award was won by DGD members Mrs. Martin McMillan in 1964, by Mrs. W. Shelbie Dodd in 1964, and by Gary Wooley in 1991, 1994, and 1995. This Award is presented annually to an AHS member whose artistic floral design is judged best of the tricolor winner of AHS Accredited Flower Shows (see Page 4).

Special Note About DGD's History

Thanks go to Ken Cobb (former AHS President and present AHS Archivist), Ray Houston (AHS Region Six Archivist), and DGD members Tim Closs, Virginia Henson, Cecilia Perez, and Helen Reynolds. Thanks also to Eddie and Mary Gage and Anna Rosa Glidden. All provided useful information.

Dallas has been in the national spotlight twice, having held the AHS National Convention here in 1965 and 1977. The 1965 Convention was headquartered at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel just north of downtown and there were nine gardens on tour and five others that were open gardens. The 1977 Convention was held at the Hilton Inn on North Central Expressway. There were six gardens on tour. Both Conventions had Regional Flower Shows.

Dallas has been host to the AHS Region Six Meeting seven times: 1959, 1970, 1979, 1982, 1989, 1998, and 2005. The Daylily Growers of Dallas also sponsored the AHS Region Six Flower Show held in Nacogdoches in 2007. See Page 5 for Convention and Meeting details.

DGD has published a newsletter for its members since it was started in October 1984 by Helen Reynolds. The name was changed to *The Hem Line* in a contest. There have been primarily five editors. Read all about this on Page 5.

There have been a total of 52 daylily hybridizers who belonged to DGD or who lived in the Dallas area. Ury Winniford and his wife Elna registered more than anyone with a total of 232 daylilies. They were followed by Lucille Warner with 115 and Portia McIver with 80. See Page 8 for a complete hybridizer listing.

During the early years, DGD met at member homes. As membership grew, larger space was needed. At first, we met at the Republic Bank on Mockingbird. In September 1984, the Fluorescent Unit began meeting at the Ridgeway Recreation Center on Fisher Road. In September 1985, they met at the George B. Dealy Recreation Center on Royal Lane. In October 1985, they met at the Wyatt Cafeteria in Northlake Shopping Center. By March 1986, the Unit started meeting at the Samuel Grand Recreation Center on East Grand. The Fluorescent Unit met there the First Thursday of the month at 7:30 P.M. and the Big Dee Unit met on the Second Thursday of the month at 10

A.M. In October 1991, both Units decided to meet as one group. In January 1992, the meeting place was moved to the Skillman Church of Christ. Later it was moved to the Highland Park Cafeteria at Garland Road and Buckner. Since 1995, DGD has been meeting at North Haven Garden Center, Northaven Road on the third Saturday of each month from September thru May at 10 A.M.

The annual "Pea Patch Party" holiday celebration, at which the club furnishes the ham and turkey and the members bring their favorite side dish, started in December 1985 at the Lanham home. This traditional party has been held at member homes ever since that date.

Plant sales were first held at Wolfe Nursery located at Mockingbird and Abrams. In recent years, spring and fall plant sales have been held at the North Haven Garden Center. Flower Shows have been held at various places, including the Dallas Civic Garden Center in Fair Park, shopping centers, and most recently at the Dallas Arboretum.

Stories and short biographies of past, present, and future DGD leaders are detailed starting on Page 9. If I have left anyone out, please forgive the compiler of this Special DGD History Booklet.

Original articles about DGD past leaders start on Page 22. Thanks to all who have made this adventure into DGD's varied history very exciting and rewarding.

Do you have old AHS, AHS Region Six, and/or DGD newsletters or mementoes? If so, send them to *The Hem Line* Editor Binion Amerson (972-241-1726) or to the Librarian/Historian Helen Reynolds (214-341-1034). Please share them with all of us.

The Hem Line

Submit plant tips and other articles for *The Hem Line* to:

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DGD: Past Presidents and Unit Chairmen

By Binion Amerson

Daylily Growers of Dallas:

Main Unit

The following is a list of the main unit of the Daylily Growers of Dallas. During the first 36 years, the President served for one term. Since 1999, the President has usually served two terms.

Year	President
1959	Mrs. Richard (Bon) Robertson
1960	Mrs. Marcel Jones
1961	Mrs. Henry S. Keough
1962	Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris
1963	Mrs. Martin (Ida) McMillan
1964	Mrs. Hugh A. (Lula Mae) Purnell
1965	Mrs. James K. Kerr
1966	Mrs. Alvin H. (Marietta) Mosse
1967	Mrs. Edwin L. Cunningham
1968	Miss Margaret Johnston
1969	Mr. Tom J. Hughes
1970	Dr. Robert P. Miller
1971	Mr. Ury G. Winniford
1972	Mrs. W. S. (Gertrude) Lanham
1973	Mrs. C. Neal (Loree) Meagher
1974	Mrs. W. Shelbie Dodd
1975	Mrs. Clara Murdock
1976	Mr. Jack Bradley
1977	Mr. Kenneth H. Henson
1978	Mr. Ury G. Winniford
1979	Mrs. Hugh A. (Lula Mae) Purnell
1980	Mr. Kenneth H. Henson
1981	Mrs. William D. (Charlyene) Owen
1982	Mrs. Kenneth H. (Virginia) Henson
1983	Mrs. I. D. (Natalie) Thompson
1984	Mr. Joyce W. Lewis
1985	Mrs. Al H. (Peggy) Hammel
1986	Mrs. W. S. (Gertrude) Lanham
1987	Mrs. John I. Moore
1988	Sara Blauman
1989	Wynelle Clifton
1990	Mrs. Harold (Helen) Reynolds
1991	Mrs. M. J. (Ruth) Ratliff
1992	Mrs. Patricia Kyser
1993	Mr. Gary D. Wooley
1994	Mr. Gene Koonce
1995-1996	Mrs. Kenneth H. (Virginia) Henson
1997-1998	Mrs. Kay Day Pricola
1999-2000	Mr. Barron Bozeman

2001	Mrs. Gene (Eloise) Koonce
2002-2003	Mr. A. Binion Amerson, Jr.
2004	Mr. Jerry Arledge
2005-2006	Mr. Lee Causey
2007-2008	Mr. Tim Closs

DGD: Big Dee Unit

Few records exist for the early history of the Big Dee Unit—DGD's day-time club. However, it was named in honor of Mrs. L. R. (Eva B.) Hogg's cultivar *Hemerocallis* 'Big Dee' (Hogg 1951).

Year	Chairman
1959	Mrs. George W. (Cleo) Hopkins
1960	Mr. Richard Robertson
1961	Mrs. Hugh A. Purnell
1962	Mrs. Marcel Jones
1963	Mrs. Milton F. Berry
1964	Mrs. William K. Russell
1965	Mrs. Randolph Jansonn
1966	Miss Florence Peak
1967	Mrs. Martin (Ida) McMillan
1968	Mrs. W. Shelbie (Maybelle) Dodd
1969	Mrs. C. Neal (Loree) Meagher
1970	Mrs. R. A. Elkins
1971	Mrs. Clara Donnelly
1972-1973	Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris
1974	Mrs. Clara Murdock
1975	Mrs. F. B. Riek
1976-1977	Mrs. W. Shelbie (Maybelle) Dodd
1978	Mrs. W. S. (Gertrude) Lanham
1979-1980	Mrs. Elmore M. (Dora) Klenk
1981-1982	Mrs. I. D. Thompson
1983-1984	Mrs. M. J. (Ruth) Ratliff
1985-1986	Mrs. Morgan L. Tittle
1987-1988	Mr. Joyce W. Lewis
1989	Mrs. Wynnaline Stinson
1990-1991	Mrs. Kenneth H. (Virginia) Henson

DGD: Fluorescent Unit

Few records exist for the early history of the Fluorescent Unit—DGD's night-time club. It was named in honor of Mrs. Raymond C. (Portia R.) McIver's cultivar *H.* 'Fluorescent' (McIver 1954).

Year	Chairman
1959	Mr. Martin McMillan
1960	Mrs. Henry S. Keough
1961	Mrs. Jewel Crudup
1962	Mrs. Fred B. Shelton
1963	Mrs. Lohman Burris
1964	Mr. Ury G. Winniford
1965	Mrs. Alvin H. (Marietta) Mosse
1966	Mrs. A. D. (Avilda) Roquemore
1967	Dr. Robert P. Miller
1968	Mr. Tom J. Hughes
1969	Mrs. Jay E. (Lucille) Warner
1970	Mrs. W. S. (Gertrude) Lanham
1971	Mrs. William K. Russell
1972	Mrs. C. Neal (Loree) Meagher
1973-1974	Mr. John H. Barr
1975	Mr. Jack Bradley
1976	Mrs. Alvin H. (Marietta) Mosse
1977	Rev. W. Francis Craig
1978-1979	Mr. Tom J. Hughes
1980-1981	Mrs. Kenneth H. (Virginia) Henson
1982-1983	Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris
1984	Mrs. Alvin H. (Marietta) Mosse
1985-1986	Mrs. Gene (Eloise) Koonce
1987	Mr. Bruce Pool
1988-1989	Dr. Keith Savage
1990-1991	Mrs. Bruce (Donna) Pool

Dallas Hemerocallis Society

The Dallas Hemerocallis Society was organized at the home of Mrs. Hugh A. (Lula Mae) Purnell with 17 charter members in January 1957. This group hosted the AHS Region Meeting in 1959 and assisted the DGD in hosting the 1965 AHS National Convention.

Year	President
1963	Mrs. J. W. Hoffman
1969	Mrs. Stephen Testa

DGD: Personal, Hybridizer, and Other Awards

Compiled By Binion Amerson

AWARDS AND HONORS

Members of the Daylily Growers of Dallas have won many award and honors through the years. The following is a summary of those awards.

CULTIVAR AWARDS

Stout Silver Medal

The Society's highest cultivar award as voted by Garden Judges. Given annually.

- **1980 Hemerocallis 'Bertie Ferris'** (Winniford)

Donn Fischer Memorial Award

Annual award given for outstanding miniature flower (under 3"). Voted by Garden Judges.

- **1968 Hemerocallis 'Bitsy'** (Warner)
- **1973 Hemerocallis 'Bertie Ferris'** (Winniford)
- **1974 Hemerocallis 'Squeaky'** (Winniford-H.)
- **1990 Hemerocallis 'Texas Sunlight'** (Lewis-J.)

Annie T. Giles Award

Annual award for the most outstanding small flower (3" to 4.5") as voted by the Garden Judges.

- **1978 Hemerocallis 'Little Greenie'** (Winniford)

Ida Munson Award

Annual award given for the most outstanding double flower as voted by the Garden Judges.

- **1977 Hemerocallis 'Pojo'** (Winniford-E.)

PERSONAL AWARDS

Helen Field Fischer Medal

The Society's highest award, given as official recognition of distinguished and meritorious service rendered the Society by a member. Voted on by the AHS Board of Directors

- **1966 Lula Mae Purnell**
- **1970 Bertie Ferris**
- **2003 Virginia Henson**
- **2007 Kay Day Pricola**

Bertrand Farr Medal

A distinguished honor reserved for members who have attained outstanding results in the field of hybridizing. Voted by the AHS Board of Directors.

- **1983 Ury G. Winniford**

AHS Region Six Service Award

A limited number of regional Service Awards are given annually by the AHS Board of Directors to members who have performed outstanding service at the regional level.

- **1977 Lula Mae Purnell**
- **1978 Charlyene Owen**
- **1979 Ury G. Winniford**
- **1981 Bertie Ferris**
- **1988 Joyce Lewis**
- **1991 Virginia Henson**
- **1993 Tom and Kirksey Hughes**
- **2000 Gene and Eloise Koonce**
- **2003 Kay Day Pricola**

Regional Newsletter Award

Plaque given annually to the editor of the best regional newsletter. Selected by the AHS Board from committee nominations.

- **1984 Joyce Lewis, Region 6**
- **1997 Keith Kinney, Region 6**

AHS Tricolor Award

A special award in the Artistic Floral Design Division, given annually to the AHS member whose arrangement is judged best of the tricolor rosette winners of AHS accredited flower shows. Selection by a panel of National Garden Club Accredited Flower Show Judges. Selection is made on the basis of submitted photographs.

- **1964 Mrs. Martin McMillan**
- **1974 Mrs. W. Shelbie Dodd**
- **1991 Gary D. Wooley**
- **1994 Gary D. Wooley**
- **1995 Gary D. Wooley**

PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS

Mildred Schlumpf Award

Given annually for the best color slide in each of two categories:

Single Bloom:

- **1973 Ken Henson**

- **1974 Ken Henson**
- **1996 Gene Koonce**
- **1998 Gene Koonce**
- **1999 Gene Koonce**
- **2003 Kay Day Pricola**

Landscape:

- **1995 Bobbie Castlebury**
- **1997 Bobbie Castlebury**

A. D. Roquemore Memorial Award

Given for the best slide of a daylily clump. Named in honor of DGD member A.D. Roquemore.

- **No winners by DGD Members.**

Sara Sikes Slide Sequence Award

May be given annually for the best color slides of a sequence of events involving daylilies.

- **1996 Gene Koonce**
- **1998 Gene and Eloise Koonce**

CONVENTION AWARDS

Florida Sunshine Cup

Awarded annually to the hybridizer of the best miniature or small flowered cultivar displayed in a convention tour garden. Determined by vote of convention attendees.

- **1975 Hemerocallis 'Snoopy'** (Warner)
- **1977 Hemerocallis 'Pat Hudson'** (Hughes)

Region 6 Annie T Giles Award

Presented for the best seedling or pre-registered seedling hybridized by a member of the host club. Determined by vote of Meeting attendees.

- **1959 Mrs. Raymond C. McIver Hemerocallis 'Meadowood'**
- **1970 Ury Winniford Hemerocallis 'Bertie Ferris'**
- **1982 Joyce Lewis Hemerocallis 'Ginger Cookie'**
- **1989 Ken Henson** (seedling not registered)
- **1998 Aileen Castlebury Hemerocallis 'Castle Rose Belle'**
- **2005 Lee Causey** (seedling not registered)

Note: Material from the AHS Web Site, Awards and Honors.

DGD: More Awards and Items of Importance

Compiled By Binion Amerson

MORE CONVENTION AWARDS

Region Six Malcolm Collie Award

Region Six Edna Lankart Award

Presented for the best unintroducted seedling by a Region 6 hybridizer who is not a member of the host club. In 1987, the Malcolm Collie Award was replaced by the Edna Lankart Award.

- **1971 Herman Winniford Hemerocallis ‘Squeaky’**
- **1972 Joanna Lewis Hemerocallis ‘Vonette Bright’**
- **1974 Martin McMillan Seedling S-92-68-B2**
- **1983 Joyce Lewis H. ‘Albuquerque Memory’**

AHS Bertie Ferris Youth Endowment and Scholarship

The AHS Bertie Ferris Youth Endowment and Scholarship was established in 1993 by the AHS Board of Directors. Applicants must be AHS youth members in good standing with two consecutive years in the AHS. They must be graduating seniors in High School with a minimum 2.9 GPA entering colleges, universities or technical schools. The course of studies must be in Horticulture, Botany, Plant Physiology and other plant sciences. AHS awards two \$1,000.00 scholarships yearly. The first award was presented in 2002.

DGD ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

DGD’s Newsletter: *The Hem Line*

The first newsletter for the Daylily Growers of Dallas, dated October 1984, was simply called *Daylilies*. It contained a letter from the Chairman of the Fluorescent Unit which said that “At the June meeting...we voted to undertake the cost of a monthly newsletter. We are going to have a contest to find a really snappy name for our bulletin. At the October meeting we will vote on the titles that have been submitted. The winner will receive a really good daylily variety from Mr. and Mrs. Joyce Lewis.” The November 1984 issue revealed the new name—*The Hem Line*—and the winner of the new name was Jim Kyser. Helen Reynolds was the first editor. She contin-

ued as editor even while she was President. Keith was editor starting in March 1991. Gary Wooley became editor in 1992. Binion Amerson became editor in 1995. Anne Simpson was editor in 2002-2003. Binion resumed as editor in December 2003 and continues to the present. The DGD newsletter was originally produced by mimeograph machine or by copy machine and mailed to all members. With the advent of the Internet and Adobe Acrobat software, the newsletter has been emailed to members with computers as a PDF file and mailed as hard copy only to those without email.

DGD Scholarship Program

Since September 2003, the Daylily Growers of Dallas has sponsored college scholarships to deserving young people from the horticulture program of Naaman Forest High School, Garland Texas. To date, over \$15,000 has been awarded.

Joan Dodge Memorial Scholarship

Since 2003, the Joan Dodge Memorial Scholarship is awarded to any student enrolled in a horticulture program at a Dallas County Community College

Out-of-Town Meeting Speakers

Over the years, the Daylily Growers of Dallas has brought in a number of major daylily hybridizers and dignitaries to speak at our meetings. In recent years, we have shared these speakers with the North Texas Daylily Society of Fort Worth (NTDS). The speaker would be at the NTDS Meeting on Thursday night and then at the DGD Meeting on Saturday morning. These guest speakers have greatly enhanced the knowledge of our DGD members. The list of out-of-town speakers include:

- Bill and Mary Anne Ater, Texas
- Mark Carpenter, Texas
- Nell Crandall, Texas
- Eddie and Mary Gage, Texas
- Anna Rosa Glidden, Texas
- Bridey Greeson, Texas
- Dan Hansen, Florida
- Ra Hansen, Florida
- Curt Hanson, Ohio

- Matthew Kaskel, Florida
- David Kirchoff, Kentucky
- Mort Morss, Kentucky
- John Peat, Toronto
- Ted Petit, Florida
- Ned Roberts, Colorado
- Rich Rosen, Texas
- Bob Scott, Oklahoma
- Leo Sharp, Florida
- Dave Talbott, Florida
- Bob Tankesley-Clarke, Missouri

DGD Honorary Members

The DGD Bylaws provide that Honorary Membership may be conferred upon those members whom the Society wishes to honor. The current DGD Honorary Members are:

- **Virginia Henson.** Longtime AHS member and DGD Past President (1982 and 1995-1996) See Page 17.
- **Kirksey Hughes.** Longtime AHS and DGD member. See Page 13.
- **Patricia Kyser.** Longtime AHS member and DGD Past President (1992). See Page 15.
- **Joyce Lewis.** Longtime AHS member and DGD Past President (1984). See Page 16.
- **Ralph Pinkus.** Owner of North Haven Gardens and longtime daylily and DGD friend.
- **Kay Day Pricola.** AHS Past President (2000-2001) and DGD Past President (1997-1998). See Page 17.
- **Avilda Roquemore.** DGD Charter Member and longtime AHS member. See Page 13.
- **Neil Sperry.** Noted KRLD Radio Garden Talk Show Host and longtime friend of daylilies and DGD.
- **Wynnaline Stinson.** Longtime AHS and DGD member. See Page 15.

DGD: AHS Convention and Meeting Notes

Compiled By Binion Amerson

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1959

The second Meeting of Region 6 of the AHS met at the Tower Hotel Courts, Dallas, on June 11, 12, 13, 1959. That first program is included in the Regional Scrapbook. It was lots of fun and people came. On Thursday, June 11, seventy-five people registered and cars were sent to the Dallas Garden Center to see the Flower Show, hosted by the Dallas Hemerocallis Society and from 5-7 that afternoon a school for Exhibition Judges was held, with a Dutch Treat supper and brag night to follow. Friday morning buses loaded and the following gardens were visited: Mr. and Mrs. Milton Berry, Mrs. Richard Robertson, Mrs. Nata Yound, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh A. Purnell - box lunch, Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Norton, and Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Wheeler.

At 7 o'clock Mrs. Hugh A. Purnell, Convention Chairman, called upon Mrs. J. W. Hoffman for the Invocation and Mrs. Richard Robertson for the welcome, with Mrs. A. M. Tallman of Fort Worth responding. Mrs. Purnell then introduced all of her committees, and then turned the meeting over to Miss Annie T. Giles, Regional Vice-President, to conduct the Regional business and final organization plans, inviting the group to meet the following year in Austin.

There was more to come - for on Saturday morning June 13, the buses loaded for visits to gardens of: Mrs. Mary Redman Irving, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. McIver, Mr. and Mrs. Jay E. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Roquemore, and Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Jones with a chuck wagon barbecue. At 2:30 that afternoon a beautiful Tea was held at the home of Mrs. Royal A. Ferris. A number of other gardens were also open to visitors.

An exact quote from Annie's Newsletter sent out to boost the above Meeting: "The Annie T. Giles Trophy will be awarded for the first time at our Dallas meeting. This is a rotating Trophy awarded as a visitor's choice to a local seedling, voted best by the out of town

members attending the Regional Meeting."

Note: The above was extracted from "Once Upon A Time" by Lula Mae Purnell which appeared in the October-December 1977 issue of the *AHS Region 6 Newsletter*.

AHS National Convention: 1965

The AHS National Convention and the Region Six Meeting was held in Dallas at the Sheraton-Dallas Hotel in the Southland Center on June 9 - 12, 1965. Tom J Hughes was General Chairman and Bertie Ferris was Co-Chairman. Gardens on tour were:

- Mrs. E. M. Klenk, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Martin McMillian, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Roquemore, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Jay E. Warner, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Weinberger, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Cunningham, Irving
- Mr. and Mrs. Grover B. Ledwell, Dallas
- Mrs. Hugh A. Purnell, Dallas
- Mrs. Richard Robertson, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. L. Mabry Adams, Cleburne
- Hughes Garden, Mansfield

Open Gardens were:

- Norton Garden, Dallas
- Miss Grace Cameron
- Mrs. Royal A. Ferris (Bertie), Dallas
- Mrs. Alvin H. (Marietta) Mosse, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Ury G. Winniford, Dallas

A Region Six Flower Show "Texas Glorious Daylilies" was held on June 9. Luncheons were held at the Dallas Garden Center in Fair Park and at the Dallas Country Club. Evening functions were held at the Hotel.

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1970

The AHS Region Six Meeting was held in Dallas at the North Park Inn, near North Park Shopping Center on June 5 - 6, 1970. General Chairman was Mrs.

Hugh A. Purnell and Co-Chairman was Mrs. W. D. Owen. Flower Show Chairman was Mrs. Marcel Jones. Gardens on tour were:

- Ury and Elna Winniford (and son Herman) Garden, Dallas
- M. W. Norton, Jr. Garden, Dallas
- Mrs. William K. (Marge) Russell Garden, Carrollton
- Mr. and Mrs. C. Neal Meagher Garden, Dallas

Open Gardens were:

- Mr. and Mrs. Jay Warner, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Roquemore, Dallas
- Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris, Dallas
- Dr. Robert Miller, Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Martin McMillan, Dallas
- Mrs. Richard Robertson, Dallas
- Hughes Garden Mansfield

Evening events were held at the North Park Inn.

AHS National Convention: 1977

The 31st Annual Convention of the American Hemerocallis Society was held in Dallas on June 9 - 11, 1977 at the Hilton Inn, North Central Expressway, Dallas. Miss Margaret Johnston was Chairman and Mrs. W. S. Lanham was Vice Chairman. Gardens on tour were:

- Mr. and Mrs. I. D. Thompson, Seagoville
- Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth H. Henson, Dallas
- Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris, Jr., Dallas
- Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris (home), Dallas
- Mr. and Mrs. Jay E. Warner, Dallas
- Mrs. William K. (Marge) Russell, Dallas

Open Gardens included:

- Hughes Garden, Mansfield
 - Mabry Adams Garden, Cleburne
- A Region Six Flower Show "Hemerocallis in Dallas" was held on June 9. Luncheons were held at the Dallas Garden Center in Fair Park and at Brookhaven Country Club. Evening functions were held at the Hotel.

DGD: More AHS Convention and Meeting Notes

Compiled By Binion Amerson

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1979

The AHS Region Six Meeting was held in Arlington, Texas at the Holiday Inn, June 6 - 9, 1979. Gardens on tour were:

- Hughes Garden, Mansfield
- Peggy Hammel Garden, Euless

Open Gardens included:

- Loree Meagher Garden, Dallas
- Lucille and Jay Warner Garden, Dallas
- Ury Winniford Garden, Dallas
- Bertie Ferris Garden, Dallas
- Ken and Virginia Henson Garden, Dallas

Lunches and evening events were held at the Holiday Inn Hotel.

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1982

The AHS Region Six Meeting was held in Dallas at the North Park Inn June 4 - 5, 1982. Ken Henson was the Meeting Chairman. Virginia Henson was Co-Chairman. Gertrude Lanham was Chairman of the Flower Show. Gardens on tour were:

- Peggy Hammel Garden, Euless
- R. L. Morgan Garden, Dallas
- Ury Winniford Garden, Dallas
- Ken and Virginia Henson Garden, Dallas
- Bertie Ferris Garden, Dallas

Lunch on Saturday was held at the Dallas Civic Center. Evening events were held at the North Park Inn.

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1989

The DGD hosted the AHS Region Six Meeting in Dallas at the Colony Parke Hotel, at North Central Expressway and Mockingbird Lane on May 25 - 27, 1989. Meeting Chairman was Natalie Thompson. Gardens on tour were:

- Peggy Hammel Garden, Euless
- Jack Bradley Garden, Ft. Worth
- Ft. Worth Botanic Gardens, Ft. Worth
- Dana Jackson, Ft. Worth (storm damage)
- Ury Winniford Garden, Dallas
- Bertie Ferris Garden, Dallas
- Ken and Virginia Henson Garden, Dallas
- Thompson Garden, Seagoville

Open Gardens were:

- Lucille and Jay Warner Garden, Dallas

• Loree Meagher Garden, Dallas
Luncheons was held at the Botanic Garden Center in Ft. Worth and the Colony Parke Hotel. Evening events were held at the Hotel. The Program cover was an original daylily sketch by Wynelle Clifton; she used pink, rose, and green watercolors to hand paint each cover.

AHS Region Six Meeting: 1998

The DGD hosted the AHS Region Six Meeting and Flower Show "Big Time in Big D" at the Harvey Hotel, 1600 North Central Expressway in Plano June 4 - 6 1998. Eloise Koonce was General Chairman and Gene Koonce was Flower Show Chairman. President was Kay Day. Gardens on tour were:

- Robert and Diane Land Garden, Oaks Point
 - Bobbie and Aileen Castlebury Garden, Paris
 - Binion Amerson Garden, Farmers Branch
 - Barron Bozeman and Diane Taylor Garden, Mesquite
 - Ron and Barbara Cohea Garden, Garland
 - E. L. and Wilma Smith Garden, Allen
- Open gardens were:

- Bonnie and Hooker Iris and Daylily Garden, Dallas
- Mabel Matthews Hurst Park Daylily Garden, Hurst

The Flower Show and evening events were held at the Harvey Hotel.

Dallas-Fort Worth Meeting: 1999

The Daylily Growers of Dallas and the North Texas Daylily Society of Fort Worth held a joint meeting on September 18, 1999 at the Grapevine Convention Center, 1209 South Main St., Grapevine, Texas. Speakers were Dr. Ted Petit and John Peat, who told us about their tetraploid hybridizing programs. Ted Petit is famed for his Le Petit Jardin, McIntosh, Florida. John Peat is from Toronto, Canada at Cross Border Daylilies. They grow their cultivars in Florida and test them for hardiness in Canada.

Dallas AHS Board Meeting: 2001

The Daylily Growers of Dallas hosted the Fall 2001 American Hemerocallis Society Board Meeting October 26 - 28, 2001 at the Harvey Hotel in Irving, Texas. DGD members got to meet our out-of-town guests on Saturday evening at a Reception and Barbecue Dinner at AHS President Kay Day's home in Flower Mound.

AHS Region Six Meeting: 2005

The DGD hosted the AHS Region Six Meeting at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel, LBJ Freeway and Josey Lane in Farmers Branch June 3 - 4, 2005. Binion Amerson was Chairman and Malcolm Avaritt was Co-Chairman. Gwen Pennington was Flower Show Chairman. Lee Causey was DGD President. Tour gardens were:

- Binion Amerson Garden, Farmers Branch
- Jerry Arledge Garden, Richardson
- Lee and Anita Causey Garden, Flower Mound

Open gardens were:

- Barron Bozeman and Diane Taylor, Mesquite
- Bobbie and Aileen Castlebury, Paris
- Mabel Matthews, Hurst
- Naaman Forest Garden, Garland
- Bonnie and Hooker Nichols Garden, Dallas
- Gwen Pennington Garden, Southlake
- Wynelle Clifton Memorial Garden, Kiest Park, Dallas
- David and Peggy Mitchell Garden, Farmers Branch
- John Turrentine Garden, Grand Prairie
- Vernon Wallis Garden, Azle

Lunch was held at Babe's Chicken Place in Carrollton. The Flower Show and Evening events were held at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel.

DGD Hybridizers: Past, Present, and Future

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Note: This list of DGD and area hybridizers was compiled from the AHS Online Database, Region 6 Archives, and *The Hem Line*. Bold names are as they appear (or would appear) in the checklist.

Allen-L. Mrs. Lillian B. Allen, Dallas. She registered 1 daylily.

Amerson. Binion Amerson, Farmers Branch. He registered 2 daylilies.

Avaritt. Malcolm Avaritt, Midlothian. None registered.

Butler-L. Mrs. L. O. (Edna Mae) Butler, Dallas. She registered 5 daylilies.

Carson. Mrs. W. K. (Agnes) Carson, LaRue. This was Joyce Lewis' aunt. She registered 7 daylilies.

Castlebury. Mrs. Bobby (Aileen) Castlebury, Brookston. She registered 69.

Causey. Lee and Anita Causey, Flower Mound. None registered.

Closs. Tim Closs, Princeton. None registered.

Cohea. Ron and Barbara Cohea, Garland. None registered.

Conway. Mrs. Walter P. (Edith) Conway, Dallas. She registered 3 daylilies.

Cook-H. Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Cook, Richardson. Registered 1 daylily.

Crudup. Mrs. Jewel Crudup, Dallas. Registered 3 daylilies.

Cunningham-E. E. L. Cunningham, Irving. He registered 8 daylilies.

Cunningham-E. L. Mrs. E. L. (Mary) Cunningham, Irving. Registered 7.

Dodd. Mrs. Shelbie (Maybelle) Dodd, Dallas. She registered 3 daylilies.

Ferris-R. Mrs. Royal A. (Bertie) Ferris, Dallas. She registered 28 daylilies.

Flesh. David J. Flesh, Jefferson. David registered 12 daylilies.

Greenwood. Alma Lee Greenwood, Dallas. Alma Lee registered 1 daylily.

Hammel. Mrs. Al. H. (Peggy) Hammel, Euless. She registered 1 daylily.

Henson. Ken Henson, Dallas. Ken registered 2 daylilies.

Hogg. Mrs. L. R. (Eva) Hogg, Dallas. She registered 36 daylilies.

Hoover. Elizabeth Hoover, Arp. Elizabeth registered 6 daylilies

Hughes-T. Tom E. "Daddy Tom" Hughes and Tom Jack Hughes, Mansfield. They registered 60 daylilies.

Jones-M. Mrs. Marcel Jones, Dallas. Marcel registered 9 daylilies.

Knowles. Mrs. E. R. Knowles, Irving. Registered 1 daylily (with Warner).

Ledwell-G. B. G. B. Ledwell, Dallas. Registered 32 daylilies.

Lewis-A. Mrs. Joyce W. (Allyene) Lewis, Murchison. Registered 2.

Lewis-J. Joyce W. Lewis, Murchison. Joyce has registered 38 daylilies.

Lewis-Jo. Joanna Lewis, Murchison. She registered 1 daylily.

Matthews. Mrs. Marshall (Mabel) Matthews, Hurst. She registered 61 daylilies.

McIver. Mrs. Raymond C. (Portia) McIver, Dallas. Registered 80 daylilies.

McMillan. Martin McMillan, Dallas. Martin registered 15 daylilies.

Meagher. Mrs. C. Neal (Loree) Meagher, Dallas. She registered 25.

Miller-R. Dr. Robert P. Miller, Dallas. Robert registered 1 daylily.

Nichols. Hooker and Bonnie Nichols, Dallas. None registered.

Norton-M. M. W. Norton, Jr., Dallas. He registered 4 daylilies.

Norton-M. W. Mrs. M. W. (Alma) Norton, Dallas. Registered 2 daylilies.

Purnell. Mrs. Hugh A. (Lula Mae) Purnell, Dallas. She registered 1 daylily.

Shipman. Mrs. J. D. Shipman, Dallas. She registered 5 daylilies.

Simmons. Wes Simmons, Allen. None registered.

Smith-T. R. Tommy R. Smith, Irving. Tommy has registered 1 daylily.

Smith-W. Mrs. E. L. (Wilma) Smith, Allen. None registered.

Thomas-R. R. R. Thomas, Denton. Registered 4 daylilies.

Thompson-N. Mrs. I. D. (Natalie) Thompson, Seagoville. She registered 13 daylilies.

Thompson-T. Tim Thompson, Celina. None registered.

Umphress. Sharon Umphress, Arp. Sharon registered 4 daylilies.

Vaught. Mrs. Alex (Selma) Vaught, Arlington. She registered 14 daylilies.

Warner. Mrs. Jay E. (Lucille) Warner, Dallas. She registered 116 daylilies.

Warner-M. Melinda Warner, Dallas. She registered 3 daylilies.

Winniford. Ury G. Winniford, Dallas. Ury registered 194 daylilies.

Winniford-E. Mrs. Ury G. (Elna) Winniford, Dallas. Registered 38 daylilies.

Winniford-H. Herman Winniford, Dallas. Ury and Elna's son registered 1.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Lula Mae Purnell
May 18, 1899 - June 29, 1994



Lula Mae Purnell - An Inspiration by Joyce Lewis

(Reprinted from AHS Region 6 Daylily Newsletter, Spring 1991)

In both my personal and daylily life, Lula Mae Purnell has held a very big place within my heart. I've never conversed with her nor listened to one of her programs without coming away with more inspiration and dedication to do better in whatever I was attempting to do. I was never too fond of miniature daylilies until I met Lula Mae and witnessed her love and enthusiasm for the small and miniature daylilies growing in her garden at 2926 Maple Springs, Dallas. My first National Convention to attend was in Dallas in 1965, and her garden was one of the highlights of the Convention. It was open to visitors years before and gave joy to thousands of viewers until seven years ago when Lula Mae moved into the retirement Presbyterian Village North. To quote from the Village's little monthly newspaper that I acquired a couple of years ago, "One of the loveliest, most colorful corners in Presbyterian Village North is Lula Mae Purnell's garden at 1074. The statues of the gentle St. Francis, the enigmatic Chinese Flower Goddess, the many varieties of miniature Roses and daylilies and even stepping stones were brought from her home place in the original Cedar Springs area of Dallas."

Lula Mae was born in Lewisville, where she graduated from high school. After finishing at the College of Industrial Arts in Denton (now Texas Women's University), she returned to Lewisville to teach school and married her high school sweetheart, Hugh Allan Purnell. Her natural gift for public speaking, enhanced by excellent training, has been a source of pleasure to many throughout her lifetime. A member of the Dallas Story League, for many years she gave her Saturday afternoons to the children of Scottish Rite Hospital and was referred to as "the story Lady from flower land."

Lula Mae is a professional lecturer, is a nationally accredited Master Flower Show Judge, and has taught many gardening and flower arrangement seminars. She was not a charter member of the American Hemerocallis Society, but joined soon thereafter and was appointed a Judge and Director (now referred to as RVP) of Region 6, serving for three years. She was presented with a life membership at the end of her three year term at the Regional Meeting in Beaumont. She conducted and helped conduct Clinics for both Exhibition and Awards and Honors (now called Garden Judges) judgeships for several years. I remember very vividly the Beaumont clinic and also the program she presented in helping to organize our Athens Area Daylily Society. She helped organize several local Daylily Societies and has given many programs to daylily clubs, garden clubs, and other groups where she could promote more interest in the daylily.

Lula Mae attended 22 National Conventions and every Region 6 Meeting until she began not being able to walk and move about freely. She conducted the Texas Charter Bus Tour for 12 National Conventions.

She was presented the Helen Field Fisher Award during the National Convention in Jackson, Mississippi, in 1966. This, of course, is the highest honor of the American Hemerocallis Society, and

this most deserving Lady still proudly keeps it in a glass dome on her desk. I'm still not sure that she is more proud of this honor than she is of the naming of the Kraus-Shillings award-winning miniature, H. 'Lula Mae Purnell.' This little melon miniature won every National award that it was eligible to win and has won "best miniature" in many a show throughout the United States. It was voted "Queen of the Show" at the Dallas show in 1985, the second time it had won this honor in this show. Lula Mae was presented the Regional Service Award in 1977.

Last September, Lula Mae gave up her cottage and moved to the Health Unit where she can have nursing supervision around the clock, but she can still walk around with the aid of her walker and even ride on her "Amigo," visiting other residents of the Presbyterian Village North Nursing Unit.

A book could be written about Lula Mae's contributions to the daylily world and kind deeds to her fellow man, but I will close this article with another quote from that little Village newspaper: "No longer having the spacious gardens of her old home place, Mrs. Purnell today cultivates hardy, perennial friendships by regularly visiting the residents of the Presbyterian Village North Nursing Unit, riding her trusty "Amigo." She always finds space in her basket for a few flower arrangements for those she visits. With loving heart she is still giving away her two most wonderful gifts - warm, inspiring speech and beautiful flowers!"

Editor's Note. Early records are confusing, but we believe that Lula Mae Purnell organized the Hemerocallis Growers of Dallas and the Hemerocallis Society of Dallas.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Bertie Mae Ferris
February 7, 1906 - February 24, 1998



There is no name better known in the American Hemerocallis Society than that of Bertie Ferris.

She was not only a “daylily” person, but was also interested in daffodils, hostas, and flowers of all kinds. She planted her first seed when she was six years old. She purchased her first daylilies in the late 1940s. She asked her husband if they could afford \$20. to purchase some Stout daylilies. He said, “Yes if you purchase red ones.”

AHS Presidents, board members, and committee members came to her for advice, ideas, and just to “talk things over.” She gave unstintingly of her time and talent to AHS for over 40 years. Bertie started to get involved with the American Hemerocallis Society in 1955 and became an AHS member the year the articles of corporation were drawn up. Bertie attended her first AHS convention in 1958.

Bertie was asked to join the AHS Board of Directors as a committee member by Annie T. Giles in the early 1960s. She was appointed as Protocol Committee Chairman in 1963. She held this position until her death.

In 1964, Bertie worked with the director of the 1964 World Floral Exhibition Display Garden in Austria. She took 100 daylily cultivars to this exhibition.

Bertie served as Exhibition Chairman for 12 years and as AHS President in 1969. She taught Exhibition Judges Clinics all over the country and had charge of the National Convention clinics for more than 20 years. It is impossible to know how many people Bertie tutored or encouraged along the way.

Bertie was the recipient of the AHS Helen Field Fischer Medal in 1970. This is the Society’s highest honor and is the official recognition for distinguished and meritorious service rendered to the Society by a member on the National level.

In 1977 Bertie won the Region 6 Annie T. Giles Award with Hemerocallis ‘Dallas Miss.’ This award is given to the most outstanding cultivar hybridized by a local member of the club hosting the Regional meeting. Bertie received the Region 6 Service Award in 1981, as well as awards from many other horticultural societies.

Her interest in gardening culminated in being chosen Texas Garden Club’s “Woman of the Year,” in 1986, and President of the Board of Directors of the Dallas Civic Garden Center, 1987-1988.

In 1992, the Bertie Ferris Youth Endowment Fund was set into motion. This fund was officially established in 1993. Bertie was a firm believer in endowment funds. She is quoted to have said, “Non-profit groups like ours just have to have an endowment fund to meet their expenses.” Bertie frequently encouraged people to donate money to the AHS Edward E. Monroe Endowment Fund. It has been fondly said by many that Bertie was the “Grandam of AHS.”

A memorial service was held for Bertie on Friday, February 27, 1998. It was a simple but elegant service led by a local garden writer Phil Huey. After a short prayer at graveside, all in attendance sang her favorite song - “She’ll Be Coming Round the Mountain.”

Note: From AHS Region 6 Archives.

Loree Meagher

In 1952, Mrs. A. E. Hunt, an early hybridizer, invited me to her garden to see her daylily collection. I had always loved flowers, but when I saw the daylilies, I knew I wanted to work with them.

I attended my first AHS National Convention in Baton Rouge in 1955. There I met Mrs. Mabry Adams, who got me interested in hybridizing. When I moved to Dallas in 1957, I brought my best ones with me. One day I saw a notice of the Hemerocallis meeting and it had Lucille Warner’s name in it. I called her and she asked me to join the Dallas group.

I have registered 16 daylilies, of these the most popular have been Hemerocallis ‘Robert Bryce,’ a blue purple with great branching; H. ‘Indian Blanket,’ which won both major awards at the 1975 Regional; and H. ‘Ga Ga Neal,’ almost black purple.

I have received two Achievement Awards, the Ophelia Taylor Award, and numerous local awards. H. ‘Ga Ga Neal’ was voted a Junior Citation in 1982. H. ‘Robert Bryce’ won awards in Alabama and Florida shows. My daylilies are growing in 15 states, including Hawaii. A grower in Germany bought many of my daylilies and has sold them in other European countries.

The most gratifying part of hybridizing is to have plants to give to my garden visitors. I have met a host of wonderful people and have made many friends that I treasure. I believe that the best and greatest people are gardeners. They realize that the planting of each seed is an act of faith, for we are working with our Lord and trust Him to give us the increase.

I am trying to get some pink border plants, not over 8" tall. The ones I have registered are nice, but don’t have branching and good bud count. These plants put up many scapes and make a small bouquet when established.

Note: Region 6 Newsletter, Vol. 4, 1982.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Ury Gene Winniford
Nov. 15, 1908 - Jan. 17, 2001



Ury was one extremely interesting person. He was always willing to share his knowledge about daylilies with anyone who asked.

It was not unusual to see Ury with multiple pollen anthers sticking out of his mouth like toothpicks when he is hybridizing. He would have pollen coating his fingers and as a consequence, everything he touched had pollen on it. It was very difficult to keep from laughing about the pollen that had been deposited on his face and ear lobes.

Some of Ury Winniford's best known daylily registrations are *Hemerocallis* 'Bertie Ferris' (1969) which won the AHS Stout Silver Medal in 1980, H. 'Little Greenie' (1972), and H. 'Touched By Midas' (1979).

In 1983, AHS honored Ury by presenting him the Bertrand Farr Silver Medal for his hybridizing achievements.

When Ury reminisced about his courtship of his wife, Elna, he said he courted Elna via written communication before he ever spoke to her. When they married, Ury had \$7.50 that he had earned "child sitting." The marriage license cost \$2.50, and he paid the preacher \$5. He had a truly zero based marriage. Ury and Elna grew and hybridized daylilies for over forty years. Elna specialized in the development of small flowers before ill health stopped her work.

While making his rounds for the Dallas Water Department, Ury spotted a pretty yellow daylily, H. 'Hyperion' (Mead, 1924), growing in a customer's yard. This sparked his interest in daylilies, but he didn't really start hybridizing in earnest until after a visit to the Hughes garden in Mansfield, Texas. Before then he had visited other gardens, done some hybridizing, and grown several varieties of daylilies, but without any particular goals in mind and without keeping records. He found the flower form that appealed to him among the miniatures in the garden of Lucille Williamson.

Ury was one of the Region 6 pioneers in his efforts to produce tetraploid daylilies. He used Lucille Warner's H. 'Small Prize' (1978) to test for tetraploid capability. He said that if the cultivar is a true tetraploid or converted diploid, the pollen will take on 'Small Prize.'

His life-long hybridizing goals were wide petals and round sepals. He was often quoted as saying, "I want them to roll back and hold water. I won't keep pointed sepals." He also wanted the flowers to open early, saying, "I want them to be looking at me when I come out to the garden in the morning."

Ury made a practice of naming his daylilies after local club members. His H. 'Wynelle Clifton' (1983) and H. 'Ruth Ratliff' (1981), along with many others, are lasting tributes to club members.

He unselfishly shared his talents and flowers with the visitors to his garden, his local club, and AHS. Countless numbers owe their interest in daylilies to his gifts of seedlings and his shared knowledge of horticulture.

Note: Article by Ray Houston from the AHS Region 6 Archives.

Elna Lee Winniford
February 9, 1912 - April 11, 1994



Elna Winniford was one of those gentle natured people that you would never get to know well in a crowd of people. When I became a member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas in 1980, Elna was one of the first members whom I "knew," because she was the telephone committee. She called before every meeting, and we sometimes talked for an hour.

My introduction to hybridizing came soon after, when I started visiting the garden where she and her husband, Ury, had been growing daylilies for over thirty years. They would be busily crisscrossing the whole garden with pollen filled stamens between their fingers and teeth. As with many couples, they each had their own hybridizing program, but the plants were all mixed together. Elna's main interest was doubles, and some of the finest in commerce today are her creations. One of the first and best known is *Hemerocallis* 'Pojo,' a lovely small gold double that is a standard in gardens all over the United States. H. 'Frisly Miss,' H. 'Pudgie,' H. 'Little Peanut,' H. 'Double Attraction,' and H. 'Sweet Pea' are other notables. The names she chose attest to her wit and humor.

One of her last introductions was H. 'Little Rosy Cloud,' not a double but a fitting end to her hybridizing career. She and Ury were married almost 63 years.

Note: Article by Wynelle Clifton.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Ken Henson

October 23, 1918 - June 13, 2000



The AHS, Region 6, and the Daylily Growers of Dallas lost one of its longtime members, Kenneth Hayes Henson, on June 13, 2000, at age 81.

Ken Henson, born in Lawton, Oklahoma, is survived by his wife of 58 years, Virginia Little Henson; sons, Kenneth H. Henson, Jr. and Gordon Henson; seven grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren. Outside our daylily world, Ken had been involved with designing the B-24 Bomber, based on his engineering degree from Indiana Tech University. He was an active member of the First Baptist Church of Dallas, a World War II Purple Heart recipient, a 32nd Degree Mason, and a retired employee of Dresser Industries where he worked 37 years. Ken was an avid classic car collector, art collector, photographer, and along with Virginia, loved to travel throughout the World. He loved the outdoors, animals, and gardening, especially daylilies.

Ken served Daylily Growers of Dallas in many capacities, including President in 1977 and 1980. He attended most all meetings and was a frequent speaker. Ken collected daylilies on many of his trips to gardens in Texas, Louisiana, and Florida. For many years, Ken and Virginia had an AHS Display Garden where they grew recent and older daylilies as well as his own seedlings. Although an avid daylily hybridizer, he was very critical of his own seedlings. He did register

two daylilies: one for his father, *Hemerocallis* 'Odell Henson' (1972) and one for Virginia's father, H. 'Harry Little' (1975). Two daylilies were named in his honor: H. 'Ken Henson' (Macmillan, 1975) and H. 'Siloam Ken Henson' (Henry, 1989).

Ken attended many Regional and National meetings, especially when Virginia was a Regional and National officer. He contributed heavily to daylily auctions and supported daylily functions all over the country. Ken was a Life Member of AHS, a Garden Judge, and an Exhibition Judge.

We will all miss Ken Henson. We are grateful for having known this delightful gentleman and avid daylily enthusiast and supporter. AHS, Region 6, and the Daylily Growers of Dallas are proud of Ken's influence and accomplishments.

Ken's funeral was very nice and church services were well attended. Wilma Smith who grows many of Ken's seedlings in her daylily garden, made a beautiful flower arrangement for the services. She used many of Ken's seedling blooms. Just as the graveside portion was ending and taps played, the heavens put on a display of sounds in the form of thunder in the distance. Ken Jr. remarked to those attending that it was appropriate that "drum rolls" accompanied the taps. It was very touching.

Note: Article by Binion Amerson from the AHS Region 6 Newsletter Archives.

W. Francis Craig

The Dallas club lost a member of long standing when Reverend W. Francis Craig passed away in June 1989. Francis loved both iris and daylilies and grew many varieties of each. He had been waging a battle with cancer for several years. His positive attitude and depth of horticultural knowledge will be missed.

Note: Article by Ken Henson from the Summer 1989 AHS Region 6 Newsletter. A garden in his memory was planted at Saint Matthews Cathedral.

A. Dewey Roquemore

1905 - October 12, 1971

Many members of Region 6 who have visited the very beautiful Roquemore Garden at 9733 Edgelake Drive in Dallas will be saddened to learn of the passing of Dewey Roquemore on October 12, 1971, after a long illness.

He seemed to have a magic touch with growing things and his assistance to Avilda made their daylily plantings one of the most attractive and well grown gardens in Dallas.

He was always ready to assist in any project the *Hemerocallis* group planned. Our most sincere sympathy to Avilda and his daughter as well as other members of the family and many friends. He will be missed but many plants will live on to remind us of his love of beauty in growing things.

The A. D. Roquemore Memorial Award, established in 1974, by Mrs. Arthur L. (Nellie Jo) Trott, is presented annually for the best slide of a daylily clump showing the foliage, the scape(s), and the flower(s) to give a total picture. The award is a pewter plate.

Note: Article by Lula Mae Purnell in the AHS Region 6 Newsletter Archives.

Avilda Roquemore

Avilda Roquemore, A.D. Roquemore's wife, is an Honorary Member and only surviving Charter Member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas. She has attended recent DGD social functions and we hope she will attend the September 20 Meeting to help us celebrate our 50th.

Marietta Mosse

Our dear friend Marietta passed away in August of 1990. She became President in 1966 and there after held every job at one time or the other. She was always at the shows and sales doing her part to advance daylily knowledge.

Note: From the October 1990 issue of *The Hem Line*.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Frances Wynelle Clifton

October 26, 1924 - June 23, 2004



Wynelle Clifton, Dallas, Texas, died on June 23, 2003, in East Rochester, New Hampshire. She married William Ashley Clifton on October 10, 1946, in Irving, Texas. She was a member of the Highland Oaks Church of Christ, Dallas, Texas.

She was very active in the Daylily Growers of Dallas club and served as club President in 1989.

Wynelle was an accomplished artist and drew the black and white cover artwork for six of the Region 6 Newsletters 1988-91. She was also very creative in the Design Section of the Daylily Flower Shows.

Wynelle was President of the TNT Judges Study Club (1999-2001) and President of the Dallas Flower Show Judges Founders Group (2002-03).

The Wynelle Clifton Memorial Garden was dedicated on June 12, 2004 at Kiest Park by the Friends of Oak Cliff Parks.

Note Article by Ray Houston and Binion Amerson in the AHS Region 6 Newsletter Archives.

Joan Dodge

Joan Dodge, 2002 treasurer for DGD and member of the AHS, died on July 31, 2003. Administered by DGD, the Joan Dodge Memorial Scholarship is named in her honor (see Page 5).

T. E. (Daddy Tom) Hughes

September 26, 1888 - July 18, 1984

For more than twenty-five years daylily growers and daylily lovers trekked to Hughes Garden in Mansfield, Texas, to see daylilies, and to enjoy the friendship and hospitality of Daddy Tom Hughes and his lovely wife (who died in 1974). We loved him personally, the warmth of his friendship, his sharp wit, his keen eye and ability in hybridizing, and his appreciation of beauty in any and all forms.

His horticultural background was varied. He was a hybridizer of note in Iris before his interest gradually centered in daylilies. It is difficult to list a few of his introductions for fear of leaving out some of the best. Our favorites include Hemerocallis 'Annie Golightly,' H. 'Apple Tart,' H. 'Daddy Tom,' H. 'Duchess Of Dallas,' H. 'Gay Genelle,' H. 'Gold Thimble,' H. 'Golden Linda,' H. 'Kirksey,' H. 'Little Dandy,' H. 'Melanie Dawn.' H. 'Pat Hudson' (Florida Sunshine Cup Winner, 1977), H. 'Tom Jack,' and H. 'Yellow Ripples.'

Through the years he had won thirty-four Junior Citations, six Honorable Mentions, and one Award of Merit. Hughes Garden was a tour garden for the 1965 National Convention. It has been the focal point of many Regionals.

Daddy Tom was active in his garden until past his ninetieth birthday. We are grateful in Region 6 that Daddy Tom had a partner and collaborator in his son, Tom Jack Hughes, and that we can continue to see his hybrids in abundant bloom in Hughes Garden.

Note: Article by Lucille Warner from the AHS Region 6 Newsletter Archives.

Tom Jack Hughes

Tom Jack Hughes was born and raised in Dublin, Texas. During World War II, he served in the Army Air Force in Burma. Their job was to fly supplies into Burma to support the British 8th Army. Tom was also engaged in the Korean Conflict.

After leaving the service in April 1946, Tom enrolled and attended N.T.A.C., majoring in Agronomy (grasses). At that time, he took a temporary job as Landscape Foreman at the U. S. Public Health Service Hospital in Fort Worth. This developed into a full time job from which he retired thirty years later.

He became interested in growing daylilies in 1954. By 1959, he and his father, Tom E. Hughes, were completely involved with the growing and the hybridizing of Hemerocallis. Success was a cultivar named Hemerocallis 'Duchess Of Dallas' which won a Junior Citation, Honorable Mention, and the Achievement Medal.

The Hughes Garden offers visitors an acre of beautiful Hemerocallis to enjoy. H. 'Coral Majesty,' a 5" salmon pink cultivar brought a new distinction to the Hughes Garden when it was selected to appear in the Time-Life Gardening Yearbook of 1978.

Tom and Kirksey are the proud parents of three lovely children. Steve started off the daylily season in 1978 by getting married. Since Rebecca was a little girl, she had planned to be married on the patio during peak daylily bloom. On June 10th, her dreams came true, when she carried a bouquet of H. 'Melanie Dawn' and was wed during the peak daylily bloom season. The daylilies have never been prettier. Lee Ann continues her "growing up" and is proving to be an outstanding helper to Kirksey, Tom, and Daddy Tom.

Note Original article written by Peggy Hammel which appeared in AHS Region 6 Newsletter, Winter 1978.

Note: Tom's wife Kirksey Hughes lives in Mansfield, Texas. She is an Honorary Member of DGD.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Lucille Warner

A Bit About Hem'D Inn



We bought our first collection of daylilies from Russell Gardens in 1953. At that time I grew a collection of Roses, Iris, Chrysanthemums, and Daffodils. Gradually, all space went to daylilies. I was a charter member of the first Hemerocallis Society in Dallas, a member of AHS in 1956, attended my first National Convention in Tulsa in 1957, became an Awards and Honors Judge in 1958, and an Exhibition Judge in 1959.

At first it was enough to be a "collector." Then, with the encouragement of my family and friends, I started hybridizing in 1960, and Hemerocallis 'Bitsy' was in the first crop of seedlings, blooming the first year from seed in 1961. Miniature breeding has never represented more than 25% of my hybridizing program, but the miniatures have received most of the attention.

H. 'Bitsy,' 'Fawn,' 'Mattie Mae Berry,' 'Pizza,' and 'Sweetie Face' are widely grown in the U.S., and especially in Region 6. We are pleased that almost all of them do well in all parts of the country. Many years ago we discovered that our son and I are violently allergic to insecticide, and we perforce became organic gardeners.

At the AHS Chicago Convention in 1961, I fell in love with tetraploids, and with the gracious help of Orville Fay, Robert Griesbach, Brother Charles Reckamp, and Clarence Blocher, I began

a tetraploid program. From 1966 to the present time, we have treated either by clonal treatment or embryo treatment, many thousands of diploids. Because I had trouble setting seed on tetraploid daylilies, our first priority in selecting diploids for treatment was fertility.

In the colchicine treatment of diploids, I concentrated mainly on our own seedlings and those of W. B. MacMillan, Edna Spalding, Hughes Garden, and the Wilds. I was looking for beauty, fertility, and rebloom.

There have been many we have been pleased with: H. 'Angel Band,' 'Atmosphere,' 'Avilda,' 'Bonus,' 'Bonus Baby,' 'Dewey Roquemore,' 'Doll,' 'Hot Stuff,' 'Jay,' 'Jonelle,' 'John Barr,' 'John Warner,' 'Light Wonder,' 'Loree Meagher,' 'Mama Cha Cha,' 'Robert Miller Memorial,' 'Shotgun,' 'Small Prize,' 'Sugar Sweet,' 'Susan Warner,' 'Swapshop,' 'Sweet Patootie,' 'Tender Mercies,' and 'Texas Dancing.'

Perhaps we are most pleased of all with H. 'Hot Stuff,' not only for its fertility, but for its ability to throw two scapes per division, and to have the ability to pass this on to its progeny. It has turned up in H. 'Cinnamon Stuff,' 'Small Stuff,' 'Wee Stuff,' and a new introduction for 1987 'Angel Stuff.'

Last Sunday night the minister preached on "Creative Dissatisfaction" and that it must be a part of an "achiever," in everyday life and spiritually. Well, it's a part of the hybridizer. There is always Winter to plan your crosses, and Summer to enjoy them, and Fall, the back-breaking work of starting anew.

Jay retired in September. He has been an important part of our garden. It is going to be great to have more input from him on evaluating, selecting, and just the fun of sharing the bloom each day.

Note: Reprinted from AHS Region 6 Newsletter, Fall/Winter 1986.

Charlyene Owens

In 1978, Charlyene Owen of Dallas was honored by the Board of Directors of the American Hemerocallis Society for outstanding service within AHS Region 6.

The membership of Region 6 is very proud of Charlyene Owen for her many and varied contributions of service to her region. Charlyene is always ready to accept responsibility; however, she accomplishes the task so quietly that many do not notice her presence. When her quietness is broken she is virtually a fountain of knowledge of the activities of Region 6, because she has been an important part of many of these activities.

We in Region 6 have come to rely on Charlyene and assume that will assist in our annual Exhibition Judges Clinics and she does not fail us. She has also become an important part of the National Exhibition Judges Clinics. Charlyene is frequently called upon to serve as an Exhibition Judge in Region 6, as well as other Regions.

Charlyene was one of the first persons to organize the effort to collect funds to provide the retiring Region 6 Vice President with a life membership in the American Hemerocallis Society. In her quiet way she continues to promote this gesture of appreciation for the regional service of others.

As an Awards and Honors Judge for the American Hemerocallis Society Charlyene not only grows the finest in Hemerocallis in her own garden but travels extensively throughout Region 6 and the United States to study the Hemerocallis collections of many hybridizers before casting this all important ballot.

She continues her endless work in the Dallas Hemerocallis Clubs and is one of the leaders in staging of the annual daylily shows in Dallas.

Her interest in the artistic arrangement of Hemerocallis and other flowers is exhibited in her many years of study to become a judge for the National Council of State Garden Clubs.

Note: Adapted from AHS Region 6 Newsletter, Vol. 3, 1978 by Bill Ater.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Ruth Ratliff

"Let's go see what's blooming in the garden this morning." With these words, Ruth Ratliff and her granddaughter Judith, would set out to enjoy the beauty of the daylilies during bloom season in the Ratliff garden. This daily pilgrimage took place for many years. Small wonder that the love of daylilies has been passed down to daughter Patricia Kyser and granddaughter Judith.

Ruth's garden reflects her interests in and knowledge of daylilies. She grows many varieties, both large, small, and "all" shades in between. With the help of husband, M. J., who dug the beds and kept them spotless, her flower beds have expanded over the years. Ruth finds in her heart it hard to cull varieties according to her daughter, Patricia. She loves them all. Her special favorites are the large flowers, like H. 'Curtis Wilson.'

Ruth grows all types of daylilies extremely well, as her success in many daylily flower shows testifies. Her flowers have won Sweepstakes, Queen of Show, and all prizes offered on the awards table. The entry of H. 'Butterscotch Classic' walked away with Queen of Show at this year's Dallas Flower Show, While in 1991, her entry of H. 'Texas Sunlight' captured the same award.

Ruth's involvement with the daylily began in the early 1970's. She was introduced to the many varieties by Mary Thomas. Ruth joined the Daylily Growers of Dallas and became instantly active! Over the next 20 years, she has held many of the offices in all three units of the club, including President.

Ruth started attending the Region 6 Meetings in 1981, and hasn't missed one since, including the Austin Meeting this year. Not getting her fill of garden visits and daylily people, Ruth has also expanded her activities to include three AHS National Conventions.

Ruth is a Senior Exhibition Judge, and there are also two other Senior Exhibition Judges in her family, Patricia and Judith. As Ruth continues to pass on her knowledge of the daylily to those around her, it is obvious that in years to come, this will be her legacy to the future.

Note: This article by Eloise Koonce appeared in the AHS Region Six Newsletter Archives. Ruth Ratliff was DGD President in 1991. Ruth died in 2007.

Patricia and Judith Kyser

Patricia Kyser has been involved in DGD activities since the early 1980s. Her mother Ruth Rattliff brought her to daylily meetings. Patsy was DGD President in 1991 and was AHS Region Six Treasurer. Her daughter is Judith Kyser. Both are AHS Exhibition Judges.

Gary D. Wooley

The Daylily Growers of Dallas (DGD) has boasted many outstanding individuals since it was organized in 1958; among them Ury and Edna Winniford, Lucille Warner, Tom Hughes, Sr., Ken and Virginia Henson, Lula Mae Purnell, Bertie Ferris, Joyce Lewis, etc.—easily identifiable as some of the "Who's Who in the World of Daylilies" to Region 6 veterans.

Recently a relative rookie has emerged to help fashion a more viable DGD. Gary Wooley seems to have an infinite inventory of energy coupled with an acute creativeness that belies his modest unassuming persona. These two qualities—leadership and creativity—make him "doubly gifted," according to textbooks on giftedness.

Gary discovered daylilies many years ago when he moved next door to Marietta Mosse, a devoted member of DGD. He, however, did not join DGD until the late 1980's. Encouraged by colleague Wynelle Clifton, he entered an arrangement in the 1991 Dallas Daylily Show. The result is indicative of his talents—the 1991 AHS National Tricolor Award.

A gardener for as long as he can remember, Gary knows the difference between dirt and soil. To have more growing space for his ever-increasing daylily collection, Gary recently purchased a rent house on a large corner lot. He converts the Dallas gumbo to soil by tilling in truckloads of river sand and humus. The resulting geometrically designed bed of daylilies was placed on the 1994 DGD pilgrimage and admired by all.

An art curator by profession, Gary helps manage treasures of the Dallas Museum of Art. *The Dallas Morning News* has featured his interior-decorative/design expertise. As past president of DGD, editor of the DGD newsletter, *The Hem Line*, for four consecutive years, Ways and Means Chairman for several years and generally "Mr. You-Can-Count on Me," Gary Wooley is deserving of all the gratitude that we can muster. He also supports the North Texas Daylily Society in many ways. From everyone at DGD and the Region "Thanks, Gary, for all that you've done and will do!"

Note: This article by Dr. Jim Savage appeared in the Summer 1994 AHS Region Six Newsletter. Gary was DGD President in 1993 and won the AHS Tricolor Medal in 1991, 1994, and 1996.

Bruce and Donna Pool

Bruce and Donna Pool were very active in the 1980s and 1990s. Bruce was Chairman of the Fluorescent Unit in 1987. Donna Pool was Chairman of the Fluorescent Unit in 1990-1991.

Rich and Vera Miller

Rich and Vera Miller are devoted attendees of DGD meetings. Rich has been Program Chairman, Ways and Means Chairman, and Flower Show Chairman. He currently is President of the Iris Society of Dallas.

Wynnaline Stinson

Wynnaline has been a member of DGD since the late 1950s. She was Chairman of the Big Dee Unit in 1989. She is now an Honorary Member of DGD.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Allyene Lewis

February 9, 1926 - July 7, 1991

Allyene Lewis was a longtime member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas. Although never DGD President, she served in several capacities including Secretary. She was a life member of the American Hemerocallis Society. She was an AHS Exhibition and Garden Judge and judged daylily shows in Texas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma and taught numerous exhibition show clinics. She was a nurse and lived in Murchison, Texas. She is survived by her husband and best friend Joyce Lewis, four daughters and one son, as well as nine grandchildren. She hybridized two daylilies.

Note: This article was compiled from the July 8, 1991 *Athens Daily Review* and the August 1991 *Hem Line*.

Mrs. Richard (Bon) Robertson

The American Hemerocallis Society and the Daylily Growers of Dallas lost a "jewel" of a gardener and a "jewel" of a person on April 13, 1983, Mrs. Richard Robertson. Bon was a Charter Member of the Hemerocallis Growers Of Dallas, and served as its first President.

Her membership in AHS dates back to 1958, and she was an Awards and Honors Judge dating back to 1959. She will be remembered by conventioners when her garden was on tour in 1965, "The Jewel Box" Her garden was always a jewel, any day of the daylily season, whether visitors were expected or not. She will be remembered also nationally for her humorous and creative artwork in the Journals over many years whenever Ben Parry had a small unfilled place at the top or bottom of a page in the Journals.

Note: The above article was written by Lucille Warner and appeared in the October 1983 AHS Region 6 Newsletter. It is significant in that this article first mentions the name "Daylily Growers of Dallas."

Joyce W. Lewis

My love affair with daylilies began in the early 1950's when my aunt, Mrs. W. K. Carson of Dallas, moved to LaRue, a little community about twenty miles from my home. She brought her collection of daylilies with her. She had purchased her daylilies from Hugh M Russell who was peddling them door to door in Dallas several years before.

My aunt was also into hybridizing and selling seedlings from her garden. She liked only the 'big, gold, and vulgar ones' as she put it, and threw the small ones over the fence to her one cow. My wife Allyene and I visited her fairly often and this hurt my whole insides. Seeing my pain, she started letting me bring them home and dab pollen on them myself. During bloom season each year, if we couldn't visit her each Sunday, she would show up at our house with two or three platefuls of her biggest and fullest blooms.

My first daylily show I attended was in Lake Charles, LA in 1958 when Miss Edna Spalding's H. 'Luxury Lace' won the best seedling award. Mrs. Carson's husband had passed away and Allyene and I had gone with her to Lake Charles to visit some old friends. One of which was a judge in the show.

I attended my first National Convention in Dallas in 1965 but wasn't aware I was a "hybridizer" until Natalie Thompson guested three or four of my seedlings at the 1977 Dallas National Convention, Dr. Virginia Winkler from Chicago area came up to me and asked how she could buy one of my seedlings. I told her that I had never sold daylilies and she wrote me out a check for one hundred dollars and said, "send me one or two." I still consider myself a hobby hybridizer but may start back to selling a few to help with the bread and milk situation on my table.

As for my garden, I'm a true xeroscaper in every sense of the word except for my

daylilies. They have to compete with the natives to survive, as I do no summer watering. It is still survival of the fittest in my evaluation of my "keepers." Visitors to my "garden" can view most every annual and perennial plant native to this area (along with a host of natural imports) but very few seem to have the urge to want to accept my invitation to share. I came home for lunch one day last Spring after our Regional meeting and there were two cars parked in my driveway. I looked out back and counted seven women scattered all over my garden, some of whom I could see their heads. I swear to this day that only six left in those two cars. Somewhere out there I assume there is still one poor soul still trying to find her way back out of my personal jungle.

I've had lots of hobbies during my lifetime, but hybridizing daylilies is the one outlasting all the others. I'm even hoping to take some pollen with me when my life span on this earth comes to an end.

Note 1: This article, written by Joyce Lewis, appeared in the Fall/Winter 1988-1989 AHS Region Six Newsletter.

Note 2: Joyce Lewis of Murchison, Texas is a legend among the long list of Daylily Growers of Dallas leaders. He was AHS Region Six Regional Vice President and Newsletter Editor during 1982-1983, DGD President in 1984, AHS Region Six Service Award winner in 1988, and of course a hybridizer of a long list of award-winning daylilies.

Keith Kinney

Keith Kinney joined the Daylily Growers of Dallas in 1987. He was very active in the club, especially in flower shows and as editor of *The Hem Line* from March to December 1991. He was editor of the AHS Region Six Newsletter and won the AHS Newsletter Award in 1997.

Bonnie and Hooker Nichols

The Nichols' Iris and Daylily Garden is located in North Dallas. Bonnie is an AHS Exhibition and Garden Judge. Hooker is an iris and daylily hybridizer.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Virginia Henson



Virginia Henson of Dallas, Texas, is the 2003 winner of the Helen Field Fischer Gold Medal, the highest award presented in recognition of service to the American Hemerocallis Society.

Virginia is an Indiana native, but she move to southern California with her family, where they resided until 1958, when they moved to Houston. In 1968 Virginia and her late husband, Ken, moved to Dallas and joined AHS after having grown daylilies for ten years. They became pillars of support for the Hemerocallis Growers of Dallas (now Daylily Growers of Dallas). They spent countless hours of their busy time working on club activities and they freely donated plants to public gardens, friends, and club and regional fund-raising events. As a member of garden clubs, Virginia actively promoted the growth of daylilies in the area. She and Ken served as mentors to potential hybridizers in the club.

Virginia was elected to the AHS Board of Directors in 1984. She served there for six years as Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, which in those days was responsible for maintaining records on exhibition judges, exhibition show reports, and coordinating all exhibition judges clinics.

Early in their involvement with AHS, Virginia and Ken became Garden Judges and Exhibition Judges. They traveled many miles to countless shows through-

out the country. Virginia's reputation as an exhibition clinic instructor is well established. She was kind and considerate in her dealings with students and instructors. Virginia continues to judge and instruct in Region 6.

Virginia's contributions to the growth and structure of AHS and her assistance in advancing the popularity of daylilies throughout the world are an important part of the Society's history. Her words of encouragement inspired the endeavors of many to hybridize, become exhibition and garden judges, and become involved in the support of the Society. The Board of Directors officially recognized the distinguished and meritorious service rendered by Virginia Henson at the national level during the awards banquet at the 2003 AHS National Convention.

Note: From AHS Region 6 Archives.

Kay Day Pricola



Kay Day's name is well known throughout AHS. She is a charter member of the North Texas Daylily Society (NTDS) where she created the first NTDS club yearbook and served as Flower Show Chairman and Program Chairman. As a member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas, she served as Chairman of several committees, published the club yearbook, and was president in 1998-99. She became a member of the East Texas Daylily Society in 1989. At the regional level, she Co-chaired the 1992 Regional Auction and she served as Chairman of the 1996 Region 6 Meeting. She was elected as the Region 6 Director for two years and went on to become AHS Pres-

ident in 2000-01. Presently, Kay is AHS Endowments Chairman. Kay is a Garden and Exhibition Judge, as well as an Instructor in both categories. Kay currently resides in Brawley, California.

Note: From AHS Region 6 Archives.

Gene and Eloise Koonce



Gene and Eloise Koonce have both been very active in Region 6 for a great many years and have performed a vast array of jobs and duties. Both are committed to AHS and Region 6. Gene and Eloise have attended most of the Regional Meetings since 1985. Both Gene and Eloise are Garden Judges, Exhibition Judges, and Exhibition Judges Instructors. As active members of the DGD, both have held various positions such as president, membership chairman, treasurer, and flower show chairman.

Gene served as 1987 Region 6 Treasurer and Eloise served as 1988-89 RVP and Newsletter Editor. In 1988 Eloise helped charter the North Texas Daylily Society. Gene and Eloise co-chaired the 1994 Region 6 auction, Gene was the 1996-99 William E. Monroe Endowment Fund Liaison, Eloise was the 1998 Region 6 Meeting Chairman, and Gene was 1998 Region 6 Meeting Flower Show Chair.

Note 1. From AHS Region 6 Archives. They currently live in Scottsdale, AZ.

Note 2. Eloise writes: "We remain active even though it's now AHS Region 7. Gene has served as Director from Region 7 and I am currently Judge Liaison. We are also serving on various national committees. Gene assists with the photographic awards program and I am on the exhibition committee. We still enjoy flower show judging and both of us judged the 2008 Flower Show in Albuquerque, New Mexico."

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Jerry Arledge

The Arledge Daylily Garden is located on a quarter acre shaded lot in an older neighborhood of Richardson, Texas. The front yard has been arranged with informal curved beds. Miniature and small flowered daylily cultivars are showcased and are accented by a varied selection of ornamental grasses and perennials that don't overpower the petite daylily foliage and flower.

A trip around either side of the house presents more daylilies anchored by Crape Myrtle trees. Entering the extensive backyard garden area reveals raised beds lining the entire perimeter of the property! These perimeter beds encircle a large raised center bed.

In an interesting coincidence, I was given a gift plant of H. 'Cheraw's Jerry Arledge' (Davis, L. 2003), hybridized by Larry Davis, and named for another passionate daylily enthusiast, Jerry Arledge of South Carolina. It is truly a small world! All in all, close to 200 hybridizers are represented throughout my garden.

I haven't forgotten daylilies of the past, interspersing many older heirloom varieties throughout the planting areas. The last two years, I have been working with Flynn Daylily Gardens in Alabama, Top O' the Hill Daylily Farm in Ohio and Ridaught Daylily Farm in Florida to expand this heirloom collection. All told, there are over 850 varieties showcased at the Arledge Daylily Garden.

I have been growing daylilies since 1985 on this property and must give credit to my late mother, Freddie Sue, for germinating my interest in gardening and daylilies. My lovely wife, Ernestine, has indulged me in my never-ending quest to beautify my personal daylily paradise. Thanks, Ernestine!

Note: Jerry served DGD as President in 2004, and First Vice President in 2007-2008. His daylily garden was on tour during the 2005 AHS Region 6 Meeting.

Lee and Anita Causey

When Anita and I attended the Daylily Growers of Dallas Flower Show in 1997 and I saw all those incredible flowers I was totally smitten! Even though we have gardened for over 40 years, I never knew such beautiful flowers existed. What was once a passion has now become an obsession!

Our home and garden are located on two acres about forty miles north of Dallas in the town of Flower Mound. When the property was purchased four years ago it was thick with trees and brush. So, Anita and I have developed it from scratch. It was a lot of work (as you all know) but a labor of love. All the flower beds are raised which we have found makes for much easier gardening.

Featured daylilies include many recent introductions from top hybrid daylily specialists. The garden features many AHS award-winning daylilies. There are over 1,200 AHS registered hybrid daylilies plus over 500 seedlings. Also, we have many perennial plants, roses, shrubs, and trees to view. The garden is ADA accessible

The garden contains all types of daylilies, including: miniatures, small, large, doubles, spiders, polytepals, and unusual forms. Lee grows daylilies of all colors including self, bicolors, reverse bicolors, and bitones. Since Anita and I both are flower show "nut's" the focus of our collection of daylilies has been those we believe would show well.

Anita Causey has been collecting rare and beautiful dolls and teddy bears for almost 40 years and displays them in a very unique and exciting way. She has a collection of dolls and teddy bears that numbers over 1,000!

Note: Lee Causey was President of the Daylily Growers of Dallas during 2005-2006. Lee and Anita are known throughout the Region as they enter and win top awards in all the area daylily flower shows.

Tim Closs

Tim Closs has been the Daylily Growers of Dallas President from 2008-2009. Before becoming President, he served as Ways and Means chairman for 3 years, and assisted the previous Ways and Means chairman for 2 years. Tim is a fledgling daylily hybridizer who is currently evaluating 2,500 to 5,000 seedlings each year. He is also an AHS Garden Judge and, in the summer of 2008, completed this certification as an AHS Junior Exhibition Judge. Tim loves to compete in daylily flower shows and had the good fortune of winning "Best of Show" at the North Texas Daylily Society Show held in Ft. Worth in June 2008. He currently grows over 700 cultivars. Tim serves as liaison for the Daylily Growers of Dallas scholarship program with the Naaman Forest High School Horticulture program in Garland, Texas. To date, the club has donated over \$12,000 to outstanding students to help further their education.

James and Jacqueline Sang

The Sangs hosted the "End of Summer" Party at their home in August 2006.

Jay Tompkins

Jan Tompkins is a Life Member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas who was a leader during the 1990s and early 2000s. He was Treasurer for several years and donated many quality cultivars to our plant sales and to many member gardens.

Tim Thompson

Tim Thompson is currently the DGD Webmaster who lives in Celina on a number of acres. He recently purchased all of Aileen Castlebury's Sale Garden plants and has started a daylily hybridizing program.

Mary Alice Caffarel

Mary Alice Caffarel lives with her family in Rockwall. She is currently Second Vice President and Flower Show Chairman for DGD. She hosted the "End-of-Summer" Party in August 2007.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Helen Reynolds

I was raised on a farm in the Rio Grande Valley some 39+ years ago. The soil was so rich to work that upon moving to Dallas' black gumbo I have been in culture shock. A little ole dog walked up one day to our duplex and before I knew it we had to buy a house to get a yard for Spot.

In 1966 Harold and I joined the Dallas Rose Society (DRS), dug up most of the back yard plus alley and went into the hobby of growing roses. In the early days I was really gung-ho. On show days (before dawn) you could find me traveling Texas to get my entries in. After one of our really bad winters we shoveled most of the back yard and did not replant all the roses so I had plenty of bare dirt and nothing to put in it. I made up my mind that I wanted to grow a "no work" flower for a change. My mom gave us the old H. 'Sweet Sixteen' and H. 'Autumn Red' plus a couple of other daylilies. The daylilies grew just fine and Spot loved to lie in them so well that nothing would do except to join the Daylily Growers of Dallas. After a couple of months I figured out that the group didn't have a monthly newsletter. I had access to a copy machine and all the paper needed, so the Society allowed me to become the first Editor. It didn't take very long before the membership got together and said the bulletin was great, but that they had to keep their newest novice away from the horticulture section. All at once Gertrude Lanham started sending me interesting little items. Joyce Lewis, Ken Henson, and the other members never turned me down when I asked for an article. That job has been passed on to other capable hands.

Well now I know what to look for, plan for, ring my hands over, and by the way I have the best looking yard on the block. My experience with daylilies is limited compared to most of the membership, but I have now learned enough to know they are great fun and most rewarding if you look after them properly.

Note: This was first printed in the Spring

1994 AHS Region 6 Newsletter. Helen has been a member of the AHS and the DGD since 1984. Since joining, she has held most all elected offices and most committee chairs in DGD. She started the DGD newsletter in 1984 and continued as Editor until she became President in 1990. Helen has served AHS as Region Six Treasurer (1994-1998), Investment Chairman (1999), and Bertie Ferris Endowment Committee Chairman (1998-1999). She served on the AHS Exhibition Committee for six years in the 1980s. In recent years, Helen has been very active in DGD Meetings, Plant Sales, and Flower Shows. She has attended most all AHS Region Six Meetings since the late 1980s—the most recent being the AHS National Convention and Region Six Meeting in Houston during May 2008.

Malcolm Avaritt

Malcolm Avaritt and his wife Michelle moved to Midlothian, Texas in 2005 and along with a new house now has 1-1/2 acres for daylilies. They have two children: Taylor and Payton. Malcolm and Michelle met in college while at Texas Tech and married in 1997. For the past 16 years, he has worked for HoneyBaked Ham Co, as a retail manager. In addition to daylilies, he enjoys baseball along with his son, looking at new daylilies with his daughter, gardening, travel, golf, and snow skiing.

Malcolm writes: "The first meeting I attended, I was all set to go with my complete knowledge of both types of daylilies, yellow and orange. Fortunately, Joyce Lewis was the speaker that day and I was soon intrigued as well as overwhelmed. From there, I have grown to begin my own hybridizing with the hope of being as famous as everyone else in Region 6 that hybridizes. What a tremendous talent pool we have in Region 6."

Note: This article is taken from the Summer/Fall 2006 AHS Region Six Newsletter. Malcolm is Treasurer of DGD and AHS Region Six.

Binion Amerson

Amerson Daylily Garden in Farmers Branch is located on a large cul-de-sac lot in an older neighborhood of far North Dallas. Since moving here in June 1994, Binion has transformed the yard from a "collection of odds and ends" to an official AHS Display Garden containing more than 700 daylily cultivars

If you were in Dallas for the 1998 AHS Region Six Meeting, you will be amazed at the new look of Binion's 2005 Garden. Flower beds with straight-line edges have been replaced by artistic curved beds edged with stone.

All of Binion's daylily beds are raised and the soil is no longer clay. Using a minitiller, the soil has been worked to a depth of 8 to 12 inches and amended with compost, peat moss, manure, finely shredded bark mulch, landscape mix, and lots of sandy loam.

Amerson Daylily Garden contains all daylily forms (i.e., miniature, small, large, double, spiders, polytepals, and unusual forms). Binion grows daylilies of all colors including selfs, bicolors, reverse bicolors, and bitones. Yes, his garden even has the closest to a blue daylily. You'll also see the latest edges and eyes.

Featured daylilies include recent AHS Region Six Popularity Poll winners: H. 'Orange Velvet' (Joiner 1988), H. 'Wind Frills' (Tarrant 1978), H. 'Elizabeth Salter' (Salter 1990), H. 'Jason Salter' (Salter-E. 1987), H. 'Ida's Magic' (Munson 1988), H. 'Moonlit Masquerade' (Salter 1992), and H. 'Red Volunteer' (Oakes 1984). Also featured are Stout Medal and Lennington Award winners for the last several years, and many other recent AHS award-winning daylilies.

Note: The above article was taken from the AHS 2005 Region Six Meeting Program. His garden was on tour in 1998 and 2005. He enters horticulture and floral designs in DGD Flower Shows. He was DGD President during 2002-2003.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Barron Bozeman and Diane Taylor

Mesquite, Texas. Little did we know when we ordered 12 daylilies from a Jackson and Perkins catalog in September of 1993, it would come to this. Even planting them at a depth of six inches and killing all but three didn't discourage us.

During the next year, we attended our first Daylily Growers of Dallas show, where we bought a few more "hems." Unknowingly, we had been bitten by the dreaded "daylily bug." We picked up a couple more at one nursery, and a few more from another. By the time we attended our second Daylily Growers of Dallas daylily show, the bite had turned into a full-fledged itch, and we found that the only relief was to buy more daylilies and join the club.

The yard was an unpainted canvas when we moved into our house in December of 1992. Actually, there were a few sprigs of Bermuda grass mixed into a healthy stand of Dallas grass, and no flower beds! Our first gardening venture in the fall of 1993 was to build a small corner bed in the backyard where we "buried" those original 12 daylilies. Since then, we have doubled the size of the original bed and have built three more daylily beds, Barron's tomato patch, and Diane's Cottage garden.

Today, we have over 300 daylily varieties in our garden. Our collection included many old favorites (H. 'Touched By Midas,' H. 'Winnie The Pooh,' H. 'Condilla') as well as some newer introductions (H. 'Victoria's Secret,' H. 'Low Hope Charity,' H. 'Sultry Siren,' and T. 'Tepaled Teddy'). We are proud to have guest plants from Aileen Castlebury, Josie Bomar, Jack Carpenter, Joyce Lewis, Grace Stamile, Bill Reinke, Lee Gates, and Leo Sharp. Please be sure to look for those that identify these special plants.

Note: The above article was taken from the AHS Region Six Meeting Program, June 4-5, 1998. Barron was DGD President during 1999 - 2000.

Ron and Barbara Cohea

Garland, Texas. It all began in 1991 when we received three free daylilies for subscribing to a local garden magazine. Later, we went to a Daylily Show given by the Daylily Growers of Dallas. We picked up some membership forms and joined. We had no idea what was ahead.

Ron was still partial to growing vegetables, especially corn. He had this big corn patch in our city-sized back yard. This "patch" is now devoted to daylilies and perennials. Ron still likes to plant corn but now has a new interest. We both are enamored with daylilies.

Another change took place. We have gone "organic," trying to rid our yard of all toxic chemicals. This was a real switch, since our garage was full of nothing but chemicals three years ago. We have had to adapt to bio-diversity in the lawn. This means living with more than one type of grass growing there.

We are calling our garden "Duck Creek Crossing," because 30 years ago, the only way to cross Duck Creek in the area was a "low water" crossing. Now, we have a bridge across Duck Creek for the road behind our house.

On your tour of our garden, you will see guest plants among our 200 daylilies presented by: Lee Gates, Chris Vizvarie, David Niswonger, Patrick Stamile, Aileen Castlebury, Ra Hansen, Leo Sharp, Joyce Lewis, and Jack Carpenter. We still feel like beginners in daylilies, learning something new each time. So, when you visit our garden, we encourage any suggestions or help you may provide.

Note: The above article was taken from the AHS Region Six Meeting Program, June 4-5, 1998. Ron and Barbara have held various leadership positions for the Daylily Growers of Dallas.

Katherine Harris

Katherine Harris is currently DGD Ways and Means Chairman.

E. L. and Wilma Smith

Allen, Texas. Wilma, a novice to daylilies but certainly not to horticulture, is a National Chrysanthemum Judge as well as a National Flower Show Judge who has been bitten by the Daylily Fever Bug. Husband, E. L., retired for three years from Enserch Corp., provides the labor. They enjoy working together in their yard.

The Smith's two-acre yard gets plenty of sun. The soil is a black gumbo that has been augmented or replaced with organic matter and potting soil. Chrysanthemum beds that had grown prize-winning flowers which won top awards in local, regional, and national shows now grow daylilies. Wilma had acquired some ill effects from the long-term use of insecticides, which were necessary to keep the insects out of the large disbudded cultivars; thus, the reason for abandoning this 15-year hobby.

Wilma acquired her first "Good Daylilies" from Bertie Ferris, who was in the same garden club. She encouraged her to go with the daylilies and forget the mums. The time was not just right. Ten years elapsed and another good garden club friend, Virginia Henson, knew that she had stopped growing chrysanthemums and asked if she would like to have her seedlings to grow. Her husband needed some space to put his hybridized seedlings and the rest is history. The frame house beds that lay vacant for one full growing season were planted with several hundred Ken Henson seedlings.

Raised vegetable beds now host daylilies. The large rose garden was displaced by daylilies. At the present time, there are 17 raised beds containing approximately 2,000 sq. ft. The daylily beds are really just started and expansion is needed for some 2,000 seedlings.

Note: The above article was taken from the AHS Region Six Meeting Program, June 4-5, 1998. Wilma enters both horticulture and floral designs in DGD Flower Shows.

DGD Leaders Through The First Fifty Years

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Peggy Hammel

Peggy Hammel—Known by most of the Region 6 members because of holding previous regional offices of secretary and treasurer. For the benefit of new members, we would like to introduce your treasurer, Peggy Hammel, as a wife, mother, grandmother, dedicated daylily grower and member of both units of Daylily Growers of Dallas.

She lives in Euless, Texas with husband, Al, and her thirteen year old son, Jimmy. In the professional world, she has been successful as an innovator in the use of daylilies by landscape architects in residential and commercial garden designs.

Peggy is dedicated to Region 6 and the American Hemerocallis Society. She has served as “Ways and Means” for Big Dee and the Fluorescent units using public sales and unit auctions adding to their treasury. She also works very hard raising money for the “Bus Fund.” We owe our nice amount in our Regional Treasure to her efforts as “auctioneer” at Regional meetings.

She began experimenting with gardening almost 25 years ago, but it was only within the last six years that she decided to concentrate her energies upon the propagation and hybridization of her favorite flower, the daylily. After six years of hybridizing, Peggy has registered only three varieties: H. ‘Broadway Bonanza,’ H. ‘Bethel’s Baby,’ and H. ‘Pay Attention.’

Note: This article was featured in the Spring 1994 issue of the AHS Region 6 Newsletter. Peggy Hammel was DGD President in 1985.

Jane Denton

Jane Denton is Membership Chairman for 2007-2008. She produced a DGD Membership Roster in early 2008.

Vicki Agee

Vicki Agee is DGD Secretary for 2007-2008. She is an avid attendee at Meetings and is an AHS Garden Judge.

Judy and Bob Montgomery

Gardening in general and flowers in particular have always been an important part of our life. However, working full time as a Registered Nurse in the operating room with all that entails (working overtime most of the time, being on call, etc.) for 35 years and raising a family did not allow much time to pursue it as much as I would have liked. Now, after retiring several years ago, I finally have the time.

The first daylilies that I acquired were purchased from a well known nursery in Missouri, I bought ten different varieties of daylilies at that time. Over the course of the next several years, I purchased a few more. Then we discovered that there were many “other” places that sold daylilies. This led to more buying and I was hooked! The number of daylilies just mushroomed and grew, so that I now have some 700+ daylilies. I confess, I am a “Hem” aholic! My love of gardening and daylilies have become an obsession. Even my husband, Bob, tells everyone that I am a fanatic. When I was still working, I always told him that gardening was my therapy. And a terribly hectic and stressful day at work, I would work in the flower beds for awhile and feel the tension ease and feel better and calmer.

We live on nine acres east of Joshua. We have lived here for almost 29 years. We are members of the Daylily Growers of Dallas, North Texas Daylily Society, and Johnson County Iris and Daylily Society. **Note:** This article appeared in the Spring 2002 AHS Region 6 Newsletter. At that time, Judy was Treasurer of Region 6. Bob died in 2004.

Mabel Matthews

Longtime AHS and DGD Life Member Mabel Matthews hybridizes daylilies in her Hurst Park Daylily Garden.

Mike and Cecelia Perez

Mike and Cecelia Perez are long-time members of AHS and DGD. Cecelia is an Exhibition Judge and attends most meetings and helps at all plant sales.

Robert and Diane Land

Oak Point, Texas. The Land’s “week-end” garden began in 1990 at Robert and Diane’s lake house on Lake Lewisville, where they have been associated with the Dallas Corinthian Yacht Club since 1971. The ever-expanding garden now encompasses most of their one-acre lot and is beginning to encroach onto the 54 acres of common property.

Our neighbor and friend, Marie Caillet, author of *The Louisiana Iris*, introduced us to daylilies interspersed with Louisiana, Siberian, Japanese, bearded, and spuriae iris species. We have been rose enthusiasts since the late 1970s, during which time we have accumulated almost 150 varieties. The daylily bug has bitten us hard, and we now have over 200 varieties. Our garden is divided into ten beds separated by a winding gravel road which runs through a spit rail fence. We are fortunate to have native woods of oak, walnut, Eve’s necklace, Mexican plum, red bud, and cedar as a backdrop.”

Roses are a shared interest. As a Master Gardener and landscape designer, Diane loves perennials and reseeding annuals; while Robert looks continuously for places to add new daylilies. Our long weekends at the lake house are more often spent with the flowers than on the sailboat.

Note. The above article was taken from the AHS Region Six Meeting Program, June 4-5, 1998. The “Land’s Garden” was on tour for that Regional Meeting.

David and Peggy Mitchell

David and Peggy Mitchell are avid daylily growers and attendees of DGD meetings. She was Yearbook Editor in 2005-2006. She has also served on the Scholarship Committee. They reside in Farmers Branch.

Carole Ann Taggart, Wayne Fagan

Carole Ann Taggart and Wayne Fagan are faithful attendees of DGD Meetings, Flower Shows, and Plant Sales.

Memories About DGD Leaders From Friends

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Fond Memories of Bertie Ferris

By Mary and Eddie Gage

Spring, TX, July 29, 2008. When we attended our first Exhibition Judges Clinic in 1982, Bertie Ferris was probably AHS's most major daylily judging and flower show authority. New Junior Judges were gourd green because this was before we had Clinics I, II, and III. Beginning students and refreshing Senior Judges attended the same clinic, Seniors leaving after the lecture and beginners taking their Point Scoring Exam. Instruction has become much more intensive since those days. As we went about point scoring each characteristic Bertie would keep an eye on her students and offer hints as to what scores we might reconsider. Eddie and I were scoring a woefully deficient scape and gave it a zero. "Children," Bertie said, "Look at this daylily. It does have a scape, doesn't it? You have to give it something." It has often been said that Bertie never let anybody fail. It seemed to me that her attitude was that if a prospective judge had not grasped the instruction in the lecture they still had a chance to learn it during the exam. She recognized that we novices had a long way to go and was always encouraging. Over the years we brought her many a crooked scape for the clinics, the "crookeder" the better.

Another fond memory that always brings a smile to me was from an AHS Board Meeting where we sat at tables arranged in a hollow square, Bertie and I sitting across the room from each other. At break time she took me aside and said that ladies wearing dresses should sit ladylike, with their legs or ankles crossed, especially at unskirted tables, such as we had that day. Certainly I could agree with that. Little did I know that she was pointing directly at me until I approached her at the next break and she said, "Oh, you ARE wearing pants." My long pants were a pale peachy pink (flesh color). This was a mama teaching her daughter to be a lady.

Another insight into her strength of char-

acter I feel I must relate. A couple of years before she died her home was robbed while she was out in the yard. Some of her most precious possessions were stolen—jewelry, silverware, crystal, irreplaceable items. It was not so much the monetary loss that was painful but that those things were bound up with her lifetime of memories. Her things had not been recovered when she told me about the robbery and I do not know if they ever were. However, she was able to mitigate the pain and devastation by thinking of her precious, valuable, and much loved keepsakes eventually having a new home with people who might love and treasure them too.

In the years approaching her 90th birthday she rejected her family's desire to host a birthday party for her. At 90 she finally agreed. As they were making plans for where it would be held, Bertie insisted that none of their homes were big enough. It would be held in the Dallas Garden Center at Fair Park. The invitations asked that in lieu of gifts, she would appreciate notes or letters of our memories of good times together. To our surprise when we arrived we found tables laden with all sorts of ornamental items from which we would choose "her gift to each of us." For me she had a cloisonné heart pendant, which I will treasure always, along with so many more memories, loving and humorous, too numerous to tell here.

Ury Winniford: Ever the Humorist, Ever the Hybridizer

By Mary and Eddie Gage

Spring, TX, July 29, 2008. We got to know Ury Winniford his wife, Elna, about 1980 or so when we began attending Region 6 meetings and enjoying garden tours. The bus rides were fun and there was always a lot of joke telling and Ury was one of the best at telling his while keeping a straight face. While everyone else was just about rolling in the aisle, Elna sat there with maybe a hint of a smile. It occurred to me that she was probably thinking, "I've heard this one a

million times." Aaah! But Ury had a brand new audience, especially those of us who had recently come down with Daylily Fever.

We last visited Ury in his garden in 1995; he was 87 at the time and still hybridizing. He had just bought 10 or 15 new cultivars and had them all potted but not labeled. He knew what they were because he had them all listed and lined up in order. That is, until a neighbor lady came over to help him and moved the pots to another spot in the yard. Now he had a lot of newly potted, expensive day-lilies and a handful of labels, but which label went into which pot? He had not the vaguest notion. He would have to wait until they bloomed and hope he could match them up.

I had been told that Ury did not like to have people taking his picture but I had to ask anyway and he agreed that I could. I did not dare ask him to wipe the pollen off his nose for fear he would back out and I would not get his picture. As it turned out the pollen didn't show up much. And anyway, don't all good hybridizers usually have pollen smudges on their lips and noses?

Of course we had to have some joking around and Eddie told Ury a story of poverty and scarcity of food in his childhood. Not to be outdone, Ury related that when he was a child they never knew what would be on the supper table until they went out to the highway and looked for "road kill." I should have known better than to think he was serious when he told us about his trip to the doctor to get something done about his sore, painful leg. The doctor told him it was just old age. Ury said it couldn't possibly be that because the other leg was the same age and it didn't hurt at all.

Note: Mary and Eddie Gage were winners of the 1999 AHS Region Six Service Award. They are frequent Exhibition Judges at DGD Flower Shows.

Memories About DGD Leaders From Friends

Compiled By Binion Amerson

Our Friend, Joyce Lewis

By Anna Rosa Glidden

Houston, TX, August 12, 2008. I would like to share a few words about Joyce Lewis and his late wife, Allyene.

My late husband, Homer, read an article in the AHS Region Six Newsletter by Joyce Lewis concerning spider mites and helpful hints to battle them. Homer called him, and was very surprised when he found himself talking to a male. He thought he was calling a lady because of Joyce's name.

Later, Homer learned Joyce was a farmer and one crop Joyce planted was peanuts. Once Homer teasingly introduced him as a "peanut farmer." Joyce then asked what was wrong with being a "peanut farmer." Homer said "Nothing, I love 'peanut butter' and if my wife lets me run out of it, I will divorce her."

After the close of one of our conventions, Allyene and Joyce visited our garden in Houston. Allyene bought a daylily, and when it was dug with dirt left on it, she shook all the dirt off, saying she did not want our nut grass. First time I had anyone refuse my dirt.

In an AHS Region Six Newsletter, Joyce tells of someone who asked what he was doing by way of daylily work. He said, "Praying for rain." Then, two days later they had 9 inches of rain. He then was asked to not pray so hard. They had gotten enough.

These two people, Joyce and Allyene Lewis, were very nice down-to-earth, real people, and Homer and I really identified with them.

Note: Anna Rosa Glidden was winner of the 2008 AHS Region Six Service Award.

Driving Miss Bertie

By Binion Amerson

Farmers Branch, TX, August 17, 2008. I am sure you have seen the movie "Driving Miss Daisy." Well, this article is about driving Bertie Ferris to various daylily gardens in Florida after the May 14-18, 1997 AHS National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida. In addition to myself and Bertie, other DGD attendees to that Convention were Lee Causey, Kay Day, Ken and Virginia Henson, and Gene and Eloise Koonce.

After the Convention, Bertie and I rented a car and toured various daylily gardens throughout north and central Florida. I had met many of the Florida hybridizers at the Mid-Winter Symposiums in Chattanooga, but this would be my first trip to that area since my graduate-school days at the University of Kansas. Bertie of course had known these hybridizers for years. We went first to the Orlando area and met up with lots of other daylily enthusiasts. We visited the following daylily gardens:

- Dr. Bob Carr, Ocala
- David Kirchoff and Mort Morss, Sanford
- Pat and Grace Stamile, Enterprise
- Jeff and Elizabeth Salter, Eustis
- Bill Munson, Gainesville

At each garden, we were welcomed with open arms. Bertie carefully walked through each garden and wanted to especially see their new seedlings. She had to sit and chat with each hybridizer and tell her "old time" stories. She really enjoyed having hot tea and cookies with David and Mort at Daylily World. But, she especially enjoyed sitting in a wooden swing in Bill Munson's Wimberlyway Garden. There, they reminisced daylily days past. I stayed in the background and just listened. That was such a joy to hear these two long-time hybridizers talk privately.

Yes, driving Bertie Ferris around Florida was a daylily experience I will never forget and one which I will cherish forever.

Joyce and Allyene Lewis and Bluebird Sands

By Mary and Eddie Gage

Spring, TX, August 31, 2008. Some years back, it must have been when Dallas hosted a Region 6 Meeting, the Gulf Coast Daylily Society chartered a bus for the trip to Dallas. On the way home we visited Joyce and Allyene Lewis' Bluebird Sands Garden in Murchison. (Sands is the operative word for this true story.) Allyene told me of a dream she had the previous night in which our bus got hung up on a low limb overhanging their driveway.

After the garden visit and lovely refreshments we said our good-byes, boarded our bus, drove out the driveway and onto the sandy road. As we passed that overhanging limb I told Eddie of Allyene's dream. Our bus driver had no experience at driving on sandy roads and we began to slide inch by inch off into the ditch of deep, loose sand. We were stuck but good. Eddie and Jeff Stagg walked back up to the house and surprised Joyce and Allyene relaxing now that all the company was gone. Eddie said, "Joyce, the strangest thing happened. You know that low limb hanging over your driveway? Well, the bus got hung up on it and I need a chain saw to cut us loose." Allyene's eyes got as big as saucers and she said, "I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT! I KNEW IT!" Then Eddie told them what REALLY happened and asked if Joyce might have some way of helping us get out.

Joyce said, "Well, I think I might have something that will do the job, and if it won't you may be here until Christmas." Then he came up with a very large tractor that he used for his peanut farming, hooked onto the bus and just walked it out very slowly. What a memorable day for us all.

Good friends like the Joyce and Allyene Lewis have brought us so much fun and fond memories and all because of daylilies.

You Are Invited to Join the Daylily Growers of Dallas

Please enroll me as a member of the Daylily Growers of Dallas.

Date _____

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (E-mail) _____

Month and Day of Birth: _____ (Optional; will only be used for birthday list in Yearbook and *The Hem Line*.)

I/We enclose payment for _____ calendar years at the annual rate checked below:

_____ Annual Individual Membership \$15.00. _____ Annual Youth Membership (up to 18 years of age) \$5.00.

_____ Annual Family Membership (two individuals at same address) \$25.00.

I/We enclose payment for lifetime membership at the rate checked below:

_____ Life Individual Membership \$150. _____ Life Family Membership (two individuals at same address) \$250.

This is a new membership _____. This is a renewal _____. AHS Member? Yes _____; No _____

Memberships are on the calendar year (January–December) and fees are due on or before the last day of the calendar year. New members joining before September 1 receive all the publications of the current year. Membership fees paid after September 1 are effective through December 31 of the following calendar year. Make checks payable to Daylily Growers of Dallas.

Mail to: Jane Denton, 13848 Heartside Place, Farmers Branch, TX 75234-3626.

You Are Invited to Join the American Hemerocallis Society

Please enroll me as a member of the American Hemerocallis Society for the year(s) 20 _____.

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

I enclose \$ _____ for the following [Check appropriate box(es)]:

_____ Annual Single Membership, 1 person—\$25.00 _____ Family Membership, 2 persons (one set of publications)—\$30.00.

_____ Three-Year Single Membership, 1 person—\$75.00 _____ Three-Year Family Membership, 2 persons—\$83.00

_____ Annual Youth Membership (through calendar year of 18th birthday)—\$10.00

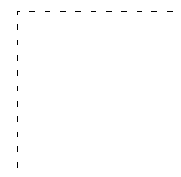
_____ Life Membership—\$500.00 _____ Dual Life Membership, 2 persons at same address (one set of publications)—\$750.00.

This is a new membership _____. This is a renewal _____.

All memberships are on the calendar year (January–December). New members joining before September 30 will receive all the publications of the current year. Memberships received after September 30 will be credited to the following year unless otherwise advised. Make checks payable to American Hemerocallis Society.

Mail to: Pat Mercer, AHS Executive Secretary, P.O. Box 10, Dexter, Georgia 31019

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Binion Amerson, Editor, *The Hem Line*
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DGD Celebrates 50 Years—Saturday, September 20, 2008. Details Inside.
