

The ArkLa Daylily



Volume 8 Issue 1 Spring 2026

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The American Hemerocallis Society, Inc. is a non-profit organization, organized exclusively for the educational and scientific purposes, to promote, encourage, and foster the development and improvement of the genus *Hemerocallis* and the public interest therein. AHS qualifies as a 501C(3).

The Arkla, Region 13 newsletter, is presented as a service to Region 13 and its members and may or may not be endorsed by AHS or the AHS Editor.

AHS membership information can be obtained at ahs.org

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Front Cover is an image of Chris Bridge's Garden



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ADS Display Garden Images



President's Letter



Greetings Region 13,

Spring has sprung. For the longest it looked as if we were not even getting a frost this winter, then we went from eighty degree highs to three nights into the low twenties. So much for scapes in January. That said, the plants look great. You would not know they were burnt to ground just a few weeks ago. I must admit cleaning up dead foliage is not my idea of fun.

I am holding a short Regional Meeting March 28 in Brenda Bridges' Garden at 10:00. The sole purpose of the meeting is to create a nomination committee to present our next Regional President at the May Regional Meeting. I can serve two more years but think it's time for someone else to take the reins. This will be the first time in years Region 13's president will not be Bob Stassen or me.

A change will be a good thing for the Region. Bob and I are out of ideas on how to generate interest and, more importantly, excitement. Most of the Region 13 Garden Judges either did not renew or moved their membership to Region 11. I understand, folks don't travel as much, so they do not get to see the flowers that are on the ballot. Heck I do travel and have not seen most of the flowers on

the ballot. You can't or shouldn't vote for what you have not seen in person. Region 13 now has two Garden Judges and one exhibition Judge. Hopefully we will gain some Garden Judges at this year's Regional in Baton Rouge.

Personally, I am still excited about the flowers. Other than Grandchildren, there is nothing better than walking the seedling beds first thing in the morning. I love seeing that seedling for the first time and saying, "Thank you Lord". Or something else that is not so righteous, Then send the picture to someone who will at least pretend they like it. I am excited about the new breakthroughs in daylilies. Heidi Douglas is producing diploids with gold edges that you would swear are tetraploids. I think we will see true green flowers, not chartreuse, but emerald, green. Blue? Yes, I think we will see the elusive blue daylily. Big, I have no doubt we will see ten-inch dinner plate size full form flowers sooner than later.

There are thousands of people following daylilies through different online platforms. I would like to see us tap into those interested enough to follow daylilies, but not participate, as members on the local level. It has been suggested that AHS create a digital membership. A membership where you received the Journal in an electronic form rather than print form. There would be little to no cost to the organization for these members and therefore their membership dues could be minimal.

For those who do not want to travel south for the Baton Rouge regional, the 2027 Region 13 meeting is supposed to be held in Jonesboro, Arkansas. However, I just found out the Arkansas State Daylily Society is holding their summer meeting there June. 20. Either way, it has been a while since I visited northeast Arkansas and I look forward to visiting gardens and the people.

Below are some of the seedlings you might see if you attend the Regional Meeting in Baton Rouge. ***See you in May or June!***



Director's Report

Greeting Region 13

Region 13 has experienced a decline in membership. Many of our northwestern Region 13 members have moved their membership to Region 11. It is understandable: the growing conditions are more conducive, and their regional meetings are hours closer. Region 11 has gained some great folks.

The national membership numbers remained steady for the first time in years. Leadership has taken membership very seriously and we are seeing the fruits of their labor.

If you have not visited the new AHS website you are in for a treat. Headed up by our new AHS President Rich Crider, it is beautiful, modern, and more interactive. I love that there are fillable forms for almost everything. It is a work in progress and there are updates being performed weekly. The search engine is making it easier to locate information.

AHS is working on having online classes for Garden and Exhibition Judges. There is online testing. Looks like daylilies have entered the 21st century.

The first AHS work weekend was held in New Orleans in January. Fifty AHS members came together to discuss challenges of an organization. A special thanks go out to the Southeast Louisiana Daylily Society for their hospitality. The folks who attended really appreciated the second line who escorted us to the riverfront where we split up to eat at the different dining establishments.

There were numerous items that were brought to the forefront and potential solutions and committees formed to investigate further. I can see more changes coming to the way the organization does business. I can see the organization being more interactive with local clubs, members, and potential members.

The board is having more meetings than just the normal two meetings a year. AHS is utilizing online capabilities that in the past would have never been considered. It was nice having a board meeting sitting in the comfort of my living room.

You may have noticed the 100 giving \$100 pin on the inside cover. There are a number of members collecting the annual pin. There are 2026 as well as some previous year pins available.

Region 13 needs your support. If you wish to get involved drop me a line.

There is a Regional Meeting in Baton Rouge May 16 – 17 and the very next weekend is the National in Valdosta, Georgia. Some folks are visiting our Regional on their way to Valdosta.

The hotel rates and availability are at a premium for this weekend in Baton Rouge. Folks are finding much better hotel rates in Zachary and Denham Springs. These are medium size towns on the outskirts of Baton Rouge. In Denham Springs the area around the Bass Pro Shop has great dinning and shopping. In Zachary the Comfort Inn is where all the ball teams stay and it is close to some of the best dinning establishments in Zachary.

I look forward to seeing you in Baton Rouge, Jonesboro and or in Valdosta

Joe

Publicity Director's Report



Hello, Region 13 members!

Spring is finally here! The daylilies seem to be waking up and eager for the spring rain to jump start their growth. Another bloom season is right around the corner. There is so much to look forward to in the coming months. Our regional meeting and live auction will take place on May 16th at 2:00pm. The address of the meeting is 8550 United Plaza Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA (10 story black glass and cream column office building). The meeting will be held on the First floor in the training center.

There will be several tour gardens (on your own) and a live auction following the meeting on Saturday. The Garden Judges II class will be taught in the Hybridizing garden at 10:00am on Sunday. I look forward to seeing you there!

ADS Nationals in Valdosta, GA on May 20-23 will be the next big event. Early registration is quickly coming to a close on March 20, 2026, and the deadline for all registrations will end on April 15, 2026. We would love for Region 13 to be well represented in Georgia!

There is another exciting event being planned in the Jonesboro, AR area in June. I was thrilled to read about Tim Snow's newly registered display garden named Snow's Daylily Garden! Tim has worked hard to not only be an ADS Display Garden, but also a Historical Daylily Display Garden. I am looking forward to attending the garden tour in June and more information will be coming out soon.

Please reach out if you have any club events that you would like flyers created for or if there is anything I can do to help promote your club events. I'm here for you!

Happy gardening,

Lovie

lovieking@hotmail.com

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ADSregion13>

Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/adsreg13>



King Seedlings



Treasurer's Report

American Hemerocallis Society Region 13 Inc.

Statement of Income and Expenses Through February 16, 2026

3/15/2026 Beginning Balance **\$19,326.27**

Income

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Arkla mailing reimbursement from AHS	\$0
AHS reimbursement for mailing of newsletter	\$0
Interest from Savings account CD	\$48.16
Individual Contributions	\$0
Total Income	\$48.16

Expenses

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
AHS (insurance, Indiana SOS)	\$0
Regional Newsletter	\$0
AHS insurance & corporate annual report fee	\$0
Other	\$0
Total Expenses	\$0

1/31/2026 Ending Balance **\$19,374.43**

Prepared by Errol Nabb, Region 13 Treasurer on 2/16/26.

American Hemerocallis Society Region 13 Inc. is a 501c3 non-profit corporation registered in the state of Indiana.



Images From the Bridges Garden

Region 13 2026 Regional Meeting and Garden Tour

Saturday May 16, 2026

8:00 - 12:00 Open Gardens

Tour Gardens and Garden Addresses

Please be advised that most of the gardens do not have public restrooms or are ADA compatible.

Botanical Garden of Baton Rouge, Clair Fontenot

Public Garden

7950 Independence Park, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Brenda Bridges' Garden

Private Garden

14510 Brenda Street, Gonzales, Louisiana

Dale Bowman's Garden

Private Garden

11019 Buxton Road, St. Amant, Louisiana

Peter and Carol Lazar Garden

Private Garden

5875 Forsythia Ave, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Lunch on your own

2:00 Regional Meeting, Auction, Slide presentation.

8550 United Plaza Blvd, Baton Rouge. (10 Story black Glass and cream column office building)

The meeting is located on the First floor in the training center.

Sunday May 17, 2026

7:30—11:00

Garden Judges 2, if needed, 11:00 at the Hybridizer farm. Please RSVP

In my hybridizing garden you could see approximately seventy five named varieties, 7,000 first year seedlings, and approximately one thousand selected seedlings.

In my line out garden, the former 2011 National Convention garden, you could see twenty named varieties and approximately 1,000 seedlings that are being evaluated for possible future introduction. Addresses to these two gardens will be provided at the Regional Meeting Saturday afternoon.

In the hybridizer garden there will be four seedlings beds that you will be allowed to dig, bag and purchase plants. Garden fork, scissors and Walmart sized bags will be made available, The cost per bag \$10 for everything you can fit. Yes, you will be able to cut as much foliage off of the plants as you like. All proceeds will go to the Baton Rouge Daylily Society which, in turn, will make a donation to Region 13.

*****Note*****

There is not a Regional hotel. Accommodations are on your own.

Participation is free

Growing Into the Garden: Brenda Bridges' Journey

By: Chris Bridges



Some gardeners inherit their knowledge along with a trowel and a well-worn sunhat. My mother, Brenda Bridges, did not. Her mother wasn't a gardener, and although her father was a farmer, she didn't grow up learning the difference between an annual and a perennial. When she and my father moved into their home, the yard was a blank slate—no beds, no borders, no foundation plantings. Just grass and possibility.

Determined to change that, she heard about a program through Louisiana State University, where landscape architecture students or professors would draft basic landscaping plans for homeowners. She brought her house plans and left with a vision. It was simple at first: boxwoods and crape myrtles to anchor the space. Safe choices. Solid structure.

But gardens, like gardeners, rarely stay static. Soon a few flowers found their way into the beds. Then roses. With each addition came new questions. What was eating the leaves? Why were spots forming on the foliage? She had to learn about insect pests and plant diseases as she went—sometimes the hard way. Local nurseries became her classrooms. She asked questions, listened carefully, and kept trying.

Season by season, her knowledge deepened and as her understanding grew, so did the garden. What began as foundation shrubs evolved into a richly layered landscape filled with texture, color, and rare treasures. Daylilies became a particular passion and her collection now includes numerous cultivars admired by enthusiasts far beyond our hometown. Her garden has been featured on regional tours for Region 13 of the American Daylily Society and highlighted in local and regional garden publications. Clematis climb through her beds, along with other flowering vines that add vertical drama and seasonal surprise.

Eventually, her dedication led her to become a Master Gardener—formal recognition of what many already knew: she had become a true plantswoman. Maintaining her garden is easily a full-time job. Beds must be weeded, mulch applied, vines trained, pests monitored and blooms deadheaded. Yet it is work she loves and she delights in sharing her garden with fellow enthusiasts. Visitors leave inspired, often carrying divisions, cuttings, or at the very least, fresh ideas. I know I did.

As her son, I had the privilege of learning alongside her—absorbing lessons about plants, patience, resilience and the quiet reward of nurturing something from the ground up. She didn't just grow a garden. She grew confidence, knowledge, community—and in me, a lifelong love of gardening.

Her story reminds us that no one is born knowing plants. Every gardener starts somewhere. Sometimes, all it takes is a blank yard.

The Botanical Garden of Baton Rouge, Claire Fontenot



Located in the heart of Baton Rouge, the Botanic Garden provides residents with a place to enjoy all that the southern climate has to offer in the ways of plantings and species. The Botanical Garden of Baton Rouge was begun in 1991 by a group of hard-working volunteers and is ever changing. Recently the Goodwood library was built, which moved the main entrance and added new walking paths, hardscape and landscaping.

Established gardens and gardens under development are the Crape myrtle garden, Rose Garden, Louisiana Iris Garden, Herb Garden, Sensory Garden, Parterre Garden, Butterfly Garden, Crape Myrtle Grove, Live Oak Grove, Ginger Garden, and of course, the Daylily Garden. The different plant organizations and master gardeners help maintain their areas of interest.

The daylily garden was started with plants donated by B.B. Saxton. In 2001 it was expanded by Botanic volunteers. Members of the Baton Rouge Daylily Society donated over 800 cultivars. In 2009 this garden was recognized by the American Hemerocallis Society as a Display Garden and not only a Display Garden but an Heirloom Display Garden. The

Botanic Garden has one of the largest public collections of Heirloom Daylilies in the Region. The earliest I could find was from 1942 from a hybridizer named Russell. Plants you may never have heard of or have not seen in years from Guidry, Spalding, Gates, Crochet, Saxton, McMillan, Rea, Sikes, Henry, Carpenter, Durio, Salter, Pittard, Trimmer, Carr, Stamile, Morss, Kirchhoff, and many other stallworth's in the world of daylilies can be viewed here.

If it were not for Clair Fontenot's dedication and thousands of hours of hard work, the daylily portion of the garden would probably be 20 varieties with mislabeled plant markers.

Born and raised on a farm in Houma, Claire chose to forgo her career in the medical services field until her three sons were well into adulthood. During this time, she became involved with Lagniappe Studies, Master Gardeners and, of course, the Botanical Garden of Baton Rouge.

After serving twenty years in the health care industry Claire retired in 1995. Then Claire became increasingly involved in volunteer work, teaching and mentoring those interested in horticulture.



Claire has served as Secretary for the Baton Rouge Daylily Society for many years. Claire is also Regional Secretary depending on who's the Regional President. An AHS member and winner of the 2020 Region 13 Service Award, Claire is an inspiration,

In her spare time, she keeps up with eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Thanks to Bill Monroe for the image of Claire and the Article

The Spring 2018 AHS Journal Article on Claire can be found at the Region Website

The Gardening Story of Pete and Carol Lazar



As a young man, I sailed. A sailboat, it is said, is a hole in the water lined with fiberglass, into which one pours money. Long after I gave up sailing my wife and I took up gardening, which is a hole in the dirt into which one pours money. The beauty and tranquility of a garden does not come cheap or easy. Whenever you are dragging home from work or dragging to the end of the day after caring for children, your gardening effort is limited. We limited ourselves to basic landscaping around our home.

Picture taken at Fairchild Gardens Miami, Florida

Two things led to more gardening: first, we moved to a larger home and lot; second, our kids grew up and I retired. We started raising exotic hybrid hibiscus plants. We had been given a few pots of hibiscus from family members. This grew to a collection of over 100 potted hibiscus plants at one time. We also were invited to help prepare daylilies for the annual LSU garden sale by the Goudeaus, for which we were compensated with copious quantities of un-named or un-labeled daylilies. These were planted just for our enjoyment and decoration, not hybridizing or other hobby aspects. Once started we also collected properly labeled daylily plants. Pretty soon, if there was an open space, we were sticking something in the clearing, often daylilies. With time and interest, we joined garden societies for both daylilies and hibiscus, which has greatly enhanced our ability to raise and care for these plants, and provided access for more plants. We have also planted many other plants such as roses, plumeria, adenium, hostas, as well as herbs and vegetables.

Of course, when you have all these plants you need a patio, so, we greatly enlarged our patio to display dozens of hibiscus pots as well as containers for herbs and vegetables and added lots of space and playthings for children and grandchildren. We are blessed or cursed by two grand live oak trees in our back yard, which provide dappled sunlight over the whole yard. The oak trees give us unending leaves and acorns. If the trees were not so magnificent and valuable, I would cut them down to keep the garden clean and let me build a green house. But I just can't. Instead, our ten grandchildren enjoy tall rope swings, sand box, climbing structure, and playhouses, under the shade of mighty oak trees, while we enjoy our flowers.

We love to photograph/photo-document our flowers, and eat our veggie produce. Freezing in Winter has taken a toll on hibiscus. We move them against the southern wall of the house and cover with frost tarps which is fine for about ten degrees below freezing, but we suffer. loss of hibiscus plants with temperatures below 20°F. The more pots we have, the further from the house wall some must be. This set up for dealing with freezing weather limits us to about 50 pots of hibiscus. The daylilies in the ground have survived low temperatures of 14°F, so far, without any covering other than the ground around them being well mulched. The ease of growing beautiful daylilies makes adding more and more to our gardens highly appealing and encourages us to let more of our garden become a daylily haven.

New Kid on the Block Dale Bowman



Dale Bowman grew up in Washington Parish on 100 acres and at an early age became interested in gardening. Her family loved to garden and always had a huge vegetable garden. Her Grandmother kindled her love for gardening by always having the most beautiful garden in the community. She grew camelias, azaleas, bulbs, annuals, perennials and every kind of flower imaginable.

Her family moved to St. Amant from Houma, Louisiana in 1985. They built a new home in a country subdivision on a beautiful oak-shaded three quarters of an acre lot. Over the years the once shaded lot lost many of its trees and the garden gradually turned into a sun garden. Running out of garden space they purchased the adjacent lot.

Fast forward to 2013. While attending the Oakes Daylily Festival in Corryton, Tennessee, Dale and her husband struck up a conversation with Mr. Stewart Oakes, the second generation owner. It was at that moment that her husband became interested in flowers and gardening. After that visit they decided they were going to start a daylily nursery. No sooner than they returned home, they started building line out beds, purchased plants and started planting. The goal was to open the garden for sales in 2017.

Then life happened. The flood of 2016 found the garden and home under three feet of water for three days. They lost over a third of the daylilies, many azaleas and countless other plants. The garden took a back seat to rebuilding the house. Six months later the desire to run a daylily nursery was quelled. Fast forward to 2025. A friend and fellow gardener Brenda Bridges brought me to the garden just to visit. It did not take long before I had talked Dale into participation in a Regional tour. Dale has since joined the Baton Rouge Daylily Society and the American Hemerocallis Society.

Dale will have over 125 varieties of daylilies for sale for ten dollars per plant. She accepts cash, checks, PayPal and Venmo.



Do it Yourself Sprinkler System Installation

During the 2025 AHS Fall board meeting, President Rhonda Veroeven requested that each director put together an educational program to be added to the ADS Library. I thought long and hard about what I could contribute: hybridizing, lining out, Garden Judging, building beds, Cajun dancing, something else? At the time I had been preparing a parcel of ground for new beds, a yearlong process, and it was time to install the irrigation.



Let me be clear, I am not a professional irrigation expert. What I will be describing works for me in the deep south where the ground does not freeze. If further north, I am sure the pipe must be much deeper and there is a way to drain or remove the water from the lines, commonly referred to as winterizing.

I am irrigating a daylily farm, not a garden, so the beds are in long rows with no companion plants. I lay out the beds and walkways based on the area available. I prefer five-foot-wide beds. Any wider makes it difficult to reach the center plants comfortably to catalogue and to hybridize. I typically make the aisles between the beds twenty inches wide. Twenty inches is the minimum width necessary to walk through when the plants are fully mature with a wheelbarrow. A necessity when the time comes to move plants, weed, and mulch. The length of the bed depends on the size of the

area. Fifty feet between cut-through isles seems to be sufficient for my needs.

I then determine the number of watering zones required to provide adequate coverage. If a water well is not used, I recommend a one-inch water meter to provide additional water volume. Pressure is usually not an issue here, but volume of water is. I found I can put as many as twelve rotary type sprinkler heads per zone, more if I use spray heads. Some municipalities require a backflow preventer on your irrigation system. The backflow preventer prevents water from your sprinkler lines from backing into the main water supply possibly contaminating drinking water. Check with your local water company or department of public works for requirements in your area.

Be sure to contact 811 or whatever entity in your area that locates and marks utility lines. Do this even if you think there are no utilities in the area. The last thing you want to do is find an underground utility by accident. If you do not have the utilities marked and damage one, you could be in for a hefty repair bill, especially if the utility is a fiber optic line.



Once designed it is time to start digging. I run a string line to make the attempt to keep the sprinkler risers straight.



**Know what's below.
811 before you dig.**

Install a Sprinkler System



I hand dig a trench about eight inches deep. This is deep enough to not hit the pipe with a tiller when it is time to rebuild beds. You will need a long, narrow long-handled shovel. The long handle provides additional leverage. A angled shovel is used for removing loose material from the bottom of the trench.



I run one inch schedule forty PVC. PVC stands for polyvinyl chloride which is what the plastic pipe is made of. It is the most economic for my needs and sufficient for the volume of water I want to distribute. Larger pipe would provide even more volume but after one inch, the fittings become pricy. Schedule forty will usually stand up to an accidental shovel or tiller strike. Schedule twenty, though more economical, will not. I use threaded fittings going from one inch to three quarters of an inch for the risers. Threaded fittings allow you to repair a broken riser without having to dig up several feet of pipe. They make an extraction tool that is worth its weight in gold when extracting a broken fitting.



Decide the type of sprinkler head you are going to use; spray, rotary, or if you are talking a smaller scale, micro systems. I water overhead in the early morning to not affect the majority of the flowers. Watering during the day may burn the plants and or cause rotting. Watering at night enhances the conditions for different diseases that I rather not deal with. You will need to consider the distance of your spray patterns and whether or not you are going to overlap zones.

Now time to purchase supplies. You will need a time clock, direct burial sprinkler wire, valves, pipe, fittings, glue, and sprinkler heads. There are a lot of places where you can save money; do not try and save money on the valves. I have valves that have been in operation for over twenty years. Changing a valve is very labor intensive, you must excavate a large area that is usually in the middle of a daylily bed.



There are a number of tools you will need for this project other than the shovels previously discussed. You will need a tape measure, PVC cutting tool (worth the investment) hammer, saw, pliers, and wiping cloths or paper towels and finally a screwdriver and wire strippers when time to hook up the timer.

Sprinkler 2

I start with the valves making sure to use Teflon tape on the supply side to ensure there is no leak. Do not overtighten or you may crack a fitting or worse the valve itself. Once the valves are in place it is time to start installing pipe. The valves are typically installed in a valve box that has a lid so that you can easily access the valves and connections at a later date.



Never install PVC pipe when the temperatures are below sixty degrees. The glue may not melt the pipe and you may not get adequate adhesion. When too cold the pipe breaks rather than cuts cleanly. It is your choice

whether you use cleaner or not: if all the pipes are new I usually do not. I run the irrigation wiring before you run the pipe. The pipe will protect the wire from an accidental shoveling incident or a tiller time. You do have to apply glue to the pipe and to the inside of the fitting. Make sure you seat the pipe to the stopping point inside the fitting and hold it for about twenty seconds. It can pull apart when released if you do not. If unsure

you can put a mark on the pipe with a sharpie so that you know how much pipe is inserted into the fitting.

Try and keep the pipe out of the trench as long as possible. It is much easier to work on flat ground than the bottom of the trench. It is also easier to keep the pipe clean.



If you must install pipe under an obstruction, put painters' tape on the end of the pipe to allow you to push it through without filling your pipe with debris. Painters tape is the easiest to remove and does not leave an adhesive residue.

There may be roots, old unused sprinkler pipe, or some other obstruction that will be easier to remove than to go under. A reciprocating saw is the best tool I have found for this task.



Sprinkler Final Steps

I advise that you install risers as you go so that they are straight. The pipe does not have to be perfectly straight as long as the risers are in line. You can use rebar, conduit, stakes or some other means of maintaining the “look” of the finished product. Support is also necessary, so the risers do not sway when in operation.

Once all the risers are installed, I paint them. If you do not paint the PVC risers the sun will cause the PVC to become brittle. Painting extends the life. The time spent painting allows the PVC glue ample time to cure. Once the paint and glue are dry I flush the lines with water by opening the valves manually. I usually flush three times by capping the risers closest to the valve as I flush, forcing all of the debris out the last riser. Once

the water is clear I install and adjust the sprinkler heads.



I recommend warmer temperatures during this process. You will get soaked. I adjust both distance and spray pattern. Once I determine there are no leaks, I backfill the trench.

Lastly, install the irrigation clock in a waterproof enclosure or under a protective structure. Make sure you seal all of the holes. If you don't, you will find visitors. There is nothing worse than opening the box to adjust the clock and you find a wasp nest. There are varied brands of clocks. I usually purchase one that has more zones

than I need. This gives me the option to add zones later, or if something goes wrong with a zone, it provides the options to move the wire to an unused zone. Once all the wiring is complete, I plug the clock into the power source, set the duration, and frequency to water and Voila!

Region 13 Club Information

Club Meeting Dates, Places and Times

The **Arkansas State Daylily Society** Summer Meeting will be held in Jonesboro, Arkansas June 20, at 12:00. The meeting will be held in the garden of Tim and Sheila Snow. There will be an open garden tour of three local gardens from 8:00 – 2:00. The gardens of David Jones, Country Road 780, and the Dr. Joe Stanton, 1503 S. Main Street, will be open from 8:00 till 11:00. You will need to park at Jonesboro High School for Dr. Stanton's Garden. Tim and Sheila Snow's Garden, 246 County Road 426, will be open from 11:00 till 2:00. A complementary free lunch will be served in the Snow Garden. The suggested hotel is Embassy Suites by Hilton Jonesboro, Red Wolf Convention Center, 223 Red Wolf Blvd, Jonesboro, AR 72401.

To RSVP or for additional information contact Tim Snow (870) 378-0407 timothythomassnow@gmail.com

The **Baton Rouge Daylily Society** will meet in the garden of Jim and Brenda Bridges on March 28, at 10:00 AM. Brenda Bridges' garden is located at 14510 Brenda Street, Gonzales, Louisiana. There will be discussion on the 2026 Regional Meeting and a plant raffle.

The **Cenla Daylily Club** Please contact club president for meeting details

The **Northeast Arkansas Daylily Society** will meet at Fat City Steak and Grill House on March 19. Fat City Steak and Grill House is located at 3721 East Johnson Ave, Bring seed for a seed swap.

The **Northshore Daylily Society** has meetings scheduled for April 17, September 25, and November 20, (annual potluck meeting). Meetings are held at the Tangipahoa Tourist and Visitor Center located at 13143 Wardline Road, Hammond, Louisiana. Social time 9:30, meeting start time 10:00.

The **Northwest Arkansas Daylily Society** meets the 2nd Thursday of each month except for January, August and December. The meeting Start time is 6:15. The meetings are held at the J.B. and Johnelle Hunt Nature Center, 3400 North 40th Street in Springdale, Arkansas.

The **Southeast Louisiana Daylily Society's** next meeting is March 21. Social time begins at 9:30 and the meeting starts at 10:00. Meetings are held at the East Bank Regional Library, 4747 West Napoleon Ave, Metairie. SELDS will discuss a bus trip to Hattiesburg, Mississippi on May 25. Cost is \$25.00.



Jonesboro Garden Images



Garden and Exhibition Judges

Garden Judges

Judges in Italics Instructors

2026 Brenda Fontenot, Pineville, LA

2028 Joe Goudeau, Baton Rouge, LA

Exhibition Judges

Ken Begnaud, Lafayette, LA

Brenda Fontenot, Pineville, LA Honorary

Bill Monroe, Baton Rouge LA Honorary



Display Gardens

Baton Rouge Botanic Garden

Claire Fontenot Liaison

7950 Independence Park

Baton Rouge, LA 70806

clafon@att.net

(225) 753-1100

LeRoy's Legacy

Roy and LaDonna Landry

4648 Pecan Grove Road

St. Francisville, LA 70775

sotreasure@bellsouth.net

(225) 921-8130

Shovel Garden Daylilies

Pat and Pat Larsen

1120 Salem Road

Conway, AR 72034

Patx2@conwaycorp.net

(501) 327-1211 (501) 908-8909

White Rock Gardens

Phyllis Kirtley

265 Woodridge Lane

Benton, AR 72019

phylliskirtley@att.net

(501) 626-7258

Snow's Daylily Garden

Tim Snow

246 County Road 426

Jonesboro, AR 72019

(870) 378-0407

timothythomassnow@gmail.com

Dragonfly Gardens

John Antonetti

2215 Cedar Drive

Bryant, AR 72401

Anton24_7@msn.com

Images are from American Daylily Society
Display gardens of Phyllis Kirtley and
John Antonetti.

One of a Kind

For many the best part of growing and collecting daylilies are the people we meet and the moments we Treasure. I was contacted by Ellen Posey in early February. Ellen was president of the Baton Rouge Daylily Society when I first started collecting daylilies over thirty years ago. Her garden has been on many local and regional tours, and she has been a great supporter of daylilies in Region 13. It had been several years since I had the opportunity to visit Ellen, so I must admit it was a surprise to hear from her.

So why the call? Her husband Alan carved a walking stick. Not just any walking stick but a one-of-a-kind Daylily walking Stick. It had adorned the wall of their home for over ten years, and she decided she wanted to see it shared with someone who loved daylilies.

Alan probably didn't know what a daylily was until he and Ellen married. Ellen and Alan were friends in high school. They would reconnect over the years through class reunions, but it was only after both of their spouses passed, some forty years later, did they begin to converse, date, and ultimately marry. Alan would accompany Ellen to daylily functions and one day decided to design and create a daylily walking stick.

Allan F. Posey 1941– 2015

Alan received a PHD from the University of Arkansas and taught at the University of Arkansas Pine Bluff for twenty-eight years. He started carving wood in the nineteen seventies selling and giving away many pieces.

The walking stick will be auctioned on the Lilly Auction starting May 1. Daylily.com look for seller daylilyjoe. You will have to register to bid. There will be a minimum reserve bid set.



Ellen Posey presenting the walking stick to BRDS



Alan Posey carvings



A Hybridizer's Perspective on Selection

By Lovie King

Culling, or removing plants, should be an important part of every hybridizing program. It honestly feels so good to cull out plants to make room for new ones, whether it be newly planted seedlings or purchased plants to add to your program.

Keep in mind that I do not consider myself an expert on selection, I just keep what I like and have learned by trial and error. Typically, three years of growth should tell you a lot about a seedling and whether it is worthy enough to keep in your program. Most of my culling happens in the first year.

Many hybridizers wait a couple of bloom seasons to make a decision, but when your focus is on bloom form and color clarity, it makes it an easy process. I am striving for peony type doubles that are consistent in form. So, if I have single form bloom, it's an automatic cull for me. Granted, I have had some plants that I have given away as single blooms or double only a few times on rebloom! This is not a trait I would want but always a nice surprise for the grower that was thrilled to get the cull plant. Distinction is also important. To my surprise, I have had several seedlings appear identical to one of the parent plants. I do not keep these, unless they are an 'upgrade' in bud count and branching. As far as color, if the first bloom color is brown and subsequent blooms are the same, I am not keeping it a second year to see if it 'improves'. Yes, some colors seem to improve the second year, but it typically should not 'change' in color completely. This makes for easy culling decisions in the first year.

The second year is the year where I scrutinize the seedlings that made the cut the first year. I have to consider several questions when culling. Do they bloom consistently in color and form compared to last year?

I had a lovely seedling that was double 100% the first year and the second year it doubled about 50% of the time. What a let down! Imagine if I had registered it the first year it bloomed, it would be more than just me that would be let down. Did the plant multiply and divide? I have had two second year seedlings look vastly different. One had two small fans and the other had a clump of six large fans. You want plants that are vigorous and multiply with ease. It's no fun to have a plant that will not increase. It will never show well in a garden. I've purchased plants from hybridizers that are still double fans after three years. What is the bud and branch count? It's important to consider both bud count and branching for plants. If you have a brilliant bloom that only has a count of eight buds, branch count of two, and no rebloom, you would only be able to enjoy it for a week or two. How disappointing would that be in a garden, as you would have to enjoy the foliage more than the bloom.

The third year seems to be the year for checking consistency. This is the year to compare your bud count and branching data from the second year. The bloom should be consistent in form, color, bud count, branching, and continue to multiply. It should be distinctive from other named plants, and you have a winner! If you are hybridizing for registration and retail, I highly recommend utilizing the ADS Test Garden program to put your seedlings to the test in other regions. This is a new program just getting started and I feel that it is invaluable to the amount of knowledge a hybridizer could learn about their seedlings before they are registered. Remember to cull those plants to make room for more. A wise fella once told me, it takes just as much work and money to fertilize and water a low performing plant as it does a showstopper. Choose wisely and you'll be rewarded in the years to come!

A Hybridizers Perspective on Selection

By Lovie King



Little Night Jewel (parent of the seedling to the right) This seedling lacks distinction from its parent.



The seedling to the left was 100% double the first year.
This photo was taken the second year.
While the vigor of this plant is excellent, the consistency of the doubling trait is not.



This seedling, while a pretty bloom, is still one fan after two years.



This seedling is the same age as the yellow one. Though not as pretty a flower, its vigor and increase is lovely!

American Hemerocallis Society
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