



# THE GARDEN GATE

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## JOHN'S JOTTINGS

Mr. Tim Bell, from Bell's Daylily Garden of Georgia, will be our featured speaker on 21, 2014, beginning promptly at 7:00 p.m.

Tim Bell is the recipient of many awards from the American Hemerocallis Society.

Tim and his wife, Linda, have four children: Jessica, 19, Rachel, 16, Hunter, 14, and Jared, 13. In 1982, a relative offered Tim her collection of 106 cultivars if he would come and dig them. He did. Then he started acquiring daylilies from other hybridizers and began hybridizing immediately. Tim now has multiple hybridizing programs

including heavy gold edges, patterned eyes, appliques, triple-color edges, and reds. Tim actually understands his own involvement in hybridizing daylilies, "I'm just a bumblebee. I move the pollen. I can't make the sun come up or the rain fall." – From the AHS Summer Journal

Since we are beginning our meeting time early, please plan on attending and helping greet and welcome Mr. Bell. His presentations are always interesting, educational, informative and upbeat! We will have our meal, followed by our speaker, and end with an exciting auction of his gorgeous daylilies. You're bound to find at least one you'll want for YOUR garden. I am looking forward to hearing his presentation. Let's make this a very well attended meeting.

There is only one business issue that I know of right now: we need to select a Show Chairperson for the Daylily Show next spring. I hope by starting now, we can have everything in order well in advance. Please be thinking about who will get this honor. (As I mentioned last month, I have heard a rumor that there MAY be a volunteer.)

See you Thursday August 21, 2014 at 7:00 PM (or before) for the meeting.

John❖

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# Program

As John has already mentioned, Tim Bell is flying in from Georgia to speak to us this month about his hybridizing program and show us his beautiful creations. He will auction many of these to NTDS. This auction will help pay for his flight. We may have visitors from ETDS and possibly other clubs as well, to hear Tim's presentation. He will be arriving at DFW just after 4 P.M. and will have worked up a good appetite by the time we eat. Let's prepare a good meal for this meeting. See you Thursday.

Linda❖

## Your Garden: Focus on health means fewer daylily worries

**Dear Roger:** I am a beginning daylily breeder. I have harvested and planted my daylily seeds and many have come up. I noticed some leaf streaks and brown tips on the seedlings last week.

Should I trim the seedlings back? Should I spray anything? I appreciate your help. - Barb, Monroe, Louisiana

**Dear Barb:** You ask some excellent questions, and yet you say you're a newcomer. We all ought to be asking the kinds of questions you ask. I have a few observations, if not answers:

First, trimming daylily seedlings is not necessary. Old floppy foliage grown under too little light will die of its own accord, and as it begins to die, it will get leaf streak and probably several other daylily diseases known and unknown.

Second, don't worry about daylily diseases. Concern yourself instead with excellent culture. I suspect that every daylily disease and pest known to man, and many others currently unknown, exist in almost every daylily garden in the country.

But, with the exception of daylily rust, healthy daylilies resist diseases. That's one of the main reasons we grow them.

If you have any daylilies that don't resist diseases in your garden, despite good culture, they probably are not well adapted to your climate or soil and should be discarded.

Unhealthy seedlings should be rigorously discarded.

Third, insist that the new daylilies you buy exhibit health and vigor.

If they do not, complain loudly to the breeder or grower you got them from. Breeders need to concentrate on

producing healthy plants. And knowing that some are not healthy in some gardens helps the breeders.

Some breeders may not be immediately receptive and appreciative. But the good ones will be.

Breeders, especially, should not make any effort to control daylily pests or diseases, except rust. How are you going to know which daylilies turn hideous in the face of thrips and aphids if you kill all the thrips and aphids?

Daylilies should be selected for resistance. Thrips and aphids eat all daylilies, but some of the daylilies show no effects. Others look miserable. Why breed with the ones that look miserable?

The leaves on your seedlings turn yellow and brown for a variety of reasons: because the seedlings are not happy with their growing conditions, fertilizing, temperatures, watering, because they have mites, or because they need to develop a new set of leaves and drop the old ones.

All seedlings grown in a closed environment are very likely to get spider mites. Once they're outdoors, the spider mites will continue to attack, but there will be far fewer of them because of rainfall, natural enemies and so on. And the seedlings will not show much effect from the mites unless the weather is hot and dry. Even then, no effort should be made to spray poisons on the plants. Overhead watering is the best mite control.

Send your questions to [roger@mercergarden.com](mailto:roger@mercergarden.com) or call Roger at 424-4756. You may write Roger Mercer, 6215 Maude St., Fayetteville, NC 28306. Please include your telephone number.

Roger Mercer❖

## How does a grandparent come into play in Daylily?

Deby Hill asked "how a grandparent comes into play in a daylily?"...Here is my convoluted extremely long explanation...--- Margaret

John pollinated A onto B and made seedling AB. Then he pollinated C onto AB to make seedling ABC, or he bought seeds that were already AB because one (or both of the parents) had a trait he wanted in his garden, as in this case, Poly blooms.

Sometimes you get what you want and sometimes you don't. This is the first year that I have noticed a significant amount of his "P" seedlings actually blooming poly. (P) Is the prefix he uses for seeds he hopes will bloom poly. They don't have the same numbering system that the rest of his seedlings have.

If you look at the American Hemerocallis page, you will see stuff like: (Royal Blue Blood × ((Chicago Thistle × Chicago Two Bits) × Royal Viking)). Royal

Blue Blood is one flower. The father is a seedling from the cross (Chicago Thistle x Chicago Two Bits). The seedling crossed with Royal Viking the other flower. It is entirely possible that the Chicago Thistle x Chicago Two Bits is a seedling that was never named or registered for some reason

A lot of your big time hybridizers do things like that to keep us little guys from “copying” their work. Another thing you will see will be: Royal Blue Blood x seedling or (seedling x seedling), for the same purpose. It gets confusing if you see a flower you like but it costs \$200+, so you want to see what happens in your garden if you make the same cross. Sometimes these crosses (sdlg X sdlg) are not up to introduction standards but they have qualities that further work will improve. Often, a Hybridizers will lose records, thus he list it as Unknown. Then, again, some do not even list the parents of their introductions.

I have several flowers in John’s garden that we bought for just that purpose. For example, look at this parentage line: Fantasy Fringe: ((Rock Solid x Zahadoom) x (Rock Solid x ((Glacial Bay x Tet. Siloam Ralph Henry) x Cherry Valentine))). So you have A x B (Glacial Bay x Siloam Ralph Henry) seedling crossed with Cherry Valentine to make seedling ABC which was then crossed with Rock Solid to make seedling ABCD which is just one of the parents of the flower. The other parent is D x E- Rock Solid on Zahadoom. So this flower is actually ABCDE and can represent any number of features that any of its predecessors had and has all the genetic code in it for all the above flowers. Pretty amazing, don’t do think???

And there is Fringed Sangria: ((Susan Pritchard Petit x Unlock the Stars) x (Emily Gibson x Blonde Ambition))). Those are the grandparents to the bloom from Sunday and it did exactly what it was bred to do. Fantasy Fringe has a BIG purple eye (on white



background) with yellow ruffled/toothy edge (the ruffled edging on the flower). Fringed Sangria is a big pink double. This made a double with ruffled edges and an

eye zone. Now there is no telling what her sisters are going to look like!!!

The picture is seedling M-12-93-C. It is the described cross above. Four inch Bloom, double, with gold throat, red patterned eye double edged with ruffles.

Margaret Kline❖

## 2015 Region 6 Meeting Houston Schedule

As the regional is 14-17 May 2015, I wanted a rough schedule before I made reservations at Hilton Garden Inn Houston-Pearland. I was told that it is not a large hotel and we should make our reservations early (it does not cost anything unless you forget to cancel and you can do that up 2 days before reservation).

I asked Paul Eskin, president of Lone Star Daylily Society, the host club, for an update. His response:

I want to double check with our chair for the Regional.

On Thursday [14<sup>th</sup>]- There would be the Flower Show, the start of the Plant Sale, Boutique, Silent Auction, the exhibition and garden show clinics and perhaps a slide show from some hybridizers.

On Friday and Saturday [15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>] - the Garden Tours, with the Plant Sale, Boutique, and Silent Auction continuing.

On Friday night (one of the dinners) and on Saturday night (the other dinner) and the regional plant auction.

On Sunday [17<sup>th</sup>] - Everybody checks out.

Again, let me make sure. I should be able to know in a couple of days.

Thanks,  
Paul Eskin  
LSDS – President

I also asked about any ‘convention id’ for reduced room rates. I will update everyone with what I learn.

Jim❖

## SUNSHINE REPORT

Phil Bledsoe is out of hospital after couple of weeks. He is feeling great (and was sited mowing his yard this week). Great news Phil.

Ken❖

**JULY HOST/HOStESS – NONE**

*Thanks!*

**AUGUST HOST/HOStESS – ‘SOMETHING COOL’**

Cathy Koogler, Susan Austin, Nickie Knight, E J Lee, Peggy Skinner, Dodie Skrasek, Linda Long, Vernon Wallis, Shirlene Holt, and Sharon Bartlett

*Thanks!*

**LAST MINUTE VOLUNTEERS**

Margaret Cline, Dee Dee Thompson, Jim Bartlett, John Turrentine, Peggy Skinner, and Vernon Wallis

*Thanks a lot!!*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NTDS Meeting @ Ft Worth Botanic Gardens**  
Time 7:00 PM, August 21<sup>st</sup> 2014

**DGDallas Meeting @ North Haven Gardens**  
Time 10:00 AM, Third Saturday,  
Jan-May, Sept-Nov.

**Johnson County Iris & Daylily Society @**  
United Cooperative Services, Cleburne  
Time 10 AM, Second Saturday  
monthly

**ETDS Meeting @ Tyler Rose Gardens**  
Time 2:00 PM, Second Sunday,  
Jan-Jun, Oct-Nov

### Shows n Sales

**NTDS Annual sale (with FWIS)**  
FWBG Sept 27<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 5pm

**FWBG Fall Sale**  
NTDS table, S side of grove.  
Oct 11-12, 9am - 2pm

### AHS

2014 – Asheville, NC  
2015 – Atlanta, GA

### Published for the members of the

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c/o Jim Bartlett  
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**Note: Early meeting time, 7:00PM on August 21<sup>st</sup>**

# North Texas Daylily Society

## Membership Application Form

**Please complete ALL fields**

Date \_\_\_\_\_  Renewal for 20\_\_\_\_  New membership(s)

Note that new members joining after January 1st are joining for following year.

Are you currently an American Hemerocallis Society member?

Names (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers Home \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need the Newsletter mailed? \_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

Do you want a NorthTexasDaylilySociety.org email address? \_\_\_\_ (Y/N)

If so, PRINT exact address wanted.

\_\_\_\_\_

(Normally this is First.Last@NorthTexasDaylilySociety.org)

Memberships desired:  Single member - \$15  Family membership - \$20

Youth member - \$8

Life membership - \$150  Lifetime family membership - \$200

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Please make checks payable to **North Texas Daylily Society**

Mail to **Gene Holt**  
**NTDS VP Membership,**  
**300 Oak Lane,**  
**Eules, Tx**  
**76039-2306**

In addition to [NorthTexasDaylilySociety.org](http://NorthTexasDaylilySociety.org), we have the alias [NorthTexasDaylilySociety.com](http://NorthTexasDaylilySociety.com). Please note that the Newsletter address has changed on previous pages.

The 'I have a problem/question' address is [admin@northtexasdaylilysociety.org](mailto:admin@northtexasdaylilysociety.org).

My club address is [Jim.Bartlett@northtexasdaylilysociety.org](mailto:Jim.Bartlett@northtexasdaylilysociety.org) while my normal email continues to be [G236007@gmail.com](mailto:G236007@gmail.com)

I plan on discussing this as needed in future meetings. I think using our club as your email address (or one of your email addresses) is just nicer than gmail, yahoo, msn, etc. Or the ever changing email address provided by your current ISP.

And, you can quickly change the NorthTexasDaylilySociety.org account to automatically forward **all mail to any other email account**. It will keep or delete the messages forwarded as you instruct.

So, I can just set everybody up or ask for requests. I would prefer to set everyone up at one time because I can do that from the membership list. And yes, this is a little easier than manually setting up 40-odd folks. Please note that I did NOT say 40 odd-folks.... :o)

OBTW, this includes all the applications included with a GMAIL account, private and shared DOCs (word processing, spreadsheets, etc), private and shared calendars, private and shared Sites (web pages).

Think about it and we can discuss any Thursday. Or just send me a note.

Jim