



# THE GARDEN GATE

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## TUCKER'S TALK

It appears as though Fall has decided to make an appearance here in North Texas. It brought about its nice cooler temperatures and much needed rain (although we didn't need it ALL at once). Now we just have to hope that it sticks around and we don't get a resurgence of old man summer that I think all of us have had enough this year.

I don't know about the rest of you, but this is the time of the year that I love to garden in. Knowing that everything I do now will pay dividends next spring is exciting and encouraging. After listening to our daylily friends from Virginia,

Margo and Jim, I'm even more encouraged to get out and prepare my garden for the upcoming seasons.

As for a little club business, and we will be talking about this at the meeting, if you are going to contribute to the sale and want your daylilies to have marketing materials with them, I need to have that information as soon as possible. As everyone has probably experienced, the plants that don't get purchased in a retail nursery are the ones that don't have flowers and don't have any information about themselves. We can't do anything about flowers but we can do something about the information. Email me directly if you want me to produce signs. [tuckerreed@hotmail.com](mailto:tuckerreed@hotmail.com) please put daylily sale in the subject line.

I hope everyone feels the same as I do about these cooler temps and it brings everyone out to the next meeting. I would love to see a bunch of smiling faces filling the room. See you then.

Tucker❖

## Secretary's report

Meeting called to order: 7:08

Members: 23

Guests: 2

## Officers

### President

Tucker Reed  
682 553 6914

### First VP Programs

John Turrentine  
870 648 5186

### Second VP Membership

Nickie Knight  
817 551 7260

### Third VP Publicity

Susan Austin  
817 925 5052

### Fourth VP Treasurer

Linda Long  
817 341 1297

### Secretary

Rebecca Reed  
682 553 7050

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Secretary's Report and Treasurer's report were approved as written

Treasurer Updates: Linda has been catching up and going through our financial records. A lot of money has gone out. We did not participate in a spring sale this year, so the fall sale will be our only income.

Programs Update: Jon has resigned effective immediately. Our upcoming programs are:

September (Tucker): Sale Plans

October: Daylily Bingo

November: Thanksgiving Dinner and Plant Exchange

December: Christmas Party

Sale Update: Tucker is excited about this year's sale. Janet has helped out greatly and found people to sell us plants. Small World and Blueridge will be the purchased portion of the sale. Member donated plants are the key to our successful sale. It's been a tough year, but anything you can donate will be a big help. If you are donating plants, please get the names to Tucker as soon as you can so he can work on making the signs for each cultivar. The sale is on the September 29th. The tagging party will be on September 27th at the Reed's house in Hurst.

Cathy would love a coffee pot donation-smaller like a Mr. Coffee

Next month's menu was voted to be Salads and Finger Foods. A list went around for sign-ups.

Vote for the popularity poll make sure to check region 6 so we get recognition

Please submit to the newsletter. Jim doesn't write it, he just puts it together.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 for food and fellowship.

Rebecca ❖

## Program

Tucker will be discussing the upcoming sale in detail.

Susan has updated our Facebook page and web site with news of the sale. She also prepared a

flier on the sale, attached to email. If you can, print a few copies and post in your neighborhood Garden centers, big box Nursery center, Church, and any other gardening group you have contact with.

Jim ❖

## Region 6 news

Glad to report that Larry Pike, Reg6 Newsletter, is back after having some stents installed.

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I'm working with Larry Pike to gather reports and articles for the Region 6 Winter newsletter. October 1st is the deadline for reports from the officers for the Winter edition of our newsletter.

The Winter newsletter is also the "Hybridizer issue."

If you are a hybridizer and have digital seedling photos you would like to submit for the newsletter (max of 6 photos) please send them to me as soon as possible, before October 1st.

Jeff Breitenstein

Co-Regional Publicity Director, Region 6

jeff.breitenstein@gmail.com

Ray Houston, Reg 6 ❖

## I got it, I want it

An intermittent column of stuff folks have and want to share as well as stuff folks want. **YOU provide content.**

This month, Sandy and Doug Perkins of ETDS are looking for **Texas Feathered Fancy** and wanted to know if anyone in the club had it and if so, do they have enough to sell. Please let them know and they will pick up at sale. [sandyp@suddenlink.net](mailto:sandyp@suddenlink.net)

Jim ❖

## The Six Step Beginner's Approach to Hybridizing

[www.ofts.com/bill/hybrdize.html](http://www.ofts.com/bill/hybrdize.html)

Daylily flowers are very easy to pollinate. All the parts that must be manipulated to pollinate are fairly large and can be easily handled. Because of this, getting started in hybridizing your own daylilies is very easy.

One question I am frequently asked is if seeds are available to grow a specific cultivar. Sorry, but the answer is no. Even seeds resulting from a plant that

was fertilized with its own pollen will not produce plants that are identical to the parent plant. While the likelihood is that the plant will be quite similar, usually it will not bloom as well and sometimes the bloom will be completely different than the parent.

The following is designed to help the beginner get started. Once you start hybridizing, you will probably develop your own specific procedures.

### **STEP 1 - selecting the flowers you want to cross**

While professional daylily hybridizers go through a very specific selection process when deciding which daylilies to cross, when just starting out, there is basically only one thing you should be aware of:

There are 2 types of daylilies, diploids and tetraploids. They are very hard to tell apart and pollen from one type will not set seed on the other. If you do not know which type you have, plan on crossing several different varieties in case some turn out to be different types and don't set seed.

When asked how she decided which daylilies to cross, the late Elsie Spalding, a famous hybridizer noted for her excellent form and pastel colors, replied ...I just put pretty on pretty. I recommend that beginning hybridizers use the same method. Just select daylilies that you like and make your crosses with them.



### **STEP 2 - make your crosses**

Now you need to fertilize the flower to make seeds.

Stamens & pistils Coming from the center of the daylily flower are typically

six stamens and one pistil (they should be easy to identify - there's 6 of one and only 1 of the other). The powdery substance at the ends of the stamens is the pollen and it should be taken from one flower and placed on the tip of the pistil of the other flower.

The best time of day to do this is just after the pollen has dried and become fluffy, usually about mid-morning. The later in the day you apply the pollen, the less your chances are for successful pollination.

You may want to keep records of the crosses you make as this will help you identify what works and what doesn't, but it is not necessary.

Do not remove the old bloom after applying pollen, let it fall off on its own accord. If the cross was successful, there will be a tiny green pod right at the spot where the flower was attached. This pod

contains the seeds and will continue to grow during the next few weeks. Note that in some cases there may be a green pod at first but will fall off after a short time. In that case, there were no viable seeds forming in the seed pod.

### **STEP 3 - harvest the seeds**

Typically, the seeds take between 40 and 60 days to mature to the point where they can be harvested. You can tell when it's time to harvest, when the seed pods begin to split open. Sometimes I squeeze the pod gently to see if it is ready to split. This is OK, but remember that seeds harvested too early will probably not germinate.

Remove the seeds from the pods and let them air dry overnight. Then put them in air tight containers and place in the refrigerator for at least 4-6 weeks. Tiny ziplock bags or empty 35mm film containers can be used for this purpose. While it is not necessary to refrigerate prior to planting, it seems to improve the germination rate in most cases. In any case, if the seeds cannot be planted right away, they should be refrigerated to preserve their freshness. I don't recommend that you freeze your seeds.

### **STEP 4 - plant the seeds**

Seeds can be planted directly in the ground, or started in either flats or pots and later transplanted. Remember that seeds require fairly warm soil temperatures for good germination. Plant your seeds between 1/4 and 1/2 inches deep. A good rule of thumb for planting many types of seeds is to plant twice as deep as the seed is fat.

The best time to plant depends on what part of the country you live in. Here in the deep south, I plant in early September. That gives me three months for germination and seedling growth before the cool weather sets in. Further north, seeds are often started indoors and grown under lights during the winter months and then transplanted outside in the spring when the ground warms up.

Plant spacing is dictated by the amount of space you have and the number of seedlings you wish to grow. As I have only limited space, I plant fairly close together - plants are 4 inches apart in rows about 8-10 inches apart. If I had lots of room, I would plant about 12 inches apart in rows about 12 inches apart.

### **STEP 5 - Wait**

--- to be continued next month--

# SUNSHINE REPORT

Joyce Valdez is recovering nicely from surgery at home and reports the back pain is gone.

Shirlene Holt daughter is recovering from recent hospital visit.

Our condolences to Vernon Wallis and Linda Butcher on the loss of their mother.

Jim❖

## AUGUST HOST/HOESSESS – MEXICAN FIESTA

The wonderful club members who stepped up at last minute  
*Thanks so much!*



## SEPTEMBER HOST/HOESSESS – SOUP AND SANDWICHES

Ester Strawn, Cathy Koogler, Sharon Bartlett, Nickie Knight,  
Linda Long, Susan Austin, Janet Howie, Tucker & Rebecca  
Reed, Donna Timmions, Rich Miller, Vernon Wallis,  
and Rita Baker

*Thanks!*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NTDS Meeting @ Ft Worth Botanic Gardens**  
Time 7:00 PM, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2018

**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-May, Oct-Nov

**Shows n Sales**  
NTDS Sale FWBG, start at 9 AM, Sept  
29<sup>th</sup> 2018

**AHS Regionals**

**AHS**

# 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

Linda Long

N T D S TREASURER,

116 Encino Springs Lane

Weatherford, TX 76088

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