

# 2015 Region 4 Photo Contest

All original photo entry images, separated by category, were sent to each of the three photo contest judges. Each photo was identified only with a number. Each of the judges was asked to select a first, second and third place pick for each category. First, second and third place picks were awarded three, two and one points, respectively. A second round of votes to determine the winner of the single/multiple bloom category resulted in a tie. My thanks to all AHS Region 4 members who took the time to submit photos to this contest. On these three pages are the winning photos, runners up and comments from the judges.

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## Single/Multiple Bloom Category: First place TIE



**#23- 'Hurricane Bob'  
(Schwarz, B. 2003)**

**Photo by Carol Haj**

#23-“Very, Very striking bloom. Very good color. Good background, and the blurred colors of the neighboring blooms add interest. The dark upper background and lighter lower background work together well to display this bloom.” --Ed Cunningham  
“Good Composition and color.”  
--Linda Keohan

**#20-Lavallée seedling, future introduction.**

**Photo by Pierrette Lavallée**

# 20-“This beautiful photograph makes me want to have this daylily in my garden. The angle the photographer chose is intriguing and includes other blossoms in various stages of opening. The observer doesn't quite have the whole story on the secondary blooms so attention is focused on the central flower, which is also in perfect visual focus. I love the delicate coloration of this cultivar against the dark, but bright green foliage, and the darkness of the void spaces behind and around this daylily. Nicely staged photo angle with a bonus winged visitor. Beautiful photograph.”  
--Carol Brashear

Nice lines, good nice palette of gold, green, purple. Very fresh blooms & buds. Fly adds some interest. Depth of field could be better. Also, the color seems a little muted ? An overcast day?  
--Ed Cunningham



**Right, Single/Multiple Bloom  
Category, second place:**

**#15- 'What's Up' (Brooks, B. 2007)**

**Photo by John Stahl**

As a judge, I first look at each entry. With 38 entries in this most popular category, I always jot down a few numbered entries that grab me visually immediately. This is one that grabbed me immediately. It stood out from all the others as unique. It doesn't have that beautiful "head shot" look of a catalog of daylily cultivars. To me it is a completely unique stunning photograph, that also happens to feature a daylily bloom. At first it appears dark and brooding, but as the viewer admires it more closely, the achievement of this richly colored dark and bright central focus, is magically highlighted by both dark and light softly focused accents. For me this could have been equally appreciated in the artistic category, but it also shines as a winning single daylily photo. Masterfully and uniquely photographed and presented. Bravo!

--Carol Brashear

Attractive, well done blurred background ("bokeh"). Striking, but in a limited color range or tone. A nice, meditative quiet study. You have to ponder this one, versus "it jumps out at you, and tells you."

--Ed Cunningham



**Right, Single/Multiple Bloom  
Category-third place:**

**#11- 'Classic Caper'  
(Stevens, D. 1982)**

**Photo Jerry Gantar**

"Very nice. Very "punchy" or striking. Could have been a little better focused. Background very nicely blurred out."

--Ed Cunningham



# 2015 Region 4 Photo Contest



**Winner, Artistic Close-up**

**Category:**

**C-12 ‘Rose F. Kennedy’**

**(Doorakian, G. 2007)**

**Photo by John Stahl**

“My choice for 1st place in the close-up category stood apart from the others from the very first viewing of it. The observer is taken right into the center of this bloom, as the photographer was in that moment. The blossom is perfect, with no flaws, which is paramount in a subject such as this. The deep rich color saturation in this cultivar make it ideal for this close-up category because the viewer can admire the details of the daylily. The attention of the photographer to get just the right angle of the stamen and anthers against the contrasting coloration of that single petal was brilliant. What a beautifully perfect close-up daylily photograph!” --Carol Brashear

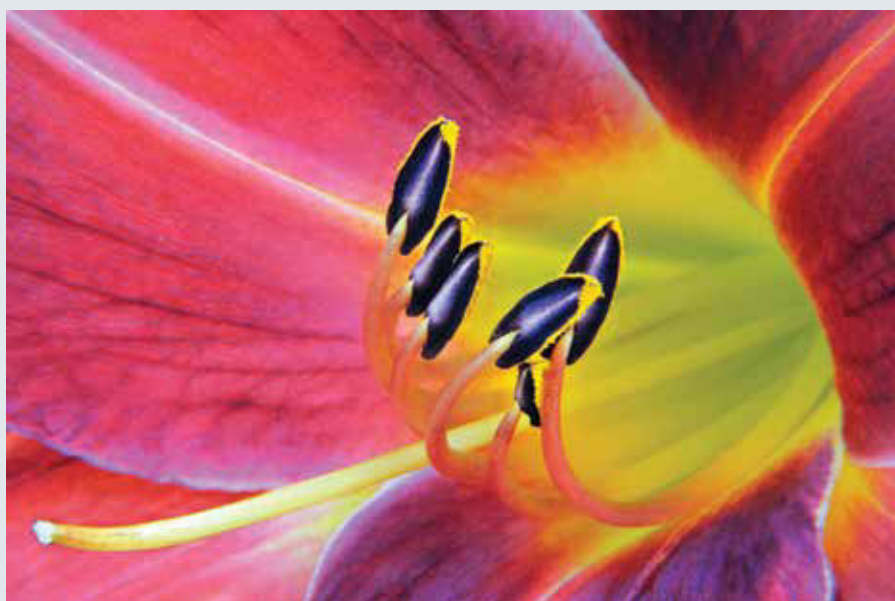
“Technically, a very good close up. Would fit nicely in a botany book.”

--Ed Cunningham

“Great color contrast.” --Linda Keohan

**Artistic Close-up Category,  
second place: C-7 ‘Carmine  
Elizabeth’ (Seawright, B. 2010)  
photo by Jerry Gantar**

“Striking, dynamic, good color, clarity,  
depth of field.” --Ed Cunningham



**Artistic Close-up Category, third place:**

**3-way TIE**

**C-9 ‘Conway seedling 3’**

**photo by Claudia Conway**

“The photographer of this shot got in nice and close so that the observer feels they are there, in the moment, admiring this tiny creature. This is a very nice close-up, with the pollen grains visible on the petals of the daylily and the garden visitor featured prominently. Nicely captured. --Carol Brashear

“Very nice and cute; wonderful capture of this unusual frog.” --Ed Cunningham

# Photo Contest

Artistic Close-up Category, third place: 3-way TIE

Far right, C-18- Bee caught in Isabel Hibbard's 'Whisper' (Sayers 2013) photo by Chris Petersen

Below, C-14- 'Love Fest' (Stevens D. 1982) photo by Jerry Gantar



C-14: "Striking, Dynamic, Good Color, Freshness, Clarity, Depth of field." --Ed Cunningham



C-18: "Wonderful clarity and composition." --Linda Keohan

**Winner, Landscape Category:**  
L-1 'Les Jardins Delisle-Paris' photo by François Paris



L-1- "Great composition, clarity, depth of field and play of dappled sunlight. A beautiful shot: 'Buddha in Paradise'. The hydrangea (like a moon) in the background is a nice touch. A concern is that Buddha is the focus of attention and the paradise of [day]lilies is only an adornment of him." --Ed Cunningham

"Nice composition and lighting." --Linda Keohan

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## Landscape Category, second place: L-6 ‘Tower Hill Botanic Garden 2’ photo by Chris Petersen

“The focus of this landscape shot are the perfect daylilies in the foreground. Wonderful! Eye is then drawn to the statue which is also nicely in focus and really stands out against the dark background of greenery. I also like the movement that the included grasses lend to the photograph. (This could only be slightly improved by rotating either the camera or the finished photo by 2 degrees, so that the viewer doesn’t feel like the statue might tumble off the left tilting pedestal.) This is a lovely landscape.”

--Carol Brashear

“Excellent clarity. Turgid daylilies are prominent and “in your face”, a vibrant, playful scene of lush vegetation.”

--Ed Cunningham



## Landscape Category, third place: *TIE* L-5 Garden of Roland and Peggy Corbeil photo by Chris Petersen

“Nice contrast between the evergreen tree and the daylilies.” --Linda Keohan

“Wonderful clarity. Beautiful contrast of bright light color with bright darker color, and general contrast of light and dark. Good supply of blooms with an abundance of plump buds, good assortment of colors.” --Ed Cunningham



## Landscape Category, third place: *TIE* L-7 Rex and Craig’s Garden in Maine photo by Marlene Harmon

“This entry included the most daylilies. The lighting of the scene is uniform throughout and pleasing to the eye. I like the path leading the viewer back into the scene.” --Carol Brashear

“This is an excellent magical fairy-land garden. The tall yellow lilies on the right impress as a flight of sprites/fairies/nymphs taking wing. Good clarity and depth of field. This is a Garden!!!”

--Ed Cunningham

# 2015 Region 4 Photo Contest Judges and Prizes

Thank you to all who entered the photo contest. A special thanks to the photo contest judges:

## Ed Cunningham, Pawtucket, RI

Ed Cunningham has been a life-long gardener. He began as a toddler, growing tomatoes with his mother. In his teens, he started growing sweet corn, and other vegetables. In his early 20's, he got his first SLR, and has primarily shot nature/landscape photos since, along with some candid. Ed moved on to Indian corn and Hybrid wine grapes in his 30's and early 40's. Later on in his 40's, Ed and his wife became rose enthusiasts, at one time growing over 250 varieties. They joined the American Rose Society, became Consulting Rosarians, and later Exhibition judges. Subsequently, Ed participated as a judge in the annual ARS Photography contest for 3 years.

Around 10 years or so ago, Ed's wife began operating in the world of roses as an "Agent Provocateur" for the notorious Hemerocallis Cartel, which led to the hemerocallis addiction of numerous unsuspecting rosarians, and to Ed's participation as a judge this year.



## Carol Brashear

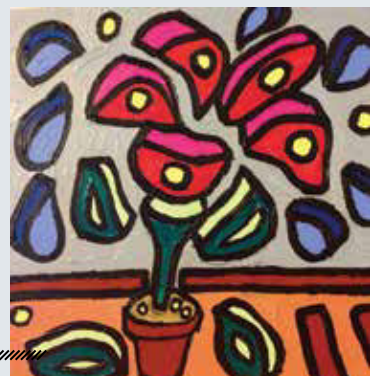
I am the Northeast Region Director of the American Hosta Society and know many of the daylily members we have in common. I am an avid photographer of hostas and have been enjoying gardens through the lens of a camera for nearly 25 years. Many of my photos in the early years were used to start the hosta photo library on the internet in the late 90's. Since then I have contributed my photos to hosta publications, websites, catalogs and even for plant labels. I continue to share photos on the [hostalibrary.org](http://hostalibrary.org) and I tell friends I garden so that I can take photographs. [Photo, right: a luna moth on Hosta "Lunar Moth"(Meyer)].

I thoroughly enjoyed your daylily photo contest by participating as one of the judges. You have some amazing talents and I hope you enjoy the winning photos in this newsletter. Congratulations to all who entered!



## Linda Keohan

Linda is an artist and art teacher with a BA in painting from the Massachusetts College of Arts and a Masters in Art Education from Notre Dame College, NH. Her paintings are available through [www.etsy.com](http://www.etsy.com). [Right: "Flower", acrylic painting on birch]



Thank you to Charlie Zettek, Bob Sobek, and Carl and Marlene Harmon of Harmon Hill Farm who have donated the photo contest prizes!



Prize for "Single/Multiple Bloom" winner:  
'Cobbs Hill Jester'  
(Zettek, C. 2012)  
Dip, 29" tall, 3.5" bloom, EM



Prize for "Close-up" winner:  
'Matte Rouge'  
(Sobek, B. 2014 )  
Dip , 33" tall, 4.25" bloom, E

*Harmon Hill Farm  
invites the winner of this  
photo contest category to  
choose any Mike Huben  
introduction which is in  
stock!*

Prize for "Landscape" winner:  
Contact  
[www.harmonhillfarm.com](http://www.harmonhillfarm.com) to  
make your selection.