

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. 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.

Single/Multiple Bloom Category: First place



#11- *Hemerocallis* 'Love Fest' (Stevens, D. 1982) photo by Jerry Gantar

"Dramatically striking, well focused, well lit, background brings it out very well." -- Ed Cunningham

"This shot in the single/multiple bloom category jumped off the screen at first sight. The crisp focus and perfectly centered subject made this shot a pleasing entry and a real winning photograph." --Carol Brashear

"Lovely contrast and composition." --Linda Keohan

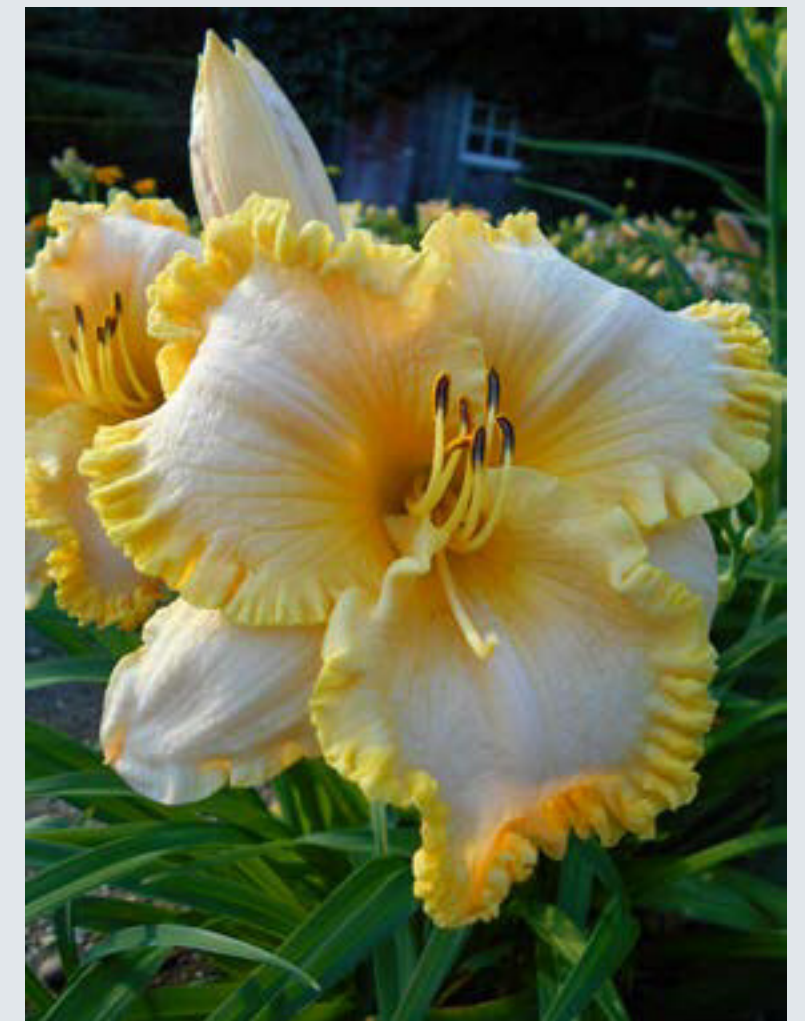
Right, Single/Multiple Bloom Category, second place:

#17- Seedling - ((Forestlake Laura Lee Harding X Spacecoast Starburst) X Pearl Harbor)) X Unknown, 2015, photo by Don Longton

"Entry #17 was a bright splash of color that could easily be the cover shot of summer. Pleasingly framed by the lush green foliage, the composition was spot on." --Carol Brashear

"Good focus, very nice, shed window & sea of buds in background & leaves make a good counterpoint." --Ed Cunningham

"Stunning close up, beautiful detail." --Linda Keohan



Below right, Single/Multiple Bloom Category-third place:

#13- *H.* 'Classic Caper' (Stevens, D. 1982) photo by Jerry Gantar

"Dramatically striking, well focused, well lit, background brings it out very well."

--Ed Cunningham

"This perfect single bloom against the nearly black background beckoned the observer to look more deeply into the throat. But alas, we can only guess at what mystery lies within. Beautiful focus!"

--Carol Brashear

"Nice composition and contrast between light bloom and dark background." --Linda Keohan



Winner, Artistic Close-up Category: C-4 'Classic Caper' with raindrops (Stevens, D. 1982) photo by Jerry Gantar

"Love in the mist. The perfectly captured moment in time of this entry won it many votes and earned it the top spot in the artistic category." --Carol Brashear

"Very nice. Should have been entered in Category 1 ????" --Ed Cunningham

"Good close up detail and composition." --Linda Keohan

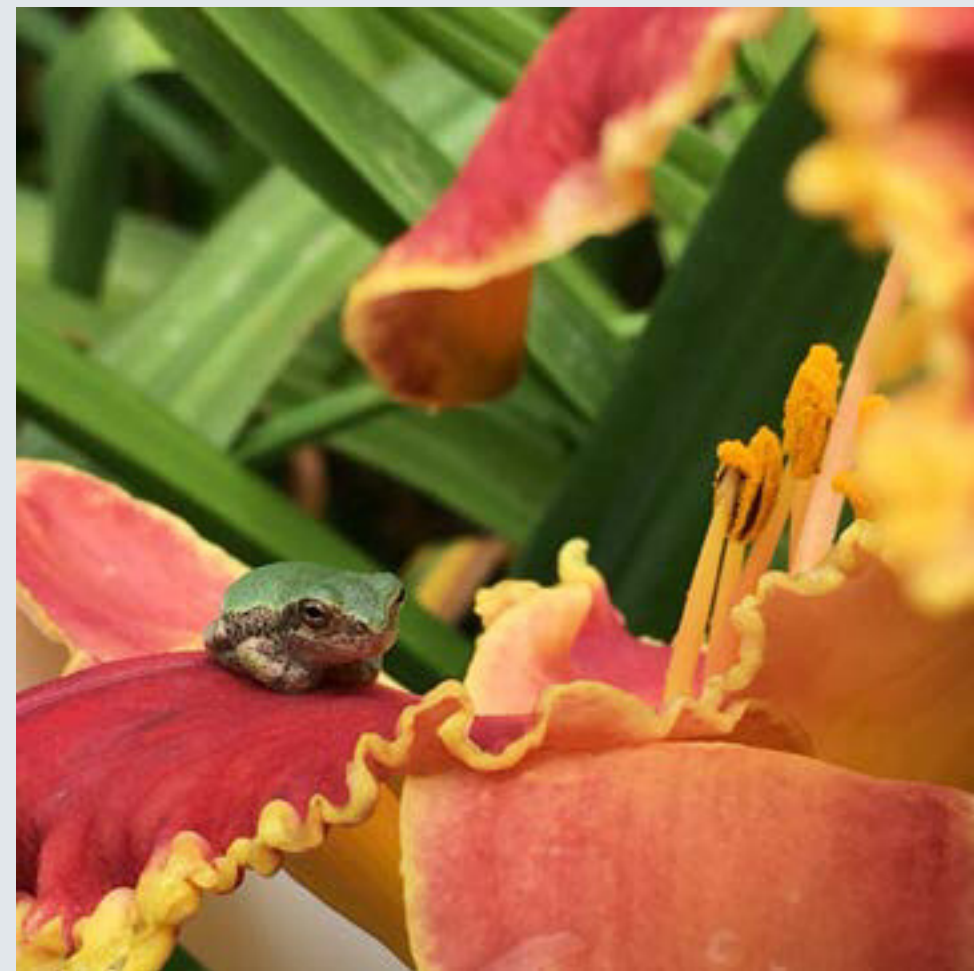


Artistic Close-up Category, second place TIE: C-2 'Carmine Elizabeth' bud. (Seawright, 2010) photo by Jerry Gantar

"This unusual shot kept calling attention to itself in the many entries of artistic shots. Was it the color of a flame? Was it the droplets suspended in time? Was it the angle of the bud about to open in spectacular fashion like a rocket into space or a sparkler on the 4th of July? It's still a mystery and a lovely artistic capture." --Carol Brashear

"Nice subject and background." --Ed Cunningham

"Very different. Nice diagonal composition." --Linda Keohan



Artistic Close-up Category, second place TIE: C-5 Conway seedling w/ frog photo by Claudia Conway

"Very, very nice. There is more 'action' / 'story' to interpret here: is the flower carnivorous?" --Ed Cunningham

"Who doesn't love a tree frog shot? This little guy reminds me of the shy teenager wanting to ask the beauty in the frilly dress to dance but is too shy to make the move. And so he looks on. Great shot." --Carol Brashear

"Love the focus on the toad/frog nice closeup detail." --Linda Keohan

Below, Artistic Close-up Category, third place: TIE C-14 'Whip City Lisa Diana' and bug (Jones, L. 2011) photo Greg Haggett



"Very interesting. Good color, focus, and startling how the grass in the background curls along with the curl of the left petal, making a wave-like motif." --Ed Cunningham

"Loving the colors that happened in this shot! The photographer focused this perfectly and the color saturation of the petals couldn't be better to show off the green critter." --Carol Brashear

"Another great nature close up." --Linda Keohan

Winner, Landscape Category:
L- 6 "Running Fox Farm"
photo by Claudia Conway



"What a party! This winning landscape is a real feel good entry. It has structure and weight, it has vibrant color and grabbing the attention down front...daylilies! Perfect." --Carol Brashear

"Outstanding! Great composition, great variety of blooms and colors, great depth of field. It has an interesting near-3D effect, with the orange lilies in the foreground, the purple blooms in the mid-ground, and the further globe of Easter lilies overhanging them all. The flowers so predominate that the (monotone) house does not distract. There is so much "going on" in this photo that the daylily foliage in the bottom right quadrant is neutral filler rather than distracting". --Ed Cunningham

"Nice foreground to background composition."--Linda Keohan

Artistic Close-up Category,
third place: *TIE*
C-6 'Corde Pareille' (Sobek, 2014)
photo by Marlene Harmon



"Quite nice." --Ed Cunningham

"Look into my eyes pretty much sums up the allure of this shot. The more you examine the elements within, the more this shot is appreciated." --Carol Brashear

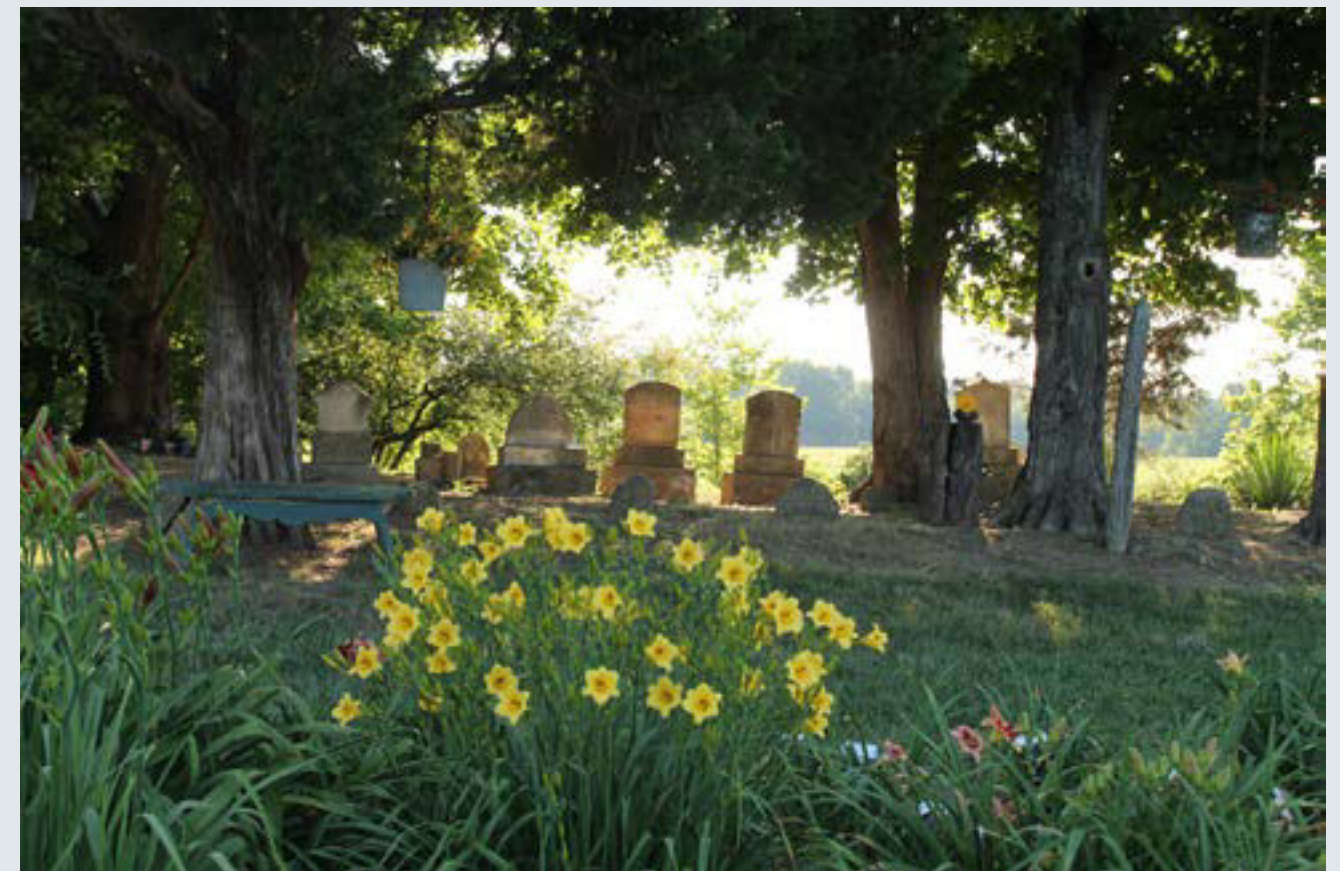
"Nice depiction of center of flower."
--Linda Keohan

Landscape Category, second place:
L- 2 "Daylily World", garden of David
Kirchhoff and Mort Morss featuring
'Toy Trumpets' (Sobek, B. 1984) photo by Marlene Harmon

"This entry softly conveyed the peace of a last resting place. The light capture in this shot is very special."--Carol Brashear

"Very nice. Cemetery scene framed by trees, centered "bouquet" of day lilies; grave stones (that are somehow back-lit) brighten the picture."--Ed Cunningham

"Nice atmosphere of flowers and landscape." --Linda Keohan



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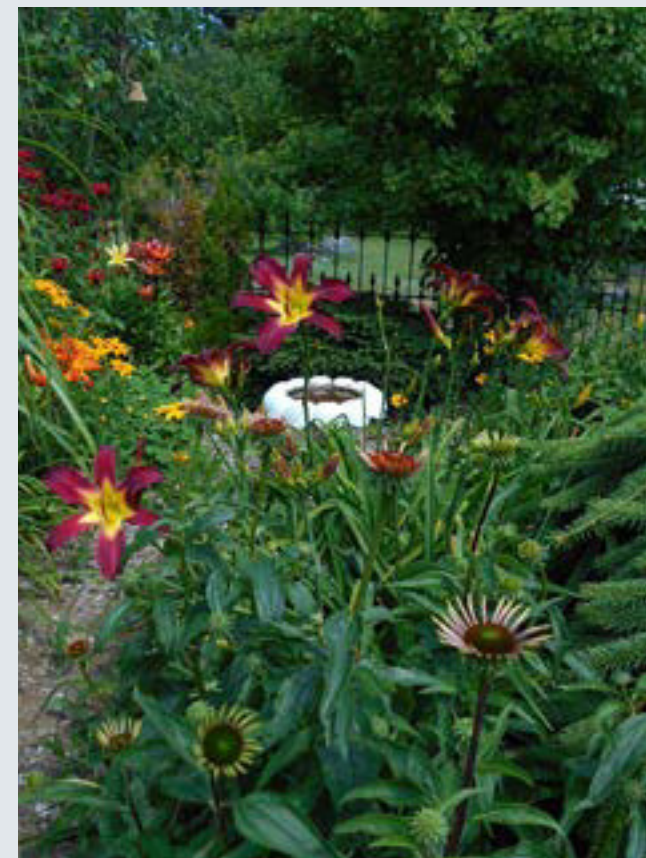


**Landscape Category, third place TIE:
L- 3 “Lasting Dreams Daylilies”, garden
of Anthony and Carol Haj
photo by Carol Haj**

“This shot brings a beautiful collection of daylilies in prime time into perfect focus. A daylily landscape to envy.” --Carol Brashear

“A very nice, colorful blooming garden, with interest from bench & plow (alluding to a balance of work and rest). More of a “garden” shot than a “landscape,” but, there is a distant horizon with trees and a smoke stack.” --Ed Cunningham

“Great use of color.” --Linda Keohan



**At right, Landscape Category, third place: TIE
L- 10 “Garden 17 with seedlings and birdbath”
photo by Don Longton**

“When I hold my lap-top at the right angle, I love this photo. Otherwise it is either too light or too dark. But, at just the right angle, it really pops. The trees darken to a unobtrusive background, and the white bird-bath grabs my attention, and then the blooms in the middle of the photo stand out more, and seem to ephemerally hover around it.” --Ed Cunningham

“Nice focus, showcases flowers in front.” --Linda Keohan



**At left, Landscape Category, third place: TIE
L- 8 “Christmas in August”
photo by Kathleen Richardson**

“Very different interesting idea.” --Linda Keohan

“I love the concept. The tree itself is beautiful, but the landscape is not.” --Ed Cunningham

2016 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

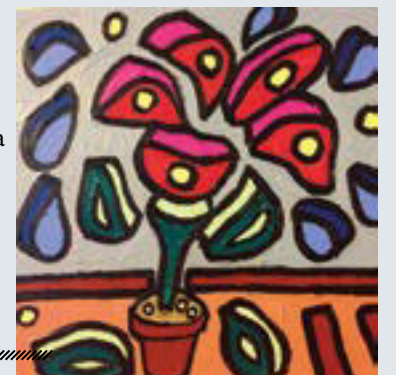
I am the Northeast Region Director of the American Hosta Society and know many of the daylily members we have in common. I am an avid photographer of hostas and have been enjoying gardens through the lens of a camera for nearly 25 years. Many of my photos in the early years were used to start the hosta 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 and I tell friends I garden so that I can take photographs. [Photo, right: a luna moth on Hosta ‘Luna Moth’ (Meyer)].

It was again my pleasure to be a part of your Region’s photo contest. It was a splendid collection of fine photography! Congratulations to all.



Linda Keohan

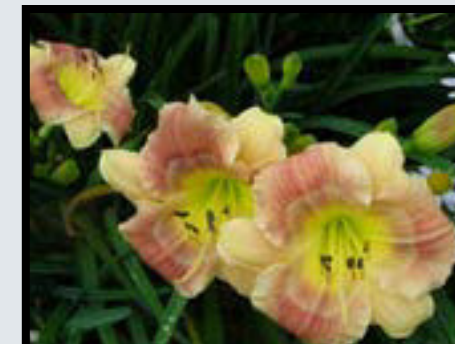
Linda is an artist and art teacher with a BA in painting from the Massachusetts College of Arts and a Masters in Art Education from Notre Dame College, NH. Her paintings are available through www.etsy.com. [Right: “Flower”, acrylic painting on birch]



Thank you to hybridizers George Doorakian, Curt Turner, and Darlyn Wilkinson who have donated these photo contest prize plants!



**Prize for “Single/Multiple Bloom”
winner:
‘Igor F. Palacios, M.D.’
(Doorakian, G. 2012)
Diploid, 29” tall, 3.5” bloom, EM**



**Prize for “Close-up” winner:
‘Greywoods Gingham Maids’
(Turner-Wilkinson, 2014)
Diploid, 24” tall, 2.75” bloom, EM**



**Prize for “Landscape” winner:
‘Greywoods Dun Rovin’
(Wilkinson, D. 2014)
Tetraploid, 27” tall, 6.12” bloom, ML**