

# Binion Amerson Garden

## Winner of 2006 AHS Best Garden Write-up Article

### By Bill Ater

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When the bus stopped in front of Binion's home we were sure that we had arrived at "Daylily Heaven in Farmers Branch" because there were daylilies everywhere and just ribbons of grass walks to lead you through the garden of over seven hundred cultivars.

With several hundred visitors annually in this garden it is easy to see that Binion begins his lecture as the visitor enters the garden with the different sizes and forms of daylilies within the first ten feet of the entry. Visitors can quickly be educated to see the different colors, sizes and forms of daylilies and how skillfully they are planted to compliment scape heights.

*Hemerocallis* '**Greek Goddess**', a large-flowered 6" empire yellow with a touch of pink, registered by David Kirchhoff is sure to catch the attention of garden visitors as they enter the garden. Then as a contrast is the rounded form of the 3" miniature a deep yellow, *H.* '**Camden Gold Dollar**' introduced by Clarke Yancey. While *H.* '**Nutmeg Elf**' is also a 3" miniature it is a Spider form of golden yellow with a touch of nutmeg. *H.* '**Tuscawilla Tigress**' a 7.25" extra large-flowered bright orange with a darker eyezone and introduced by Ra Hansen. And now notice that *H.* '**Big Peach Mama**' is a 6" double pink self introduced by David Kirchhoff. *H.* '**Diana Lynne's Gift**' is a 6" cream pink blend with a wide rose ruffled edge introduced by Chandler.

And now that we have been the introduced to daylilies we are ready to move on to enjoy this beautiful garden.

As I entered the back yard I noticed a planting of miniatures. *H.* '**Little Orange Tex**' a bright 3" golden orange self was complimented by the 2.75" creamy pink blend of *H.* '**Leprechaun's Lace**'.

*H.* '**Ice Crown**' a 2.75" pale ivory cream self and was in total contrast with the multi-branched 2 7/8" clear light pink self of *H.* '**Promises Promises**'. *H.* '**Albuquerque Moon**' a 3.25" bright gold self was a nice transition to the 2 7/8" paprika red with a darker eyezone of *H.* '**Little Surprise**'. A beautiful garden arch along the back fence perfectly framed the back of the neighbor's barren yard and looked like a great area to expand Binion's daylily planting. Jack Carpenter has recently introduced a 7" bronze orange blend daylily named for his nephew, *H.* '**Mark Alan Carpenter**'. This daylily has a very thick substance and will be a great addition to any daylily collection.

Dan Trimmer's 4.25" cream lavender with a large black purple eyezone brought me to a quick stop to admire his 2004 introduction of *H.* '**Blackberries And Cream**'. The huge black-purple eye is rolled back making a perfect circle on the rolled back, bagel shaped, lavender cream flower. Then the 7.5" orange tangerine flower of *H.* '**Primal Scream**' is aptly named by drawing attention to this bright orange. The 7" bloom of Mort Morss' bright yellow, *H.* '**Midday Sun**' is a wonderful beacon in the garden. *H.* '**Sunday Sandals**', a 4" ivory with a violet eye and edge from Grace-Smith was not to be missed.

The 7" bright purple spider bloom of *H.* '**Laughing Feather**' by Ned Roberts was standing atop its 36" scape demanding attention. The unusual 5.5" pink with rose raspberry charcoal and yellow eyezone above a green throat of *H.* '**Mystical Rainbow**' was quite a contrast to David Kirchhoff's *H.* '**Tomatoes Sanford**', a 5" tomato red with deeper red veining above a celery green throat while *H.* '**Velvet Onyx**' was impressive as a double 5" black red blend from Patrick Stamile with several flowers open. *H.* '**Dowager Empress**', a 5" double introduction of David Kirchhoff is a grayed blend of carrot peach and rose rouge above a yellow to green throat. The 6" luscious wine purple blooms of BARCELONA NIGHT, an introduction of Mort Morss, was a great compliment to the daylilies planted nearby.

Who can forget the intricate blooms of *H.* '**Patchwork Puzzle**'? The 2.75" ivory lemon blooms with a washed lavender purple eyezone makes it one of Elizabeth Salter's most memorable introductions of the multicolored eye patterns that she has developed.