

# Lufkin Daylily Society History

March 7, 1963 - November 14, 2023

Tracey Stewart

It is with bittersweet sadness that the club's last and final meeting of the Lufkin Daylily Society (LDS) was held on November 14, 2023, as a farewell retirement party. The local history center was happy to accept our scrapbooks and other such memorabilia for posterity's sake.

**Backstory:** The Lufkin Hemerocallis Society began in 1963. There has been a succession of 40 club presidents from 1963 to 2023, beginning with Mary Faye O'Quinn and culminating with Barry Walker.

Here's a short write-up from the *Lufkin Daily News* of their first meeting on March 7, 1963:

"A group of ladies met in the home of Mrs. C. B. Connell, 1120 Mantooth, recently to organize the Hemerocallis Society of Lufkin.

Mrs. D. O. Wallis called the meeting to order and introduced Mrs. R. B. Atkins, a guest, who installed the following officers: President, Mrs. Jessie O'Quinn; First Vice President, Mrs. R. T. Roebuck; Second Vice President, Mrs. D. O. Wallis; Secretary, Mrs. J. E. Johnson; Treasurer, Mrs. A. B. Allen; Records & Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Robert Scott; and Librarian, Mrs. T. C. Largent.

Refreshments were served to the following members present: Mrs. Jessie O'Quinn, Mrs. D. O. Wallis, Mrs. C. B. Connell, Mrs. R. T. Roebuck, Mrs. T. C. Largent, Mrs. Jack Scott, Mrs. Archie Mathews, Mrs. Jessie Johnson, Mrs. Ben Vaughn, and Mrs. A. B. Allen.

**Note:** According to the Lufkin Hemerocallis Society by-laws, all persons joining the club in 1963 are to be charter members. Maggie Koon researched the club minutes and found the following names: Mrs. Roy Hurst, Dr. Anna Beth Connell, Mrs. H. D. Johnson, Mrs. Foster W. King, Mrs. J. R. Hanna, Mrs. Louise Dyer, Mrs. J. R. Jackson, and Mrs. Lee Prahl."

In their early years, they provided and planted 450 daylily cultivars at Lufkin's main post office. Sadly, that post office is no longer the main one. Truthfully, I'm not even sure it's still in use, and all those daylilies are long gone.

LDS co-hosted the 2007 Region 6 Meeting and again hosted the Meeting in 2012. Both meetings were held in Nacogdoches at the historic Fredonia Hotel. Garden tours were held in the Lufkin area gardens of Rev. and Mrs. Marlow Shubert, Mr. & Mrs. Chic Chicoine, and Ms. Jeanetta Stewart. For lots of photos of this event, please refer to this archival account on the ADS Region 6 archival web site: <http://www.ahsregion6.com/newsletterarchive/2012-2.pdf>

We will continue to love and garden with daylilies; after all, they are our favorite hobby (and/or obsession.)

**We were the Lufkin Daylily Society.**