

Passion For Daylilies Keeps Jean Edwards Busy During Summer

Jean Edwards, president of the Commerce Garden Club Council and locally-renowned daylily grower, has had a busy summer in pursuit of her daylily passion.

She spent three days at the Georgia Region meeting of the American Hemerocallis Society in Valdosta. She attended seminars on judging and toured area gardens, accompanied by her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dan Whitener.

She completed the instruction and testing to be a senior judge at daylily shows and judged shows in Thompson and Augusta. She's been invited back to judge both again.

On June 13, she competed in the North Georgia Daylily Society Show at Lakeshore Mall in Gainesville, where she won the award for the "best small flower" in the show, and

picked up nine blue and three purple ribbons. Purple ribbons are given to entries that score 95 or above on a scale of one to 100.

A week later, she attended the Greater Atlanta Show, where she won the award for the "best large flower" and received 20 blue and three purple ribbons, and also won the sweepstakes award given to the contestant winning the most blue and purple ribbons. She was also presented two large crystal vases.

Mrs. Edwards lives on Mount Olive Church Road, Commerce, where her yard and garden contains more than 500 named varieties of daylilies, most of them hybridized in the 90s.

Mrs. Edwards, like other daylily enthusiasts, works tirelessly to develop new varieties of plants, arising early to cross-pollinate two flowers in search of something yet un-bred.



Jean Edwards shows off a few of the hundreds of daylilies in her yard on Mount Olive Church Road.