

Hodges Gardens State Park

Louisiana's Garden in the Forest

Friends of Hodges Gardens A 501(c)3 Organization
Established to Restore, Preserve, Protect and Promote Hodges Gardens
Newsletter, October, 2016

<http://hodgesgardens.net/>

Facebook—Friends of Hodges Gardens

THE OLD FASHIONED ROSE GARDEN

Maintained by volunteers through funding provided by Friends of Hodges Gardens

When Mr. Hodges created this particular garden in the late 1950's, he selected the finest antique roses of the time. Roses were his passion and he filled this area with old garden climbers, polyanthas, teas and chinas. He also wanted the same architectural style to be reflected throughout the Gardens. The same angles and shapes can be seen here in the Old Fashioned Garden, at the Lookout Tower, Visitor Center and Circle Bed. Mr. Hodges chose redwood for the arbors and pavilions, along with the same sandstone found throughout the Gardens.



The Office of State Parks replaced the redwood with treated pine in 2008, taking great care to protect the climbers, especially the grand Lady Banks on either side of the west pavilion. These two Ladies were among the first roses planted by Mr. Hodges in this garden, and still put on a brilliant display each year in early-mid spring. The almost invisible fencing was installed around the arbor to protect the roses from the deer that also love them.

We all know that change is inevitable and the changes that took place through the years took its toll on this particular garden. Of all the niche gardens within Hodges Gardens, the Old Fashioned requires a great deal of time and attention as well as passion for the care of the roses. Changes in ownership and caregivers since the 1950s left it in need of revival and renovation. It was adopted in 2015 by the Friends of Hodges Gardens and the revival began. A grant from the Volunteer Generation Fund gave the Old Fashioned the much needed public awareness, attention and initial funds to get started.

Today, the Old Fashioned Garden stands as a memorial and tribute to Mr. Hodges and his vision. It contains 175+ roses that were introduced prior to 1966, the year of Mr. Hodges death. Appreciation is given to The Antique Rose Emporium in Brenham, Texas as they assist in the selection process. Volunteers are now the key to this garden's success. Every Tuesday and Thursday morning they can be found pruning, weeding, deadheading and fertilizing. For more information about how you can help by becoming a volunteer or making a donation in memory or honor of a loved one, contact Friends of Hodges Gardens at fohgsp@gmail.com.

HONORING OUR LOVED ONES

The following memorial has been made and designated for the continued care and maintenance of the Old Fashioned Rose Garden by Ron and Mary Musser in memory of Mrs. Patricia Anderson Quayhagen who passed away in 2015.



PAINTING IN THE PARK OCTOBER 15, 2016

Join us at 1pm for a fun filled Saturday afternoon with artist Kimberly Remedies. All supplies are provided. Regular park admission of \$5 applies along with a \$20 registration fee paid directly to Ms. Kimberly. Annual pass holders are admitted FREE and only pay the registration fee. Remember no talent required -step by step instructions provided. Hidden talents are discovered every time. Please call 318-424-6526 to reserve a spot.

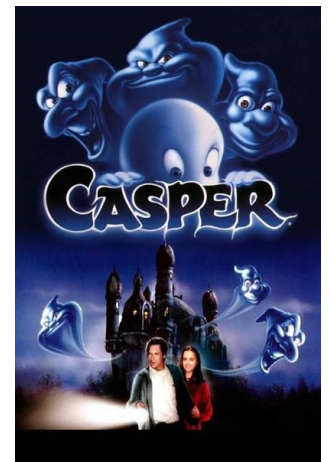


GIFT SHOP EVOLUTION

As in any garden nothing stays the same over time. Plants grow and plants die. Just as Hodges Gardens has evolved over time so too the Gift Shop is evolving. The Friends' board of directors met to discuss the future of the Gift Shop and determined that to be a viable gift shop would require more financing than the board is willing to fund. However, all agreed that having a Visitor's Center open and available for those viewing the gardens is important. A place to cool off, view interesting artifacts of the gardens, view the beautiful architecture of the Gift Shop and learn the history of our Garden in the Forest. We will be in transition over the next several months selling the current inventory. As a Visitor's Center, we will continue to sell souvenirs of the Gardens-T-shirts, mugs, Christmas ornaments etc. as well as small items that visitors may need such as sunscreen and insect repellent. We will be developing a video that visitors can view to learn about Mr. Hodge's life and how the gardens came to be. Volunteers are still needed to man the Visitor's Center Friday-Sunday. Currently we only have a few individuals willing to volunteer their time. More will be needed to continue providing a personal touch to those who visit our gardens. Email Chris Nolen at fohgsp@gmail.com if you would be interested in volunteering in our Gift Shop/Visitor's Center.

MOVIE IN THE PARK OCTOBER 22, 2016 AT 7:00 PM

We thank Camp 2:17 for the sponsorship of the Halloween classic CASPER! Bring your blankets and chairs and join us at the Lakefront Stage. Fun for the entire family. Regular admission applies and annual passholders and children under 3 are FREE. Concessions provided by Friends of Hodges Gardens will be available. All proceeds will assist in the maintenance and restoration of the gardens.



STORY CORRECTION

The September newsletter reported that \$5000 was spent on the road repair in the park. The correct figure is \$125,000.



VOLUNTEER DAYS

Volunteers are needed every Saturday in October from 8AM - 12Noon. We will be working on cleaning the Natural Garden and Wild Azalea Hiking Trail. These beautiful areas have gotten overgrown and are in need of attention! Bring gloves, trimmers, mosquito spray and a lunch. Water will be provided. Meet at the visitor center/gift shop. Hope to see you there! If you have questions, call the park office at 318-586-7002. We would like a good turn out so bring friends and share the event notice on Facebook for maximum exposure.

AMAZONSMILE

Don't forget to do to your online shopping through AmazonSmile to help support the Gardens. Review the September newsletter for how to help.

Use this link to connect with smile.amazon.com to automatically support Friends of Hodges Gardens State Park <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/26-4480938>



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The Friends of Hodges continues to seek new members to support our beloved Hodges Gardens. There is a membership level to meet all needs and all donations are tax deductible. Please consider joining us in our efforts to Restore, Preserve, Protect, and Promote Hodges Gardens. Link to [membership form](#).

Friends of Hodges Gardens

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<http://hodgesgardens.net/>

Park Hours of Operation:

The gates open at 8AM daily and close at 9PM Sunday through Thursday and 10PM on Friday and Saturday. The Gardens close at sunset. Admission is \$5 per person, \$4 for seniors 62+ and children under 3 are admitted free. Annual passes are available for \$80 and admit the cardholder and any passengers in the vehicle. For more information about the Park, visit www.lastateparks.com, call 800-354-3523 toll free.

Reservations for overnight accommodations can be made online or through the Call Center at 877.226.7652.

There are 13 cabins and a group camp, and 9 unimproved tent campsites and a primitive camping area. Also there are boats with paddles and life jackets available for rent.