

THE AMERICAN
DAHLIA SOCIETY
THE SECOND 50 YEARS



COMPILED BY
HARRY RISSETTO

THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

The Second 50 Years.

*“To stimulate interest in, and promote the culture
and development of the Dahlia.”*

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Introduction

In the beginning there was *The Golden Year Dahlia Record*, published in 1964, in anticipation of the ADS's Golden Anniversary in 1965. At 52 over-size pages, the publication by Lynn Dudley is a masterpiece of history, insight, and entertainment. When I first took on the assignment of organizing *The American Dahlia Society the Second Fifty Years*, I conceived a parallel publication in the same format. As the months went along, I concluded that I am not Lynn Dudley, and sequels usually disappoint.

In looking for a different direction, I discovered that there was a wealth of history, insight and entertainment in the last 50 years of the ADS Bulletins. The stories of the American Dahlia Society, the dahlia and the dahlia's people were right there. From that point forward, this publication virtually wrote itself. It is organized by year. There are no long lists or essays. Rather it is a buffet of tidbits—dim sum or tapas—of information that presents the ADS, the flower, and its people for your enjoyment.

It is not intended to be read in one sitting, but rather, like an almanac to be visited from time to time.

I have taken a number of liberties to create tidbits. I have reduced *Bulletin* articles to a paragraph or two,

and have generally noted the original author. I have done worse to the poetry. It had to be included, as it was in *The Record*, but again, I have excerpted lines and stanzas. Both of these “barbarous” decisions require apologies to the authors and poets. I have noted decisions of the ADS Executive Board where I thought they would be useful. Unattributed entries came from the *Bulletin*; if I missed authors, mea culpa. The full set of the articles and poems will be available on the www.dahlia.org website in the last 50 years of *Bulletins*.

Undoubtedly, you will also find errors, some flagrant and others subtle. Again, more apologies are in order. We will correct them when the publication ultimately appears on the ADS website. Fortunately, it is a work in progress.

In *The Record*, Warren Maytrott looked forward from 1965. Let’s see how well he did—or rather, we did:

- *The real basis for continued dahlia popularity in America, lies in promoting them as a decorative adjunct to garden or home decoration.* This is still a work in progress. The ADS has established trials and awards for container and border dahlias, but without a great degree of enthusiasm. The gardening world is ahead of the ADS.

- *Dahlia shows will become increasingly important to local societies in order to attract the general gardening public, not just the same old group of exhibitors.* Many local societies have lost show sites that attracted many visitors. Many public gardens prefer weddings to flower shows. The societies are required to be creative in finding venues and publicizing their shows. Major newspapers and media pay scant attention to flower shows.
- *Opportunities for beginners and amateurs to participate at the shows will expand. More publicity is crucial.* More and more societies are creating show classes for young, new, and limited growers.
- *Trial Gardens will expand. They provide a bond between the ADS and the local society.* This has been a real challenge for the ADS. Local societies bemoan the shortage of ADS judges.
- *Society Cooperation. There will be less politics and more cooperation among societies. More local societies will be established and associated with the ADS.*
The era of cutthroat competition is generally over. If nearby societies do not cooperate,

they will all be at risk. The Northwest has done a great job in making this prophesy come to pass.

- *Culture. There will be more effort made to educate growers about how to grow amazing dahlias.*

Technology has revolutionized communication and education. Warren did not anticipate the computer, nor did a lot of later ADS leaders.

- *There will be more success in controlling diseases and virus carriers, developing a serological test for viruses, and hybridizing resistant strains.*

This has proven harder than anyone anticipated. Nature has not opened the door.

- *Pre-testing new varieties. There will no longer be a “rush to market” before virus and disease resistance is confirmed.*

Too many, too soon!

- *Spraying. More effective chemicals will be developed, and gardeners will rogue out diseased plants more aggressively.*

The chemicals are more effective, but the environmental issues have become more worrisome.

It is impossible for anyone to see over the horizon, even “futurists.” The impact of technology, the growth of the environmental movement, and public commitment to sustainable gardening have revolutionized horticulture at a rate that cannot be fully comprehended. Information is available at the touch of a keyboard. Flower societies have had to find another basis of relevance. Sustainable gardening has led many gardeners away from flower societies and exhibiting, which they associate with noxious chemicals and obsessive gardeners.

Nevertheless, the dahlia is and will always be a special flower. Its combination of color, diversity, and blooming period are unparalleled in the last 50 years. They grew on the mountainsides of Mexico and Central America before the earliest human inhabitants, and they will continue to grow in gardens and meadows for centuries to come.

As you read this publication, I am sure you will agree that the American Dahlia Society has had an extraordinary impact on the dahlia over the past 50 years. It has encouraged hybridizers to create new forms. The ADS has effectively publicized and promoted the dahlia to the gardening public for use on farms, backyards, and patios. Through its local societies, it has created shared communities that care for the dahlia and one a

other. Thanks to the dahlia and its people the future of the American Dahlia is bright as it begins its second century.

I am thankful for the help of June Lilling, and Cliff Witt for their professional editing and formatting. They made the text and format look so much better than it was when I sent it to them. Thanks to David Hines of Parrot Press and his team for the actual production. Martin Kral has been with me from the beginning. He has been generous with his ideas and comments and is responsible for most of the photos in the book. His dahlia archive is an invaluable resource. Most of all we are grateful to everyone who submitted material to the *Bulletin* over the last half century.

The positive contributions are theirs and the shortcomings mine.

Harry Risetto

Replica of the First Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society

This is Page Two of the Bulletin
with names of Charter Members

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and favorable comment, while Geo. L. Stillman, Westery, H. I., had a large display of blooms in various types in small glasses. He also exhibited several seedlings, particularly a brilliant deep crimson cactus of nice size, resembling to some extent both the cactus and decorative types; this was a particularly fine flower and bears his own name.

Richard Vincent, Jr., Sons & Co., White Marsh, Md., had a mound of cactus and decorative Dahlias, representing the best types at the present time, and around this a circle of other kinds such as shows and decoratives in tall, wide-mouthed vases.

Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa., had a long table display in which cactus and peony varieties were used in the form of pyramids at the back with sheaves of Eulalia, or as it is otherwise called, Miscanthus acrisimus, between. The background was of black velvet with green canvas cloth looped along the top. In front there were shallow baskets filled with other types of the flower. Among the varieties in this exhibit, which was arranged by Geo. W. Kerr, were the following: Shows; Colonel, dark red; David Johnson, rich deep pink; Caleb Powers, soft blush with white center; Arabella, cream center and pink outside; Ethel Maule, white; White Swan, white; Dorothy Peacock, white center, purplish edge. Cactus: Fannus, orange-red; Thos. Barker, scarlet; Wm. Moore, crimson; Sequia, coral-red; Miss Wilmot, after the style of J. B. Riding; Mrs. MacMillan, purplish-pink; Johannesburg, orange; Mrs. Douglas Fleming, white, and the Lyon, orange-red. Decorative: Minnie McCulloch, rich crimson-scarlet, with golden center; Delice, rich rose-pink; Prof. Mansfield, crimson with yellow center.

Decorative Exhibits

As already stated, three of the New York retailers, namely Max Schling, 27 West 59th st.; Geo. E. M. Stump, 761 Fifth ave., and A. Kottmiller, 426 Madison ave., made entries in the decorative classes. Mr. Kottmiller was first for a large basket of Dahlias and for the decorated dinner table. In the former he showed a huge basket, the handle of which stood upward of 7½ ft. high, and this he filled with cactus and decorative types of Dahlias flowers in red, chestnut and golden-russet colors, all harmonizing with the soft, creamy color of the basket work, and in addition richly colored Croton leaves were employed, also Asparagus plumosus and bows and streamers of golden-salmon ribbon. This fine basket was a revelation as to the beauty of the Dahlia when properly used in this way. Max Schling was second with a smaller, wider basket set on a pedestal, and he employed the rich pink Delice, and the dark purple crimson Papa Charmet. Other baskets were shown in the same class in which deep crimson and rose-pink flowers were used, but not so artistically as in these others.

In the table decorations Kottmiller broke away from the usual style of decoration by having a central tray filled with water, from which rose three slender stems to a height of 2 ft. or more, topped with a light iron crown, the whole of this framework being covered with greenhouse Smilax, which also was used as tracers upon the white cloth. It was entirely a formal arrangement, but conformed to the best principles of table decoration, inasmuch as it was attractive and did not obstruct the view of the diners. Little pompon and small decorative Dahlias were used, these being of a rose-lavender color, at once distinct and taking.

Max Schling, who came second in the table class, used a tall stand with a bouquet arrangement well above the table, composed of primrose, light yellow pink, saffron and a few scarlet colored cactus blooms, with corsage bouquets laid around at each plate.

Geo. Stump had a more conventional form of decoration, consisting of a low central mound of rich, coral-pink cactus blooms of quality in the center, and a few

stray blooms lying on the cloth around it, also corsage bouquets at each cover.

In the bride's bouquet class there were but two entries, and Max Schling was the leader, Geo. Stump coming second; each using neat, small white pompon and cactus flowers. Schling had the smaller flowers of the two, his bouquet looking neater as a consequence, and he used leaflets of Mexican Ivy looped into the streamers of the bouquet to very great advantage. The pompon variety Snowclad was the one employed.

For the smaller bowl of Dahlias, Schling again led, having superior flowers of dark plum colored decoratives and a magenta variety, which few would possibly have thought of using, yet it is the very daring of Mr. Schling's combinations that frequently make them so interesting.

Mr. Stump's smaller bowl was equally daring and skillfully arranged, and ran the first prize exhibit extremely close. It was composed of yellow decorative varieties, with a few scarlet blooms, and a plum-like spray of Parlyenne fronds at the lower left side.

There were two exhibits of decorative plaques or pictures, that is to say a canvas easel on which Dahlia flowers were worked as in a picture. Here Geo. Stump was first and Max Schling second, the former using Wm. Pierre show Dahlia in a pretty vase. The arrangement was effectively done, and cannot be well described without the aid of a picture. Max Schling's picture had a rustic frame and was done in dark blood-red double Dahlias on a light canvas ground.

Possibly in another year the decorative section will be further improved and strengthened, as it is this feature that is likely to entice new growers and to please the general public.

Myer, Florist, Madison ave., New York, had a handsome basket of double and cactus Dahlias, mostly reds and orange shades, from flowers supplied by Messrs. Vincent.

Notable Varieties

Among the outstanding varieties throughout the show, attention may be called to a few of them, although many others, probably equally meritorious, may have been overlooked. There was an especially fine vase of the red-gold show variety Gold Medal in class 34 from J. J. Anderson of Bernardsville, N. J.; the Long Island Dahlia Gardens, Hicksville, L. I., had their Golden Gate, the largest and most attractive of that section of cactus, also Calif, scarlet, and Hortulanus Fiet, soft primrose with pink edge; Prof. Hall, of Geneva, N. Y., had an exhibit of blooms to show the similarity of some varieties, and as an index of the best in their several colors. Particularly were we struck with the richness of the red show Mrs. Edna Hathaway, also cactus Ignea, crimson-scarlet; and Nantwick, clear yellow. Among the decorative kinds the most brilliant were Orange King, Sebastopol and Calif.

Everywhere throughout the exhibition the little pompon called Snowclad was particularly noticeable for its neatness and whiteness.

Mr. Daly, who was first in class 20 for 20 varieties distinct, had as his best John Woolman, crimson; the Scorpion, light yellow; and Homer, blood-red, each cactus varieties, while, in addition to those mentioned here and in the lists which follow, as well as those shown by the trade exhibitors, mention might be made of Sour, de Gustave Douzan, Brumhilda, fine cactus, Jack Rose, purple decorative, Geisha, scarlet.

Class 19 in the non-commercial section, was for 50 varieties of any kind, one of each on short stems, and James Duthie, pdr. to E. M. Townsend, Oyster Bay, L. I., was first with the following: Sovereign*, yellow; Peacock, amber and golden center; Beauty of Brentwood, yellow; Mrs. T. G. Baker, scarlet; Snowdon*, white, very fine; Phoenix, deep crimson; Prima Donna*, lavender outer petals, pale cream in center; Firebrand*, scarlet; Mrs.

Replica of the First Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society

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about the First Show and the Winners

Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society

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I. Shoosmith, creamy; Jack Rose, crimson amarantus; T. G. Baker, clear yellow; H. H. Thomas, fine crimson; Thosias, white; Post, Obedin, deep crimson scarlet; J. B. Riding, chestnut; H. W. Sillem, amarantus; Margaret Louchen, bright pink with white center; Mrs. Kentwell, plum crimson; Estate, lavender pink; Le Grand Manitou, magenta and white, striped piom; Mrs. W. Marshall, deep rich pink; Athalia, blood red; Perle de Lyon, white; Sonnegold, golden russet; Henri Cayeux, reddish amber; Empress of Austria, deep blackish crimson; Lovely, deep pink; J. H. Jackson, darker than Empress of Austria; Kaffi, deep scarlet; W. W. Rawson, show with light rose lavender; Miss Lena Ashwell, chestnut; La France, decorative magenta rose; Hellable, bright pink with golden center; Yellow Hammer, a fine clear flower; Rev. T. W. Jamieson, very pretty pink with creamy center; Mine, Bertha Gemen, carmine, creamy center; Rev. Dr. Williamson, a nice flower; port wine color; Virginia Maule, a bluish pink decorative; Breze-lawn, decorative scarlet, one of the best; Candeur, white; Augusta Nomin, scarlet; Chas. Lanier, show var., golden bronze; Delice, rich bright pink; Etendard de Lyon, royal purple; Wolfgang Von Gotte, salmon red; and Dreeer's White, a fine show variety. Those starred represent the best cactus varieties.

In class 37 for twelve varieties of pompons, Mrs. Elizabeth Morehouse, Fairfield, Conn., was first with the following: Little Jennie, cream; Little Beale, white; Little Prince, crimson, tipped white; Little Herman, lighter than last named; Hilba Searle, tipped gold; A. Hubert, chestnut; Catharine, yellow; and Fairy Queen, cream with reddish lips. Other good pompons were Snowcated, a very small white; Pure Love, magenta heliotrope. Mrs. H. Darrington (P. W. Popp, gar.), Mamaroneck, N. Y., had single, peony and cactus varieties in vases as general exhibits and won a special. His Gold Tip, single, was very finely shown; also Mrs. C. No. 3, a decorative single, bright rose magenta, which is also notably fragrant.

Among the varieties shown for certificate was a semi-double named Sunshine from Mrs. Stout, remarkably distinctive and beautiful, and preliminary certificates were awarded to Henry A. Dreeer, Inc., Philadelphia, for a show Dahlia of a beautiful yellow color, and to N. H. Cottam & Son, Wappinger Falls, N. Y., for a very similar variety, and to R. Vincent Jr., & Sons Co., for a decorative variety called White Delice, also to John Schepers Co., for a collection of Cactus Dahlias.

The new hybrid type of cactus Dahlia was well exemplified in Mr. Stillman's variety crimson novelty named after himself, Geo. L. Stillman. It is an immense flower, very full and rich, intermediate between the English type of cactus variety and the decorative forms. It might well be taken as the standard of the "American cactus Dahlias."

Comments

The weather prior to the show, of course, was all against the highest quality, and indeed notably limited the quantity of blooms exhibited. Notwithstanding this almost as much space was covered as in the case at the New York Annual Chrysanthemum exhibition, which is also held in the Museum. Either owing to the heat having reduced the vitality of the flowers some days ago, or owing to the constant current of dry air through the aisles of the Museum, many of the long stemmed blooms wilted rather badly at an early period in the run of the show; they picked up to some extent during the night and looked fresh again in the mornings, but a "three days" show must be said to be too long as a general rule; it would have been better possibly to have closed the show on Saturday evening. The Peonies made no very distinct showing, and the large mixed classes of

short stemmed blooms are certainly not effective from a decorative point of view, and in this case were too far below the eye to be examined with ease and convenience. It is a question whether we have yet struck the right method of showing these single flowers. Another year it would seem as though much more attention might be given in the schedule to the decorative classes, making use of one of the strong central features, with a reasonable amount of other classes to encourage the grower and fancier.

It was agreed that the show, taken as a whole, was a distinct success, and was many times described as "a very pretty show," and indeed we heard no adverse criticism whatever. Had the weather been as propitious as the promoters expected, the show would have been larger and possibly better, but for a first large exhibit, it enjoyed a large measure of success. The public attended to the number of over 30,000.

As an instance of how an exhibition may be crippled we would instance the case of the Peacock Dahlia Farms, Berlin, N. J., which were unable to exhibit more than three or four vases of blooms as a result of the damage the firm sustained by a heavy thunderstorm which lasted upward of an hour the day before the show, and which broke down and spoiled a great bulk of the blooms.

The judges at the exhibition were Gen. W. Kerr, chairman, Philadelphia, Pa.; Prof. Norton, Maryland Agricultural College, Prof. F. H. Hall, Geneva, N. Y.; Mr. Clark of Dreeer's, Philadelphia, Pa.; G. L. Stillman, Westley, R. I.; Geo. W. Frazer, Conn. Agricultural College, Storrs, Conn.; F. R. Austin, Tuckerton, N. J.; Leonard Barron, Garden City, L. I., and J. Harrison Dick, New York.

On Saturday afternoon at 3:30 a lecture was given by Prof. Norton, on "Diseases of the Dahlias," in a brief, informal manner, suited to his hearers, describing mould diseases of the tubers, and rot of the flowers, also powdery mildew of the foliage. He was succeeded by Prof. Hall, who gave an illuminating address, which he illustrated by actual examples of cut blooms, on the "Development of the Dahlia," he also briefly summarized the chief cultural points in regard to the Dahlias.

This concluded the program as outlined by the society, the preparations having been carried through by Secretary Joa. J. Lane, while the management of the exhibition was in the capable hands of John Young of New York.

Further notes of the show, a statement of the donations to the premium list, a report from the nomenclature committee, secretary and treasurer will be contained in the next Bulletin of the Society, to be issued shortly.

Purpose of Our Society as Stated in the Constitution

SECTION II. The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in, and promoting the culture and development of the Dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test out new varieties, and to give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases of the Dahlia and find remedies for same; and to disseminate information relating to this flower; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes for flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed desirable.

1 9 6 5

The ADS basked in the success of its golden year celebration, which was celebrated in 1964. Contingents from Britain and the Netherlands participated in a grand show and banquet. A publication, *The Golden Year Dahlia Record* by Lynn Dudley, was distributed at the ADS Golden Anniversary Banquet.

Harry A. Dreyer was President of the ADS. There were 23 Participating and 46 Affiliated Societies.

In 1965, there were 372 Accredited ADS Judges and 275 Senior Judges.

The 51st ADS Dahlia Show and New Jersey Exhibition took place in Paramus NJ. King of Show: Taka Chico.

1964 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Winners

A - By George AAIDR

B - Ruth M. BID Bi

BB - Lions International BBFD DkPk

Small - Ellen R MFD W

1964 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Winners

A - Pearl S Buck AID Br

B - Veritable BSC Lt BI

BB - Lions International BBF

Small - Janie D MFD Y

1965 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Winners

A – Forecast AID Dk Pk
B – Pacemaker BIC Pr
BB – Silver Star BB IC W
Small – Roger MSC DkBl

1965 Derrill Hart Trial Gardens Medals

A- Goldie ALC LtB
B -WC Ricks
BB - Celebrity BBC Pk
Min. - Ballego Twinkle

Color Classifications

“Autumn” color changed to “Bronze”
“Pink” divided into “Light Pink” and
“Dark Pink”

Trial Gardens

Derrill Hart winners must be available in commerce the season following the award.

ADS Score Cards were revised.

Size and depth added as separate standards, and size was given more relative weight for large dahlias. “Distinction” was allocated 10 points. Plus- and minuses were described for each standard.

By being a member of a dahlia society, one comes into contact with people who are authorities on the

subject and give very helpful information that you would otherwise have no way of knowing, thus making you a better dahlia grower and dahlia lover than you were before. Mrs. Louise Kleinjohn

A dahlia will bloom 55 days from the appearance of a lateral growth, and for "A" size cultivars 27 to 30 days from the time the bud is pea-sized.

F. Krenz & H. Lewis

Some seedlings grow at a phenomenal rate. View these with suspicion because they are frequently single flowered or semi-double at best.

Ed Lloyd



1 9 6 6

1965 ADS Gold Medal

-Mrs. J. Edgar Miller for her 4-H work.

-John Metzger for his service to the ADS.

-Pete Harter (CA), established and maintained the Oakland Trial Garden. [Ed. Note, Pete Harter was the second Gold Medal recipient from the West Coast.]

1966 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

A - (tie)-Magic Circle (tie) AFD DkPk

- Capt. Cross AID R

BB - Marguerite M. BBSC Lv

BB - Dr Tanner BBFD Dk R

Small Flowering - Ruthellen MFD FI

1966 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Awards

A - Miss America AIC LtB

B - Dorothy Morgan BIC FI

BB - Zeus BBSC R

President Harry Dreyer wrote in the *Bulletin*:

“We wish to make it very clear that the American Dahlia Society wants to build towards a nationwide dahlia group of societies. Not to get all or any societies tied to its apron strings. . . .No Society loses its identity in joining with us, but does gain a voice in the ADS while retaining all that the local society offers plus a hand in shaping the course of the Dahlia Ship of State.”

At the 1966 Annual Meeting, the

ADS Executive Board agreed to conduct its National Exhibitions in locations that indicate a national rather than local orientation. A committee would be appointed to recommend the sites of future National Shows outside the New York Metropolitan area. [Ed. Note, for many years the ADS had welcomed members from throughout the United States.]

Virus. The J. Louis Roberts Fund supported the ADS's first virus testing project at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Results were announced in 1964. Recommendation: remove infected plants. The ADS created a slide show to alert local clubs about the dangers of virus. Rutgers University also reported that it had difficulty isolating the dahlia mosaic virus or developing antibodies to combat it.

The Classification Committee established "BB" size as a separate listing from "B" size.

1,500 paid subscriptions (ADS membership).

The ADS National Exhibitions Committee recommended a procedure whereby local societies and conferences can apply to host a National ADS Dahlia Show.

Discussions toward a national, unified dahlia classification system were scheduled to take place in Maryland during August 1966.

ADS Bylaws were amended to create the position of Regional Vice Presidents, to liaison between the 5 regional groups of dahlia societies and the ADS. A second amendment left to the Board the selection of a location for national exhibitions. While a literal national exhibition is not feasible, a national convention could be held in connection with the exhibition. The members of the Midwest Conference were in opposition to a conference show becoming "National" for financial and logistical reasons. It was hoped that these concerns could be addressed by the ADS.

Flowers of Autumn

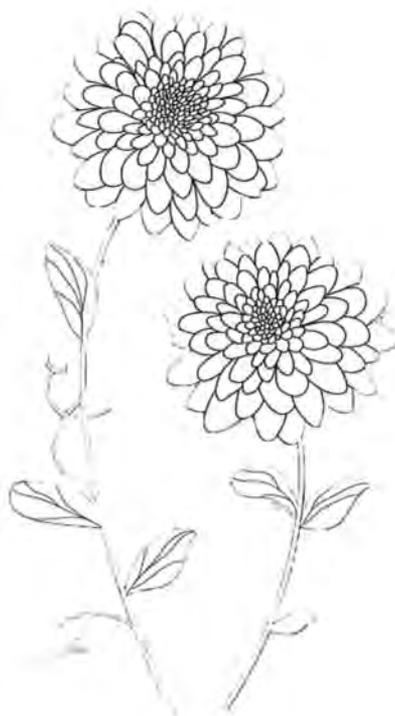
Majestic Flowers of Fall

In many shows colors we see
The Dahlia, best of them all
Growing in the yard or the field
Sometimes short and sometimes tall.

Laurence Fox

As long as the dahlia is associated with "dinner-plate" dahlias in the press and even at shows, new growers will be frustrated at both the price and the difficulty of growing these dahlias. Commercial growers encourage customers to purchase dahlias BBs and smaller for borders, decoration, backyards, and cool spots at a reasonable price. These same commercial growers are suffering from the competition of Dutch imports. *Warren Maytrott*

Storing small or stringy tubers is a challenge. Treat them as pot roots by potting them up in slightly damp pots. *Monroe Clayson*



1 9 6 7

1st ADS National Show (called a “regional dahlia exposition”), Seattle WA, hosted by the Seattle Dahlia Society. Principal award for Hamari Boy (AASC Y) by Phil Traff.

1967 ADS Gold Medal

Carol H. Rose (MN), long time ADS trial garden director and judging instructor, received the ADS Gold Medal.

1967 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

A - Almand Joy AFD LtBI

B -Edna C BFD Y

Min. - Western Freckles MFD Var

1967 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Awards

A - Charlie Ambrose AAC R

B - Edna C BFD Y

BB - Poise BBSC Bi

Min. - Alta Bishop S R

1967 Sure Blue Ribbon Winners:

-Lula Pattie AAID W

- Juanita BC DkR

-Lions International BFD Dk Pk

-Yellow Bird MFD Y

- Moor Place Pom Pr

-Dottie D. BA DkBI

The ADS is committed to supporting commercial dahlia growers through awards and medals, identifying introducers with an annual new-introduction slide collection, and by improving the *Bulletin* to encourage readers to grow dahlias, including adding a list of commercial introducers, and a Classified Mart.

As a result of international discussions, the official register of dahlias would be managed by The International Registry Authority, under the auspices of the RHS. The ADS's Classification of Dahlias was accepted as the scheme for registration and for U.S. domestic use. The Classification divided dahlias into 12 groups: Single, Anemone, Collarette, Peony, FD, ID, Ball, Pompon, IC, StC, SC & Misc. The discussion centered on dividing FDs and IDs, as well as ICs and StCs. Subsequently, the Classification was adopted by the Joint ADS/Central States Committee.

Far too often the "experts" who conduct society programs speak over the heads of the newer members.
The Pacific Dahlia.

The growing dahlia plants must not be allowed to dry out and "harden up". Constant soft growth is assured if the ground is kept moist, but water should not be allowed to stand around the plants.

Dr. Fred Knocke

The Flower Grower with a circulation of over 400,000, published annually the Eastern Dahlia Honor Roll that was written by Derrill Hart starting in 1938, and later, by Lynn Dudley. It is the predecessor to the ADS Seedling Sweepstakes.

Arthur Mason reported in the *Bulletin* that in 1957 he identified 987 new dahlia introductions. In 1967, only 108 of the 1957 cultivars were commercially available, and only 23 were offered by 5 or more dealers.

Plant a tuber 6" deep and surround it with a can, the top and bottom lids removed. Fill in around the can. After the plant grows above the top of the can, remove the can. This allows moisture to reach the tuber and deters predators.

E. Henry White

In evaluating a seedling, the tubers should be well formed with medium to short necks.

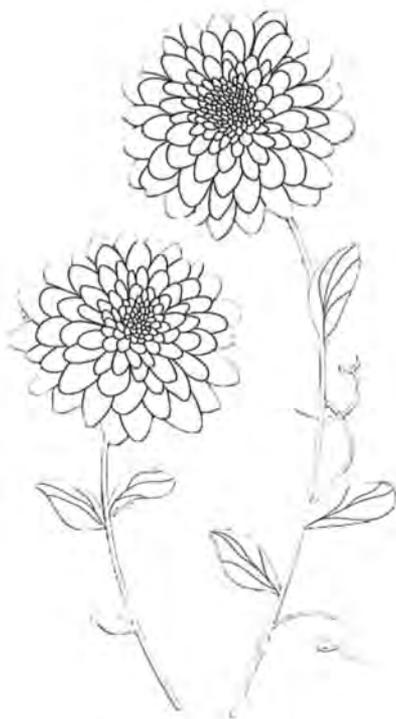
Arthur Mason

The first study of Dahlia mosaic was in 1932. The virus was carried by green peach tree aphid and there was no cure.

Lynn Dudley

Until such time as we all share experiences and have good lines of communication, there won't be

much progress in the dahlia world.
Fred McKelvey



1 9 6 8

2nd ADS National Show, Portland OR, host Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference (10,000 blooms).
Grand Champion Kidd's Climax (AFD LtBl) by O.H. Scott.

1968 ADS Gold Medal

- Nat Lundgren originated Iva Jean and six.
Derrill Hart winners.
- Will-J Jones was Chair of Nomenclature for
eight years.

1968 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- A - Dutch Visit A ID FI
- B - Lavender Hills BSC LAV
- BB - Reliable BB FD Or
- Min. - Master David M Ball FI

1968 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Awards

- A - Carl W Comstock A ID Br
- B- Joan Evelyn B STC LB
- BB - Kindelwood Lullaby BB FD LB
- Min. - Master David MB FI

Ed Lloyd begins his second stint as ADS President (his earlier tenure was 1942-1945), succeeding Harry Dreyer.

A Cybis porcelain dahlia was offered for sale for \$450.00.

Big winners at the 1967 shows: Frontispiece, Juanita, Orchid Princess, Billy, Little Willo, La Cierva, Dottie D., Bishop of Llandaff.

The ADS sponsored a tour to the Netherlands to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of the Netherlands Dahlia Society.

Many local shows were held at commercial enterprises, malls or banks. Larger societies with big shows engaged a botanic garden or an exhibition facility.

Judges should try to avoid judging at their home society.

The treatment of oversize blooms at local shows was inconsistent: An exhibitor may be required: (a) to show as classified, (b) to show according to size of the entry, or (c) be disqualified, if oversized.

Dahliadel Color Chart is the ADS standard color chart.

A revised edition of Dr. Cook's *Judging Manual* was published. The *Manual* contained changes to be consistent with the new scorecard. Other changes

reflected the differences in depth between Decoratives and Cactus dahlias.

To establish a truly national exhibit of dahlias, a race of the flower must be developed that can be transported long distances and arrive in competitive and show condition. *Ed Lloyd*

It takes about 60 days for a lateral shoot of a large or medium cultivar to develop a bloom. *Max Anders*

Dahlia roots sprouted after 18½ months in storage. *Rolla Zufal*

Morning sun and afternoon shade are very beneficial in the cultivation of dahlias. Dahlias will not tolerate wet feet. Dahlia plants should be grown slowly and steadily at first so that the plants are not soft and succulent when the hot weather sets in.

Ed Lloyd

The chief duty of a Regional Vice President is liaison.

H. Dreyer



1 9 6 9

3rd ADS National Show, San Diego CA, host Pacific SW Conf. & San Diego Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Sterling Silver (BFD W) by Charles Splinter.

1969 ADS Gold Medal

- R. Paul Comstock, a noted California hybridizer
(e.g., Lula Pattie)
- Peter Kershisnik, a noted dahlia-man from Portland Oregon.

1969 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- A - Valiant Knight ASC DKR
- B - Western Specks BID V
- BB - Jerry Lynn Ball Y
- Min. - Bobby O MFD LtBL

1969 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Awards

- A - Stars 'n Stripes AStC Var
- B - Norine Gregory BID La
- BB - Jerry Lynn Ball Y
- Small - Mary Frances B MB Lt Pk

1968 Big Winners:

- Surprise
- Juanita
- Doris Day
- Billy
- Little Willo
- La Cierva
- Taeony
- Bishop of Llandaff
- Comet

The Classification and Handbook of Dahlias (CHD) became a joint venture between the ADS and the Central States Dahlia Society in 1957.

A revised ADS scorecard raised “Form” to 20 points. The same point allocation applied to all size classes.

RHS Int’l Register of Dahlias (UK) describes 16,000 cultivars. (1966 Int’l Agreement on Classification).

Seedling Sweepstakes. A judge with a sweepstakes entry cannot judge in the same sweepstakes competition.

1957-1960 ADS cumulative classification was published [Ed. Note, without the use of a computer.]

ADS Alliance with the National Council of Garden Clubs to build local membership.

Cream of the Crop was begun in 1968.

A suggestion was made to delete the September issue of the *Bulletin*. It is a “lame duck” issue. The *Bulletin* needs “how to” articles for beginners.

Judging seminar after each annual ADS meeting recommended by Executive Board.

1959 – 1969 ADS Cumulative Classification

Trial Garden Medal. When Derrill Hart died in 1936, there was an award for the highest score in three of the five trial gardens. The three categories were A, B, and Miniature. The Derrill Hart Medal was first presented in 1940.

Seedling Bench Evaluation Awards. On or about 1950, the practice of individual experts making evaluations and listing them in a national horticultural magazine gave way to the ADS Seedling Bench Sweepstakes. Local society participation increased from five societies to more than 60 in 1969. Every Participating or Affiliated Society can hold a local competition in conjunction with its show.

Dr. Cook took my Croydon Masterpiece and raised it up a few inches several times, bumping the bottom of the stem in the bottom of the container each time. Then he turned to me and said, "I guess we are going to have to give it to you, as it did not shed a feather." *Roy Webb*

Whether dahlia growers acknowledge it or not, public attendance at the fall shows is decreasing. Other flower groups have the same problem. The reason is simple. Competition.

Possible solutions: joint shows, better publicity.

Lynn Dudley

Roots from dahlias are mature when the plant has grown for at least 120 days. Roots from healthy plants keep better. Root-keeping benefits from potassium. Do not expose the bare clumps to wind or sunlight. Let the clumps set for three days before washing them. *Homer Beck*

Starting balky tubers has been a challenge. Warren Maytrott had a dark warm room with a mister to soften the tubers. Nat Lundgren and Paul Comstock placed the tubers in a bucket of sand, covered the can and left it in a warm place. *Lynn Dudley*

The ADS scorecard credits poms and miniatures with up to five points for "diminutiveness" displayed by the mature blooms *L. Palminteri*

In Memoriam: *Warren Maytrott*. A former President of the ADS, Maytrott had what was the most prominent commercial dahlia business in his era. Dahliadel frequently organized 100-foot long commercial displays at the New York Show. His garden in New Jersey featured 200-foot long rows of popular cultivars. At its peak, Dahliadel mailed 250,000 catalogues annually. The Dahliadel Color Chart was the ADS standard and was passed on from generation to generation of serious growers. Maytrott served as President of the ADS and his local New Jersey society.



1 9 7 0

4th ADS National Show, San Francisco CA, host
The Dahlia Society of California. Grand Prix (AAID
Bi) was the big winner by Oscar Roebuck.

1970 ADS Gold Medal

-Conrad Faust. He introduced Piedmont
Rebel. Faust participated in the recommendation of new in-
troductions for Flower Grower magazine prior to the
Seedling Sweepstakes program.

-E. Henry White started growing dahlias in
1909 and published his first catalogue in
1913. He was considered the top
commercial grower in the Northwest, and a
prolific writer about dahlias.

-Arthur Mason, hybridizer, *Bulletin* contributor, and expert on
fertilizers.

1970 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

A - Ida Gayer AID Lt Pk
B - Clara Almand BIC Y
BB - Orchid Maid BBID DkBI
Min. - Ronnie Ball DkBI

1970 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

A - American Style AID Br
B - Clara Almand BIC Y

BB - Centennial Delight BBFD LtBl
Min. - Marigold Min Y

Big Winners in 1969

A - Surprise ASC Pk
B - Juanita BCR - Grand Champion
BB – Grace BBC DkPk
Min. - Little Robert MFD DkBl
Col. – LaCierva CO PR
Pom - Andrew Lockwood Pom L
Ball - Purple Globe BA Pr
Other Types - Bishop of Llandaff PE DkR

Stanley Johnson succeeded Ed Lloyd as ADS President.

Classification Committee decided not to split the A's into two groups.

ADS continues the use of the Dahliadel Color Chart as the standard color reference.

President Ed Lloyd reported humorously at the annual meeting that he had hoped to be a trustee whose principal duty is to keep track and report on the condition of the ADS's dahlia containers.

Judging Seminar. The ongoing debate on how to apply "Distinction" continues. Are points based on success against competition or on the quality of the

cultivar?

Imported Dahlias. Why can they be sold in the US at 1/3 the price of domestic dahlias? Is the lack of profit from the sale of new introductions after their first year going to stifle hybridizers? Why hasn't the price of new introductions increased in 30 years?

As a matter of policy, the ADS never attempts to supervise its associated member organizations.

Dues to be raised from \$5.00 to \$6.00.

A potassium (potash) deficiency can cause leaf scorching. Potassium interacts with nitrogen. Increased nitrogen requires more potassium [ed., potassium bitartrate is preferred].

Jim Lawless and Bill Allgeier were the leaders of the 1970 Mid-Island D.S. Show.

Lynn Dudley and Ed Lloyd bemoan the diminishing attendance at dahlia shows. They suggest including a popular speaker to spur attendance.

ADS Suggestion: Professionally created arrangements of dahlias in a busy lobby of a financial institution can increase interest in dahlias.

55th Annual ADS Regional Show held at Montclair NJ.

Sweepstakes Entry Exhibitors have difficulty counting the age of seedlings – are they two or three years old?

Foliar feed spread on foliage moves toward the roots at the rate of 1" every five minutes, and 90% is absorbed versus 10% when a similar plant food is applied to the soil. Young foliage is more absorbent and it is taken into the plant on both sides of the leaf. *Ed Lloyd*



1971

5th ADS National Show, McLean VA, hosted by the National Capital Dahlia Society. The Grand Champion was Shirley Jane (AID LtBi) by Richard Westfall.

1971 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- A - Ivory Lady AID W
- B - Shawnee Sunrise BStC FI
- BB - TipToe BBFD Bi
- Min. - Marjorie Fay MFD LtPk

1971 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

- A - Miss Midwest ASC DkPk
- B - Sesqui BSC BR
- BB -Tip Toe BBFD Bi
- Small - Marian K MID Bi

ADS Mantra: Action, Achievement and Acknowledgement.

Sarah Wakeman Wood bequest to ADS of \$5,000.00.

The first ADS Trial Garden was established in Storrs Connecticut in 1916. It was the first such testing facility for any single flower.

Cowan List of Best Dahlias 1970

Edna C BFD Y

Sterling Silver BFD W

Pennsgift AAID L

Lula Pattie AAID W

Kidd's Climax AFD LtBI

Jocunda AAID Pr

Klankstad Kerkrade BBC Y

Undersized and Oversized Blooms. All blooms must be entered as classified. Undersized and oversized are to be considered faults and penalized. Disqualification for size deviation was eliminated.

A dahlia plant needs in excess of 100 gallons of water each season. Less than 5% is needed to grow the plant, the rest is to cool the surrounding area and set up recycling within the plant.

Pot roots are insurance that one will have stock of favorite varieties to plant next season. Do not over feed or over water. *Walter Maytrott*

“It is not how many dahlias we grow that makes happiness, but it is how much we enjoy them, and see that others appreciate them too.”

Dahlia Show Time

Every dahlia grower from far and near
Will bring their blooms that they hold dear
Tables, bottles, entry cards by the score.
Worrying where to put them is always a chore.

* * *

Then the growers will check their scores.
Some delighted, some wondering,
some very sore.

R.Motznik

Growth in membership is a major goal of the ADS.

Stanley Johnson

Scorecards to judge dahlias were first used in 1918.

Lynn Dudley

Scorecards are not iron-clad rules; they are to stimulate imagination and memory and help determine what a cultivar is worth in commerce. Seedlings are judged against the overall field of dahlias and similar cultivars.

The most common use of scorecards is for judging new cultivars. A score of 85 is used as a standard because no dahlia is perfect. A score of 85 has been deemed sufficiently worthy of an award.

In 1971 Distinction could be scored up to 7 points.

The ADS Scorecard is a work in progress, and the standards for judging have toughened. Rubber stems and down-facing blooms were common in the early days. Stems must be straight, sufficiently strong to hold the bloom, and in proportion to the blooms. *Lynn Dudley* [Ed. Note, Dudley adopted the old adage that “nothing is permanent except change.”]

ADS Regional Show was held in Montclair NJ.



1972

6th ADS National Show, Corning NY, hosted by the Southern Tier Dahlia Society.

Queen of the Show awarded to Art Kieffer.

[Ed. Note, a devastating flood hit the Corning area during August 1972, but the show went on.]

1972 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

A - Western Wonder AIC R

B - Shawnee Dream BSC Lt Bl

BB - Orchid Dawn BBFD LtBl

Min. - Katie B. MinFD DkBl

1972 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

A - Superstar ASC W

B - The Queen BSC L

Small - (Tie) Marie Schnugg (Or R) & Tula

Rosa - (Pom Pr).

Cowan list of top 1971 Dahlias

Sterling Silver BFD W

Surprise ASC Pk

Lula Pattie AAID W

Juanita BC Dk R

Envy AAID DkR

Edna C BFD Y

1,500 ADS members in 1972

Art Kieffer appointed ADS Asst. Sec. and 2nd Vice President.

Prof. Samuel H. Smith published an article in the *Bulletin* on plant viruses and meristem tip cuttings. [Ed. Note, Dr. Smith was at Penn State at the time. He later became President of the Washington State University. The dahlia virus project is now headed by Dr. Hanu Pappu who holds the Samuel H. Smith Chair at WSU.]

Ballego & Sons, a famous commercial dahlia dealer and hybridizer in Holland, closed after 87 years. Ballego was a major importer of exhibition dahlias into the United States.

The ADS made a 10-year Composite Classification Book available

Apprentice Judges will have up to 3 years to work at 5 shows to qualify as an accredited judge.

Dick Westfall recommends starting roots in pots before planting out to give them a good start and roguing those showing signs of virus.

Dick Westfall's look-back from 2014:

Early soil test

Soiless mix with peat

2lbs nitrogen per 1000 square feet, and
32-0-4 when the plants have grown.

All dahlias are started in pots.

No longer dusting with sulfur.

Dahlias evaporate a lot of water through stomata, particularly from noon to mid-afternoon. The plants should not be allowed to dry out between waterings. They need a continuous supply of moisture. Mulch is helpful in providing moisture.

Pete Harter

Preserving Cut Blooms. Cut during the morning and use lukewarm water with a preservative after re-cutting the stalk. Cold water is "viscous" and is not drawn up the stalk effectively. Blooms will last longer if they are not moved, or placed in a drafty location.

Understanding Basket, Bowl, and Vase Arrangements. These are principally horticultural arrangements. A plant arrangement should have a definite shape with all the plant material confined within an outline. All stems should appear to grow from a central root. *Lillian and Homer Beck*

1 9 7 3

7th ADS National Show, Chicago IL, hosted by the Central States Dahlia Society. Grand Award Mrs. Hester A Pape (AAID DkR) by Richard Westfall.

1973 ADS Gold Medal

- Larry Palminteri, Vice President of the ADS & Accredited Judges Chair
- Mary and Bernard Wright (Mr. and Mrs. Central States)

1973 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- A - Alfred C ASC Or
- B - Gala BID DkBI
- BB - Jaybee's Dazzler BBFD Lt BI
- Min - Polly M. MFD L

1973 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

- A - Conquistador AID-SC Or
- B - Ruth E BSC DkR
- BB - Comanche Kid BBSC DkR
- Small - Blondie MFD Y

A Revised ADS Model Dahlia Show Schedule is available. It is designed to help out-of-towners preparing for a show.

When a dahlia bloom is first picked and put in a vase with water, it gains weight, between 35-40%.

Plant tubers only 2 inches below soil level because the dahlia is a surface feeder. Remember to mulch. When digging, remove all portions of the stem from a divided tuber to avoid loss of moisture from the tuber. *Gene Woznicki*

Dahlia growers should get in touch with local florists and grow non-exhibition plants that the florists can use. This will increase visibility of the dahlia. *Stanley Johnson*

Russell Cowan reported that dahlias were exhibited at a flower show in St. John, New Brunswick in 1841, only 40 years after dahlias were introduced into Europe.

Roy Webb, Chair of Seedling Sweepstakes, recommends that Seedling Sweepstakes Judges converse during the judging process to achieve a fair outcome. He acknowledges that there are other views about the judging process.

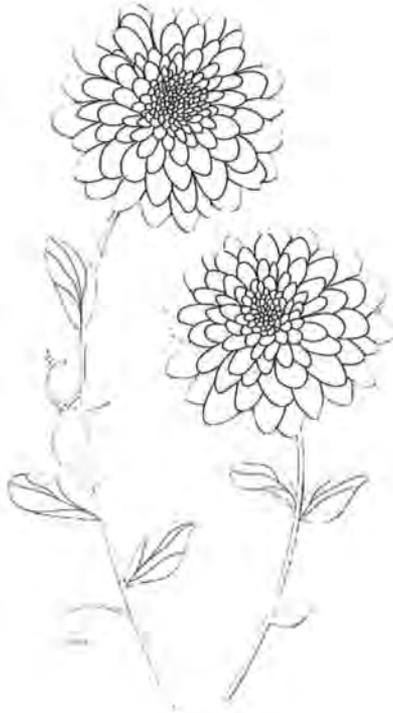
The Effect of Hormones on Dahlia Growth after Pinching Out and Disbudding. A plant hormone called florigen is responsible for a plant moving from

vegetative growth to flowering growth.

Leroy Svec, Purdue University.

[Ed. Note, a more recent discussion of this mystery is found in "Frontiers in Genetics" (<http://journal.frontiersin.org/Journal/10.3389/fgene.2014.00218/abstract>) by Ianis G. Matsoukas.]

In Memoriam: *Bert Pitt*, former ADS President.



1974

ADS Diamond (60th) Jubilee Show 1974 Atlantic City NJ. King of the Show, Lavengro (AID L), by Ernest Tooker. 2,840 blooms were exhibited.

1974 ADS Gold Medals

-Alden Cosad, a long-time member of the Minnesota Dahlia Society and supporter of the dahlia.

-Harold "Buck" Cummings, a dahlia grower for over 42 years and a longstanding member of the Joint Classification Committee.

-Eileen Hopkins, sponsor of 4-H programs throughout Maryland and Mrs. Congeniality of the National Capital Dahlia Society.

1974 Trial Gardens Derrill Hart Medals

A – Dr Les AIC DkR

B - Betty K. BSC V

BB - Vivian June BBSC R

Min. - Fidalgo Tribby Min Ball DkR

A - Walter Hardisty AID W

1974 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

B – Audrey BFD R

BB - John's Gold BBFD Y

Small - Joe K MFD R

Special ADS plaque of appreciation was given to *Roy Webb* for his work on the ADS Seedling Sweepstakes Committee.

Lynn Dudley donated his library of dahlia books to the ADS.

“I doubt if our present rules for judging can be improved.” *Stanley Johnson*

22 advertisements in the December 1973 Bulletin.

Midwest Dahlia Conference Uniform Judging Course available.

The ADS has 27 Participating Societies and 47 Affiliated Societies.

10-year ADS Composite Classification was published.

Accomplishments of the ADS's first 60 years, from cow fodder to the show table:

-The evolution in dahlia breeding.

- Growing, testing of new varieties and exhibiting.
- Accreditation of competent judges.
 - The introduction of Jersey Beauty as the leading commercial dahlia bloom.
 - Milk bottles supplanted by proper containers as a result of stiff stems.
- ADS Exhibition Rules adopted in 1915.

ADS Suggests a World Dahlia Congress.

Size. The dispute about oversized and undersized entries continued. The ADS accredited judges chair stated there is no automatic 5-point reduction per inch for over or under. The amount of the penalty is left to the discretion of judges based on an overall evaluation of the bloom. In addition, there is no tolerance rule for oversized dahlias. Most importantly, there is no disqualification for being over or undersized.

Some well-known cultivars are deteriorating or regressing. One remedy is for the more successful hybridizers to share their seed to increase the number of seedlings grown each year and perhaps replenish the stock of exhibition dahlias.

C.W. de Kiewiet

“Dahlias are plants that love moist conditions. . . [but] cannot abide wet conditions.” Do not overlook

the importance of the soil to growing top-notch dahlias, e.g. double-digging, trenching, cover crops. . . The rat-tail at the base of the tuber is the first place that feeder roots develop. Do not trim the rat-tail off. . . Sink a pipe four or five inches from the tuber. When watering, fill the pipe to bring water to the roots.

C.W. de Kiewiet

At an ADS judging seminar, President *Stanley Johnson*, reaffirmed that local societies have control over show rules except those dealing with seedling sweepstakes and the use of senior judges. This followed an energetic discussion of the treatment of oversize blooms.

The bedding dahlia *Redskin* was the first dahlia to receive an All-American rating (Bronze) in 1975. It also received awards overseas. It was developed by John Waller.

Regional differences require that growers have patience with stock acquired from other areas. It may take two or three seasons for a cultivar to reach its true potential.

C.W. de Kiewiet



1 9 7 5

9th ADS National Show, Denver CO, host Denver Dahlia Society. Frontispiece (AALC W) was King of the Show by Dev Longley.

1975 ADS Gold Medal

- Lewis M. Culp, ADS treasurer.
- Anthony Pietruskiewicz, a 50 year ADS member and an active dahlia grower.
- Henry Precht, a founder of the Colorado Dahlia Society and commercial nurseryman.

1975 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- A - Centerpiece ASTC W
- B - Ambush BSC Y
- BB - Alsie BBID LBI
- OT - Peter Nelson Ball Pr

1975 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

- B - Ted Benzino BSC Dk BI
- BB - Peter Nelson Ball Pr
- OT - Little Hoot MFD

Pacific Northwest 1974 Top Blue Ribbon Winners

Edna C BFD Y

Salmon Rays BBIC Br

Pat 'N Dee BBFD W

Klankstad Kerkrade BBC Y

White Kerkrade BBC W

Frontispiece AALC W

Questionnaire for Local Society Leaders

How do you:

1. Let the public know that your society is active?
2. How do you get new members to join your society?
3. How do you encourage the youth of your community to be interested in dahlias?
4. What kinds of programs have been most successful?
5. What does your society do for the community?
6. Does your society publish a newsletter? [ed., website, Facebook page, or Twitter account.]
7. What do you have in your dahlia show schedule that is fun for competitors and the public?
8. How can we make dahlia growing more exciting to the public?

9. What do you need the most help with in your society?
10. Is your dahlia conference doing enough to help your society?
11. What would you like the ADS to do for your society? *Walter Hoppe*

Larry Palminteri reported during the judging symposium that only 7.4% of 134 scoring entries had trial garden scores between 86 and 87. In comparison, the Seedling Sweepstakes percentage in this zone was 16% of 130 scoring entries.

[*Ed. Note, the iconic cultivar Jersey Beauty scored 90 in the trial garden.*]

Dues raised to \$6.00 for members of participating societies.

Seedling Sweepstakes Entries should be supported by at least 20 clumps to permit sale the following year.

In Memoriam: *Harry Dreyer*, Editor of the *Bulletin*. He served as President of the ADS and was awarded the ADS Gold Medal. His spouse, Carolyn Dreyer, continued on as editor.

1 9 7 6

10th ADS National Show, Valley Forge PA, host The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society; King of Show, Dr Les (AASC DkR) by Marge Schnerr.



Marge Schnerr

1976 ADS Gold Medal

Charles and Marion Knauf, Philadelphia. Charlie was ADS Treasurer and Classification Chair; Marion was a leader in the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society.

[ed., There are a number of dahlia growing couples, but in many cases the non-growing spouse—a husband or wife—supports the dahlia and its societies behind the scenes, at meetings, shows, and at other events and activities.]

1976 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Wildfire AIC R

B - Ben Benzino BSC Y.

BB - Vernon Rose BBFD Var

OT - Taffy MFD Br

1976 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

A - Bedford Toreador – ASC R

B - Julie Ann -- BFD Lt BI

BB - Sonata – BB FD Lt BI

OT - Nancy H MBall LtBI

The first "Cream of the Cream (higher awards)" list.

AA-A - Alfred C.

B - Juanita

BB - Lion's International

Min. - Billy

Ball - Purple Globe

MBall - Nettie

Pom - Andrew Lockwood

OT- Choh

"AA" classification appears in Cream of the Crop.

"Cream of the Crop" in 1976

AA-Envy

A-Surprise

B-Edna C

BB-Klankstad Kerkrade

Min. - Billy

Ball - Purple Globe

MBall - Nettie

Pom - Andrew Lockwood

OF - Marie Schnug

Penn State University reported on day-length effect on flowering:

- Temperature had no effect on bud formation. It can affect bloom maturation.
- Plant age or size was not an influence on flower initiation.
- Day-length regulated flower formation of many cultivars.

Most flower buds were initiated when day length was shorter than 14 hours. Most remained vegetative when day length exceeded 16 hours.

Some cultivars such as Juanita are not regulated by day length. Some flower sporadically even under continuous light.

A crop of dahlia cut flowers can be developed in 8 to 12 weeks, beginning with a rooted cutting. A minimum of two weeks of vegetative growth before pinching, followed by 14 short days, and then long days produces commercially acceptable blooms.

Use of the ADS Slide Library that began in 1963 continues to expand.

Mark Alger named Chairman of the ADS Seedling Sweepstakes Committee.

In ADS Bench scoring (the Seedling Sweepstakes) a cultivar is only eligible for bench scoring during one season.

Judges must be impartial: no exhibitor, form or color preferences.

Staging is a judging factor on the show bench.

Judges should not improve staging of an entry.

Judging symposium. Seedling sweepstakes judges should not consult with one another in scoring seedlings except to reach agreement of size, type, color, and color descriptions. Judges can change their scores on the judging sheets on the basis of second thoughts. Distinction scores should not be set to allow the entry to reach 85.

It is not feasible to include tuber-and bloom-keeping qualities as score card components.

Distinction is intended to reflect an improvement over other cultivars in its class. It can also be characterized as a variation that sets it out from the class in a good way.

Distinctiveness: uniqueness, something really outstanding about the quality that is different from and superior to anything we already have. "If a seedling does not have distinctiveness, as we understand it, then it shouldn't score 85."

Al Dolinski from New Jersey handles 500,000 divided roots each year. One grower had 10,000 flower-

ing potted dahlia plants for Mother's Day.

ADS Bronze Medal was reluctantly replaced with ADS Bronze Medallion Certificate by Executive Board.

A Joy Forever

Of all the pretty flowers that I know,
Not one appeals to me like the dahlias that I grow.
With shades of white to pinks, lavenders to darkest
reds,
Variegateds, blends and bi-colors they all spread.

Come September and October I will always find,
The results of my hard labor that I don't mind.
Each dahlia has a loveliness of its own,
It's just hard to pick out my favorite or the most
beautiful one.

Dahlia folks and fools like me I'm sure you'll find,
Many throughout this great nation and in this world
of mine.

I believe it was Keats who said, "Beauty is a Joy
Forever."

Now who can prove that he wasn't looking at a
dahlia?

Gilly Simmons

[ed., Gilly Simmons from Anderson, South Carolina

was one of the fine dahlia growers and loving people of the last half century.]

In Memoriam: *Aileen Maytrott*, “The First Lady of the Dahlia World”.



1 9 7 7

11th ADS National Show, Portland OR, hosted by the Portland Dahlia Society, Lane County Dahlia Society, and Seattle Dahlia Society. Most outstanding entry, basket of Hamari Katrina (BSC Y) by Dan Vadney.

1977 ADS Gold Medal

- Carolyn Dreyer, editor of the ADS Bulletin for more than six years.
- John and Cay McEvoy long time leaders of the Portland Dahlia Society and founders of other dahlia societies.
- Willis and June Collins, prolific writers about dahlias in the Northwest.

1977 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - LeVonne Splinter ASC LtBl
- B - Rees Flash BSC DkBl
- BB - Fidalgo Bounce BBFD LtBl
- OT - Elmira MBall Var.

1977 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

- A - LeVonne Splinter AA SC LtBl
- B - Susan F BIC Br
- BB - Camano Cloud BBSC Pk
- OT Purple Royalty MFD Pr

1977 Cream of the Crop
Alfred C
Edna C
The Queen
Billy
Brookside Snowball
Downham Royale
Little Matthew
Maries Schnugg

Stanley Johnson retired as ADS President after eight years in office. He was committed to the ADS disseminating valuable cultural information and remaining fiscally solvent.

Judges Symposium. Hard green centers lose points for form, but also for color and distinctiveness. A small hole in the center of an immature bloom warrants a discretionary reduction for form.

Dolomite Limestone begins to raise the pH immediately when wet, but may take months to have the full effect. *S. Johnson*

The effect of agricultural limestone (calcium carbonate) on pH depends on the size of the particle. Hydrated limestone works fastest but can burn plants. The amount of lime to raise the pH also depends on the type of soil. Clay soil requires more lime than sandy soil. When creating a potting medium, a good

sterile, artificial growing mix should be amended with a little soil for its clay particle buffering and ion exchange capacity for nutrients

S. Johnson

Of the 946 accredited judges in 1976, 25% were women. In the United Kingdom, only 2% of the judges were women

L. Palminteri

Russell Cowan and Tom Yano reported that the Cowan top performers in 1964, Windlassie, Lula Pattie, First Lady, Surprise, Juanita, Nita, and Kidd's Climax were all winning in 1976 with the exception of First Lady and Kidd's Climax.

[ed., Most of them –even Kidd's Climax-- were still winning blues in 2014.]



1 9 7 8

12th ADS National Show, Atlanta GA, host The Dahlia Society of Georgia. Most perfect bloom, Dutch Giant by Billy and Virginia Medford.

1978 ADS Gold Medal

Bill McClain, President of the Southern States Dahlia Society.

An ADS Service Plaque was presented to Marie Glauzier.

1978 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Curley AID DIPk

B - Apricot Blush BID Var

BB - Wonder City BBFD Lt BI

OT - Sunsprite MSC Y

1978 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

AA & A - Mauve Climax AFDPk

BB - Dark Delight BBIC DkR

1978 Cream of the Cream

Walter Hardisty

Shirley Jane

Edna C

Match

Mary Jo

Brookside Snowball

Larry Palminteri was elected ADS President to succeed Stanley Johnson.

1978 Revisions to the Seedling Sweepstakes Rules.

A Certificate of Merit will be awarded to a seedling that scores at least 85 in Seedling Sweepstakes at 3 shows and in 3 Trial Gardens over a two-year period.

Distinctiveness is based on “uniqueness” rather than superiority in one of the existing judging criteria. It reflects the qualities of “standing out in a crowd” or “I’ll buy that.”

The Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Competition will separate Miniatures from Other Types categories.

Judges Seminar. One accredited judge can serve on a three-judge Seedling Sweepstakes team. Local societies may not charge for entry in the ADS Seedling Sweepstakes or require local society membership.

At the 1978 ADS Annual Meeting, Stanley Johnson and H. Dewey Mohr received special awards of appreciation. They both had previously received the ADS Gold Medal.

New rules for the accreditation of judges issued.

Accredited Judges:

- Must be a member of ADS.
- 5 years of exhibiting.
- Apprentice judging in 5 shows, or mentored trial garden judging.
- Written exam.

Senior Judges:

- Familiarity with current competition.
- 2-year apprenticeship as an accredited judge.
- Membership in the ADS.
- Proven mastery of scorecard and seedling classification.

Current judges must maintain membership in ADS and attend refresher course every 5 years.

Judges Evaluation and Evaluation Chair Comments.

--Every bloom must be entered on the show table as classified, whether it is oversized or undersized. Size is to be considered a fault; the deduction to be applied at the discretion of the judges.

--There is confusion about "stem." In judging dahlias, the stem is a combination of the botanical stem (calyx to first pair of leaves) and the portion of the stalk above the vase. The portion in the vase is not judged.

ADS Policy. ADS judges must act as representatives of the American Dahlia Society and should conduct themselves accordingly

“Strong local societies are better able to support and render stronger the American Dahlia Society.”

Suggestions to Local Societies

- Good monthly programs.
- Invite new members to your gardens.
- Judge novice entries gently.
- Have a membership drive each year.
- Publicize monthly meetings.
- Recruit at shows.
- Recruit at root auctions.
- Keep the meetings quiet. No separate conversations.
- Let everyone speak. *Lawrence Palminteri*

Tuber dahlias grown with short periods of daylight (9 hours or less) bloom more quickly with lower quality blooms; the opposite is true for tubers grown with up to 13 hours of daylight. The difference in bud formation is 30 days. The 9-hour plants had bigger clumps. *Stanley Johnson*

[ed., <http://www.gpnmag.com/manipulating-dahlias>]

After 15 years, Arthur Wulff discontinued *Dahlias-copes*, a valuable show report resource for exhibitors.

In Memoriam:

-*Bruce Preas*, former ADS President and Gold Medal recipient.

-*Ed Lloyd*, founding member and former ADS President, Gold Medal recipient.

-*Pete Harter*, A 50-year ADS member, an active member of multiple ADS committees and an ADS Gold Medal recipient.



1 9 7 9

13th ADS National Show, McLean VA, host National Capital Dahlia Society (1979), Grand Champion, Edna C (BFD Y) by Ken and Yvonne Redd.

1979 ADS Gold Medal

- Jim Browning, global dahlia grower and personality
- Clarence Phillip, editor of the Dahliagram and writer.
- Arthur Wulff, exhibitor and publisher of Dahliasopes.
- Jack Eccelston, grower and exhibitor (posthumously).

1979 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - Mrs. Mary Martin AID LtBI
- B - Roilyn BSC DkR
- B - Bountiful BBSC R
- OT - Senior Ball Ball LtBI

1979 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

- AA & A - Harry Dreyer AAID L
- B - Cotton Candy BSC Lt BI
- BB - "WE" BBIC DkR
- Min. - Joannie N MFD DkBI
- OT - K D B. Ball Lt BI

Judges Accreditation and Evaluation Chair Comments:

Color and form have equal weight on the scorecard. An evaluation chair may design his/her own judging tests or adapt the ADS tests. The test is open book, unless changed by the evaluation chair.

Trial garden judging can substitute for only one of the five required show judging activities. Skill in show judging is indispensable for a judge.

Lillian Beck, Judges Accreditation and Evaluation Chair, is to head a committee to revise the Judging Manual.

Plants can die from tap water: chemicals plus alkaline caused by chlorine.

172 new introductions were included in the 1974-75 CHDs. 92 (53.5%) cultivars survived in the CHD to the 4th year.

Bud Moore advocated a uniform ADS Classification at National Shows.

Proposed By-Law amendments:

- Establish honorary ADS memberships
- Increase standard dues to \$8.00.
- Members of participating societies to pay \$7.00 dues
- Affiliated Societies to pay \$35.00 dues

The official color guide of the ADS is the RHS Colour Chart.

The ADS submitted a petition for a Postal Service dahlia stamp

Judge's Symposium. More discussion of "Distinction." Mark Alger: There is no correlation between total scores received by a seedling and its score for distinction. Dahlias scoring 85 and 85.5 received higher distinction scores than seedlings scoring 86 or more. Similarly there was no correlation with scores for color or form.

Judging Comment. The height of an entry is measured from the table surface to the tip of the exhibit.

Jersey Beauty is thought to be the greatest dahlia in the last 50 years. It is a free, open, sturdy grower, with long stiff slender stems supporting facing blooms. The blooms have a long-lasting keeping quality that made it the premier cut flower. Jersey Beauty was disease resistant, and a good root-maker that winters over and propagates quickly. It was introduced by William H. Waite in 1923 at \$50.00.
Stanley Johnson



Jersey Beauty

Introduced by William H. Waite in 1923



1 9 8 0

14th ADS National Show, Portland OR, host Inland Empire Dahlia Society. Best bloom in the show was Nimrod (AIC DkR) by Barney Welch.

The 1980 ADS Gold Medals

- Andrew Babb, hybridizer, supporter of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference and an ADS Trial Garden Superintendent.
- William O. Allen, promoter of new dahlia clubs, and a leader in the Inland Empire Dahlia Society.
- Stanley Swanson, editor of "The Dahlia" of the Central States Dahlia Society, founding member of the Southtown Dahlia Society.

1980 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Glory AAID Y

B - Milky Way BFD W

BB - Camano Choice BBFD L

Min. - Daddy's Girlie MFD Pr

OT -Tupi S DkBI

[ed., the *Bulletin* had 8 pages of seedlings in the Trial Garden Competition.]

1980 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

AA-A - Silverado Lady AAID L

B - Camano Classic BIC LtBI

BB - Cindy Lou BB IC R

Min. - Daddy's Girlie MFD Pr

OT - Tupi S R & Camano Candy Ball Lt BI

[ed., there was no agreement on Tupi's color, and Camano Candy's score was subsequently adjusted. Camano Candy was declared the winner in the June 1981 *Bulletin*.]

1979 Cream of the Cream

AA-A - Walter Hardisty

B - Edna C

BB - The Queen

Min. - Billy

OF - Brookside Snowball

Mark Alger elected ADS President to succeed Larry Palminteri.

In his first message, Mark Alger observes that the rising cost of transportation (gas and lodging) will be a challenge to national flower societies. [ed., the ADS Executive Board met eight times a year in Manhattan].

Perlite. Each particle of perlite will absorb between 4 and 5 times its weight in water.

Article on fertilizers recommends regular testing to avoid salt buildup from non-water-soluble fertilizer elements that will adversely affect plant growth

(chlorine in water also makes a contribution).

Joseph Lindall

“Local societies . . . must feel they are a part of the American Dahlia Society, and that feeling can be engendered only by reciprocal communication and understanding on the part of leadership of the ADS” *Mark Alger*

Judging dahlias is marked by “objective subjectivity.” Through experience, education and introspection, it is possible for a judge to control preferences.

Larry Palminteri

The Year of the Seedling

Bound in by walls of winter

A dream is captured.

The seedling

A complete embryo

Brushed by sun

Caressed by bee

Plucked by hand

Held in trust—

For a summer vision

For explosion of colors

For delight of the soul.

I give you my dahlia seedling

A promise of blue skies,

Of gentle winds and rain.

An interlude with my dreams.
Edna B. Du Fresne

A British grower and writer once estimated that one dahlia seedling out of 250,000 would become popular and last for more than three years before it was replaced by another of perhaps superior qualities.

A grower should select seed from the better quality plants and from those that have maintained their popularity as blue ribbon winners over a period of years.
Russell Cowan



1 9 8 1

15th ADS National Show, Naperville IL, hosted by the Central States Dahlia Society. Best bloom in the Show was Walter Hardisty (AAID by Bud Moore.)

Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A Bonaventure AAID LtBI

B New Creation BFD Y

BB The Baron BBFD Pr

M Son O' P.P. MFD Var

OT Eddie Joe MBall Y

Lynn Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

A Bonaventure AAID LtBI

B Porkie BSC Y

BB The Baron BBFD Pr

1980 Cream of the Cream

AA-A - Walter Hardisty

B - Edna C

BB - Salmon Rays

Min. - Mary Jo

OT - Marie Schnugg

1981 Cream of the Cream (by category)

- A - Walter Hardisty
- B - Hamari Katrina
- BB - The Queen
- Min. - Mary Jo
- OT - Brookside Snowball

1981 Cream of the Crop by Blue Ribbons

- Walter Hardisty
- Brookside Snowball
- Juanita
- Edna C
- Mary Jo
- Alfred C
- Hamari Katrina
- Sterling Silver
- Walter Hardisty
- Juanita

1980 Blue Ribbon Winners (+100)

- Edna C

The effect of using 21% nitrogen fertilizer on tuberous root storage is still under debate.

Suggestion: You can grow dahlias on bales of straw. *Lee Valley Experimental Horticultural Station (UK)*.

A USPS dahlia stamp was issued as part of a four-

flower block.

Avoid watering tubers for two weeks after planting. Keep the soil surface moist when setting in rooted plants.

Local dahlia societies should provide lunches for visiting judges and their spouses as small gesture of thanks for their travel.

Another plea to local societies to use ADS classification numbers at their shows.

ADS must promote garden flowers if the dahlia is to be more universally grown--cultivars that require less staking and are very floriferous. [ed., the ying and yang of dahlia growing continues.]

-People's Choice competitions engage the public when they have a chance to judge the entries and vote for their favorite.

-A section for plants in containers illustrates that dahlias can be grown on a patio or deck without staking, etc.

-

A display of bedding dahlias may attract visitors to become new growers.

Regional conferences need to be more active.

Mark Alger

Soil Solarization. A sheet of thin plastic (1-4 mil thick) spread over wet soil together with the sun's heat will virtually eliminate fungi to a depth of 12-18 inches.

Gerald Pullman

In his President's Message, *Mark Alger* asked how societies can use shows to encourage visitors to be more than "spectator dahlia growers."

Oasis root-cubes are recommended for propagation.

Bud Moore

Avoid preventative spraying with chemicals. [ed., no preemptive strikes.] *S. Johnson*

Russell Cowan's 1981 Blue Ribbon Dahlias: Brookside Snowball, Walter Hardisty, Hamari Katrina, Edna C, Kidd's Climax, Poppet, Sterling Silver & Alfred C

For Comparison: *Cowan's* 1961 List
Windlassie, Juanita, Kidd's Climax, Surprise, First Lady & Mrs Hester Pape

Stanley Johnson wrote that the most important five minutes in pest control is the time spent reading the label. Wear protective equipment and store the

chemicals in a dry safe place. [ed., the *Bulletin* has regularly cautioned growers to be safe when handling and applying pest control chemicals.]

Standing water on foliage for 8 hours or more in a day is conducive to the spread of bacterial problems. *Stanley Johnson*

Carolyn Dreyer retired as editor of the *Bulletin* after six and one-half years, and *Tom Yano* succeeds her.



1 9 8 2

16th ADS National Show, Windsor Locks CT, host Connecticut Dahlia Society.

King of the Show Lloyd Huston (1203) by Mark Alger.

1982 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Giant & Large - Tom Yano ASC DkR

Medium - Gary BSC Or

Small - Autumn Splash BBFD Var.

OT - Snowfall Ball W

1982 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Sweepstakes Medals

AA-A - Tom Yano ASC DkR

B - Gary BSC Or

BB - Sentinal BBID Lt BI

Min. - Cora Lee MStC W

OT - Juul's Star Or W

Bylaw Amendments

-ADS Family Membership established.

-All classes of membership have equal voting rights.

-Participating Societies must have 15 ADS members.

-An Affiliated Society is itself an ADS member and need not have a minimum number of individual ADS members.

- The Annual Meeting may be held outside of New York State.
- Executive Board meetings will be held quarterly.

Carolyn Dreyer was presented with a plaque by the National Dahlia Society (England) in recognition of her contributions to the dahlia, especially as editor of the *Bulletin*. *Irene Owen* received an illuminated scroll from the NDS for her long service as ADS General Secretary.

Judges accredited prior to January 1981 were grandfathered from the ADS membership requirement.

The ADS established a photo contest (prints and slides) oriented to dahlias and their growers.

Eight local society dahlia publications recognized by the ADS.

Report that largest dahlia was a bloom of *Murphy's Masterpiece* at 17¼ inches. *Morgan T. Riley*

International '82 Dahlia Show in Toronto Canada. North American society entries competed.

1981 ADS Tour to England to participate in the National Dahlia Society Centenary was a great success.

First Roster of ADS Judges was published in the *Bulletin*.

The ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation at local shows should be assigned to the most experienced judges. The outcome of the judging will determine the success of several years of work by the originators. Originators should clear a proposed cultivar's name with the Chair of Nomenclature [ed., now Classification] to confirm that the name is not taken. While there are approximately 1,500 names in the CHD, there are probably 15,000 names on the record. *Mark Alger*

The history of dahlia classification in England goes back to 1836 (3,000 names), and even earlier in France. The first informal United States classification list was assembled in Colorado in 1893. A published list of 7,000 names was prepared for the *American Florist* magazine in 1923.

During the 1930s, J. Louis Roberts prepared a classification for the Central States Dahlia Society. In 1940, ADS-CSDS agreed on a combined classification. In 1979, a Joint ADS-CSDS Classification Committee was established. The cultivars were kept by name and class on two sets of index cards [ed., reminiscent of library card catalogs]. In 1982, The "Novelty" class was established. *Gerry Weland*

Drying dahlia blooms can be accomplished with silica gel; it changes color when saturated with water. The silica can be restored by heating it in an oven.

Water is a critical component of dahlia plants. It resides in the cells and makes up 90% of the plant. Water is absorbed through the hair roots behind the growing tip and circulated through the plant. By filling the cells, it effectively permits the plant to assume the shape that we see. Too much or too little water in the plant can cause wilting. Similarly if there is too much or too little water in the surrounding soil, the plant will not grow well. A balance of oxygen and water is needed for the roots to do their job. *Clarence Phillip*

Judges and clerks at a show should check the table to ensure that all entries are in the right class.

The next ADS Annual Meeting will be in the Philadelphia area in 1983.

Ed Seeger will become Chair of the ADS Slide Library. *Mark Alger*

Micro nutrients are critical to good flowers. One note: A deficiency of zinc, sulfur or boron causes small foliage and weak plants. Have your soil tested. *Mac Boyer*

Growing potted plants for late spring blooms can be accomplished with a growth retardant applied two weeks after the plants are potted. Use whole pot roots and allow 3 shoots to develop. Water with diluted fertilizer. Topping delays blooms 5 to 10 days. Potting to blooms takes between 8 to 12 weeks.

S. Johnson

Many dahlia growers have experienced a summer slump. This is caused by heat and deficient water. The flowers that do bloom during this period often have poor form and size. Three observations:

-Overhead watering during summer is helpful as a supplement to ground watering.

-Cultivars that make poor root growth and live off the tuber suffer the most.

-If you take cuttings from a tuber, you will weaken the tuber. Do not then plant the tuber.

Bill Neckerman

The Dahlia Grower's Lament

Today my garden has a glow
With dahlias that are fit to show.
But last week when our show was held—
The rains had all my flowers felled.

And there were blooms that came too late
To meet our scheduled showing date.
Alas this is my soul's lament—
With nature I must be content.

I'll wait 'til there's another show
To see my garden all aglow.
With reds and whites and yellows too—
That may just win a prize or two.
Bill Moser



1 9 8 3

17th ADS Show, Seattle WA, host The Puget Sound Dahlia Association. Best in Show was Bonaventure (AAFD Br) by Ed Redd.

The show featured a 17 ½ Emory Paul (AAID Pr) grown by Gordie Leroux. On the second day it grew to 18"x 12 ½".

1983 ADS Gold Medals

Bill and Bess Owens; leaders of the Seattle Dahlia Society and the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference. Bess won the Dudley for Tula Rosa, and Bill served on the ADS Classification Committee.

1983 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

A -Kenora Sunburst ASC Y
B - April Dawn BID LtBI
BB - Mary Morris BBID Y
OT Robert Walker MFD DkBI
Ball Sweet Miss BA DkBI

1983 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

A - Kenora Sunburst ASC Y
B - April Dawn BID LtBI
Min. - Robert Walker MFD DkBI
Other - Erik the Red Col R/y

1982 Cream of the Crop (blues and higher awards)

Mary Jo

Walter Hardisty

Brookside Snowball

Hamari Katrina

Crichton Honey

Heavy Cream (based only on higher awards)

Edna C

Walter Hardisty

The first ADS Annual Meeting outside New York State, was held in King of Prussia PA.

ADS Goals.

-to improve the judging of seedlings and introductions.

-development of a new Judging Manual and scorecard.

-A single scorecard for trial garden and seedling bench evaluation.

--space for comments.

--subtotal before Distinction.

--Removal plus or minus scoring.

Mark Alger

Suggestion. Include a "Potted Dahlia" competition at dahlia shows. If you use a 14" pot, put it in the ground during the season with a bent bar underneath to facilitate lifting. [ed., keep your back

straight.]

Bill Swanstrom

Seed propagation. Dust the seed with a fungicide/ insecticide powder. Plant seed with narrow end toward the flat to improve germination. Do not press on the soil; just settle it. Gently push the seed down to $\frac{3}{4}$ of its length. Small seed should go all the way into the soil. Do not let soil dry out, and keep the flat at room temperature.

Ralph Holicky

Improving soil for dahlia gardening. Add no more than 2 inches of organic matter per year, and obtain an annual soil test. Do not add fertilizer within 30 days of application of lime.

Dan Sharp

ADS considered the return to providing Bronze Medals for local societies in place of a certificate.

The new scorecard continues the approach that a dahlia is judged against perfection and not its competition. Faults are deductions from the maximum score. There are no additions, except for "distinction." Distinction should be assessed first to determine what priority you would place upon buying that cultivar and putting it in a garden with limited space.

Mark Alger

A National Show permits visitors from other parts of North America an opportunity to meet local growers, to discuss cultural techniques, and to observe cultivars grown under different conditions.

Mark Alger



1 9 8 4

18th ADS National Show, Elkhart IN, hosted by the Elkhart Dahlia Society. Most perfect bloom, Miss Midwest (BSC DkPk) by Dick Ruthardt.

1984 Gold Medal

Joe Rice, promoter of dahlia growing in Indiana, and a co-founder of the Elkhart Dahlia Society.

1984 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Show 'N' Tell ASC DkBl

Medium - Camano Twilight BC DkPk

Small - Doc L BBID DkR

Min. - Little Royal MFD Pr

OT - Brite Boy Ball R

1984 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Mandarin Napoleon ASC Br

Medium - Country Music BID L

Small - Nellie Phipps BBFD Y

The Best of 1983 (by blue ribbons)

Walter Hardisty

Mary Jo

Edna C

Brookside Snowball

Juanita

Walter Hardisty also had the greatest number (72) of higher awards.

The proposal of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference to hold the ADS Annual Meeting in conjunction with the National Show is approved in principle.

A color identification sheet (4"x 6 ½") was developed by Tom Yano, focusing on the boundaries between established colors.

Societies should retain show records to identify trends and to encourage classes where there are few entries.

ADS Policy. The ADS classification is to be used at National Shows.

Trial Gardens. The scores of all the accredited judges will be averaged and that score included along with the senior judge scores. This is intended to encourage newer judges to gain experience scoring seedlings. BBs should be grown to 8-10 laterals. All three entries should be normally disbudded and disbranched. 1984 Annual Meeting. [ed., previously, one plant was to be grown naturally.]

The boundary color-chart project has been abandoned as too complex to be easily used.

December 1984 Bulletin had colored front and back covers.

Combination Orchid/Collarettes were beginning to appear on the show tables.

The Classification Guide (CHD) will now include the number of blue ribbons won by a cultivar. Dahlias must win three blue ribbons in the prior two years to be retained in the CHD. To be initially listed (or relisted) it must win two blue ribbons the prior year, or receive three bench or trial garden scores.

Mac and Norma Boyer

Take a judging course to better appreciate dahlias. The ADS scorecard encourages comments along with a numerical score. *Mark Alger*

Encourage your neighbors to grow dahlias. *Mike Martinolich*

“The likelihood of rain is inversely proportional to the need for it.”

Dahlia Grower's Maxim

A. A. De Hertogh reported that 500,000 potted dahlia plants would be sold in 1984. The Dutch Bulb Growers Association is working to develop naturally grown potted dahlias 12"-14" high, floriferous with 4"- 6" blooms.

“Distinction” should not be used to bring an entry to a score of 85.

Buds are round; seed pods are pointed. Collect the seed heads near the end of the season with 10-inch stems. Put the stems in a container with water for about a week. If the head begins to turn brown during the week, take it out of the water. Hang the heads to dry. Break the heads and collect the seed after three months. Viable seed is ordinarily plump.

Bill Neckerman

In Memoriam: *John Stowell*, dahlia society leader.



1 9 8 5

ADS 70th Anniversary

19th ADS National Show, St. Louis MO, hosted by the Greater St. Louis Dahlia Society. King of the Show Kenora Sunburst (BID Y) by Jerry Humeniuk.

1985 ADS Gold Medal

Ellis Evans, the longtime Chair of National Exhibitions.

1985 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medal Winners

Large - Randy T ASC Y
Medium - Red Devil BSC R
Small - Hamilton Lillian BBFD Or
Min. - Versa MFD Dk BI
Other - Kenora Fireball Ball R

1985 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Salvation AIDY
Medium - Aloha BSC Lt BI
Small - Hamilton Lillian BBFD Or
Min. - Elizabeth Hammett MFD L
Other - Kenora Fireball Ball R

James "Bud" Moore was elected ADS President to succeed Mark Alger.

Mark Alger received the ADS Distinguished Service Plaque.

1984 Cream of the Crop (based on higher awards)

Walter Hardisty

Mary Jo

Brookside Snowball

Bonaventure

Downham Royal

Edna C

A list of judges was published in the CHD on a trial basis.

National Shows must be held in accordance with ADS Classification and Standards. Executive Committee

The Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers was formed. A Federation representative will have a seat on the ADS Executive Board.

A number of national magazines listed the ADS in their plant society columns. This has resulted in new ADS members. The major source of new members is still from participating societies.

32 ads in the December 1984 *Bulletin*.

Executive Board meeting minutes will be published

in the *Bulletin*.

Wash clumps before storage. Divide the clumps in the fall. Store in newspaper-lined cardboard boxes with vermiculite. *Bill Neckerman*

ADS representatives are the link between the ADS and the local societies. This is an important operational position. *Bud Moore*

Duties of ADS Representatives:

- Receive notices for ADS dues to be forwarded to the ADS Treasurer.
- Receive the CHD sheets and make it available to the person tallying show blues and higher awards.
- Request Seedling Bench Evaluation materials and promptly return them to the ADS Chair.
- Request Trial Garden Entry Forms.
- Stimulate local discussion about ideas to increase ADS value and communicate ideas to the ADS Secretary.
- Send Local Society Reports to the editor of the *Bulletin* in a timely fashion.
- Promote interest and encourage membership in the ADS. *Bud Moore*

The ADS should communicate the importance of its medal winners to the local societies and to the horticultural media.

A national society should establish and uphold standards, but not set such rigid restrictions that the local societies lose their individuality.

Bud Moore

Dahlia breeders are making a concerted effort to develop open-centered cultivars.

ADS established a “National Challenge Contest”. The winner must have achieved blue ribbons or higher awards in 15 or more of the ADS-recognized size/type classes. There are 31 such classes.

The list of judges will continue in the *Classification Guide and Handbook* (CHD).

ADS Rules for the Seedling Bench Evaluation will be published annually in the CHD.



1 9 8 6

20th ADS National Show, Randall OH, hosted by the Dahlia Society of Ohio. Best in Show, Miss Midwest (BSC Pk) by Rudy Bredenbeck.

1986 ADS Gold Medal

- Hazel Schroeder, grower, hybridizer and 46 year Treasurer of the Toledo Dahlia Society.
- Irene Owen, long time General Secretary of the American Dahlia Society.
- Marion Winkler, was awarded an ADS plaque for her service as 2nd Vice President and Asst. Secretary of the ADS.

1986 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Awards

- Large - Zorro AAID DkR
- Medium - Kenora Canada BSC Y
- Small - Camano Velvet BBFD DkR
- Min. - Rebecca Lynn MFD DkPk
- Other - Lavender Blue Ball L

1986 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - Zorro AAID Dk R
- Medium - Kenora Canada BSC Y
- Small - Wonton BBFD R
- Min. - Rebecca Lynn MFD Dk Pk
- Other - Lavender Blue Ball L

ADS Executive Board Meetings will be held in various cities in the US and Canada. 1986 Annual Meeting

1985 Fortunate Fifty (based on higher awards)

Walter Hardisty

April Dawn

Edna C

Bonaventure

Brookside Snowball

Downham Royal

The March 1986, *ADS Bulletin* published an article on "Dahlias in Japan". Their "Golden Age" was between 1950 and 1970. [ed., remember Tenga (AIC Y) and Uchuu (AAFD R).]

Leaf-bud cuttings and grafting, are two rare methods of propagation.

[ed., grafting a shoot on a tuber was described in gardening magazines during the 19th Century.]

Definition of "incurved cactus" is changed.

Items to be discussed at the ADS Annual Meeting must be submitted prior to the meeting, so they can be circulated and considered. *Executive Board*

Dahlias of foreign origin not disseminated to the public in the United States can be submitted by the

originator to Trial Gardens and for Seedling Bench Evaluation. *Executive Board*

Revised rules are issued for the ADS National Challenge Contest.

The June 1986 *Bulletin* published an article on dahlia culture in China. Dahlias are frequently used for landscaping. Potted dahlias are common in public places. The plants are staked, and large cultivars (10"-12" blooms) are grown with a single stalk. Smaller cultivars are grown with four stalks and 4 or 5 buds per stalk.

ADS established a "seed auction" in response to the shortage of dahlia seed. ADS will split the proceeds of each batch with the seed supplier. The ADS share will go towards color covers for the *Bulletin*.

Blooms will be entered as classified by the ADS with no penalty or premium points allowed for undersize or oversize. [ed., ADS President's clarification: Size may be considered when applying other judging standards.]

An ADS annual award will be established for the American origination receiving the highest number of blues and higher awards during the prior three years. *Executive Board*

Scorecard Comment.

Is a bloom's color dull and drab? Does it have sheen? A bloom's substance is sometimes defined as that which a bloom no longer has after it has received a few applications of the thumb and finger treatment. *Ken Furrer*

I like to start with the maximum number of points for each characteristic and then deduct for faults. "Distinction is the opposite." *Bill McClaren*

First-Year Seedlings. If a seedling makes a promising bloom about three months after planting, identify its lowest leaf nodes and expose the tubers to the left and right of the lowest nodes. With a sharp blade cut away an eyed tuber and replant it in the garden, filling back the spot from which it was taken. You will now have two promising first-year seedlings. *Harry Brand (Australia)*

Homer and Lillian Beck's hand pollination procedure involved clipping the three outer rows of florets to just above the stigmas. When the stigmas become sticky apply fresh (pollen). Keep a protective covering over the blooms and mark the cross. Remove the disk parts that show pollen to prevent self-pollination. Thereafter, the green bracts will close to form a pod.

ADS Challenge Contest (15 blue ribbons in different

classes). 16 contestants qualified.

Winner-Jerry Humeniuk with 46 higher awards in 18 classes.

2nd Place-John Zatkovich had 36 higher awards in 21 classes.

Dahlia-culture videos became available. *Holger Peterson*

An ADS "How to Grow Dahlias" publication is needed.

In 1986, the ADS had 1,525 members.

Growers submitting cultivars to the trial garden or for bench evaluation must certify that they will be introduced in the following year, if they score 85.

Executive Board

A supplemental list of classifications will be included in the CHD for the Northwest Region.

In Memoriam:

-*Lillian Beck* who was the ADS Judges Accreditation and Evaluation Chair, hybridizer, and exhibitor.

-*Clarence Phillip*, dahlia writer, mentor and originator of "The Queen".

1 9 8 7

21st ADS National Show, Chicago IL, host South-town Dahlia Society. Major prize Edna C (BFD Y) by Ken Redd.

1987 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Annette Yvonne AIC Y
Medium - Sunny Knite BID Y
Small - Dookie's Miss BBFD Lt Bl
Min. - Fidalgo Inky MFD DkR
Ball - Fidalgo Butterball MB Y
Other - Fidalgo Julie Nov DBI

1987 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Giant - Kenora Clyde AASC W
Medium - Henry Graf BID L
Small - Brookside Laura Belle BBSC LtBl
Min. - Beulah Ruth MFD DkR
Other - Stella J WL Pk

Special Service Award to Paul Hale for his contributions to the ADS becoming a truly national dahlia society.

1986 Fabulous ("Fortunate") Fifty
April Dawn (203 blues and higher)
Edna C
Bonaventure

Hamari Katrina
Walter Hardisty
Mary Jo

April Dawn (BID LtBl) (Les Connell) won the first **ADS Silver Medal** based on three-year show performance (1984 -1986).

Photography Contest Winner, *Harold Miller*.

Judges' cards are due for renewal. Judges are expected to judge at least one show a year. Honorary judges are required to maintain ADS Membership (unless grandfathered by certification prior to 1981), but are not required to judge annually. Scoring five entries in a trial garden can substitute for one show per year.

ADS active judges must continue to grow dahlias to ensure direct association with dahlia culture. Judges must attend a refresher course once every five years. *Executive Board*

The decision to hold an Executive Board meeting in California is evidence of the ADS's commitment to be a national organization. *Bud Moore*

The ADS will make Dahlia exhibition vases available to local societies.

The Lynn B. Dudley medals will no longer require scoring at the trial gardens. They will be awarded solely based on seedling bench evaluations at shows. The Gold Medal Certificate was also eliminated.

Societies are still not reporting show results in a timely manner.

Publication of the 1987 version of the ADS Color Separation Chart is going forward.

There will no longer be a 3-year age-from-introduction requirement for the ADS Silver Medal Award. A cultivar may win the award only once.

Photography Contest winners will receive an ADS Bronze Medal.

Shot-gun hybridization is the marriage of convenience between two consenting dahlias with the connivance of greedy bees. *Harold Miller*

A Poem

“Beetles and aphids and anything that munches,
Collect on my dahlias in uncounted bunches,
I send them to heaven with 10% Sevin
And show them the folly of mooching free lunches.”
Lim’rick by *Ralph Holicky* (“Audacity”)

The central leader on a dahlia plant is a poor producer of seed. Use cut flowers that are about to open to collect pollen. Pollen over three-days old cannot be trusted. Remove dead petals after pollinating, but leave other florets to feed the seed. Spray the pod before it closes with an insecticide and fungicide. Do not let the seed-pod rub against other foliage. When the pod hardens, cut the stem at the first leaf pair and bring it inside to dry. Seed Production in the Great Lakes Area.

Art Kieffer

Soak your seed for 2 hours in a weak solution of Rapid Gro (5 tsp. per gallon) and let them dry on newspaper for 24 hours before planting. *Paul Hale*

ADS Tour of Australia and New Zealand planned.

A Detailed Plan for Promoting the Dahlia. Every local society should have a Promotion Plan:

1. Establish an annual goal for new members, and individual goals of one new member.
2. Publicize the existence of the society, and provide schedule and agendas to media. Recognize media that cooperate.
3. At meetings conduct the program first
4. Allocate funds for marketing and promotion.
5. Develop a membership benefits package
6. Know your membership and their needs by an annual survey.

7. Identify community relations projects, provide local garden club presentations.
8. Where the ADS can help: Publications, flyers, reprint of growing instructions, news releases, ADS recognition of local activities, magazine articles on dahlia gardening. *Holger Peterson*

1987 Dahlia International held in Toronto featuring dahlias from Canada, United States, United Kingdom and Europe.

The National Challenge will be discontinued.

Derrill Hart and Lynn B. Dudley awards will be expanded to include a separate category for Balls, Min Balls and Poms.

Trial Garden plants must be destroyed unless returned to the originator.

Water use can be reduced by underground drip irrigation. *Holger Peterson*

Collarette dahlias need more positive attention at dahlia shows. *Keith Hammett (New Zealand)*

Commercial Growers should be allowed to compete in local shows.

ADS Bronze Medals will be made available to local

societies.

If a root division floats when washed, it will not keep over the winter. *Harold Miller*

Tom Yano retired as Editor of the *Bulletin* after five years. Harry Rissetto succeeded him.

4,100 ADS dahlia vases sold.

A Poem

While stooped in the garden, calm and placid,
I got injected with formic acid.

A sneaky bee had punctured me
In an area quite soft and placid.

Anonymous

In Memoriam:

-*Stanley Johnson*, former ADS President, hybridizer, researcher, and globally recognized dahlia grower.

-*Dewey Mohr*, ADS member since 1927, served on the Executive Board for 42 years, owner Ruschmohr Gardens.



- *Irene Owen*, long-time ADS Officer.

1 9 8 8

22nd ADS National Show, Toledo OH, hosted by the Toledo Dahlia Society. Best in Show, Hamari Accord by (BSC Y) Mac and Norma Boyer.

The ADS Gold Medal

Gordon Chambers of the New Zealand Dahlia Society

1988 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Stellyvonne ASC Y
Medium - Camano Ivory BIC W
Small - Brite Gem BB FD R
Min. - Rusty MFD Dk BI
Other. Alpen Wonder Or Pk

1988 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Kenora Wildfire AID R
Medium - Camano Ivory BIC W
Small - Nicole C BStC Or
Min. - Bloom's Sara MFD Or
Other - Camano Prince Pom Pr

Magic Moment (BSC W) by Les Connell, won the second **ADS Silver Medal** with almost 500 blues and higher over three years.

1987 ADS Photo Contest – Best Photo: “Frontispiece” by Lyle Jacobsohn.

1987 Fabulous Fifty
April Dawn
Magic Moment
Kenora Canada
Edna C
Walter Hardisty
Downham Royal
Wildman

“Distinction” will be moved to the top of the scorecard above “color”.

Classification. Any introduction with a name used in the last five years will not be included in the CHD.

Popular commercial garden catalogs seldom feature CHD dahlias among their new introductions.

H. Risetto

Glorie Van Heemstede, a yellow waterlily introduced in 1947, won an RHS First Class Certificate and 14 blues and higher at ADS Shows. What else does it need to prove at 40?

How many seedlings do you have to grow to win the Derrill Hart Medal? Clarence Phillip did it with 6, one of which was The Queen. *H. Risetto*

The 75th Anniversary of the founding of the ADS will be celebrated in 1990. [ed., if 1989 had been used, we would have missed the Centennial.]

Proposed CHD amendments: definition of “undisseminated dahlias,” and changes to the descriptions of “other types.”

Undisseminated dahlias, if entered in a show or sent to other growers for testing, must be identified

Undisseminated dahlias, if entered in a show or sent to other growers for testing, must be identified

The ADS Bronze Medal must be used as a show award.

3,500 dahlias will be included in the 10-year ADS Composite Classification of Dahlias compiled by Norma & Mac Boyer.

Judges need to find time to judge at Trial Gardens.
Bud Moore

The Executive Board approved preparation of an ADS Policy Manual.

The Lynn B. Dudley medal was first awarded to the winners of the Seedling Bench Evaluation in 1963. Dudley was involved with the establishment of the Seedling Bench Evaluation

[ed., then the Seedling Sweepstakes], the original ADS Scorecard, and the ADS Achievement Award presented at local society shows to the worthy seedling receiving the highest (over 85) on bench evaluation. Dudley served as President of the ADS and editor of the *Bulletin*. He typically judged at 10 to 15 dahlia shows each season for over 50 years. He was editor-in-chief of the memorial publication released at the 1964 Golden Anniversary Show in New York. The Lynn B. Dudley Gold Medal was created by the ADS in 1964.



Lynn B. Dudley

A legend of Seedling Bench Evaluation

Tips for Taking Better Dahlia Pictures

1. Pick your dahlia subjects with care.
2. Stage the blooms so they can be photographed to their best advantage.
3. Use a tripod.
4. Take a moment to look at the background and foreground of the picture to-be.
5. Dull lighting gives dull pictures.
6. Bracket your camera exposure to get good color. *Harry Stafford*
[ed., pre-automatic everything]

When taking dahlia photos watch for distractions in the background. *Harry Stafford*

Contact judges from local societies when you travel. You could be an informal "guest speaker". *Bill McClaren*

Stanley Johnson bequest (\$5,000) was received by the ADS.

115 of the 199 seedlings submitted for bench evaluation at shows scored 85 or more.

Judging three-bloom entries requires the judge to balance bloom quality, staging, and uniformity. Un due emphasis is often given to uniformity. Suggestion: 80 points for the bloom, 10 for uniformity, and 10 for staging. *Mike Pryor*

How to Get People to Join a Dahlia Society

“Perhaps it boils down to whether to appeal to very few people who seek to attain perfection, or to a larger number of people who are willing to settle for less than perfection.”

Stanley Mehr, elite purveyor of cut dahlias.

Now that our national shows are being hosted by societies throughout the dahlia-growing country, we have become truly a national society. *Bud Moore* [ed., Bud never overlooked Canada.]

ADS judges should not judge their own introductions at the trial garden. [ed., pressing the limits of objectivity.]

In 1915, there were 175 “charter members” of the ADS. By 1917, there were 300 members.

Henry Franz

1988 Popularity Poll

Winner Magic Moment

Runners-up, Blooms Bronze Ways, Brookside

Snowball

In Memoriam: *Bill Neckerman*, ADS Officer, and Editor of the *Bulletin*.

1 9 8 9

23rd ADS National Show, Windsor Locks CT, hosted by the Dahlia Society of Connecticut. King of the Show, Walter Hardisty (AAID W) by Art and Sophie Kieffer.

1989 ADS Gold Medal

- Mark Alger*. He served as a board member in the ADS at a time when he and Tom Yano would drive to New York for board meetings eight times a year. He served as Chair of the Research Committee, and Seedling Sweepstakes, Vice President and President. Alger brought judgment, analytic skills and attention to detail to every task he undertook. He had a distinguished career with the federal government. He was a leader in the National Capital Dahlia Society and a expert grower, exhibitor, and hybridizer, Gem (MFD L).
- *Bill Haugh*. Leader of the East Liverpool (Ohio) Dahlia Society, grower, hybridizer of Billy, Lavender Giant, and several other popular cultivars.

1989 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medal Winners

Large - William R ASC Dk Pk

Medium - Lupin Sue BIC Or

Small - Keewatin Sunsprite BBFD Y

Ball - Snoho JoJo MBa Br

Other - Longwood Dainty Nov Or

1989 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Kenora Challenger ASC W [ed., a medal was subsequently awarded to Irene's Pride (AASC Br) in 1991.]

Medium - Camano Shadows BIC DkBl

Small - Katie Z BBStC Y

Min. - Barberry Lavender MFD L

Ball etc - Barberry Indicator Ball L

Other - Far Horizons Col DkR

1989 Stanley Johnson Medal Winner (most blues and higher over prior three years)

Walter Hardisty (AASC W), by Joe Gentile.

1988 Fabulous Fifty (ranked by higher awards)

Walter Hardisty

Magic Moment

Hamilton Lillian

Edna C

Mary Jo

The ADS has entered into a master insurance policy that will be available to local societies, and solve the insurance challenges created by many show sites.

Achievement awards should be based on an "outstanding entry" standard when only one seedling is judged. Any other prerequisites for the award are within the discretion of the local society. *Executive*

Board

Trial Gardens. At the close of the season, all entrants should receive prompt notification of the score and a summary evaluation of their entry. If the entry is not judged, it may be resubmitted, without charge, the following season.

4% of the cultivars in the CHD won 40% of the total awards reported. *Mac Boyer*

How to Beat the Heat:

- A six-to-eight inch straw mulch
- 30 minutes with a drip irrigation hose every other day when the weather is hot and dry (over 95°).
- Watch out for mites and other insects; [treat] as necessary. [Specific chemicals omitted.]
- Shade cloth can lower the temperature if there is little tree shade.
- Seedlings grow better than tubers when planted during hot weather. *Bob Kruger*

30 requests for the Slide Library by local societies. It is a valuable ADS service. *Ed Seeger*

Dahlia growers are sharers. They share their blooms, stock and experience. *H. Rissetto*

Distinction: The Metaphysics of Dahlia Judging.
Is it the quality of the cultivar in comparison to its competition; is it the quality of the cultivar itself, or is it a combination of both. How many mediocre and soon-to-disappear cultivars have scored 85? What does that say about judging Distinction?

An ADS member from central Florida plants dahlias with success during March and August. *Charles Kitley*, Umatilla, FL [ed., note, who said it can't be done?]

ADS representatives are the principal link between the local society and the ADS. It is NOT an honorary position. *Bud Moore*

Discarded carpet remnants are fine mulch for weed control. *Don Brown*

ADS dues raised to \$10.00 when membership is through a participating society.

Storing Dahlias: washing followed by 4 hours of drying time will preserve the moisture in the tuber and still dry the surface. Reduce the size of large tubers before storing them. *Russell Cowan*

Buying Better New Introductions: A Radical

Proposal.

1. All trial garden dahlia scores should be published—good, bad or indifferent.
2. The published trial garden reports should include weaknesses as well as strengths.
3. Trial garden directors should be supported when they make critical evaluations.
4. Floriferousness should be based on a season's performance, and not a single visit.
5. A cultivar's score should reflect the entire season

The ideal dahlia clump: 6 to 8 thick-skin tubers, with sturdy necks, prominent crowns, and arranged around a solid stalk like the spokes on a wagon wheel. *H. Risetto*



1 9 9 0

75th ADS Anniversary Show hosted by the National Capital Dahlia Society. Senior Grand Champion Magic Moment (BSC W) by Martin Ojaste

1990 ADS Gold Medal

- Bud Moore, President of the ADS, hybridizer (Miss Midwest and others); Southtown Dahlia Society leader, Chair National Exhibitions and Special Awards.
- Tom Yano, Editor of the ADS Bulletin, ADS Treasurer, Chair Joint Classification Committee, long time ADS Board Member and hybridizer (Glow and others), leader of the National Capital Dahlia Society, Editor of the Dahliagram.
- Phil Damp (Eng), globally renowned writer about dahlias, General Secretary of the NDS (UK), Editor of the NDS Dahlia Annual.
- Derek Hewlet, President National Dahlia Society (UK), champion exhibitor

1990 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Camano Messenger AStC LtBl

Medium - Keith's Choice BFD DkR

Small - Pensacola BBSC Y

Min. - Evening Lady MFD DkR

Ball - Robann Royal MB L

1990 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Ukraine AAID Y
Medium - C.R. Miller BID Y
Small - Class of '39 BBSC L
Min. - Rose Toscano MFD Or
Ball - Barberry Gem MB DkR
Other - Little Showoff Col Bi

1990 Stanley Johnson Medal

Hamilton Lillian (BBFD Or), originated by Glen Hamilton. It received 530 awards between 1987 and 1989.

Bud Moore received the Gold Medal of the National Dahlia Society (England) at the 1990 ADS Show.

Fabulous Fifty Between 1985 and 1989.

50 or more cultivars on the list each year won 50 or more awards.

1989 Fabulous Fifty (based on higher-than-blue awards)

Hamilton Lillian

Magic Moment

April Dawn

Hamari Accord

Downham Royaly

Walter Hardisty

Mac Boyer elected ADS President to succeed Bud Moore.

Don Brown replaced Harry Risetto as Editor of the ADS Bulletin. Terry Smith became co-editor.

There were 350 entries in the ADS Photo Contest.

The ADS created the ADS President's Award (later the Alger Award). The award is a vase modeled after an award presented by ADS President Richard Vincent Jr. to W.O. Howlett during the 2nd ADS show in 1916. Howlett was a charter member of the ADS. The original vase is now owned by the Dahlia Society of Georgia. The ADS replica vase will be awarded in 2015 at the Centennial Show to the exhibitor attending the 2015 show who has won it most often. Each year a small model of the vase will be given to the winner of the Presidents (Alger) Award.

42% of the ADS societies participated in the ADS insurance program.

The 14-year ADS Composite Classification as supplemented by the current CHD, is the official classification of the ADS. The ADS Executive Board also approved the inclusion of a "West Coast Supplemental Classification" in the CHD.

25% of ADS new member enrollments elected the newly established family memberships.

The 14-year Composite Classification indicates that there are fewer AA Cactus, BB ID, Min ID, and Cactus as well as waterlily cultivars than would be statistically expected. A greater number of AA ID, BBFD and Min FD appear in the Composite than expected. Is it the growers' preference or the hybridization process? *Bill McClaren*

Local societies may determine whether undisseminated seedlings can compete in open competition. The ADS recommends that they be permitted, using an alpha-numeric name.

If the effect of being oversize or undersize on the quality of the entry is minimal, the penalty should also be minimal. *Mac and Norma Boyer*, commenting on the policy of no-penalty.

The definition of "miniature" is a representation or image of anything on a very small scale, greatly reduced, small, tiny, diminutive. When judging miniatures the flower size, ray floret, stem, and foliage should all be on the same scale.

Bill McClaren

The 69 varieties on the 1990 Fabulous Fifty list (accounting for ties) won 38 % of all the higher awards reported between 1980 and 1990. *Mac and Norma*

Boyer

The ADS received a bequest of \$1,000 to support the Pete Harter Memorial Trophy.

The *Bulletin* should include descriptions of specially dedicated awards given by local societies. *Laura Oldenkamp*

Local societies should resolve to thank those “special members” while they are still alive.

Joy Strong

Drying Dahlias

1. Use a metal cookie tin; add 1 inch of desiccant (silica gel crystal)
2. Cut 3 or 4 dahlias of the same size [small is better]. Process immediately.
3. Cut the stems 1 inch from the bloom.
4. Place face side up in the tin [without overlap].
5. Sift in more desiccant under, around, inside, and over the blooms. Cover the flowers completely.
6. Secure the lid and do not disturb the tin for at least 7-10 days.
7. Carefully pour off the desiccant.
8. Clean with a soft paint brush.
9. To store flowers keep in an airtight container with a little desiccant in a cool, dry place. *Janice Hart*

An Ode to Dahlia Growers and Show-ers

Well, still of the hundreds of seedlings entrenched
We're happy if one's good enough for the bench.
The judge makes decisions that could be from
heaven

If scored, as at least, a fine high eighty-seven. *Fed-
eration of Northwest Dahlia Growers*

I thought that there were too many cultivars in the
trial garden that did not deserve to be there: ones
that would never compete in their class on the show
bench. When less than half the entries score in a
given trial garden, I believe we should address this
problem. *Mac Boyer*

Cut Flower Hints. Cut stalks under water on an an-
gle. Recut daily. Floralite will extend bloom life by
33%. *Marvin McCartney*

The ADS has come a long way from the organiza-
tion formed 75 years ago, mainly by florists, to stage
a dahlia show, to promote the dahlia as a beautiful
garden flower for home and florist use, and to clas-
sify existing dahlias. The ADS has 75 local soci-
eties and 2,000 members. *Bud Moore*

1 9 9 1

25th ADS National Show, Minneapolis-St. Paul MN, hosted by Minnesota Dahlia Society. Major award, Walter Hardisty (AAID W) by Tony Evangelista.

1990 Stanley Johnson Medal

Zorro (AAID DkR) by Madlyn Geisert.

1990 Fabulous Fifty
Hamilton Lillian
Magic Moment
Zorro
Hamari Accord

Hosts for the national shows will be selected five years in advance of the show to provide time to settle on a venue and begin preparations.

If an undisseminated seedling is submitted for scoring in the second year, the cultivar must be available for dissemination the following year to be eligible for a medal. This is the same rule that applies to an entry that completes scoring in a single year.

The 1991 economy necessitated a combined June/September "austerity" *Bulletin*.

Red dahlia pins and dahlia shirts were sold at the National Show to help the ADS's depleted treasury. The Society's revenue from dues was exceeded by the expenses of the *Bulletin* and CHD.

Approximately 50% of the seedlings submitted to the trial gardens do not score 85.

President Bush (#41) prominently displayed a bloom of Irene's Pride on his desk in 1991. He reportedly likes dahlias.

Kidd's Climax (AFD LtBI) celebrated the 50th anniversary of its introduction. Bishop of Llandaff (Pe DkR) was introduced in 1927.

Reach out and connect with new growers and new members. *Mac Boyer*

Shows should not limit entries only to cultivars listed in the CHD. *Mac Boyer*

Dahlias

Of all the floral riot in the garden
I like best
When evening shadows lengthen
 And the sun flames down the west,
To spend the idle hour
 Where the Dahlias lift their plumes
And glory in the gorgeousness

Of their majestic blooms.

* * *

Serene and vivid, solid, splashed
So vital and intense,
The Dahlias in my garden
Grow along the picket fence;
Of all the blooms that riot there
The stately flaming Dahlias
Are the flowers I like best.
Si Tanhauser

Fallen Stars. Nature's law of the survival of the fittest is in full operation on the dahlia. It is a healthy sign. *John Peck*

Most pesticide accidents result from careless practices or lack of knowledge about safe handling and use. *John Ruoff*

Potted dahlia plants need to be slowly watered every other day, and when the weather gets hot at least once a day. A drip system works best. Water until it begins to seep from the base of the pot.
Neal Hart

Gerald Weland compiled a list of 40,500 dahlia cultivars.

Occasionally, when walking through a dahlia garden

I see a dahlia bloom that seems to whisper “Look at me, Look at me, I am distinctive. . . .” *Harold Miller*

In Memoriam: *Mike Martinolich*, Membership Chair and mentor to new members.



1 9 9 2

26th ADS National Show, Ashville NC, hosted by the Carolinas Dahlia Society.

1992 ADS Gold Medal

John Peck. John has been a commercial dahlia grower for 70 years. Golden Rule Dahlias was established in 1923.

1992 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Spartacus AID Dk R

Medium - Fidalgo Beauty BSC Br

Small - MoBay's Magic BBC Pr

Min. - Jess-Lynn MFD Or

Ball - Little Caesar MinBa Br

Other - Skiplely Fairlady WL Pr

1992 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Spartacus AID Dk R

Medium - Jennie BSC Lac LtBl

Small - Long Island Lil BBFD Or

Miniature - Peaches-N-Cream MFD LtBl

Ball - Barberry Ball Ba Or

Waterlily - Wildwood Marie WL DkPk

1991 Fabulous Fifty
Zorro
Magic Moment
Hamari Accord
Hamilton Lillian
Mary Jo

ADS dues for individual memberships raised to \$20.00. Membership through Participating Societies \$17.00.

Proposal to establish only a single category of membership; any distinctions between participating members and affiliated members will be eliminated.

Minimum number of ADS members needed to be a Participating Society was reduced from 15 to 10. Affiliate Society dues \$35.00. The Affiliated Society will receive: one *Bulletin*, one ADS CHD, one ADS Bronze Medal, and eligibility to conduct an ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation.

In order to improve the finances of the ADS, two new membership levels were approved:

- Patron \$50.00
- Benefactor \$100.00

Alan Fisher named Co-chair of the Membership Committee.

ADS judges and member lapel pins (M/F) available.

ADS 1992 Tour to Holland and England.

There is a need to develop a test that the individual grower can use to determine whether tubers have a harmful virus.

Mac Boyer

There are as many approaches to pollination, seed collection and germination as there are hybridizers.

Don Brown

Hybridization is as much an art as a science. *Keith Hammett*

Humidity in a dahlia storage area is just as important as the temperature. A room full of tubers will show almost 100% humidity. If kept cool in this humidity (between 45°-50), they may be kept by any method that will give and receive some moisture.

Gene Toot

Some cultivars revert to an inferior form on the second year of blooms. Some cultivars consistently revert and others do so for only a portion of the plants grown from last year's clump. Whether this is genetic or cultural is unclear. There are currently two strains of Walter Hardisty: the good Walter and the poor Walter. *Mike Pryor*

In Memoriam:

Ed Seeger, Chair of the Slide Library, grower and exhibitor.

-*Phil Damp*, global dahlia promoter, journalist, and author of several books about dahlias.

-*Phil Traff*, dahlia visionary, nursery owner, and a founder of the Puget Sound Dahlia Association.



Phil Traff

1 9 9 3

27th ADS National Show, Birmingham AL, hosted by The Dahlia Society of Alabama.

1993 ADS Gold Medal

- Marie Glauzier, a "grand dame" of the Dahlia Society of Georgia; regional vice president of the Southern Dahlia Association.
- Compton Wilson, ADS Regional Vice President for more than a decade.
- John Cooley, hybridizer of Brookside J. Cooley and others; President of the Tennessee Dahlia Society.

1993 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- Large - Color Magic ASC (L) Var
- Medium - Taylor Nelson BIC DkR
- Small - Top Honor BBSC DkPk
- Min. - Emily C. MFD Lav
- Ball - Jessie G Ball DkR
- Other - Summer's End WL Lt Bl

1993 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Medium - Nargold BSC(L) FI
- Small - Jamie BBC Lav
- Min. - Emily C MFD Lav
- Ball - Richard Howells MBall Y
- Other - Pique Pe LtBl

1992 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Jessica
Hamilton Lillian
Edna C
Mary Jo
April Dawn

The 1992 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Jessica (BBC Bi), originated by Paul Hale, and winning more than 550 total awards between 1990 and 1992.

As an economy measure, the *Bulletin* covers once again are in black and white.

Separate classification numbers will be used for lacinated dahlias in all size groups.

The proposal to report trial garden entries that did not score was tabled at the 1992 Annual Meeting.

Norm Hines succeeded Don Brown and Terry Smith as editor of the *ADS Bulletin*, beginning a long and distinguished tenure.

The Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers will have a Regional Vice President and will be in all respects a region of the ADS.

The fee for ADS Lifetime Membership will be \$500.00.

ADS Membership Cards will be discontinued as a cost-saving measure.

As the price of tubers increase, the buyers (ADS members) must use their pocketbooks to encourage commercial growers to offer only new introductions that have “distinction” and reliable growing habits.

H. Risetto

The secret ingredient for developing new dahlia beds in Australia--a winter application of “pigeon poop.” *Gavin Woods*

Dahlias left in the ground in 1991 bloomed in 1992 at the same time as tubers started that spring. Laterals broken off the plant during the summer rooted well. A lateral, placed in water, bloomed in December. *Don Brown*

An experiment in storing tubers gave rise to the following:

Humidity and temperature in the immediate storage area is important. Dahlias in a bag with holes or styrofoam box with vermiculite did equally well.

Tubers placed in a bushel basket shriveled. Tubers in a plastic bag with vermiculite did best.

After storing the tubers check the bags or

containers for excess moisture on the bag or lid.
Remember the old adage: "If what you do works,
do not change it." *Rev. Gene Toot*

Two fungi that infect dahlias are pythium and
rhizoctonia. *Ray Solomon*

Why We Raise Dahlias

Winter's season is depressing
Because my dahlias are just resting.
When spring arrives we think of planting
And dream of blooms most enchanting
Richard Canning

The Seedling Bug

The magic of raising seedlings is that you never
know
What lies within the tiny seed when you begin to
sow
The chances are not good, perhaps a hundred to
one
That you have a keeper when all is said and done.
Richard Canning

Results of a foliar fertilizer experiment favored an
8-8-8 organic liquid fertilizer (Greenworld) over a dry
product 15-30-15 (all-purpose plant food with
petrochemical ingredients). 1 tsp per gallon was
applied during June, July, and once in August.
Overall, the liquid fertilizer was more effective,

particularly for tuber production. Both fertilizers performed more effectively than omitting fertilizer.
Bill McClaren

Pesticides and dahlias: Use the safest pesticide that is effective, and apply it according to instructions. Repeated applications of the same class of insecticide results in resistance. *Bob Romano*

A memorial gift was received by the ADS honoring *John Zatkovich*, the dahlia "Z" hybridizer.

Color is back in the December ADS Bulletin.

Reciprocal membership agreement with the National Dahlia Society (England) was arranged by Alan Fisher.

In Memoriam: *Paul Comstock*. Paul won 16 Lynn B. Dudley and Derrill Hart Medals between 1964 and 1980. Edna C is his most famous introduction.



1 9 9 4

28th ADS National Show, Kalispell MT, hosted by the Montana Dahlia Society. Best Exhibit, Edna C (BFD Y) by Steve Santose.

1994 ADS Gold Medal

- Bill McClaren, hybridizer of the "Alpen" family of dahlias. Bill encouraged dahlia growing in Montana and Idaho.
- Mac and Norma Boyer. Long time exhibitors and hybridizers of "Manor" dahlias, leaders of the ADS as Classification Chair, President, and Historian.

1994 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- Large - Fidalgo White Mafolie AASC W
- Medium - Brian R BFD L
- Small - Martha Lee BBID LtBl
- Min. - Glen Ruth MFD Fl
- Ball - MoBay's Honey MBall Or
- Other - Ken's Orchid Or W

1994 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - Fidalgo Supreme AFD Y
- Medium - Zenith B C DkPk
- Small - Barbarry Epic BBFD Pr
- Min. - Barbarry Esquire MFD DkR
- Other - Powder Gull Pe Pk

Derrill Hart served as Garden Editor of *Flower Garden* for more than a decade. He originated the "Honor Roll of Dahlias" in 1921. Hart and others visited gardens and shows to evaluate new dahlias. Derrill Hart's "Dahlia Ratings" were published in several national magazines. He died in 1943, following an appendectomy. Lynn Dudley continued his work for almost 20 years. Ultimately, the Honor Roll became the ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation.

1993 Stanley Jonson Medal was awarded to Inland Dynasty (AASC Y) originated by Norman Anselmo.

1994 ADS Membership Report: 2,160 ADS members. Alan Fisher

1993 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Inland Dynasty
Edna C
Hamilton Lillian
Magic Moment
Jessica

Official trial garden status was given to the Elkhart, IN Trial Garden.

Effective 1995, all ADS judges must be current members of the ADS (the former grandfather

provision for judges certified before 1982 was eliminated).

New definitions for waterlily and laciniated forms were approved.

At the 1994 ADS Annual Meeting, the membership voted to change "laciniated" to "fimbriated" [ed., "fim" had a better sound. Purists be damned.]

The ADS sponsored six trial gardens with 290 entries, of which 158 scored 85 or higher (54%).

Depending on weather, bloom size and form, it takes between 23 and 32 days for a bloom to develop from a pea-size bud. It takes between 55 to 65 days for a bloom to develop from a ¼" lateral shoot.

The pollen we see on dahlias is adhering to the stigma (a part of the pistil) of the flower, not the stamen.

Conferences hosting shows will receive one page free in the *Bulletin* and additional pages at the cost of \$50.00 per page.

Each society is allocated one page in the December *Bulletin* for news/show reports and 400 words in the March, June and September *Bulletins*.

There are some dahlias that seem to be grown and show well in the three areas of the country. At least for some of these dahlias, the show awards as printed in the CHD are somewhat equal. If we identify these dahlias and then agree upon point values, we could use these dahlias with their scores as a reference for seedling scoring, both on the bench and at the trial garden. We may then have a better assessment of the seedling bench and trial garden dahlias as reported in the December *Bulletin*. *Mac Boyer*

Given the rapidity with which Hart and Dudley winners fade from the show scene, a maximum score of 87 is realistic for most promising seedlings. *H. Rissetto*

More unfavorable observations have been made and found due to over-fertilization than to lack of fertilization. *Dr. Oscar Eichman*

Kelp in liquid fertilizers is an excellent source of trace elements. *Alan Fisher*

Ode to the Dahlia

With the sound of winged geese honking and the feel of breezy spring,
Just to till the terra firma—think of dahlia—what a thing!

Then I look upon the tuber, with a smile of faith and
gripe,
I shall have a time of labor, I shall have a time of
hope.

.J.F. Kimsey

By separating two open-centered cultivars from the
main patch, the seed collected yielded between
5-7% promising seedlings. The "bee method" within
the patch yielded one promising seedling from 500
plants. *Harold Miller*

We need to strive for uniform judging of seedling
bench entries and entries at the trial garden. *Mac
Boyer*

There is heavy demand for the four sets of new
introduction slides. *LaVerne Bartel*

One ADS judge has written about judging from a
scooter. A fellow judge designed a table that gave
her the same view as others on the team.

Individuals with handicaps want most to be treated
the same as their able-bodied compatriots.

Dorothy Jones

Cut back on fertilizer the last month before frost.
Always sterilize your cutting tools between clumps.

“Distinction” means “distinctively different.” If it is simply a catch-all that serves no useful purpose, it should be eliminated. *Bernie Marsh*

The scorecard should add to 100 without “distinction”; a “+” or “-” sign could be useful to indicate the presence or absence of distinction. *Albert Kennings*

The ADS Slide Library has seven programs available to local societies. *LaVerne Bartel*

Making new members feel wanted goes a long way toward keeping them in the society. “Our club” and “our way of doing things” is no longer said at meetings. Connect new members with veterans in their area. *Bernie Marsh*

The ADS resolved to establish a fund to match the \$125,000 donated to Washington State University for dahlia virus research.

A Poem

Here comes a brand new grower.
His mistakes are all in the past.
His Hardistys will be gigantic.
A new champion will be crowned at last.
So, make room for the newcomer.
Bugs and diseases be aware.

Ribbons will be replaced with trophies.
1995 will be a Happy New Year.

Emerson H. Alexander

A Dahlia Haiku

Seed-pods look backward
To blooms and forward to blooms
They are forever. *H. Rissetto*



1 9 9 5

29th ADS National Show, Hamilton ON, hosted by Hamilton & District Chrysanthemum & Dahlia Society. King of the Show was Kenora Wildfire (ASC R) exhibited by Rudy Brednbeck.

1995 ADS Gold Medal

Ralph Suttell, grower, exhibitor, and ADS Vice President.

1995 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Medium - My Wife BFim R
Small - Snowgrandma BBSC W
Min. - Helios MID Y
Ball - Riisa MinB R
Other - Matthew Juul WL DkBI

1995 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - Chimacum Topaz BSC LtBI
Small - Alpen Currant BBC Dk R
Min. - Alpen Luster MC R
Ball - Riisa MB R
Other - Matthew Juul WL DkBI

1994 Stanley Johnson Medal awarded to Spartacus (AID DkR), originated by Mick Senior.

1995 ADS membership stands at 2,261.

1994 Fabulous Fifty
Hamilton Lillian
Jessica
Inland Dynasty
Hamari Katrina
Spartacus
Magic Moment

New definitions for waterlily and fimbriated dahlias were approved at the 1994 Annual Meeting.

Large print versions of the CHD will be available.
Norm Hines

Seedling Bench Evaluation. The “three-point rule” for averaging scores will be eliminated. [ed., the rule is too complicated to explain here.]

Long Range Goals of the WSU Dahlia Virus Project.

1. Detect and identify viruses that are infecting dahlias.
2. Develop a program for eliminating virus in dahlias.
3. Identify methods that can be used by dahlia growers to identify dahlia virus.
4. Provide growers with options to manage and control dahlia virus.
5. Develop a virus certification program.
6. Annual reporting and feedback on the project.

Bench scoring judging assignments should be made first at all dahlia shows to ensure that the judging occurs under the best conditions.

“Distinction” is not being consistently applied and needs to be discussed at the annual meeting.

Mac Boyer

From the end of May until the middle of June treat seedlings as though they were expensive new introductions (top, remove all but four or five laterals and fertilize). Then rogue those that do not have promise. The remainder are staked and are grown like new introductions. Keep roguing throughout the season. Beware about keeping too many first-year seedlings. *John Ruoff*

Soil. Cato (234 -149 B.C.) wrote a practical handbook in which he recommended intensive cultivation, crop rotations, the use of legumes (e.g., clover) for soil improvement, and the value of manure.

Russell Cowan

Bill McClaren spearheaded a fundraising drive to match the \$125,000 dahlia virus research grant made to Washington State University.

Oh, for the cold and damp root cellars of yesteryear. Leaving the roots in the ground covered by a three-foot pile of leaves works like a root cellar. Divide

the super-clumps every other year. *Lyman Peck*

Pot Roots. There is no difference in bloom quality among plants from undivided pot roots, divided pot roots, tubers or cuttings.

Pot roots should be grown with no fertilizer and little watering to force root growth. Only permit one or two blooms to confirm the identification. After frost, store in the pot, perhaps wrapped with newspaper, until spring. *Walter and Kit Jack (New Zealand.)*

Society and conference judges training is important to improve the quality of judging. *Mac Boyer*

A project to describe and color code the “other-type” dahlias will be headed by *Evie Gullikson.*



Evie Gullikson

In order to reduce the use of harmful pesticides, the ADS should reevaluate its judging criteria as applied to minor insect damage on exhibited blooms. *John Ruoff*

There is no best practice with respect to summer fertilization. Granular, foliar and trace element

fertilizers did not yield different results. The combination of the many cultural practices in the garden affect bloom quality. *Herb Brase*

There seems to be little correlation between the scores received by many new introductions and the number of awards received the following year.

Gilly Simmons

It is important that gardeners use the protective equipment listed on the label for the application of pesticides. *John Ruoff*

Nothing seems to help dahlias more than manure, and cow manure is the best. Apply a five-gallon bucket for every ten yards of dahlia row three times during the growing season. Supplement with granular fertilizers. Till while the plants grow to force them to grow their roots deeper where there is more moisture.

Gilly Simmons

You can start cuttings in a fish tank (empty) if you control temperature (72-80°) with a light, and humidity (55-60%) using an hygrometer and mister.

The ADS Guide to Growing and Caring for Dahlias (ADS Grow Guide) became available for purchase. The *Guide* was a group effort that was spearheaded and largely written and edited by *Alan Fisher*.

The Grow Guide was being offered at cost, for \$3.00.

Use Clorox Clean-up Cleaner with bleach for pots and tools. *Barbara Jenke*

Ageless Seeds. Three-year old seed used in an experiment germinated. Good storage is important.

Brad Freeman

“Distinction” points should be awarded based on the likelihood of success at subsequent dahlia shows.

Mac Boyer

In 1995, there were ten ADS Trial Gardens.

In Memoriam: *John Peck*, commercial dahlia grower and all-around dahlia character.



1 9 9 6

30th ADS National Show, Vancouver BC, hosted by the Vancouver Dahlia Society.

Best in Show Jennie (BLC LtBI) by Chris Chua.

1996 ADS Gold Medal

- Earl Huston, noted hybridizer of the "Huston" dahlias.
- Bob Simon, noted hybridizer of Bonaventure and many other large dahlias.
- Bernard Marsh ADS Regional Vice President for the Northwest Dahlia Conference.

1996 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

Large - Snowbound AID W

Medium - Nenekazi B(L) LtBI

Small - Minerva Snowboy BBSC W

Min. - Robann Regal MFD L

Ball - Orange Sunset Ball Or

Others - Angel's Dust WL W (Alpen Sparkle (S DkPk) was subsequently determined to have a higher score)

1996 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - Nenekazi B(L) Lt BI

Small - Minerva Snowboy BBSC W

Min. - Bristol Bugle MC DkR

Other Types - Lupin Tori MS W

1995 Fabulous Fifty
Hamilton Lillian
Jessica
Inland Dynasty
Hamari Katrina
Spartacus
Magic Moment

Accredited and senior judges must judge in at least five shows during each five-year period and maintain ADS membership.

New classification definitions and color rules were established for open- centered dahlias.

ADS has begun an effort to include articles about dahlias in regional and national gardening magazines.

4,000 copies of the ADS Grow Guide were sold to date.

2,000 copies of 20-year Composite CHD were authorized by the Executive Board.

A 1½ hour judging program will be held at ADS National Shows.

The classification list has been put on the internet with some pictures thanks to the efforts of Dave

Cruger and Andrew Miller, as well as several others.

The first installment of a lengthy history of the dahlia was published in the *Bulletin* by Gerald Weland.

A new policy was adopted to clarify the terms of restricted and endowment gifts to the ADS. Existing named endowment funds will be gradually transitioned to "The Past Dahlia Giants Fund."

The status of "Student Member" was adopted at the ADS Annual Meeting.

The RHS Colour Chart is the official color chart of the ADS.

Between 1990 and 1996 there were eight dahlia-related articles in national gardening magazines.

The ADS will team with Brian Killingsworth to create a "home page" on the Internet. *Mac Boyer*

As of July 8, 1996 the ADS had 2,377 members.

[ed., during Editor Norm Hines' long tenure, the *ADS Bulletin* greatly expanded. In 1996, the four issues totaled 405 pages.]

The best time to adjust soil pH is in the fall. When adding ground limestone, work it in to the top 6 to 8

inches. To raise heavy soil one unit of pH, use 6 lbs. per 100 sq. ft. (2 ½ lbs. for light soil).

The “Dahlia-Net” has created a virtual chat group for about 75 dahlia growers world-wide.

9,000 Grow Guides have been printed.

“Distinction” has been redefined to focus on how well the dahlia is likely to perform on the show table. Ranging from “occasional blue ribbons” (1), to the “potential for higher awards beyond the section” (5). This approach will be used for a three-year trial.

In a survey taken in 1992 and 1993, 90% of members who responded identified dahlia virus as the area that needed research. *Bill McClaren*

Leaf cuttings at the stem node (intersection) permit growers to propagate a greater number of plants than normal cuttings. Leaf cuttings may be taken until late May. *C. E. Wildon*

Dahlias can be grown in 8 ½” or 10 ½” heavy plastic pots, with a soilless mix and water-retaining crystals. The tuber is planted one-third up from the bottom and more soil is added as the shoot grows. Unless the mix is moist at one inch, water daily. In other respects treat the plant as you would in the patch. *Barbara Jenke*

Start plants on a family member's water bed set for 85°. *Joe Meyer*

On Growing Dahlias

"How many dahlias do you intend to plant this spring?"

Well, now, let me see. I want at least two of everything

That I planted last year, plus the ones I bought
And the ones I was given--it will sure be a lot"

Ruth E. Graham

Taking a cutting from a root kept in the dark is called "a white cutting." If new cuttings wilt a trifle, they root faster. *J. Louis Roberts*

The timing of blooms for shows can be improved by topping earlier and then removing the first buds to develop on secondary laterals. Since no timing is certain, secondary laterals of varying lengths should be allowed to form buds. It takes about 25 days from bud to bloom.

Dave Spencer

82 seedlings that scored 85 typically had 3 to 5 points for distinction in Seedling Bench Evaluations. Only 12 seedlings scoring 85 had between 0 to 2 ½ points for distinction. *B.C. Marsh*

To achieve quality growth and crop response, adequate nutrients must be consistently available to the plant.

Grace-Sierra Horticultural Products

We often lose half as many new members as we get, but we are growing. Put arrangements in busy restaurants, bring them to TV stations and never miss a chance to speak to new gardeners.

Ted Bonine

I believe that there is only a small percentage of the present ADS membership that is on-line, . . . and that probably in the future not too many ADS members will invest \$1,000 in a computer just to send electronic mail (email) or browse through the various dahlia sites on the internet, but there are already many individuals who are looking for information that is on the Worldwide Web. . . . [ed., a cloudy crystal ball] I do not foresee the *ADS Bulletin* being replaced by information on the www. [ed., we agree.] *Mac Boyer*

A team of judges can conduct a bench evaluation of seedlings by separately scoring all the entries for each scorecard criterion in sequence, e.g., all the entries are judged for color, etc. *Dan Sharp*

Show tag rings will be available to local societies.

John Thiermann

The Dahlia Bug

There is a queer little bug abroad in the land.
Do you find yourself dreaming the hours away
About the dahlias you will be growing some day?
Do you poke over the lists, read about each one
And forget about work until your order is done?
Do you go down the cellar much like a sneak
As you check your dahlia tubers—"Just taking a
peek?
Does this sound like your behavior, my friend?
Well, let me tell you, the symptoms won't end.
And if some question it, why, just give a shrug.
Saying, "Oh, I've been hit by The Dahlia Bug"
Ruth Graham

In Memoriam: *Tom Yano*, ADS Treasurer, Editor
of the Bulletin, hybridizer.
Earl Huston, hybridizer, ADS Gold Medal Winner.



1 9 9 7

31st ADS National Show, Halifax Nova Scotia, hosted by the Dahlia Society of Nova Scotia. King of the Show: Rose Jupiter (ASC DkBI) by Dorothy Jones.

1997 ADS Gold Medal

- Charles Splinter, hybridizer and ADS Judges Accreditation Chair.
- Arthur Haskins, ADS National Exhibitions Chair, dahlia leader in Nova Scotia.

1997 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- Large - Mingus Steven AID Pr
- Medium - Normandy Promise BSC L
- Small - Capiscum BBSC FI
- Min. - Woodland's Uptown Girl MFD R
- Ball - Royal Globe Ball Var.
- Other - Juul's Lotus WL LtBI

1997 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - Windhaven Premier AC W
- Medium - Bloom's XL BC DkR
- Small - Lavender Line BBC Lav
- Min. - Campos GiGi MFD LtBI
- Other - Amy's Star Or DkBI

1996 Fabulous Fifty
Hamilton Lillian
Jessica
Inland Dynasty
Hamari Katrina
Spartacus
Magic Moment

1997 ADS membership has grown to 2,571.

Harry Rissetto succeeded Mac Boyer as ADS President.

Kidd's Climax introduced in 1940 has had the longest tenure on the Classification List.

Each local society has space in the Bulletin to publicize society news and show results.

80 individuals and 11 participating and affiliated societies have contributed to the WSU Dahlia Research Fund.

An inexpensive shelf and light system can be constructed to propagate dahlias indoors.

Brian Killingsworth

Barbara Jenke succeeded Ben Bartel as Chair of the Photography Committee.

The ADS Certificate of Incorporation was up for amendment to facilitate the ADS achieving the status of an IRS recognized non-profit organization, making it tax exempt and contributions to it deductible.

“Distinction” has been moved to the bottom of the scorecard. [ed., it is an orphan that cannot seem to find a home.]

The ADS test for accredited judges will be used at the discretion of the local judging chair.

In a study of the Central Oregon Trial Garden, the total scores of judges were statistically consistent. Within the scorecard there is a statistical inconsistency in the scores for distinction, color and form. *Bud Cruger*

Although laciniated dahlias have not routinely been added to show schedules, laciniated dahlias are here to stay. *Mac Boyer*

Even a gloomy day can have sunshine in it with a bright, colorful bouquet of dahlias.
Ramona Kuiper

The Internet is today and the future.
Garry Miner and Mark McCurry

The ADS does need judges to evaluate seedlings in trial gardens and on the ADS seedling evaluation bench. ADS-trained judges bring a special expertise to the local show table. *Mac Boyer*

Dahlia Flowers

We raise vegetables for food supply.
We raise our Dahlias and people sigh.
The magnificent colors from red and gold,
Perfect blossoms to behold.

Mona Wiedenheft

Raised beds prevent “drowning” the tubers during excessive rain. *Jack Crawford*

Store your tubers in plastic bags with slightly moistened vermiculite. You don’t need to punch holes in the bags. Store the tubers in a cool dark place that won’t freeze. *Roger Walker*

Plan interesting meetings by inviting outside speakers on gardening topics, along with veteran members who conduct seasonal demonstrations. Society banquets and picnics are very popular in bringing the membership together.

Alan Fisher

You can use concrete mesh to fashion 5’ cages. The cages keep the deer out and reduce tying.

Tom Chapala

Good mentors are a must! Never miss an opportunity to share, encourage and motivate interested dahlia growers, especially beginners. This is critical during the first year of membership.

Ben Bartel

Share stock of the best plants in your patch. H.

Rissetto

In Memoriam: *Lawrence Palminteri*, President ADS, Judges' Accreditation Chair, scorecard and judging expert.



1 9 9 8

32nd ADS National Show, Eugene OR, hosted by the Lane County Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Kenora Challenger (BSC W) by Buzz Carter.

1998 ADS Gold Medal

- Madlyn Geisert, hybridizer of Zorro, Aloha and others, a founder of the Southern Oregon Dahlia Society.
- Wayne Shantz hybridizer, ADS Classification Chair, and master trainer of ADS judges.
- Dick Westfall, leading exhibitor and ADS judge, ADS Regional Vice President.

1998 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- Large - Alpen Bob AFD Var
- Medium - Pinelands Pam B(L) FI
- Small - Mulloy's Moment BBFD W
- Min. - Korb Impeccable Dream MFD DkR
- Ball - Lupin Sara MB Y
- Other - K-Andy Col DkR

1998 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Medium - Campos Gibby BC DkBl
- Small - Debbie Boone BBC W
- Min. - Kathy's Choice MC Y
- Pom - Chimacum Pumpkin Pom Or
- Other - Mr. Jones Col

The Stanley Johnson Medal for 1997 was awarded to Edna C (BFD Y) introduced by Paul Comstock in 1967. In 1997 it won 191 blues and higher awards.

1997 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Spartacus
Rose Toscano
Inland Dynasty
Edna C
April Dawn

1998 ADS membership stands at 2,593.

25% of the 1998 new introductions received awards at the 1997 shows (34 of 135).

The ADS judging tests have been tightened up. Passing score for the open-book judges' exams is 90%. Retakes permitted.

Medal information and scores should not be publicized until after they appear in the *Bulletin* (advertisements excepted).

The Executive Board declined, on the recommendation of the Trial Garden Committee, to report the scores of trial garden entries that were less than 85.

Fundraising for the WSU Virus Research project has reached \$100,000. *Bill McClaren*

Seedlings. Storing the stems of seedpods in containers with water seems to encourage rot in the seedpod. Keep track of the parentage of seeds that make good blooms the following year. They will be good seed parents. Prior year seedlings tend to produce vigorous and successful seed. Plant the seedlings 1 foot apart in horticultural cloth; it keeps the weeds down. Fence in the strip with conduit, cording or plastic fencing to control seedling spread. A 3' by 50' strip can hold 150 seedlings. Judge the seedling blooms. Expect to keep about 2% of the seedling plants for another year. Put a stake and tag next to the keepers. *Ron Miner*

25% of Indian dahlia cultivars can self-pollinate. Seeds are usually produced in the disk-florets. Petal stigmas are used for cross-pollination. *Swami Vinayananda*

The ADS was represented at a dahlia planting in Paris to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the French Dahlia Society. [ed., thanks to Les Connell, John Thiermann, the Montana commercial growers and Golden Rule Dahlias.]

Dahlia plants grow at the rate of one pair of leaves per week. It takes three weeks from bud to bloom.

Brian Killingsworth

When considering fertilizer, remember that nitrogen and potash leaches from the soil. *Mac Boyer*

Why are dahlia forms named after other flowers?
Harold Miller

Compost (organic matter) turns into humus,
-improves the ability of the soil to retain and release nutrients;
-helps bind soil particles into aggregates;
-improves water retention;
-becomes food for beneficial soil microbes
Puget Sound Dahlia Association Bulletin

A stake driver can be made with a 22- inch section of 1 ½" galvanized pipe; use a wooden plug and insert a pin or bolt through both the pipe and bolt.
Dean Barnes

Granny's dahlias --enhanced by a hazy memory-- were undoubtedly shaggy dogs, that without proper disbudding were closer to the size of a dinner roll than a dinner plate. *Roger Walker*

In dahlia societies we need to put out the welcome mat to new, young, energetic and avid dahlia growers, and accept them with open arms. Share

information and enthusiasm. *Gilly Simmons*

Slinging manure is not my cup of tea, unless I can have some to make a plant tea for my perennials.

Ramona Kuiper

Plants that have been growing for 120 days are sufficiently mature for digging.

Michael Riordan

The 1998 International World Dahlia Competition in Toronto hosted entries from North America, the United Kingdom and Spain. The ADS was represented by *Mark Alger*.

In Memoriam: *Paul Hale*, writer, hybridizer, and indefatigable proponent of the ADS as a national organization.

Barney Marsh, a staunch Canadian dahlia-man and ADS Regional VP.

Jack Almand, notable hybridizer and showman.



1 9 9 9

33rd ADS National Dahlia Show, Mystic Lake MN, was hosted by the Minnesota Dahlia Society. King of the Show was Zorro (AAID DkR) by Randy Siem.

1999 ADS Gold Medal

- Herb Brase, inventor of the dahlia "neck stretcher" and a leading member of the Minnesota Dahlia Society.
- Cyril Higgo. South African hybridizer who popularized lacinated dahlias.

1999 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- Large - Mingus Nicole AID LtBl
- Medium - GW's Ray H. BSC W
- Small - Gitt's Attention BBID W
- Min. - Judy Albert MFD Pr
- Ball - Hy Mallow Ball Pr
- Other - Lupin Shiela Or DkPk

1999 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - Light Accord ASC Y
- Medium - Windhaven Highlight BC Y
- Small - Bonnie Jean BBSC Lav
- Min. - Barberry Red Dwarf MFD DkR
- Ball - Barberry Yellow Cloud Ball Y
- Other - Lupin Shiela Or DkPk

1998 Stanley Johnson Medal winner was Jessie G (Ball R) originated by Les Connell.

1998 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Mary Jo
Edna C
Rose Toscano
Inland Dynasty
Spartacus
Jessie G

In 1999, the ADS membership had grown to 2,682.

The American Dahlia Society has been given tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service under Sec. 501(c)(3). As a result, contributions are deductible on federal tax returns. *H. Rissetto*

ADS awarded a **silver medal** to *Dave Metzger* for his work with the Virginia Dahlia Society, which was forced to disband after its 75th anniversary. The VDS had recently lost its show site, a prominent local department store that had generously supported the show for many years.

The National Dahlia Society of Victoria, Australia proposed the establishment of a "World Dahlia Council."

ADS donors have met the goal of raising \$125,000 to match the virus research gift to Washington State University.

Evie Gullikson was officially identified as the donor of \$125,000 to Washington State University to support research into dahlia viruses. Evie passed away during 1998. The ADS established the “Evie Gullikson Medal” to be awarded to the highest scoring open-centered dahlia (other types) at the trial garden and seedling bench evaluation competitions.

Wayne Holland is the first chair of the ADS Technology Committee.

Wayne and Eleanor Shantz presented a judging seminar as part of the ADS National Show. This is only one of many that Wayne and Eleanor have conducted to develop new and more experienced judges.

Michael and Richard Johnson (pre-teens) won big at the ADS National Show. [ed. Richard subsequently originated *Midnight Star*, an orchid dahlia regularly on the Court of Honor. It has won two Gullikson Awards and a Stanley Johnson Medal.]

“Downsize” - that is what they do in factories, not

dahlia gardens. *Ramona Kuiper's spouse*

During 1998, an estimated 2 million people visited the 500 plants in the Golden Gate Park dahlia display. *Deborah Dietz*

The Colorado Dahlia Society has created an amateur single-bloom show open to exhibitors during their first four years of competition.

David Murphy, from Connecticut, is growing "Little Beeswings" a flame pompon originated in 1909. *Scott Kunst*

Formal Decoratives should not include "partially involute" or "partially revolute" in the definition. There should be only one floret shape. *Mac Boyer*

Attaching a length of 3' PVC pipe at the junction of the forks and handle of a digging fork, allows leverage to gently lift clumps from the soil.

Plant growth in the northern latitudes increased by 10% during the 1980s. *Heather Drope*

A garden manual is better than most memories in recording planting, topping and bloom dates, as well as dates, types and rates of chemical applications and fertilization. Show performance is also a useful

record. *David and Leone Smith*

There are more than 200 participants on the blog www.dahlia-net that was managed by Dennis Bishop.

Laverne Bartel has been circulating 5 sets of slides to local societies. She receives about 200 requests from local societies for slide collections annually. [ed., Ben helps.]

Differences about the form, color, and size of an entry in trial garden and seedling bench competitions are resolved on a majority basis. *Mac Boyer*

A proposal was made for a separate scorecard for open-centered dahlias.

A proposal.

Garden dahlias [as opposed to exhibition dahlias] can be judged by these criteria:

Color 10

Bloom Quality 25

Stem 15

Foliage 5

Early Maturity 10

Total number of blooms 15

Growth habit (e.g. plant height) 20

Bud Cruger

In Memoriam: *Bob Simon*, expert hybridizer and mentor.



2 0 0 0

34th ADS National Show, Arlington VA, was hosted by the National Capital Dahlia Society. "The ADS Millennium Dahlia Show" Grand Champion, Evelyn Foster (BFD W) by Dick Westfall.

2000 ADS Gold Medal

- Fred Mumma, Chair of multiple ADS National Shows, and President of the National Capital Dahlia Society.
- Harry Stafford ADS Photography Chair, President of the National Capital Dahlia Society.
- Norm Hines, Editor of the ADS Bulletin, Southtown Dahlia Club.

2000 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - Skiplely Grande ASC Lt Bl
- B - Baron Evan BID Y
- BB - Normandy Deegee BBFD LtBl
- Min. - Darci Lynn MFD W
- Ball - Mingus Ashley Ba Pr
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Northwest Cosmos S DkBl

2000 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - Richard S. AC LtBl
- Medium - Hannah Baker B L LtBl
- Small - Barberry Nationwide BBFD Pr
- Waterlily - Lupin Beth WL Y
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Juul's Allstar Or DkR

The 1999 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Taratahi Lilac (BIC LtBI) introduced by John and Edna Frater (New Zealand).

ADS Silver Medals were awarded prior to the establishment of the Stanley Johnson Medal.

1988 Magic Moment (BSC W) by Les Connell

1987 April Dawn (BID Lt BI) by Les Connell

2000 ADS Special Award to *Norma Boyer*, for her many contributions, but especially for the CHD.

After 16 years, Norma and Mac Boyer announced their retirement as Chairs of the Classification Committee and the producer of the annual *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* (CHD). Along with the *Bulletin*, the CHD is one of the important ADS publications in terms of member value. They were succeeded by Eleanor and Wayne Shantz.

1999 Fabulous Fifty

Hamari Accord

Taratahi Lilac

Edna C

Mary Jo

Rose Toscano

Zorro

ADS announced a garden flower and cut flower popularity contest.

Dahlias are frequently appearing in magazines and shopping catalogues.

The ADS Insurance premium for local societies was reduced by 10%, based on recent experience with the insurance policy.

At national shows, seedlings must be eligible to compete in open competition. All entries must be entered by ADS classification. If not in the CHDs, then as classified by the local classification committee, with tags initialed.

Waterlilies and novelties will be eligible for the Dudley and Hart awards.

Executive Board

The President's Cup will be awarded to a BB Single-Bloom entry.

The ADS has begun work on an ADS color chart that would be less detailed than the RHS Chart.

The removal of sepals or an unpaired (spur) leaf may result in a penalty if the removal is obvious or distorts the overall bloom. Neither disqualification nor removal from further competition is an allowable penalty due only to the removal of a sepal or a spur

leaf.

The ADS website address has been changed to www.dahlia.org. *Wayne Holland*

I had nightmares that my Mr. would say, "Well, for year 2000; I will plant 2,000 dahlias." *Ramona Kuiper*

The pH of soil can be raised to 6.5 from 6.2 by applying 10 lbs. ground limestone per 100 sq. ft. This is linked to the cation exchange capacity (CEC). If a soil test using a base of 20 CEC reports a CEC 10, or 15, reduce the rate by 2/3 or 1/3 respectively. [ed., for the science geeks who read this publication.]
Dr. George McVey

In Cincinnati, after long-term heavy rains, foliage was crinkled with light and dark spots and plants had short intermodal spaces. Applications of a 40-0-0 foliar spray, and granular trace elements largely eliminated the problems. The following year there were sustained plus 90° days, and the same symptoms occurred. It was addressed with extra water and half strength 40-0-0. With more typical weather, the plants returned to normal. The assumption is that most dahlia cultivars have virus, and it will often tend to manifest itself when the plant is stressed. *Bob Moynahan*

Modern peony dahlias are often used in window boxes and garden borders—as well as on the show table. *Bill McClaren*

You know you are a hardcore gardener when you photograph your flowers more often than your family and friends.

Detailed color reference to the RHS fan should be included in the CHD for new introductions. [ed., a prophet from up north.] *John Mooney*

Dahlias move water from the roots into the stalk and stem through the process of osmosis. The salt content of the soil is lower than the roots and the latter will draw in water. The same process occurs up the stalk and into the stems and buds.

From April to September, the plants need about 18 inches of water. Dahlias require an adequate water supply throughout their growing season, even in the fall when the food reserves created in the leaves migrate to the tubers for storage. *Dr. Gareth Rowlands (United Kingdom)*

About 50% of new ADS members renew for a second year. The ADS depends on local societies to keep up interest.

At-large members, without local society affiliation, have a lower rate of renewal. *Alan Fisher*

Over 20,000 Grow Guides have been printed.

The tomato spotted virus is the most prevalent dahlia virus. *WSU Research*

Between 1972 and 1999, 2,759 seedlings scored in the trial gardens. B's were the most common (777) and BB's were next (745). *Mac Boyer*

Keeping dahlias well watered and hosing down the foliage is a low-budget way to prevent mites.
Stanley Mehr

Crazy Glue has been helpful in repairing broken tubers. No guarantees.

The Colorado Dahlia Society has created "The Big List" to identify the commercial dealers from whom a cultivar is available.
Don McAllister

100 members of the Garden Writers Association visited the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society Show at Longwood Gardens. They met members of the GPDS and received an *ADS Bulletin*. Public relations involve many small interactions with the media. Public Relations Chair, *Lois Helgeson*.

Detergent, heat or bleach will kill virus.
Dr. Wyatt, WSU Research

No judge should arrange, rearrange or roughly handle the blooms being judged.

Local Judging Chairs should be convinced that Accredited Judges have “dahlia judgment” before moving them up to Senior Judge. *H. Risetto*

I for one PROTEST the PROTEST rule in most schedules. Judge's decisions should stand. *Dick Hinz*



2001

35th ADS National Show, Oyster Bay NY, was hosted by the Mid Island Dahlia Society. Best in show was Fidalgo Climax (ALC Y) by Bill Aldridge.

“9/11.” With the encouragement of the New York State government, the 2001 ADS National Show was held on Long Island the weekend after the tragic events of 9/11. On Sunday, many visitors toured the park and show; it was a moment of calm as the smoke curled up from the ruins of the NY Trade Center buildings. Many of the ADS’s regular attendees could not travel to the show because the airlines were grounded. The Mid-Island team was congratulated for their special efforts.

The ADS show was dedicated to those who died during the tragedy of September 11th and to all the citizens who stepped forward to help.

2001 ADS Gold Medal

-Dr. Michael Pryor, President North Atlantic Dahlia Conference (NADC), leader of the Connecticut Dahlia Society, plant scientist and formidable competitor.

-William Allgeier, leader of the Mid Island Dahlia Society, ADS Trial Garden Director, President NADC, exhibitor, and ADS Show Co-chair.

-Laverne and Ben Bartel, ADS Chair of the Slide Library, Badger State Dahlia Society. ADS Photography Chair.

2001 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Bodacious AAID R
B - ELJudith M BSC LtBI
BB - Alpen Steven, BBFD W
Min. - Skipley Spot of Gold MFD DkPk
Ball etc.-Paul Z. Ball DkR
WL-ST - Normandy Mikey St Br
Evie Gullikson Medal - Parkland Moonmist Co Y

2001 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Windhaven Blush ASC Y
Medium - Erica Lee BC R
Small - Moonlight Sonata BBFD Y
Min. - Barberry Red Baron MFD Dk R
Min Ball - Barberry Prefect MBa DkR
WL-ST - Taratahi Sunrise WL Lt BI

The 2000 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Glenbank Twinkle (MC Lt.BI) originated by Gar Davidson (Australia).

Sterling Silver (BID W) won the Derrill Hart Medal in 1963.

Of the top 13 cultivars in 2000, 12 were Stanley Johnson winners.

2000 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Taratahi Lilac
Inland Dynasty
Mary Jo
Rose Toscano
Glenbank Twinkle

ADS Classification Committee recommended the establishment of a “stellar form” of dahlia, e.g., Alloway Candy.

The 2001 CHD will have 1,740 listed cultivars.

Sports. (Proposed Rule) ADS will not provide awards for solid color sports of bi-colored, or variegated varieties, but will recognize such varieties. Only tuber entries may be submitted to trial gardens.

Undisseminated Seedlings. Originators or third parties (at the request of the originator) may show an undisseminated seedling with its name, provided the name is preceded by a two-digit numeric prefix. Such seedlings must be shown in the show division where the highest competition exists. If the seedling is to remain undisseminated for a second year, its name must be preceded by the last two digits of the year in which it was first shown or evaluated.

Juanita is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its introduction in the United States from South Africa. The originator was Tim Healy. The dahlia was dug in South Africa on June 1, 1951; planted in the U.S. by J. Louis Roberts on June 15, and exhibited on September 15. It was named by Joan Healy after a figure of a flamenco dancer in a painting.

South Africa's contribution to the dahlia and ADS began in the 1930s when cultivars were sent to the United States for distribution. Juanita followed in the 1940s. During the 1960s laciniated dahlias began to arrive from Norman Sutherland. This class achieved popularity in the 1980s thanks to Cyril Higgo and Phil Traff. Both have been honored by the ADS. Wallace Maritz has given us the excellent Penhill family of large dahlias as a result of the efforts of John Thiermann.

ADS Policy. There are no restrictions on the entry in trial gardens of solid color sports of bicolor or variegated cultivars. Sports scoring 85 or more in two trial gardens will be accepted by the ADS.

A proposal was submitted to the ADS for "master judges" to enhance judging uniformity. *Ron Miner*

Continuing efforts to revitalize ADS local society representatives. [ed., if at first . . .]

Working with images of blooms is an excellent way for judges to hone their evaluation skills. “Peak of Development” should be a positive factor in evaluating a bloom on the show bench. *Wayne Shantz*

Growing dahlias organically requires focus on watering, fertilizers, and insects. Dahlias should not be planted on the same patch year after year. Some dahlias are disease and insect resistant. They should be inter-planted with less resistant cultivars. Compost improves the organic life within the soil and is an important additive; e.g., grass clippings, leaves and green manure crops. Overhead watering helps control some insects. When it is hot, brief watering reduces the temperature and raises the humidity. Monitor insect presence with sticky strips. Purchase ladybugs and lacewings and a thrips predator for release at times of high insect presence. It took several years for the predators to take control. Have patience. *Bill McClaren*

To have show-grade blooms, restrict the laterals:
AA & A -- 4 laterals
B --- 6
BB --- 8
All other types, 8 or more. *Jim Dore*
[ed., stellars and waterlilies should be grown like

BBs.]

Gene Boeke Regional VP for the Southern States contributed \$25,000 to support ADS publications and to encourage exhibition of his originations (all with the “Bo” prefix).

Kudos for the publications of the Puget Sound Dahlia Association; the annual, *Dahlias of Today* and *Dahlias: A Monthly Guide*.

Contrary to the traditional view, dahlias perform better with limited quantities of nitrogen applied throughout the growing season until early to mid-August. *Mac Boyer*

Small cylinders made of chicken wire deter quail, birds and cats. *Dean Barnes*

While classroom training of ADS judges is an important basic step, training judges with real flowers at hand can be more effective than using slides or pictures.

Ron Miner

A judges' workshop immediately following show judging is a valuable development exercise. *Bill McClaren*

The ray florets of dahlias do not have stamens and

are thought to be sterile.

John Mooney

Arranging dahlias in baskets is one of the more enjoyable aspects of getting ready for a show. [ed., for those with an artistic aptitude.] *Vivian and Les Connell*

The top six cultivars in terms of appearances in the catalogues of the "Big List" of commercial suppliers.

Spartacus

Chilson's Pride

Zorro

Jessie G

Elma Elizabeth

Hamari Accord *Don McAllister*

Millennium Challenges. There is a need to extend the dahlia's shelf life and to broaden the range of dwarf and garden dahlias. Hybridizers have to embrace the genetic diversity of the dahlia. The stock of giant dahlias is dwindling and needs to be replenished. *H. Risetto*

The color chart project has been suspended due to an insufficient number of subscribers. *Mac Boyer*

Some tests have detected Dahlia Mosaic Virus (DMV) on sample plants. An electron microscopic examination found no virus particles typical of DMV.

[ed., the hunt goes on.] *WSU Research*

Judging Blooms. Begin with the bloom view and profile (front, side, and back).

Then a closer look: top view, overhead view of stem entry, staging considerations, roundness (symmetry), and size assessment. *Wayne Shantz*

I bid on a dahlia at the Midwest meeting. I have planted it in the garden. I can hardly wait for it to bloom. It bloomed as a red and yellow BB/waterlily. My Mr. called it "Half-Assed." I just love it. *Ramona Kuiper*

What other flower but the dahlia can compete for length of growing season, for excellence of form, for the variety, type and size of bloom, and for the vibrancy of color. *National Dahlia Society of New Zealand*

Are lacinated dahlia genes causing small splits in dahlia ray florets? *Ron Wilkes (Australia)*

Plastic wrap has become popular as a new method of storing tubers. Tubers are divided, washed, labeled, and treated with fungicide. After they dry overnight, wrap them separately in plastic wrap and store in a 40-50°F area to minimize condensation. *M&B Mandella and Ric Peters*

At farmers markets, dahlia sellers often hear, “My grandma grew dahlias. It brings back wonderful memories of the time spent in her garden.” So actually they do not sell flowers, they sell memories and romance of times gone by when people grew flowers just for their beauty. *Janet Coleman Nutt*

Cut flowers. The average customer wants dahlias that last most of the week. The seller will work for cultivars that are floriferous, develop long stems, and have blooms that are not top heavy. These are usually not show flowers. *Eric and June Roberts*



2 0 0 2

36th ADS National Show, San Jose CA, was hosted by the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference. Best in Show was Hamari Accord (BSC Y) by Brad and Rosemary Freeman.

2002 ADS Gold Medal

- Erik and Gerda Juul, expert exhibitors; hybridizers of the "Juul" family of dahlias; growers at Dahlia-Dell in Golden Gate Park.
- Ted Szalkowski, hybridizer of Irene's Pride and others; long time exhibitor and member of the Southeastern Michigan Dahlia Society.
- J. Arthur Kieffer, exhibitor, hybridizer of Joe K, Honka and others; ADS officer; leader of the Southern Tier Dahlia Society (NY).

2002 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - Luther AC W
- B - Onabrook Angel BID Lt BI
- BB - Amorus BBFD Var.
- BA, MB & Pom - Peeper MB DkR
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Alpen Snowbird Or W

2002 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Medium - CG Paragon BSC Dk Pk
- Small - Barbarry Intrepid BBFD R

Min. - Joycie MFD Pr
Min Ball - Chimacum Troy MB Pr

2001 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to
Cornel (Ba DkR) originated by Cor Geerlings
(Holland).

2001 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Taratahi Lilac
Rose Toscano
Inland Dynasty
Jessie G
Cornel

2002 ADS membership has grown to 2,748.

Ron Miner succeeded Harry Risetto as ADS
President.

Dahlia growers try new techniques in their patch
almost every year. Share the results in the Bulletin.
For example, I broke off extra shoots on tubers I
was planting and stuck the shoots in the ground.
Seven of nine of these shoots made vigorous
healthy plants.

Ron Miner

Andrew and Bob Miller added 1,312 cultivar images
to www.dahlia.org website.

Soap and water is the best cleansing agent. *WSU Virus Research*

A numerical prefix must be used on undisseminated seedlings exhibited at shows.

Gene Boeke donated \$20,000 in seed-money for the ADS Color Chart. When revenue is received from the sale of the charts, the seed money will be transferred to the two other Boeke funds. *Mac Boyer*

I took several dahlias to the office, and one lady said they smelled so good. I replied that it was my perfume. *Ramona Kuiper*

An experiment comparing the treatment of new plantings with and without a systemic insecticide concluded that there was no statistical difference. *Ron Miner*

ADS Reps should spend a few minutes at every meeting on ADS developments.
Jerry Landerholm

Classification Committee. Stellars, Novelty Open, and Novelty Double have been added as official dahlia divisions.

In the Welsh trial gardens, the scorecard allocates

40 for form, 20 for center, 20 for stems, 10 for color and 10 for angle.

The "Dahlia Giants Trophy" was renamed "The ADS Memorial Trophy." The ADS President's Cup was renamed "The Alger Cup."

Dahlia plants that are leggy at childhood never recover. There are no swans in dahlia-land.

H. Risetto

The gluing of cracked tubers may work if the crack is not serious. Any glue with cyanoacetate can be used and the glued tuber should be supported while the glue works its magic. *Bob & Anna Moynahan*

The ideal tuber from which to make stem cuttings is about 4" long and the diameter of your thumb. *John Thiermann*

Dahlias do not need large quantities of phosphorous and potassium to produce show quality blooms. An excess of these elements appears to inhibit root growth. Limited quantities of N (1 Tb. of 46-0-0) during the growing season do not make stalks rubbery and appear to be beneficial to overall growth. *Mac Boyer*

If a seedling is predicted to only occasionally win a blue ribbon, its score should not be more than 84

plus one for distinction. A cultivar that will win only an occasional blue ribbon is hardly worth growing. Fat chance! While a blind pig finds an acorn once in a while, the hog has a better chance than the seedling. *Gene Boeke* [ed., Gene was inimitable.]

Dahlias sit well in a perennial border. Plant them near perennials that bloom in the spring. Remember the ultimate size of the plant. Taller dahlias should go in the back of the border. *Paula Pinholster*

A 4" clay pot is the best size for growing pot roots. *George Currie*

For slug control lay a two-inch line of lime around the bed. *Bob Bolster*

To thwart slugs cut the bottom out of a 16 oz. opaque plastic glass and place it over the plant (big end down) and leave it there until two pairs of leaves appear above the glass. *Dennis Radcliffe*

Each year the ADS classification committee considers whether several dozen cultivars should be reclassified. Most of the requests involve issues of size. [ed., some repeatedly.]

There needs to be a better way of comparing the relative merits of two entries from different ends of

the show schedule, for example AAs and orchids.
Michael Valler [ed., they do it at dog shows?]

It should not be difficult to establish a World Dahlia Council, which can in the beginning publish world dahlia news on a website. *Swami Vinayananda*

A revised ADS Judging Manual is going into publication. Special thanks to Mac Boyer. *Ron Miner*

The "shake and bake" method of putting tuber divisions in a bag of vermiculite and sulfur, coats the tuber and gives it a winter protection. The plastic wrap procedure was significantly more effective than storing the divisions in a bag with vermiculite.
Ron Miner

Dahlia shows should be held on Wednesdays because everyone says; "The dahlias are at their best on Wednesday."
Walt Taylor

Adding more detailed color descriptions to the CHD is a big hit! *Wayne Shantz*

Dahlia growers should read the *Judging Manual* to deepen their appreciation of our favorite flower.
H. Rissetto

Wash clothing worn when applying pesticides separately from other clothing.

OSU Extension Fact Sheet

Hanging clothes in the sun before washing may render some insecticides inert. *Craig Carraher*

Bring a bouquet of dahlias to a local nursing home. *Josephine Quade*

Dahlias can be a beautiful part of all gardens, vegetable or flower. Use the dahlia plants as a backdrop for other sun-loving plants.

A project to produce attractive dahlia postcards is under way. *Lois Ann Helgeson*

Clara Almand received the Harry and Carolyn Dreyer Memorial Award.

Why not drop the word "single" from the name "mignon single" and include all open-centered dahlias of less than 2 inches. *H. Rissetto*

Dr. Hanu Pappu has been appointed to the Samuel Smith Endowed Professorship in plant pathology. He will direct the dahlia virus research project. *Washington State Research*

Pot Roots. Use 6"-6 ½" azalea pots for growing pot roots. The soil mix is a 40 lb. bag of organic peat, a 5-gallon bucket of Canadian peat, and a one-gallon bucket each of coarse vermiculite and perlite. Everything is mixed in a wheelbarrow. The pots are watered with a soluble fertilizer (9-45-15 plant starter). The pot is planted two or three inches below the soil surface. Soil is used to fill in above the pot. *Don Warden*

The 1976-2002 Composite Listing of dahlias is available. *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz*

In Memoriam:

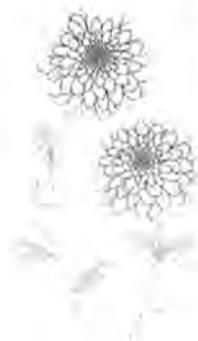
-*Carolyn Dreyer, Bulletin Editor.*

-*Andy Babb, hybridizer, President of the Northwest Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference, Trial Garden Director.*

-*Mark Alger, ADS President, 1980-1985.*

-*Madlyn Geisert-Adams, hybridizer.*

-*Derek Hewlett, leader of the National Dahlia Society (UK).*



2 0 0 3

37th ADS National Show, Akron OH, was hosted by the Dahlia Society of Ohio.

Grand Champion was Maisie Mooney (AID W) by Jim Hall.

2003 ADS Gold medal

-Glen Ruth, President of the Dahlia Society of Ohio; teacher and mentor to many ADS judges.

- Alan Fisher, dahlia grower, longtime Membership Chair and, and prolific contributor to the *Bulletin*.

ADS Silver Medal to Graham Carey (UK),
Chairman of the Executive Council of the National Dahlia Society.

2003 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - (Tie) Mingus Philip II ASC LtBI & Penhill
Summer AIC Or (two medals awarded)

B - Mingus Jackie P. BLC R

BB - Woodland's Sarafina BB LC R

Min. - Sarah Elizabeth MFD Y

Stellar - WL and Novelty - Korb Riverbend Jean St W
Evie Gullikson Medal Alpen Diamond Col Lt BI

2003 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Miss Palmer AC LtBI

Medium - Carl Brase BC DkR

Small - Camano Susan BBSC Or
Min. - Camano Tall Cotton MFD W
Min Ball - SB's Sunny MB Y
Evie Gullikson Medal - Alpen Diamond Col Lt Bl

2002 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Kathy's Choice (MC Y) originated by J. Richard Canning.

2002 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Taratahi Lilac
Inland Dynasty
Kathy's Choice
Rose Toscano
Mary Jo

How should novelties be judged? If the characteristic (usually color or form) that makes the cultivar a novelty is different and distinct, the cultivar should be given full points for that characteristic.

The ADS Color Guide is going into publication with a run of 2,000.

Laverne Bartel was succeeded by Jim Chuey as Chair of the Slide Library.

The Judges Roster will be prepared as a separate booklet. *Norm Hines*

A seedling cannot be submitted to trial gardens or the seedling bench until they are in their 4th year of growth.

2003 ADS membership stands at 2,713.

Bill Bushman succeeded Charlie Conerty as the *Bulletin* Advertising Manager.

Bylaws were amended to provide officers with two-year terms and to dissolve the Publications Committee.

A committee to be chaired by Steve Nowotarski was established to encourage the growth of garden flowers and membership in the ADS.

Judging in a trial garden is a most enjoyable judging experience. It is a glimpse into the future of all our gardens. The success of the trial gardens depends on the willingness of ADS judges to visit the garden and judge the entries. *Ron Miner*

Are tubers better root-makers than cuttings? Does the age of the cutting make a difference? *Ron Miner*

The ADS Policy Manual is on the “members-only” compartment of the website. *Wayne Holland*

Bob Moynahan, as representative of the ADS, opened the dahlia exhibit at the 2002 Floriade which covers 160 acres in Holland. Bob summarized dahlia trends in the United States that include a website with a global reach, reduced use of insecticides, serious attention to dahlia virus, and increased hybridization of open-centered dahlias. He called for expanded collaboration between our countries.

A cultivar should not be faulted if its color approaches a border, e.g., yellow and orange.
Wayne and Eleanor Shantz

Outreach. Offer a garden visit with cocktails and snacks as a charity auction prize. *Henry C. Doll*

A dahlia grower's first experience is usually with Dutch tubers that seem to be ubiquitous in the spring. Do not be a dahlia snob. *Steve Nowotarski* [ed., ADS President Don Dramstad began that way.]

Dahlias will bloom under a wide range of day lengths. Dahlias flower faster when day lengths are short, e.g., 10 hrs., as compared to longer days, e.g., 16 hrs. Tubers are also formed during short days. If the day length is 14 hrs. or longer, tuberization will not occur. Temperatures over 75° will inhibit tuber formation. *Erik Runkle* [ed., Nature is fussy.]

Dale Saar and Paul Sorenson provisionally identified a new dahlia species, *Dahliaparvibracteata* in Mexico. The single florets are a veined lavender. The bracts reflex away from the bloom.

Is Hamilton Lillian orange or a light blend? Its originator Glen Hamilton strongly believed that the real stock of his dahlia has always been orange.
Ron Duxbury

The Mahoning Valley Dahlia Society was formed over a cup of dark roast Columbian coffee. Its first objective was to become affiliated with the ADS. It grew membership by holding a mid-winter reception complete with a set of dahlia slides.
Jim Chuey and Sharon Mika

Species dahlias should be grown more widely. They will be appreciated for what they are: North American wildflowers. The species dahlias in the wild need protection to prevent extinction. *Dayle Saar*

Have you ever heard of a dahlia whistle? It can be made from a length of stalk. Cut one end just below a node so it is closed. Cut the other end at 45°. Now, blow across the angled end. *Pat Cunningham* [ed., Pat holds the record for *Bulletin* dahlia "sightings."]

Rainy Day Fridays

O! Beck was a dahlia man from A to Z
As a twelve-year lad, he did impress me.
He'd say, "Tie those canes up one at a time;
Dahlias aren't sacks to be bound with one twine."

Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran (for Donald
Pollinger von Ungran and Fred Beckman)

Cultivation

It is that dahlia that you love,
even now in your 80th year,
as you coax them to bloom.
Like your children they rise
to flower, bending not to your will,
but to your patient, soft hands,
the dahlias rising from the rich soil.

Shula Chernoff for Amoz

My Mr. gave me some dahlias for our anniversary.
The next morning several were missing. Mr.
admitted he took them to the dahlia show and won.
He cut some more, and I said I am going to glue
them to the vase. Mr. said, "No need, the shows
are over." *Ramona Kuiper*

In Memoriam: *Charles Conerty*, a linchpin of the
ADS.

2 0 0 4

38th ADS National Show, Seattle WA, was hosted by The Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers. Best Dahlia in Show was Embrace (BBSC Lt BI) by Richard Williams. 6,000 dahlia blooms were on display at the ADS National Show in Seattle.

2004 ADS Gold Medal

- Les Connell, prominent grower and hybridizer; President of the Northwest Federation of Dahlia Growers; global dahlia tour guide.
- Gordon Leroux, hybridizer of the Kenora family of dahlias.

2004 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - Vassio Meggos AID L
- B - CG Nordic BC W
- BB - Hollyhill Diamond BBSC W
- Min. - Badger Twinkle MSC DkBI
- Ball etc - Tiny Pom Br
- WL, ST and Novelty - Woodland Merinda ST Pr
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Alpen Nellie Or Pr

2004 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Medium - Clearview Irene BSC Y
- Small - Bar Barry Shogun BBFD R
- Min. - Juul's Amethyst MB Y
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Tahoma Twilight Or Pr

2003 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Kenora Jubilee (ASC W) originated by Gordie & Jeannie Leroux.

[ed., Gordie and Jeannie were among the preeminent hybridizers of the last half century.] The “Kenora” prefix has come to connote excellence. Gordie used to say that one seedling in a 1,000 was worth keeping. *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz*

2004 ADS President’s Awards were presented to:

-Harold Miller, dahlia “midwife” to societies in the northwest, a founding member of the Puget Sound Dahlia Association, and a supporter of its publications.

-Phil Traff (accepted by his mother, Jennie Traff, a great dahlia lady in her own right.) Phil helped found the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers; a successful exhibitor and hybridizer. He understood how a society should engage and energize its members with a year-round program of activities.

2003 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Kenora Jubilee
Kathy’s Choice
Embrace
Zorro
Inland Dynasty

The ADS Color Guide is the official color standard

for the ADS.

The ADS Color Guides required an investment of \$ 54,800 to provide value to ADS members and to local societies. It gives the dahlia grower the capacity to have a common color language for dahlia blooms.

Dahlia cultivar names should be shorter than 22 characters. This avoids confusion in the CHD.

The executor of Marie Glauzier's estate made a \$5,000 contribution to the ADS on her behalf.

2004 ADS membership currently stands at 2,718.
Alan Fisher

Every society staging an ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation at its show should have a copy of the ADS Color Guide to accurately describe the entries.
Ron Miner

A committee was formed to review the dahlia classification definitions. The threshold question would be the goals of definitions.

A combination of coffee grounds and commercial slug killers is more effective in controlling slug damage than either one separately. *Ron Miner*

One of the inevitable tendencies of many hobbyists is to make their avocation increasingly complicated as they strive for success and the acclaim of their colleagues. *H. Risetto*

Border/container dahlias are quickly becoming popular types of dahlias.

Steve Nowotarski

When rooting cuttings, make sure they are kept in a humid environment with at least 14 hours of light to encourage feeder root rather than tubers. The temperature should be between 65-70°. *Bill McClaren*

Pot roots can be grown from cuttings in 3 ½" pots and left in a semi-shady area on boards supported by cinder blocks. Fertilize lightly. The plants will seldom exceed 1 ½ - 2 feet in height and may not bloom. In mid-September, cut the stalks and leave the pots to dry. Either remove the pot roots from their containers or leave them there. Pot roots give shoots for cuttings one to two weeks earlier than tubers. *Rick Peters and Bill Schwinck*

Dahlia Hints in Rhyme

Dahlias enjoy sunshine most of their day.
And a nice loose loam, though some grow in clay.
Some say hold the nitrogen and others say not.
Thus you may have to experiment with the soil

you've got. *Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran*

Garden dahlias should bloom early, maintain vigor, and bloom freely until frost. Dark foliage is a plus.
Steve Nowotarski

To learn about the Washington State University dahlia virus project see, www.dahlia.wsu.edu.

The ADS research survey suggested the need for work on fertilizers; the relative merits of tubers and cuttings, and dormancy. *Xenia Wolff, PhD.*

John Menzel (Winkie, Australia) and several local garden clubs enlisted the Australian version of Boy and Girl Scouts to participate in a dahlia exhibition.

The Saga of Kramski

He lived on a farm where he made his living.
His hobby was dahlias that he found quite forgiving.
For they grew on a hill that was solid, baked clay;
The yellow-orange goop baked like adobe in a day
Now Kramski was dedicated, on this all agree.
He would water with buckets, lugged by a mule he
would lead.
But when September came, and the show was at
hand.
His timing was poor and the bloom count not grand.
So he would come to the show with a gaggle of
stories.

“Bout last week's dahlias that had bloomed in their glory.”

And one little drama he would rarely delete.

'Bout the world's largest dahlias with gestures complete. *Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran*

In defining the form of the various dahlia types, the description will be based on the ideal dahlia in that form. It was agreed that dahlias that did not meet the ideal would still be classified within the form.

The Judging Manual form descriptions would be the same as those in the CHD. *Executive Board*

What if you never grew your dahlias where everyone could enjoy them as they passed your garden? Would you have enjoyed growing blooms as much? Would you have met so many nice people? What if no one complimented you for all your hard work? *Loney Kennedy*

Show your dahlias at your county or state fair. *Larry Smith*

Earwigs can be trapped by putting a pot upside down on a stake. Earwigs will “hide” there during the day. *Ben Bartel*

The “el kabatski” method is to trap the earwig between your thumb and forefinger, yelling “el kabatski”. *Ciscoe Morris*

How to identify a dahlia exhibitor: This year's CHD already looks 10 years old.

Their best blooms come on Wednesday.

Max Ollieu

A Poem

There's Dahlias in my garden.

They're in my basement too.

It seems there's dahlias everywhere

So what's a man to do?

Georgia Lheron

The ADS is compiling a list of public dahlia display gardens. *Steve Nowotarski*

The United States Postal Service issued dahlia stamps in 1981 and 1985.

The Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers routinely includes a "Junior Section" at its shows—and there were kids showing and arranging dahlias.

People know and appreciate dahlias in the Northwest because they're more familiar with them. They buy dahlias from home-stands and at community markets. *Ron Miner*

In surveys across the country it became apparent that dahlia mosaic virus (DMV) appears to be widespread. *Dr. Hanu Pappu*

Dahlia show attendance can be improved by using dahlia postcards sent to gardeners mentioned in the newspaper without regard to the flower they raised, and to all local garden clubs. *Kansas City Dahlia Society*

In Memoriam:

-*Bernard Bartel*, photographer.

-*Marie Glauzier*, beloved and best-dressed dahlia lady.

-*Ellis Evans*, Chair of National Exhibitions.

-*Gerry Weland*, dahlia expert, historian and compiler of major list of cultivars.

-*Bob Shelley*, grower, exhibitor and ADS Historian.



2 0 0 5

39th ADS National Show, Halifax Nova Scotia, was hosted by the Dahlia Society of Nova Scotia. King of the Show was Elsie Huston (A ID DkPk) by John Armstrong.

2005 ADS Gold Medal

-Walt Taylor, grower and hybridizer, President of the Rhode Island Dahlia Society and ADS Regional Vice President.

-Ed Redd, exhibitor and hybridizer of Klondike, Elma Elizabeth, Light Accord and others. Supporter of the ADS.

2005 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Penhill Andres Memory ASC W

B - CG Forte BSC Y

BB - Parkland Tribute BBFD DkPk

Min. - Colorado Micro MFD Pr

Ball etc - Ms Kennedy MB Or

Waterlily, Stellar, Nov - Sandia Joy WL Y

Evie Gullikson Medal - Beaucamp Amis Col Y

2005 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Penhill Andres Memory ASC W

Medium - Narrows Tricia BSC Y

Small - Parkland Tribute BBFD DkPk

Min. - Pink Paradise MFD DkPk

Min Ball - Barberry Bingo MB DKR

Evie Gullikson Medal - Bay State Angel MS W

2004 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Embrace, BBSC Y, originated by Edwin Griffin (Australia).

2004 Fabulous Fifty
Hamari Accord
Embrace
Edna C
Valley Porcupine
Taratahi Lilac
Inland Dynasty

2005 ADS membership: 2,747.

Claudia Biggs succeeded Jim Chuey as Chair of the Slide Library.

The ADS will buy more entry tag rings for sale to local societies. John Thiermann has managed this project ably for a number of years.

All ADS representatives need to have email capacity, and a booklet will be prepared describing their duties.

ADS color references are appearing in the CHD.

The ADS will recognize a "Garden Dahlia of the Year."

Timing of Blooms (pea-size to bloom)

A FD&ID 30-32 days

A SC 27-28 days

A C 26-28 days

B FD&ID 28-30 days

B SC 25-27 days

B C 22-25 days

2 days less for BBs

55-65 days for a ¼ inch lateral to a fully developed bloom

-Do what you can to inspire someone else to grow dahlias.

-Donate a picture of a dahlia bouquet and tubers to a charity auction, and agree to help plant them.

-Sponsor a 4-H or Scout dahlia project.

Ron Miner

The classification committee will no longer consider requests to reclassify Kidd's Climax, Almand Climax and Taylor Nelson. They are retired! *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz*

Invisible Dahlia Growers—The commercial growers who sell thousands of dahlia plants to wholesalers, garden shops and florists. Do they have a place in the ADS? *H. Risetto*

The seedlings of an open-centered seed parents more often mimic the parent's color and form than

seedlings from a double dahlia. *Bill McClaren*

The North Idaho Dahlia Society has six student members. *Karen Gottlob*

A big part of the enjoyment in growing dahlias goes directly back to relationships, past, present and future, including the opportunities to make new friends. *Max Ollieu*

The Dahlia Lady

Standing shorter than her flowers,
Dahlia lady passes summer hours,
In sunshine and occasional showers,
Nurturing and encouraging each special bloom.
Don Black (for Claudia Biggs on her birthday)

Attracting and Holding Members.

- Spring Plant/Tuber Sale
- Show 'n Tell for garden tools
- Fabulous Flower Photos
- Learning about compost from a commercial seller.
- Flower Arranging Class
- Garden Center Representative: What's New with Dahlias?
- Seedling Challenge
- Bouquet Party
- Picnic
- Sponsor a public dahlia garden
- Join forces with other specialty flower societies.

- Reach out to local garden clubs.
- Member discounts during tuber/plant sales. *Sandy and Steve Boley*

ADS Objectives

- More aggressive promotion of the dahlia in external gardening and general media
- Projecting the expertise of the ADS and the local societies.
- Support for local societies.
- Updated Grow Guides

Ron Miner

Speak to Master Gardener groups about dahlias.

Annie Radcliff

Wood ash seems to be effective on most slugs.

Max Ollieu

Seedling judges should ignore “imagined flaws, e.g., bug bites, that are not an intrinsic characteristic of the dahlia. *Ferd Ahl*

Peat moss will lower soil pH. It has a pH of about 4.0. *Peter Lems*

Many local dahlia societies are led by exhibitors. Most of the members do not exhibit. A common interest in dahlia culture as well as becoming good

friends binds the group together. Is the society doing its best to meet the needs of the majority of its members? *Ron Miner*

The color numbers for seedlings in both the trial garden and seedling bench have been generally consistent. *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz*

There continue to be localized problems bringing dahlia blooms between the U.S. and Canada.

When a dahlia plant is blackened by frost and the stalk cut down to six inches, eyes (the precursors to sprouts) are stimulated in between 4 and 8 days. *Ben Lawrence*

What materials do dahlia societies give to new members? *Chet Haus*

Scotts Co. experimented with 200 tubers of Gitts Perfection donated by Swan Island and concluded that dahlias are heavy feeders. *Dick Westfall* is representing ADS on this project.

New definitions adopted for Anemone and Peony dahlias.

I Grow Dahlias

Well I grow Dahlias, I'll have you know.
True they don't have perfume of roses so
rare,
But have colors with which none can
compare.
Roses bloom for a time, then vanish away,
I grow Dahlias which bloom day after day.

Ruth G. Graham

In Memoriam:

Harry Stafford, Photography Chair.



2 0 0 6

40th ADS National Show, Oyster Bay NY, was hosted by the Mid-Island Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Narrows Tricia (BSC Y) by Ralph Suttell.

2006 ADS Gold Medal

Eleanor and Wayne Shantz, Classification Co-chairs, master teachers of ADS judges, Regional Vice Presidents, growers, hybridizers of Daddy's Girlie and others; and exhibitors.

2006 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Wyn's Sensation ASCY

B - Alpen Bill BSC LtBI

BB - Felida Snowflake BBC W

Min. - Ryecroft Dave's Choice MFD W

Ball - Irish Speckles Pom V

Stellar - Clearview Erin St Pr

Evie Gullikson Medal - Verrone's Sophie S Or DkR/y

2006 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Windhaven Victory ASC Y

Medium - Hollyhill Chloe BSC DkBI

Small - Bournemouth Belle BB SC LtBI

Min. - Rock Run Mae MFD R

Min. Ball - Lulu Island Dad MB Y

Evie Gullikson Medal - Jacs Nathan Col Or

The 2005 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Valley Porcupine (NX LtBl) originated by David and Leone Smith.

ADS President's Award given to *Bill Aldridge*, President of the Mid Island Dahia Society, long-time Show Chair and mentor to many new growers.

The First Presidential Life Membership Award was presented to *Bud Moore*.

2005 Fabulous Fifty

Embrace

Kenora Jubilee

Hamari Accord

Valley Porcupine

Camano Pet

Pam Howden

2005 ADS Photo Contest—Best Photo: Vase of Novato Martha, Keith H. and Weston Spanish Dancer by Franck Avril.

2006 ADS membership stands at 2,655.

The Executive Board considered a proposal to establish an ADS Seal of Approval for selected cultivars.

The Executive Board proposed to create an online

store for ADS and local society products.

Waterlilies will be a separate group for Hart and Dudley awards.

The judging rules were amended to define the recommended length of a judging seminar as four hours every other year.

5,000 copies of the dahlia brochure and wall chart were printed.

Colin Walker succeeded Wayne Holland as ADS Webmaster.

Conditions Adversely Affecting Dahlias.

- Too little sun.
- Too little or too much water.
- Nutrient issues (mix good compost into the soil).
- Plant diseases: aphids, spider mites and powdery mildew, slugs and snails. Iron phosphate is effective snail bait. *Rick Peters*

Claudette (Dec Pr) named ADS Garden Flower of the Year. There is an increasing number of low growing dahlias available for borders or containers. Many are bushy and stay erect without staking. Some have the sought-after dark foliage.

Steve Nowotarski

We must take the time to encourage gardeners to

move from the dahlia plant to the dahlia patch.
H Risetto

Dahlias grow best when provided with a consistent level of relatively dilute nutrients. One way to achieve this is through “fertigation,” where dilute water soluble fertilizer is delivered directly through the irrigation system each time watering occurs.
Lou Lombardo, PhD.

The www.dahlia.org website has most of the Classification and Handbook of Dahlias in addition to many photos. You can search for a dahlia or color on this website. *Richard Bach*

Early morning and late afternoon are the best times for taking dahlia pictures. Use a tripod to provide more flexibility in setting depth of field. Compose the photo by looking at the fore and backgrounds as well as the bloom. *Claudia Biggs*

A school dahlia planting can be used to teach basic statistics. *Terry Krsak*

The ADS prepared a new *Guide for Growing Dahlias* aimed at beginning dahlia growers. 5,000 copies were printed.

The 2006 planning meeting resolved to create a logo and to improve the website in order to enhance

ADS visibility to gardeners and horticulturists. A “How to Start a Dahlia Society” package will be prepared. *Ron Miner*

Dahlias in the Garden. Plant dahlias in pots in a perennial garden about an inch below the soil surface. This will protect them from competition. In an annual garden use bright-colored dahlias. *Steve Nowotarski*

Sexy Ties – Strips of used panty hose make excellent ties. A 12” strip stretches to 40.” *V.P. Benedetti*

A small grower can use the refrigerator crisper compartment to store a small number of peat moss bagged tubers. Make sure the tubers are dry. Temperature should be 42°. *Heather Drope*

Participating in a dahlia competition builds community and attracts new growers. *Deborah Dietz*

Starting dahlia tubers in pots allows an earlier start to the dahlia season. Tubers cut in half have been poor performers. *Max Ollieu*

An updated 30-year Composite Classification was prepared by *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz*.

The ADS Announced "The Plan for the Future".

- Increase membership by 100% over the next 10 years.
- Increase support for local societies, particularly newly formed ones.
- Broaden the scope of dahlia research beyond virus.
- Continue support for the judging, exhibition and introduction of seedlings.
- Increase ADS visibility to the general public.
- Increase the number and quality of ADS publications.
- Improve ADS's financial condition.
- Establish a National Dahlia Center.

Brad Freeman

Long Distance Travel of Dahlias.

- Pick slightly immature blooms.
- Harden them off in a cool basement.
- Use clean containers with a bit of bleach and some flower preservative--not a lot.
- Pack plastic bottles of frozen water around the containers to keep the air cool.
- On the second morning use ice from the motel.

Arthur Haskins

2006 Garden Dahlia of the Year

A tie between Melody Harmony and Melody Allegro.

Steve Nowotarski

A Poem

The SHOW and the SHOW and the SHOW
I sense a cool September just around the corner.
It's time to muse on dahlia shows--the ones which I
remember.

Baskets of blooms here and there, the smallest
bloom in the show.

The King and the Queen along with the largest
bloom one could grow.

* * *

Yes, my July muse is about bold images found at
dahlia shows.

I shan't be sad because they're gone--you know we
all must go.

But just over the dahlia strewn wall there's another
patch to sow.

And as I begin to fly over, I'll think of the SHOW and
the SHOW and the SHOW.

Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran

Dahlias on Parade

Here they come

Quick, stand up straight,

They're looking right at us now.

Wonder how we rate?

They are taking our picture

Touching our face,

Look at us beam,

Now let's do this with grace. *Julie Chmura*

I Gave My Love a Dahlia

I gave my love a dahlia instead of a pizza pie
I said "I brought this to you 'cause I saw it catch
your eye."

She looked at it with interest and in an undertone
I heard her say, "but darling I wanted provolone."

I gave my love a dahlia instead of an engagement
ring.

I said "this round dahlia will make the angels sing."

She looked at me with disbelief and rising to depart,
She whispered, "I shan't have you my dear, 'cause
the dahlias own your heart".

Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran



2 0 0 7

41st ADS National Show, St. Charles IL, hosted by the Central States Dahlia Society. Best of Show Zorro (AAID DkR) by Dick Westfall.

2007 ADS Gold Medal

-Gene Boeke, grower, hybridizer of the "Bo" dahlias, and benefactor.

-Harry Risetto, ADS President

2007 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Penhill Yellow Queen AID Y

B - Clearview Claret BSC R

BB - Newaukum Honey BBID Or

Min. - NTAC Andrew MFD DkR

BII etc - Irish Embers Pom FI

ST, NX - Irish Pinwheel St FI

Evie Gullikson Award - [tie]--NW Evelyn Kay NO Pk &

Rae Ann's Peach S DkBI

2007 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - Vista Char BLC LtBI

Small - Hilltop Glow BBFD Dk BI

Min. - Mary G. MFD Pr

Ball etc - Narrows Kirsten MB DkPk

Stellar - Hilltop Stella St Bi

Waterlily - Taratahi Glow WL FI

Evie Gullikson Medal - Dandie Chris Col DkPk

2006 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Camano Pet (St LtBl), an origination of Dick and Susan Ambrose.

ADS Lifetime Achievement Award given to Mac and Norma Boyer. [ed., If you have read this far, we need not say more.]

ADS Silver Medal was awarded to Steve Meggos, hybridizer extraordinaire.

- 2006 Fabulous Fifty
- Embrace
- Kenora Jubilee
- Camano Pet
- Pam Howden
- Valley Porcupine
- Zorro

2006 ADS Photography Contest-- Best Photograph, "Kelgai Ann" by Franck Avril.

Jerry Landerholm succeeded Ron Miner as ADS President.

2006 ADS membership was at 2,665.

2007 ADS membership declined to 2,408. There are cultivars, either blends or variegateds, that also have bicolor characteristics. They will be

classified as bicolors.

A disclaimer affirming that the ADS does not support specific chemical pest treatments will be prepared for the *Bulletin*.

The “Boeke Award” for his originations reaching the head table at a National Show was set at \$1,000 in accord with Gene’s request.

Once the TG scoring calculation is complete, it should not be altered.

Lou Paradise succeeded Eleanor and Wayne Shantz as Classification Chair. The CHD is among the critical publications of the ADS. In addition, the committee is responsible for classifications and reclassifications as well as the various definitions of dahlia types.

The ADS set and met a funding goal of \$25,000 to rebuild, enhance, and maintain the ADS website.

A trial garden can decline to return clumps, but that should be stated in the *Bulletin* announcement. Preferences for roots or plants should also be published.

All entries in the ADS Seedling Bench Evaluation must be named. If an entry does not score 85, the

name may be used again.

A new poster “*The Basic Fundamentals of Dahlia Growing*” has been put together by Steve Nowotarski and will be available to the local societies. It is a great item for tuber and plant sales.
Jerry Landerholm

Double Digit Dahlias

I grasp an umbrella in my left hand and a
hose in my right,
And look! There isn't a whisper of a cloud in sight.
Like a chicken with his head cut off—I water and
protect.
And I'll confide in you; 102 degrees is one pain in
the neck.

They say it is going to rain on some forthcoming
day.
But who are they—Just “Plain and Fancy They.”
If I water too much the dahlia roots will surely rot.
But then if I don't, compost is what I've got.
Ronald Louis Pollinger von Ungran

The Sayings of Gordie Leroux

“Growing dahlias is like having Christmas all
flowering season.”

“I was very careful to grow varieties that had

qualities that I wanted to breed into my seedlings.”

“I would grow two or three thousand seedlings a year and try to keep over only the best ones.”

“I first looked at strength of the stem which is the foundation of the variety.”

“I mostly let the bees do the pollination. . . . Jeannie makes signs to tell them what to do.”

“I stress the plants from which I want seed to encourage open centers.”

[ed., I once saw a hand-painted sign on one of his plants that said, “Future Derrill Hart Winner.” It probably was!]



Gordie Leroux

WSU Research: There are two and possibly three viruses that attack dahlias. Based on collaboration with European virologists, there is a concern about dahlia viruses spreading from one continent to the other. *Dr. Hanu Pappu*

Any symptoms of tuber rot call for plant elimination. This practice will gradually minimize tuber rot. *Max Ollieu*

Grow dahlia seedlings for four years to see if the new plant is stable and desirable. *Bob and Anna Moynahan*

A school garden in Sunnyvale, California was converted to a dahlia garden with 350 plants. It formed the basis for student classroom, lessons, visits to the garden, and bloom and tuber sales. There were also numerous suggestions for breeding and other experiments. *Jeff Miner*

Opportunities to Support the ADS.

Richard Vincent Society--Members and friends who plan to leave a bequest of \$1,000 or more in their wills.

The Andreas Dahl Circle – Annual gifts of \$1,000 or more.

The Mark Alger Benefactors – Annual gifts of \$500-\$1,000.

The Stanley Johnson Associates –Annual gifts of

\$100 - \$500.

Executive Board

Raising Dahlias the Easy Way –available for \$9.95 plus postage. Thanks *Rick Peters* for all the work on this needed publication.

You cannot measure Beauty.

Anonymous

“I am confident I can grow head-table dahlias the organic way.” *Steve Nowotarski*

To succeed in the “3-Bloom Cultivar” competitions, grow more plants of one variety; pick cultivars that are frequently 3-bloom winners; and try to take cuttings from the same clump. *Max Ollieu*

In classifying dahlias the judge should look to the overall shape/form of the bloom, rather than one feature. Too many ball dahlias are classified as formal decoratives. *Mac Boyer*

You have to cross top quality dahlias to get the good one. The bees, they do the job, but give them help with hand pollination. Sports develop from stressing the plants. For the first three or four years seedlings “go back and forth.” *Steve Meggos*

Use late season plants as auction items at a non-

profit organization's fundraising event, e.g., The Eastside Domestic Violence Program. *Art Chmura*

There does not seem to be a statistically significant difference among growing tubers, pot roots and cuttings. *Bill McClaren*

Dahlia bouquets and vases are often brought to medical facilities to boost morale. They appear at weddings, real estate open houses, and schools. *Henry Doll*

A recent issue of *Horticulture* magazine had an advertisement promoting dahlia shows around North America and a link to www.dahliashows.com. Don McAllister's idea, ADS execution. *Jerry Landerholm*

Plant societies create "social capital," that recognizes the collective value of social networks in which participants typically assist one another in ways that contribute to the overall betterment of society. Social capital is on the wane, as evidenced by reduced memberships of clubs and voluntary organizations as diverse as PTAs to bowling leagues. *H. Risetto*

The CHD numbering system should be used in the horticultural sections of all dahlia shows. *Max Ollieu*

Why do dahlia growers go to out-of-town shows? Dahlia people are “givers”. They give their talent, time and dahlias freely to others. They are a special breed of givers. *Ed & Karen Kuhn*

Cloth enclosures around dahlia gardens help plants by deterring insects, defusing sunlight and rain, and breaking the force of wind. The increased humidity results in more luxurious foliage, longer stems and earlier and bigger blooms. It is necessary to ensure good drainage and to enrich the soil regularly with a green manure. *Bud Moore*

The Executive Board recognizes that improving the ADS simply means enhancing the total value of a membership in our society. ADS reps. for the local societies are receiving periodic ADS updates to pass on to their members. *Jerry Landerholm*

Individual memberships in the ADS are often linked to the members' experiences with their local societies. *Rosemary Freeman*

The U.S. National Arboretum has a collection of dried cultivated plant material and is in search of contemporary dried dahlia material. *Kevin Larkin*

A booklet and CD have been prepared for individuals interested in starting new dahlia societies. *Rosemary Freeman & Allen Haas*

The biggest aid to a plant sale is a collection of pictures of all plants in CD boxes. Alternatively, one picture for each color/size/form category may be enough.

Jim Smrz

In Memoriam:

-*Gordie Leroux*, hybridizer.

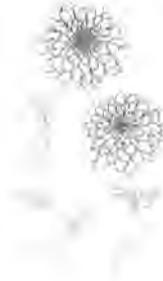
-*Charlie Splinter*, grower and exhibitor.

-*Edna Comstock*, dahlia-spouse and partner.

-*Nick Gitts*, long-time nurseryman who along with his wife Margaret, transformed Swan Island into a nationally known supplier of dahlias. The Gitts family was honored by the ADS for their contributions to the dahlia and the ADS.

-*Harold Miller*, hybridizer and author.

-*Tony De Rooy*. Godfather to N.W. Dahlia Societies.



2 0 0 8

42nd ADS National Show, Longwood Gardens, Kenneth Square PA, hosted by the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Bargaly Blush (BFD DkPk) by Mark Fitzgerald.

2008 ADS Gold Medal

-Bob and Anna Moynahan. Bob seems to have chaired a majority of ADS committees. Anna was our long-term ADS Secretary. They are both growers, exhibitors and hybridizers of the "Robann" family of dahlias.

2008 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Mango Madness AID B

B - Clearview Misty BID W

BB - Crazy 4 Jessie BBIC DkBl

Min. - Alpen J.D. MFD R

Ball etc - Chimacum Zyair MB Pr

Evie Gullikson Award - Midnight Star, Or DkR/lv

2008 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Giant - Roque Starburst AASC W

Medium - Camano Concord BIC Pr

Miniature - Tahoma Olivia MSC W

Ball etc - Sir Richard MB DkPk

Evie Gullikson Medal - Midnight Star Or DkR

2007 Container/Border Dahlia of the Year, Pinot Noir (MC DkPk) by Keith Hammett (New Zealand).

2007 Stanley Johnson Medal awarded to Mary's Jomanda (Ba Dk Pk), originated by David Houghton (UK). Mary's Jomanda is a sport of Jomanda. The Houghtons took cuttings from a sported branch and kept them through the winter. *Lou Paradise* [ed., for the sake of consistency, I have used the show year throughout for identifying the winner of the Stanley Johnson Medal.]

The ADS President's Silver Award was presented to Pauline Fanning, a long time grower, exhibitor and hybridizer (Mars and Ava Grace among others) and leader and Show Chair of the Washington State Dahlia Society.

The 2008 ADS Border/Container Dahlia of the Year is Princess Paige (BBFD V W/Pr). It grows to 2 ft. and does not need staking.

2007 Fabulous Fifty
Embrace
Valley Porcupine
Mary's Jomanda
Elvira
Camano Pet
Kenora Jubilee

2008 ADS Photo Contest – Best Photo:
“Undisseminated WL Dahlia” by Sandy Boley.

An official definition of the stellar dahlia was approved.

Not many folks know that Norm Hines and his family sorted the Bulletin materials, stuffed and sealed the envelopes, and bundled them in the right bags for drop off at the post office.

A “Dahlia Mentor Program” has been established to honor members who have mentored new growers.

An ADS logo was finally accepted by the U.S. Trademark Office.

Container and border dahlia criteria

1. Early blooms
2. Height: Does it grow without staking?
3. Floriferousness throughout the season.
4. Quality of color and foliage.
5. Does it work well with other plant material?

Steve Nowotarski

Left alone, most dahlias will grow vertically until a “break bud” forms. At that time vertical growth will slow and lateral shoots will develop. “Stopping” or “topping” the dahlia stimulates the growth of the laterals earlier than usual. The plant needs to be

growing vigorously, so it is prudent to wait before topping until the plant is 10"-12" tall and with four to six pairs of leaves. *John Mooney*

A 4-digit classification system is proposed to create more room for new forms and colors. *Lou Paradise and Lou Lombardo*

Grandpa's Garden

They're waiting for Grandpa,
Eager for May,
When into the soil
They are tenderly laid.

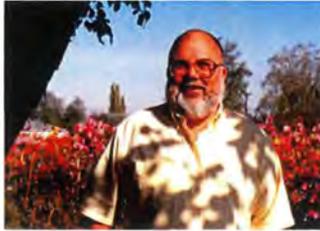
But this year their Master
Won't be there to prune.
New hands will plant them
And wait for their bloom.
Their proud stalks will shoot
To the heavens above
And bring through their beauty
The light of his love.

Though Grandpa is gone,
You know what they say:
"Old gardeners don't die
They just spade away"
Dorys Steinke and Claudia Sterling
(for Don Webber)

The ADS reached the \$10,000 goal in the website funding initiative. All told the fund amounts to \$25,000 and should last for at least five years of maintenance and enhancement.

Two new research projects have been approved: increasing the vase-life of dahlias and, second, creating an introductory video for the ADS website.

Congratulations to Les Connell for over 20 years of service to the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers. *Jerry Landerholm*



Les Connell

Don McAllister filled in for Colin Walker as webmaster. Ron Miner continued to oversee this project.

The availability of dahlia-related DVDs has been a big hit and has minimized the need for mailing slides. *Claudia Biggs*

The Central States Dahlia Society is working with a local high school to set up a dahlia curriculum and a

demonstration garden. *Jerry Landerholm*

There will be a \$10.00 fee for inclusion of a cultivar in the "New Introductions" DVD, if the cultivar was not submitted to the trial garden or seedling bench.

Executive Board

Nick Gitts, who recently passed away, greatly expanded Swan Island Dahlias and was a long-time member and supporter of the ADS. Swan Island has done much to popularize the dahlia in the gardening world. An ADS resolution of gratitude was adopted.

WSU Research: *Dr. Hanu Pappu* reported that there is evidence of virus in wild dahlia species growing in the Mexican highlands.

Well, the garden is all tilled and ready for dahlias. I will sneak in some "off-varieties this year -- the kind my Mr. calls "junk dahlias." Well, there are no junk dahlias. They are all beautiful. *Ramona Kuiper*

Neville Weekes (United Kingdom) named his dahlias after locations in West Yorkshire. Moorplace and its sport Glenplace are two such cultivars. *Barry Davies* [of "Barbary" fame]

A radio interview about dahlias will attract new members. Following up on names gathered at

shows and sales also works. Most importantly, activities to bind them to the group keep them coming. *Rochester (NY) Dahlia Society*

Can we publicize our flower with a sticker that says: "Learn about dahlias at www.dahlia.org" *H. Risetto*
No-Till Farming saves topsoil. It is an easy process relying on surface compost, after you double dig the patch to a depth of two feet. *John Jeavons* [ed., I am a "semi-no-till" grower.]

Container dahlias can be grown individually in a 10" container or as the focal point of an arrangement in a 24" container. *Steve Nowotarski*

Providing dahlias for a wedding pleases both the bride and the grower. *Rick Peters*

At our shows and sales be alert to older, senior visitors who may become new members, if only we ask.

"Green Gardening" (organic) will inevitably be part of our future.

Bud Moore is a treasure trove of the dahlia's living history, and a portal to understanding the people who grow dahlias. *Jerry Landerholm*

Late season garden chores include: tagging the

“keepers”; study of the micro-climate of the garden; keep deadheading; spray for fungus, and avoid fertilizing. *Dahlia Society of Georgia*

D.J. Ecklebarger received a volunteer award from the City of San Mateo, CA for his work in maintaining a public dahlia garden at one of the city's parks.

As we work in the patch we like nothing better than to have a grower drive up and say, “How's it going?” We will drop whatever we are doing and walk from plant to plant, talking dahlias, families, politics, and life. These are the ties that bind our dahlia community and fertilize our interest in the dahlia.
H. Rissetto

[A radical proposal.] Dahlia clubs should set aside a portion of their sale revenue for the originators of dahlias they sell. Commercial growers should do the same. *Max Ollieu*

If a tuber floats, it probably will not grow, so toss it away. *Dean Barnes*

Art Kieffer grew and showed dahlias during the ADS transition to a truly national society, and during the establishment of the North Atlantic Dahlia Conference. He served as ADS 2nd VP and Assistant Secretary prior to technology. He was a

premier hybridizer of miniature formal decs (e.g. Joe K). Art and Sophie's best known origination is Honka. *H. Risetto [ed., Art Kieffer passed away during the preparation of this history.]*

Dahlia seed seems to need a period of storage. They generally will not germinate when gathered in October, but will readily develop when moistened in March. Dahlia seed does not display physical dormancy. Even fresh seed readily takes up water. *Dale Saar, PhD.*

Some cactus and semi-cactus blooms incurve toward the center of the bloom after nightfall and then open up with daylight. There is no explanation for this. *Barry Davies (United Kingdom)*

A national dahlia show is a weekend of hugs and handshakes. *H. Risetto*

One of the most important components of a green program for dahlias in your garden is aerated compost tea. It is an aerobically brewed liquid concentrate of soluble nutrients, organic compounds and elevated levels of microorganisms. See, *Teaming with Microbes*, by Jeff Lowenfells and Wayne Lewis. *Steve Nowotarski*

The best lighting for developing tuber shoots is at

least 500 foot/candles using two cool white fluorescent bulbs with a reflector, two feet from the top of the shoot. The shoots need light for 14 hours per day for optimal development. Alternatively, 10 hours of fluorescent light and 4 hours of a 40 watt incandescent lamp left on for 15 minutes an hour will be sufficient for longer term development.

Kevin Larkin

It is generally recognized by taxonomists that there are 37 dahlia species. Everyone expects that more will be discovered and identified in the future. *Dale Saar, PhD.*

Moles are meat eaters and voles vegetarians. As a remedy, plant your dahlias in thin wire coated plastic baskets (5"- 6" in diameter), with a newspaper lining. Bury the tops, planting the baskets 1"- 2" below soil surface. *Allen Haas*

If you grow dahlias close together or in the semi-shade of trees, permit fewer laterals to develop, e.g., 2 for As, 4 for BBs or Mins. Of the two laterals on a node, one usually is dominant. I try to keep that one. A sub-dominant may be selected to control plant growth. Laterals closest to the ground will bloom first. *Max Ollieu*



2 0 0 9

43rd ADS National Show, Everett WA, hosted by the Snohomish Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Kenora Challenger (BSC W) by Buzz Carter.

2009 ADS Gold Medal

-Ron Miner, ADS President, technologist and hybridizer of the "Baron" family of dahlias.

-Roger Walker, Chair of the ADS Sweepstakes and a leader in dahlia development in the Northwest.

2009 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A Hart's Dr. McMurray AAID Or

B Hollyhill Cotton Candy BIC DkPk

BB Kim Baker BBSC LtBl

WL Sweetness WL Pk

St or Nov Open AC Rooster ST R

Evie Gullikson Medal Ryecroft Sunrise Co Y

2009 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - Skipley Bonanza BIC R

Small - Eden Barbarossa BBFD R

Miniature - Don C MC W

Ball etc - Rock Run Joan MB Br

Evie Gullikson Medal

Lulu Island Mom S W

2009 ADS President's Awards were given to: -
Dick Ambrose, hybridizer of "Camano" dahlias.
Bill Bonneywell, hybridizer of the "Snoho" dahlias.

2008 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Pam Howden (WL LtBI), originated by Gar Davidson (Australia). It has been on the Fabulous Fifty list since 2002 and it has won over 1,300 awards since 1997 when it first appeared in competition in the United States.

ADS Photo Contest--Best Photo: "Butterfly in Fascination" by Helmut Retzer.

Rosemary Freeman, the new society coordinator, has midwived two new dahlia societies.

Before accepting restricted gifts that require the establishment of a new program or project, the Executive Board will consider their feasibility and appropriateness. In-kind gifts will also be reviewed.

The 4-digit classification system was approved by the Executive Board. [ed., change is good, but hard.]

The Executive Board approved a print order of 10,000 copies of the dahlia wall poster. 100 copies will be available to each local society for the cost of mailing.

The ADS contribution to national shows was raised to \$1,400.

The ADS determines the color, size, and form of new introductions principally from trial garden and show data. The ADS classification will be emailed to hybridizers with a target of November 1st.

The Snohomish County Dahlia Society is celebrating its 100th Anniversary and hosting the ADS National Show.

Push the benefits of growing dahlias! Invite someone new to your next local dahlia society meeting. *Jerry Landerholm*

The classification committee examined mignon singles at shows and found that only 30% were over-sized. The committee decided to leave the upper limit at 2 inches. *Lou Paradise*

One of the principal purposes of the ADS website is to encourage general gardeners to grow dahlias. It will also be a resource for serious dahlia growers. *Ron Miner*

Many new and established cultivars are prima donnas, difficult to grow and keep. Garden dahlias should be easy to grow, require little maintenance,

and store well. *H. Risetto*

Hydrolyzed fish fertilizer, can be a basic additive for dahlias. They have live enzymes that are added to the soil. Fish emulsions lack these live enzymes.

Steve Nowotarski

Claudia and Dennis Biggs have led the effort to maintain the large dahlia garden at the VA Hospital in Spokane WA. The flowers are a great support to the veterans and their families. *Spokane Media*

A British dahlia, Royal Albert (BFD Bi), was brought back in a kitbag after WWI. It is still grown in Canada's Maritime Provinces.

Ernie Henderson, Canada's senior dahlia exhibitor, is 104. *John Wonnacott*

[ed., our centennial publication would not be complete without mentioning him.]

Share your dahlias with recipients of Meals on Wheels. *David Parker*

A plant of *D. sorensenii* seems to have hairy stems that apparently deter insects and mites. It also is resistant to powdery mildew. Some breeding potential? *Ron Miner*

When you hire bees for pollination, plant varieties with desirable characteristics near one another.

Remember storage qualities and disease resistance are favorable characteristics. Use shade cloth to create "bee lanes" for selective pollination. An isolated planting is even better. Remember, "All cultivars were once a seed." *John Menzel* (Australia)

There were 32 DVDs and eight slide show requests since December.
Claudia Biggs

Bulletin advertisers will be included on the website. Tubers will be supplied by donation to schools and youth groups planning a structured dahlia program. The funding of a dahlia fertility program by the Penn State Extension Service will be a priority. *Executive Board*

Member *Keith Hammett* from Auckland, New Zealand, received a major award from the Royal Horticultural Society for his hybridization of dahlias.

Actively aerated compost tea is beneficial for dahlias. The tea is the result of mixing compost, humus or worm products with non-chlorinated water and aerated from 12 to 36 hours. Manure or compost tea (think a tea bag) is anaerobic and not useful. *Steve Nowotarski*

Dahlia *campanulata* has 32 chromosomes

compared to the cultivars (colloquially called *Dahlia variabilis*) that have 64. It is doubtful they can be crossed. *Dale Saar, PhD.*

The ideal form description set out in the CHD is much the same as “the benchmark” used in civil engineering. It is a starting point, a man-made reference description. *Mac Boyer*

Research: There is some benefit to using Floralife or Chrysal in dahlia vases. Bloom life could be extended from 6 - 9 days, to 10 - 11 days.

Kevin Larkin

When photographing dahlias use a tripod and longer shutter speeds, 1/8 of a second or slower. It gives better color saturation. More depth of field gives the bloom a 3-dimensional illusion.

Franck Avril

CHD: Any non-listed cultivar winning two blue ribbons in the current growing season will be listed in the CHD based on information received from the show reporters.

Lou Paradise

To improve your view of the garden, go to the dollar store and buy a pair of amber tinted sunglasses. The red, yellow, lavenders and pinks glow.

Roger Stevensv

The people who grow dahlias are as diverse as our flower. The ADS needs to engage all of them.

Jerry Landerholm

President Jerry Landerholm, in a decision akin to a CEO taking a pay cut, has reduced the font on his *Bulletin* column and the ADS minutes. Everyone is pinching pennies during this difficult period.

The Editor

Each ADS National Show will have an artistic arrangement section and award the Gene Boeke Prize and the Mark Alger (President's) Cup.

Executive Board

The secrets to an earth-friendly garden are cover crops and mulch—lasagna gardening, courtesy of author Patricia Lanza. In no-till gardening the soil should never be uncovered; cover crops through the winter and use as, green manure.

Steve Nowotarski

The ADS unveiled its new 7-foot banner stand at the ADS National Show in Everett, WA. It was a big hit. Fortunately it collapses into a neat package. Thanks to Lois Ann Helgeson who stayed with this project from start to finish and designed the attractive banner. *Jerry Landerholm*

Research. The Scotts Company researched soil and pots for growing dahlias. Use a coarse mixture potting soil to avoid water saturation. Pots should not be taller than they are wide for the same reason.
Kevin Larkin

Growing the same cultivar year after year, gives meaning to the song, "Getting to know you."
H. Risetto

Traditionally, miniature decoratives have had a petal (ray florets) count of 220. If there were significantly fewer petals the bloom had some shortcoming, either it did not come back or was gappy. Some recent cultivars are up over 300 petals. This is a credit to the hybridizer. The width of a flower should determine the size of the petal. A miniature decorative or ball with small petals does not look right. The shape of the petals is critical to filling the bloom and not leaving gaps. Quilling on a decorative dahlia makes the bloom gappy.
Barry Davies (United Kingdom).

In Memoriam:

-Ed Redd, ADS Gold Medal Winner, expert exhibitor and hybridizer.

-Laverne Bartel- ADS Gold Medal Winner and Chair of the Slide Lending Library.



2 0 1 0

44th ADS National Show, Chattanooga TN, hosted by the Southern States Dahlia Association.

2010 ADS Gold Medal

-Don McAllister, creator of the Colorado Dahlia Society "Big List", website guru, and ADS technologist and communicator to dahlia growers, as well as a dahlia grower and exhibitor.

2010 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Showcase Sunburst ALC Y

B - Clearview Tammy BSC W

BB - Hollyhill Tangerine BBSC Or

Ball etc - Optimo MB DkR

WL - Sandia Charm WL LtBl

ST/NX - Snoho Monika St DkR

2010 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - Narrows Dawn Marie BSC DkBl

Small - Bloomquist Barbara BBFD Y

Min. - CG Finesse MFD W

Pom - Elfin Pom Dk Bl

Waterlily - Hollyhill Tigress WL Var.

Novelty - Vista Minnie NX DkBl

Evie Gullikson Medal - Lo-Bush MS LtBl

2009 Stanley Johnson Medal Winner, Camano Sitka (BIC Lt Bl) was introduced by John and Susan Ambrose.

2010 ADS President's Award presented to Brian Killingsworth, leader of the Dahlia Society of Georgia and the Southern States Conference; hybridizer of "Creekside" cultivars.

2009 Fabulous Fifty
Embrace
Pam Howden
Camano Sitka
Inland Dynasty
Valley Porcupine
Weston Spanish Dancer

2009 Border/Container Dahlia of the Year is Sandia Joy (WL Y) by Steve and Sandy Boley.

2010 Border/Container Dahlias of the Year, Heatwave (red) and Piccolo (Or/y).

2009 ADS Photo Contest – Best Photo:
"Hummingbird" by Laurie Hayden-Quinn.

2010 ADS membership was 2,533.

A pilot program was initiated for the concurrent inclusion of *Bulletin* ads on the ADS website.

A “Green Gardening” (organic) area will be included on the website.

The local dahlia society show results will be posted on the members’ portion on the website.

The ADS logo has formal trademark protection, and a policy concerning its use is being developed. The policy will encourage appropriate use by commercial dahlia sellers, principally those that are members of the ADS.

Business Partner Program approved.

www.businesspartnercoordinator@dahlia.org

The preparation of a judging video was approved, and *Wayne and Eleanor Shantz* were asked to take on the project.

The Executive Board decided that advertisements will not appear on the home page of the website. Commercial advertising will be available on the inside front and back covers of the CHD.

A program for marketplace ads on the website was approved.

The proposal to create an e-Newsletter was adopted.

Continuous membership in the ADS is a prerequisite to maintain judging status.

The ADS is going forward with a dahlia nutrition project to be carried out by the Penn State Extension Service with the cooperation of Longwood Gardens. Funding has been secured for the first stage of the project.

The ADS has established a business partner program as an alternative form of supporting membership. There will be three levels of membership. *Jerry Landerholm*

More growers are in a sensible middle-ground between biological methods and soil chemistry to grow their dahlias and improve the bio-life of the soil. *Steve Nowotarski*

Since 2007 the ADS has added five new dahlia societies. *Rosemary Freeman*

Reasons not to avoid growing dahlias

I hate earwigs!

I prefer perennials; they are easier to look after.

They just don't grow for me!

They are just so much work!

I don't have a good place to store them over the winter.

If you have read this far, you know the reply to each of these comments. *Arthur Haskins*

A four year old was given a blue ribbon and asked to pick the best dahlia in the patch. He selected Margaret L (BBSC Or) after a lot of thought. The first step toward becoming a dahlia grower was taken. *Annie Radcliff*

The characteristics of dahlia forms need to be revised from time to time. There is an undue emphasis on the amount of pollen evident in open-centered dahlias. Perhaps it can simply be omitted and become just an aspect of bloom maturity. *Bill McClaren*

WSU Research. Only 2% of 234 dahlia samples tested were free of virus. Symptoms were not evident in many test plants.

Most dahlia varieties are here today and gone tomorrow. Only a rare few become standard varieties. If a dahlia gives us pleasure for a season or two, we can happily say we received our money's worth. *Barry Davies*

-If you look at mini blinds as plant tags . . . you might be a dahlia nut.

-If you know how to take the back seat out of your car . . . you might be a dahlia nut

-If you dust your tubers with Gold Bond foot powder . . . you might be a dahlia nut. *Don Warden*

In the fall, my grandchildren collect dahlia petals in old dishpans. Then they run around the yard flinging petals at each other while shouting "Shower of Flowers". One summer day my granddaughter ran into the garden saying, "I see Pooh." Her mother chided her vocabulary and then discovered that "Pooh" was the name of a dahlia. *Joanne Remy*

A four-digit classification guide was distributed to assist in the transition from the three-digit system. Andrew Miller designed the guide along with Rohn Ruud and Debbie Thune. Parrott Press handled the printing work. *Norm Hines*

The ADS recognizes that the local societies are the source of most ADS new members. The ADS is committed to providing increased value to both the local societies and its members. *Jerry Landerholm*

The ADS has established a marketing committee to expand its reach. Steve Nowotarski will serve as chair. *Jerry Landerholm*

A kit is being prepared for local societies containing a model press release format.
Lois Helgeson

The University of California at Santa Cruz Environmental Horticulture Department has carried out cut flower vase-life testing of two Floralife products. Both products extended bloom life. Changing the water after three days further extends vase life.

Kevin Larkin

46-0-0 Fertilizer is a very potent nitrogen (urea based) fertilizer, particularly in pelletized form. If too much is applied it will kill the plant and the helpful soil organisms. The safest way to apply it is to dissolve 1-2 cups of urea pellets in a five-gallon pail of water. Pour it slowly around the base of the plants. *Rick Peters* [ed., other advice is to apply one tablespoon of the granular form per plant and water it in. A little less than three oz. can be dissolved in a gallon of water.]

More on pollen open-center dahlias.

The presence of up to three rows of pollen is a relevant criterion to determine whether the orchid, collarette, or single bloom is at the peak of maturity. Pollen is less significant for mignon singles and peonies. They open quickly and are too mature when pollen is observable. Freshness is the key component of an open-centered cultivar. *Wayne Shantz*

The Gardener's Hands (for Tony DeRooy)

Two hands,
Thick, like leather, like armor,
Like Rhino skin,
With cracks that look like rivers on an ancient map
From years of plunging into rough dirt.
Rocky, sandy loam, pulling out green rejects by the
roots,
Gently laying dry brown-skinned tubers
Four to six inches below the ground, eyes up.
* * *

The dry and shriveled roots,
That still hold on to last year's breath, buds ready.
Vicki DeRooy

Warren and Aileen Maytrott, were the first couple of the dahlia world through the early decades of the 20th Century. Besides their flowers and their successful efforts to popularize the dahlia, the Maytrotts most rewarding project was probably the Dahlia-del Color Chart, which was the ADS standard for many years. It was hand assembled.
Daughter, Elsie Maytrott Greenhalgh

During the show season we actively display our dahlias in shopping malls and other public venues to a vast number of visitors. This is what we do.
Jerry Landerholm

[An excerpt from the IC definition.] Incurved cactus

dahlias will curve upward to the bloom face, but may also arc downward and then up, or they will swirl horizontally around the bloom circumference.

[An excerpt from Novelty double definition.] Distinct and different form from present classifications; good symmetry including a closed, tight center, ray florets uniformly shaped and/or arranged differently from other fully double forms. *Classification Committee* [ed., one picture is worth a thousand words.]

A new 1976-to-present composite classification will be printed with the four- digit classification numbers.

There is a leaf-count method for timing dahlias.

Top the plants when AAs have 2-3 pairs of leaves;

As 3-4; Bs 4-6; BBs etc., 6-8 pairs.

A cultivar will create a predetermined number of leaf pairs on the main stalk and its laterals.

The normal range of leaf pairs is 12-14.

The number of days to produce a new leaf pair is relatively constant. This permits calculating the time it takes a lateral to produce a bud after the last leaf pair. Try this method with a few plants. *Martin Ojaste*

Storing Hints.

-Do not leave clumps in the sun (*Huston*).

-Do not remove dirt from the clumps (*Woznicki*).

-Virus can be spread by tools (*Mashburn and Bob*)

Keesling). [ed., advice from dahlia-giants.]

A sport dahlia bloom can be saved by taking cuttings from the stalk with the unexpected blooms and growing them through the winter. *Rick Peters*

Convalescent homes are great destinations for those late-season dahlias. They will be well-loved and appreciated.

Trial garden directors are ADS's unsung heroes. They work all summer growing and judging dahlias, and then we rush the heck out of them to submit their reports in time for the December Bulletin.

Jerry Landerholm

Almost half the entries at the trial gardens scored below 85. The committee is brainstorming ways to improve the quality of submissions. *Ron Miner* [ed., When have we heard that before? Ron may be getting hoarse.]

Orchids, collarettes and open-centered novelties up to 2" should compete with the mignon singles.

Rosemary Freeman

[ed., many years ago I remember getting a "NAC" for a tiny peony.]

When judging seedlings, carefully check the CHD and color chart to determine whether it is a dark

blend or a flame. What's in a name? A lot!

For cultivars with short stems let a side bud bloom rather than the central bud. It really does produce longer stems. *Rosemary Freeman*



2 0 1 1

45th ADS National Show, Santa Clara CA, hosted by the Pacific Southwest Conference. The Best in Show was Hollyhill Electra (AIC Or) by Kristine Albrecht.

2011 ADS Gold Medal

-Dick Kohlschreiber, Chair of the ADS Trial Garden Committee for 16 years.

-Claudia Biggs, as Chair of the ADS Image Library, spearheaded the transition from slides to computer images. She created a number of image collections and made them available to societies and the ADS store.

2011 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Hart's Blood Red AFD DkR

B - AC Abby BC FI

BB - (Tie) Hollyhill Valentino BBC R; Roque Phil Day BBID
W

Min. - Hollyhill Regal MFD Pr

Ball etc - Poppy's Miranda Ba R

ST/NX - Gitt's Crazy St DkBI

Evie Gullikson Medal - Kelsey Kristie, S DkR

2011 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Medium - AC Abby BC FI

Small - Maks Lemon Zest BBSC Y

Min - Hollyhill Regal MFD Pr
Ball - Poppy's Miranda Ball R
WL - Maks Royal Ruby WL R
Evie Gullikson Medal - Kelsey Kristie, S DkR

2010 Stanley Johnson Medal winner: Midnight Star (Or DkR), originated by Richard Johnson.

2010 Fabulous Fifty
Embrace
Midnight Star
Valley Porcupine
Elvira
Mary's Jomanda
Zorro

The 2011 President's Award was presented to *John Morton*, ADS Regional Vice President; leader of the San Leandro Dahlia Society; and dahlia supporter.

2011 ADS Photo Contest -- Best Photo: "Are you looking at me?" by Steve Boley. It graced the cover of the Bulletin, March 2012.

2011 ADS membership stands at 2,512.

Jeannie and Gordie Leroux regularly opened their gardens and gave blooms to residents of nearby convalescent homes. Their buckets were promptly

returned for later refilling.

A new smaller ADS dahlia vase is available from the ADS store. [ed., Thanks, Mac.]

Delays in receiving the Bulletin have been largely the result of Postal Service handling procedures.

Bud Moore's death is a sad occasion: I learned so much from him. As Bud would say, "I became involved because of the flower. I stayed involved because of the people." *Jerry Landerholm*

The definition of an "eye zone" was amended from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ the length of the ray floret.

Back issues of the *ADS Bulletin* will gradually appear on the members-area of the ADS website.

The first ADS Seedling Scorecard was devised in 1919. Its progeny are still in use today. The first ADS Trial Garden was established the same year in Storrs, CT by George Fraser. *Norma Boyer*

"I decided to order some dahlias from the new catalogs. I am sure Mr.'s eyebrows will rise when he sees what I ordered—let the fun begin. They will not be show winners, but will have the fame and glory of being the best garden flowers and

conversation pieces." *Ramona Kuiper*

A global dahlia organization could be:

- A clearing-house for cultural information.
- A place to collect dahlia societies and publications, scientific and practical.
- A common source for collecting images.
- A forum for agreeing to a common dahlia terminology.
- An advocacy group to loosen international tuber shipping restrictions.
- A repository of a global list of commercial dahlia sources.
- An international website and social network to promote the dahlia. *H. Risetto*

Taking cuttings beginning in February

- Can produce earlier blooms;
- Result in more plants;
- Yield show-worthy blooms.
- Cuttings can be rooted in oasis wedge strips, with bottom watering at a temperature of 70°.

Frank Campise and Michelle Byrne Walsh

Buying tubers of medal winners for our club does not guarantee success. Those cultivars that did well the first year after release may continue to succeed. Those that did poorly seldom

improved. *David Elden and Bill McClaren*

On a table priced two bits, most had gone home.
I wondered what colors your petals would be
White, purple, red, yellow? I can't wait to see.
And what of the form you will show me some day.
Formal Dec, Collarette, Incurved Cactus, I pray
Hurry oh dahlia, my patience grows old.
So fall's round the corner this year I was told.
Isabel Garren

Plant dahlias in a raised bed bordered by cinderblocks. Before planting, spread 10-10-10 fertilizer at the rate of 700 lbs. per acre [ed., your conversion. Hint, there are 43,560 square feet in an acre.] Three weeks after planting, when the plants are about 18", give each plant two handfuls of high nitrogen slow release fertilizer (without weed killer); spreading the fertilizer in a circle around the plant. Water for 45 minutes. Mulch to 4"- 6". Tony Konczal

The Greenwich Connecticut Dahlia Society grew to 25 members during its first year. Steve Nowotarski served as a mentor. *Barbara Collier*

If you can grow a tomato, you can grow dahlias.
If you don't like digging them, you can grow them as an annual. *H. Risetto*

The Chicago School for Agricultural Science has started hundreds of tubers for the Central States

Dahlia Society's spring sale. *Beth Botts*

A blog is a most effective way to communicate about dahlias. Write it, and they will come
Linda Holmes-Cook (daughter of Tony DeRooy)

-A stronger envelope will be used to mail the December Bulletin, and dues will be increased to support a first-class mailing of the December *Bulletin*. This is in response to damage and long mail delays during the holiday season. [ed., we have at least eliminated the damage.]

-Candidate judges must be ADS members when training begins.

-Progress on an e-Newsletter; good follow-up.

-The fertilizer project did not result in statistically significant results, there was too much variation in the outcomes.

-A special increased support contribution in the amount of \$7,000 will be disbursed to the host of the ADS Centennial Show.

-2,500 sets of dahlia postcards with new images will be printed.

The image library has created 18 digital dahlia

programs and processed 316 requests for DVDs.
Claudia Biggs

1350 tubers were donated to the San Pedro (CA) Science Center by ADS members as part of the ADS commitment to involve youth with the dahlia.
H. Rissetto

More on topping dahlia plants. 3 pairs of leaves for As, Bs 4, and BBs 5. Not all laterals develop, and the sequence of buds is not always from top to bottom. The extra pairs of leaves gives more flexibility.

My Mr. created a separate garden for my “misfit” dahlias. I hope to add alpaca-poo to give them an extra boost. *Ramona Kuiper*

Soak seed for four hours in a liquid fertilizer solution to boost vigor. 2-1-2 will work, or a light solution of 20-20-20.

Arrangements. The elements of horticultural design are: light, space, line, form, size, pattern, texture, and color. The principles are: balance, proportion, rhythm, contrast dominance, and scale. Obviously the dahlias have to be show-worthy.
Jeanette Benson

Timing of blooms: A baby bud enlarged but still entirely covered with bracts 17-19 days. Tinge of color or floret loosening at center 7-9 days later.
Tana Tuber Topics and Bill McClaren

Don't plant tubers in cold soil or water them before they sprout. *Nick Gitts*

High phosphorus levels in the soil can inhibit tuber formation. Urea can burn plants. Use no more than one or two teaspoons around the plants drip line every two weeks through early August.
Mac Boyer

Members leave dahlia societies when they are dissatisfied with the way in which the leaders act and funds are spent. Collegial management and good communication are important. Many dahlia societies are legal entities and must conduct themselves in accordance with their charters and bylaws as well as state law applicable to such organizations. *Franck Avril*

Another Seedling Contest. The San Leandro society gave their participants a break by starting the seed and distributing potted seedlings. \$1.00 per seedling encourages folks to grow them on to blooms. At the September meeting they picked "Best in Show" from 30 entries.

D.J. Ecklebarger

What "value" does the ADS have for local Societies?

- *ADS Bulletin*
- *ADS Classification and Handbook of Dahlias (CHD)*
- Trial Gardens to test new cultivars and the Seedling Bench Evaluations.
- Judge's training.
- Master liability insurance policy required by many show and meeting sites.
- Dahlia DVD, show vases, show tag rings, brochures and booklets.
- ADS photo contest.
- ADS bronze medals.
- ADS website with links to local societies.

ADS dues are a good value.

Don McAllister

A plastic tub and cover 15" x 20" x 5" with a heating cable set to 70° works well for cuttings. Cover the tape with 1 inch of wet potting soil, lay black plastic into the tub and add 3 ½ inches of damp potting soil. Monitor the temperature; 60° to 80° is the range for tuber growth. A 4' shop light 12"-15" provides light. Cuttings in oasis need 70° and 24 hour fluorescent light 6"- 8" above the cutting. Create enough humidity to avoid wilting. *Taner Tuber Topics*

Goldfish in rainwater buckets will consume the

mosquito wigglers. *Rick Peters*

To extend stem length, remove the central bud and let the two side buds grow until you can see which one will not have a leaf pair or a spur leaf. Remove the leafy side bud. One side bud is usually leafy and the other not. *Dick Parshall*

Trial garden results will be on the website.

There is no form description for the ray florets of an anemone. *Rosemary Freeman*

Fast acting, high analysis fertilizer provides a blast of nutrients that can harm important soil organisms. *Steve Nowotarski*

Don't leave the flowers behind; we need them to fill up the show tables. *Ed Kuhn*

They grew and staged blooms with great skill and precision. *John Spangenberg*, on his first dahlia show [about Ed Kuhn and Mark Alger both now passed from their patches.]

In Memoriam: *Bud Moore*, past ADS President, ADS Gold Medal winner, Lifetime Membership Award, the Illuminated Scroll Award from the NDS (UK).

Ed Kuhn, Pennsylvania's answer to "Johnny Dahliaseed."



2 0 1 2

46th National ADS Show, Portland Oregon, hosted by the Portland Dahlia Society. Best in Show was Trengrove Millenium (BFD Y) by Connie Young-Davis.

The 2012 ADS Gold Medal

Jerry Landerholm, an officer of the ADS for many years. Most recently Jerry served six years as ADS President.

2012 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Clearview Sundance AC Y

B - Hollyhill Augustina BIC Dk BI

BB - (tie) Tyr White BBFD W; Clearview Avia BBIC
FI

Ball etc - Clearview Daniel Ba Y

Evie Gullikson Medal - Kelsey Ann Joy Col Br

2012 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Eden Talos ASC Br

Medium - Osceola BSC LtBI

Small Eden - Predator BBFD FI

Min. - Leslie Renee MFD DkBI

Ball etc - Skipley Lois Jean Ba DkPk

2012 Evie Gullikson Award -

Baron Aunt Dorothy COL Y

The 2012 Stanley Johnson Medal was awarded to Verrone's Morning Star, (Or-W) introduced by Roland Verrone.

The ADS Silver Medal was awarded to Ron Wilkes (Australia).

The **2012 ADS President's Award** was given to the Gitts family for their work in promoting the dahlia and the ADS. They operate Swan Island Dahlias.

2012 ADS Photo Contest—Best Photo: "Verrone's Obsidian" by Roland Verrone.

2012 ADS membership now stands at 2,482.

2012 Fabulous Fifty

Embrace

Laveview Glow

Valley Porcupine

Verrone's Morning Glow

Badger Twinkle

Elvira

Bob Schroeder succeeded Bob Moynahan as Judges Accreditation Chair.

Dues were \$27.00 for at-large members (including December first class postage).

The ADS will proceed with the mid-size vase project.

Tree leaves are a special attractant and food for worms. If organic practices can help us grow better plants and reduce the need for chemicals, I'm all for it. *Jerry Landerholm*

Color classification will be either from the face or reverse of the floret, depending on what side is more prominent. The reverse color will be in brackets. *Lou Paradise*

The ADS has a new affiliated dahlia society in Provincetown MA. *Rosemary Freeman* [ed., this society staged an outstanding show in 2014.]

A big red dahlia was brought to a nursing home. It was displayed, plucked and displayed some more. After a while, the only part left was the center. Now that is appreciation. *Ramon Kuiper*

In 2011 large dahlias gardens were created at three Los Angeles schools. Thanks to our donors. *H. Rissetto*

Starting tubers. Use a 2" high pan with holes for drainage to start dahlias. Lay tubers on potting soil eye side up. No light is needed until the eyes

become shoots. Keep the tray in a warm area and the potting mixture moist.

With careful attention to stem strength and length, color and crisp form, a line of seedling flowers could be built for market bouquets that would beat “show flowers”. *David Smith*

Cultivar “Dustoff” is also the name for the 18th Surgical Hospital in Pleiku, Vietnam. *Kevin Larkin*

The *Bulletin* archive in the members-area of the ADS website, www.dahlia.org, is a great research tool about dahlias and dahlia people. *J. Landerholm*

The Vice Presidents-at-Large are supporters of the ADS and the dahlia. We hope they will submit a short comment or insight they have gained from years of growing and showing dahlias. Just send it off to: ADSBulletin@aol.com.

WSU Research. Eliminating dahlia virus is virtually impossible for the home gardener. As a practical matter, destroy plants that appear infected and clean tools with a 10% solution of household bleach or a 20% solution of nonfat dry milk with water. Dip for 5 seconds and wipe clean. Control aphids and thrips during the growing season.

Kevin Larkin

Show schedules should have classes for mignon open-centered and mignon fully double dahlias. *Lou Paradise*

A "Largest Dahlia" contest would simply involve measuring the dahlia's diameter at a show. Simplicity itself. *Ken Masurat*

The rains of September and October created a need for late-season fertilization with water soluble nitrogen and potassium. 1/2 Tb. of soluble urea mixed with a gallon of water can be sprinkled on the patch, and you may see bigger roots when you dig. *Mac Boyer*

Mites. The use of an insecticide with a pyrethrin base can increase a mite population. Do not grow eggplants, tomatoes and peppers near dahlias. They can harbor broad mites. *Kathleen Hoxie*

Isolate plants with mites. Like spiders they can swing from plant to plant. Second, water the plants, including the undersides of the leaves, with a stream of cold water.

Phytoseiulus. This is a beneficial mite that consumes its cousins that infect dahlias. When there are no more mites, my gracious, they eat one another. *Steve Nowotarski*

To those people who have never grown dahlias from seed, it is hard to explain the excitement of an unknown dahlia when it blooms. If a flower is wonderful, name it and give a tuber to its namesake. It is a great gift. *Joanne Remy*

Evolution is fascinating, and it makes little difference whether it is a species or groups. ADS dahlia growers first grew them in rows, competitions were rampant, the best exhibitors were “gurus.” Then came dahlias as part of a landscape, and later, pots and containers called for smaller dahlias. The ecological movement prompted organically grown plants. Change is difficult for some, but this evolution attracted new growers to the dahlia. The latest step is bringing the dahlia to floral design. Even though design requires new judging standards, remember it can bring new members to the ADS. With our 100th Anniversary approaching, this challenge is within our grasp. Evolution is fascinating. *Nina Danduard*

The effects of fertilization on container grown plants of Magic Moment. Nitrogen (N) and Potassium (K) are important dahlia fertilizers. “Control plants” without fertilizers did not bloom and had deficient growth. Slow release phosphorus had no positive effect in the absence of the other two elements. 50-100 ppm applied through irrigation every two

weeks was sufficient. Nitrogen affected fresh shoot weight, tuber fresh weight and shoot to tuber ratio weight. Increasing nitrogen from 50ppm to 350ppm increased shoot weight, but had a negative effect on tuber production. The experiment did not measure the impact of fertilization on the number of flowers produced.

Dr. Matt Taylor, Longwood Gardens

Celebrate Diversity, Grow Dahlias!

The greatest strength of the American Dahlia Society continues to be its volunteer workforce.

Jerry Landerholm

Two sets of dahlia postcards have been printed; one with four images of fully double dahlias and the other with open-center cultivars. *Lois Helgeson*

I may not see things the way a dahlia grower does. But what I do see comes with love, patience, and much devotion for those who take time to test their soil, treat it, dig in it, plant in it, grow in it.

Ramona Kuiper

It worked for us . . . As new members of the Puget Sound Dahlia Association, we would never have thought about exhibiting blooms, if the society did not give advice and demonstrations at meetings throughout the year. The PDSA has a non-

competitive “vase class” to show the public how good dahlias look in vases. Exhibitors are eligible for a raffle prize. The PSDA provides vases and flowers for a domestic abuse fund-raiser. The vases are sold at the end of the event.

Rosemary Freeman

Put pictures of sale dahlias in CD jewel cases with the name and classification number. They are put on the tables with the plants. A picture is worth a 1,000 words. *Roger Stevens*

Put up a seedling for auction at a charitable or school auction. The successful bidder gets naming rights, with some limitations, e.g., length and prefix. It is very successful. *Dick and Danielle Parshall*

Try to encourage folks who buy tubers at a garden sale to come to a dahlia meeting and ask questions. Not everyone is an exhibitor.

Winter clean up:

- Remove all dahlia debris—resorts for slugs and bugs.
- Bring your notes up to date about what you did in the garden—what worked or did not work.
- What were the results of the soil test?
- Does the garden need lime to raise the pH?
- Plant the seed for a green manure, e.g., hairy vetch, in September.

--Cover the ground with 2-3" leaves and sprinkled coffee grounds.

--Add aerated compost tea.

--Cover the raised beds with a permeable weed barrier black cloth. *Steve Nowotarski*

I have always been a little sad about how little interest the devotees of "balls on sticks" take in the floral art arrangements. *Keith Hammett*

Tuber necks will be firmer if the clump is allowed to sit for a couple hours after digging. You can cut away the back end of large tuber before storing, dust or dip the cut area with sulfur or another fungicide.

An excess of nitrogen in the soil toward the end of the growing season will cause the tubers to rot. The recommended levels are 50-70ppm as nitrate nitrogen during the growing and blooming season and half that after blooming. *Gregory Smith*

The Cherokee Garden Library in Atlanta Georgia will serve as the permanent home of the ADS archives. *J. Landerholm*

The ADS has had to collect payments from local societies for its master insurance policy before the cost of the policy was known. Accordingly it established a contingency fund against the years

when the premiums would exceed payments. The Executive Board agreed to shrink the contingency fund and refunded more than \$5,000 to the societies participating in the program. *H. Rissetto*

Welcome to the Gettysburg PA Dahlia Society.
Rosemary Freeman

The Eastern States Federation will change its name to The Middle Atlantic States Dahlia Conference.

My Mr. has carpeted dahlia aisles. Our neighbors think it is odd when he sweeps them. Then there are the plant umbrellas!
Ramona Kuiper

The ADS website must continue to be responsive to our mission of promoting the growing and showing of dahlias. *Brad Freeman*

A seedling with a wholly numerical number can be shown as the exhibitor classifies it and will not need to be classified by show representatives.
Lou Paradise

There is no need to judge a flower in a seedling bench evaluation below 80. We do not want to lose our hybridizers. *Rosemary Freeman*

With respect to dahlias, there are no stupid

questions, and often no right answers . . . just some wrong ones. *Robert Ploetz*

Use technology in making society presentations. With a web-cam and light, you can project the detail of what you are doing onto a screen with an image that everyone can see, e.g., taking a cutting.

Bob Schroeder

In Memoriam: *Gene Boeke*, hybridizer, ADS officer, benefactor.



2 0 1 3

47th ADS National Show, Grand Rapids MI, was hosted by the West Michigan Dahlia Society. Best in Show, Wyn's Neon Dream (AAID Y) by Ken Redd.

2013 ADS Gold Medal

Steve Nowotarski, an indefatigable promoter of the dahlia and the ADS; grower, exhibitor, hybridizer, and proponent of organic and sustainable dahlia-growing. A regular contributor to the Bulletin.



2013 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

AA-A - Hollyhill Moonsong AASC LtBI

B - Hilltop Emily BSC DkBI

BB - (tie) Clearview Audrey BBSC LtBI & Clearview
Citron BBIC Y

Min. - Hollyhill Lover Boy MFD R

Ball etc - Hollyhill Liz MB DkBI

Stellar - Born Sty St Y

Evie Gullikson Award - Redeye MS DkBI

2013 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

Large - Clearview Edie ASC W

Medium - Hilltop Emily BSC DkBl
Small - (tie) Carnivale BBID Fl & Hollyhill Goldrush
BBSC LtBl
Evie Guillikson Medal - Lo-Purple MS Pr

2013 ADS Silver Medal was awarded to John Menzel (Australia), the dahlia-man from Winkie; an expert on growing exhibition dahlias in torrid weather; hybridized Winkie Colonel and others.

The 2013 ADS President's Award was given to Charles Breed, founder of Dahlia Hill in Midlands MI, one of the leading dahlia gardens in North America.

2013 “Worlds Largest Dahlia Competition” award to *Kevin Larkin and Karen Zydner*, for a 14.75” bloom of Creve Coeur.

2013 ADS Photo Contest — Best Photo: “Baron Jerry” by Paul Chupek.

2012 Fabulous Fifty
Embrace
Valley Porcupine
Elvira
Lakeview Glow
Pam Howden
Chimacum Troy

ADS membership 2013 stands at 2,312.

Kevin Larkin succeeded Jerry Landerholm as ADS President.

The "Orchette" form was accepted for inclusion in the CHD on the recommendation of the Classification Committee.

An updated Classification Guide will be prepared for the website.

The resources available on the ADS website are often overlooked. Most ADS forms are available there and can be easily printed out. Past issues of the Bulletin are also found on the website and are searchable.

Welcome to the Wild Rivers Dahlia Society. *Kevin Larkin*

On occasion a single dahlia plant can give rise to a hobby. One, named Cristi Yellow, resulted in artist Charles Breed creating the 1,700-plant "Dahlia Hill" in Midlands, Michigan, which is now the property of Dahlia Hill, a non-profit organization. Dahlia Hill is a destination each year for thousands of visitors. Beautiful sculptures complement the dahlias. Volunteers tend the gardens and sell excess stock each spring. Dahlia Hill is one of the leading public

dahlia gardens in North America.

Bulletin <http://www.dahliahill.org/dahlias/>

The Kitsap Dahlia Society has established a public garden at Port Gamble, Washington. The public's favorite bloom was Duet. *Leone Smith*

The ADS archive at the Cherokee Garden Library (The Atlanta History Center) has been named after Gene Boeke, a great dahlia-grower and supporter of the ADS.

H. Risetto

The ADS "Largest Dahlia Contest" Winner was Emory Paul. Two entries of the cultivar at separate shows measured 13.25 inches. Kristine Albrecht and Larkin/Zynder

The ADS logo has received official trademark protection. This will help the ADS maintain control of its logo. *H. Risetto*

The ADS prepared a membership trifold that will be available for reproduction from the ADS website. *Kevin Larkin*

The Alberta Dahlia Society is establishing the Piper Creek ADS Trial Garden—it will initially be a probationary garden.

The biggest difference between varieties offered today and those in the 1960s is the emergence of so many different dahlia forms. *Arthur Haskins*
The 2012 ADS Border/Container Dahlia of the Year is Gallery LaTour. It is a 16-inch low grower with fully double lavender blooms and bronze foliage.
Steve Nowotarski

-Ron Miner succeeded Dick Kohlschreiber as Director of the ADS Trial Garden program.

-The ADS will focus on communicating with the gardening public, with an e-newsletter and an enhanced website. The digital archive of older *Bulletins* will be available to the public.

- A "Presidents' List" will aid communications with the local societies.

Kevin Larkin

Judging pins will be distributed to ADS Accredited and Senior Judges. *Bob Schroeder*

A representative from Canada will serve on the Classification Committee. *Kevin Larkin*

How should a fully double dahlia be scored for "form" if it exhibits mixed form? *Mac Boyer*

The color classification of a cultivar.

Double dahlias have color descriptions with all capital letters. The description begins with the dominant color. Open-centered dahlias have their second characteristic in lower case, e.g., domes or petaloids. Eye zones in singles and mignon singles are a second characteristic. Peonies do not have a second characteristic. *Lou Paradise*

Growing dahlias in very hot weather:

- pot insulation (foil reflective bubble wrap).
- shade cloth 50%.
- misting 4 times a day for three minutes between noon and 4:30PM (every 90 minutes). *John Mani*

At dahlia sales the gardener who is interested in one or two dahlias may be growing 100 in a decade. *Rober Ploetz*

Seedlings should be tested in open competition to determine if they really are competitive. Nothing like a side-by-side look with established cultivar. Be sure to use a two-digit numerical prefix.

The ADS e-Newsletter was sent to over 1,100 subscribers. [ed., Kudos to *Steve Nowotarski*.]

When using a fungicide dip let each clump of tubers remain in the liquid for 15 minutes. Store dahlias in

a cool place; 40°-45 ° is ideal. Do not let the tubers freeze. *Alan Fisher*

Tomato cages are often used to support dahlia plants. They are invisible by July. *Steve Nowotarski*

Open- centered dahlias have a new standard with respect to pollen. Disc flowers with 0-3 rows of pollen are desirable. More importantly, the bloom must be both mature and fresh. *Lou Paradise*

Ode to the Spider Mite

Oh spider mite, my spider mite.

Why do you give such grief?

I know that you are right down there, beneath the dahlia leaf.

Just yesterday, my plants, they looked,

So green, so full of life.

But now it seems that all their days,

Were filled with woe and strife.

To war I go, prepare I must

To fight that evil foe.

For with no effort, they will win,

My blooms will never grow.

Oh spider mite, my spider mite,

The grief you give to me

Shall be relieved, you shall see,

For I have the help I need.

Bob Ploetz

There were 97,000 unique visitors to the ADS website in 2012. *Linda Holmes-Cook*

In the trial gardens and on the seedling bench, “distinction” is based on the combination of the entry’s uniqueness and its competition.

Balls, mini balls and poms have honey-comb-shaped florets. Occasionally, the center of the bloom is depressed. This is not good, but not a major fault. The last rows in the back of the bloom typically flatten out. This is not a fault. It permits the bloom to “close.” Visible bracts (involucre) on the base of a pom are a distraction and a fault on the show table in comparison to an entry where they are not visible. *Rosemary Freeman*

Propagating seeds on wet paper toweling resulted in a higher germination rate than seed set horizontally or vertically on soil. The towel-wrapped seed should be checked daily after 24 hours to avoid the root caps growing into the paper. Most of the viable seed will sprout between 48-72 hours. Lift the sprouted seed carefully and plant in a 32-cell flat, and later to a 4 ½” pots. [The “Tom Yano” method of propagation.]

H. Rissetto & Cowlitz Dahlias

In Memoriam: *Norm Hines*, Editor of the *ADS Bulletin* from 1993-2013. He is directly responsible for making the *Bulletin* into a first-class horticultural publication by the sheer force of his personality.



Sophie Kieffer, Art's other half, a great dahlia-lady, exhibitor, and hybridizer.



2 0 1 4

48th ADS National Show, Tacoma WA, hosted by the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers. Best single bloom fully double Trengrove Millenium (BFD Y), by Max Ollieu.

2014 ADS Gold Medal

- Lois Ann Helgeson, garden writer, chair of the ADS Publicity and Public Relations Committee, designer of the ADS banner, dahlia enthusiast.
- Martin Kral, ADS Photography Chair, ADS ambassador to European dahlia societies, expert on the history of the dahlia, Bulletin contributor.
- Marilyn Walton, Co-chair of the ADS Trial Garden Committee, long-time Director of the Tacoma Trial Garden.

2014 Derrill Hart Trial Garden Medals

- AA-A - KA's Cloud AID W
- B - Clearview Sharon BC Y
- B - Hollyhill Jeanette BBC O
- Ball etc - Baron Christopher MB FI
- Evie Gullikson Medal - Kelsey Dwarf MS L

2014 Lynn B. Dudley Seedling Bench Evaluation Medals

- Large - KA's Cloud AID W
- Medium - Dark Sider BSC DkR

Small - Olivia Maureen BB Lac W
Min. - AC Lindsey MC DkB
Mini. Ball - Bloomquist Doug C MB W
Evie Gullikson Medal - Kelsey Dwarf MS L

ADS Silver Medal Awards were given to:

- Maria Guadalupe Trevino de Castro*, President, Mexican Dahlia Society.
- Prof. Jose Mejia Munoz*, Vice President, Mexican Dahlia Society.
- Hans Auinger*, Executive Board, German Dahlia Society.
- David Brown*, National Dahlia Society.
- Steven Cox*, Australian Dahlia Society.

ADS member, *James Chuey*, donated \$350,000 in honor of his late brother, Carl Chuey, to Washington State University to further research on dahlia viruses. The gift was from the Scheetz Chuey Charitable Foundation. Jim and ADS Trustee, Ron Minor, reported that Carl recognized the knowledge at WSU, making that university the only practical place to solve the virus problem for dahlia plants. Carl Chuey was a biology professor for 47 years at Youngstown State University.

The Puget Sound Dahlia Association publication, "*Dahlia's, A Monthly Guide*" is an excellent basic primer (and unlike the "ADS Grow Guide") is readily available.

The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society has published a *Grow-Dahlias* handout that will be very useful at sales and shows for gardeners interested in growing dahlias.

An International Liaison Committee was established to begin communications with national dahlia societies in other countries.

In helping folks buy cut flowers, simply grouping them as “round”, “pointy” or “flat” usually does the job, along with “color.”

The online database, which is accessible on the ADS website, makes it easy to select a dahlia variety by color or form. *Kevin Larkin*

Bone Meal. Generations ago many farmers had their own bone grinders and used the output as fertilizers. Today’s bone meal is dehydrated and devitalized. Organic bone meal is scarce due to possible connection to mad-cow disease.

Doug Youngson

Pot roots in 4”pots can support vigorous and floriferous plants. In the fall, cut the stalks, lift the pots and cut off the “extra” roots that grew above the pot and through the bottom. Store the pots for the winter in a cool place that will not freeze. In the spring, when the clumps sprout, take cuttings; divide the clump; plant them out, or share the some

divisions or plants. *Cowlitz Dahlias*

Is the Dahlia a Man's Flower? The media plays up this theme. Some women say that when you grow a 12" bloom what are you going to do with it, except run around saying, "Look what I grew." Others say, "would men grow dahlias if the max size was 4"? Perhaps the flamboyant colors appeal to men. From a symbolic and design standpoint the circular dahlia with its curved lines is feminine. The symbol for a man is square with straight lines. Dahlias in arrangement can be delicate and elegant. The dahlia is both a man's and woman's flower.

Show reports for the December Supplement to the Bulletin should be called "Court of Honor Reports" to avoid confusion with the CHD. *Lou Paradise*

Prior to planting, broadcast a 10-20-20 fertilizer and work it into the soil. When the plants are 18" to 2', fertilize with a water-soluble 10-20-30 or 10-52-0. No further fertilization during the growing season. Place a piece of kindling next to the sprout to help digging, if the sprout does not grow. Put a plastic cup with its bottom removed to protect the young plant. Remove it when the plant is taller than the cup. Mark the tag with a circle when pinching or topping the plant.

Gary Murphy

Storing Tips.

- You can dig before frost.
 - You can dig, divide, wrap and store on the same day.
 - You can store in a warm place.
 - You do not have to wash the tubers.
 - Saran wrap is easy and inexpensive.
- Maybe this will give others something to try to overwinter good tubers. *Al Brown*

“Dahlialick”

A graduate student named Jay
Was filled with chagrin and dismay,
When his dahlias, you know
Won, Best B in the Show,
For he never got less than an A.
Frank Schulkin

Debra Prinzing, gardening authority, told the Puget Sound Dahlia Association that the dahlia currently is the darling of the cut flower industry in the United States and in high demand. This is an opportunity that the ADS should seize upon. *Brad Freeman*

Tips for senior dahlia growers.

- Stretch a bit before going to the garden.
- Do not do all the rototilling in one day.
- Use rebar stakes. Cap the end of a pipe and use it to sink the stakes. [ed., Huh?]
- Put tomato cages around the plants.

- Use long-handled tools.
- Use a gripper to set the tuber in the hole without bending. With pots, put up with the pain.
- When picking blooms put your waterbucket in a wheelbarrow and push it around.
- Bring your washing station to the garden to wash your dahlias. *Arthur Haskins*

The real trick to get consistent color is to take your cuttings off one tuber. *Les Jackson*

Does the DNA of addicted dahlia growers connect with the tuber's? When you go into the dahlia garden, "STOP, OBSERVE, and PLAN. How do you help the plant along? *Brent Grant*

The Vancouver Dahlia Society conducted a seedling investigation by sharing 205 seedlings from a single plant of Amethyst Glow (MFD DkPk) and assessing the results. They discovered that:

- The seedlings were not as good as the growers hoped.
- No particular color bloomed before the others.
- A large percentage of blooms mimicked the seed parent and were wholly or partially pink.
- Singles and peonies bloomed first, doubles and semi doubles later.
- Most of the blooms were peony or single form.
- Most of the singles had more than eight ray florets.
- The few doubles were formal decorative form.

- In subsequent years the seed parent, Amethyst Glow, began to revert to open centers.
- Planting the seedlings only eight inches apart created cultural problems as the plants grew into one another. *Peter Kreuger*

WSU Virus Research Comments.

- Not all dahlias have virus.
- Many viruses do not survive in soil.
- Use 10% bleach solution (and then rinse) to disinfect tools for cutting dahlias.
- Most dahlia viruses do not spread by seed.
- There is no chemical that can kill a virus.
- Some cultivars are more resistant to virus; this is a breeding objective.
- Virus requires a living host, a plant or insect.
- Virus will not survive in compost.

Dr. Hanu Pappu [ed's summary]

Blend color definition was amended to provide for two or more merging or contrasting colors on the face or reverse of the ray florets. The color white will be designated as "WH-0" when it corresponds to the background of the ADS Color Guide. *Lou Paradise*

In Memoriam:

- Gilly Simmons*, dahlia-man, hybridizer, arranger, and poet.

-*Carl Chuey*, major benefactor (through the Scheetz-Chuey Charitable Foundation) to the Washington State University Dahlia Virus Research Fund, scientist, grower, hybridizer (Marcella Louise and more), and exhibitor with his brother Jim; a founder of the Mahoning Valley Dahlia Society.

-*Walt Wynne*, notable hybridizer of “Wyn’s” giant and large dahlias.

-*Steve Nowotarski*, dahlia visionary and activist for sustainable gardening, and for expanding the reach of the ADS to gardeners who use garden and bedding dahlias as well as containers; created a useful beginners brochure and a widely circulated ADS e-Newsletter.



EPILOGUE

A look back over the last 50 years requires a brief look forward. There really are not any crystal balls, and the old maxim that "the wish is the father of the thought" has a lot to be said for it. With those caveats there are a few predictions that can be tested when the ADS turns 150:

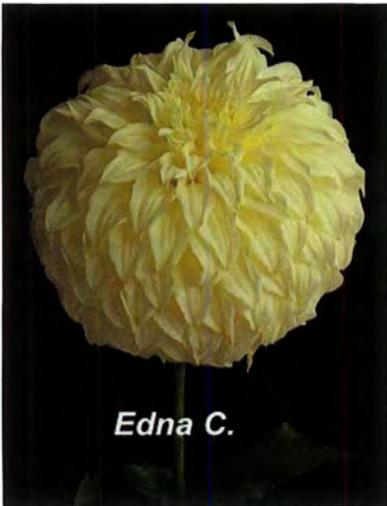
1. Gardeners will grow dahlias more resistant and tolerant of virus.
2. There will be a global network of dahlia societies.
3. Technology will permit global dahlia shows.
4. Dahlias will become a more prominent cut flower because its extended shelf life will increase popularity and profitability.
5. Blooms can be preserved indefinitely and be natural sculptures.
6. Local dahlia societies will continue to have meetings and other activities with a social component, e.g., food, conversation and relationship-building. The societies will focus more on growing for garden beauty rather than for exhibition.
7. Dahlia shows will be held, but as much for the purpose of displaying dahlias to the public as competition.
8. There will be virtual dahlia competitions,

- using new technologies such as holograms and 3-D copying.
9. ADS representatives will be in real time communication with their members and the ADS.
 10. Growing dahlias will be done organically, or with chemicals that have no negative collateral impact.
 11. Genetically modified dahlias will become available, and enterprises offering them will have a larger place in the market.

The ADS conducted a survey of its membership to identify the cultivar that was considered the Best Dahlia of the Last 50 Years. The selection criteria include popularity, dahlia show success, and longevity. The winner was *Edna C*, a formal decorative yellow originated by Paul Comstock in 1968. Named after his wife, *Edna C* has won top prizes across the continent, and has been the parent of a number of other prize-winning cultivars.



Edna C. with Edna C.



Edna C.



Paul Comstock

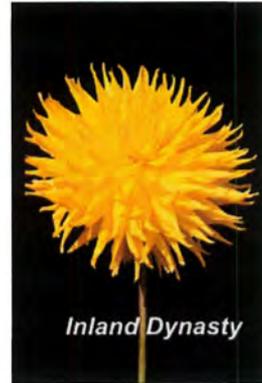
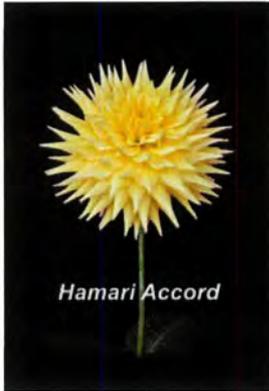


Steve Santose in his patch of *Edna C.* in the west

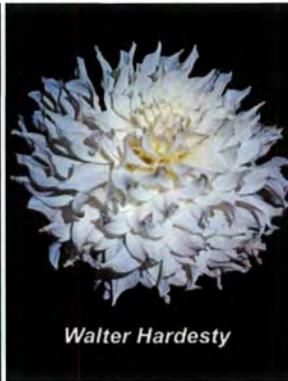
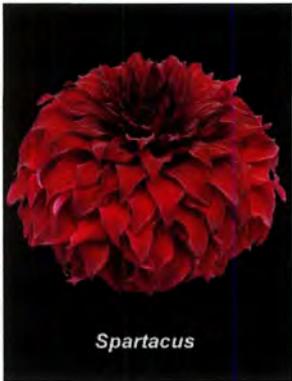
A bicoastal flower...



Martin Ojaste with his *Edna C.*'s in the east.

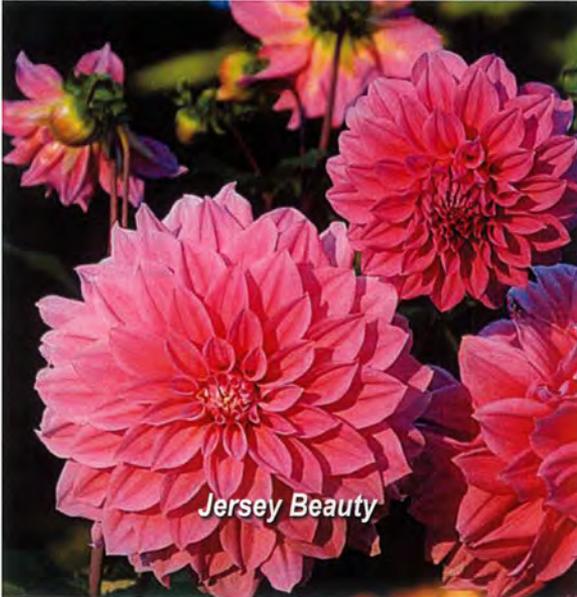


Hamari Accord, a yellow semi- cactus, and *Inland Dynasty*, a yellow cactus were runners-up.



Other prominent cultivars receiving multiple votes were *Spartacus*, *Walter Hardisty* and *Mary Jo*.

In 1964 *Jersey Beauty*, a pink formal decorative was acclaimed as the best dahlia of the prior fifty years.



Best Dahlias From Around the World

Austria - *Spartacus*

Germany - *Vulkan*

England - *Kiwi Gloria*

Australia - *Hamari Accord*

New Zealand - *Hamari Accord*

The American Dahlia Society Gold Medal Winners

- 1936 Nick Koenig
- 1938 Louis B. Tim - Warren W. Maytrott
- 1942 Lynn B. Dudley
- 1943 J.W. Johnston
- 1945 H. Dewey Mohr - Sarah W. Wood
- 1946 Edward B. Lloyd - Richard Vincent Jr.
- 1947 Mrs. George Green
- 1949 James Sweeney - Freida Fisher
- 1950 George Currie - Lois Roberts
- 1951 C.E. Wildon - E.L.D. Seymour
- 1952 Sarah W. Wood
- 1953 Ward Cook - Leo Pollak -
Georgena Humble - Paul Frese
- 1954 Henry Olsen - Edward McDade
- 1955 Charles Connors
- 1956 J.W. Johnston

- 1957 Joseph J. Lane - Carol M. Rose -
Thomas Leavitt
- 1958 Bruce Preas - Charles Diffenderffer -
Nat C. Lundgren
- 1959 Paul Comstock - William Noonan
- 1960 Stanley Johnson - H.C. Rike - Roy W. Webb
- 1962 Bertram Pitt
- 1963 Drew Mulcahy - Louise Kleinjohn
- 1964 National Dahlia Society of England
- 1965 John Metzger - Mrs. Edgar Miller
- 1966 Pete Harter - Charles Garrity
- 1967 Edward B. Lloyd - Carol H. Rose
- 1968 Nat C. Lundgren
- 1969 Will J. Stone - Henry Newbon -
Peter F. Kenshisnik - Paul Comstock
- 1970 Arthur S. Mason
- 1971 E. Henry White - Conrad E. Faust
- 1972 Carolyn Meyer - Clarence Bivens -
Pablo Abellra (Plaque)
- 1973 Lawrence Palminteri – Bernard & Mary Wright

- 1974 Mrs. Emery Hopkins - Alden Cosad -
Harold Cummings - Al Dolinsky (Plaque)
- 1975 Lewis Culp - Anthony Pietruskiewicz -
Harold J. Precht
- 1976 Charles & Marian Knauf
- 1977 John & Cay McEvoy – Willis & June Collins -
Carolyn Dreyer
- 1978 William A. McClain - Conrad E. Faust -
Marie Glauzier
- 1979 James Browing - Clarence Philip
- 1980 Stanley Swanson - Andrew Babb -
William O. Allen
- 1983 William & Bess Owen
- 1984 Joe Rice
- 1985 Ellis E. Evans
- 1986 Hazel Schroeder
- 1987 Paul Hale
- 1988 Gayner Parker - Robert Yoemans -
Keith Hammett
- 1989 Mark W. Alger

- 1990 Tom Yano - Derek Hewlett - Philip Damp
James C. Moore
- 1991 Charles S. Conerty
- 1992 John Peck
- 1993 John Cooley - Compton Wilson -
Marie Glauzier
- 1994 William McClaren – Mac & Norma Boyer
- 1995 Ralph Suttell
- 1996 Earl Huston - Bob Simon - Bernard Marsh
- 1997 Arthur Haskins - Charles H. Splinter
- 1998 Madlyn Geisert - Wayne Shantz -
Dick Westfall
- 1999 Herb Brase - Cyril Higgo - David Metzger
- 2000 Norman Hines - Fred Mumma - Harry Stafford
- 2001 William Allgeier – Bernard & Laverne Bartel -
Michael Pryor
- 2002 Erik & Gerda Juul - Arthur Kieffer - Ted
Szalkowski
- 2003 Alan Fisher - Glenn Ruth
- 2004 Lester Connell - Gordon Leroux

- 2005 Ed Redd - Walter Taylor
- 2006 Eleanor & Wayne Shantz
- 2007 Harry Rissetto - Eugene Boeke Jr
- 2008 Anna & Robert Moynahan
- 2009 Ronald Miner - Roger Walker
- 2010 Donald McAllister
- 2011 Claudia Biggs - Richard Kohlschreiber
- 2012 Jerry Landerholm
- 2013 Stephen Nowotarski
- 2014 Lois Ann Helgeson – Martin Kral – Marilyn
Walton

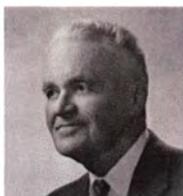
Alger Cup Winners

- 1990 John Mooney
- 1991 Wayne Miller
- 1992 Dick Westfall
- 1993 Dr. Robert Keesling
- 1994 Steve Santose
- 1995 Rev. Gene Toot
- 1996 Frank Roberts
- 1997 Jeff Morton
- 1998 Steve Santose
- 1999 The Boyers
- 2000 Dick Westfall
- 2001 Tom Cleere
- 2002 David and Leone Smith
- 2003 Mac and Norma Boyer
- 2004 Richard Williams
- 2005 Ed Alley
- 2006 Vincent Graziano
- 2007 Harriet Chandler and Jim Chuey
- 2008 Steve Thomas
- 2009 Irene Walker
- 2010 Buddy Dean
- 2011 Dick and Danielle Parshall
- 2012 Don Filand
- 2013 Ken Redd
- 2014 Les and Vivian Connell

ADS Presidents

Harry Dreyer 1963 - 1967

Edward Lloyd



1968 - 1969

Stanley Johnson



1970 - 1977

Lawrence Palminteri



1978 - 1979

Mark Alger



1980 - 1984

James C. Moore



1985 - 1989

S. McQuithy Boyer



1990 – 1996

Harry Rissetto



1997 – 2001

Ron Miner



2002 – 2006

Jerry Landerholm



2007 – 2012

Kevin Larkin



2013

Brad Freeman



2014

Don Dramstad



2015 -
Present

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



Photo by Albert Humble

Exceptional balance obtained in an arrangement of Anemone flowered Dahlia
Avachne by Georgena Humble

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