



# DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER, 2006 SHOW EDITION

CREEKSIDE GENEVEVE, B, FD, MINI DAHLIA SHOW SEPTEMBER 2006  
BI, FLOWER OF THE YEAR

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## IT IS SHOWTIME IN THE SOUTH

September is here so the show season has arrived and it begins on September 9 & 10 in Asheville, North Carolina in the beautiful setting of the University of North Carolina Arboretum located just off of I-26. The Carolinas Society always has a very lovely show with lots of large AA blooms that can be grown in the higher elevations of the mountains. If you are in the Asheville area plan on stopping in to see some great flowers.

The next show will be held in downtown Chattanooga, Tennessee at the Trade and Convention

Center. This is a new location for the show and should prove to be an excellent venue with lots of visitors being able to view many outstanding dahlias from growers in five different states. The show dates are September 23 & 24.

The next week-end, September 30 & October 1 will be the Georgia Dahlia Show which will be held at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. This show is always very popular with the visitors to the Botanical Garden and those in the Atlanta area that love to see the amazing colors and forms of dahlias. There



DAHLIAS READY TO BE JUDGED AT THE ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN EXHIBIT HALL

2006

### ANNUAL CALENDAR

- **CAROLINAS DAHLIA SHOW** UNC ARBORETUM, ASHEVILLE-SEPTEMBER 9 & 10
- **NATIONAL DAHLIA SOCIETY DAHLIA SHOW**, LONG ISLAND, NY SEPTEMBER 14-17
- **TENNESSEE DAHLIA SHOW**, CHATTANOOGA TRADE & CONVENTION CENTER, CHATTANOOGA, SEPTEMBER 23 & 24
- **GEORGIA DAHLIA SHOW**, ATLANTA BOTANICAL-GARDEN, ATLANTA, GA SEPTEMBER 30 & OCTOBER 1
- **ALABAMA DAHLIA SHOW**, MCWANE SCENCE CENTER, BIRMINGHAM, AL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7
- **GA NAT'L FAIR DAHLIA SHOW**, PERRY, GA OCTOBER 11-13
- **OCTOBER MEETING, MINI DAHLIA SHOW**, OCTOBER 16, ABG
- NOV MEETING, NOV 20, ABG
- CHRISTMAS PARTY— DEC, TBA

## GEORGIA NATIONAL FAIR DAHLIA SHOW

will be around 1,000 blooms on display and will include all colors and forms which will leave you in complete delight as you take in all of this beauty in one location.

All of the dahlia shows have this spectacular feast for the eyes and the Alabama Show is no exception. The Alabama Society show will be held October 6th in the McWane Science Center in downtown Birmingham. This is another new venue for one of the Southern States Dahlia Shows and should prove very interesting as it lends it's self to multi-media presentations so visitors will be able to see live flowers and view pictures of dahlias and grower gardens.

The Southern States Shows, Tennessee, Georgia, & Alabama, will have artistic, and floating dahlia sections which are new displays to some of our shows. Photography sections will also be included in the Tennessee, Alabama, and Carolinas shows. Due to limited space Georgia will not have a photography section.

If you are an active Dahlia Society member, or one not so active, a dahlia lover or just a lover of beautiful flowers, set aside the time in your busy schedule to attend one of the dahlia shows in the South this early fall. It will renew your spirit after seeing and then remembering until next year the experience of enjoying the lovely colors and exciting forms of dahlias.

The Georgia Dahlia Society will again be the hosting club for the annual Dahlia Show at the Georgia National Fair being held at the National Fair Grounds in Perry, Georgia on October 11-13. Staging takes place in the morning of the 11th. All growers are invited to bring flowers and join in the fun of this good time together.

After staging the Fair provides a catered outstanding FREE lunch served in a private dining room for all of the growers. As soon as our nap is over (just kidding) we begin the judging. ATTENTION ALL APPRENTICE JUDGES...this is a wonderful time to learn your judging skills as our teams are small and we can spend a lot of time discussing various judging points. The NOVICE and AMATEUR SECTIONS are usually wide open and the judging somewhat liberal since we are at the end of the season. So bring your flowers, spend the evening enjoying an excellent meal with your fellow dahlia enthusiasts at a fine restaurant on Tuesday evening and then the show on Wednesday.

A story from a few years ago involved two Southern States Society members coming to this show. They had cut their blooms and placed them in 5 gallon buckets and loaded them in their open pickup truck and started to Perry. Upon arrival we asked them if they were going to show any flowers as they didn't bring them into the staging tent. They said they were but along the way the wind in the open pickup had caused the buckets to levitate out of the bed of the truck and they didn't know where their flowers were. They had a good time anyway.



THE STAGING OF FLOWERS FOR THE SHOW AT THE GA NATIONAL FAIR

## MINI DAHLIA SHOW

The last show of the season will be a mini-show during the regular October meeting of the Dahlia Society of Georgia on Monday evening, October 16th. This show is designed for new growers and other growers that don't show or didn't receive an award above a blue ribbon in the annual show. It has been real popular during the past two years since its inception. It is a "no pressure", bring what is left blooms in your garden, fun time. The blooms are judged, awarded ribbons and prizes given. So far everyone that has brought blooms has won at least one Blue ribbon and a cash award. Plan in joining in the fun for the October meeting.



JUDGING FLOWERS AT THE GA NATIONAL FAIR DAHLIA SHOW



PART OF THE HEAD TABLE OF THE WINNERS AT THE 05 CAROLINAS DAHLIA SHOW



SHOW & TELL A, LC, DB, R/Y & SPARACUS A, ID, DR AT THE 2005 TENNESSEE SHOW



ALLIE WHITE BB, ID, W IN ALABAMA



ISLANDER A, ID, DP IN THE ALABAMA SHOW

## SHOW WORKERS

Most of our members that attended the picnic and the August meeting had the opportunity to sign up to work at the show in one capacity or another but if you haven't signed up .... WE NEED YOU! We need help in setting up the tables, covering them with paper and helping get the hall set up on Friday. Set up starts at 2 PM. Also, we need you to bring some food for the growers that will be arriving on Friday so bring snacks or other items you would like to eat yourself as this is dinner for all of us. The Society will provide the main meat and drinks.

Saturday is Judging Day so if you would like to be a clerk on a judging team or an apprentice judge be at the Exhibit Hall between 8:30 and 9 AM. If you are interested in being an apprentice judge, please let Ed Mercer know on Friday or Saturday morning and, if you want to be a clerk see Paula Pinholster. Make sure you wear your badges if you come through the front Garden entrance so you won't be charged an entry fee.

We will close the show down starting around 4 PM on Sunday afternoon and will need help in that regard. The flowers on the tables will be available for everyone still there to take home if you wish.

We would like to thank everyone in advance for your help in making this year's show a success and look forward to seeing you then.

## SHOW HOURS

STAGING - FRIDAY, SEPT 29

2 PM TILL 12 AM

JUDGING - SATURDAY, SEPT 30

10 AM TILL 1 PM

SHOW OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SATURDAY SEPT 30, 1 PM—5 PM

SUNDAY OCTOBER 1, 9 AM - 4 PM

## GROWING TIP OF THE MONTH

We have had a dry, hot summer...again. So what is new? Nothing much but at our August meeting the topic of watering our dahlias came up and the question, is it better to water some every day or to water deeply a couple times a week was discussed? The latter is usually best so the roots can draw from the water down in the soil but any water is welcomed by the plants in the July-August time frame.

Now that we are getting our plants and blooms ready for the shows we are still having dry weather so we must continue to water and if you have good drainage it is better to keep them in a more damp condition as opposed to letting them dry out. The blooms require a lot of water and the plant requires a lot of water since it is much larger than it was a couple of months ago. Keep that water coming.



MR. L. N. LASSISTER REVIEWING THE SHOW TABLES AT THE EXHIBIT HALL OF THE ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN