



DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

Jessica BB-IC-BI Y/R

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Flower Of The Year

WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFGEORGIA.ORG

DAHLIA SHOWS CANCELED

All Southern States Dahlia Shows have been canceled for 2007. The unrelenting heat and lack of rain have reduced the gardens of most growers to a burned up stand of miniature blooms and very few with show potential. The only exception is the Carolinas Society as they will hold their show this Saturday & Sunday as planned. The Georgia Society was planning to hold a dahlia exhibi-

tion on our show week-end but with the continued drought, that has been canceled also. An exhibition is still planned for the National Fair in Perry, GA in October at this writing. This has been an extreme year for drought and according to Gene Boeke is the worst dahlia growing season in memory which covers 60 years of growing.



A PHOTO OF THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA SHOW A COUPLE OF YEARS AGO. LEST WE FORGET.

ANNUAL SHOW IS CANCELLED
THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 15TH AT THE ABG. EVERYONE ATTENDING IS REQUESTED TO BRING A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS FROM YOUR GARDEN.

DS OF ALABAMA PICNIC

The Dahlia Society of Alabama has invited all Southern States DS members to attend their picnic in the Birmingham area on Saturday, October

6, 12-4 PM at the home of Ed & Cathy Whitfield. 2310 Patton Street, Hoover, AL Phone # 205-979-7181. We expect this event to be a lot of fun, and a great opportunity to see a dahlia garden that beat this year's awful heat and drought. Call Cathy if coming Email ehrett@bellsouth.net for directions or call John 770-447-1405

2007

ANNUAL CALENDAR

- CAROLINAS DAHLIA SHOW SEPT. 15-16 , UNC ARBORETUM, ASHEVILLE, NC
- **CANCELED** TENNESSEE DAHLIA SHOW 22-23 SEPT. CHATTANOOGA, TN
- **CANCELED** GEORGIA DAHLIA SHOW SEPT 29/30 ATLANTA, GA
- **CANCELED** ALABAMA DAHLIA SHOW OCT. 6, BIRMINGHAM, AL
- **SHOW CANCELED** DAHLIA EXHIBITION WILL BE HELD GA NAT'L FAIR DAHLIA SHOW OCT 10-12, PERRY. GA
- **EVERYONE BRING A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS TO A REGULAR MEETING. OCTOBER 15, ABG . MINI-SHOW IS CANCELED**
- NOVEMBER MEETING, NOV 19, ABG
- DEC CHRISTMAS PARTY TBA

WHAT DOES VIRUS DAMAGE LOOK LIKE?

During the past month several of us have participated in conducting judging school in the Carolinas and at another class attended by members of all of the Southern States Dahlia Societies. During the classes we have discussed dahlia virus and it dawned on me we need to cover it in our own Georgia Society.



Photo # 1 Often the very top (newest) leaves will crinkle and show a lot of yellow along the veins (photos # 1 and 2). At the same time the leaves below it will look normal. Gene Boeke once told me if it is one variety that you really want, break out the top of the plant and, if it grows back normal, keep it. If it again shows

the crinkled and yellow look—pitch it. This is a gamble so continue to watch it. On the other hand, if it is not a special variety, get rid of it as soon as you see these telltale signs. Photo #2



Photos # 3 - 5 show the virus signatures of yellowing along the main leaf vein with yellow also going out along the minor veins and with random “blooms” or “explosions”

of yellow on the minor veins. When you see these signs, inspect the whole plant and you will probably see many leaves showing the same signs of virus infection. In this case you must pull the plant and get it out of your garden or the virus will quickly spread to neighboring plants. Search where the removed plant was and also get rid of any leaves, branches, buds or

or blooms, roots or tuber debris. Photo # 3



There is no cure for the virus but you can stop it from spreading by constant monitoring and action.

Photo # 4



There are other times when you think you have a virused infected plant but it may simply be showing the signs of

being under some other less-fatal type of stress (photos # 5 & 6); may be a soil pH problem, a chemical deficiency, the effects of drought, insect damage, etc. Photo # 5

Photo#7



shows even more damage but when you turn over the leaf you can see (# 8) that the plant is infested with spider mites and therefore the damage is caused by the mites and probably not by a virus, at least not yet. With spider mite infestation, the plant is severely stressed and unless you get



rid of the mites immediately, and the damaged leaves removed, any and all types of calamities will be visited upon this (cont next page)

particular plant and any others close by. Photo # 7

Photo # 8- Under side of same leaf as shown in photo #7 . The coppery color is a definite sign of spider mites. The coppery color is a give away that the problem is spider mites. Another sign sometimes is small, cluttered webs.



Photo # 8

Jumping back to virus, there is one last sign of virus that needs coverage. Dahlias are susceptible to at least 7 types of virus. At least two of these "imprint" some leaves of infected plants with 'outlines' of



oak leaves or some other mosaic pattern. Photos #9 and #10 show examples of these types of virus.

Photo # 9 DAHLIA MOSAIC VIRUS



Remember, virused dahlias can not be treated. They must be removed from the garden along with any of its leaves, tubers and roots. Do not compost but place all debris in a bag and dispose of it immediately. Constantly study your

plants for signs of virus and at the first sighting, act quickly.

Viruses are passed on in the spittle of various chewing insects and by contaminated hands and tools. Since we can't heal a virused plant we need to constantly monitor our gardens in order to prevent infections passing from plant to plant.

Brian Killingsworth

Photo # 10 OAK LEAF VIRUS



NEW ORLEANS CITY PARK

Stan Leacock sent me a very interesting link to the City Park in New Orleans. Stan has been down to New Orleans helping in re-establishing their rose garden and there is a lovely picture of it at this site. There are other pictures that show how the area looked after the hurricane and how it looks now.

<http://www.neworleanscitypark.com/katrina/2year.pdf>

PARKING AT THE ABG

Construction on the new parking garage will begin on October 1st, 2007 and is scheduled to be completed in the Spring of 2009. During the construction parking will be very difficult as the entire staff of the ABG must park in the upper lot instead of behind the building . If you can car pool with some one else when you come to our monthly meetings it will be greatly appreciated. If the parking situation becomes too much of an issue we may be required to park off site and car pool from there. So if you can try and allow enough time to park down at the mall and ride together.

JUDGING SEMINAR A SUCCESS

Thanks to Dan & Paula Pinholster for hosting the annual judging seminar on August 25th. The attendance went from four signed up before the Monday night meeting to an actual attendance of 25 with members from Alabama & Tennessee attending too. Paula, Brian Killingsworth, and Gene Boeke taught the seminar. A lovely lunch was provided by our hosts.

2008 CALENDARS

The 2008 calendars from Tina McNabb of the Vancouver, BC Dahlia Society are now available for purchase. This is the same calendar we ordered last year and it is just as lovely as it was last year. I had the opportunity to see a copy of it at the National Show in Chicago last week-end. You may order it directly or if you would like I will consolidate the orders again this year and send them in to her. They make excellent Christmas gifts.

SHARE YOUR GARDEN SUCCESSES IN THE HEAT

Even with all of this heat and lack of rain I have had a few dahlias that have done much better than expected with SB's Sunny leading the pack. I have a few others too but what I would like to do is for each one of you to send me a list of those plants that did well after that terrible August heat. I am looking for any that are in the ADS Classification Book and especially those that don't already appear on the heat tolerant list on our website and any garden dahlias you feel are worthy of mention. I will compile a list of those submitted and publish it in the November newsletter.

Composite Listing of Dahlias 1976-2007

I am happy to announce that the diligent, time-consuming work of Eleanor and Wayne Shantz is now printed and ready for distribution. I am talking about the Composite Listing of Dahlias 1976-2007. This book features all of the dahlias that have been classified in all of the *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* from 1976 to 2007. If you are interested in finding a dahlia from several years ago, this is the first place to look. It gives the name, the originator, year of origination, color, form, size, etc. There are two types of books to chose from: One is a little larger at 5-3/8" x 8.5" and has 3 holes punched into the side. You will need to get a small binder to hold the sheets of this book. I like this one because it has larger print and is easier for me to use. The other is smaller, but is bound. It measures 4-3/4" x 8-1/4". Make sure you let Mac know how many of each you would like.

1-3 copies @ \$10.00 per copy (postage paid)

4 or more copies @\$7.50 per copy (postage paid)

Please email John Kreiner or Henry Everett to order.



2007 NATIONAL SHOW IN CHICAGO



STAGING DAHLIAS NATIONAL SHOW



COUNTRY BELLE B-ID-DB OR/W



VERNON ROSE BB-FD-L LA/DR

2007 NATIONAL SHOW

The Central States Dahlia Society hosted the 2007 National Show last week-end in St Charles, IL about 30 miles West of Chicago. Regina and I arrived on Thursday afternoon and settled into our room at the Pheasant Run Resort. That evening a reception was held in the Garden Atrium and Regina played background music on the electric piano during the reception. Friday morning we were up early and boarded buses that took us to the Morton Arboretum which consists of about 1,700 acres of grounds. A tram



PHEASANT RUN RESORT VIEW OF THE 36 HOLES OF GOLF

ride provided an extended look at all of the different types of trees and other greenery. A very interesting attraction was the house sculptured from tree limbs and large twigs. It will take about two years to decompose. After lunch we proceeded to the Ball Seed company Trial Gardens. A wonderful tour with lots of new impatiens and mini-petunias that will be available on the market next year.



A NEW LANTANA THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE NEXT YEAR



WHITE SPORT OF SPARTACUS LOUIE MEGOSS ,2008 RELEASE

Friday evening was staging for the show and all of the flowers would just knock your socks off. Growers from all over the country including Buddy Dean from the Carolinas Dahlia Society with about 150 blooms. Regina played the electric piano again during staging unt



VASSIO MEGGOS AND OTHERS WAITING TO BE STAGED il around 11 PM. Buddy Dean received the American Dahlia Society Achievement Award for the highest scoring seedling in the show, 86.3. He had about 10-12 flowers on the head table so congratulations to Buddy and his wife Kelly. Saturday was the show and then Saturday night the awards banquet. Sunday we toured two gardens of which one was the garden of Steve Meggos where he had around 900 A sized dahlias with Vassio Meggos, Eddie Meggos and Louie Meggos which are all sports of Spartacus. The white one, Louie, will be released next year. Monday we toured downtown Chicago on the architecture tour on the Chicago river. Congratulations are in order for Jerry Landerholm, ADS President, his wife Marion and Dan & Margie Kaplan and the Central States Societies for the outstanding National Show of 2007.



THE WINNERS L TO R , VASSIO MEGGOS, INLAND DYNASTY, EMBRACE, WALTER HARDISTY, ZORRO- BEST IN SHOW



EMBRACE 20 BLOOM WINNING ENTRY



WINNING ENTRY OF BO-DE-O BY STEVE NOWOTARSKI



BUDDY DEAN'S ADS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER ST-BI R/W

