



# DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

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AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2012

**SPARTACUS A-ID-DR  
ANY DARK RED DAHLIA IS  
THE FLOWER OF THE YEAR**

[WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFGEORGIA.COM](http://WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFGEORGIA.COM)



SHOW TABLES AT THE GA NATIONAL FAIR. SHOWS START NEXT MONTH

The exciting time of dahlia growing has finally arrived with the advent of blooms in our gardens. Some have had blooms for sometime, but without a lot of work it is difficult to overcome the heat stress they have in the 90 degree plus days, so they don't look their best. Soon the nighttime temperatures will dip down into the 60's and those blooms will get deep and the stems long. We still must be vigilant to guard against insects ready to devour our foliage and ruin those perfect blooms, so we must take appropriate action to spray our blooms and our plants, if needed.

The hot & dry conditions we have in our summers is perfect for spider mites to eat away on some of your plants. They seem to attack the weakest plants first but will spread quickly to others if not dealt with when noticed. Also, now is the time when powdery mildew starts showing up on our plants. The rain, and high humidity we have been experiencing gets it going. All we can do is to treat the plant with a remedy that will prevent the mildew on leaves that don't show it already. If your leaves show mildew, then those leaves will eventually die. The best powdery mildew preventer is a chemical called Rubigan. Spray it every two weeks and you will never see powdery mildew. Other solutions can be found by Googling powdery mildew. (continued on page 2)

## CALENDAR

**AUGUST MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

**CAROLINAS SHOW  
SEPTEMBER 8, 9  
THE NC ARBORETUM  
ASHEVILLE, NC**

**TENNESSEE SHOW  
SEPTEMBER 22  
BAINERED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
EAST RIDGE, TN**

**GEORGIA SHOW  
SEPTEMBER 29, 30  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN  
ATLANTA, GA**

**GA NATIONAL FAIR  
SHOW  
OCTOBER 13, 14  
PERRY, GA**

(continued from page 1)

Back to spider mites, some members knock them off with a stream of water which will last for a while, and if you continue doing that when they appear, they should not infect your plants. If you have a large infestation, like I do, then you must take a different action. I spray my plants with a product called Organicide. It has an oil base so it smoothers the mites and their larva so they can't adjust to it like they do to insecticides like Avid. Avid works great for a few seasons, but if used continually without any alternate product the mites will mutate and it will become ineffective.

After the first spraying of Organicide I go back and spray again in a few days to get the ones I might have missed. After two or three sprays you can go into a maintenance spray of once every couple of weeks. Spider mites will continue to attack your plants up until frost as they love the warm days of autumn even though the nights are cool.

If you use Avid then you must spray three times at three day intervals in order to kill the mites in all stages. Some of you are saying this doesn't apply to me as I have never had spider mites but just wait, if you continue to grow dahlias they will show up sooner or later.



CREEKSIDE DOC A-FD-LB, ONE OF BRIAN KILLINGSWORTH'S BEST INTRODUCTIONS. NAMED AFTER HIS FATHER

## AUGUST PROGRAM

AUGUST 20, 7:30 PM

GARDEN CLASSROOM

ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

The August meeting is always our tune up for showing our dahlias at the annual show and the mini-show in October, so there is something for everyone at this meeting. It will include transportations of blooms, staging of blooms and artistic arrangements. There will also be a question and answer period for any growing questions members may have.

We need more members to show their dahlias at the annual show so we will continue to have a quality show with lots of blooms. Showing your dahlias is fun as many have discovered showing them at the mini-show. The normal progression is to concentrate your growing techniques on your favorite dahlias or those that grow well for you and to enter some in the annual show. Your first year of doing this you make entries into the novice section or above and then for three years enter your blooms into the amateur section or above. That gives you four years before you must enter into the open sections of the show. Hopefully by then you have learned most of the "tricks of the trade" so to speak.



CREEKSIDE VOLCANO B-LC-FL A BEAUTIFUL DAHLIA ORIGINATED BY BRIAN IN 1997 AND HIS MOST POPULAR INTRODUCTION, ESPECIALLY ON THE WEST COAST.

## 2012 ANNUAL PICNIC

A big thanks to Dan & Paula Pinholster for hosting our annual picnic last month. We had about 30 members in attendance and a good time was had by all. The food was super as always with one of the desserts being homemade peach ice cream brought by Clyde Gaddy. Their dahlias looked like they were ready to go to show with the waterlily, Fern Irene, WL-Y (see below), already on the head table. Embrace, BB-SC-BR, was beautiful also with a color you don't usually see of it in the South and in the July heat too.



MEMBERS ENJOYING THEMSELVES ON THE PATIO BEFORE LUNCH



JACK HELLRIGEL AND HENRY EVERETT ON THE PATIO



DR. JOHN KAISER, B-ID-FL OR/YL, BLOOMING IN THE KREINER GARDEN IN PEACHTREE CORNERS, GA.



A BUCKET OF UNIDENTIFIED DAHLIAS IN THE PIKE STREET MARKET IN SEATTLE, WA. PHOTO SENT BY DAVE & BRENDA ELY ON THEIR WAY TO ALASKA.

## CONRAD FOUST AWARD

Conrad Foust was a banker for the Citizen & Southern Bank here in Atlanta and a longtime member of the Dahlia Society of Georgia. He made a most significant contribution to the dahlia world in 1964 with his origination of Piedmont Rebel, B-LC-DR. The growing of Piedmont Rebel and other dahlias in Georgia has been perpetrated through the provisions of Conrad's will upon his death in 1982.

He made bequeaths in his will to the Dahlia Society of Georgia and to the Georgia State Botanical Garden in Athens. The principals of the two bequeaths were to be used to further the growing and developing the dahlia in the state of Georgia. His will states: "This principal is to be used by the Dahlia Society of Georgia in the propagating of dahlias, including the financing of shows and awards, including an award for the best 2<sup>nd</sup> year seedling (Conrad Faust Award). Also, funds may be used for trial garden expenses, and to continue the growing of Piedmont Rebel.

In 1982, the Dahlia Society of Georgia filed with the IRS a request to form the Dahlia Society of Georgia Trust Fund, a nonprofit organization. The request was approved.

The Trust Fund is currently administered by three Trustees from our Society. The Trustees are Carla Schissel, John Kreiner, and Dan Pinholster. They meet twice a year to discuss the status of the fund and any requested disbursements. Over the past few years the health of the Trust Fund has improved considerably with a fund balance greater than the original principal.

Members desiring additional information about the Trust Fund may contact Dan Pinholster.



HOLLYHILL COTTON CANDY B-IC-DP ON THE SHOW TABLE AT THE 2011 NATIONAL DAHLIA SHOW IN SAN JOSE, CA

## FLOWER OF THE YEAR

The flower of the year for 2012 has been changed from the original information and will be any dark red dahlia. This includes Spartacus, David George, Zorro, Regina, Hart's Blood Red, Tom Yano, Ukraine Free, Juanita, Piedmont Rebel, Hart's Lora Ann, Hy Sockeye, Rip City, and Weston Pirate. This is only a partial listing of many of the most popular dark red dahlias.



DAVE FELTON SNAPPED THIS PICTURE OF HART'S BLOOD RED, A-FD-DR (2012 INTRO), LAST SATURDAY WHILE WE WERE WORKING IN THE STONE MOUNTAIN DISPLAY GARDEN.



BLOOMQUIST BARBARA, BB-FD-YL ONCE AGAIN, THIS IS A MUST-HAVE DAHLIA HERE IN THE SOUTH AS IT LOVES THE HEAT, LOOK GREAT, HAS QUALITY BLOOMS ALL SEASON.



**BRIAN KILINGSWORTH RECEIVING THE WELL DESERVED AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM JERRY LANDERHOLM, ADS PRESIDENT, AT THE 2010 ADS NATIONAL SHOW IN CHATTANOOGA.**



**WE SAY SO LONG TO BRIAN AND LINDA KILLINGSWORTH AS THEY MOVE TO NORTH CAROLINA. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT THE SHOWS THIS YEAR AND YEARS TO COME. WE WILL MISS YOU.**

## A NOTE FROM BRIAN

"I've been a member of the Dahlia Society of Georgia since 1988. It has been a wonderful experience. Over that period of time I have seen the society grow about 5 times the 1988 membership. During that period of time I've had many a laugh\*, a few frowns, a lot of tiring, late night staging for shows, and have visited some gorgeous gardens and ADS National shows.

The strongest feeling I have, however, is for all of the wonderful people I've met over the years. The generosity displayed by fellow growers has been astonishing. My priority was to fan the flames of cooperation within and between the societies. I now look back and feel that WE have all worked to achieve that goal. Please don't lose sight of that goal.

Brian

\* Arlon's stupid box. The time when, at a Tennessee show, the poms table collapsed about 5 minutes before judging began. The time when I tried to make a truckload of show bottles levitate near Gwinnett Mall. Watching Brenda and Alyce visiting the staging tables at the Chattanooga ADS show. It was like seeing a kid locked up in a candy store. A section in a ADS National Show that was open only to "the ugliest dahlias". Or the story Gene Boeke told me about his father soaking a white bloom in a bottle of blue dye and entering the only blue dahlia in that year's show.



CREEKSIDE  
MANDY BB-C-  
PR NAMED AF-  
TER BRIAN &  
LINDA'S  
DAUGHTER



TOP: BRIAN STAGING AT A TENNESSEE SHOW

MIDDLE: BRIAN SPEAKING AT THE SOUTHEASTERN FLOWER SHOW.

BOTTOM: BRIAN REVIEWING THE AA, A BLOOMS AT PERRY