

# DAHLIA DIGGINGS



NEWSLETTER FOR:

*"THE GREATER ST. LOUIS DAHLIA SOCIETY"*

Volume #10/08 E-Mail edition

Officers for the 2008 fiscal year are:

**PRESIDENT**, Mike Plannett (314) 846-6650;

**VICE-PRESIDENT**, Kineth Launius (417) 255-0605;

**SECRETARY**, Bob Sewell (618) 234-0176; **TREASURER**, Jim Davis (573) 484-3731;

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**, Shirley Pollinger (636) 584-8311

**HEALTH and WELFARE CHAIRPERSON**: Judy Sewell

## A BIG THANK YOU!

## FROM THE SHOW CHAIRMAN

### The Annual Awards Banquet

October 18th, @ 5:30 pm. Overland Community Center.

Unless otherwise noted the society meets at the Garden on the third Friday of the remaining, upcoming months:

November and December.

**SAD ANNOUNCEMENT:**

Society member's mourn the passing of Leonard Catanzaro, the father of Zach and William Catanzaro. Zach and William are student members of the society and the Donley's neighbor.

**SHOW RECAP:** Despite sailing through some uncharted waters, the 2008 show attracted 466 entries, the second highest total in the most recent five-year period. When it was announced that the show had to be switched from late September to early October early frost concerns surfaced. Fortunately, Jack Frost was nowhere to be found.

Visitor attendance was down, however, and this was reflected in the People's Choice voting. Less than 350 total votes were cast. That many votes and more are usually cast each day during a weekend show. 2008 saw two veteran show families, Jim & Marge Boever and Bob & Donna Himmelberg, bounce back from recent disappointing seasons to claim a total of 10 Court of Honor selections. And, the six Court of Honor selections by Colleen Simons was another highlight in 2008, as was two arrangement firsts by Judy Sewell. The complete show results and a People's Choice voting breakdown along with lots of pictures of the show will be available on the website this week. Please check often.

**DEADLINE EXTENDED:** Banquet chairpersons John and Maleta Fox report that members and/or guests can still come to the banquet even though the early signup deadline has passed. The society is obligated to guarantee a minimum number of meals and that minimum has not been reached, according to John.

The cost is \$10 per (member) and \$12 per (guest). Contact John immediately by phone or email and pay him that evening. Help the society defray these costs and also be present to praise the work of those members who had entries that ascended to the Court of Honor.

*ARRIVAL TIME: 5:30 P.M. DINNER SERVED: 6 P.M.*

A map and directions to the Overland Community Center are available on the website.

**ONCE** the show is over the temptation is to forget about dahlia growing for awhile and do other things. But before Jack Frost kills your patch take a few minutes or a couple hours and do some maintenance chores that will save time and spare you unnecessary headaches.

*What chores, you ask?*

1. First make sure that all of your plants are tagged correctly.
2. Remove any plants that did not perform well. The last things you will want to do next spring are plant roots or propagate plants from subpar or possible diseased stock.

Doing these couple of things will also speed up your root harvest time and allow time for unrelated dahlia activities.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Expect a new slate of officers to be put forth at either the October banquet meeting or the Nov. 21 meeting at the Garden.

Also some discussion will be needed at the banquet meeting regarding the proposed society calendar for fiscal year 2009, which begins with the November meeting. The calendar question must be resolved so that it can be submitted to the Garden scheduling office for immediate consideration. Selecting the 2009 *Flower of the Year* is also part of the **looking ahead** agenda. This year's choice, Autay Chipper, was prominent in the Court of Honor. In addition to the single bloom winner, both the vase of 10 BBs and 15 BBs were Autay Chipper. The latter also earned Les & Dorothy Miller the Ellis Evans memorial award. Hopefully, the '09 selection will occupy an equally prominent place in the Court of Honor.

**SET ASIDE** an unusual white elephant for the November meeting. Let's begin the new fiscal year with a bang.

## ***Here's this month's installment of***

### **HENRY'S JOKE OF THE MONTH**

This weeks joke courtesy of Henry Soltermann

#### **LITTLE JOHNNY AT IT AGAIN!**

A new teacher was trying to make use of her psychology courses. She started her class by saying, "Everyone who thinks they're stupid, stand up!"

After a few seconds, Little Johnny stood up.

The teacher said, "Do you think you're stupid, Little Johnny?"

"No, ma'am, but I hate to see you standing there all by yourself!"

Comments and Questions greeted with a smile.

[webmaster@stldahliasociety.com](mailto:webmaster@stldahliasociety.com)