

DAHLIA DIGGINGS



NEWSLETTER FOR:
"THE GREATER ST. LOUIS DAHLIA SOCIETY"

Volume #11/08 E-Mail edition

Officers for the 2009 fiscal year are:

PRESIDENT, Mike Plannett (314) 846-6650;
VICE-PRESIDENT, Kineth Launius (417) 255-0605;
SECRETARY, Bob Sewell (618) 234-0176; **TREASURER**, VACANCY;
FINANCIAL SECRETARY, VACANCY
HEALTH and WELFARE CHAIRPERSON: Judy Sewell

2009 Event Dates In this Newsletter!

NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

November 21st, @ 7:30 pm. Missouri Botanical Garden.
Unless otherwise noted the society meets at the Garden on the third Friday of each month.

NOVEMBER REFRESHMENTS:

Bob & Donna Himmelberg, Jim & Marge Boever, Hank & Donna Soltermann



EDUCATION:

2009 "Flower of the Year" selection

THE SOCIETY offers belated condolences to Judy and Bob Sewell at the recent passing of Judy's mother.

WALKING WOUNDED UPDATE: Both Hank Soltermann and Jim Boever are improving daily from respective hip and heart valve problems. Dee Pollinger remains optimistic after numerous chemo treatments; 92-year-old Leroy Lapelle, after a short hospital stay, is looking forward to yet another dahlia season and doctors gave Jerry Donley thumbs up regarding a couple ailments.

TWO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The November bulletin's masthead shows two possible officer vacancies for the 2009 fiscal year. Jim Davis has stepped down as treasurer and Shirley Pollinger is doing likewise as financial secretary. Don't be bashful. A successful season is one in which every member helps and President Plannett needs to fill these positions as soon as possible.

A TIP OF THE CAP TO Joe Davinroy for being a superb stand-in for Joe Meyer. Joe Davinroy did the much-needed legwork for the society, nailing down the society's '09 meeting and event calendar at the Garden. The Garden scheduling office has signed off favorably on all of the society's proposed dates, except the July meeting date.

That means the annual plant sale has a two-day, weekend booking (May 9-10) and that the show returns to the last weekend in September, with afternoon setup on the 24th and the show 25-26-27.

The complete calendar is as follows:

- (*monthly meetings*): Jan. 16, Feb. 20, Mar. - no meeting, April, 17, May 15, June 19, July 24, Aug. - picnic meeting, Sept. 18, Oct. - no meeting, Nov. 20 and Dec. 18.
- (*plant sale*) May 9-10. This is the society's normal Mother's Day weekend at the Garden. The Garden is also allowing the society time that Friday afternoon to bring in plants and arrange the Orthwein exhibit hall so that the sale can commence early on Saturday. Let's take full advantage of this opportunity.
- (*show*) Sept. 24-25-26-27. These dates represent the last weekend in September. Show setup can begin anytime after noon on the 24th (Thurs). The pre-08 society schedule will be effective on the 25th, 26th and 27th.

TIME to RENEW: Membership for fiscal 09 is due. A St. Louis only membership is \$10. A combined St. Louis/ADS membership is \$30. Make your check payable to the Greater St. Louis Dahlia Society. And bring it to an upcoming meeting.

JUDGING CHAIRMAN Bob Sewell will have judging manuals and ADS tests at the November meeting. And Midwest Conference President Dick Peters has announced that the conference will hold a judging seminar next Aug. 15 at the Bonneyville Trial Garden, Bristol, In.

More complete details later.

'09 MIDWEST SHOW: Minerva Sunrise has been selected Flower of the Year at the upcoming Midwest show. And Dick Peters also announced that a special award will be given for the best Penhill Dark Monarch. Grand Rapids, Mich. will host the show, Aug. 28-29-30.

THOSE MEMBERS expecting to order new propagation or planting stock should begin searching the internet sooner than later to insure that good stock can be found at reasonable prices. A suggestion, don't wait until you get a price list in the mail.

CHRISTMAS MEETING: A voluntary \$10 gift exchange will be in lieu of the regular white elephant drawing. And refreshments that evening will be a variety of holiday treats furnished by many of those attending.

NOW PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS!

FLOWER of the YEAR: Plan on attending the November meeting, first to kick off the new fiscal year and equally important help select the 09 flow of the year. The more input, the better the selection. As one ponders a possible nomination keep in mind these few suggestions: Nominate a variety that is relatively easy to grow. Nominate a variety that is pleasing to a majority of the membership. Nominate a variety that ample propagation stock is either available within the society or is easily obtainable from a commercial grower.

MANY MEMBERS have reported excellent root harvests this fall, which begs this question:

Is the harvest large enough for the society to have a \$1 root sale at the February meeting? And would it be useful to the membership to know what varieties are going to be propagated by putting members' propagation lists on the society website?

Here's this month's installment of
HENRY'S JOKE OF THE MONTH



(This month's joke submitted by Sarah Meyer)

SOMETHING TO KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON

Three men die on Christmas Eve and are met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates. "In honor of this holy season" Saint Peter said, "You must each possess something that symbolizes Christmas to get into heaven."

The first man fumbles through his pockets and pulls out a lighter. He flicks it on. "This represents a candle", he says.

"You may pass through the pearly gates" Saint Peter says.

The second man reaches into his pocket and pulls out a set of keys. He shakes them and says, "These represent bells."

Saint Peter says, "You may pass through the pearly gates".

The third man starts searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulls out a pair of women's panties.

St. Peter looks at the man with a raised eyebrow and asks, "And just what do those symbolize"?

The man replies, "These are Carols".

And So Begins The Christmas Season.....

SET ASIDE an unusual white elephant for the November meeting. Let's begin the new fiscal year with a bang. And it is also obvious that the membership as a whole has much to be thankful for as it nears the Thanksgiving season.