



DAHLIA DIGGINGS

Propagation Supplies

Available at February Meeting

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

MEETING: Feb. 15, 7:30 PM Missouri Botanical Garden. Unless otherwise noted the society meets on the third Friday of the following, upcoming months - February, April, June, July, September, November and December.

REFRESHMENTS: Lou Gerardi, Joe Meyer, Colleen Simons

EDUCATION: More on propagating – a follow-up to Mike Plannett's pictorial look at propagating St. Louis style. Some do's and don'ts that will help you get the maximum production from your root stock.

BOARD MEETING: President Plannett has scheduled the society's annual board of directors meeting for 7 p.m., March 4 at the Grand Glaize Branch of the St. Louis County Library system. The Grand Glaize branch is located at *1010 Meramec Station Road in Valley Park*. A full agenda is anticipated and the president stressed the importance of this board meeting. **SO PLAN TO ATTEND and VOICE YOUR OPINIONS.**

Some of the probable agenda items:

---What options does the society have regarding a meeting and show site past the 08 fiscal year?

---Making section "V" (bouquet of dahlias) a permanent part of the show schedule

---Purchasing a laptop computer for society presentations

---Providing the show chairman direction as to how the 08 show will be altered from a four-day to a three-day format.

---Possible review of compensation (per plant) to those who provide plants for future plant sales.

STOP DRAGGING YOUR FEET: For those who have yet to pay their fiscal 08 dues, please do so now. This will be the LAST reminder. St Louis is \$10 and a combined STL/ADS membership is \$30. Failure to comply with Shirley Pollinger's final plea could well jeopardize receiving the March ADS bulletin in a timely fashion.

Each ADS quarterly bulletin is an excellent read but none is more important than the March bulletin which features both the Fab 50 and Cream of the Crop list. Either of these lists can be very helpful to anyone who has not fully decided what varieties to grow this season. Think of either of these lists as your grocery list for either the April or May plant sales.

REFRESHMENT CALENDAR: Maleta Fox, the society's refreshment chairperson, reports that all adjustments to the 08 schedule have been made and the calendar is complete.

THE SOCIETY mourns the recent passing of Isabel Willerding. She had spent the last years of her life at the Delmar Gardens North residence home. Isabel and her late husband were involved in not only growing dahlias, but also gladiolus. She was a past recipient of the Beckmann award and was most remembered in the dahlia society for her work with the medal program – a job ably done, now, by Donna Himmelberg. Dahlia societies in the U.S. and world wide trade medals. The traded medals become part of each society's show awards.

INTRA-SOCIETY PLANT SALE: Members attending the January meeting voiced approval of having a plant sale (members only) at the April meeting. To help those members wanting to buy plants, the March and April bulletins will provide a list of varieties being propagated. As a preview the February bulletin has individual lists of Hank Soltermann, Jim Boever and Joe Meyer. In future bulletins the editor hopes to add lists from Bob Himmelberg, the Pollingers, John Fox, Lou Gerardi and anyone else who is propagating. Plants at the April sale will cost \$3. Plant size could be smaller but the majority of the plants still should be hardened off. Those buying early will have to care for their plants until it is time to put them in the ground. Therefore, some may not want to take advantage of the early sale. But the up side will be plant selection. Expect a much better selection of show varieties at the April sale. The May sale will include April leftovers and whatever is potted late.

The April sale would be the perfect time to get your plant of Autay Chipper – *the 08 flower of the year*. Each member is entitled to one free plant. All others will cost the usual \$3.

And members also should advise non-member friends that the May sale will be on Sunday (May 11) only from noon to 5 p.m.

REMINDER: There will be no society meeting at the Garden in March. However, the monthly bulletin will be published and will include, among other things, recommendations passed by the committee of the whole at the March board meeting. For final approval a majority of the members present at the April meeting will then have to ratify them.

RAIN BARREL: Brian Meyer reports that he has access to one or more 55 gal plastic barrels that could be connected to a downspout to collect rain water. The barrels are free and remember, so is the rain water. Contact him for the particulars.

WHITE ELEPHANT: Got something unusual or something that likely will be tossed --- well, toss it in a bag and bring it to the meeting to spice up the white elephant drawing. And bring your usual big appetite for some delicious treats and hot coffee.