

DAHLIA DIGGINGS



NEWSLETTER FOR:

"THE GREATER ST. LOUIS DAHLIA SOCIETY"

Volume #3/08 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

NO MEETING IN MARCH

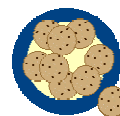
NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING:

April 18th, @ 7:30 pm. Missouri Botanical Garden.

The society meets the third Friday of the following upcoming months:
April, June, July, September, November, and December



REFRESHMENTS:



Refreshments for the April meeting will be included in the next Newsletter.



EDUCATION:

Education for the April meeting will be announced in the next newsletter.

TAKE a FEW MINUTES and send Dee Pollinger a "*Thinking of You*" card, email or note during her recovery from yet another physical problem. Don reports that she is steadily improving, a good sign, but hearing from friends could speed up the process. Check your society directory for an address.

SPREADING the DAHLIA GOSPEL: John Fox and Hank Soltermann gave a dahlia presentation to a garden club in St. Charles recently. Their presentation was two-fold. It provided an educational background about the dahlia, which all of us revere so much, and also an insight into membership in the Greater St. Louis Dahlia Society. As part of the latter Hank introduced club members to the society website, which also includes links to the American Dahlia Society website and the Midwest Conference website.

PROPAGATION SUPPLIES: Anyone who has yet to get his/her propagation or planting supplies can do so at the April meeting, reports John Fox. Osmocote fertilizer and oasis-cube sheets are atop the list of items still to be picked up.

APRIL MEETING PLANT SALE: There definitely will be plants for an intra-society plant sale at the April meeting. The amount of available plants will be better addressed in the April bulletin. However, members may have to wait until the May 11 (Mother's Day Sunday) sale at the garden to get a plant or plants of Autay Chipper, the society's "*FLOWER OF THE YEAR*". Those wanting Autay Chipper can make it known at the April meeting via a signup sheet. All members are entitled to one free plant. Any additional plants will be \$3.00, the same price as all other varieties appearing in either the April meeting or May Mobot sale. Those planning to buy plants in April should be advised that some of these early plants may not be hardened off yet, so additional care should be taken in that regard.

AND LASTLY, BE PREPARED TO PAY FOR YOUR PLANTS THAT EVENING. LET'S MAKE IT AS EASY AS POSSIBLE ON THOSE HANDLING THE SALE.

RESCHEDULED BOARD MEETING: The March 4th, "Snowed-out", society board meeting has been re-scheduled for April 1, at 7 p.m., again 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 additional time will be allotted, according to President Mike Plannett, for attendees to address other suggestions and concerns. So, plan to attend and participate. Whatever matters approved by the committee of the whole will be brought before the membership at the April meeting for final passage or rejection.

LET'S APPLAUD a MILESTONE: Bob and Judy Sewell recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. So Judy, send Bob and yourself a congratulations card on behalf of all society members.

RAIN BARRELS STILL AVAILABLE: Brian Meyer reports that he has access to a few 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. pondguy503@hotmail.com or webmaster@stldahliasociety.com or brian.meyer@pvdairy.com

VISIT the SOCIETY WEBSITE: Our website guru, Brian Meyer, is offering a helping hand to those who are having a hard time connecting the dots when it comes to selecting something new or different for their respective dahlia patches. The website not only lists a number of the varieties being propagated this spring but every variety listed and underlined has an accompanying color photo. So refer to the website as you begin the process of selecting the varieties you plan to include in your patch. And also refer this feature of the website to anyone else you know who plans to attend the follow-up sale at the Garden, May 11.

SO WHAT MIGHT BE AVAILABLE in APRIL? Sure bets at this writing appear to be (AA-A) -- Ayers White Knight, Aitara Bronwyn, Encore, Holly Huston, (B) - Sheila Young, Babylon Red, JR's Flash, Mrs. Eileen, Ferncliff Illusion, Mingus Bruce L, Nenekazi, Kiara Pompadour, (BB) - Mingus Toni, Brookside Cheri, Aitara Diadem, Hamilton Lillian, Brindisi, Mingus Selena, (OTHERS) - Weston Spanish Dancer, Optic Illusion, Proche Ami. The list will undoubtedly be expanded in the April bulletin to include such varieties as Zorro, Islander, Scaur Swinton, Beaucon White, Penhill Moonrise, Aitara Majesty, Vassio Meggos, Hamari Accord, Summit Festival, Ruskin Andrea, My Wife, Jessie G, Robann Royal, Verda, Cornel and Rebecca Lynn.

2008 ARRANGEMENT SECTION: The general theme is *Nursery Rhymes*. Again, the section will be subdivided into four (4) classes, with each class having its own title.

- **Class 901** is titled "A tisket, a tasket".

Each entry must appear in a basket container. The arrangement can feature all of one's favorite blooms but should contain some yellow blooms.

- **Class 902** is titled "I'm a little teapot".

For this class the container should be a teapot. The arrangement should, therefore, be small in size and portray smaller varieties.

- **Class 903** is titled "Jack be nimble, Jack be quick".

A featured part of this arrangement must be a candle. The candle can be directly in the arrangement or as an accessory. Blooms in this arrangement, again, are the arranger's choice.

- **Class 904** is titled "One, two buckle my shoe".

One large bloom is the featured part of this class. The theme committee is allowing the arranger latitude as to what color bloom best exemplifies the class theme.

A WORD from the BULLETIN EDITOR: Yes, the beginning of fiscal 2008 has not been the smooth beginning that the society has been accustomed to. But let's make the best out of a somewhat trying situation and move forward in such a way that will make individual members proud and the society in general proud of what it was able to accomplish under unfamiliar conditions.

Here's this month's installment of

HENRY'S JOKE OF THE MONTH



A blonde was weed-eating her yard and accidentally cut off the tail of her cat who was hiding in the grass. She rushed her cat along with the tail over to Wal-Mart!

Why Wal-Mart?

Wal-Mart is the largest retailer in the world, SILLY!

SEE YOU IN APRIL

Comments and Questions greeted with a smile.

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