

# DAHLIA DIGGINGS



NEWSLETTER FOR:

*"THE GREATER ST. LOUIS DAHLIA SOCIETY"*

Volume #7/06 E-Mail edition

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**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**, Aldine Kimker (314) 843-9612.

**JUST 63 DAYS UNTIL THE  
FRIDAY OF SHOW WEEKEND!**

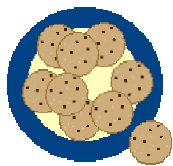
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## ***NEXT MEETING:***

July 21, 7:30 P.M. Missouri Botanical Garden.

The Society

meets the third Friday of each month.



## ***JULY REFRESHMENTS:***

Bill Funkhouser, Aldine Kimker, and Kineth Launius.



**The SOCIETY** mourns the recent passing of longtime member Tom Greteman. Wife, Celine reports that the family will continue to grow dahlias in Tom's memory. And the society also sends its condolences to Lou and Pat Gerardi following the recent death of a family relative.

**JOHN FOX** was elected to the board of directors of the Midwest Dahlia Conference at its June meeting in Indiana.

**CHECK OUT** the June ADS bulletin to discover the poetic side of member Ron Pollinger . Already an often seen contributor to the ADS photo contest, Ron has extended his prowess to include not one, not two but three poetic offerings. And speaking of Ron, he will divulge his photographic secrets at the August picnic meeting.

**FOLLOWING UP:** Chef Jerry Donley said there will be enough fish for second and third helpings. So bring a big appetite to the Aug. 19 picnic at the Miller clubhouse. The picnic/fish fry will be discussed in more detail at the July meeting and directions will be part of August bulletin.

**JUDGING SEMINAR:** Chairman Bob Sewell reports that the annual ADS required judging seminar will be held at the Garden, Aug. 22 from 7 -9:30 p.m. Bob will advise if ADS has instituted any changes from last year and he is also asking members to bring some blooms to be used as props during the seminar.

**REVISED** show schedules will be available beginning with the July meeting. They also will be distributed at the Aug. 19 picnic/fish fry meeting, at the judging seminar and the September garden tour meeting, which includes an arrangement seminar . Washington-Union, Mo. area members will host the garden tour. Show schedules will also soon be available on the Dahlia Society Web site. Watch for an email to confirm this.

**REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS** needed for September, October and November. Either see Marge at an upcoming meeting or contact her by phone or email [jboever@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jboever@sbcglobal.net).

**ENTRY NUMBER:** While show entry tags are not required to have an exhibitor number, according to the current terms and conditions that appear in the 2006 revised show schedule, judging chairman Bob Sewell strongly recommends that each exhibitor have an exhibitor number and display that number prominently on each tag. Sewell explains that such a number greatly assists those who tabulate each exhibitor's show points, which ultimately determines the sweepstakes winner in each section and the grand sweepstakes winner. Anyone showing for the first time, see Bob for a number and also check with him if you have forgotten your number .

**JULY EDUCATION:** For many of us timing for the show degenerates into an annual nightmare. I include myself. However if one becomes so frightened by even the thought of the ordeal, then his/her only recourse is the hit-miss method Oust bring whatever is available at show time and enter accordingly.

*But you know what they say, "No pain, No gain."*

So in an effort to minimize your mental anguish I will attempt to provide some timing pointers. Some individuals probably have already begun to pinch back their "M-A" varieties and likely will be turning their attention to "B" varieties with 58-60 or less days to go. Anytime Bob Kruger gave a program on timing he would always begin by saying, "Timing dahlias is not a science but an art." He stressed the fact that adjustments can be made each step of the way and this can greatly enhance one's success. Finally, he would conclude his presentation by saying, "My goal is to average one show-day bloom for each plant that I grow ."

**SECOND REMINDER:** Flowers that are ineligible for the *People's Choice* section at the 2006 show are: Kenora Wow (2005), Aitara Diadem (2004) and Lakewood Joe (2003).

**HANK and JOHN** provided an excellent capsule overview of the Midwest Conference annual June meeting.

**SUGGESTED CHANGES:** The ADS classification committee will consider several varieties that have appeared at the St. Louis show for reclassification: Of note are Aitara Majesty, Kenora Wow, Woodland Wildthing, Brushstrokes, Bristol Spartan and Penhill Watermelon. A complete list appears on pages 38-39 of the June ADS bulletin.

**2006** Midwest Conference show is Sept 15-17 in Akron, Ohio. Hosting the annual event is the Mahoning Valley Society. The site for the show is the Mill Creek Metro Parks, an 11-acre complex. Additional info regarding the show can be found in the June ADS bulletin or thru the Midwest Conference web site.

**REMEMBER** a white elephant and a big appetite.

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



With all the sadness and trauma going on in the world at the moment, it is worth reflecting on the death of a very important person, which almost went unnoticed last week. Larry LaPrise, the man that wrote "The Hokey Pokey" died peacefully at the age of 93. The most traumatic part for his family was getting him into the coffin.

***They put his left leg in.***

***And then the trouble started.***

***SEE YOU AT THE  
MEETING!***

