

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



Group of Judges at Long Island Trial Garden early in August, this year. Field Day will be held Sept. 10.
Judges—left to right: Henry Olsen, Otto Aumuller, Emil Berzau, James Kelly, Bert Pitt.

Published Quarterly: February, May, August and November

Issue of August, 1950 Third Quarter

(Entered as Second Class Matter at the Post Office in New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879)

BULLETIN

of the
American Dahlia Society

Contents *for* August, 1950

SERIES XXIII, No. 3

Published by THE AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY, INC.
12 Warren Street, New York 7, N. Y.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
Dahlias Bid Fair to be the Hit of Autumn Season.....	3-5
All Set for Large A.D.S. Show.....	6
The Australian Story	7
Mid West Dahlia Show Notes.....	9
Editorial	10

Subscription Rates \$3.50 per year in advance. Please send all subscriptions and dues to the Secretary, Andrew J. Mulcahy, 20 Marshal Ave., Floral Park, New York. Receipts will be promptly sent.

ADVERTISING RATES

Minimum space accepted, one inch
Fourteen agate lines to the inch

One Inch	\$10.00	Half Page	\$40.00
Two Inch	17.50	Page	75.00
Quarter Page	25.00	Double Page	135.00

All advertising for the American Dahlia Society Bulletin is taken subject to editing. The Society reserves the right to strike out of any advertising copy such parts as it deems objectionable, from any cause whatever, and it also reserves the right to cancel any advertisement for the same reason.

SPECIAL DISCOUNTS ON YEARLY CONTRACTS

If four consecutive advertisements are contracted for **in advance**, a discount of 25% is allowed on space of one quarter page or over.

Editor - - - - - GORDON F. WAASER
378 Pennsylvania Ave., Stearns Park, Freeport, L.I., N.Y.
Associate Editor, "Personals" - - OLIVER SHURTLEFF
1264 Bryant Street, Fairmount, West Virginia
Associate Editor - - - - - GEORGENA HUMBLE
232 Ridge Road, Douglaston, L. I., N. Y.
Associate Editor - - - - - LYNN B. DUDLEY
25 Irving Place, New Rochelle, N. Y.
Associate Editor - - - - - GEORGE R. CURRIE
Sheboygan, Wisc.

Advertising Index

	<i>Page</i>
Dahliadel Nurseries	<i>Back Cover</i>
Parrella Dahlia Gardens.....	11
Ruschmohr Dahlia Gardens.....	11

Dahlias Bid Fair to Be the Hit of Autumn Season

By VIRGINIA POLLAK

Flower arrangers have often admired dahlias but when asked why aren't they used for more flower show classes the answer used to be, "Oh! Those large things—they wilt so quickly—or they are a man's flower."

To dahlia growers there would be little point to tell how to cut and treat the blossoms which are going to be used in an arrangement. It is a known fact that few flowers will hold longer than the medium size and miniature dahlia, when cleanly cut and stems seared. So much for the answer to the lasting qualities. As to the criticism of size, people who are familiar with dahlias know there is no flower which offers greater variety of size and shape. The fact that men have a monopoly will be strongly contested by any interested lady—for women, history will reveal, were the first horticulturists. In primitive times while the male members of a family was hunting meat and fish the female was at home tending the garden—whether it is self defense or not ladies are extremely interested in both growing and arranging dahlias.

Ladies, if you want to hold your husband, a sure plan is—share his interest. I never knew and certainly would not have believed that anything could completely consume the attention of a man as growing dahlias. You have heard "A woman is only a woman but a good cigar is a smoke." A dahlia fan would go one better saying "A good dahlia is Heaven."

Fall suggests rich color and firm texture in flowers and foliage. These qualities lend charm and substance to flower arrangements—and can be emphasized by using the dahlia.

If curiosity compels you to seek the origin of dahlias, you can venture to the mountains of Mexico—or if comfort is uppermost in mind you can just sit by the fire and enjoy them in vases on the mantle or book shelf.

Mrs. John Knippenberg's spirit of adventure is expressed by her tribute to the country of dahlia origin. This was brought about by a flower show schedule requiring an arrangement inspired by a container made by a people of primitive culture. She selected a Mexican chili bowl, statuettes which were found in a tomb excavated near the Aztec pyramids. Combining these objects with related material such as rocks and primitive cactus she has obtained an architectural feeling to support and frame her floral arrangement. Although just ten small orange-red dahlias are employed, their demanding charm and beauty command the focal point. The foliage which blends in texture and connects the composition with flowing rhythmic lines is dark castor oil bean leaves of interesting forms.

This prize winning arrangement proves the point, you can be frugal with flowers if you are extravagant with imagination.

You may be saying to yourself—but who can get authentic statuettes foreign countries such as Egypt, Assyria, Africa, Mexico, China and so on.

Museums throughout the country, recognizing this need have solved the problem by having faithful reproductions



Finjstraal Dahlias and garden flowers arranged in a wine cooler. Colonial or mass arrangement as a welcome on the entrance hall table.

available to the public. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Modern Art, Brooklyn Museum, in New York and the Walter's Art Gallery in Baltimore, Md., are some sources from which these may be procured.

"Portrait of a Lady, complemented by one or more flower arrangements, staged above bookshelves, background blue green walls" was the class which intrigued Mrs. Lawrence Wilson. Again the dahlia is the key note. The satisfying composition suggests a luxurious yet warm and cozy room where you would expect to sit snugly in a wing chair by a fire and enjoy the book taken off the shelf.

The Sully portrait is the axis from which the theme radiated and the link which couples the relationship of flower arrangements to fine art. This was accomplished by choosing dominant points such as the lace collar, red jewelry, and velvet texture of the gown, repeating them in floral similarity. The lacy texture is represented through choice of delicate salvia leaves; wine red dahlias interpret the color and velvety texture; the green begonia leaves relate the composition as to flowers—texture—picture—

(Continued on following page)



Portrait of a Lady, complemented by flower arrangements, staged above bookshelves, background blue-green walls

and background. Secondary accents are made by the use of dried batisia leaves with pods; height is gained by the introduction of canna buds.

Keeping true to period the container is an antique wine red lustre with prisms. This beautiful effect was justly awarded first prize.

Let's get away from "Show Business" and concentrate on flowers for fun and decorating our homes. What more cheerful welcome than a greeting of a Colonial or mass arrangement of dahlias, on the entrance hall table?

Ed Lloyd grew the apricot Finjstraal which formed the inspiration for the arrangement in a silver wine cooler. Various species of flowers in tones of blue and pink-lavender, all just plain garden variety of simple blooms, selected for their color, size, and texture form a contrasting background to stage these magnificent specimens.

When this was arranged color played an important role in balancing line and weight. Unfortunately that quality is lost in a black and white reproduction.

Many people say large dahlias are beautiful in the garden, but are impossible to arrange gracefully in a home.

A simple answer to that is illustrated by placing two informal decorative pink dahlias and a bud in a tall, narrow neck blue Venetian glass vase.

Viewing this arrangement with the critical eye of a flower arranger it would be a just suggestion to extend the thick stem to the base of the container, improving the underwater line, eliminating the weak clear space between stem and pedestal of container. Other thoughts would be prune the foliage, creating interesting voids, and adding a half bloom bud to provide height and give variety of size of blooms.

Previously did I refer to sharing interest? Do it if you can. Ask Mrs. Dudley. She will tell you the story of anticipating a wonderful motor trip with those cavaliers—Lynn, Col. Eddie, and Dr. Cooke. What chivalry was in store, she thought. Her report of the trip through

(Continued on following page)

magnificent country was 1,000 miles of dahlia conversation. Never once did she have chance to introduce another subject. I am not quite sure they were always conscious of her charming presence.

"A woman is only a woman, but a dahlia is Paradise to a dahlia fan."

Snohomish County Rose & Dahlia Society

This is announcing the 41st Annual Dahlia Show of the Snohomish County Rose & Dahlia Society, August 26 and 27. Place: Floral Hall, Forest Park, Everett, Washington.

Society President—Mr. H. S. Records.

Secretary and Treasurer—Mrs. William L. Wolfe.

Show Chairman—Mr. William L. Wolfe.

There is no charge of admission.

There will be speakers and the presentation of trophies, concluding will be the auction of the blooms.

Everyone is cordially invited.

JOHN LINDSTRÖM, Show Publicity Chairman.

Arrangement inspired by a container made by a people of primitive culture.



Two Informal Decorative Pink Dahlias and a bud in a tall, narrow neck blue Venetian glass vase.

Alabama Dahlia Society

The Alabama Dahlia Society was no sooner through with its October show than work was started towards the next year's show. The new officers were installed, after which plans were started for the entire year's work. A large Christmas party was held at the home of Norman Lefkovits in Bessemer. Mrs. Harlan Howard is chairman of the Ways and Means Committee and it was through her efforts the party was a success. This was followed by the promotion of the Clump and Plant Sale. Mrs. Walter Thompson is chairman. Never before has this committee been able to sell as many plants. We are still wondering how it was possible to realize the large amount from the sale. Our society has always financed its shows to a great extent from the funds derived from the plant sale.

Our schedules were mailed out last week. Everything is ready for the big Southern States Show. Our president is already receiving requests from distant states for hotel reservations.

The annual picnic will be held with Jake and Irene Pate at their farm near Trussville. Even the war clouds have not dampened the enthusiasm of Alabama Dahlia Society members in planning for the greatest and best Southern States Dahlia Show. Come One! Come All!

All Set For Large A.D.S. Show

Perhaps due to a change in location—or should the favorable growing season receive some credit—albeit enthusiasm abounds in our anticipation of a great show.

Reports indicate a substantial increase in the number of exhibitors.

And there are numerous new incentives, for this 36th Annual A.D.S. Show will offer some very valuable prizes. The Show will be held September 20 and 21 in co-operation with the New York Horticultural Society at the Essex House, Central Park South.

The ground floor beautiful Exhibition Hall will facilitate handling of entries for the exhibitors.

If you have not received schedule and classifications lists, better obtain copies from our Secretary without delay.

ADDITIONAL ENTRIES PERMITTED IN CERTAIN CLASSES

In classes D-52—Bi-color, and E-1—(12 to 15 large Dahlias) an exhibitor may enter as many entries as desired—no excuse to leave any real good bloom home! And of course, your chances for winning the big cash prize are increased by the number of your entries.

Our Miniature expert growers have not been forgotten. There will be a very beautiful award for Sweepstakes winner in Section D—Miniatures, a Souvenir Dinner Plate, hand painted—"The Volunteer"—gift of the Dahlia Society of Tennessee.

Keen interest centers around the "Court of Honor" class. It is going to take better than an "85" Dahlia to pry the beautiful St. Louis trophy from Dr. Fred J. Knocke. He, you will remember, holds two legs on this cup, with magnificent specimens of Maffie and Edith Willkie. If he can bring home the bacon again, the cup will be retired to the doctor's trophy room. A splendid group of judges has been assembled by the Committee, headed by the veteran Conrad Frey.

Our out-of-town friends should communicate without delay with the Essex House for accommodations.

Show Manager, Henry A. Olsen, requests that all entries be mailed to him not later than September 12th. You may make any changes you wish at Show time, but please mail your entries in advance—this is most important.

Classification Lists

The revised current classification lists are now ready. They may be had for 50 cents per copy; 25 cents in group of 10 or more from A. J. Mulcahy, A.D.S. Secretary, 20 Marshal Avenue, Floral Park, N. Y.

A.D.S. Treasurer Henry Olsen's New Address

A.D.S. Treasurer, Henry A. Olsen's new address is 45 Clement Avenue, Elmont, New York.

Correction A.D.S. Show Schedule

The group of classes "C," 22B to 29B inclusive, should be designated Formal Decorative.

Long Island Dahlia Society Show

The Sixth Annual Show of the Long Island Dahlia Society will be held at Plattdeutsche Park, Hempstead Turnpike, Franklin Square, Long Island, on Saturday, September 23, from 4 to 10 p. m. The facilities at this place are excellent with large drive-in area, picnic grove tables for setting up blooms, and a large cool hall for staging the exhibits, insuring good keeping quality.

Officers in charge are:

Otto J. Aumuller, President, 50 E. Lincoln Avenue, Valley Stream, L. I.

Emil Berzau, Chairman, Show Committee, 239 Park Avenue, Merrick, L. I.

Mrs. George F. Yeager, Chairman Arrangements Committee, 115-12 124th Street, South Ozone Park, L. I.

Miss Josephine Bazewick, Secretary, 160-09 84th Drive, Jamaica, L. I.

The Show Schedule is now available and provides 204 classes. The A.D.S. Classification is being followed—with 108 classes for the A type dahlias. There will be four tri-color awards, which will entitle the winner to a special prize of a beautiful piece of pottery. In addition a gold ribbon and special prize will be awarded for the most nearly perfect bloom in this section.

In the B Section in which there are 51 classes, a new departure should stimulate intense competition. An exhibitor may make *two* entries in any and all classes, both eligible to win. Four tri-colors and special prizes will also be awarded in this class, as well as gold ribbon and special prize for the most perfect bloom.

Section BB for 5 to 6 inch dahlias, Section C for miniatures up to 4 inches have 26 classes and 2 tri-colors; and the Pom pom class will award two tri-colors and special prizes for the best blooms in 13 classes.

For all dahlias there are 15 classes, and for Basket arrangements, 5 classes.

The Undisseminated Seedling classes will consist of 7 classes with gold ribbon awards. One innovation should give impetus to the amateur exhibitor, as there is a class for first year seedlings, from seed sown THIS YEAR.

In the 2 and 3 year seedling classes, awards will be made to those varieties scoring 85 or over using as a basis the A.D.S. bench score card.

The Long Island Dahlia Society Gold Medal will be awarded to the best variety in the A class, and the A.D.S. bronze medal for best Class B dahlia.

The American Home Achievement Medal will be awarded to the most meritorious variety, having distinctiveness comparable with existing varieties.

There is another innovation in the 17 Arrangements classes. There is one class exclusively for men, with an

(Continued on page 9)

The Australian Story - - - Dahlias from 1900 to 1950

By M. I. FITZGERALD

85 Nicholson St., Coburn N. 13, Victoria, Australia

The way of the dahlia historian is fairly easy because there is a rich field of documentary and other data available from the time the dahlia was discovered in sunny Mexico a few centuries ago. In fact its modern life dates really from the time Napoleon was marching around Europe, circa 1800 AD.

After being grown variously for flowers and food (at least in England) the modern dahlia really started to get moving in the 1870's after the forerunner of the present cactus types was developed. We refer of course to the famous Juarezii dahlia. The story from 1900 to 1950 is the triumphant saga of giant decoratives and glorious cactus varieties which have now been developed well along the road to perfection.

But strangely enough the first novelty type to appear in the early 1900's was the so called "Century" dahlia . . . a sort of giant single, which had quite a term of popularity.

THE AUSTRALIAN ANGLE . . . 1900 to 1920

The Victorian era, so perfectly reborn in the film "Life with Father", was still alive in the dahlia shows of the early years in this century. A most interesting book by Pescott entitled "The Dahlia in Australia" and published in 1920, tells of the stiff formality of the early shows, where row upon row of rather starch-petalled types were shown. Each bloom had a little paper collar and the flowers were arrayed with almost military precision.

Little wonder, says Pescott, that there was a revolt against this strict formality and that looser cactus and other exotic types became the rage. But before the "show" types lost their glory he records that at one period there was tremendous speculation in new varieties which would sometimes sell for as much as \$300! The first cactus types were rather heavy and coarse, continues Pescott, but by 1920 they had become refined and stiff stemmed. And from his photos we can see that the cactus of his day would do credit to 1950 raisers. He called them "garden" cactus, because they were useful in the garden as well as for shows; and to this day, most Australian growers use the term "garden cactus", when referring to cactus types.

Apart from the cactus, Pescott mentions the peony type as being a popular favorite from 1905 to 1920 . . . "Geisha" being one of the earliest and best with its gleaming red and gold petals. We grew it till 1925.

As to decoratives he mentions that 7 inches is a suitable size and deplores the fact that some growers were starting to go in for larger and looser types. He regards "Souvenir de G Douzon" as a grand sight with its rich red flowers.

One interesting observation relates to the discovery in the Melbourne Botanic Gardens in 1919, of a new type called the "Rosette" dahlia for want of a better name. Examination of a photo convinces us that this was exactly the same type as we now call the "Straight cactus", and they seemed perfect in every way, even in 1919 pictures.

But in spite of all this, Australia was not yet a dahlia

country, as we were still recovering from World War I and were in the midst of serious economic difficulties.

Dahlia names mentioned by Pescott and which bring back memories, include:—*F. W. Fellowes*; *John Riding*; *Valiant*; *Jean Watson*; *Zebra*; *Buff Queen*; *Iron Duke*; *Mrs. W. Egan* and *Sylvia*.

Though the "Show" dahlia has never come back to its former top position, we learn from Sitwell in the new book, "Old Fashioned Flowers", that show dahlias are still grown in their pristine glory at Glasgow, Cardiff and South Wales. The same varieties as were tops in the 1890's are grown perfectly by switching them to different districts to preserve vigour. A colour plate of Peacock looks wonderful. As the writer says in referring to these kingsized poms, the Show dahlias are "huge quilled flowers with wonderful colors and symmetrical petal cells".

USA DAHLIAS IN AUSTRALIA . . . 1920 to 1930

Australia turned to America in the mid twenties for great new dahlias and by this time, Waite had set the dahlia world on fire with his "Jersey's Beauty", which still wins at shows . . . it won the ADS medal in 1923 and was followed by other favorites like *Jersey's Beacon* and *Jersey's Ideal*. In his book ("Modern Dahlia Culture" 1925), Waite lauds *Amun Ra Ambassador*, *Earl Williams*, *Francis Lobdell*, and many others which we remember as top liners in Australia.

He also mentions the "English, or Incurved Cactus"; and "the hybrid cactus of Dutch origin". We still use the term "hybrid cactus" to cover cactus types. Waite cites the ADS classification as including Cactus (e.g. *Pierrot* and *F. W. Fellowes*); Hybrid cactus (*Kalif*); and also Decorative; Peony and Show and Hybrid Show.

We see here the genesis of the present ADS classification of Formal and Inf dec; and Straight and Incurved cactus etc.

Moving along to the late twenties, we find many familiar names in Rockwells book called "Dahlias". Do you recall, as we do with delight, such wizard dahlias as *Mrs. I de Vere Warner*; *El dorado*; *Papillon*; *Siskiyou*; *Champagne*; *Oberon*; *Violetta*; and the crotch bloomer *Wizard of Oz*. In those days we still looked to the USA for most of our new champions.

FASHIONABLE DAHLIAS . . . 1930 to 1939

Through the great depression and up till the outbreak of World War 2, dahlias had a checkered career in Australia. We grew European and USA varieties such as Peacock mentions in his book ("Dahlias" 1931). For example we liked *Andreas Hoffer*; *Kath Norris*; *Edna Ferber*; *King Midas*; *The World*; *City of Trenton*; *Barbara Redfern*; *Frazier* and of course, *Sanhicans Blue Bird*.

Our diary records that *Mrs. A. B. Seal*; *Frau O. Bracht*; and a few more were winning all over the place.

(Continued on following page)

THE AUSTRALIAN STORY

(Continued from page 7)

Also we noted that "Kaweah" was the "world's biggest dahlia" and that *Berengeria* and *Grace Curling* were beauties from England; *Paul Pfitzer* and *White Duchess* were sensations from Europe; and *Marion Broomhal* was a boom dahlia from America.

In the early thirties we also marveled at *Monmouth Champion*, *Regal*, *Arvis Cowdray*, *Queen of the Garden*, *Trentonian*, *Silverado* and *Yankee King*. Remember them?

In 1935 we were climbing out of the great depression and dahlias were on the boom . . . they came bigger and better and our ADS bulletins of those years tell us that *Hunts Velvet Wonder*, *Murphys Masterpiece*, *California Idol*, *Sultan of Hillcrest*, *Jane Cowl* and *Satan* were already beginning their wonderful careers. Incidentally the winners in 1935 included such famed exhibitors as Louis B. Tim, M. F. Untermeyer, Dr. Preas and Mrs. Stout.

At long last Australia was showing that she could raise world class dahlias and along came many from the Australian continent and the isle of New Zealand . . . dahlias like *Clara Carder*, *Darcy Sainsbury*, *Phyllis Knight* and *G. W. Hutchinson* can still win in the world arena. American dahlias popular in Australia just before World War 2 included *California Rose*, *American Sweetheart*, and *Arela Lloyd*.

WARTIME DAHLIA GROWING . . . 1939 to 1945

Whilst the war raged close to our north spheres we grew vegetables and a bare minimum of dahlias, just for a few flowers and relaxation.

Paradoxically this was just about the time that Aussie growers produced some world beaters. For example *Kelvin*, *Pam Joyce*, *Pop Harris*, *Bill's Gold*, *Captain Silverman*, *Lucky Bird* and *Nobbys Light* were marketed about the war period.

But the golden age of Australian dahlia raising was still to come. We believe in fact that we are only now in the middle of this era of new world champions. A cursory glance thru the ADS show results of the last few years proves beyond doubt that dahlias like those mentioned above can win anywhere.

The reasons are not hard to find. We are blessed with a wonderful warm climate and a rich soil and plenty of growing space. In short, all the ingredients for successful dahlia breeding are available including a long fall of 3 to 4 months and a non-freeze winter.

THE GOLDEN AGE . . . 1945 to 1950

It needed only the impetus of the fierce dollar shortage to cause our hybridists to really engage in an intense search for new and ever better dahlias. The results include such USA winners as *Black Magic*, *Croydon Snoot*, *Lavender Perfection*, *Goulburn*, *Blackout* and *Kelvin Sunrise*.

And what about the new ones for 1950 and for 1951? Well there are a number which can only be described as breath taking. They come from all parts of the continent and if we were to list a complete "dahlia hit-parade" it would stretch a mile long. So we will give a glimpse of only a few.

Arab Queen, for example, won 3 prizes for one grower, was champion at Wangaratta and won also at Ashburton in its first year. It is a huge refined full bodied sparkling cactus of rose Neyron on a golden background.

Swanlake is a rich burnished coppery bronze and is a 9 inch cactus. It looks really good.

Shelbourne Fantasy is a great mahogany dec on a yellow base and it is a perfect giant.

The Baron is a pink and primrose cactus of large size and perfect form.

Croydon Radiance is already a great show winner, being a 10 inch purplish carmine dec.

Brooklyn Coralie has also been a favorite in some states and a show winner.

Julie Keech is a beauty and a winner in the North. A mahogany dec.

Snow Goose is a lovely 5 inch pure white cactus. Very prolific type.

Wagon Wheels is a medium dec of pure mauve.

King Canute is a splendid medium cactus of golden apricot. A winner.

This brief resume will give an idea of the type of top line dahlias now coming into prominence and there are many more.

A FINAL WORD

When we began this article we intended to do a bit of brief research thru a few early catalogues and Bulletins. But we found the subject so fascinating that we could have gone on for reams . . . but the EDITOR would doubtless have used the knife and the blue pencil. We have tried to be concise. But we do think the nostalgic memories we have raised may inspire some American writer to pen another article to be entitled "HALF A CENTURY OF AMERICAN DAHLIA GROWING . . . 1900 to 1950".

The Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society

The Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society will hold its Annual Show Saturday and Sunday, September 16th and 17th—hours 4 p. m. to 9 p. m. Saturday, and 10 a. m. to 9 p. m. Sunday—at The Phipps Conservatory in Schenley Park, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

To those of you who have attended our splendid shows in the past, we need not mention the beautiful green background, spacious houses and artistic winding paths, which the Conservatory affords. If you have never seen one of our shows, or if you want to see one that will top them all we hope, do make it a point to visit us. We shall have several thousand blooms of superlative quality, arranged and marked in such a way as to be informative and educational. There will be a non-competitive display of foreign dahlias all most carefully marked. Our arrangement section has grown and is making a valiant effort to keep abreast of the increasing interest in arranging flowers artistically for use in our homes, with special emphasis, of course, on the superiority of dahlias over all other flowers for any purpose!

Let us see visitors from north, south, east, and west, and to the Scotch may we whisper that there is no admission fee at the Conservatory to see this remarkable display. Our only charge is one dollar to non-members exhibiting. Schedules are available on request.

ELIZABETH F. HISLOP (Mrs. L. D.)
Show Chairman
455 Clokey Ave., Pittsburgh 28, Pa.

Mid-West Dahlia Show Notes

In the history of the Minnesota Dahlia Society, there has never been more enthusiasm for growing dahlias and for putting on a grand dahlia show, than has been built up this year. The Mid-West Dahlia Show in Minneapolis on Sept. 11th and 12th is of course the reason. Members are growing all the dahlias their gardens will hold and regardless of weather, red spider or whatever else troubles them, really fine blooms are going to be on display and in profusion. These folks of the Upper Midwest take dahlia growing seriously and at the same time get a lot of fun out of their hobby.

You who attend this Show will find the gardens in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, where most of our members live, are a joy to visit and it will be our pleasure to take you through some of them on our Show Garden Tour. Good tours must always be well planned and the Tour Committee has already conceived this one in a manner every participant is certain to like. You will see not only fine dahlias, but the Lake Minnetonka area and scenic Minneapolis to be visited are a sightseeing trip by themselves. The tour map shows the extent of the trip and we hope you won't miss it.

From Duluth will come some of the most beautiful specimens of the Show. Cool summers up there make it a perfect place to grow dahlias and our Duluth members have lots of knowhow. Watch for their entries in all classes.

The Minnesota Dahlia Society also takes pride in the abilities of its commercial grower members. They do a wonderful job of making others succumb to the lure of growing dahlias. Four special displays will be their big effort in the Mid-West Show. Their arrangements are guaranteed to hold your interest and close inspection for a long while.

As a feature of the Show, every visiting member of associated societies will be asked to participate in the Judging. There will be time for this group to have friendly get-acquainted chats at the Judges' Luncheon and at the very special Ladies' Luncheon on the opening day. Both are going to be enjoyable.

The evening banquet will be built around a cordial welcoming and a mingling of guests, hostesses and hosts, all planned in such a way as to make every minute of the evening pleasant.

There is a need for early registration of all who plan to attend due to a minimum of hotel space. Confirm your reservations now.

Minnesota welcomes you! Minneapolis-St. Paul welcomes you! The Minnesota Dahlia Society looks forward to greeting, making friends and renewing acquaintances with you one and all!

Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society

Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society officers for the year 1950 are as follows:

President—J. G. Barry.

1st Vice-President—R. G. Emery.

2nd Vice-President—J. Klingensmith.

Treasurer—Paul Planert.

Secretary—Mrs. Henry MacRoberts.

Board Members—William Parke, William Rath, Walter Grieve, David Ross.

Farmingdale Trial Garden

The twenty-nine seedlings at the Long Island Institute of Agriculture and Technology Farmingdale Trial Garden on Long Island, New York, are doing very well indeed. The plants are healthy which is an indication that the students and the resident professional personnel are up on their toes and giving the garden their untiring and unselfish attention. Mr. Chris Rissmeyer, who is in direct charge of the Trial Garden, is devoting a great deal of his personal attention to it, to the end that the results will be beyond criticism.

Emil Berzau, Chairman of the Committee representing The Long Island Dahlia Society, visits the Trial Garden at least twice a week and some of his committeemen and officers of the Society have accompanied him on numerous occasions, and will continue to do so.

On Sunday, August 13th, five members visited the Trial Garden and were able to judge several entries. Among them was a beautiful 11-inch purple informal decorative, a 7-inch red semi cactus, and a white with a blending of lavender cactus, A size. Should they ever be disseminated, the dahlia growers are assured of at least three worthwhile dahlias.

Abutting the Trial Garden are plantings of fine standard varieties including pom poms, miniatures, balls and botanical dahlias and just beyond is the test garden of The Long Island Dahlia Society with a planting of 175 standard varieties. All told there are approximately 350 plants, practically all in fine condition.

The Long Island Dahlia Society will hold a field day at the Trial Garden on Sunday, September 10th, at 3 P.M. and the invitation to attend is extended to all who may be interested.

LONG ISLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY SHOW

(Continued from page 6)

award of a tri-color and special prize for the best arrangement in this class.

If interested in exhibiting at our Show, contact any of the aforesaid officers.

JOSEPHINE BAZEWICK, Secretary.

Badger State Dahlia Society

The Badger State Dahlia Society will hold the annual Dahlia & Flower Show on September 3 and 4, 1950 at the Community Center, Madison, Wisconsin.

From present indications we will have a very good show.

WALTER B. SENTRY, Sec.

Pacific Dahlia Society

Due to the passing of R. S. (Scotty) Hudson on July 7th, we are compelled to cancel all plans for the 1950 Long Beach Show.

Please address all communications to A. P. Taylor, President, 921 Garfield Street, Santa Ana, California.

The American DAHLIA SOCIETY, Inc.

ORGANIZED MAY 10, 1915



"The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the Dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test out new varieties and give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases of the Dahlia and find remedies for same, and to disseminate information relating to this flower; to secure uniformity in awarding prizes at flower shows, and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable."

LEO L. POLLAK, *President*

Upper Mountain Ave., Upper Montclair, New Jersey

GORDON F. WAASER, *Editor*

378 Pennsylvania Ave., Freeport, New York

ANDREW F. MULCAHY, *Secretary*

20 Marshal Ave., Floral Park, New York

HENRY A. OLSEN, *Treasurer*

45 Clement Ave., Elmont, New York.

Editorial

Our special feature in this August Bulletin is a comprehensive article on Arrangements and Use of Dahlias by Virginia Pollak, distinguished American sculptress. Gifted wife of our A.D.S. President, Mrs. Pollak's influence in Horticulture is assuming the proportions of her prowess as a sculptress.

Co-operating with the A.D.S. in our 1950 Show, the Horticultural Society of New York will bring to our Garden Club Section, a new group of exhibitors who specialize in flower arrangements.

Members of our American Dahlia Society will furnish the blossoms and these talented ladies will vie for the prizes for Dahlia arrangement.

Your Committee hopes that all this special attention to Dahlia "arrangers" will inspire many to enter the diversified classes in our Garden Club Section. Always an outstanding feature of an A.D.S. Show, all previous efforts doubtless will be surpassed this year.

National Capital Dahlia Society

Plans have been completed for our 15th Annual Regional Dahlia show which will be held at the U. S. Botanic Garden, Maryland Ave. and 1st St., S.W. on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 23 and 24, 1950. Entries will close at 12:00 noon on the 23rd. About \$500 worth of fine trophies will be awarded, as well as The American Home Achievement Medal and A.D.S. Gold Medal Certificates for dahlias qualifying under the A.D.S. Sweepstakes Rules.

Under the capable show-chairmanship of N. A. Shearon plans have been made to arrange the show primarily for artistic effect. The various sections are listed alphabetically in the Show Schedule and will be arranged in the Botanic Garden so that visitors will normally pass from section to section in the same order. This should make the sections easier to locate. Approximately 20,000 visitors and 3,000 exhibits are expected.

It is planned to hold on Sept. 10 a show at St. Elizabeth's Hospital of dahlias grown by the patients from stock furnished by the Society. The Society is supplying a trophy to be awarded to the winner.

In our past several shows out-of-town dahlia fans have been impressed by the beautiful display cards in our educational exhibits. Many have asked how duplicates could be obtained. This will now be made possible at a cost of only \$5.00 a set (approximately cost price) provided that a total of 10 orders can be obtained. Two sheets ready for mounting are in the set, one showing 8 common types of dahlias in color and naming them as to type and size while the other shows by way of colored illustrations and descriptive legends how dahlias can be grown from seed, tubers and cuttings. The sheets ready mounted on stiff cardboard will cost \$7 a set. The sheets measure about 4½ by 3 feet and can be read at a distance of about 20 feet. They are made by one of our artist members, Paul F. Petrie, by the silk screen process.

DR. HENRY C. PARKER,
Publicity.

Dahlia Society of Kentucky

Plans are completed for every fine show at the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, Kentucky, September 23 and 24.

GROW MORE . . .
SHOW MORE . . .

Make the Dahlia America's
Leading Flower!

You are cordially invited to visit our gardens and see our seedlings as well as a number of new importations, and standard varieties.

We plan to have our usual exhibit at the A.D.S. Show at the Essex House in New York on Sept. 20 and 21. We hope to meet you there.

Our advanced price list is now available.

RUSCHMOHR

Dahlia Gardens

38 Vincent St., Rockville Centre, N. Y.

GROVER MOLLINEAUX

As we go to press, news reaches us of the passing of Grover C. Mollineaux, very prominent member of the Long Island Dahlia Society.

To most A.D.S. members Mr. Mollineaux is best known as the originator of that fine Dahlia "Marilyn Dale." He headed the firm of Mollineaux Brothers, dealers in coal and oil, which has been operated by his family for a century and a quarter.

He was secretary of the Greenpoint Savings Bank in Brooklyn when he retired four years ago. Widely known as a dahlia grower he won many prizes in shows throughout the Metropolitan area. He was a member of the Long Island Dahlia Society, the Morton Masonic Lodge and a charter member of Hempstead Golf Club.

He is survived by his wife, Ivy; a daughter, Mrs. Marjory Morris; a son, Grover Jr., and two grandchildren; to whom all Dahlia friends extend heartfelt sympathy.

Tips for the Novice Showman

Study your schedule and classification list carefully—a splendid entry in the wrong class results in disqualification!

Cut blooms in the evening—store overnight in deep cold water in a cool cellar—if available.

Do not pack too tightly for transporting. Better use an extra box or two. Place lightly crushed soft paper underneath and between the blossoms.

If possible arrive at Showroom an hour or two early—better opportunity to procure containers, water, etc.

After setting up display, re-check schedule and be sure your entry is in the proper class. If in doubt ask any experienced showman or any officer of the Society.

After the awards have been made, check any non-winning entry and try to ascertain the reason you were defeated. Ask a competent judge to help you. You may receive very valuable information for the future.

•

Kitsap County Dahlia Society Bremerton, Washington

The forthcoming Kitsap County Dahlia Society show is to be held in Bremerton, Washington on August 24, 25, 26, 1950.

DAHLIAS

A cordial invitation is extended to our Dahlia loving friends to visit our gardens from now until frost, and see for themselves our gorgeous display. Our selections include over 300 varieties, both large and small, with all the colors of a rainbow.

You will see the best of the 1949 introductions, also some very promising seedlings.

Watch for our New Introductions at the A.D.S. show, held at the Essex House, Central Park South, New York City, Sept. 20 and 21, 1950 and see our unusual display.

At our Gardens you can secure a Royal Bouquet at a reasonable price.

•

ALBERT PARRELLA DAHLIA GARDENS

3380 ELY AVENUE, BRONX 66, N. Y. C.

ADVANCE OFFER

The new **DAHLIADEL SCORE SHEET** is a simplified system of making Dahlia Records, arranged so it may be easily used by the novice, and also make all the records necessary for the Dahlia enthusiast, professional or even the commercial grower. This system allows you to record 10 varieties on one page 4 x 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", punched for standard loose leaf binder, the Dahliadel Color Chart size. Send for **SAMPLE SHEET. NEW DAHLIADEL SCORE SHEETS** are now available 50 for 60¢—\$1.00 per hundred postpaid. We have also devised a **DAHLIADEL SCORE CLIP** which enables you to score all dahlias, either in the field or on the bench according to the A.D.S. Standards, and much easier than other available means.

SPECIAL OFFER

We have only a limited number of the **DAHLIADEL POCKET EDITION** described below and will supply 50 New Dahliadel Score Sheets with the **DAHLIADEL SCORE CLIP**, and include sample A.D.S. Score Sheets, and the complete A.D.S. and C.S.D.S. Classification List, all for the original price of the **DAHLIADEL POCKET EDITION—\$15.00**. This combination is very useful in staging and judging any Dahlia Show.

DAHLIADEL POCKET EDITION of the **HORTICULTURAL COLOUR CHART** contains 175 color blocks arranged in the spectrum order, primarily for the American Dahlia Society with a definite color range on each set of pages. Autumns have been added to make the color range more complete. It is a complete chart for other flowers with the addition of violets, and the omission of the greens and a few blues.

Darker shades are in columns to the right with lighter tints to the left. Pages are covered with Cellophane and in a standard 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ binder. **Pocket Edition in Loose Leaf Binder, including above Special Offer, for a limited time only . . . \$15.00.**

HORTICULTURAL COLOUR CHART (Published by the Royal Horticultural Society of England)

This Chart is in two volumes with 100 loose sheets in each, and four color tones on each sheet. It has the most complete range of colors with the exception of autumns which have been added in the Dahliadel Pocket Edition. It has the best colors of any Chart published for Horticultural use. The color names are nearly all in common usage.

Complete Chart of 2 Volumes, \$12.50

Sheets punched and each Volume in a Loose Leaf Binder Complete . . . \$14.00

Above Horticultural Chart with 2/3 of the color blocks cut out that are used in the Pocket Edition (635 blocks untouched, 165 with 1/3 block left in) in 2 Loose Leaf Binders . . . \$ 7.00

Dahliadel Pocket Edition with the above Horticultural Chart with 2/3 of the color blocks cut out when ordered together including special offer . . . \$20.00

DAHLIADEL NURSERIES

WARREN W. MAYTROTT

BOX 14, VINELAND, N. J.