

BULLETIN

of the

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY



FLORENCE CHADWICK, noted channel swimmer, admires the beautiful white Cactus Dahlia named in her honor. This dahlia is the first variety to score a Certificate of Merit at all five American Dahlia Society Trial Gardens in a single season (1952), winning the Derrill W. Hart Memorial Gold Medal. Originator—Comstock Dahlia Gardens.

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BULLETIN

of the
American Dahlia Society

Contents for March, 1953

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ANDREW J. MULCAHY

A.D.S. President for 1953

At the Annual Meeting of the American Dahlia Society held Saturday, January 17th, 1953, at the Statler Hotel, N. Y. C., Andrew J. Mulcahy was unanimously elected President of your Society.

"Drew" Mulcahy was a Vice President for the past year and was secretary of the Society for the prior four years and a member of the Executive Committee for many years. He also served on the Classification Committee.

Through his efforts, relationships with the Branches and Affiliated Societies has been most cordial. He made it a practice to answer all mail within two days—many times replies to inquiries were sent by return mail.

His interest in Dahlias started about 1937 and in the next few years he became active in the work of the Society and never faltered when asked to help regardless of whether it was a small or a large undertaking. In his friendly acceptance speech at the Annual Meeting he advised that Mr. Gordon Waaser introduced him to dahlias and that he had met him through his business, Real Estate.

Drew specializes in realty financing. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y. on April 3rd of the last century. He graduated from Boys High School and then attended N. Y. University. On April, 1927 he married Isabel C. Lynch of Southampton, L. I. They have one daughter, Jane, the apple of her daddy's eye. Jane recently graduated from Saint Elizabeth's College.

It is Drew's aim and ambition to increase the active and sustaining membership of the Society at least 50 per cent this year and to accomplish it, he states that if each member obtains just 1 new one, the membership will be doubled. He realizes that not all members are in a position to get a new member and some take an indifferent attitude. With a substantial increase in membership the BULLETIN income from ads will be much larger because of increased circulation. Let us really surprise him and keep the Membership Committee Chairman, Mr. John Metzger, so busy he will need a full time secretary.

The American Dahlia Society since its formation in 1916 has been the leading National Dahlia organization. Its success is due to the efforts of a few many years ago. Drew has stated that it remains for us to carry forward and perpetuate the tasks so nobly done in the past. With this in mind and believing many hands will lighten a burden, President Mulcahy has increased the number of members of some committees for the present year.

Let each and every one of us resolve we are with him and will do our utmost to willingly assist in the Society's undertakings.



ANDREW J. MULCAHY

Derrill Hart Winner for 1952

The Derrill W. Hart Memorial Medal, the supreme award each year for the highest scoring dahlia at three or more official trial grounds of the American Dahlia Society, was awarded to Comstock Dahlia Gardens of San Diego, California, for their 1953 introduction, *Florence Chadwick*.

This is the first dahlia to receive a certificate at all of the official trial grounds in any one year, according to all the available records.

Florence Chadwick is a white straight cactus with a faint trace of lavender at the tips of young blooms, but the lavender does not show on mature blooms. Average score was 85.3.

ROY W. WEBB, *Chairman*,
Derrill W. Hart Memorial Medal Committee.

Greetings from our Retiring President

The American Dahlia Society is indeed fortunate to have a man of the ability of Andrew J. Mulcahy to be their President and to lead them in their various activities. Mr. Mulcahy (Drew to those who know him) served your society as Secretary for a number of years and in that capacity he did an outstanding job. He cemented the era of good will that now exists with all of our branch and affiliated societies and we can say, without hesitation, that everywhere that Drew went he was received with open arms and a kindly feeling that bespeaks the character of the man.

A grower in his own right he showed no mean ability on the show tables, as a judge or as a manager. He has the happy faculty of being able to remember names and classification, and there are few dahlias in today's long list that he cannot place in their proper location.

The team of Mulcahy as president and Dr. Fred Knocke as secretary is sure to be a winning one, and we are all looking forward with keen anticipation to the advancement your society will surely make under their regime.

Looking back over the last five years when I was privileged to serve you as your president I cannot but help feel thankful over the progress that has been made. Our shows have been uniformly successful, and even though the number of visitors fall short of those of our mid-west compatriots, still, when one considers that the western shows charge no admission fees, while we in New York have to, to help defray expenses by making a nominal charge, the comparison is not too one-sided. The quality of our exhibits has always been tops, and we feel well satisfied that everybody who has a new bloom of merit tries to get it into our show where there usually collect the outstanding men and women in the dahlia world. Under the guidance of Henry Olsen and later under Emil Berzau, the staging has been excellent, and since we moved our show to the Essex House the staging conditions have been greatly improved.

During the last few years working in close harmony with the Central States Dahlia Society, there has annually been issued the much needed Classification List, which has proven an enormous help not only to the beginner, but also to the old time grower. It enables one to properly identify the blooms about to be entered in competition. The lists are brought up to date every year, so one can feel sure that any entry that follows the classification given in our list, will be properly placed.

The amount of work that was required to get out the original edition and the continuing work needed to keep the list up to date is enormous. With the dozens, yes, hundreds of reports coralled each year from the shows throughout the country the labor entailed in analyzing these, sifting them through, and properly placing the new introductions and discarding the passe ones, is a task of no small proportion.

We have indeed been fortunate in having a man of the calibre of Dr. McDade head this committee, and working in very close co-operation with his fellow members from the A.D.S., and the very efficient and intelligent group from the C.S.D.S., it is not surprising that so few errors occur. We do not say that it is perfect, but when one considers the large number of dahlias listed, we can be thankful that the number of corrections that have to be made is so small. To both the A.D.S. members and the C.S.D.S. members of this committee, we can humbly say, "many thanks, keep up the good work."

During the last few years our ever dependable Ed Lloyd has been doing his usual fine work in keeping our Trial Ground standards up to the high elevation they have attained. Weather and climatic conditions play such an important part in the operation of a trial ground, that it is not easy to give the entries sent in for trial, an opportunity to grow at their best, but nevertheless, we know that every new specimen that is sent in is given a fair opportunity to show how good it is. The Derrill Heart medal is keenly competed for each year, and the mere fact that all of these medals are not distributed in the various classes each year, bespeaks the quality that is necessary to attain this high award.

Lynn Dudley the "daddy" of the A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstake Competition, has slowly but surely brought this competition up to a standard where it occupies one of the highest rewards a person can get for the growing of Dahlia Seedlings. The number of societies and shows that are now participating is very gratifying, and is constantly being added to, and we feel sure that anybody who is fortunate enough to win the medal award in any of the three classes, has a bloom that he can well be proud of.

We could go on to much greater length, tossing the praises of the many people and members who have made it possible for the A.D.S. to occupy the high place it holds in the dahlia world, but time and space does not permit, but I cannot let this occasion go by without again expressing our most sincere and gracious thanks to Gordon Waaser, our past president, who through the years has given so much of his time in getting out our "Bulletin." It is regarded as the foremost Dahlia publication of the world, and when one considers that all of this is the work of one man, working night and day, Sundays and holidays, we cannot help but feel that we are indeed fortunate to have a man who takes so much interest, and all without any compensation, to produce this valuable publication.

I know that the A.D.S. is going to continue to prosper and grow, and we can all feel confident that with your new set of officers and committee men, the organization is only beginning to attain the high position and have the lofty standard it so justly deserves.

LEO L. POLLAK

MINUTES OF THE 1953 AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

The 1953 Annual Meeting of the American Dahlia Society was called to order at 2:50 P.M. on Saturday, January 17, in Parlor No. 1 of the Hotel Statler. Ninety-two members and guests were present.

President Pollak opened the meeting and greeted the members. He requested and received a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the 1952 annual meeting, since these had been published in the March, 1952 BULLETIN.

President Pollak requested a reading of the report of the Tellers. This was done by Dr. Preas, Chairman of the Nominating Committee. The tabulation showed that the following officers were elected:

President—Andrew J. Mulcahy, Floral Park, N. Y.

Secretary—Frederick J. Knocke, M.D., 2616 Arlington Avenue, New York 63, N. Y.

Treasurer—Henry A. Olsen, Elmont, L. I., N. Y.

Trustee to 1955—Gordon F. Waaser, Freeport, L. I., N. Y.

Trustee to 1956—Leo J. Pollak, New York City, N. Y.

Vice Presidents:

F. A. Alleva, Bryn Mawr, Pa.; Otto Aumuller, Valley Stream, N. Y.

Al. Baier, Kansas City, Mo.; Harry Beals, 11220 Wallace St., Chicago, Ill.; L. C. Bennett, St. Louis, Mo.; J. Ralph Berry, Cleveland, Ohio; Emil Berzau, Merrick, N. Y.; Leslie Bowling, Silver Springs, Baltimore, Md.; George Brunjes, Elmira, N. Y.; Prof. C. Merrill Brown, Williamsville, N. Y.

Robt. T. Connal, Rochester, N. Y.; Dr. C. H. Connors, Highland Park, N. J.; Ward H. Cook, M.D., Tuckahoe, N. Y.; Henry F. Cory, Lithicum Heights, Md.; H. L. Cummings, LaGrange, Ill.; Hon. George R. Currie, Madison, Wisc.

Charles M. Diffenderffer, Baltimore, Md.

R. T. Eddy, Encinita, Cal.; W. L. Elkins, Richmond, Va.

C. E. Faust, Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. F. H. Fisher, Trenton, N. J.; Paul F. Frese, White Plains, N. Y.

Louis Gill, Baltimore, Md.; Raymond Grass, St. Louis, Mo.

Walter Hardesty, Watertown, Conn.; Mrs. L. D. Hislop, Mt. Lebanon, Pa.; William Holmberg, Minneapolis, Minn.; Mrs. Georgena Humble, Douglaston, N. Y.

J. W. Johnston, New York City; Hobart Jordan, Santa Ana, Cal.

Clarence R. Kalikist, Chattanooga, Tenn. Mrs. Louise Kleinjohn, Louisville, Ky.; Nick Koenig, New Baltimore, Mich.

Norman L. Lefkowitz, Bessemer, Ala.

Edward F. McDade, M.D., Scranton, Pa.; John Metzger, Irvington, N. J.; H. Dewey Mohr, Rockville Center, N. Y.

William Noonan, Bethpage, N. Y.

Edward J. O'Keefe, Cold Springs, N. Y.

Dr. Henry C. Parker, Washington, D. C.; Albert Parrella, Bronx, N. Y.; Roland H. Patch, Storrs, Conn.;

Harley Peck, Lebanon, Ohio; B. E. Philipps, Atlanta, Ga.; E. R. Philipps, Washington, D. C.; Bruce B. Preas, M.D., Rockville Center, N. Y.

C. H. Rike, M.D., Birmingham, Ala.; Harvard Rivel, Hillside, N. J.; J. Louis Roberts, Chicago, Ill.

Lew Sarrett, Gainesville, Fla.; Noel Scott, Glendale, Cal.; Jessie Straus, Glencoe, Ill.; George Swezey, Columbia, N. J.

Adrian P. Taylor, Santa Ana, Cal.; L. B. Tim, Long Branch, N. J.

John S. Vincent, White Marsh, Md.

Roy W. Webb, Scranton, Pa.; Dr. C. E. Wildon, East Lansing, Mich.; E. J. Wind, Rocky River, Ohio; Mrs. Sarah Wakeman Wood, Westport, Conn.

It was moved by Mr. Mohr and seconded by Dr. Preas that the Secretary cast one vote for the slate. This motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Pollak introduced the incoming President, Mr. Mulcahy. He spoke of the great help that Mr. Mulcahy had been to him as President of the A.D.S., while Mr. Mulcahy had been Secretary.

Mr. Diffenderffer and Mr. Strauss escorted the new President to the rostrum.

President Mulcahy gave a brief address. He stated that he hoped to continue the policies and successes of his predecessor in office. He stressed that the A.D.S. can grow with the assistance and help of the membership. The Committee appointments will be published in the March BULLETIN. He requested volunteers to serve on these committees. Since the life of the society is its membership, Mr. Metzger's membership committee will be augmented. He thanked Mr. Olsen for his fine work as Treasurer.

Mr. Henry A. Olsen, Treasurer, presented the report for the year 1952, as of December 31, 1952. Dr. Cook moved that this report be adopted subject to formal approval by the Auditing Committee. This motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

President Mulcahy appointed Mr. Berzau assistant secretary to be in charge of Branch Memberships.

Mr. Waaser, Editor of the BULLETIN, reported that he would be glad to have constructive criticism from any source.

Dr. McDade, Chairman of the Classification Committee, reported that his expanded committee had received reports from all over the country from many societies and show committees. Show reports were studied to check current winning exhibition varieties. Recommendations for additions and deletions were carefully screened. Dr. McDade requested that any member who sees what appear to be inaccuracies in the classification list, write to him. Dr. McDade reported that a request for separate classification of lacinated dahlias had been referred to Dr. Charles H. Connors, who ruled that lacination is a variation in form of part of the petal, and is not sufficient reason to create a new type classification.

Mr. Edward B. Lloyd, Chairman of the Trial Garden

(Continued on page 7)

A.D.S. Show Plans

Plans are well under way for the A.D.S. Annual Exhibition, which will be held, this year, on September 22 and 23 in connection with the Horticultural Society of New York at the Essex House, Central Park South.

Vice President Emil Berzau will again manage the Show. The schedule is now on the press and will be mailed to prospective exhibitors very shortly. It is hoped to include in this mailing the joint classification list of the American Dahlia Society and Central States. Thus, entrants will have an early start in preparing their planting plans.

As a further help to contestants, a splendid article appears in this issue, thanks to Dr. Ward H. Cook . . . it gives the needed tips on selecting the varieties which should win in the respective classes.

Tricks of the trade, by Dr. Fred J. Knocke and a fine treatise on Basket arranging by the Doctor's gifted wife should induce many to enter classes from which they have shied in the past. As usual, very suitable prizes will be offered throughout the schedule.

There will be a re-arrangement of the colors in each class this year to permit a more harmonious display on the exhibition tables. Exhibitors will greatly facilitate the arduous work of the clerks if they will mail in entry blanks in advance. For any information, please write Secretary, Dr. Fred J. Knocke or Show Manager Emil Berzau.

MINUTES OF A.D.S. ANNUAL MEETING

(Continued from page 6)

Committee, reported that there had been 182 entries in the five gardens and that 26 certificates had been awarded to 17 varieties. Forty-six introducers represented 17 states and one foreign country (Holland). Five "A" dahlias, 9 "B" dahlias, 1 "BB" dahlia and 2 "M" dahlias won certificates. Mr. Lloyd reported that it was expected that Baltimore Garden would be operating again in 1954.

Mr. Roy Webb, Chairman of the Derrill W. Hart Committee, reported that one medal had been awarded in 1952 to the variety *Florence Chadwick*, which won certificates in all five trial gardens with an average score of 85.4. This variety was originated and is being introduced by Comstock Dahlia Gardens, San Diego, California.

Mr. Lynn Dudley, Chairman of the American Dahlia Society Seedling Sweepstakes Committee, reported on the fourth annual running of the Sweepstakes. Twenty-three new dahlias, shown by 19 originators, won certificates at 14 different shows. Two American Dahlia Society Gold Medals were awarded to the dahlias with the highest average scores in three or more shows. *Prairie Fire*, originated by James Marsh, won the award in the "A" size, and *Agatha*, a miniature, won the award in the small sizes for Harry Frank. Mr. Dudley read the list of the winning varieties for 1952. He also reported that 68 new varieties had received certificates in the four years that the award has been given.

Mr. Emil Berau, Show Chairman, reported that the 1953 show of the American Dahlia Society will be held

at the Essex House in New York City on September 22 and 23.

In the absence of Mr. Maytrott, Chairman of the Show Schedule Committee, Dr. Knocke reported on the changes approved for the 1953 schedule. The more important of these are a new sequence of the color classes, which it is hoped will give a more pleasing effect on the show table; a change in the rules which permit two entries of different varieties in any open to all classes; and an expansion of Section B into condensed color classes for the "A" size dahlias.

Mr. Conrad Frey, Chairman of the judges for the show, thanked the men who had judged at the 1952 show for the fine job they had done.

Mr. John Metzger, Chairman of the Membership Committee, reported many requests for information about membership in the society.

Mr. Mulcahy introduced Mr. Berry who, on behalf of the Dahlia Society of Ohio, invited members of the American Dahlia Society to attend the Mid-West Conference Show which will be held in Cleveland at the Hotel Hollenden on Saturday and Sunday, September 12 and 13. On Friday afternoon there will be a tour of gardens, on Saturday evening, the Mid-West Conference banquet. Mr. Berry proposed that the American Dahlia Society hold a meeting on Sunday morning, September 13, at 11:00 A.M. to introduce the A.D.S. officers and members to the mid-west group. After some discussion it was moved by Mr. Waaser that the American Dahlia Society hold an open meeting at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, September 13, in Cleveland rather than an Executive Committee meeting as had been originally proposed by Dr. Cook. Mr. Waaser's motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

President Mulcahy introduced the newly elected Vice Presidents: Messrs. Beals, Bowling, Connal, Gill and Strauss, to the members.

Mr. Waaser moved a rising vote of thanks to the retiring President, Mr. Leo Pollak, for his years of fine service to the Society. This was given enthusiastically by the members present.

Mr. Mulcahy recognized Mr. Swain of the Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolus Society, who extended an invitation to the members of the American Dahlia Society to attend and show at the Peekskill Show next fall. He stated that after a lapse of some years, the Peekskill Society was again becoming active with dahlias, and was anxious to regain its former position as one of the leading shows of the country.

Mr. Waaser moved that the Secretary be directed to send a telegram of best wishes to Mr. John Vincent, one of the founding members of the American Dahlia Society, who was ill at home in White Marsh, Maryland. This motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

President Mulcahy introduced Mr. William Mason of Washington who gave a very interesting talk on his experiences importing and growing Australian dahlias, and on Australian standards, classification, growing methods, and shows.

On behalf of the Society, the President thanked Mr. Mason for his excellent and most enjoyable presentation.

There being no further business to be brought before the meeting, it was adjourned at 5:50 P.M.

A.D.S. ANNUAL DINNER

BY EDWARD B. LLOYD

Promptly at 7:00 P. M., the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Secretary of the Interior, Bureau of Appetizers—the Hon. H. Dinty Mohr, Esq.—called the delegates to Parlor B where the newly coronated President Mulcahy, sometimes known as “Gum Drop” Mulcahy from Milwaukee, was to and did give his State of the Union address. A slight delay developed while messengers were locating the Speaker of the House, Bruce Preas, but he finally found his speech, made the grand entrance, and the dinner proceeded after a brief and well chosen invocation by Gordon Waaser.

Our retiring President Leo Pollak has been in Washington for several years. Miscellaneous material, including clothes and dahlia roots, transported between New Jersey and Washington caused so much wear on his luggage that those of us who were with him in Louisville were on the point of buying him a piece of rope—to tie around his suitcase, only! However, it was finally decided that a two-suit was badly needed, and the members of his Executive Committee who had so thoroughly enjoyed working with him were pleased to present him with this piece of luggage large enough for deep freeze, Australian dahlias, and all which might be required for a hasty exit from Washington. Following this presentation, President Mulcahy was further privileged to present Leo with our Gold Medal, awarded for his untiring efforts and distinguished services to our Society during the past four years in particular.

Each year, on the occasion of our annual dinner, we are privileged to recognize and to acknowledge the services so freely given the American Dahlia Society by those who devote their time and energy with no ideas of reward. Georgena Humble has been head of our Garden Club Section—rather, she has been THE Garden Club Section, for without her quiet leadership it is doubted if there would be this Section in our annual exhibitions—for more years than she probably cares to recall. We however, were glad to recall with appreciation those years, and in slight recognition of our esteem and gratitude to offer her our highest award, our Gold Medal.

Paul Frese attended his first A.D.S. exhibition with a lantern and a candle in each ear and a silver bowl in his hand, this bowl being the first Flower Grower Award. He has since been carrying the candle and lantern in his writing and lectures on and for the dahlia, and has performed invaluable service to bring to the attention of his readers and hearers those matters and details which we in the American Dahlia Society are endeavoring to attain. It was therefore our real privilege to award to Vice-President Paul Frese this Gold Medal for his devoted services to the American Dahlia Society and to all lovers of the dahlia.

Another Vice-President was called before the bar (possibly an unusual bar) to receive recognition for his services and a slight token of our affection. Dewey Mohr has for years acted as Chancellor of the Exchequer and Director of the Budget in the Cabinets of President after President. Whenever our desires for a dinner became vocal, Dewey lays out the “dope sheet”. If you need a few plants to fill out the row, see Dewey early in June

and your garden is complete! Need a cup of coffee? Ruth Mohr has it hot! Sounds as if this man and his wife were tops and due for the public recognition that all of us have personally given him. Right! Having passed his 40th birthday, stopped smoking cigars, and acquired a peg-leg, the Gold Medal was given to Dewey as a concrete (golden concrete) token of our appreciation for all he has done and for what he will be called upon yet to do (!?), and while he was able to overcome his surprise and stagger up to receive the award. It can safely be said that no more popular award of our Gold Medal has been made.

Farmer Will Piegelbeck, Garden Commentator for Station WOR-TV, was introduced and gave a most interesting talk with special emphasis on the possibilities of bringing the dahlia before the public through the medium of television and his program, in which he invited our participation. His account of the program during the past few years, of the Dahlia Society of New Jersey, on the station of the Newark News, which he directed, prior to taking over on WOR-TV, was of much interest to his audience, leaving little doubt that “Farmer Will” will have our complete cooperation and that this cooperation will include having him with us at many more of our gatherings.

The speaker was followed with the usual anticipated and excellent pictures of the new dahlias as taken by Lynn Dudley, Henry Olsen, Ralph Berry, Harry Frank and others, and shown by Lynn Dudley. A rousing vote of thanks to Dewey Mohr and his committee concluded the largest attended annual dinner in many years.

ED. B. LLOYD.

Dahlia Wedding



L. to R.—Mrs. Andrew Petta, Hon. George R. Currie, the bride and groom and Dr. Andrew Petta.

Surrounded by relatives and a few friends, Lorraine Hoppe and Norman W. Ackerman were married by the Honorable George R. Currie, Justice of the Supreme Court of Wisconsin on October 5th, 1952 at the home of the bride. Mrs. Andrew Petta was bridesmaid and Dr. Andrew Petta was best man.

Lorraine Hoppe has been secretary of the Wisconsin Dahlia Society for eight years and “Doc” Ackerman is the President. “Doc” retired from business and bought a new home with more ground than his former one. Their present address is 7321 N. Cape Road, Hales Corners, Route 2, Wisconsin.

TRIAL GARDEN REPORTS

Mid-West Trial Gardens

Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich.

Certificate awards for the 1952 season were fewer than in some years due probably to a backward, dry season. The following seven varieties received A.D.S. Certificates of Merit, all scoring 85 or more points:

B, MEDIUM—4-8 INCHES

Maryland Beauty. Entry 4. Semi-laciniated cactus. Score 85 B. Entered by Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, Rocky River, Ohio. Originator Phillips. Color very light yellow, lightly overcast amaranth. Diameter $6\frac{1}{2}$ -8 in., depth, $3\frac{3}{4}$ -4 in. Stem 8-15 in.

Mrs. H. P. Markley. Entry 8. I.D. Score 85 B. Entered by Harold P. Markley, 216 S. Pennsylvania, Lansing, Mich. Color dark amaranth. Diameter 7-8 in., depth $3\frac{1}{2}$ -5 in. Stem 7-9 in.

Florence Chadwick. Entry 20. Straight cactus. Score 85 B. Entered by Comstock Dahlia Gardens, San Diego, California. Color white—sometimes lavender tinge in center. Diameter of blooms 6-7 in., depth $4\frac{1}{2}$ in. Stem 11-23 in.

Nick's Orchid. Entry 27. Cactus. Score 85 B. Entered by Lakeside Gardens, New Baltimore, Michigan. Color white, overcast mallow rose. Diameter 6-7 in., depth $3\frac{1}{4}$ -4 in. Stem $7\frac{1}{2}$ -12 in.

A LARGE—OVER 8 INCHES

Win Dee. Entry 7. Inc. cactus. Score 85 A. Entered by Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, Rocky River, Ohio. Color light burnt orange. Diameter 8-9 in., depth $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Stem $7\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Prairie Fire. Entry 10. S.C. Score 85 A. Entered by Rocky River Dahlia Gardens, Rocky River, Ohio. Originator Marsh. Diameter 8-10 in., depth 5-6 in. Stem 10-16 in.

Harry A. Beals. Entry 40. I.D. Score 85 A. Entered by Beals and Boyle, Valparaiso, Indiana. Color deep amaranth red. Diameter 10-12 in., depth $6\frac{3}{4}$ in. Stem $6\frac{1}{2}$ -13 in.

C. E. WILDON, Superintendent.

Ohio Trial Garden

Ault Park, Cincinnati, Ohio

Due to a hot, dry season, dahlias were slow in maturing and many did not bloom at all. Only one dahlia was scored 85 points on the A.D.S. score card.

Florence Chadwick, "B" size, straight cactus, white with a faint lavender overcast. It was very good, even in hot weather. Good bush growth and stems. Blooms 7 inches by 5 inches, half facing. Score 85. Entered by Comstock Dahlia Gardens, 5140 35th St., San Diego, California.

ROBERT SEIBEL,
Superintendent.

South Atlantic Trial Garden

Atlanta, Georgia

The South experienced a most trying and backward season due to extreme heat and drought, the worst in our experience. That any dahlia could come through it, and score 85 points, was indeed surprising. Those which did so, are listed as follows:

Abe Lincoln—Formal Decorative, "B." Size 7 by 4 inches. Color, Chrysanthemum Crimson. Dark foliage with cane-like stem. Clean grower. Scored 85.1. Blue Ribbon Dahlia Garden, Nevada, Iowa.

Theresa Louise—Semi-Cactus, "A." Size 9 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Color, Rhododendron Pink, blending yellow toward center. Good grower with strong stem well above foliage. Scored 85. Rosemary Dahlia Garden. Martins Ferry, Ohio.

Betty Blossom—Formal Decorative, "B." Size 8 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Color, cream-white tinted Persian rose. Vigorous grower with strong stem holding flower facing. Early and late bloomer. Scored 85.3. Rindfleisch-Ruschmohr, Rockville Centre, L. I., N. Y.

Bertha Shone—Semi-Cactus, "A" size. Color, lavender blending to cream center. Petals deep laciniated. Size 9 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Strong stem. Bush height $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Scored 85. Eccleston-Rocky River, 19111 Story Ave., Rocky River, Ohio.

Southern Lady—Semi-Cactus, "BB" size. Color, pink slightly tipped with white. Size $5\frac{1}{2}$ by 3 inches. Stem strong. Bush height 4 feet. Scored 85. E. L. Miller.

Win Dee—Semi-Cactus, "A." Size, 9 by 4 inches. Color, Autumn. Scored 85. Vigorous grower. Strong stem. Bush height 5 feet. Rocky River Dahlia Gardens.

Florence Chadwick—Straight Cactus, "B." Color, clear white. Size, 7 by 4 inches. Strong stem, holding flower facing. Scored 85.2. Comstock Dahlia Gardens.

C. E. FAUST.

Wisconsin Dahlia Society

Show dates—September 12 and 13, 1953, Mitchell Park Conservatory, Milwaukee, Wisc.—Lorraine Ackerman, 7321 N. Cape Road, Route 2, Hales Corners, Wis.

Michigan Dahlia Society

Neither the date nor the location of the 1953 show has been determined as yet.

The new officers for 1953 are as follows:

President—Mr. James A. Raymond.

Vice-President—Mr. Clarence A. Burton.

Treasurer—Mr. Victor L. Steckle.

Secretary—Mrs. A. E. Cadwell.

Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Alfred H. Bottom.

Publications—Dr. C. E. Wildon.

(MRS. A. E.) VENUS CADWELL.

HOW TO WIN ON THE SHOW TABLE

By DR. FREDERICK J. KNOCKE

Winning the blue ribbons on the show table, that is having the best bloom at the time the blooms are judged, means planning and working the year round. The first requirement is to start with healthy stock of the best varieties; second, they must be well grown; third, the plants must bloom at show time; fourth, when cutting, the best flowers must be selected; last, the blooms must be properly conditioned, transported to the show without damage, and staged to show their best qualities.

Prizes cannot be won with diseased stock or inferior varieties when the competition is keen. In the garden, plants showing evidence of ring spot or mosaic should be discarded immediately, to prevent spread to healthy plants. New stock should be purchased from reliable growers. Whenever possible it is worth while to check personally the fields of the commercial grower before purchases are made. A knowledge of the best varieties in each class is gained by comparative studies at the shows and in the field, and by a careful evaluation of show reports and commercial catalogues. No one can personally evaluate all the varieties in commerce today, but Dr. Cook's articles, "The Cream of the Crop," in this BULLETIN is an extensive and authoritative evaluation of the best varieties available at present for show purposes.

Articles on how to grow dahlias have appeared in the BULLETIN, in commercial catalogues, and the A.D.S. publishes a pamphlet "Dahlia Cultural Instructions." Briefly, the requirements are a fertile, deeply prepared soil, supplemented by adequate feeding throughout the growing season, plenty of water to keep the soil moist, and a vigorous spraying program to keep the plants free of insect pests. For exhibition growing, plants and small roots are preferable to large roots. The reason for this is that the former must feed themselves early in the season, and, therefore, establish a strong system of new roots before the hot, dry weather sets in. They can then keep growing through this critical period. A plant grown from a large root on the other hand, gets its nourishment from the food stored in the root, and there is little need to send out new roots. When the hot weather and, later, blooming time arrives, the supply of food in the root is exhausted, and the new root system is not sufficiently developed to supply the needs of the plant, which wilts and produces inferior blooms. On the subject of feeding there is more discussion and difference of opinion than any other phase of dahlia culture. During the early stages of growth the plants need especially phosphates, which are supplied by super-phosphate or bone meal. Potash increases strength of the stems, and apparently also improves floriferousness. It would appear worth while to supply potash from mid-summer on. Nitrogen is needed when the buds start to form. It increases leaf growth and flower size. A safe dose is two teaspoonfuls of calcium or potassium nitrate per plant each week, applied from the sixth to the third week before the show. Too much nitrate makes the plants and blooms "soft," and the flowers will not keep well when cut. Therefore, nitrate feeding should be cut down a few weeks before show time. Heavy nitrate feeding results in a root crop which keeps poorly and is subject to disease.

Watering is just as important as feeding. If the fertilizer is not in solution it cannot be absorbed by the plant. During June and July it is best to water sparingly, and to grow the plants a little on the "hard" side, to aid in the establishment of an extensive root system, by forcing the plant to go looking for nourishment and moisture. For the six weeks prior to show, more and more water is applied, and from the time the buds start to open, the ground around the plants is really soaked. An excellent way to preserve soil moisture and to keep the ground cool during the hot weather, is to apply a mulch of organic material, such as salt hay, straw, rotted manure or peat moss.

Most varieties are best shaded from the time the buds are half open, that is for four to six days prior to the show, but some require shading from the time the bud starts to open, and others do not stand shading at all. Shading protects the blooms from fading of the color by sunlight, and from bruising by rain and wind. Clean bushel baskets may be used for this purpose. They are attached to two poles, of sufficient height to keep the bloom well free of the inverted bottom of the basket, and short enough to have most of the bloom fit into the basket to protect it from wind and rain. Great care must be taken to prevent the petals from being bruised by contact with the basket. This is done by carefully tying the stem to the poles supporting the basket, so that flower and basket will move together in the wind. The basket itself may be supported by running the poles up the inside of the basket through the inverted handles. Another method is to drive nails in the stakes at the level of the bottom (inverted top) of the basket, turn the handles out, and thread the stakes up through the handles. The handles will then rest on the nails, and the top (inverted bottom) of the basket can be tied with string to keep it in place over the flower. Old umbrellas, waterproof paper, old linen, etc., may also be used to provide spot shading. In localities with very hot summers, a cloth or lath house is an excellent method of providing shade for the whole garden, and growth will not be checked during hot spells.

When growing for show, timing is very important. Timing is the art of having the flowers in prime condition on the day of the show. Fine blooms which reach their peak before or after the show, are fine for garden decoration or to give to friends, but they do not win ribbons. Timing practices will vary in different climates and growing conditions. In the New York area, planting for exhibition is usually done in late May and early June, and the plants are topped as soon as strong enough. To produce "A" size specimen blooms, two, three or four canes are allowed to come to each plant. A second topping is done about ten weeks before the show, allowing a few days between the topping of each branch of a plant so that there will be some spread of the blooming period. Late varieties are branched earlier, early varieties later, but the dates given work well for the average "A"-large dahlia. A final timing is done when the buds form. A bud measuring between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in diameter, will develop into a fully mature flower in about four

weeks, a little less for cactus varieties, a little more for the massive decoratives. At this time all other buds are removed from each cane leaving one bud the size of a small pea. Remember that varieties which are known to have short stems will have longer stems if grown to a side bud. Disbudding is carried down the plant four or five pair of leaves or preferably more if long stems and large flowers are desired.

"B"-medium varieties usually are not forced with as much nitrogen and water as the large varieties, because size is not so important as perfection. Branching and timing are also different. More branches can be allowed to come (six to a dozen or more), but disbudding should be practiced as for the large varieties. Timing is also different for the "B"-medium varieties. The final branching can usually be done two to three weeks later than for the large varieties, but there is a great deal of variety variation in this regard, and some varieties can be handled almost like the large sorts. The cactus and semi-cactus "B"-medium varieties usually open in about three weeks from a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch plus bud, but some decoratives in the "B" sections take $3\frac{1}{2}$ to almost 4 weeks. Varieties must be studied from year to year, and each handled as an individual. The figures given are for the average variety.

Small varieties, pompons and miniatures are branched to large bushy plants, which are allowed to start blooming in a few weeks or more before show time. They are not disbudded till the blooms are picked, which keeps the size down as is necessary, and also gives a larger selection from which to obtain the matched blooms necessary to win in these sections.

Before show time the schedule should be carefully studied, and checked against the blooms as they open. In this way the varieties available for each class can be visualized and compared by the intending exhibitor. It is a great waste of time and flowers to cut everything in the garden, bring them into the show, and then have to discard a large number. Actually, the exhibitor must judge his own flowers in order to select the best to enter the show. The following points will help. First, study the bench score card which is reproduced on the following page 12.

It gives the weight in points which should be assigned by the judges to each characteristic. Actually, very few classes indeed are judged by the score card, although a good judge should use it as the basis of his decision, and

(Continued from page 12)

NEW DAHLIAS ! — RARE DAHLIAS !

DANGER—A F.D. a sport of some years back has improved with cultivation. Signal red, the reddish tone running thru stems and foliage. Highly heat resistant, none fading. Plants, \$7.50

CALIFORNIA ORANGE—Ball type, looks like a huge ripe navel orange on top of five foot bush of exceptional vigor. Plants, \$7.50

ROSE GLOW—B S.C. Six in. blooms, face autumn gold, reverse rose, petals deeply laciniated, the twisting giving the flower a marked rose aura. Prolific, fine cut. Roots, \$5.00

MEADOW PARK (Waters)—B I.F.D. This dahlia has been the sensation of the Los Angeles cut flower market. The color is hard to define, some look and say watermelon, some say orange, actually it is a combination of color. The outer petals are purple, pink as you approach the center with a definite orange luminosity at the center. Plants, \$5.00

Some rare collectors' items. Write for catalog.

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Presenting

"BETTY BLOSSOM"

ONLY VARIETY to have ever won The American Home Achievement Medal and The Flower Grower Leonard Barron Memorial Award, at the A.D.S. New York Show; originated by Herman Rindfleisch.

This is a "B" type Formal Decorative of Straw, Yellow and Cream Flushed Phlox Pink. Blooms 8 in. by 5 in. excellent long strong stem, with green leathery foliage. Bush 5 ft. Also American Home Achievement Medal winner at Irvington, N. J. Show. It has excellent keeping qualities, and blooms from August to frost. Considered the best cut flower since Jersey Beauty. Named by Phil Alampi, Home Gardener on W.J.Z.-T.V. after Betty Blossom, Horticulture Editor of House & Garden. Shown and described twice on Home Gardeners Hour, once with Betty Blossom, its namesake.

Roots \$15; Plants \$7.50—3 for \$20 Net.

Also Presenting

"EMPIRE STATE"

(Originated by Alfred Warren)

SEMI CACTUS "A." Color Light Blend Rose Bengal, Canary Yellow, and Marigold Orange. Broad petals, curl to point at ends. Stem 10 in. to 12 in., hold blooms $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 6 in. on side. Can be grown larger by shading. Bush 5 ft. Good stems and foliage. Winner of American Home Achievement Medal at Long Island Show.

Roots \$15; Plants \$7.50—3 for \$20 Net.

CALIFORNIA FINEST DAHLIA SEED

Some of the leading Honor Roll, Certificate of Merit and Achievement Medal dahlias have been produced from our seed. We can produce seed from named varieties. If interested let us know your requirements. Seed from mixed varieties is priced as follows: 20—\$1.00; 60—\$2.50; 125—\$5.00; 1,000—\$35.00.

Catalog Now Available

RUSCHMOHR DAHLIA GARDENS

38 Vincent Street, Rockville Centre, N. Y.

HOW TO WIN ON THE SHOW TABLE

(Continued from page 11)

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Official Bench or Show Score Card

Originator.....Entry No.....

Address.....

Variety Name or No.....Type.....

Number in each column, below at left, represents MAXIMUM Perfection
Deduct, in each square, for less than perfection (negative qualities).

M Small	B Medium	A Large	CHARACTERISTICS First Line Favorable Second Line Unfavorable
Max. 20	Max. 20	Max. 20	COLOR +Clear +Bright +Attractive +Useful -1 Unpleasing blend -2 Dull -3 Fades -3 Burns
Max. 15	Max. 15	Max. 15	FORM +Uniform +Artistic +True to Type -1 Deformed -2 Ordinary -2 Varying
Max. 10	Max. 10	Max. 10	DISTINCTIVENESS Add 1 to 10 pts. for form, color or other quality because superior to, or different from existing varieties
Max. 3*	Max. 0	Max. 10	SIZE Diameter.....Depth.....
Max. 15	Max. 15	Max. 15	STEM +Strong +Erect +Long +Graceful +Proportion -5 Weak-3 Crochy-3 Crooked-3 Poor Proportion
Max. 15	Max. 15	Max. 15	FOLIAGE +Health +Vigor +Rugged +Proportion -5 Poor-3 Weak-3 Succulent-3 Poor Proportion
Max. 12	Max. 15	Max. 10	SUBSTANCE Condition of Petals, +Firm +Thick +Back Good Condition of Petals,-3 Soft-2 Thin-2 Wilt-2 Falls
Max. 5	Max. 5	X	UNIFORMITY For Bench Judging only, deduct 1 to 3 pts. M or B only for Varying Size.
Max. 5	Max. 5	Max. 5	BLOOM POSITION +Side Facing, +45° angle facing Deduct 1 to 3 Points for top or Down facing
TOTAL M	TOTAL B	TOTAL A	Note: If plant shows definite evidence of disease, deduct up to 5 points in the final score at left.

Color Description.....

Remarks.....

Evidence of Insect Damage.....of Disease.....

Where Scored.....Scored by.....Date.....

*Maximum up to 3 pts. awarded for daintiness—small size under 4 inches.
(See Explanation Reverse Side.)

should be able to use it in cases of a close decision. The following points are well to remember. Choose flowers that face sideways or slightly up. The stem should be long enough to hold the flower well up out of the foliage, but not so long as to be out of proportion. The petals should be "clean"; that is, not bruised or discolored. The bloom should be "centered," that is, not lopsided, with the petals falling away from the top of the flower. A deep flower is better than a shallow one. Other things being equal, a large flower will beat a small one, but a smaller clean flower will usually beat large one which

is lopsided or has bruised petals. Actually, many judges make a fetish out of condition. In classes calling for more than one bloom, select for uniformity of size, color, formation, foliage, bloom position, etc., especially where several blooms of one variety are used. It is better to use three uniform small blooms, (in a class calling for three), than one or two larger blooms and a smaller one. Most judges give uniformity more weight than the score card indicates.

The actual cutting of the blooms should be done the evening before the show. Remove all but two or three pairs of leaves before cutting the stem. Cut with a total stem length of about thirty inches for large and a little less for medium varieties. Use a sharp knife, make a slanting cut, avoid the thumb. Immediately plunge the stem into water in a vase, carry into the storage room, place the stem in a large tub of water, and cut the stem again an inch or two higher, making the cut under water. Transfer the stem rapidly to the vase in which it is to harden. To harden, the flowers should be in deep containers of cold water in a cool room in which there are no drafts. A garage with several hundred pounds of ice scattered on the floor, and with the door tightly sealed makes an ideal place to condition flowers. This process takes 4 to 12 hours.

The flowers are now ready to transport to the show. If the number is small, they may be transported in water, provided the containers can be securely fastened in the car or truck to prevent shifting or capsizing. Also, the flowers must be carefully supported and tied to prevent snapping of the stems or bruising of the petals by contact with other flowers or the side of the car. Each bloom may be protected with a hood of waxed florist's paper, carefully fastened at the stem. If a large number of flowers are to be taken to the show, they are best

packed in large, sturdy corrugated cardboard flower boxes. Boxes four or five feet in length, nine or ten inches in depth and sixteen or eighteen inches wide are ideal. The boxes are lined with waxed florist's paper, and a "pillow" of the same material crumpled up is placed under the back of side facing blooms or under the stem just below the flower for top facing blooms. Be sure to use waxed paper throughout, and avoid contact of the petals with other flowers, foliage, or stems. Start packing at each end of the box, and work towards the

(Continued on page 19)

TIMING DAHLIAS FOR THE SHOW

By Henry C. Parker

Anyone wishing successfully to compete for sweepstakes in a dahlia show must learn how to time his dahlias. One advantage gained by growing dahlias is that they can be timed as accurately if not more accurately than any other flower. This enables a relatively few growers to stage an outstanding show. It is believed that the following directions, carefully followed, will enable any grower to bring to a given show an average of close to one bloom for every two well grown plants in his dahlia patch. Anyone who can do that and who has carefully selected his varieties with a view to filling out the color classes will be an important competitor for sweepstakes.

In timing dahlias the first requirement, of course, is to plant them at a sufficiently early date so they will be sure to bloom by the time of the show even though pinched back once. Owing to the fact that my yard is partly shaded I have to plant my dahlias between about May 15 and June 1. In contrast, other growers in this area who have full sunlight available can plant some varieties as late as July 15 with good results. After planting I always pinch out the top as soon as three pairs of leaves develop. This causes 6 canes to develop and in the case of B-size dahlias these canes are all left on the plant. With A-size dahlias I remove (disbranch) 2 of the 6 canes leaving the 4 best. This should be done as soon as the canes are 2 or 3 inches long. Nothing further need be done with respect to timing until flower buds begin to appear. With vigorously growing dahlias this may occur as early as July 15. These early buds must, of course, be removed if it is hoped to have the largest blooms at show time.

I have read many directions for timing in which it was recommended that all canes be cut back, one at a time, to within one pair of leaves of the main stem at spaced intervals between July 1 and 15. This is followed by permitting one of the side buds to grow on each cane and to develop into a substitute cane. After practicing this technique for probably 10 years I have come to the conclusion that such a drastic cutting back is likely to do more harm than good. Many varieties stop growing if cut back drastically. If one wishes to control the height of the plants it is possible to cut off one or two of the longer canes about 2 or 3 pairs of leaves from the main stem and to permit one of the side buds adjacent the cut to develop and replace the cut portion of the stem but I would not advise a more drastic cutting back. This procedure leaves a crook or off-set where the new growth joins the old. But normally a crook in a flower stem is not objectionable if it is several pairs of leaves down from the bloom. Incidentally if the cane is cut where it is hollow it is best to cover the cut end with aluminum foil to prevent rain from entering. The way to avoid an unsightly crook in the stem is to cut it close to its end as explained below.

As the season advances it is necessary to keep on removing flower buds as fast as they appear, at least until the flower buds are properly timed for the show. It is necessary, of course, to leave a leaf bud when the flower buds are removed so that this can eventually develop

another flower bud. In the case of most dahlias it will be found that, when a flower bud appears in a cluster at the end of a cane, at least one leaf bud is included in the cluster adjacent a flower bud; hence it is merely necessary to leave the leaf bud and remove the flower bud or buds. The leaf bud will then develop another pair of leaves then a cluster comprising a second flower bud and another leaf bud. If it is still too early in the season for the second flower bud to develop for the show, it is only necessary to repeat the operation; that is, to remove the flower bud or buds and to leave the adjacent leaf bud eventually to produce a third flower bud. The time intervals between these flower buds averages from about 10 to 14 days. This simple procedure can be repeated as often as necessary until the bloom is eventually delayed so it will come at least within a few days of the show. One might expect that a very crooked stem would be produced by this procedure but, if the flower buds are removed before they become pea-size, the crooks in the stem will scarcely be visible at blooming time.

One warning should be given and that is, in the case of some dahlias, no leaf bud is formed in the flower bud cluster. Thus some dahlias produce three flower buds in a cluster while others produce a cluster of two flower buds. In the case of these varieties it is necessary to cut of the stem below the top pair of leaves, preferably at the joint between the second pair of leaves. Two leaf buds are located at this point and one of these can be left to develop, the other being removed. The remaining leaf bud will develop another pair of leaves and then a second flower bud cluster with a delay of approximately two weeks. It is difficult to prevent a crook in the stem in timing this type of dahlia. Fortunately most dahlias fall into the category described previously.

In timing dahlias it is necessary to make an estimate of how long it takes a tiny bud to develop into a full bloom. Most growers agree that this is from 4 to 5 weeks. It takes slightly less time for B-size dahlias to develop than for A-size. It follows, therefore, that five weeks before show time every cane showing signs of bearing flower buds should be examined. If the center flower bud is barely visible—pin-head size—this should be left and the side buds removed. The center flower bud should then develop into a show bloom. If the center flower bud is pea-size it is advisable to leave a side flower bud and remove the center since this will delay the blooming for from 4 to 5 days. All side buds down the stem should be removed.

Six weeks before show time all canes showing signs of forming flower buds should be examined. In this case, however, a leaf bud should be left in the top cluster rather than a flower bud. The central flower bud which will be formed in the new cluster to develop should then bloom approximately in time for the show.

It is evident, of course, that a considerable amount of time is required to conduct the timing operation. A certain amount of skill is also required. I have found that a wooden toothpick is a handy implement to use in removal of the smallest flower buds. It is usually necessary

(Continued on page 42)

SETTING UP BASKETS OF DAHLIAS

By LAZELLE KNOCKE

The ideal time to select the varieties you will grow for basket classes is at the dahlia show the preceding year. The wide variety of color, form, and types of bloom available is there before you and choice is most easily made. Once you have selected your varieties, grow in sufficient quantity so that you will have an ample number of blooms from which to choose the most perfect and uniformly sized.

Containers should be carefully chosen to harmonize or contrast with the color of the blooms. Baskets should be in good condition. The usual rules of overall proportion between height or width of arrangement and container apply. However the meaning of the term "arrangement" under A.D.S. rules is not interpreted as in the more artistically developed Garden Club sections. Furthermore the entries are judged by Dahlia judges according to the following score card:

For A type large dahlias—

75 points for quality of bloom.

25 points for the arrangement including balance and proportion, and color harmony, or color effect.

For all other dahlias—

50 points for quality of bloom.

25 for arrangement including balance and proportion.

25 for color harmony, or color effect.

This means that the chief attention must be given to the quality of blooms selected for use in the basket. They should be arranged in such a manner as to emphasize their perfection and uniformity. A stylized, balanced, and rather formal arrangement tends to accent these qualities.

Since condition is so very important in basket classes, flowers for these classes are handled in the same manner as are specimen blooms. After cutting from the plant in the garden, stems are cut once again under water. They are then "hardened" for several hours in cold water in a cool location. Water should not be so deep that the foliage rests in it and becomes discolored. Cut a sufficient number so that you will have a few extra blooms since accidents happen, stems break, and blooms get bruised.

Blooms are carefully packed in waxed florist's paper to prevent bruising of petals during transportation to the show. (For a more detailed description of packing see article on *How To Win On The Show Table* by Dr. Knocke.) On arrival at the show location, flowers are unpacked, stems re-cut under water, and varieties grouped together in preparation for selecting the best matched and most perfect blooms for each arrangement. Check the entry requirements for the number of blooms required or permitted, to be sure you do not use too many or too few.

One-half inch tolerance over four inches is permitted in miniature basket and arrangement classes. A wire circle of four inch diameter (ring gauge) is the most accurate method of determining size. The flower should pass through the circle without touching, or barely touching, the sides of the gauge. Miniatures tend to increase in size in water after cutting, hence flowers larger than

four inches should be used with caution lest they become outsize and disqualify the entry.

When placing the blooms in the container, space them carefully and evenly so they do not touch or crowd one another, but do not put them too far apart. Supports of any kind are not permitted above basket level. Home-made chicken wire gratings or other devices fastened at the rim of the inner container, needle holders at the bottom, florist's paper stuffed between the stems below the water, are all permitted to help hold the flowers in place.

If grasses and other foliage with or without berries are allowed in basket and arrangement classes, as they are under A.D.S. rules, these should be used with caution so that they do not detract from the flowers. They should be of plant material suitable for outdoor flowers. However, a brilliant contrast or startling color effect such as lavender blooms with red oak leaves may be quite pleasing to the exhibitor but may affect the judge quite differently. Some materials which have been successfully used include blueberry, privet, grasses, oak and maple leaves, pine or yew branches.

Foliage has been used to fill in a poorly spaced bloom arrangement, support weak stems, stretch out the apparent size and balance of an arrangement, or to hide damaged or absent dahlia foliage. Ideally it should, in an unobtrusive manner, complement the arrangement or offer striking contrast to it, but the arrangement itself should be a good one, and the quality of dahlia blooms and foliage selected should meet the standards for specimen blooms.

The basket is then carefully moved to the show table, final adjustments made, and entry card rechecked. The basket is viewed from a distance in hopes that its color effect is not marred by placing too close to a rival of more dominant or clashing color. If show management rules permit, it may be shifted to a more favorable location.

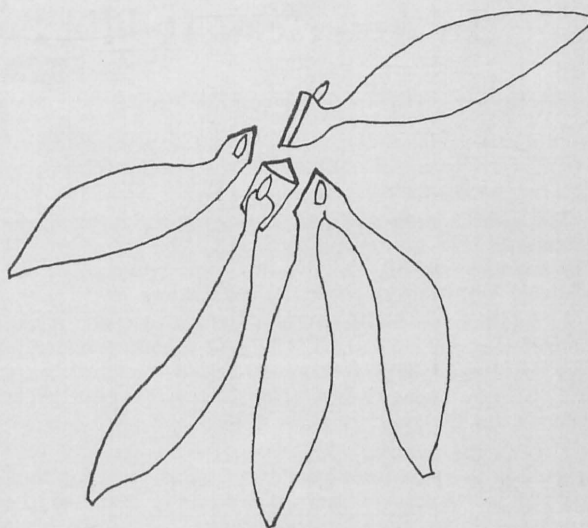
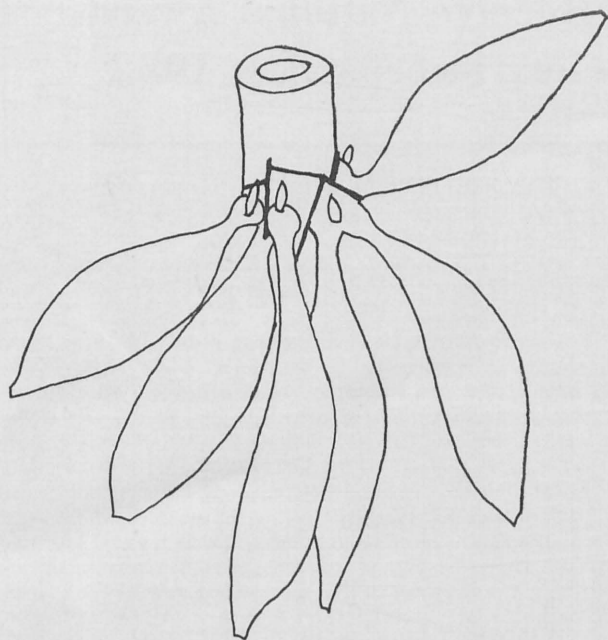
Nothing more to do with it now—too much handling or readjusting will only mar the quality of the blooms and they will not keep as well. Walk away from it with a firm step—come back after the judging. Good luck!

Midwest Dahlia Conference

The 1953 Midwest Dahlia Conference meeting will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on Saturday, September 12, with the Dahlia Society of Ohio as host. Affiliated Societies, please appoint your delegate or delegates who will attend this Conference meeting and send their names to me as soon as they have been appointed. Also, I would like to have the new officers for 1953. It is not only a great help to your Secretary, but also to the Host Society. Start planning your trip to Cleveland now, as I feel sure that the Midwest Show is something that we all look forward to with great anticipation, not only to see the Show, but to renew old Friendships and make new ones. We'll be looking for you and the Ohio folks will be there to welcome you.

LOUISE KLEINJOHN, Secretary.

TIPS ON DIVIDING CLUMPS



Better than a thousand words . . . an illustration! Our good friend, Henry Olsen provided the drawings which clearly tell our story.

Dahlia stock multiplies itself in the production of a clump of several dividable tubers . . . and, of course, only a division is necessary (or advisable) for planting.

A division consists of one or more tubers or roots attached to a piece of the old crown (base of stalk) with unbroken neck . . . and having a good live eye.

Examine the clump carefully and locate the eyes and

sprouts. Using a sharp knife or double blade pruner, split the clump in half, right through the old stalk. Then cut apart the individual sections as the illustrations clearly show. The dark straight lines on the crown of the original clump show just where the cuts are made . . . the second drawing shows the divisions . . . ready for planting.

Dust the cut portions with lime and sulphur and set out to dry for a few hours.

DAHLIAS — COMMERCIAL

By J. LOUIS ROBERTS

They start growing dahlias and their pocketbooks will not stand for their desire for new ones. So what do they do? They first join up with one or more persons and buy the new ones, making plants and dividing them. The rules say that you may sell your surplus plants or roots and still remain an amateur as long as you do not issue a list or advertise.

It's only a step then to become commercial. They show their flowers in the downtown store and at the various local social events. The price list is printed and they advertise in the local papers.

This type of a "commercial" does a lot for dahlias. He makes a lot of new dahlia gardeners and really educates them in the ways of growing and storing dahlias.

But how about getting bigger? Very few do. However, the next stage seems to be the introducer who advertises nationally, but still have another vocation.

Next is the commercial who does nothing but grow dahlias. In this group are those who have considerable acreage and grow dahlias for the florist trade (cut flowers).

Still larger in numbers of roots sold are the growers, who grow for the mail order and chain store trade. You don't hear much of these people, but their plantings are really on a production scale.

It may be that the dahlia business is in about the same stage as the radio business was a few years back, when you built your own set or had some one in the neighborhood do it for you. Then along came Atwater-Kent, Crosley, Grigsby Grunow, Erla and others. It did not pay to make your own. Think it isn't possible? I know of one mail order house that is planning on spending a million and a half dollars this year on the sale of roots, bulbs and plants. This is 20 per cent of their estimated sales for 1953.

23 New Dahlia Seedlings Receive National Awards In American Dahlia Society Sweepstakes 1952

Fourteen dahlia shows participated in the awarding of medal certificates of the American Dahlia Society to 23 new, outstanding dahlias.

The awards were made to 19 originators at 14 different shows held in various sections of the country. All the societies making the awards were branches of, or affiliated with the American Dahlia Society.

In addition to the certificates of award, two of the 23 varieties will receive A.D.S. gold medals for having received the highest average scores in the "A" large and "M" small type classes. No "B" medium type dahlia qualified for the gold medal.

This annual national competition was inaugurated four years ago to assist other established procedures for testing the worthiness of new varieties. It is called the American Dahlia Seedling Sweepstakes. The three other best known testing methods are: The Flower Grower Dahlia Honor Rolls; The American Home Achievement Medals, and the five American Dahlia Society official trial grounds.

Most dahlia exhibitors, specialty gardeners and commercial growers select their new dahlias to be added to their collections during the winter months, and they often make their selections from the printed descriptions in the reports published about these various show results and the other tests. Because no one can visit all the shows or trial gardens, it was believed that this method of selection of superlative new seedlings which are worthy of commercial introduction would equally benefit the originators and the prospective purchasers.

This has proven to be the case, because in the four years these awards have been operative, including 1952, a total of 68 new varieties have been honored with A.D.S. medal certificates by the judges. Many of these dahlia seedlings, in truth, the majority of them, would never have received any national awards and the resulting publicity, except for this competition.

In 1952, 17 branch and affiliated societies of the American Dahlia Society applied for partition in these awards. Of these 14 societies made and reported awards on the 23 varieties. In the other three societies, no entries were made or such entries, if made, were not considered worthy of these awards. The awards are made by judging teams of not over five judges, using the A.D.S. official bench score cards. Any seedling which averaged 85 points out of a possible perfect score of 100 points, received a Medal Certificate. In addition, an A.D.S. gold medal is being awarded to the one seedling in each of the three size classifications: "A" large; "B" medium, and "M" small, which attain the highest average score. To qualify for the gold medals, the variety must be exhibited in three shows in the current season. This year only two seedlings qualified for the gold medals. These were:

PRAIRIE FIRE, a large "A" 11-inch orange semi-cactus, originated by James E. Marsh of 3904 Ottawa St., Chicago 34, Illinois, and

AGATHA, a small "M" 2½-inch white formal decorative miniature, originated by Harry Frank of 2 Spring St., Far Hills, N. J.

Prairie Fire received an average score of 85.9 at three shows. *Agatha* scored an average of 85.8 at five shows. This is the first time any dahlia seedling has won an A.D.S. medal certificate at each of five shows. Its average of 85.8 is also the highest average score for any small type variety since this competition was inaugurated in 1949.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced by the sweepstakes committee in securing the necessary information about the entries. Score sheets in many instances did not convey all of the information required. Names and addresses of originators and even the names of the varieties were often lacking. Many letters, wires and phone calls were necessary to compile the list which accompanies this report.

The rules of the competition require that such information be supplied and that the dahlia be introduced and offered for sale to the public in the season following the awards. The majority of the judges in each instance should be experienced in the use of the A.D.S. score card. Judges' scores must also be consistent. Adjustments must be made by the sweepstakes committee if the score of any judge is over three points lower or higher than the average of the other judges. This is done in the interest of complete fairness. Otherwise one judge, either because of inexperience or too great enthusiasm for or prejudice against a variety, could either prevent a dahlia, which the majority believe is worthy of an award, from receiving it or he might make a dahlia average 85 points, which the other judges do not believe deserving. It is a credit to the judges chosen for this competition, that each year there is less need for such adjustment. We are glad to report that in most instances the scores of most judges are comparable.

These American Dahlia Seedling Sweepstakes Awards will be continued in 1953. It is necessary that a branch or affiliated society make application to participate in them. Applications should be sent to the chairman of the sweepstakes committee before July 1. Necessary forms, score sheets and rosette ribbons for attaching to winning entries will be mailed promptly when requested.

A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Committee:

LYNN B. DUDLEY, *Chairman*.

CONRAD FREY.

DR. FRED KNOCKE.

DAHLIA SWEEPSTAKE WINNERS — SEASON of 1952

VARIETY	ORIGINATOR	ADDRESS	SHOW	SIZE	TYPE	COLOR	SCORE	AV. SCORE
*Prairie Fire	James E. Marsh	3904 Ottawa St., Chicago 34, Ill.	Wisconsin Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Orange	85.4	
			Dahlia Society of Kentucky	A	S.C.	Orange	85.7	
			Southtown Dahlia Society (Chicago)	A	S.C.	Orange	86.8	85.9
*Agatha	Harry Frank	2 Spring St., Far Hills, N. J.	New Jersey Dahlia Society	M	F.D.	White	86.0	
			New York Show (A.D.S.) New York	M	F.D.	White	85.7	
			Long Island Dahlia Society	M	F.D.	White	86.0	
			Irvington (N. J.) Dahlia Society	M	F.D.	White	85.3	
			Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society	M	F.D.	White	86.0	85.8
Jerry K	Nick Koenig	New Baltimore, Michigan	Michigan Dahlia Society	M	F.D.	Red	86.0	
Betty Blossom	Herman Rheidfleisch	720 Palmer Ave., Mamaroneck, N. Y.	American Dahlia Dahlia Society	B	F.D.	Yellow	86.0	
			Irvington (N. J.) Dahlia Society	B	F.D.	Yellow	86.1	86.0
Empire State	Alfred Warren	501 Roosevelt St., Peekskill, N. Y.	Long Island Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Pink-Yel	85.7	
			American Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Pink-Yel	85.0	85.3
Marion B	Marion Bardell	Woodcliff Lakes, New Jersey	New Jersey Dahlia Society	B	I.D.	Pink-Yel	85.1	
Collectors Item	Edw. Keck	Ferndale, Pennsylvania	National Capitol Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Yel-Flame	85.1	
			Burholme Horticultural Society	A	S.C.	Yel-Flame	85.3	
			Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Yel-Flame	86.3	85.5
Alabaster	F. Tomezak	145-22 106th Ave., Jamaica, N. Y.	National Capitol Dahlia Society	B	F.D.	White	85.7	
			Long Island Dahlia Society	B	F.D.	White	85.7	85.7
Patricia Ann	H. J. Brusca	521 Stanwood St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	Burholme Horticultural Society	B	S.C.	Pink	86.0	
			Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society	B	S.C.	Pink	86.1	86.0
Starbright	Stanley Johnson	Cheltenham, Pennsylvania	Burholme Horticultural Society	B	S.C.	Bicolor Pur-Wh	85.1	
Firelight			Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society	B	F.D.	Bicolor Red-Wh	86.1	
Blendette	E. M. Delbrugge	Box 429 Martins Ferry, Ohio	Dahlia Society of Kentucky	B	I.C.	Lt Bl Yel-Red	85.6	
Blendette	E. M. Delbrugge	Box 429 Martins Ferry, Ohio	East Liverpool Dahlia Society (Ohio)	A	I.C.	Lt Bl Yel-Red	85.6	85.6
Maryland Beauty	E. R. Phillips	807 Philadelphia Ave., Silver Springs, Md.	National Capitol Dahlia Society	B	S.C.	Lt Bl Pink-Yel	85.8	
Dorothy D.	John Adlung	81 Vreeland Ave., Nutley, N. J.	American Dahlia Society	B	Ball	Pink	85.2	
Venita	Rudolph Kraemer	157 Front St., Hempstead, L. I., N. Y.	American Dahlia Society	B	I.D.	Lt Bl Rose-Yel	85.6	
Tysl's Sunset	George Tysl	10228 So. Sangowan St., Chicago, Ill.	Southtown Dahlia Society	A	S.C.	Lt-Bl Pink-Yel	85.0	
Fashion Hour	J. Louis Roberts	12147 Harvard Ave., Chicago, Ill.	Southtown Dahlia Society	A	I.C.	Lav	87.8	
White Glory	Paul Grohall	811 Kieth Ave., Waukegan, Ill.	Southtown Dahlia Society	A	I.C.	White	85.8	
Panda	Douglas Slocum	145 West St., Long Branch, N. J.	Elberon Horticultural Society (N. J.)	BB	Ball		85.0	
Little Sunset			Elberon Horticultural Society (N. J.)	M	Pom	Orange	85.0	
Western Sky			Elberon Horticultural Society (N. J.)	M	Ball	Pink-Bl	85.0	
Jiggers			Elberon Horticultural Society (N. J.)	M	F.D.	Bi Red-White	85.0	
Elizabeth H.	Mr. Henkle	Cleveland, Ohio	Ohio Dahlia Society (Ohio)	B	F.D.	Red	85.1	

ABBREVIATIONS USED ABOVE:

A—Large 8 in. or over.

B—Medium 4 in. to 8 in.

BB—Small Medium 4 in. to 6 in.

M—Small, not over 4 in.

F.D.—Formal Decorative.

I.D.—Informal Decorative.

S.C.—Semi-Cactus.

I.C.—Informal Cactus.

Lt Bl—Light Blend.

Bi—Bicolor.

Yel—Yellow.

Pur—Purple.

Wh—White.

Lav—Lavender.

Soc.—Society.

"TRICKS OF THE TRADE"

BY FREDERICK J. KNOCKE

The following are a few "tricks" that may help produce that "extra" bloom.

Large roots may be started in flats during late April or early May. The strongest eye is allowed to develop into a shoot two or three inches long, and all other eyes are completely gouged out. This usually takes two to four weeks. The roots are removed from the flat when the shoots are about three inches long. They are divided so that only a small amount of the root (an inch or two) remains with the eye. The cut surface of the division with the eye is dusted with sulfur or spergon, to prevent rotting. The base of the shoot is dusted with rooting hormone, in the same manner as when taking a cutting. The shoot with its small attached piece of root is planted to the usual depth of four or five inches in the garden, the leaves being allowed to protrude from the soil. The planting is partially shaded for a week to ten days. Early growth will be slow, but once the plant "takes hold" vigorous growth and large blooms will be produced.

Use a little nitrate and potash, and plenty of water, especially just before show time.

Varieties which are known to have weak stems, or long thin stems may be protected with a splint of thin bamboo cane, about a 1/4 inch in diameter and three feet long. The stem is tied to the support at intervals of six to eight inches. The support is not removed until the flower is in its container at the show, but be sure to remove it before judging, because support above the level of the container will disqualify the entry.

Some varieties have a tendency to face down. This may be corrected by supplying support under the bud as it develops, by means of a wire loop attached to the end of a thin bamboo cane which is attached to the stem as described in the previous paragraph. Another method is to apply traction to the bud by means of a double wire loop, about two inches in diameter, one loop supporting the bud on each side of the stem. Traction is applied by means of string which goes through a pulley attached above the plant. A small weight is attached to the free end of the string. This has the advantage that it does not require daily adjustment, as does the bamboo cane method.

There is no "trick" to substitute for hard work. The best results are obtained by living with the plants from day to day, catering to their needs as they develop. Each variety is an individual. It may take several years of growing in the garden to learn all its likes and dislikes. Many varieties are temperamental, and require special handling to produce the exhibition perfection of which they are capable. That is what makes growing for exhibition such a challenge.

Brief summary of the important points:

1. Plant healthy stock of the best exhibition varieties.
2. Supply good culture.
3. Employ proper timing.
4. Force extra size with a little nitrate and plenty of water.

5. Shade the flowers as they open.
6. Cut the stems under water.
7. Harden in a cool, still place for several hours.
8. Transport to show without bruising.
9. Cut under water again.
10. Set up carefully.

Good luck! I hope this article helps some new exhibitors to grow better dahlias and to win awards at the shows.

At this point I would like to express my indebtedness to the late Ernest E. Tooker, who was a true student of the ways and means of growing dahlias to exhibition perfection. He was a keen competitor, who was always willing and happy to share his experience with others. Much of the material in this article is based on the teachings of "The Old Man." I know that he would be happy to have this information passed along to future generations of exhibitors.

(Ed.'s Note: Share your experiences. Send in to the BULLETIN cultural methods or "tricks" which have helped you to grow and show better dahlias. The editor will set aside "The Exhibitor's Corner" for this exchange of information in the March 1954 issue of the BULLETIN.)

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LET'S MAKE A FEW CUTTINGS

Often wish you had a greenhouse? Get "wrapped up" in a new variety . . . or an old favorite? And wish you might have a few extra plants?

Well, you can do it quite easily. And you only need, for equipment, a borrowed window storm sash and a few pieces of 2 x 8 planking.

First, select the root or roots you wish to propagate . . . do that right now! Place them in damp peat moss in a warm sunny window.

While the dormant stock commences to "eye," you will have ample time to set up your "manufacturing plant."

Select a sunny southern open location along the foundation of the house or garage. Against the wall, set up a framework of 2 x 8's just the size of your storm sash. (If no such location is available, then any open sunny spot may be used, but you will have to screen off the north and west sides from the cold winds.

The soil will warm up under the glass in a few days.

In the East, April tenth is the time to move your stock into the frame. Use half the space for the root stock . . . plant in good soil . . . lie the tubers almost flat just below the surface . . . the crown and sprouts should be exposed above the soil level. Put three inches of sand in the other side of the frame. (Sterilize the sand if possible.)

Open the sash slightly in the middle of the day for good ventilation. Cover the glass at night with several thicknesses of heavy paper and some old blankets (weighted down to avoid blowing off). Frost and cold must be kept out, of course.

In about a week, the first shoots will be ready to cut. Water down the sand thoroughly. Cut off the sprouts that are three inches long . . . have at least two pairs of true leaves. Cut with razor blade, just below the nodes under the lower pair of leaves. Remove this pair of leaves. Dip the tip of the cutting in Hormone powder and insert it approximately a half inch deep in the wet sand . . . tamp sand firmly against base of cutting.

Shade the cuttings for a few days after which they will be able to stand the sunshine . . . (muslin is a good shade material). Water lightly about every other day . . . overwatering is to be avoided to prevent "damp-off."

Take new cuttings every few days as ready.

In approximately two weeks from the time of setting cuttings in the sand, they should be rooted. Transplant them into small clay pots . . . using good soil made up of one-third garden soil . . . one leaf mould or humus and one sand. Water thoroughly with a solution of Transplantone in the water. Keep shaded for a few days. In ten days to two weeks the plant will be ready to take its place in the garden.

HOW TO WIN ON THE SHOW TABLE

(Continued from page 12)

middle. The blooms placed last in the box will weigh down the stems of those placed first and there will be little shifting. If rough handling is expected the stems should be tied to the floor of the box, but with careful handling this is not necessary. Once in the boxes, the flowers are immediately transported to the show.

At the show, space to set up is obtained. If none is available, get the help of the show manager to find some. Best is to get to the show early, and avoid the congestion just before the deadline. Locate enough containers and fill them with water. Remove the flowers as rapidly as possible from the boxes, cut the stems again under water in a bucket brought along for that purpose, and place them in the containers.

Prior to the show, entry cards should have been prepared and show rules in the schedule carefully studied. The final selection of the flowers is now made, and each flower is individually groomed before being placed on the show table. This is done as follows: Each stem is cut to such length that the bottom pair of leaves comes at the level of the top of the container. The stem is supported at the desired position in the container by stuffing in waxed paper at the neck of the container. The flower is inspected. Any petals out of place are gently replaced. If a few of the back petals are bruised, they may be carefully plucked. If only a few are plucked it is very difficult for the judges to be sure that this has been done. If it is obvious that many petals have been removed,

the flower will be scored down. A little bruising of the front petals may be carefully trimmed with a sharp pair of manicure scissors. A badly bruised flower is best discarded. The flowers are now in the containers ready to be carried to the show table. The proper entry card is selected, and the name of variety and exhibitor written on the card. Check the classification list to be sure that each variety is entered in its proper class. Check the show tables to see where each entry goes, and carry it carefully and directly to the proper place. Rough handling at this stage may cause a fine flower to drop its back petals. Place on the table so as to avoid contact with the other entries. When all finished go back and recheck each entry to be sure that it is correctly labelled and that it is entered in the correct class according to the classification list.

Now the time is up and the entries are closed. The fate of the entries is in the hands of the judges. When the judging is over, there will be awards of which to be proud. Where the other fellow wins, he must have had a very fine bloom indeed. Check with the judges if the prizes do not appear to have been correctly awarded. Most judges will be glad to explain the decisions, and you will get pointers which will help the next time. Check the winning varieties, and make notes for next year.

Relax and enjoy the show. The best part of any show is to visit with old friends and to make new ones, and to enjoy the fellowship produced by common interest in and love for the dahlia. That, even more than the ribbons and cups, makes our hobby so worthwhile.

THE CREAM OF THE CROP

By DR. WARD H. COOK

One who is called upon to judge in many shows must avoid all suspicion of prejudice. Not only can he have no overpowering color likes or dislikes, but he should cherish no favorite varieties. Therefore, at the risk of impairing whatever reputation I may have earned for fairmindedness, I reluctantly consented to compile and to offer for publication this list of superlative Dahlias in each type, size and color class recognized by the American Dahlia Society. Many very fine varieties are omitted. Some even with a good show record last season for one reason or another may not find a place. There are Dahlias which I would not want to do without in my own garden, yet, which have little chance of winning in keen show competition. In every show occasional varieties not listed here are apt to come through with a ribbon. Personally, I get a real thrill when I recognize some old-time favorite reappear "as good as ever" and properly decorated with a blue ribbon. Certain of these old-timers I still place high among the Cream of the Crop. But there should be distinct improvements in each year's crop of novelties.

Those new introductions which I believe demonstrated outstanding prize winning qualities in 1952 you will recognize, even in some instances topping the choice, in their class. No doubt some of the highly touted foreign originations which I have not seen on our show tables and which I am growing for the first time this year will be among the winners in 1953. Likewise, exceptionally meritorious undissemminated novelties will forge their way to the front as the welcome surprises of the current season. Improvement of the Dahlia depends in no small measure upon the test of the show. A few classes are still so weak that no outstanding variety—or at most only one—is available. On the other hand, some of our classes are already so heavy with truly great varieties, that it is really impossible to restrict one's selection to a mere first and second choice of potential winners. Nevertheless, an exhibitor fortunate in having clean, vigorous stock of the first and second choices in every class herein indicated has, in my judgment, the winning of the Sweepstakes award with his power in any show he may enter.

This tabular listing of 552 varieties is essentially a personal survey. It is not the result of a statistical compilation of recorded winnings over the country. It is based upon wide observation and close critical evaluation of many hundreds of varieties, old and new, in the entire range of Dahliadom. Varieties are here because they seem to me to possess in greater measure than others the highest quality and fewest faults in their respective classes. In not all cases are they the easiest to grow so as to bring out to the fullest their inherent good qualities. This is the challenge which the exhibition grower accepts.

The management of shading, fertilizing, watering, disbudding, supporting of stems and other details necessary to success vary with the personality of individual varieties. Remember, this list of Dahlias focuses primarily upon the show table rather than garden satisfaction. However, those which are so highly temperamental as not to be reasonably dependable have not been included. In my opinion it is a safe list to go by.

With the exceptions noted (where re-classification has been recommended), the 1952 official classification list has been followed. The considerable number of varieties, however, which do not appear in the 1952 classification list have been assigned to the classes indicated by their characteristics as we have seen them. The order in which the colors are given is the newly adopted color sequence of the A.D.S. The list of B-medium varieties covers the 4 to 8 inch size range. In addition, an attempt has been made to give a supplementary list of possible winners in the 4 to 6 inch or BB group under A.D.S. show rules which admit over-size miniatures and small B-size varieties in competition. "B" varieties which top the list of their classes in this BB group have an excellent chance to win in the regular B-medium, classes. Certain miniatures when grown over 4 inches change their form, a straight cactus, for example, becoming incurved.

Strongest candidates for most perfect bloom are denoted with symbol ★, while the most likely possibilities for "largest and best bloom" are denoted with symbol ✨.

A, OVER 8 INCHES—FIRST CHOICE

	CACTUS, IC or St. C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE
Yellow	♦Allegresse	☼Pride of Parkersburg	Sunburst	♦Prairie Sun
Orange	Rose Ann S	Prairie Fire	Betty Broster	*Don Jose
Red	Edna D	☼Lynn Fontanne	Red Champion	Croydon Crimson
Flame Blend	Fanny Levy	Collector's Item	Col. Little	☼Arthur Godfrey
Autumn	Oakleigh Champion	Ronnie Lee	♦Pirate Treasure	Kirsten Flagstad
Dark Red	♦Yowu Matsuoka	♦Ami Louis Blin	☼Mrs. Hester A. Pape	Bull's Eye
Variegated	Hypnose	Figaro	Dixie Wine Dot	.....
Bicolor	Uncle Dudley	Jane Lausche	Cornell	Tiara
Dark Blend	☼Valley Queen	William Evans	Autumn Blaze	Julia Keech
Purple	Clariam Royalty	Ada N	Kemp's Purple Triumph	Deep Purple
Light Blend	Reality	Greater Glory	Helen Stafford	Five Star General
Pink	Belle Dame	All American	☼Kelvin	Stardust
White	Bay City White	☼Edith Willkie	Winifred Stredwick	D'Arcy Sainsbury
Lavender	Pink Superior	♦Marilyn Dale	☼Powder Puff	♦Lavender Perfection

*1952 Classification List AFDAU

B, 4 TO 8 INCHES—FIRST CHOICE

	CACTUS, IC or St. C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE
Yellow	Labuan	♦Edgar A. Guest	.....	Sparkler
Orange	Orange Princess	Rockley Orange	Orange Flame	Indian Paint Brush
Red	Nancy Ann Mitchell	♦Terpo	Vic	Fireball
Flame Blend	Kelvin Sunrise	Bataan	Caroline Kernochan	Ballego's Glory
Autumn	Copperhead	Koongara Radiance	.....	♦Golden Treasure
Dark Red	♦Juanita	Breendonck	Maharajah	Deep Velvet
Variegated	*.....	.....	Crystal Surprise	Haslerova
Bicolor	Victory Maid	.....	♦Campus Queen	Frances Hanna
Dark Blend	Judy G	.....	.....	Selwood Glory
Purple	Orfeo	Purple Knight	Eventide	Marshall A. Howe
Light Blend	Eugene Black	♦Maryland Beauty	.....	♦Betty Blossom
Pink	♦Doris Hilliard	Nay Aug	♦Hill's Pink Supreme	♦Jersey Beauty
White	♦Snowball	Bill Jack	♦Windlassie	♦Alabaster
Lavender	Lavender Gem	Doge	Pretty Lady	Frances H. Archer

*Samba if classified "B"

A, OVER 8 INCHES—SECOND CHOICE

	CACTUS, IC or St C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE
Yellow	Derring Do Yellow Juane La Belle Darle V.	New Look ♦ My Memories Hoosier Marvel Tops	Annette Burnbrae's Memories Queen Elizabeth Quinn's Tidal Wave	Montgomery Bessie Hardress
Orange	*♦ Miss Myrtle Beach Dorothy Lamour Patricia Spollen	Miss Phyllis Vohland	.....	Volcano
Red	King Size Son of Satan General Eisenhower	Maffie The Cardinal Forest Ranger	Murphy's Masterpiece Red Chief	Pop Harris Croydon Signal
Flame Blend	Angelus	Link's Sensation Don L.	Cosmopolitan	.....
Autumn	Stephen Foster ✧ Pin Wheel Clara Hook Gold Coin	Special Award Amelia Earhart	✧ Croydon Masterpiece Axford Triumph Sherwood Peach Carl G. Dahl	Marjory Nolan
Dark Red	Detroit 250 Big Mo	Val's Delight Virginia Rute Black Monarch Koongara Royal	Cherokee Brave	Stellaette Commando (Australian) De Molay
Variegated	Semba	.....	Pfarrer Rojek	.....
Bicolor	Aristos	.....	Kentucky Sportsman	Jeanette Phantom Miss Liberty
Dark Blend	.....	Shelbourne Sunset	.....	.....
Purple	Arabian Night	Hollywood Star Cheadle Park Jean Trimbee	The Volunteer Glamour	King David Purple Dawn
Light Blend	Crowning Glory Golden Jupiter	Sensation B. C. Empire State	Majestat Mother Koenig	Kidd's Climax
Pink	Sarett's Pink Flamingo Pride of Holland	Irene Rich Cymbie	Frieda Gaylord	Virginia B. Taggert
White	Dandy Snow	Graf Folke Bernadotte	Madonna Mother's Day Great Lakes	*♦ Heavenly White Emma Caroline The Real Glory
Lavender	Irene Dunne Nellie Retzer	Milgrove	Nearest Blue Rudolf Motznick	Ruth Nichols Marybelle June Nolan

*1952 Classification List AStCAu

B, 4 TO 8 INCHES—SECOND CHOICE

	CACTUS, IC or St. C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE	
Yellow	Flirt Finesse Anversoise Refugee Capt. Silverman	Scarsdale Sun Full Moon	.....	Gay	
Orange	Koningen Juliana Agnes E. James Hillside Beauty	Duindgit	.....	Ambassador van Kleffens Flaming Sunset	
Red	Victory Day Monty Aristocrat Brilliant	Nicky K. Scarlet Leader	.....	Barbarosa	
Flame Blend	.....	Laetare Shiela Brunton	.....	Rose Glow Brandaris	
Autumn	Connie Casey Rheingold Pari Tara Gold	Golden Rectitude	.....	.....
Dark Red	Grandezza Marika Rock Blackbird Smokey	.....	Anna Benedict	Abe Lincoln	
Variegated	.....	.....	.....	Gypsy Girl	
Bicolor	Flash Farncot Brioso	.....	Wanda Meade	Lois Walcher Jack of Hearts	
Dark Blend	.....	.....	.....	.....
Purple	Daisy Ethel *Marion Glenn Zenith Doreen E.	Colbert	.....	♦Ruby Glow Tall and Handsome	*If re-classified SC would be 2nd choice BSCPr.
Light Blend	*Mme. Clementine Payen Aumonier Chandelon Blendette Firegleam	Woodland Peach Laura B. Bruder Justinus Nick's Orchid	.....	Florence M. Lakeside Beauty Leah Pearl King Peter II	*If re-classified would be 2nd choice BICL.
Pink	Mme. Elizabeth Sawyer Chuck's Pink Fair Maid Grace	Bond's Memory Mrs. Dean Acheson *Miss Rose Fletcher	Frills Victory Eclipse	Gerrie Hoek D-Day	*St. C in 1952 Classification List.
White	Florence Chadwick	Michigan White Purity	White Winner	Mayor Ring Zero	
Lavender	Lyrieck Top Score Mme. C. Jussiant	Michigan Orchid (Collins) Dorothy Schmidt The Bartered Bride	Little Eddie The Detroit Times	Blue Jersey	

BB, 4 TO 6 INCHES

	INCURVED CACTUS	STRAIGHT CACTUS	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE
Yellow	.....	✦Yellow Special ✦Finesse Anversoise Jack Reid	✦Yellow Elegance Arabeske	Roys Yellow	Gay Canary
Orange	✦Mrs. Willicombe Karolinnen	Gay Salute	Andrie's Orange	..... .....	Ambassador v. Kleffens
Red	.....	Aristocrat Ruby Charm Joan Gibbs	Nicky K.	Forest Fire Jr.	Shirley Westwell
Flame Blend	.....	.....	Tilbury's Starlight Shiela Brunton Nar	Peach Glo	Rose Glow
Autumn	Rheingold Pari Tara Gold	.....	Sabine	..... .....	Old Gold
Dark Red	.....	.....	Dubonnet	Rickey	Ike
Variegated	.....	.....	.....	Wanda Meade	✦Gypsy Girl
Bicolor	Farncot Brioso	John L. Stevens	Little Shiek Blue Star	..... .....	Saint Nick
Dark Blend	.....	.....	.....	Rapture	.....
Purple	Pin Up	Zenith	Lombaert's Violet		✦Ruby Glow
Light Blend	✦Silvretta Norma Jean *Margaret Rose	✦Ste. Therese Montafon Glenrowan Loveliness	✦Val St. Lambert Elodie K. Miss Elsie Jane	.....	Leah Pearl
Pink	Julius C. Bunge	Grace Margery Blake Vivianne Coppens	*✦Miss Rose Fletcher Graziella Samivera Little Diamond Jubilant (Bruidegom)	Anjerdries	Gerrie Hoek Baby Fonteneau
White	Little Linda	Lombaert's Albino	Purity Willy Flaton	Little Eddie	Dave Platt
Lavender	Bedford Beauty	Betsy T.	Royalty		.....
*1952 Classification List B SC Lt. Bl.			*1952 Classification List B St. C Pk.		

MINIATURES—FIRST CHOICE

	CACTUS, IC or St. C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE	
Yellow	♦ Belle	♦ Arabesque	Roy's Yellow	Little Lemon Drop	
Orange	.....	Andrie's Orange	Cinnamon Gem	Peggy Lindley	
Red	Ruby Charm	Double Victory	Chico	Jennie A.	
Flame Blend	.....	*Petit Prince	Jubilant (Dahliadel)	♦ Decoy	*1952 Classification List MSC Au
Autumn	Favorita	.....	♦ Onah	Fuzzy Wuzzy	
Dark Red	.....	Dubonnet	.....	Buddy	
Variegated	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bicolor	John L. Stevens	♦ Little Shiek	Rickey	Zest	
Dark Blend	*Firefly	.....	.....	.....	*1952 Classification List MSTC Or
Purple	.....	Lombaert's Violet	.....	Royaletta	
Light Blend	♦ Hazel Harper	Homeacre's Sweetest	♦ Duke	Bo Bo	
Pink	Little Peaches	Jubilant (Bruidegom)	.....	Baby Fonteneau	
White	Little Linda	Geneva Crystal White	Anjerdries	♦ Agatha	
Lavender	Betsy T.	Estelle	Little Joanne	Nellie Shee	

MINIATURES—SECOND CHOICE

	CACTUS IC or St. C	SEMI-CACTUS	INFORMAL DECORATIVE	FORMAL DECORATIVE	
Yellow	Jack Reid	Tip	.....	Cheryl Anne	
Orange	.....	Lustre	.....	Canary	
Red	Miss Stone	.....	Elsie Crellin	.....
	Joan Gibbs	.....	Passepartout	Red Robin	
Flame Blend	.....	*Atomic Ray	Red Fire	Nancy	*1952 Classification List MSCR
Autumn	Doreen Crane	.....	Bronze Elsie	Buckeye Baby	
Dark Red	.....	.....	.....	Ballego's Maroon Gem	
				Freda	
				Ike	
Variegated	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bicolor	.....	Blue Star	.....	Funny Face	
				Red Shadow	
				Promising Surprise	
				Bright Idea	
Dark Blend	.....	.....	.....	.....
Purple	.....	Fuchsia Gem	.....	Princess Royal	
Light Blend	Mab	Petit Sonne	Rapture	Fairy	*1952 Classification List
	Kay	Susan R		Coral Blend	MIDLtBI
	Norma Jean	*Chips			
Pink	Animato	Graziella Samivera	.....	Bright Lass	
	Amaroso	Little Diamond	.....	Pink Lady (Dahliadel)	
	Chana	Pink Lady (Australian)	.....	
White	Lombaert's Albino	Snowsprite	.....	White Fawn	
	Snow Prince	.....		
Lavender	.....	Delaware Royal	Ming	Little Susan	
		Royalty		Prairie Thistle	
				Symphony	

POMPONS	1st CHOICE	2nd CHOICE	BALLS	MINIATURE BALLS	COLLARETTES	SINGLE
Yellow	Little Jackie	Little Prince Mimosa Brass Button Chita	Yellow	Mary Helen	Little Buddy	Saturn Pequot Yellow Candle Light
Orange	Clarisse	Atom Donny Pinnocchio Little David	Orange	Orange Glow		Orangeade Bachelor Girl
Red	Sweetie	Ilia Little Jim Little Marvel Kobold	Red	Tecumseh	Lysander	La Gioconda Temptation Marcelline
Flame Blend	Little Edith	Pee Wee Antientje	Flame Blend	Rondkop	Red Gold Medal	James Weller Bruno
Autumn	Gold Dust	Spring Zonnengoud Honey	Autumn	Charlotte Caldwell	Mazie	Tango
Dark Red	Ebony	Johnny Doria Little Bobbie	Dark Red	Black Diamond	♦ Dusky	Hot Jazz Garnet Poinsettia Erica
Variegated	.....	.....	Variegated	Jayseedee		
Bicolor	Eileen	Betty Malone Minnie Mouse	Bicolor	Clara Clemens		Coincident Gay Lassie Marshall's Gloria
Dark Blend	Strathfield	.....	Dark Blend	.....	**Jeep	
Purple	♦ Miss Marjorie	Willo's Violet Sherry Valda	Purple	Mrs. C. D. Anderson		La Cierva
Light Blend	Clover	Girsham Rosie Britain's Delight Pink Perfection	Light Blend	Rosy Dawn	**Maude Adams	Dad's Favorite Mia Karsten
Pink	♦ Mrs. French	Mrs. V. Brittain Nerissa Pink Duchess Betty Anne	Pink	Alice J. Dorothy D.		Newport Wonder
White	♦ Mrs. J. Telfer	Bob White Little Beauty	White	Mozart		Sparkle Purity Snow Princess
Lavender	♦ Margaret Williams	♦ Rhonda Joyce Gibbs Rosegay Dee Dee	Lavender	♦ Supt. Amrhyn	Dainty	Music
			PEONY	ORCHID	ANEMONE	
			Yellow		Imp	Because of interesting impending developments in this group no choices at this time. However, the following can be recommended: Grenato, Orange Robijn, Purple Vera Higgins, Light Blend Vera, Lavender
			Orange			
			Red	Bishop of Llandaff		
			Flame Blend		Dahlidel Whisper	
			Autumn			
			Dark Red			
			Variegated			
			Bicolor			
			Dark Blend		Collegiate	
			Purple			
			Light Blend	Baby Royal	Dahlidel Twinkle	*1952 Classification List M Ba Lt Bl
			Pink	Pink Lassie		**1952 Classification List Ba Lt Bl
			White		Everest	
			Lavender			

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Classification: Roy Webb, Dr. Ed. McDade.

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DAHLIA CULTURE

By ROY W. WEBB, A.D.S. Vice President

When our Editor asked me to write this little article I was happy that he told me that I would not have to say anything about "timing" as timing has always been my greatest weakness, just never can hit the show right, weather gets too hot or too cool, too wet or too dry, or something always comes along to upset the appereat.

THE GARDEN SITE

Suppose I should start with the selection of the site, but am not going to, because 99% of us use what we have or we just don't plant dahlias. But, I will just mention a couple of things to avoid. First don't expect to grow dahlias near cut leaf maple or other trees that have a wide spread of roots—it can't be done with much success. Second, dahlias must have drainage . . . they can't stand wet feet for any length of time. So, use your own back yard—or as much of its as your wife or mother will permit. Dahlias really should have some sunshine, but they don't have to have full sunshine all day. Many of the best blooms seen on the show table were grown in partial shade, either natural or man-made shade. And ground that will produce good corn and/or potatoes will produce good dahlias, but you may have to do a little assist to make it produce. For example when I started to grow dahlias (right where I grow them now) the ground was so hard that I had to use a pick to loosen the soil, and it was all sub-soil, partly hardpan and partly shale rock, which had been left after the coal company had scraped the surface soil off to fill the pot holes left by mine caves. The first year I had pretty good dahlias over the filled-in pot holes, but the rest of the planting was pretty much of a failure. So, all the next winter I dumped the anthracite coal ash from the home furnace on the garden, perhaps three to four inches of it, and as soon as the ground was dry enough to work in the spring I dug these ashes in just as deep as I could with a spading fork. I kept the same coal ash operation up for the next several years . . . meanwhile adding cow manure to the ashes and planting dahlias each year. The result is that the surface of the garden is several inches higher than it was in the beginning, but it digs easy and is soft enough for the feed roots to go out and find nourishment.

PREPARATION

Dig as deeply as practical and be sure the soil is well broken up. If on the clay side, add coal ashes or sand and thoroughly mix. I like to broadcast 20% super-phosphate over the entire garden thick enough so you can easily see it, no harm will be done if used too thick. Do this before spading the plot. Next fall it will help if you will scatter winter rye over the entire garden, early enough for it to get a start before cold weather sets in, early September before you even think of cutting the dahlias down or digging. The rye dug under the following spring will add much humus to the soil and help to produce better dahlias.

PLANTING

Set your stakes before planting, otherwise damage

may be done to the roots that you have placed in the ground. I used to drive the stakes but have since changed to using a bar to make the holes (a crow bar) and find that the stakes stand straighter and also last longer. Set the stakes three feet apart each way (if the plot is big enough) otherwise closer in small plots like I have to work with. Next dig the holes as close to the stake as possible, at least six inches deep and large enough so the root will not be crowded. At this stage I like to put a handful of a mixture of dried cow manure and bone meal in the hole and stir it up with a small shovel which I keep for this particular purpose. Next place the root in the hole FLAT with the eye up and near the stake (don't plant the root on end). Then just barely cover the root with soil and let nature do the next operation to this particular root. As the shoot grows up through the soil keep pulling in more soil until the hole is filled.

CULTIVATION

The older I get the less inclined to cultivating I become. BUT, keep the weeds out. I believe that the main benefit of cultivating is to keep the weeds out, so keep after the weeds—even to hand pulling, which I do plenty of. Too much cultivating, on many gardens only aids erosion each time it rains. Besides many tender feed roots are torn loose by cultivating.

TIEING

As soon as the plant is tall enough, perhaps a foot high, it should be tied loosely to the stake with flat tape or pieces of cloth. Keep up the tying program all the way till frost, a big wind can make one sick to find his choice dahlia plants ruined because they were not tied in time.

SPRAYING

Personally I am too lazy to spray, BUT, I do dust and often. I can dust the whole garden in a matter of minutes while it would take hours and hard work to spray. Get a good duster and save yourself a lot of hard work. Personally, I use 1% Parathion and 5% DDT and this is all. I realize that much has been said about the danger of parathion to humans, but it has never harmed me as I use care and try not to inhale any of the dust, in fact I try not to let any of it get in my eyes or on my skin and always wash well with soap after dusting the garden. We who use DDT find that red spider takes over unless something is done about these little pests. I have found that parathion works best for me.

DISBUDDING

To get suitable stems it is necessary to disbud and also to disbranch in most cases. This is done by removing two of the clusters of three buds at the end of each stem, then working down the stem and removing the new growth at the brackets, where the brackets grow out of the stem, for as far down as the length of stem wanted seems to indicate, usually three or four leaf brackets down each stem or lateral. Some varieties want to produce too many laterals, so it is necessary to remove the excess in order to have exhibition blooms. Some

growers also like to pinch out the tops of the plants when the third set of leaves appear, I seldom do this any more as it delays the first bloom and seems to stunt the plant of some varieties.

WATERING

A light watering is worse than nothing, so when you water do a real soaking job of it. Dahlias like a lot of water, especially at blooming time, but as stated earlier they can't stand wet feet.

FERTILIZING

I believe that more good dahlias are ruined by over-fertilizing than by all other things together. So I do very little after planting. If a little push is wanted, about August 1st sprinkle a small handful of any commercial fertilizer that is low in nitrogen and high in both phosphorus and potash, say a 4-10-12, around each plant and very lightly scratch the soil, wetting thoroughly so as to carry the food down to the roots.

SHADING

All the best large blooms exhibited have been shaded in one way or another. Cloth house, lath house, bushel basket, umbrella or what have you. When I use anything, it is an umbrella tied securely to either the stake supporting the bloom that is being groomed or to an extra stake set just so it can best protect the bloom. Some varieties lose the proper color if shaded for too long, so care must be taken. Most varieties should be shaded when the bud starts to open full and the shade maintained until the bloom is cut. Larger size and better condition will be maintained if blooms are shaded from the hot sun of mid-day and from rain.

CUTTING

Exhibition blooms should never be cut in the heat of the day. Rather, the blooms for tomorrow's show be selected and marked before dark. After dark have some one hold the flashlight and you cut the stem (longer than wanted) with a sharp knife slanted up, trim off all the leaves except the two upper sets, and place the stems in deep cool water in a cool protected place to harden until ready to pack for the show tomorrow. However, when placing in the water, again cut the stem off (about an inch) this time under water and don't remove until ready to pack for the trip to the show.

TRANSPORTING

I like to use large florist boxes well lined with wax florist paper with a paper pillow, covered with wax paper, across each end of the box. In the actual packing, select the longest stems and largest blooms first, place on the pillow so that the head extends just over the pillow. Work the blooms in first one end and then the other of the box so you will finish at the middle. By tucking the ends of the stems under the stems of blooms already in the box you tend to secure the blooms so they won't shift around much in transit. Don't crowd the blooms in the box, rather use more boxes, as blooms rubbing against each other only bruise and become unfit to exhibit. The boxes should be packed very early in the morning so the trip can be made and the show room reached before the heat of the day and set up completed before the last minute rush. When the show room is reached the blooms should be removed one at a time and again cut under water so they can best freshen up after the trip.

DAHLIA SHOW DATES

Many reports are arriving, just as we go to press. Since this article must be set to type late, we only specify Name of Society and dates of Shows. Read the individual reports of each Society in this issue.

- Kitsap County Dahlia Society—August 20 to 23.
- Orange County Dahlia Society—August 22 and 23.
- Washington State Dahlia Society—August 29 and 30.
- San Leandro Dahlia Society—August 29 and 30.
- Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiola Society—September 5.
- Dahlia & Plant Specialists of Greater Cleveland—September 5 and 6.
- Wisconsin Dahlia Society—September 12 and 13.
- North Jersey Dahlia Society—September 12 and 13.
- DAHLIA SOCIETY of OHIO and MID WEST DAHLIA CONFERENCE—September 12 and 13.
- Burholme Horticultural Society—September 18 and 19.
- Long Island Dahlia Society—September 19.
- East Liverpool Dahlia Society—September 19 and 20.
- Portland Dahlia Society—September 19 and 20.
- Indianapolis Dahlia Society—September 19 and 20.
- Dahlia Society of Tennessee—September 19 and 20.
- Rochester Dahlia Society—September 20.
- Baltimore Dahlia Society—September 20 and 21.
- AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY—September 22 and 23.
- Hagerstown Dahlia Society—September 24 and 25.
- Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society—September 25 and 26.
- Dahlia Society of Alabama—September 26 and 27.
- Ohio Valley Dahlia Society—September 26 and 27.
- Southtown Dahlia Club—September 26 and 27.
- Dahlia Society of Kentucky—September 26 and 27.
- Greater Kansas City Dahlia Society—September 26 and 27.
- National Capital Dahlia Society—September 26 and 27.
- Virginia Dahlia Society—September 28 and 30.
- Southern States Dahlia Association—October 3 and 4.
- Central Valley Dahlia Society—October 10 and 11.

EXHIBITING

Have your class numbers written down in advance and make sure the right entry tag is attached to the right entry, many entries are disqualified at every show because tags have not been re-checked after being placed on the table. Check your entries and cut any stems under water that seem to be wilting, at the same time double check your entries. Try and relax, take it easy until the judging is finished, then see how you made out . . . win or lose, be a good sport.

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."

ANDREW J. MULCAHY, *President*

20 Marshall Avenue, Floral Park, L. I., New York.

GORDON F. WAASER, *Editor*

378 Pennsylvania Ave., Freeport, New York

DR. FREDERICK J. KNOCKE, *Secretary*

2616 Arlington Ave., New York City

HENRY A. OLSEN, *Treasurer*

45 Clement Ave., Elmont, New York

Editorial

What has the A.D.S. done for us? This query from a member of one of our valued Affiliated Societies merits a reply.

In the first place, had there not been a parent organization, the chances are that your own Society would not today exist!

In the early decade of the century, few in this country were interested in growing Dahlias . . . the Dahlia, as we know it today just did not exist. Colors . . . for the most part, were dull and unattractive, and most varieties were best known for their weak stems that could not hold the flowers up.

A group of men who envisioned the possibilities of this flower banded themselves together and formed the American Dahlia Society for the purpose of advancing the culture of the Dahlia. They worked hard and chipped

in to pay the bills which encouraged hybridizing and scientific study.

Soon, better seeds were being produced by eliminating from breeding operations all but the best existing sorts. So it became necessary to establish the first Official Trial Garden (at Storrs, Conn.) to test and appraise the newcomers against the best named varieties.

Nomenclature was not neglected . . . there was an early compilation of names and descriptions . . . some 7000 varieties. Under the capable direction of Dr. Marshall Howe this list was kept up to date, and at his death, was turned over to Dr. Charles Connors, who today at Rutgers University edits and records each season's additions . . . this is the most comprehensive list of Dahlias in the world.

Need was also felt for the exchange of ideas . . . improved culture and a variety of Dahlia 'chit-chat'. The hustling pioneers then established the publication of a quarterly magazine of the Society . . . the BULLETIN . . . which is today acknowledged the most informative Dahlia publication extant. Here you read the news of many other local societies—here you publish your own news—here you profit by informative cultural tips. The BULLETIN binds us all into a more closely knit Dahlia fraternity.

The first all Dahlia Show in the U. S. A. was the A.D.S. Show in New York City.

Standards were set by the A.D.S. and from time to time improved. These standards are today recognized in most important Shows everywhere.

Gradually, improved stiff stemmed varieties appeared. That eliminated short stemmed flowers being exhibited in milk bottles and was the forerunner of today's beautiful shows.

Within a few short years of the birth of the Dahlia Society, there were some seventy concerns engaged in the Commercial Dahlia business. Dahlias were being grown all thru the New England States and in California . . . some growers were specializing in the flower in the great Mid-west.

An A.D.S. President, the late Derrill W. Hart became the 'Father of the Honor Roll'. Derrill traveled wherever new seedlings were being grown and evaluated them against existing sorts. In that day, we were ONLY looking for varieties that were definitely better. Glance over the lists of varieties on those Honor Rolls . . . you will rarely see a 'dud'.

Today, you are perusing this issue of the BULLETIN. It is made possible only because of the hard work . . . the strict adherence to an unselfish purpose of the founding fathers. And is today being continued by a group of intelligent officers . . . relatively few in numbers . . . but who have an aggregate capacity that will match any efforts you will find on contemporary projects. All offer their services without compensation of any sort . . . none looks for a pat on the back or any praise.

Each asks now . . . what are you . . . valued Affiliated or Branch Society . . . doing for this fine cause . . . the advancement of the Dahlia?

The A.D.S. has given much and will continue to do so—asks nothing in return except friendly co-operation.

A MESSAGE TO THE BRANCH SOCIETIES

This is written on the train to Cleveland after attending the Annual Meeting and Banquet of the American Dahlia Society at the Hotel Statler in New York. The purpose of my visit was three-fold: (1) to meet some of my old friends and make new ones, (2) as a representative of the Dahlia Society of Ohio to extend a formal invitation to their members to attend the Mid-West Show in Cleveland September 12th and 13th, and (3) to propose for their consideration an innovation, i.e. a meeting conducted by the A.D.S. at the Mid-West.

It was a real pleasure to fulfill the first one. As to the second, we knew in advance many would be on hand for our Show without this special invitation. Nevertheless there are good indications the number will be increased as a result of this personal appeal. But as to this third objective, just what could our hopes be on this score? How could such a meeting be made to appear attractive to the A.D.S. An acceptance of the idea would commit their officers and members to travel to Cleveland in sufficient number to conduct a meeting. More than one possible objection flitted through my mind.

The reception I received was overwhelming. Everyone went out of his way to be friendly. I was treated like a big shot. (Thankful to say I shrank to size on the way home.) In due course, at the business meeting I represented the proposal for an A.D.S. meeting at Cleveland. And would you believe it—not a dissenting voice was heard! Not one! The motion carried exactly as originally proposed.

With this official action, the A.D.S. has definitely signified their willingness to extend their activities into the hinterland. We hope they will continue to do so and, if there is enough interest shown by us, we believe they

will. One way to encourage this would be to cooperate in making this something more than a one-way proposition. We could do this if every branch society would send at least one representative to the A.D.S. Annual Meeting. Where a society is located some distance from New York, possibly they could arrange to pay a part of the expenses of such a trip. Is there something new, some change your society would like to suggest? If so, send one or more delegates to the Annual Meeting. No letter, telegram or long distance call is as effective as a personal appearance.

Fellow members of Branch and Affiliate Societies, we belong to a national organization working in the interest of the Dahlia. In the top places and on down are men of integrity and high caliber. Let's nurture this organization. Yes, it has imperfections—some of which are to be expected where there are no paid workers and where the willing horse is loaded down with more than his share. From our end, we can see that our society is sending in reports of its activities to *THE BULLETIN* regularly and on time. We can make certain that someone is designated to send the chairman of the Classification Committee a report on all winners at our show and classification data on current introductions. We can appoint a capable member to act as correspondent with the Show Sweepstakes Award committee. We can keep our eyes open for anything of interest to the dahlia world at large and send it to the editor of *THE BULLETIN*.

Let's remember when we are asking, "What is the American Dahlia Society doing for us?" to also ask, "What are we doing for the American Dahlia Society?"

J. RALPH BERRY,
Dahlia Society of Ohio.

THE LONG ISLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY

A dahlia grower is a most optimistic person who, after meeting with all kinds of adverse growing weather, loss of many of his roots over the winter, listening to his better half wailing "I am only a Dahlia widow," takes it all with a smile and on the very first mild day in late winter, opens up the catalogs that had accumulated on the top of his dresser, makes up his mind as to the varieties he wants, especially the newer creations, places his order for same, then hopes and prays for a more favorable growing period in the current year.

So that now brings us to an accumulation of dahlia growers, male and female, under the banner of The Long Island Dahlia Society, who are already discussing the elaborate plans for its Ninth All-Dahlia Show to be held on Saturday, September 19th, at the Plattdeutsche Park, on Hempstead Turnpike, Franklin Square, Long Island, N. Y., and if the weather man lives up to his promise this show should surpass any of the previous ones irrespective as to how good they had been.

Out-of-towners who intend visiting the New York Show of the A.D.S. on September 22nd and 23rd, would be missing a surprising treat if they did not leave for New York the week previous, in order to visit the Long Island Show. Either before this show or after, take a short

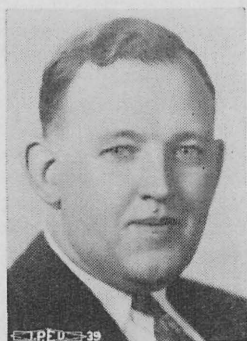
spin to visit the picturesque Official Trial Garden at Farmingdale, traveling along some of the country's most scenic parkways. Don't worry about a conveyance; let us do that for you. Hope to see you. Sure, I know you are going to make this trip, so inform our secretary, please.

The 1953 officers are Emil Zerzau, president; James W. Lawless, vice-president in charge of exhibitions and shows; W. P. Ernst, vice-president in charge of membership; Thomas Kuzenka, vice-president in charge of publicity; Mrs. J. R. Stack, 20 Lexington St., Floral Park, N. Y., treasurer; and Lawrence Palminteri, 85-38 105th Street, Richmond Hill, N. Y., secretary.

The annual dinner held on Saturday, February 14th, held at the same place where the show will be held, as usual, was a huge success. Dancing to a fine orchestra, on a spacious floor, no crowding, was indulged in until the wee hours of the following morning. In between dances the guests were entertained by some wonderful member talent. We would be remiss if we did not mention the wonderful table decoration of very fine seasonal cut flowers.

O. J. AUMULLER.

The Dahlia Society of Ohio Welcomes the Twentieth Mid-West Dahlia Conference



LEONARD F. FEURST

We are anticipating entertaining you here in Cleveland, "the finest Location in the Nation."

Cordially yours,

LEONARD F. FEURST,
President Dahlia Society of Ohio
Mid-West Dahlia Conference.

At the Annual Meeting of the Dahlia Society of Ohio in January, the following officers for 1953 were installed: Leonard F. Fuerst, president (who will automatically become the president of the twentieth Mid-West Dahlia Conference); Bernard Henke, Sidney Mayhall, Mrs. Ernest Milchrist and Fred Jones of Canton, vice-presidents; Joseph Kavinsky, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Angela Danko, recording secretary and John Kavinsky, treasurer.

Mr. E. J. Wind was named Show Chairman for the Mid-West Show to be held at the Hollenden Hotel in Cleveland on September 12th and 13th at a special meeting of the executive board. J. Ralph Berry was named Co-Chairman. Arnold M. Davis, director of the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland and a well known horticulturist was named "Honorary Show Chairman".

As this is being written, early in February, committee appointments are not complete. Letters with Hotel reservation cards are being sent to all affiliated societies of the Mid-West Dahlia Conference and to those dahlia fans who were registered as having attended the Louisville show last year. Should any of the readers of the BULLETIN have reason to correspond about this greatest of all shows—correspondence may be directed to the Show Chairman—E. J. Wind at 19111 Story Road, Rocky River, Cleveland 16, Ohio.

We hope to have the Show Schedule in the hands of everyone by June 1st. If you haven't received yours by that time—drop us a card.

We believe the attendance at this show will be the greatest ever. Not because we are the best dahlia

growers. Oh, no! We think we are good—but not that good; but because of our central location we know that many dahlia fans will be with us. Cleveland is only one day's drive from anywhere in the east or mid-west, not too far from the south, and only a few hours by plane from many of these points.

We are very fortunate in being able to announce that we have obtained space in the Hotel Hollenden for this show. The show itself will be held in the beautiful and spacious ball room. For those bringing blooms to the show (and we hope there will be many), there is a service entrance on Vincent Avenue at the rear of the hotel. There will be attendants to look after your blooms while you park your car—and there is an attached garage should you wish to use the hotel facilities.

As to the program—a registration desk will be found near the entrance to the show room where all out-of-town guests are requested to register. Registration of course, is free.

A tour of gardens by chartered bus will start from the hotel shortly after noon on Friday. We know that many of you will find this to be the most interesting part of the festivities.

We hope to have something arranged for the ladies at a time and place not yet designated.

Blooms may be "set up" beginning Friday evening.

The usual Judge's luncheon will be held Saturday noon and the Show opens to the public at 12:00 noon and all blooms must be in place at that time.

The Mid-West Dahlia Conference under the chairmanship of our president and Mrs. Louise Kleinjohn as secretary will be held at 5 P.M. on Saturday. Be sure to advise Mrs. Kleinjohn well in advance, the names of your Society delegates to this conference.

The banquet will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Saturday evening in the Assembly Room of the Hollenden, which is almost adjacent to the show room. We expect to have an unusually interesting program.

Then on Sunday morning at 11:00 A.M. will be held the *first meeting* of the American Dahlia Society ever to be held outside New York City. This is an innovation of which we are proud.

Plan to enjoy three or four days in the congenial company of Dahlia fans in our fair City at the MID-WEST DAHLIA SHOW of 1953.

RUTH BERRY,
ADS Correspondent.

Washington State Dahlia Society

Our Show date—August 29 and 30 at Hod Carriers' Hall, 755 So. Tacoma Ave., Tacoma, Wash.

Southern States Dahlia Association Plans Sixth Annual Show

One of America's largest regional dahlia shows will be held this year on Saturday and Sunday, October 3 and 4, 1953 in Atlanta, Georgia. The occasion will be the sixth annual show of the Southern States Dahlia Association. This year the Dahlia Society of Georgia will be hosts and the show will again be a part of the Southeastern Fair A Ganza.

Officers of the Southern States Dahlia Association are:

President—B. L. Kennedy, Atlanta, Ga.

First Vice-President—Walter Thompson, Birmingham, Ala.

Second Vice-President—W. B. Barnwell, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Secretary—B. E. Phillips, Atlanta, Ga.

At a recent meeting of the Southern States Association with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perry, an extensive plan of entertainment and events of interest to dahlia fanciers was formulated. It is our hope that all readers of this medium consider this their personal invitation to send, or better still, bring their flowers for exhibition. We are hoping for representation from the whole nation.

Friday night before the show there will be a reception for out-of-town guests—outdoors, if weather permits—in one of Atlanta's largest and most beautiful dahlia gardens.

Saturday afternoon we are planning a visit to the famous South Atlantic Trial Grounds located in Atlanta's Grant Park. Other points of interest such as the Cyclorama, etc., will be covered, if there is time.

Saturday night there will be a banquet at the headquarter's hotel and a large attendance is expected. Sunday morning we are arranging a tour of Atlanta's most famous and most interesting gardens. Remember that Atlanta is world renowned for lovely homes and fabulous planting. This is a feature everyone should enjoy.

Our final event will be a Sunday luncheon-barbecue, which we hope to hold on the grounds of a large nursery.

If you cannot come in person, send your flowers for exhibition to Mr. Nelson Crist, care of The H. G. Hastings Co., Atlanta, Ga. Mr. Crist will be chairman of the show.

Headquarters for our guests will be the Henry Grady Hotel, Atlanta, where we have taken the precaution to reserve a large number of rooms. This was a necessary step because the officials of the hotel reminded us that a college football game will be held in Atlanta on Saturday and, naturally, all hotels will be jammed.

Please help us by making your hotel reservations early. Either write directly to the hotel, or drop a note to Conrad Faust, 3532 Piedmont Road, NE, Atlanta, and he will make the reservation for you.

Should you have any plants or roots for the South Atlantic Trial Grounds, please forward them directly to Mr. Faust at the above address.

We hope that you who read this will get the feeling that the Dahlia Society of Georgia is planning the greatest show in its history. We hope you will be with us the first weekend in October.

J. N. TRIVERS,
Chairman of Publicity,
Dahlia Society of Georgia.

National Capital Dahlia Society Washington, D. C.

The 1952 Annual Meeting of the National Capital Dahlia Society was held December 11, in Room 43, National Museum, 10th and Constitution Ave., N.W. This was a most important meeting, annual reports were given by members who held offices during the year. The nominating committee presented the following members and they were unanimously elected to serve as officers for 1953:

President—Mr. C. L. Armentrout, 3416-22nd Street, Washington 18, D. C.

Vice-President—Mr. George E. Dodrill, 4301 Forest Lane, Falls Church, Va.

Treasurer—Mr. C. C. Phillip, 506 N. Oak St., Falls Church, Va.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Chas. B. Barnhill, 2121 S. 26th St., Arlington, Va.

Corresponding Secretary (Acting) — Mr. Thomas Yano, 8706 Garfield St., Bethesda 14, Md.

Directors—Mr. J. Leslie Bowling, 815 Philadelphia Ave., Silver Spring, Md.; Mr. W. Clinton Brown, Hill Road, Landover, Md.; Mrs. John L. Bishop, 1512 Lawrence St., N.E., Washington 17, D. C.; Mr. L. M. Clarke, 2440 Monroe St., N.E., Washington 18, D. C.

The Annual Dinner was held Thursday evening, January 8, at the Metropolitan Memorial Methodist Church, Nebraska and New Mexico Aves., N.W. It was well attended, ninety-five members and friends were present. Dr. S. S. Jaffe showed kodachrome slides of southern tropical Mexico, along with a lecture of historical background. In addition to the after-dinner speaker, entertainment was given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture Players.

Our President, Mr. C. L. Armentrout, who so successfully served as our Awards Chairman for the past two years, has at this early date started plans for the 1953 show, which we are confident "weather and red spider permitting" will be the largest of any previous shows. The show dates are Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 26th and 27th and will be held at the U. S. Botanic Garden, Maryland Ave., and 1st St., S.W. Mr. John B. Gilmer, 5424 Patton Terrace, East Falls Church, Va. has been appointed General Show Chairman and is working most enthusiastically forming his Show Committee.

As has been the custom of this society for the past several years, we again have purchased some of the Honor Roll dahlias and they are being propagated by some of our members, they will be for sale at our May and June meetings. From all reports several of our larger growers are buying most of the new varieties, this should make a very interesting show this fall. Another item of interest that has been added to our Show Schedule is our Junior Section, let us encourage our children (or is it our grandchildren) to grow a few hills of dahlias and show us seniors up.

Our Trophy Chairman, Mr. Rixey F. Gray reports that the list of trophies offered as prizes in all classes will be up to the usual high standard. We hope this will be an incentive to all dahlia growers to bring their blooms to Washington. Everyone who grows dahlias is welcome, you are not required to be a member and no fees of

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Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society

Our Fall meeting was held on November 20, 1952 in the large building adjacent to the greenhouses of Fred Moore, Haverford, Pa.

The officers elected to serve in 1953 are:

President—George M. Boyles.

Vice President—Harold Graham.

Treasurer—Fil A. Alleva.

Secretary—Walter Strobel, 10 Township Line Rd., Elkins Park, Philadelphia 17, Pa.

Representatives to A.D.S. Executive Board—Charles G. Friedel, Stanley Johnson.

A.D.S. Bulletin Editor—Stanley Johnson.

The Annual Dinner at the Tavern, Cynwyd, Pa., on January 26th was attended by 30 members and guests. A delicious steak dinner was served to the delight of every one. The toastmaster of the evening, Mr. Harold Graham introduced Miss Patricia Spollen, Garden Editor of Philadelphia's great newspaper The Evening and Sunday Bulletin. Miss Spollen praised the officials of the Society for the good work being done in staging shows having the highest quality dahlia blooms. Mr. Graham then called on the following to voice their opinions on what would benefit our Society and still improve our Annual Show. George M. Boyles, Fil A. Alleva, Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Diechler Jr., Frank V. Daniel, Walter Strobel, James Desmond, John Plewinski, N. Louis Comito, Charles G. Friedel, Henry Brusca, Mayland T. MacAvoy, Alex MacLeod, Fred Moore, Frank Schoeler and Stanley Johnson, all were sincere in giving their views. Enthusiasm was indeed high for having a banner year, 1953.

Mr. Boyles informed the group that our good friend and fine dahlia grower John McMenamin was seriously ill, so a card signed by all present was sent expressing a sincere hope for full recovery at an early date.

Plans are under way to stage an even better show this year. Since all details are not completed at this time, it is suggested your contacting our secretary, Mr. Walter Strobel, after June 1st so a copy of the show schedule can be mailed to you. The tentative show date is set for Sept. 25th and 26th. As usual we will offer the American Home Achievement Medal and A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes. Several members announced they have very promising seedlings so competition in all seedling classes should be keen this year. A word to the wise, watch the seedling entries of Louis Comito, Henry Brusca, Mayland MacAvoy and Walter Strobel.

An invitation is extended to every one. Exhibit your best dahlia blooms at our 1953 show. The prize list is very attractive so here is your chance of winning a trophy, medal, rosettes and cash prizes. Be sure to attend and see this great dahlia show.

STANLEY JOHNSON, Branch Editor.

City Gardens Club of New York City

The City Gardens Club will hold its Annual Showing of Gardens and Penthouse Terraces on the afternoons of Tuesday, May 5th, and May 12th.

MRS. ROGER B. HULL
President of the City Gardens Club

Virginia Dahlia Society

The new year started off in fine style with a grand dinner in the Society's meeting room on Thursday evening, January 29, 1953. After dinner the 1953 Show schedule was presented for adoption. The new schedule contained some changes over last year, in that new classes were added to take care of a more diversification of arrangements for Dahlias and to give the novice a larger field of entry. The old way of awarding a cash prize for sweepstakes was changed to the awarding of trophies. These trophies will be given by Miller & Rhoads of Richmond, Virginia.

The 30th Annual Virginia Dahlia Show will be held, as usual, in the Old Dominion Room of Miller & Rhoads, Richmond, Virginia, Monday, September 28, through Wednesday, September 30, 1953. Miller & Rhoads will open their store Sunday night in order that local members may have their entries in early, and allow more time for out-of-town members to meet the deadline of 11 a.m. Monday, September 28. All entries must be in place at that time.

General show chairman is Mrs. R. E. Bryant, who has staged and helped stage many shows in Richmond. Mr. Alton Smith is in charge of procuring the judges.

We of the Virginia Dahlia Society owe a great debt of gratitude to Miller & Rhoads of Richmond for allowing us to stage our annual show in their austere Old Dominion Room. The use of this lovely room adds great dignity to our show, and at the same time, due to the store's ideal location in the heart of Richmond's business district, affords many more people an opportunity to view this lovely show.

The Bam's Novice Cup will again be given this year by Bam's Inc., Jewelry, of Richmond, Virginia, to the novice receiving the largest total number of points in the Annual Show.

The Society will award for the first time this year The Grand Champion Trophy. This trophy will be either a silver or bronze cup and will be engraved each year with the winner's name and will be retained by the winner for one year only.

The Society was very fortunate at its first meeting to have Mr. E. B. Jordon of T. W. Wood & Sons Seed Store, Richmond, Virginia, speak on insect control for dahlias. His talk will prove very helpful to Virginia dahlia growers.

The next regular meeting of the Society will take place at the Ginter Park Methodist Church, corner of Laburnum and Seminary Avenues, Richmond, Virginia, April 30, with dinner being served at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will be the Annual Root Auction. This always proves successful because many fine tubers are auctioned off at a fraction of their original price and the proceeds swell the treasury. Any of you A.D.S. members in Richmond at that time are invited to attend. Dinners are \$1.25 per plate. Other meetings are August 27 and October 8.

KEN CLARK, Chairman of Publicity.

NATIONAL CAPITAL DAHLIA SOCIETY

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any kind are charged. The schedules will be ready for distribution early, any one interested in exhibiting or obtaining a schedule may contact Mr. Armentrout, the President or Mr. Gilmer, the Show Chairman.

MRS. JOHN L. BISHOP, Publicity Committee.

News from the Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society

At our annual fall meeting held at the Garden Center building in Melton Park, Pittsburgh, the following officers were elected for the coming year:

President—H. W. Mac Roberts.

Vice President—S. Klingensmith.

Vice President—Ray Baker.

Treasurer—H. Worley.

Secretary—Mrs. Enla Mac Roberts

Directors—K. Emery, Mrs. Edna Baker, G. Hall, R. Motznik.

One of the highlights of this meeting was the question and answer period on dahlias. This subject is always interesting to all members, after which the ladies served refreshments and the dahlia gang went home happy.

Our great dahlia friend and one of the originators of the society, namely, I. T. Fleck, passed away the following morning after being one of the last to leave the previous night's meeting.

At the Christmas party held in December, an exchange of gifts was held, the ladies of the society put on a beautiful before and after show; how you should look and how you should not look, in doing your daily household tasks, plus gardening, also in greeting friend, husband at breakfast, supper and bedtime, was the general theme. Boy, what a show!

The table decorations and the food was ultra deluxe and everybody really had a good time.

President MacRoberts called a meeting at his home in January to discuss the coming year's plans and we are looking forward to a great season. Let's hear from any other club on any matter pertaining to dahlias and we will gladly correspond with you.

RUDY METZNIK
Publicity

Southtown Dahlia Club

The Southtown Dahlia Club will hold their Sixteenth Annual Dahlia Show on Saturday and Sunday, September 26th and 27th, 1953 at the Hamilton Park Field House, 72nd Street and Normal Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

The newly elected officers of the Southtown Dahlia Club are as follows:

President—Dr. Walter E. Grupe.

Vice President—Louis A. H. Dressler.

2nd Vice President—J. C. Moore, Jr.

Treasurer—Stanley G. Swanson.

Secretary—Grace Y. Swanson.

Assistant Secretary—Marie Dressler.

On May 2nd, we hold our annual party to raise money for our show expenses. This is a gala event of our club, with many members and guests joining in for an evening of fun.

We extend a cordial invitation to all readers of the A.D.S. BULLETIN to attend our dahlia show and also to visit with us when you come to Chicago.

GRACE SWANSON, Secretary.

Baltimore Dahlia Society

The Baltimore Dahlia Society held its annual meeting and elected the following officers for 1953: President—Otto Weber; 1st Vice President—Arnold Hens; 2nd Vice President—C. W. B. Fordney; Treasurer—George Mumma; Financial Secretary—N. A. Scheel; Secretary—Herbert O. Aburn; Assistant Secretary—Mrs. C. W. B. Fordney. Board of Governors—Louis Gill, chairman; Chas. Diffenderffer, N. A. Gossmann, Mrs. Elsie Brach, John Sherwood, Louis Murphy, C. V. Brieger, Wm. Lampkins and Vincent Hush.

President Weber will appoint and announce the members of the various committees at the February meeting. Show dates for 1953 have been announced for September 20 and 21st and the show will again be staged in the Sears Auditorium. The Society is growing rapidly due to the fine efforts of our Membership Committee which is headed by Mr. C. W. B. Fordney. Judging by the interest and enthusiasm shown at the meeting with a fair break in the weather we should again have an abundance of blooms. The Program Committee is not only planning demonstrations of the various phases of growing plants, dividing clumps, planting, etc., but will hold special visits to the different members gardens so that the newer members might get better acquainted with the various methods used in growing and caring for show blooms.

HERBERT O. ABURN,
Secretary.

Kitsap County Dahlia Society

COMING EVENTS FOR THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

This coming season gives promise of great events in the Dahlia world. The start of 1953 was ideal, with lots of rain and nice warm weather. Some of the Growers have enough rain water stored up to protect a very dry summer, should another one like 1952 come along. The Kitsap Co. Dahlia Society will hold their show along with the County Fair beginning Aug. 20th, for four days. We expect a fine showing of newer numbers as well as a variety of seedlings. Many of our Growers have been fairly successful with seedlings the past few years, so we are looking forward to seeing some new dahlia faces. A few new seedlings have been sent to Midwest Growers, so if you look carefully at all the shows you are able to attend you may see names like *Trinket*, *Tacita*, *Tacny*, *Carnival*, *Silver Wedding*, *Troubadore*. A bright red cactus named *Signal Light*, won the ADS medal last season and we expect to see that again.

At the March meeting we had a wonderful turnout and enjoyed many slides of new dahlias furnished by some of our good Eastern friends. An auction of merchandise and dahlia roots was held and enjoyed by all, building up our treasury to a goodly sum.

From advance reports there has been very little loss in storage this winter, many growers divided at digging time and stored the roots in Vermiculite with splendid results. The natural dampness this winter was a great help to those who had only fair storage conditions. Another method some used was to dip each individual root in melted wax thus sealing them air tight.

May we all have a splendid growing season for 1953.

J. E. HULIN.

The Ohio Valley Dahlia Association

At the Annual Meeting in December, the members of the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association elected the following officers for 1953:

President—L. M. White.

Vice President—Val Schill.

Vice President—John Dickman.

Treasurer—Harry Story.

Secretary—Alice Mattick, 4223 Dane St., Cincinnati 23, Ohio.

We are looking forward to the 1953 season with much enthusiasm. Our president, Mr. L. M. White, will be 80 years old in February, and we are arranging a surprise birthday party for him. We are planning a huge birthday cake so that every member of the society can have a piece. We are hoping that the party will prove a big surprise and a very happy occasion for Mr. White.

Much emphasis is being placed on the Ohio Valley Trial Grounds this year. Mr. R. G. Huey is chairman, and he will be assisted by Edward Heepke, Fred Lienesch, Howard Ray, L. M. White, Harry Story and Alice Mattick. We are expecting a large number of entries in '53, and invite every grower with a promising seedling to send it to our Trial Grounds. All roots and plants should be sent, via Railway Express, to Mr. Robert Seibel, Principio & Heekin, Cincinnati 26, Ohio. All entry blanks, fees and correspondence should be sent to Miss Alice Mattick, 4223 Dane St., Cincinnati 23, Ohio.

The dates for our Annual Dahlia Show are Saturday, September 26th and Sunday, September 27th, at the Cincinnati Art Museum, Eden Park, Cincinnati, Ohio. We are planning an elaborate and spectacular show as our new location at the Cincinnati Art Museum gives us plenty of room to show both commercial and amateur displays to their best advantage. The world famous paintings of the Art Museum galleries lend a superb background for the dahlia bloom and the lighting is perfect to show the flowers in all their beauty. There is ample parking space as a thousand automobiles can easily be parked at the Art Museum. Also, the Cincinnati Street Railway Co. runs special busses to the Art Museum on the days of our Show to take care of the crowds. Wilbur Anderson will be 1953 Show Chairman. With Mr. Anderson will serve the following members: Mrs. Anderson, Jack Wilsey, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Ray, R. G. Huey, Mr. and Mrs. William Bertele, Walter Schill, Harry Story, Mrs. Sara Bohl, Mrs. Vincent Rettig, Mrs. Walter Bangan, Mr. and Mrs. John Dickman, Mr. and Mrs. Val Schill, J. R. Carlisle, Brother Albert Harris, M. Y. Thomas, Miss Loretta Haas, Andrew Doermann and E. R. Heitzman. The members of the Ohio Valley Dahlia Association extend a very cordial invitation to all members of other dahlia societies to visit our 1953 Show and Cincinnati dahlia gardens.

ALICE MATTICK, Secretary.

East Liverpool Dahlia Society

After a very successful Show in September 1952, plans are being made for a Dahlia and Flower that we hope will top the former ones, and the officers elected for 1953 are

all pepped up to live up to The East Liverpool Dahlia Society's motto: When Better Dahlias are Grown, East Liverpool will Grow Them.

Our officers for 1953 are:

President—Mr. Frank V. Shane.

Vice President—Mr. Frank N. Richmond.

2nd Vice President—Mrs. George White.

Recording Sec'y.—Mrs. Clarence Green, Calcutta, Ohio.

Financial Sec'y.—Miss Susan Lewis.

Corr. Sec'y.—Wm. C. Crame, Box 284, Midland, Pa.

Treasurer—Mr. Edwin Rountz.

Show Manager—Mr. J. T. Eccleston, Chestnut, Chestnut Ex., E.L.O.

Ad Chairman—Mr. Richard Heidel.

Advisory Members—George Schepp, Harry Johnson, George McCollough, George Wilmont, Wm. Haughn and John Ridder.

The Society has for some years talked of adding the word "Floral" to its name, and henceforth, our Society will be known as East Liverpool Dahlia and Floral Society.

The change was recommended by the Board of Directors and approved at regular meeting Monday night February 2nd 1953.

The Society has voted also to observe its 28th anniversary with a get together dinner in April.

Our Show Dates are September 19-20, 1953 in Memorial Auditorium, E. Fourth & Walnut St., East Liverpool, Ohio.

The Society extends an invitation to all Societies and their members. (How about some of you New Yorkers?)

WM. C. CRAME, *Corr. Sec'y.*

Greater Kansas City Dahlia Society

Our show dates are Saturday and Sunday, September 26 and 27, 1953. The show will be held in the Little Theater in our Municipal Auditorium, acclaimed by many as the most beautiful building in the Midwest. Our show this year will especially stress arrangements of every description: center pieces for the dinner table; corsages, hospital bouquets; a special class for arrangements for men only; as well as an open to all arrangements. The theme, in fact, of our entire show for 1953 will stress the many uses of dahlias in the home. We are also encouraging our local florists to make greater use of dahlias in their work.

Much interest was created and many new members were acquired by our 1952 show. We consider this was because of our showing of the many uses to which dahlias can be put.

Because of our unusually poor growing season in 1952, very dry, our roots did not do very well and most of us will have to replace our growing stock this year.

We send greetings and good wishes to all of our friends across the nation, especially to those who visited us during the "Midwest" in 1951. We still cherish many fond memories of all those who came.

AL J. BAIER.

Burholme Horticultural Society

The Burholme Horticultural Society announces the officers for 1953:

President—Mr. Stanley Johnson, Cheltenham, Pa.

1st Vice President—Mr. George Sivel, Langhorne, Pa.

2nd Vice President—Mr. Walter Strobel, Elkins Park, Pa.

Treasurer—Mrs. Lydia H. Higginson, Cheltenham, Pa.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Ella McCarthy, Philadelphia, Pa.

Corresponding Secretary—Mr. Henry Johnson, Fox Chase, Pa.

Show Superintendent—Mr. William O. Hird, Philadelphia, Pa.

Show Secretary—Mr. William Blair, Philadelphia, Pa.

Publicity Director—Mr. Chic Hausmann, Fox Chase, Pa.

The annual Christmas Party was held at the Casa Conti Hotel, Glenside, Pa., on Tuesday, December 16, 1952. It was a memorable occasion to be remembered by over 100 members and visitors. Among the many noted guests were the well-known radio and television personality, famous for his gardening programs—Mr. Amos Kirby of WCAU, Miss Patricia Spollen, Garden Editor of the Evening and Sunday Bulletins, and Mr. Engelbert Frackowak of Hilltop Orchids.

The Dahlia Show will be held this year on Friday and Saturday, September 18 and 19 at the Jardel Recreation Center, Cottman and Pennway Avenues, Philadelphia, Pa. This modern center will provide adequate accommodations for the 33rd Annual Fall Show which promises to be bigger and better than ever. It will be necessary this year to have about 100 different classes in order to cover all varieties and colors of Dahlias.

A usual feature among the classes will be the Seedling Class with the prize of the "American Home Achievement Medal," and the A.D.S. Seedling Sweepstakes Award. There will be prizes in all classes consisting of cash awards, trophies, medals and numerous merchandise awards.

A cordial invitation is extended to everyone to attend and to exhibit. The Show Schedule will be ready about July 1. Get your name on the list by writing the corresponding secretary, Mr. Henry Johnson, 124 Ray Street, Fox Chase 11, Pa.

CHIC HAUSMANN,
Publicity Director.

San Diego County Dahlia Society

The San Diego County Dahlia Society held their annual election of officers at the Bi-monthly meeting held Nov. 25th at the Civic Center Cafe in San Diego.

The following officers were elected to serve for the year of 1953:

President—Everet J. Henderson.

Vice President—Harold Huebsch.

Secretary—Robert B. Williams.

Treasurer—Chas. L. Robertson (Reelected).

The board of directors were reelected for another year with the exception of one member, the outgoing president G. C. Kern was elected to fill this vacancy.

The board of directors for the years of 1953 are as follows:

R. Partain, P. R. Comstock, R. M. Middleton, C. N. Anderson, G. C. Kern.

The newly elected president E. J. Henderson was the speaker for the evening filling in at the last minute for the scheduled speaker who was unable to be present due to illness. Mr. Henderson gave a very interesting and informative talk on the various best known methods of storing and caring for the Dahlia tubers.

Plans were discussed regarding a different location for the annual Dahlia show. The location in Balboa Park where the 1952 show was held lacked parking facilities which materially affected attendance.

The dates and location of the 1953 show are still to be selected but anyone interested in our Show may obtain information by writing to the Secretary.

R. B. WILLIAMS.

The Greater St. Louis Dahlia Society

With the 1952 dahlia season gone, but not forgotten, we St. Louisans are looking forward to a bigger and better growing year for 1953. The severe drouth left most of us with a very poor root crop and after digging into the vermiculite this week, I can say that my best varieties are all gone by the wayside. Any plants that had a good start before the drouth hit us in June, made the grade, but the late ones only made strings.

New officers for the St. Louis Society are:

Paul Hale—President.

Bruno Faerber—1st Vice President.

Herb Weege—2nd Vice President.

Joe Lepping—Treasurer.

Rodes V. Clark—Recording Secretary.

Bruno Faerber also "inherited" the show chairmanship and promises a good show. We of this society are all working to build up interest and enthusiasm among our novices. We've found that the member is sometimes forgotten by the more experienced growers, because his problems and questions seem so trivial and simple. We started this idea of helping the novice last year and it paid dividends with the largest novice section ever seen at a St. Louis show. Another thing that we hope to do for the new grower this year is to include good awards and cups in the novice and small grower sections of the 1953 show. I'm sure most dahlia growers remember distinctly, the first major award they won, even though there are growers that remark that the ribbons and medals mean nothing to them because they have a drawer all cluttered up with them now.

We are planning our annual plant sale for May this year and hope to build up the treasury from the proceeds. We're very proud of the cooperation and patronage of our plant sale and feel sure that it contributes quite a bit towards the success of our growers.

Incidentally, the membership renewal blank we included with our February BULLETIN, may be of interest to you especially in the way that we solicited our members to join the national society.

PAUL HALE.

San Leandro Dahlia Society

Dahlia enthusiasts of the San Leandro Dahlia Society met on February 3, at the McKinley School in San Leandro. Speaker for the evening was Mr. Robert J. Ammerman of the Oakland Park Department, Oakland, California.

Plans are being formulated for the dahlia society to have a large plot at Lakeside Park for a dahlia display this coming season. Dahlia Society members will contribute stock for planting and the park department will be in charge of the plot. It is hoped that this dahlia display will be as outstanding as the lovely chrysanthemum and rose gardens which attract such crowds to Lakeside year after year.

Dahlia President Eugene Corriea appointed the following committee to work with the park department: Mr. R. E. Harter, chairman; Mr. Carl Lundvall, Mr. Richard Trotter, Mr. Loren Dowell, Mr. Charles Perry, and Mr. David Webb.

Date for the 21st Annual Dahlia Show of the San Leandro Society has been set for August 29th and 30th. This date is a week later than our last year's show, which many of our members thought was a little early.

Officers for the year of 1953 are: Mr. Eugene Corriea, president; Mr. Loren Dowell, vice president; Mrs. Eleanor Bolesworth, secretary; Mrs. Ann Johnson, treasurer. The office of show manager is to be selected at a later date.

The Dahlia Society of Kentucky

Needless to say that the planning of our 1953 Dahlia Show will be much easier than last year, as I think most folks will agree, that the 1952 Midwest-Southern States Dahlia Show was the largest undertaking that any Affiliated Midwest Dahlia Society has ever attempted. From the many letters received from those who attended the show congratulating us on the success of our show and the hospitality shown them, we feel that all our hard work and efforts were well rewarded. Our thanks to all who helped to make our show the success it was.

At our Annual Meeting the following officers were elected to serve for the year 1953:

President—Mr. J. B. Floyd.

Vice President—Mr. Milton Kimbel.

Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. Louise Kleinjohn.

Directors—A. W. Adams, C. W. Simbritzky, W. H. Swift, George Shee, W. F. Kleinjohn, Roy Schooler.

Our 1953 Show dates are September 26-27th to be held at the usual place, The Kentucky Hotel, which has been the home of the Dahlia Society of Kentucky for the past twenty years. Mr. Milton Kimbel is Show Chairman.

MRS. LOUISE KLEINJOHN, Secretary.

Central Valley Dahlia Society Bakersfield, Cal.

Our officers elected for 1953, are:

President—Mr. M. O. Buchanan, 409 Stephens Dr.

1st Vice President—Mrs. R. C. Wilson, 309 Marcus St.

2nd Vice President—Mr. Hugh Smith, 2325 Alturas.



David Webb admires amazing 16-inch bloom of
FREDA GAYLORD.

Portland Dahlia Society News

The annual show of the Portland Dahlia Society will be held in the Masonic Temple on Friday and Saturday, September 19 and 20. The Advanced Amateur division in the show schedule has been enlarged to accommodate more color divisions. If this proves to be satisfactory the same will be done in the Amateur division.

Members are being urged to plant for the show, with special emphasis being placed on the classes where there have been few entries. Planting for the Special Entries division is also being stressed. The President's Award is offered for the best entry of 3 A size, one variety of domestic origination, any type. The W. C. Scrutton Award is for 3 blooms, any 3 varieties, B size foreign origination; and the J. R. Beyerle Award is for the best 5 blooms of *Sellwood Glory*.

The experts feel that every grower should try a few seedlings each year if only to have entries for the American Home Achievement Award, which is considered one of the outstanding awards in dahlia shows. New members often miss the significance of this award.

There are 15 of the Special Awards in our show and we hope to see outstanding exhibits in every class in 1953.

SAM LEHMAN, Publicity Director.

Secretary—Mrs. Leon B. Oglesby, 1509 Howard Ave.

Treasurer—Mrs. Edward Rambaud.

All out plans are being made for our Dahlia Show to be held in Bakersfield, October 10 and 11, 1953. Because of the earthquake in Bakersfield in August, 1952, it was necessary for the Central Valley Dahlia Society to cancel their show in 1952.

We are working on the possibility of getting a trial ground here for the Pacific Coast. Mr. Neven Burrell, 724 E. Inyo Ave., Tulare, Calif. is the chairman on trial garden. Mrs. R. C. Wilson is our classification chairman. A regular meeting of the Society is held on the fourth Monday of each month. Guest speakers and colored slides are featured at each meeting, followed by question and answer period so that problems of individuals can be discussed and solved when possible.

ANN OGLESBY,
Secretary.

Dahlia Society of Tennessee

September 19 and 20, 1953 have been selected as the 1953 Show dates for 1953 by the Dahlia Society of Tennessee, Inc. The Show will, this year, be held in the East Ridge Community Hall. This Hall is in one of the fastest growing suburban areas of Chattanooga. It is on the main highway (41) to Atlanta. The Society in going out to this suburban area believes that more people will attend, more local interest will be shown, more people will display blooms and already interest in soaring to a high level. We invite every dahlia grower who happens to be in this area to be with us, and visit with us, at that time.

Dahlia Society of Tennessee plans for a good year are progressing rapidly. It appears that more and more people are planning to include dahlias in their gardens; more beginners are asking how to grow dahlias; where they can be purchased; and asking for information on dahlia culture. We believe that this is a good sign for flower lovers and Chattanooga is rapidly coming to the front in the "Dahlia World."

Projects are being planned constantly for raising money to put on the dahlia shows; programs of interest to all persons interested in dahlias are planned, not only for our own group but to present to Garden Clubs and other groups.

The "Dahlia Room" at Kallquist's residence has been the location of many of the meetings of the group and not only is the love of dahlias made stronger here but also the friendship with one another that is so characteristic of any flower group. In this "Dahlia Room" the members and visitors feel at ease and more informality takes place than when meeting in large and spacious meeting rooms.

Mr. Charles Watson, Happy Cabin Dahlia Gardens, Signal Mountain, Tennessee has plans formulated in which every member will have an active part, thus the Society is not a "one-man" group but a full membership activity group in which the newest member takes over and does a share in the work. Cooperation is stressed and regardless of one's work activities the work, or committees, assigned will include work for the beginner.

No special plans have been formulated for the 1953 Show except that we are looking for more blooms than ever and we trust that the season will be better than ever.

And then—we are all looking forward to the:

1953 DAHLIA SHOW
SOUTHERN STATES DAHLIA ASSOCIATION
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
OCTOBER 3-4, 1953

CLARENCE R. KALLQUIST.

Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolia Society

The Peekskill Dahlia and Gladiolia Society will hold their annual show on September 5, 1953.

It is anticipated that the Eastern States Gladiolia Society will combine with the Peekskill Club for this show.

Enthusiasm of the members indicate one of the best shows in recent years.

FRANCES BROWN
Secretary

The Dahlia Society of New Jersey

The Dahlia Society of New Jersey held their first meeting of the 1953 season at the Robert Treat Hotel, Newark, N. J., Jan. 30. The meeting was very well attended—the largest in a long time.

The first order of business, after minutes, was election of officers:

Harry Franks, was re-elected, President.

Leslie A. Del Lufo, was re-elected, Treasurer.

Helen Pietruszkiewicz, was re-elected, Secretary. Leslie A. Del Lufo was re-elected manager of the 1953 Dahlia Show, to be held at Branch Brook Park greenhouses, in cooperation with the Essex County Park Commissioner, Newark, N. J., Saturday and Sunday, September 5-6.

The speaker of the evening was Lynn Dudley, who also showed slides and colored pictures of the new dahlias, and some of the Trial Grounds he attended. It was very interesting and the members thanked him. Last year was very good for us, because we added a lot of new members, and all were present.

Other members present were: Conrad Frey, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Olsen, E. Lloyd, Dewey Mohr, and many others.

After the color picture showing, meeting closed at 11 P.M. We had a nice meeting. All were glad they attended. The other meeting dates are: March 27, 1953 and June 19, 1953.

LESLIE A. DEL LUFO

North Jersey Dahlia Society

1952 REPORT

Our 3rd annual show was better than anticipated, quality of blooms and staging made it outstanding.

One of the highlights was three blooms, deep lavender, formal decorative "B" type dahlias shown and originated by Chas. Albanese of Tuxedo Park, N. Y. This variety was selected and named *Charlotte Smith* by Miss Smith, who has been associated with the First National Bank & Trust Co. of Paterson for a number of years.

Unfortunately our show dates for '53 conflict with Mid-West. We know that many of the "Easterners" do want to go to Cleveland. To those who are not going we extend a very welcome invitation to visit and exhibit with us. We will do our utmost in making your visit with us a very pleasant one. The show will be held in the U. S. Trust Building, 126 Market St., Paterson, N. J., Saturday and Sunday, September 12 and 13.

Our schedules are now in the process of being compiled and will gladly be mailed to any one upon request. Our long list of special prizes are really worth winning.

Officers for 1953 are as follows:

Wm. P. Vooz, Jersey City, President.

Chas. M. Konzelman, Paterson, Vice President.

Chas. H. Stoeckel, 511 Park Ave., Paterson 4, Secretary and Treasurer and R. W. Webb of Scranton, Pa., Delegate to A.D.S.

Show Committee: Chas. H. Stoeckel, Chairman, assisted by Robert Jenkinson, Chas. Konzelman, Everett Church and John H. Schneider, co-chairmen.

Stop and Think . . .

STOP and THINK! Are you "missing" one of the best new ones for 1953? Better get our DAHLIA BLUE BOOK and check up. Our current introductions are good, and exciting. Chances are that we offer just what you need in the following list: *Bertha Shone*, *Clariam Cadet*, *Clariam Luray*, *Elizabeth H.*, *Grace Warfield*, *Maryland Beauty*, *Pat Ann Dee*, *Prairie Fire*, and *Win Dee*.

We are also offering roots as well as plants of *Abe Lincoln* and *Tall and Handsome*.

The following from other introducers are available in plants and rooted cuttings: *Agatha*, *Alabaster*, *Betty Blossom*, *Blendette*, *Collector's Item*, *Empire State*, *Florence Chadwick*, *Nick's Orchid*, *Taffeta*, and *White Glamour*.

DAHLIA SEED

All glamorous new dahlias are developed from seed. Your chances of developing a good one are as great as those of anyone else, if you start with good seed. Our seed, from the famous Pape Gardens of California, has produced many outstanding varieties in recent years. It is priced the same as it was ten years ago; \$5.00 per hundred.

DAHLIA BLUE BOOK

Our 1953 DAHLIA BLUE BOOK contains 72 pages of the kind of information you need for a successful garden. Information is up-to-date, and based on scientific horticultural practices. Varieties are adequately described, with ninety-two illustrations. The DAHLIA BLUE BOOK is free. Write for a copy if you are not on our mailing list.

MIDWEST SHOW

Plan to attend this outstanding gathering of the "greats" in the dahlia field, to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 12th and 13th. Show and headquarters at Hotel Hollenden. Write us for details.

ROCKY RIVER DAHLIA GARDENS

E. J. WIND

19111 Story Road

Rocky River 16, Ohio

Dahlia and Plant Specialists of Greater Cleveland

At our December meeting Richard H. Howells was elected President of the Dahlia and Plant Specialists for the current year. Other officers are:

1st Vice President—Jerry Kovar.

2nd Vice President—Clarence Rankin.

Secretary and Treasurer—Elsie Lasch.

Corresponding Secretary—Edna Posky.

Advisory Board—Charles Lasch, Joe Kern and Jim Cowie.

When the President took over at the January meeting, he named the following to assist him:

Ann Howells, Publicity; Jim Cowie, Otto Posky, Joe Kern, Show Chairmen; Rosemary Kovar, Hospitality; Dr. S. F. M. Hirsch and Frank S. Dill, Entertainment; Loretta C. Lackamp, Special Corresponding Secretary.

Our Show is to be held on Saturday and Sunday, September 5th and 6th at the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland, Euclid Avenue, at East Boulevard.

On September 12th and 13th, The Dahlia Society of Ohio is host to the Mid West Conference which is also to be held in our city. We have pledged our support to this Show and are looking forward to seeing all our DAHLIA friends in the Grand Ballroom at The Hol-lendon Hotel, Cleveland, Ohio.

LORETTA C. LACKAMP, Special Cor. Sec'y.

Alabama Dahlia News

There is no truce in dahlia growing in Alabama. You see a gleam in the eye and a determined look on the faces of members of the Dahlia Society of Alabama. This spells keen competition at the 1953 Show to be held September 26th and 27th at the Thomas Jefferson Hotel in Birmingham. It's all out for dahlias in '53. We've found out that secret plans have been made with 1953 introductions playing an important part in the lines of strategy being drawn up. Also, we've been told to expect a bombardment of seedlings along with other unexpected developments. Challenges have been made and accepted as plans for the Show shape up, so, it looks like a battle of dahlias this year. New growers have come up through the novice class this past year who are no longer just buck privates but with basic training behind them, they are going to give somebody fits. Directing the Show will be G. E. Alderson as Chairman and T. C. Wilgerson, co-Chairman.

Officers for 1953 are: President—J. J. Pate; 1st Vice President—A. H. West; 2nd Vice President—H. H. Pendleton; 3rd Vice President—D. Halak; 4th Vice President—O. A. Roberts; Secretary—W. W. Lawless; Treasurer—Mrs. F. M. House; Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. C. G. Goodwin.

We are all set and ready to march and though the sun will probably get powerful hot and the going tough, we'll come through with victory for "The Dahlia."

M. M. GOODWIN,

Reporter.

Indianapolis Dahlia Society

The Indianapolis Dahlia Society elected the following officers for the year 1953. Mr. Raoul H. Ayers, President; Mrs. Ray Thorn, Vice President; Miss Hazel Walther, Secretary; Mrs. Nari Jones, Treasurer; Mr. Ed. Dem-low, Show Chairman; Mrs. Keith Johns, Assistant Show Manager, and Mr. Thomas Wendt, Publicity. The Program Committee under Mrs. Thorn has prepared a very interesting program for the year's activities. It is planned to have some phase of dahlia culture discussed at each meeting as well as other garden flowers such as peonies, glads, roses, etc. Outstanding speakers have been obtained and the membership is assured of something worthwhile. Believing that the social side of our group should not be neglected, we plan two parties in conjunction with our meetings. The first is held at our February meeting at which time we have a Valentine exchange and cherry pie supper. The second is our Christmas party when we have a gift exchange and refreshments. Two garden tours during the year are also planned. The focal point of the year's activities is, naturally, "The Dahlia Show and Fall Flower Festival" held on Sept. 19-20 at the Brookside Community House.

If any of you folks are in Indianapolis at that time, you will be doubly welcome to attend and see the quality of flowers grown and exhibited by Indiana growers.

MISS HAZEL WALTHER, Secretary.

Hagerstown Dahlia Society

At the regular meeting of the Hagerstown Dahlia Society on January 12, 1953, officers for the year were elected as follows:

President, Mr. H. C. Kuhn; First Vice-President, Mr. M. B. Keener; Second Vice-President, Mr. Roy Polsgrove; Secretary, H. K. Ramsburg, 57 Wayside Ave.; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Wilbur H. Lewis; Treasurer, Mr. Charles W. Zahn; Executive Committee, Mr. Homer C. Grave, Chairman, other members, Mr. Oscar R. Moser, Mr. A. H. Sherman, Mr. D. A. Gossard, Mr. H. W. Wilhide, Mrs. Oscar R. Moser, Mrs. H. C. Kuhn.

The Annual Christmas party with exchange of gifts was held at the December meeting in the auditorium of the Y.M.C.A. with 130 members and guests attending.

A Christmas program was rendered under the direction of Mr. John R. Stouffer, the Society joining in the singing of the old traditional Christmas Carols. Refreshments were served in keeping with Holiday Season.

As our 1953 show is in the planning, the tentative dates for the Show are the last Thursday and Friday September 24 and 25. At the meeting of the newly elected officers, our program will be completed for the Show and dates of the Show confirmed.

Won't you plan to attend our Show?

H. K. RAMSBURG, Secretary.

Orange County Dahlia Society Santa Ana, Cal.

Orange County Dahlia Society, Inc., Santa Ana, Cal., meets on the fourth Friday of the month at the Woman's Clubhouse, Sixth and Baker St., with a covered dish dinner, with a good attendance I'll assure you.

Officers are as follows:

President—Dr. G. Emmet Raitt.

1st Vice President—Mr. Lawrence Archibald.

2nd Vice President—Mr. Haywood Allen.

3rd Vice President—Mr. Eldon McNeil.

Secretary—Mr. John Stem.

Treasurer—Mr. Frank Cannon.

With Mr. Lawrence Archibald as Show Manager, 1953 Show will be held at the Y.W.C.A. Gym Building. Dates are Saturday and Sunday, August 22 and 23.

We should have a fine show come August. We have had a mild winter and a good amount of rainfall.

We are digging our roots now. They are very easy to cut up and to locate the eyes when they are left in the ground.

In heavy soil we plant on raised ground or ridges for good drainage against winter rains.

Planting time starts here about Mar. 20th through Apr. to May 20th. Early planting is good here and makes nicer bushes and better flowers. We try to beat the hot weather.

Our Annual Joint Meeting of Southern California Dahlia Societies will be held at the Woman's Clubhouse here, February 15th on Sunday.

Colored slides of all phases of dahlias will be shown and some very fine dahlia specialists and speakers will preside—grand time ahead.

Ending with a covered dish dinner, a number of good door prizes will be awarded to the lucky holders of numbers.

All Societies will be tagged with their name and name of their societies, so they may be readily recognized.

HOBART JORDAN, Corresponding Secretary
Orange County Dahlia Society Inc.

TIMING DAHLIAS FOR THE SHOW

(Continued from page 13)

to separate the leaves with the fingers before the flower buds can be reached. Most of the labor comes after hoeing operations have stopped; hence timing is not too arduous. At least it results in many blooms being in competition on the show table which otherwise would be either too late or too early.

Registrations

The following dahlias are hereby registered, fee having been duly received:

By Charles Garrity, San Leandro, Calif.—

Rev. J. H. McCartney—"A" Dahlia, decorative, amaranth pink.

Irene Davis—"A" Dahlia, decorative, Tyrian pink, back of ray's lighter.

By Harold R. Campbell, Temple City, Calif.—

Rose Glow—Informative decorative, autumn blend with

The Rochester Dahlia Society

Our new officers were elected at our December meeting.

President—Mr. Robert Connal, 36 Duke St., Rochester 9, New York.

Vice Presidents—Mr. Merrill Brown, 102 Oakgrove Drive, Williamsville, New York. Mr. Frank Eyer, 100 Dunsmere Drive, Rochester 16, New York.

Treasurer—Mr. Phillip M. Kimmel, 33 Stonecliff Drive, Rochester 16, New York.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. Arthur Battams, 275 Britton Road, Rochester 16, New York.

Corresponding Secretary—Mrs. Phillip M. Kimmell, 33 Stonecliff Drive, Rochester 16, New York.

Trustee—Mr. Carl Meyer, 100 Strathmore Drive, Rochester 16, New York.

Please address all correspondence to the corresponding secretary.

We have had several very interesting programs at recent monthly meetings. At one Mr. C. Merrill Brown of Williamsville showed his Kodachrome slides of new and old dahlias taken last fall at various shows and gardens from Ohio to New Jersey and Long Island. This has become an annual event which all members endeavor to attend. At another meeting Professor A. H. MacAndrews of Syracuse showed Kodachrome slides and accompanied them with a talk on the rudiments of taking good colored pictures of flowers.

A dinner meeting was held in January at which Mr. Arthur Battams described his impressions of England gained while revisiting his birthplace there last summer.

The February meeting was devoted to reports from the two members who attended the annual A.D.S. meeting in New York, Mr. Robert Connal and Mr. Frank Eyer.

Our show is set for Sunday, September 20 at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences with Mr. Frank Eyer as its chairman. It is hoped that many of those from the Midwest will be able to stop off on their way to the New York show which is just two days later on the following Tuesday.

MARY JANE KIMMELL, Cor. Secretary.

distinct rose aura, all petals lacinated, five to six inch blooms, excellent cutter, bush, four feet.

California Orange—Formal decorative, six to seven inch bloom, orange, rolls back to practically a ball, bush, six feet.

Yellow Fellow—Formal decorative, almost duplicate of *Darcy Sainsbury*, color canary yellow, foliage normal, height six feet.

Mathilda Campbell—Formal decorative, six to seven inch bloom, rolls back practically to a ball, base color Bengal rose splashed and striped cardinal, petal tips gold, bush five feet.

Danger—Formal decorative, eight to ten inch blooms, signal red with very high sheen, bush five feet.

Blue Devil—Formal decorative, eight to ten inch blooms, bluish purple, bush three feet.

By Chautauqua Dahlia Fields (Mr. Lawrence L. Wallace), Mayville, New York—

Little Snow Puff—M.F.D., white.

CHARLES H. CONNORS, Chairman,
Committee on Nomenclature.

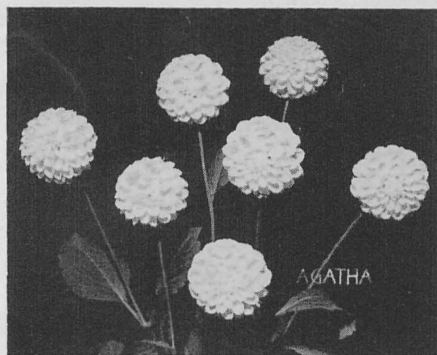
DAHLIAS by DAHLIADEL



Don't miss our 1953 Catalog with many other Introductions and 600 of the newest and best in DAHLIAS, and 130 of the finest CHRYSANTHEMUMS, including the Spiders that do well in Garden Culture. CATALOG on request.

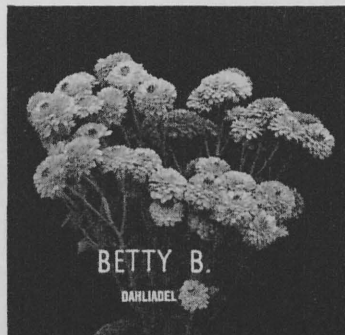
BROWN BOMBER. A large and appealing Straight Cactus of amber yellow suffused lovely camelia rose, of South African origin offered for the first time in this country. Easily grows 9 to 10 inches by 4 inches in depth. Early bloomer, and splendid grower. Really unusual.

Plants only, \$4.00 Net; 3 for \$10.00 Net.



AGATHA (Frank-Dahliadel). Lovely clear white Miniature Formal Decorative that has won wherever shown. Last year won many firsts in four local shows, the N. J. State Show, and a Trophy in the A.D.S. Show in New York. This year it won the American Home Achievement Medal in the New Jersey State Show, many firsts in four local shows, also in Greater Phila., and Long Island Shows, and the A.D.S. Trophy for the best Miniature Seedling in the New York Show. The A.D.S. Supreme Seedling Sweepstakes Award Winner of the season. Truly small as the blooms are only 2 to 2¼ inches deep. Wonderfully prolific with an abundance of blooms that makes it most pleasing in the garden as well as on the show table.

Root, \$5.00 Net; Plant, \$2.00 Net.

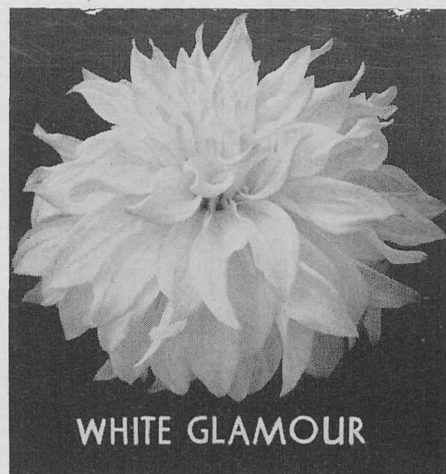


DAHLIADEL 1953 INTRODUCTIONS

Betty B. Bloom 1½ inches, Bush 2½ feet. Oct. 15. Beautiful small Decorative, deep buttercup yellow with Jasper red center and suffusion. Prolific and fine for cutting. Stands early frost.

Lucy. Bloom 1½ in., Bush 3 ft. Lovely pastel mallow purple center and shadings on reverse. A lavender sport of **Sunape** with all its good qualities. Wonderful for cutting.

Above Introductions—PLANTS \$1.00 ea. ROOTED CUTTINGS—2 of one variety for \$1.00.



WHITE GLAMOUR. This sensational new pure white sport of Silver Glamour is a Hanna-Dahliadel Introduction. A massive Informal Decorative with full high centers and long pointed petals that complete back to the stem as bloom develops. Identical in all respects to Silver Glamour except its pure white color. Tremendous in size and depth. Can easily be grown 11 x 8 inches. A real winner, and listed by Lynn B. Dudley, Conrad E. Faust, and Richard T. Eddy on The National Dahlia Honor Roll for The Flower Grower, and by Mr. Webb on the Eastern Dahlia Review.

Root, \$15.00 Net; Plant, \$5.00 Net.

HARDY GARDEN CHRYSANTHEMUMS

A Collection of 12. Hard to beat at any price. All early blooming varieties.

SPIDERS

Alice Tashima. Full center. Profuse pure white.
Mauve. Lovely deep mauve. Fine for cutting.
Melody. Wonderful clear amber yellow, one tone.

SPOONS

Carol C. Pastel mauve tuba with purple tips.
Lovely Nell. Bright Terracotta tube, yellow spoon.

POMPON

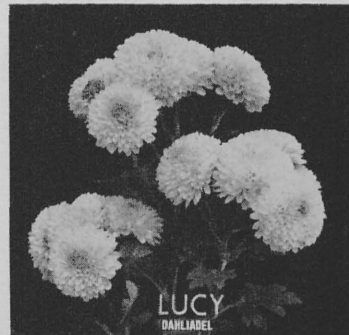
Sunape. Attractive fully double golden yellow.

DECORATIVES

Charles Nye. Rich buttercup yellow. Nice sprays.
Dream Girl. Beautiful amaranth rose. A gem.
Dr. Longley. Even tone soft lavender. Very early.
Golden Dawn. Buttercup yellow. Wonderful for cut.
Huntsman. Brilliant Jasper red, overcast bronze.
Miss Lace. Light lavender pink. Excellent grower.

Above Pot Plants 50c each or 2 Rooted Cuttings of one variety for 50c.
1 Pot Plant or 2 Rooted Cuttings of each of the above 12 varieties for \$5.00 Postpaid.

Send 20c for special handling on ALL Mum orders. Include 25c extra for postage and packing on orders under \$5.00.



DAHLIADEL

Warren W. Maytrott

Box 14, Vineland, N. J.

