



Long Island Dahlia Society

WWW.LONGISLANDDAHLIA.COM LIDSNEWS@HOTMAIL.COM

12 PERCY WMS. DR., E. ISLIP, NY 11730 **MARCH 20, 2008**

MEETING

MARCH 20, 2008

WHERE:

Bayard Cutting Arboretum
Carriage House Loft,
East Islip, NY

DIRECTIONS:

Southern State Pkwy to exit
45 East (Montauk Hwy or
Main Street East). Go
through 1st light, and Arbo-
retum is on the right. If main
gates aren't open, continue to
service gate, the Arboretum's
2nd entrance.

MAIN TOPIC

"Propagating By Cuttings"

DAHLIA 101 TOPIC

"Planning Your Dahlia Gar-
den"

REMINDER:

Meetings are held on the
**3rd Thurs. of every
month.**

& begin at 7:45, with coffee
at 7:30. * "Dahlia 101" at
7:00 for newer members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH

3/20- LIDS General Meeting
7:30 p.m., BCA-CH

APRIL

13- Spring Luncheon &
Country Auction, Irish Coffee
Pub, East Islip, 12:00 noon

17- Dahlia Tuber Sale &
Gen'l Membership Mtg. BCA-
CH, 7:30 p.m.

MARCH STIRRINGS

Although the month of May is considered by most in the northeast to be the start of the new growing season, many enthusiastic dahlia growers have already begun benching up their last year's tubers to get a head start on the season. Growing plants under lights in cool basements in March and then transferring to cold frames outdoors in April is one solution for eking out a longer blooming season for some eager gardeners. Greenhouses are also an option, but only for a very few. In any case, by this time of the year, most dahlia lovers are chomping at the bit to get the process started. If you haven't the resources or the space to get started earlier than May, however, there is still one other way of ensuring earlier blooms than usual- that is to plant some border dahlias.

Although short in stature, these miniature plants lack nothing in beauty. They come in a variety of color choices and forms, and they reach the blooming stage much more quickly than their taller counterparts. They also make colorful displays in containers on patios and decks if garden space is at a premium. Border dahlias produce abundant blooms, and will continue blooming until frost- and they require no staking!! They pack quite a lot of punch for a minimum amount of care. How cool is that?

In the meantime, you might want to check out the HGTV suggestions for winter and early spring plants and trees you can grow for early color next year (see below and page 5).

LATE WINTER BLOOMS

Tired of looking out at the barren winter landscape? The HGTV website offers the following suggestions for winter-blooming plants that you could incorporate into your own landscape, to brighten your outdoor view next winter. (Cont'd. on page 5)



"Snowdrop" - a tiny white beauty, has to be planted in the fall. at the same time you would normally plant other spring-flowering bulbs. It is blooming right now in my daughter's garden in Islip- March 8th!



"Japanese pieris" blooms in white, pink, reddish-pink fountains of flowers in later winter to early spring. During winter, the reddish buds of this broadleaf evergreen are also ornamental.



Depending on the variety, "Hellebores" bloom anywhere from December to mid March, when nearly nothing else is in bloom. Most hellebores have nodding flowers. 'HGC Josef Lemper' holds its blooms upright (white and green).

LIDS 2008 CALENDAR

MARCH

- 20- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

APRIL

- 13- Spring Luncheon and Country Auction,
Irish Coffee Pub- 131 Carleton Ave., East Islip
17- Dahlia Tuber Sale and General Membership
Meeting, BCA-CH

MAY

- 10- Dahlia Tuber Sale and Horticultural Society
Plant Sale, BCA-CH- **lower level**
15- Dahlia Tuber Sale and LIDS General Membership
Meeting, BCA-CH **lower level**
31- Farmingdale Garden Fair (Farmingdale College)

JUNE

- 1- Farmingdale Garden Fair (Farmingdale College)
19- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

JULY

- 17- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

AUGUST

- 17- Annual Garden Party and Picnic, BCA Wolkoff
Dahlia Display Garden
21- General Membership Meeting,
30, 31- LIDS 1st Dahlia Show, BCA-CH- **lower level**

SEPTEMBER

- 18- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

OCTOBER

- 11,12- LIDS 2nd Dahlia Show and Photo Exhibition,
BCA-CH-**lower level** and Manor House Annex
16- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH **lower level**

NOVEMBER

- 20- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

DECEMBER

- 18- Annual Holiday Party w/ optional gift exchange
and General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

***** **PLEASE NOTE:** *****

As reported in last month's newsletter, our Hospitality Chair, Pam Dovak, needs an electric teakettle for use at meetings and Saturday sessions at the Arboretum garden. If any member has one to donate, please bring it to the March meeting or to the barn at the dahlia garden on Saturday. Thank you on behalf of all tea (or hot chocolate) drinkers!

This newsletter is published monthly by
The Long Island Dahlia Society.
Loretta Glatzer, Editor
Patricia Murphy, Assistant Editor
Pam Dovak, photographer

EXPANDING OUR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Our Education Chairman, Joe Lysik, reports an informative agenda for the March meeting. The main topic up for discussion will be the techniques recommended for "Propagating from Cuttings."

The topic for the **Dahlias 101** class will be a very appropriate one for "newbies" at this time of year. It is entitled "Planning Your Garden."

Remember, through knowledge we grow!

DAHLIAS 101

We'd like to encourage all new members (and anyone else who would like a "refresher") to attend the Dahlia 101 class, starting at 7:00 pm, just prior to the general meeting times. Taught by Joe Lysik, chairman of the Education Committee, these half-hour segments are a great way to learn the jargon and get a head start on becoming an experienced dahlia gardener. They also provide an easy way to get to know other club members a few at a time, rather than to be initially overwhelmed by the larger numbers at the general meetings. Hope to see you there!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS !!

Our membership roster continues to swell! We are pleased to announce that we have added the following names to our membership roster this month:

Jane and Dennis Thorn of West Babylon
Louis Necroto of West Islip
Emily Chappell of Ronkonkoma

Welcome to the wonderful world of dahlias, friends. We're looking forward to seeing you at our meetings, social events, and at the Arboretum garden this spring.

EMAIL ADDYS A NO-BRAINER!

Club members receiving this newsletter by snail mail should be aware that they would benefit from switching to email if at all possible. Not only will their newsletter look much better (emailed version is in live, technicolor splendor), but any extra notices from the board or myself can be sent at a moment's notice by email, but may not be sent at all by snail mail due to time constraints and printing/ mailing costs. If you have an email address to share with us, please call (631-523-4532) or email me at Loriglutzer@aol.com .

