



Long Island Dahlia Society

WWW.LONGISLANDDAHLIA.COM LIDSNEWS@HOTMAIL.COM

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

MEETING

FEBRUARY 21, 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 Arboretum is on the right. If main gates aren't open, continue to service gate, the Arboretum's 2nd entrance.

MAIN TOPIC

Slide shows of garden tours and dahlia shows

DAHLIA 101 TOPIC

Different forms of dahlias

REMINDER:

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

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY

LIDS General meeting
2/21 7:30 p.m.

BCA-CH

MARCH

LIDS General Meeting
3/20 7:30 p.m.

BCA-CH

SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS

At the January general meeting, special elections took place for the positions of LIDS President and Vice President for the new year. Effective immediately, Bill Bushman became the President for 2008 and Joe Lysik the Vice President. Sincere thanks go to Bill, Joe, and all other members of the 2008 LIDS Board, for generously offering their time and hard work to ensure the prosperity and efficiency of our club as we enter a new growing season. (for further details , see pg. 5 for minutes of the January meeting, submitted by temporary Recording Secretary for the evening, Maureen Burford).

Tuber clump division underway!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

On Saturdays in February, we have begun dividing dahlia clumps in the carpentry shop next to the dahlia display garden. With over 500 dahlia clumps to work on, there's plenty of work to go around. New LIDS members or anyone wishing to learn tuber division should consider joining the Saturday group from 9:00 a.m until about noon. The best way to learn is by doing— especially while under the supervision and encouragement of experienced club members. So, "Come on down!" If you have your own clumps and are unsure of how to proceed, you might bring a few of them with you on Saturday, or to the next general meeting where a veteran club member could help you through the division process either before or after the meeting.

[photo by Pam Dovak]

LIDS 2008 CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 21- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

MARCH

- 20- General Membership Meeting, BCA-CH

APRIL

- 5-6- Hicks Nursery Show
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

This newsletter is published monthly by
The Long Island Dahlia Society.
Loretta Glatzer, Editor
Patricia Murphy, Assistant Editor
Pam Dovak, and Maureen Burford -
contributors

EXPANDING OUR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Our Education Chairman, Joe Lysik, reports an exciting agenda for the February meeting. There will be the **power point presentations of two more of the LIDS Garden Tours** from this past summer. These professional-grade slide shows set to music were made by Pat Murphy, and have been very popular with club members. Featured this month will be the Laundrie and Lang gardens.

Club member **Vinnie Graziano**, will also be presenting his slide show of **other clubs' dahlia shows** that some of our members travel to each year, including Rhode Island, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Connecticut.

The **Dahlias 101** class will be learning about the different forms of dahlias.

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 !!

We must be doing something right, because new members continue to flock to our doors! We are pleased to announce that we have added the following names to our membership roster this month:

Ronnie Arredondo of Merrick, **Ed Sambolin** of Central Islip, **Carol and Bill Carty** of East Islip, and **Donna Granatelli** 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.

FINAL CALL!

The LIDS annual dues of \$15.00 per family were due in January. If you have not already done so, please be sure to pay at the next meeting or send your check to:

Maureen Burford
24 Washington Ave.
West Sayville, NY 11796

Timely payment of dues saves LIDS considerable labor and mailing costs. It also guarantees that you will remain a member in good standing, entitled to all club privileges, including the timely receipt of this monthly newsletter. What a deal!

Remember, too, that ADS membership fees are also overdue. If you have an interest in joining the American Dahlia Society, please **be sure to contact Bill Bushman at 631) 475-1922 before Friday, February 15th**, which is the dues deadline. The dues are \$20 for an individual, and \$23 for a family membership. The annual dahlia classification book you will receive free with your membership is worth every penny by itself. The quarterly bulletins are a wonderful, informative bonus!

WANTED

Our Hospitality Chair, Pam Dovak, could use an electric teakettle for use at meetings and Saturday sessions at the Arboretum garden. If any member has one they could donate, please bring it to the February meeting or to the barn at the dahlia display garden. Thank you on behalf of all tea (or hot chocolate) drinkers!



Jim Micheels, Bill Wolkoff, and Pat Schildt check out some tubers that were soaking in water as a rehydration experiment.

[photo by Pam Dovak]

A FITTING POEM

*There is nothing in the world more beautiful than the forest
clothed to its very hollows in snow. It is the still ecstasy of nature, wherein every spray, every blade of grass, every spire of reed, every intricacy of twig, is clad with radiance.*
- William Sharp

NEW BEGINNINGS

-By Pat Murphy

The beginning of each new year may represent many different things to different people. It's not just the time when we begin to use our new calendars, or make budget computations for the start of our new fiscal period. It often signals the time to rev up our energies for a new exercise plan, motivate ourselves for a new diet, or psyche ourselves up for a new endeavor of some sort. For me, this time of "new beginnings" is heralded in with the delivery of the Burpee and other flower and garden catalogs. My eagerness to open up the catalogs to look at the photographs of the flowers and the new varieties hasn't diminished through the years. I can spend hours looking through these catalogs.

In the past few years this January tradition has been enhanced as I visit some of my favorite dahlia supplier sites online. Each of these sites has beautiful photographs of dahlias. The dahlias listed by name, size, form, and color. I look for the new introductions and some old favorites. I get a thrill scrolling through the photographs and reading the descriptions. I note the award winning dahlias and the varieties with strong stems, abundant blooms, and great form. Before I know it my head is spinning with new ideas and visions for my gardens. I start making a list of the dahlias on my wish list. Maybe if I trim that tree near the side of the garden I can make room for some more dahlias? It's a long way to dahlia planting time but the season has begun in my mind. Below are some of the growers' and suppliers' websites that tickle my fancy. Perhaps they'll tickle yours as well!

Swan Island www.dahlias.com

Corralitos Gardens www.cgdahlias.com

Aztec Dahlias www.aztecdahlias.com

Mingus Dahlias www.dahliasuppliers.com/mingus

White Flower Farm www.whiteflowerfarm.com

Burpee www.burpee.com

DAHLIA CLASSES GALORE

By Mark Glatzer

It has been my pleasure to be a dahlia instructor for the Spring Gardening classes of Cornell Cooperative Extension for the past three years. Additionally I have taught the Master Gardener Classes for the past three years and have been invited back as their dahlia instructor this year. As part of those classes, I teach the students how to divide clumps of dahlia tubers and how to make cuttings from benched up tubers. Now, word of those classes has spread throughout Suffolk County and several garden clubs have invited me to teach them about raising and cultivating dahlias. While I am excited that the number of students has grown to over 250 already scheduled this year, plus offers to do still more classes, it has created a problem for me. In order to demonstrate to my students how to divide clumps of tubers, I need many more clumps of tubers. As these classes have already brought new members to the LIDS and hopefully will continue to do so, I am appealing to the members to contribute their no name clumps, their extra clumps, their discards (after they have taken their own tubers), or their viable mother roots (for cuttings), just as soon as possible. My first classes are in March and I must bench up tubers immediately for those classes. The remaining classes are in April so I need to bench up those tubers in March. I need intact clumps most of all and as a thank you I will be happy to share tubers and cuttings with you from my own stock. Our February meeting is coming soon, so, if you can part with the clumps, I would appreciate your bringing them to the meeting. If you are interested in taking any of the Spring Gardening Classes (on dahlias or otherwise) they will be held on :

Bellport- Saturday April 12 –dahlia class taught by John Canzoneri and Vince D’Emilia
 Setauket- Saturday April 19- dahlia class taught by Mark Glatzer
 Riverhead-Saturday April 26- dahlia class taught by Mark Glatzer

For more information on all of the classes offered and for registration, go to:
<http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/suffolk/events/SGS/SGS.htm>

See you at the February meeting.
 Mark Glatzer

HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY!



On Sunday, February 10th, an article appeared in the “LI Life” section of Newsday, entitled A GARDEN OF LOVE AND LIFE. Written by our friend and gardening enthusiast, Irene Virag, the tender piece addresses the various ways that flowers have played a part in expressions of love, in general, and the Valentine’s Day holiday, specifically. Although Mrs. Virag confesses to “a certain cynicism” about the commercialism of Valentine’s Day, she states, “But because I believe in love and gardens— in the sweet scent of Miss Kim, the lilac, on a spring morning when the bees are about, and **the shapes and shades of the dahlias that dance into fall**— I am not immune to the sentiment of Valentine’s day.” From that point on, Virag touches on the various legends relating to St. Valentine (a priest who was imprisoned by the Emperor Claudius II). His crime? One legend says he performed illegal marriages in defiance of an order by the Emperor outlawing such unions among soldiers in order to avoid the encumbrances of families. Another legend charges Valentine with writing messages of love and hope to the people, on violet leaves he picked from his prison window. In either case, says Virag, “St. Valentine was clearly a romantic” and of that she heartily approves.

She also mentions the romantic (and sometimes erotic!) reasons that, according to legend, certain flowers were given their names or credited with aphrodisiacal properties. According to Mrs. Virag, “Writer Michael Polan puts it nicely: ‘In one way or another, Eros operates in every garden’.” So **that’s** why so many of us are enraptured by our favorite blooms! :))

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Long Island Dahlia Society Meeting
January 17, 2008
Bayard Cutting Arboretum

Business Meeting called to order 8:15 p.m.

Patricia Murphy Recording Secretary, presiding in the absence of a Club President and Vice President

Pledge of Allegiance

The Chair announced that a special election for Vice President would be held, at once, and explained that the previous election for Vice President, held at the December Meeting had proceeded in conflict with Long Island Dahlia Society By-Laws and was, therefore, invalid. Chair explained further that the normal operating process was interrupted due to the cancellation, at the last minute, of the November meeting in Massapequa. As a result, the President needed to propose the slate, accept nominations from the floor, and vote the slate all at the December meeting. . At the December meeting the slate was proposed and an additional nomination from the floor was made for the position of vice president. In the case of an uncontested vote the chair takes a voice vote to approve the slate. The rest of the slate was approved by voice vote. In the case of a contested vote, there must be a secret ballot. The election proceeded with voice votes for both the uncontested slate and the contested slate. This was in conflict with our By-Laws. At a January 13th meeting of the Board of Directors it was determined that a new election for Vice President must be held.

At this time there were four candidates for the office of Vice President:

Kevin Fox
Jim Micheels
Lori Glatzer
Dennis Kirchner

The Chair opened the floor for nominations for Vice President. Joe Lysik was nominated by Mark Glatzer.

Prior to the vote, four candidates informed the Chair that they had withdrawn their nomination:

Kevin Fox
Jim Micheels
Lori Glatzer
Dennis Kirchner

There being only one remaining candidate, the Chair called for a voice vote and Joe Lysik was elected by a majority of those present.

The chair then explained that at a Board of Directors meeting on January 13, 2008, the Board had reluctantly accepted the resignation for personal reasons of President Don Koehler and that a special election would be held, at once, as announced in the LIDS Newsletter.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, the Chair thanked Don Koehler for his time and effort and mentioned some of his many accomplishments during the past year. The members enthusiastically applauded Don's stewardship.

The Board of Directors had proposed one nominee for President, Bill Bushman . The membership had been notified by LIDS Newsletter of the nomination. The Chair then asked for further nominations from the floor for the office of president...

There being no further nominations, the Chair called for a voice vote and Bill Bushman was elected by a majority of those present.

Adjournment was proposed by Steve Nowotarski and seconded by Ed Bonci.

Submitted by Maureen Burford

POLE PAINTING & TUBER DIVISION GATHERINGS AT BAYARD!



COME JOIN US-
IT'S THE PLACE TO
BE ON SATURDAY
MORNINGS!

Photos by Pam Dovak

