

**DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA  
FEBRUARY 2015  
NEWSLETTER & MEETING NOTICE**



**AC INARA AA-FD-BI PR/WH GROWING IN THE GARDEN OF KEN GREENWAY (ACCENT DAHLIAS) IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WA. IT IS A 2014 INTRODUCTION.**

**NEW MEMBERS: PLEASE WELCOME**

**ANN CRITZ  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**WE ARE SO HAPPY TO HAVE YOU AS A NEW MEMBER. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT OUR MEETINGS AND SPECIAL FUNCTIONS.**

**ANNUAL DUES:** Please send your dues to Henry if you have not yet done so for 2015. Your dues are for the entire calendar year January-December. It is \$31 for an individual membership or \$34 for a family membership. Henry's address is 2690 Glenegles Dr., Tucker, GA 30084.

**DAHLIAS OF TODAY:** We should have this publication available by the March meeting and if you are a new member you will receive a free copy. The cost for members will be \$8 and for non-members \$10.

**FEBRUARY MEETING — MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16**

**7:30 PM**

**ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**GARDEN CLASSROOM**

**BASEMENT OF THE MAIN BUILDING**

**THE PROGRAM THIS MONTH IS TITLED “THE BASICS OF GROWING HEAT TOLERANT DAHLIAS”. THIS WILL BE A GREAT PROGRAM ESPECIALLY FOR ALL OF OUR NEW MEMBERS, BUT IT WILL BE GOOD FOR ALL MEMBERS FOR SHARPENING YOUR GROWING TECHNIQUES. HEATHER & MADDY WILL PROVIDE REFRESHMENTS.**

**THE GARDEN IS CLOSED ON MONDAYS BUT IS OPEN TO THE DAHLIA SOCIETY FOR OUR MEETING. THERE IS NO CHARGE TO ENTER THE GARDEN.**



**CAMANO RASCAL B-IC-BI RD/WH, GROWING IN THE BEAUTIFUL GARDEN OF KEN GREENWAY (ACCENT DAHLIAS) IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY, WA. IT WILL GROW IN OUR HEAT BUT NEEDS TLC.**

**QUESTION: Who, where, when were dahlias first discovered? ANS: The Spanish Conquistadors first discovered dahlias growing on the high plains of Mexico in 1615. Even today new species plants are still being discovered in the same general region.**

**QUESTION: What was the form of the first dahlia discovered? ANS: The dahlias discovered by the Conquistadors had an open center form similar to a daisy. Dahlias have so many chromosomes that it allows them to be natural hybridizers causing them to change forms and colors on their own when grown from seed.**

**GERMINATING DAHLIA SEEDS:** Dahlia seeds are not the easiest seeds in the flower world to germinate so if you have taken seed from last years crop of flowers or if you get dahlia seeds from other sources, here are some tips for you to consider:

**ONLY GERMINATE SEEDS THAT ARE STIFF AND WILL NOT BEND**

1. If you want to optimize the rate of germination, wait 8-12 weeks from the time you shuck your seeds before trying to germinating them. Usually March or late February are the best times.
2. Use a container with a flip top/dome This will contain the humidity on an even scale.
3. Take a paper towel and fold it or use a double layered paper towel on the bottom of the container. Lightly spray the towel with water. Place the seeds on the towel and if using seeds from more than one variety make sure you label the names on top of the container. Next, take another double layered paper towel and lightly spray the towel with water and place it on top of the seeds. Close the container and place in a low light location. You can use bottom heat but make sure the seeds don't dry out.
4. Check the seeds daily after the second day to see if the root has appeared. When it does appear it will try to grow into the paper towel so you need to be careful removing it as, if it pulls apart, the seed is no good.
5. **NOT ALL SEEDS ARE VIABLE**



**BLOOMQUIST SUNRAYS B-ID-LB YL/OR 2015 RELEASE THROUGH DAHLIAS BY LES & VIV. SEE THE DAHLIA BIG LIST**



This is a picture of a seedling growing in the Klass garden in Snohomish County, WA. If you are familiar with the dahlia Inland Dynasty AA-SC-Y then you might think it is Inland Dynasty, but it is a seedling that has been around for a few years but never put in a trial garden and never introduced. The question is why? All of you judges out there...what is the major fault of this dahlia that keeps it from being introduced to the dahlia world? Send me your thoughts. Answer in next month's newsletter.



First year seedling growing in the Kreiner's garden last season. This is the same flower that was brought to the Mini-Show last August.