

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
APRIL 2017 NEWSLETTER



**ELMA ELIZABETH A-FD-L A WONDERFUL
DAHLIA FOR YOUR GARDEN**

APRIL MEETING The April meeting will be held on Monday, April 17th at 7:30 PM in the Garden Classroom, located in the basement of the main building. This is where we have had our meetings in past years. (Directions: Come in to the reception building, take the elevator to the second floor and then go out the door and come up the hill and guide between the restaurant and the main building entering the open area where the fountain is located. To the right will be stairs to the basement that you may take or you can go to the other side and take the elevator down to the Garden Classroom in the basement.)

The program this month is the first of our two tuber sales for this year. The sale will be divided into two parts. The first part will be an auction of the giant (AA), large (A) and medium (B) sized tubers. The auction is a lot of fun so please don't be intimidated by it. Once you see how it works you will join right in if this is your first time. After the auction is over, the tables will be available for everyone to go up and select tubers they would like to purchase. All of these tubers will only cost \$3 each.

MEMBERS, BRING YOUR TUBERS We need your tubers for the auction so bring as many as you can. Each tuber must have a visible eye, listed in the Dahlia Classification Book in the last three years and the name of the dahlia must be written on the tuber or attached in some manner. If you knock an eye off the tuber just circle it with a magic marker so we can tell where it was. At least two more eyes will begin to grow in a few days. If you can, please bring your tubers early so we can start the sale on time.

DUES Please send in your dues for the current year to our Treasurer, Cheri Felton, if you haven't done so already.



CHEROKEE BEAUTY AA-ID-PK

GROWING IN BULLINGTON GARDENS IN HENDERSONVILLE, NC

DOES VERY WELL IN THE HEAT

NEW MEMBERS

BRENDA FOWLER

ARNOLDSVILLE, GEORGIA

JANICE & JOHN SEGLUND

GREENSBORO, GEORGIA

STEPHANIE CONNOLLY

BLAIRSVILLE, GEORGIA

WELCOME TO THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA

WE ARE SO GLAD TO HAVE YOU AS NEW MEMBERS



RIVER'S NOVELTY NX-DR

A WONDERFUL DAHLIA THAT WAS ABOUT 4' TALL AND JUST COVERED WITH 1"- 2' FLOWERS FOR MUCH OF THE SEASON

MEMBER QUESTIONS

Q: It is so warm here in April can I go ahead and plant my dahlias?

A: You can but...you need to consider if the soil temperature is 70 degrees or not. Dahlias not already growing need the soil to be warm enough in order to sprout roots. Also, consider what will happen if we have a few days of 50/60 degree temperatures and wet weather.

Q: Can I replant dahlias in the same area year after year? Or do they need to be relocated?

A: Good question. One of our members always had a great dahlia garden so we were looking forward to seeing the beauty of many dahlias in bloom. When we went to where the dahlias were planted we were shocked as over half of his dahlias had failed to grow or had died during the summer. What was the issue? When you plant in the same location year after, you need to reduce the soil fungus that builds up as it is just too much for dahlias planted in that location.

What can I do to prevent this issue? The first thing you can do is let that area stay fallow for a year. Second thing you can do is to add Mycorrhizae (good bacteria) to the planting hole. That will help but I am not sure if that will reduce it enough over the years. The third thing you can do is to spray your soil before planting or after planting when they are about one foot high with Banrot or the one I use is Terraclor WP. Commercial growers spray their plants four times a year with this fungicide to keep the soil fungus at bay. These fungicides are rather expensive.