

**DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
JUNE 2018 NEWSLETTER & MEETING NOTICE**



WAYNE LOBAUGH'S GARDEN IN NORTHERN WASHINGTON. HE IS A COMMERCIAL DAHLIA GROWER

JUNE MEETING: Our June meeting will be held on Monday, June 18th at 7:30 PM in the Turner Theater in the Atlanta Botanical Garden Entrance Building.

The program will cover how to care for your dahlias during the summer heat in order to get them blooming in the fall. Topics that will be discussed include but not limited to, fertilization, spraying, watering, topping, dis-budding, mulching, how to make stiff stems to hold your blooms up and any other items brought up by those in attendance. This is a very informative program for new and less-experienced growers.

FREE DAHLIAS: Come to the meeting next Monday evening and you will be able to take some FREE dahlias home with you. Grower overruns will be available in both tuber and cutting forms. Instructions will be given on how to handle the cuttings you take home with you. This is a great opportunity to expand your dahlia garden without investing any money. Make sure you come early as the dahlias will go fast.

OUTING TO THE STATE BOTANICAL GARDEN IN ATHENS: It was a beautiful day for an outing and if you could stay in the shade the heat was not too bad. We had an excellent guide that kept us in the near garden so we didn't get too far away from the main building. We had a total of 10 people in attendance plus Ann's beautiful

22 month old granddaughter. We toured the garden then had lunch together. It was a very nice time.



NEW MEMBERS:

**JODI MANSBACH
ATLANTA, GEORGIA**

**DAVID & ANN PRADO
CUMMING, GEORGIA**

**WELCOME TO THE DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA. WE ARE SO
GLAD YOU HAVE JOINED OUR SOCIETY.**



**BADGER TWINKLE M-C-DB PR/WH A
REAL WINNER IN THE GARDEN OR ON
THE SHOW TABLE.**



**CLEARVIEW CAMERON B-C-LB WH/LA HAD A
GREAT FIRST YEAR ON THE SHOW TABLE.
OUTSTANDING IN THE GARDEN.**

DAHLIA QUESTIONS:

Q: How late can we plant dahlias and still get blooms?

A: With normal practices and conditions, you can plant cuttings or growing tubers as late as early August and still get blooms. Usually we use the 4th of July as a general cut-off date for planting.

Q: How do I prevent rabbits and deer from eating the tops off of my plants?

A: I use Liquid Fence which works very well if sprayed on the plants once a week and after each rain. We use it as the very last thing we do at the display garden at Stone Mountain before we leave each Saturday.

Q: I have heard and read about topping my dahlia plants. What does that mean?

A: When your plants reach about 12" in height and have three or four sets of leaves, PINCH out the main growing tip. This will allow laterals to grow which will make a more bushy plant and will keep it from getting taller than normal for each plant.

Q: Do I have to disbud my plants?

A: In a word, no. If you want a larger bloom like on AA, A and B sized plants, then disbud the two side buds on the growing lateral. If you want more blooms then don't disbud. You can increase the size of the bloom even more by dis-branching new growth on that lateral.

Q: How often should I spray my plants with organic or non-organic products?

A: We recommend weekly if you are a commercial grower or plan on showing a lot of dahlias. If you want beautiful foliage on your plants then weekly spraying is required.