



# DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA NEWSLETTER

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[WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFGEORGIA.COM](http://WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFGEORGIA.COM)

**SPARTACUS A-ID-DR  
ANY DARK RED DAHLIA IS  
THE FLOWER OF THE YEAR**



Spring is early this year with temperatures in the 70's and 80's this week so it makes us think about planting our dahlias and other plants. If you are considering making some changes in your gardening landscape then you may want to try some of the ideas pictured to the left. The top picture is of the lovely raised beds of our member Larry Duck who lives in Blairsville. The middle picture was taken in the beautiful garden of Dan & Paula Pinholster in Cartersville. Harriet Comer, from Macon and Barbara Dunkley from Duluth are admiring the plants in this and other beds. Notice the use of raised beds by Dan & Paula and the rabbit fence in front of the beds. (Continued on the next page)

## CALENDAR

**MARCH MEETING  
MARCH 19, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

**APRIL TUBER SALE  
APRIL 16, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

**MAY TUBER SALE  
MAY 21, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

**JUNE MEETING  
JUNE 18, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BONTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

**JULY ANNUAL PICNIC  
TBA**

**AUGUST MEETING  
AUGUST 20, 7:30 PM  
ATLANTA BOTANI-  
CAL GARDEN**

The third picture was taken during the National Dahlia Show tour at the home of Steve Meggos in Elgin, IL. It is one of the most beautiful dahlia gardens I have ever had the opportunity to visit. While the lot was not that big the organization of the dahlia beds made it most appealing and a pleasure to walk through as all beds were raised, rounded with no sharp angles, but also were easy to access to perform daily maintenance on the dahlias. Also, notice the aluminum staking poles.



The above picture is from the garden of John Geurin in Cartersville. Notice the raised beds and the ease of access for plant maintenance. Also, he has a framework for shade cloth plus he uses that same framework to tie up two levels or more of a network of plastic netting for his plants to grow through instead of using stakes and having to tie the plants as they grow. Brian Killingsworth uses this same netting in his garden to hold his plants up.

If you have been thinking about constructing raised beds or reorganizing your dahlia beds, this is a good week to get started.

### **SOUTHERN LIVING MAGAZINE**

Southern Living recently had an article about dahlias that also mentioned the Georgia Dahlia Society. Here is a link to the article: <http://www.southernliving.com/home-garden/gardens/dazzling-dahlias-00400000010367/>

## **MARCH PROGRAM**

**MARCH 19, 7:30 PM**

### **GARDEN CLASSROOM**

#### **ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN**

**WE ARE IN FOR A SPECIAL TREAT THIS MONTH AS ALLEN HAAS WILL BE GIVING US A PRESENTATION ON GROWING CHRYSANTHEMUMS. ALLEN IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MUM SOCIETY.**

**OUR SECOND PRESENTATION OF THE EVENING WILL BE BY CLYDE GADDY ANOTHER ONE OF OUR MEMBERS. CLYDE WILL BE DISCUSSING WITH US THE GROWING OF TULIPS. HIS PRESENTATION WILL ALSO INCLUDE A SLIDE SHOW.**



**THE BEAUTIFUL AUSTRALIAN DAHLIA EMBRACE, BB-SC-BR, IS STILL WINNING AND GROWS VERY WELL IN THE SOUTH.**

### **PARK'S DAHLIAS**

The Dahlia Society of Portland is the host society for the 2012 National Dahlia Show in early September. Information about the show is on their website. Another item on their website worth looking at is a pictorial of the garden of Christy Parks in Southern Oregon. Christy is a commercial grower offering a catalog each year that can be found on the Dahlia Big List. She has very reasonable prices, good stock, and a wide variety of tubers. <http://portlanddahlia.com/Gardens/ParksClackVisit.html>

## FLOWER OF THE YEAR

The flower of the year for 2012 has been changed from the original information and will be any dark red dahlia. This includes Spartacus, David George, Zorro, Regina, Hart's Blood Red, Tom Yano, Ukraine Free, Juanita, Piedmont Rebel, Hart's Lora Ann, Hy Sockeye, Rip City, and Weston Pirate. This is only a partial listing of many of the most popular dark red dahlias.



**CRAZY FOR JESSEE BB-IC-DB DR/YL GROWS WELL IN THE SOUTHERN GARDEN.**



**The split rail fence at The Great Smokey Mountain Trial Garden in Cashiers, NC provides another attractive garden feature you might want to consider for your home garden.**

## 2012 SPRING TUBER SALES

We are only a month away from the first tuber sale of the spring so make sure you get your tubers ready for the sale. This warm weather will help in that regard if your tubers are still in the ground as eyes should get started this week. If your tubers are indoors then move them to a warm room so those eyes will develop. Please bring as many tubers as you can this year but remember we have two sales with a second one on May 21. The April sale will be April 16. Make sure your tubers have at least one visible eye, is listed in the dahlia classification book for 2011 or 2012, and is accurately named with a tag or written on the tuber. Another consideration is that the plant the tuber came from grew well in our Southern heat. Please don't use the tuber sale to dump poor performing dahlias as we owe it to our members and visitors to have the highest quality dahlia tubers that we can.

## 2012 DUES

All members should have received an email or a letter from Henry Everett, our Treasurer concerning dues for this year.

As the letter stated the American Dahlia Society has raised their portion of the dues by \$4 (\$31 INDIVIDUAL/\$34 HOUSEHOLD FOR A LOCAL & ADS MEMBERSHIP) in order to cover the increased mailing costs they have incurred over the past few years. While none of us like to pay increased costs the ADS had put it off as long as they could so that is why it has happened now. We certainly hope the \$4 increase will not be a tipping point to anyone not renewing their membership. The dues year runs from January through December no matter when you may have joined the first time. We would like to encourage, as does the ADS Membership Director, each member to pay your dues in January so there will not be any interruption in receiving your Bulletin and we can help the ADS to save on shipping costs to members not renewing.