DAHLIA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA NOVEMBER 2015 NEWSLETTER & MEETING NOTICE

NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting will be on Monday night, November 16, at 7:30 PM in the Garden Classroom in the basement of the main building of the Atlanta Botanical Garden. This is our normal meeting location.

Since the season for growing dahlias is almost over we will be discussing what to do with our tubers during the winter to include leaving them in the ground and what actions to take. For those members that dig their tubers, we will be cutting up some clumps of tubers and discussing how to store them during the winter.

John will also be discussing how to take seeds and how to start your own dahlia collection. He will be showing pictures and briefly discussing his best 1st year seedlings from this season.

2016 DUES

It is that time of the year again to think about paying the dues for 2016. We hope everyone has had an enjoyable year growing your dahlias and have learned many of the techniques and "secrets" that only members of the Society learn about through our meetings and networking. We would like every member to renew their membership for 2016 so you can continue on the quest of growing your dahlias better next season.

Our club is always behind in getting our dues in on time so we hear about it from the ADS Membership Director every year. Let's surprise him this year and have our dues paid by the end of December. Dues are for one year no matter when you pay during the first six months. After that they are prorated. A single membership is \$31 and a family unit membership is \$34. Please bring your dues to the Christmas party or mail them to Cheri Felton, 3362 Stratfield Drive, Atlanta, GA 30319.

WHAT IS THIS DAHLIA? ANY IDEAS?
CHECK OUT THE LAST PAGE FOR THE ANSWER.



CHRISTMAS PARTY

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY FOR THIS YEAR WILL BE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, AT THE HOME OF DAVE AND CHERI FELTON. THE HOURS ARE 2-5 PM. THE ADDRESS IS 3362 STRATFIELD DRIVE, ATLANTA, GA 30319. THEIR TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 404-266-0264.

ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE PARTY AND ARE ASKED TO BRING A VEGGIE OR DESSERT TO SHARE WITH THE GROUP. WE ALSO ASK THAT YOU BRING A WRAPPED GIFT COSTING NO MORE THAT \$15 FOR THE GIFT EXCHANGE. MEN BRING A PRESENT FOR A MAN AND LADIES, A PRESENT FOR ANOTHER LADY. WE ALWAYS HAVE A LOT OF FUN WITH THE GIFT EXCHANGE.

WE ALSO ASK THAT EVEYONE BRING SOME CANNED GOODS THAT WE CAN GIVE TO A LOCAL FOOD PANTRY.



THE BELOW PICTURES AND EVALUATIONS WERE THE BEST DAHLIAS THAT WERE NEW TO MY GARDEN IN THE 2015 GROWING SEASON. ALL PICS ARE FROM COMMGROWERS



NAME: HOLLYHILL JEANETTE, BB-C-OR
YR RELEASED: MEDAL WINNER2015 BY
HOLLYHILL DAHLIAS. HEAT RATING:
OUTSTANDING THIS WAS THE BEST NEW
DAHLIA IN MY GARDEN IN 2015. LOTS OF
BLOOMS ALL SEASON LONG. RECOMMENDED





CAMANO MORDOR BA-DB DP/P BEAUTI-

FUL BALL. AVAILABLE FROM CLEARVIEW DAHLIAS, HEAT RATING: EXCELLENT, RECOMMENED

NAME: CLEARVIEW AUDREY
BB-SC-LB PK/WH. YR RELEASED: MEDAL WINNER
2013, CLEARVIEW DAHLIAS, HEAT RATING:
EXCELLENT, THIS DAHLIA GREW VERY WELL



AND STAYED SHORT, 3 1/2' WITH MANY BLOOMS. RECOM-

NAME: CLEARVIEW EDIE A-SC-W, YR RE-LEASED: MEDAL WINNER 2013, CLEARVIEW DAHLIAS

HEAT RATING: EXCELLENT, A LOVELY DAHLIA FOR YOUR GARDEN. TALL 6' RECOMMENDED: SHOW OR CUT

NAME: AC BIG JOHNSON, AA-SC-LB YL/OR. YR RELEASED 2015 BY ACCENT DAHLIAS. HEAT RAT-ING: VERY GOOD. PLANT GREW

WELL BUT ONLY HAD THREE
BLOOMS ALL SEASON. CENTER
STAYED CLOSED BUT NOT FOR
VERY LONG. NOT RECOMMENDED
AT THE CURRENT PRICING.

NAMR:AYERS WHITE KNIGHT
AA-SC-W, RELEASED IN 2004.
AVAILABLE AT LOBAUGH DAHL
HEAT RATING: EXCELLENT,
HEIGHT 3'. STAYED SHORT WITH
HUGE BLOOMS STARTING IN
SEPTEMBER. RECOMMENDED



MENDED: SHOW OR CUT

NAME: ROQUE STARBURST AA
-SC-W, YR RELEASED 2009

AVAILABLE FOR SALE FROM
ELKHORN GARDENS. HEAT
RATING: EXCELLENT, PLANT
GREW VERY WELL WITH LOTS
OF BLOOMS. FIRST FLUSH
WAS THE LARGEST AS USUAL.
RECOMMENDED







DAHLIA SPORTS

This summer I was pleasantly surprised when arriving at the Stone Mountain Display Garden. There on the second row of plants was a bloom that I had never seen before and was quite different from the other blooms on the cultivar, AC Paint A-ID-V wh/rd. I told Gene Hutchison, who was with me, that it looked like we may have a sport growing.

What is a dahlia sport? It is a bloom from the same plant that is different in color and usually is the same in form as the original blooms of the plant. Some famous sports are those of the dahlia Spartacus of which there are a number. Vassio Meggos is probably the most famous one. Others include Harvey Koop, JS Butterscotch, Louie Meggos, Harry Meggos and Steve Meggos. I discussed the procedure for isolating the lateral and trying to retain the dahlia sport with Brian Killingsworth and then proceeded to very carefully dig the entire plant to see if the tuber where the lateral was growing could be divided from the rest of the plant. It was already separated so I brought it to my garden where it is growing now and hopefully growing enough tubers for future use.

If you happen to find a sport growing in your garden make sure you tag the lateral where the sport bloom is located and then determine if it is one that you would like to grow again. If it is, then contact an experienced grower to find out the procedure for keeping it for the future. Many times you will need to take cuttings and grow them under lights through the winter.



AC PAINT BLOOMS ARE THE WHITE VARIEGATED ONES. THE DARK RED WITH THE WHITE TIPS BLOOM IS THE SPORT.