



NEWSLETTER

February 2014

Long Island Dahlia Society



Red

Photograph courtesy of Ann Jacobson

The Red Dahlia



One of the most striking colors to pop out of the garden is the red dahlia. From the tiny Reddy, to the dinner-plate Nick Sr., to the ball shaped Cornel, reds dahlias are some of our most fancy and favorite blooms. The seasoned gardeners have tricks to get the deepest of colors. LIDS members have stated they use the “umbrella method”; the excerpt below details how to achieve these bright blooms.

Reprinted from the Portland Dahlia Society’s web page [Portland Dahlia's To Do List](#)

“Many of the competition growers use shade cloth for their dahlia patches. They feel that the bright colors of their competition flowers are preserved when grown under shade cloth. (Old timers use umbrellas over their blooms to keep them from both the fading sunlight and the rain spots caused by the rain). Shade cloth looks a lot like a black plastic tarp. It comes in different densities and dahlia growers use 30% through 50% sun blocking with most preferring 30% to 40%. If you do use shade cloth, you must allow for increased height of the dahlias. A typical variety that grows 4 feet tall in full sun will grow 6 feet tall under shade cloth. Since many varieties grow 6 feet tall in full sun, you need to install the shade cloth to be at least 9 feet above the ground and 10' to 12' may be best.”

If LIDS members have any additional information they would like to share about using shade cloth, or another shade technique, please send your method to Carol Jansch.

“CH CH Changes”

Do you remember the old song, “Changes” by David Bowie? I can’t believe I just called this song an oldie, but it is justified since David Bowie is 67. Changes are inevitable as we go through our lives and also in our club. When Jim Micheels made the announcement that he was stepping down as Garden Director, I was called upon to take his place. At first, I was hesitant not only because it’s such a daunting task, but more so because of following the extensive list of accomplishments that Jim has achieved over the many years he held the position. It is not the change of Garden Director I would like to speak about, but rather the many changes Jim has instituted to garden to make our time at the garden more enjoyable.



With Bill Wolkoff as construction manager, Jim has solved the problems of benching up space during spring time start up. At first, hoop houses were placed over two (2) of the smaller beds. The space quickly filled up with potted plants for sale, so a portable green house was built and put into use. Over the years, more beds were added on and Jim had to update the irrigation system, which was not a simple job. Trenches had to be dug, pipes were installed and sprinkler risers had to be erected. All the while keeping in mind the proper overlap of the sprinkler patterns. The irrigation box was also revamped with new plumbing, valves and housing. Even when some of the original beds were overflowing from the added compost in spring, Jim solved the problem by adding extra height with additional boards screwed into place.

When you come down on Saturday mornings to work in the garden, keep in mind that many of the hard problems were taken care of by Jim so we could take pleasure in tending to our favorite flower.

Joe Lysik – Garden Director

Upcoming Events and Meetings

Next General Meeting

Thursday, February 20, 2014

7:00 PM Dahlia 101 – Presented by
LIDS Garden Director, Joe Lysik

*"Dahlia 101 will be a basic talk about
different forms, adding in the new form
"Orchette"*

*Program after the business part of the
meeting will be the viewing of the "ADS
New Intros for 2014 DVD."*

7:30 PM Coffee and Cake

8:00 PM Meeting

This meeting will be held in the Upper
Level of the Carriage House at the
Bayard Cutting Arboretum in Great
River

Directions on last page.

Below and lower right:
"Orchette" Dahlia Form



Upcoming Events

General Meeting

Thursday, March 20, 2014

Carriage Upper Level

Spring Luncheon

Sunday, April 6

Irish Coffee Pub

Fundraising News

Spring is almost here! I look forward to fundraising with such a "dynamic group" filled with enthusiasm, energy, and a sense of purpose. With your continued support let's exceed in this new year.

Thanks again,

*Kelly Abercrombie, Fundraising
Chairperson*



LIDS 2014 Calendar!

The 2014 LIDS Calendar of Events has been published and is included as a separate attachment with the newsletter.

You can also find event information on-line at
www.longislanddahlia.org

Seedling Contest

LIDS will hold another dahlia seedling contest where seedling will be sold to members, and the winning dahlia seedling grower will win ½ of the money collected. Look for more details in next month's newsletter.

MIDS News

The Mid Island Dahlia Society will hold their Spring Luncheon on Sunday, March 23rd. For more information, and to send your reservations, contact: Maureen O'Hara at 516 791-6894

LIDS 2014 Spring Luncheon – Save the Date!

Save the date and save your items for the cup auction! Our LIDS Spring Luncheon will be held on
Sunday, April 6, 2014 at the Irish Coffee Pub – 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM

If this is your first time attending, here are the details: we will have a sit-down full menu dinner, along with our "cup auction". New items (some tubers as well) and old treasures are donated and the raffles tickets are put in the corresponding cups, winners are called between courses! It is a great way to donate any items you no longer need or win a new treasure. More details will be made available at our general meeting and in the next newsletter, and on our website. Patrick Schlidt is our Hospitality Chair and manages this event.

Long Island Dahlia Society

www.longislanddahlia.org

Executive Board

President – Joe Laundrie

Vice-President – Maureen Burford

Treasurer – Joe Lysik

Website Director – Carol Jansch

Recording Secretary – Dee Cunningham

Hospitality – Patrick Schildt

Membership – Millie Canzoneri

Fundraising Chair – Kelly Abercrombie

Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter – Carol Jansch

Garden Director – Joe Lysik

Associate Garden Directors – John Canzoneri, Ted Gollatz, Gene Murtha, Mike Kehl, and Joe Laundrie

NADC Representatives – Joe Laundrie / Jim Micheels

ADS Representative – William Bushman

Show Chairperson – Joe Laundrie

Evaluation – Dennis Kirchner

Wolkoff Dahlia Garden Design – William Wolkoff

Resource Links

American Dahlia Society www.dahlia.org

Mid-Island Dahlia Society www.midislanddahlia.com

Greenwich Dahlia Society
www.gecgreenwich.org/dahlia-society.html

Rhode Island Dahlia Society
www.rhodeislanddahliasociety.org

Bayard Cutting Arboretum Horticultural Society
<http://www.bcahs.net>

Saturday Mornings at the William Wolkoff Garden

Saturday Mornings at the William Wolkoff Garden
Each Saturday during the dahlia season (typically late March to November, unless otherwise notified) our volunteers meet at 9:00 AM at the William Wolkoff Dahlia Garden in Bayard Cutting Arboretum.

Under the leadership of the Garden Director, our volunteers support the garden by preparing the tubers for planting, maintaining the garden during the bloom times, through the digging up the tubers at the end of season, this is a hands-on learning experience, all are welcome. Work in the garden is followed by coffee and cake at 11:00 AM.

LIDS Dahlia Shows

Dahlia growers, whether expert or novice come from all points of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and even Rhode Island to display their gardening achievements, hoping to reach the prestigious Court of Honor. Because the cooler weather brings out their vibrant colors, these regional shows are held in September and October when Dahlias are at their peak. The shows are held in the lower level of the Carriage House at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum in August and October of this year.

Membership

LIDS dues are \$20. You can pay your dues at monthly meetings or mail a check to:

LIDS
P.O. Box 76
West Sayville, NY 11796

New members receive a subscription to our monthly e-newsletter and three (3) free tubers in when they available in the spring.

Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held year round, on the third Thursday of the month at the Bayard Cutting Arboretum, located at: 440 Montauk Highway

Great River, NY 11739
Set GPS to these either address:
Great River Rd & NY-27A (Montauk Hwy), or
NY-27A & Union Blvd, East Islip NY 11730
www.bayardcuttingarboretum.com