

N E W S L E T T E R

March 2012

Long Island Dahlia Society



Hoop House at Bayard!

After eight years of effort, **Bill Wolkoff** has succeeded in obtaining permission for constructing a temporary, seasonal hoop house (hoop greenhouse) at the Arboretum. The 12' x 24' structure is currently under construction and will be located behind the garages by the lower Carriage House. Through Bill's continual and determined effort, the hoop house will help us bring earlier blooms to the garden and attract more visitors. This also provides a variety of new opportunities for LIDS volunteers to assist and learn. **A very BIG thank you to both Bill Wolkoff for leading the charge and to Nelson Sterner, Director of the Arboretum, for his help and support in achieving this goal.**

Upcoming Events and Meeting

Membership Meeting

March 15, 2012

7:00 PM Dahlia 101 - Joe Lysik

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.

Spring Luncheon!

Mark your Calendars for Sunday, April 15th, see page 3.

Upcoming Events

March 10, 2012

LIDS Board Meeting

April 19, 2012

Membership Meeting

Web Site News

The website is being updated by Lee Eymold with transitional help from Joe Lysik.

Please visit the site and e-mail Lee at leeymold@yahoo.com with any ideas you'd like to see incorporated.

www.longislanddahlia.com

Wolkoff Garden News

Welcome back to the start of the 2012 dahlia season, beginning on **Saturday, March 10** at 9:00 AM; please join us at the Wolkoff Garden. There are a variety of tasks, we will be dividing tubers (bring your own pruners and other tools you may need for the dahlia work), we will also be preparing the beds and working on the covers for the new greenhouse. Coffee and cake follows!

How do you keep busy?

Since I've retired people ask me "how do you keep busy?" You know that some of us go into the kitchen to get – now what did we want to get? So we go back into the living room to remember, but by the time we get there we forget why, rather than what. This keeps me quite busy these days! Keep your chin up, seniors!

LIDS Member (who forgot to include his name)

Good and Welfare

LIDS member Eileen Kosik had eye surgery a few weeks ago and she is at home recuperating. We all wish Eileen a speedy recover.

See the full-page ad for our Annual LIDS Spring Luncheon that will be held at the Irish Coffee Pub on Sunday, April 15th.

Questions? Contact Pat Schildt at 631-563-8787 or patrickschildt@optonline.net

Building the Basket of Cheer!

Dennis Kirchner is accepting donations for the 1st prize **Basket of Cheer** that will be raffled off



at the Annual LIDS Spring Luncheon.

Please bring your wine, liquor, or liqueur donations

to the General Meeting and give them to Dennis. Donations to the basket will also be accepted the day of the luncheon. Dennis' suggestion for the Basket of Cheer "anything with alcohol!"

Also, please start putting aside your special treasures that can be raffled off at our **country auction**. These can be any collectible, knickknack, houseplant, garden cutting, or any special item you would like to donate. The auction brings a lot of diverse and interesting items; your "previously loved item" could be someone's new treasure! Bring those items to the luncheon.

In addition to the Basket of Cheer, the raffle will have a **2nd prize; a 14k gold woman's French enamel broach/pendant.**

LIDS Annual Membership Renewal Time!

Long Island Dahlia Society dues are now due; the cost is \$20. You can pay your dues at our next meeting on Thursday, March 15th or mail a check to:

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

Garden Poles

If you are interested in ordering green garden poles from Joe Laundrie, please contact him via email at dahliajoe@aol.com

The cost is \$2 per pole plus tax and S&H. This will be the last year Joe will be purchasing these poles in bulk, so if you are interested, please place your order.

You are invited!

Long Island Dahlia Society Spring Luncheon

Date: Sunday, April 15, 2012 ~ Time: 12:30 PM. to 4:30 PM

Location: Irish Coffee Pub, Carlton Avenue, East Islip, NY

Full-course Menu

Penne a la Vodka

Choice of

Sliced Steak Forrestiere

Chicken Cordon Bleu

Filet of Salmon with Citrus Herb Crust

Desert

Warm Apple Crumb a la Mode

Coffee- Tea-Soda

Cash Bar



Cost \$39 - reserve your seat by giving Patrick Schildt, our Hospitality Chair or Joe Lysik, our Treasurer a check for the luncheon at the March meeting. If you prefer, you may contact Patrick directly at 631 563-8787 or mail a check (payable to Long Island Dahlia Society) to 34 Betsy Ross Drive, Bohemia, NY 11716.

Irish Coffee Pub
Tel 631-277-0007

www.irishcoffeepub.com

Electronic Growers Resources Online

www.e-gro.org

This site has been recommend by Jim Micheels as a source of information for dahlias. (While not intended for beginners, the site offers a variety of information relating to dahlias and other plantings.)

Once on the site, click on **e-grow alerts** and you will find a link to “**Dahlia Photoperiod**” which describes the effect of length of day on tuber formations in dahlia cuttings.



Vases Needed in the Fall!

The **Fundraising Committee** is requesting members to donate any glass vases (like the ones below) that will be used for dahlia arrangements to sell at the fall shows.



Vases need to be this size: height 5-6", diameter 3-4"

Please keep the vases at home until the fall show!

Contact Lynn Schiller at lynn@pdapanache.com for additional information

Dahlia Growers Wanted too! As you plan your garden, please consider growing the smaller dahlias that beautifully fill these vases.

Soil Testing and March Garden Tips

Can't wait to get into the garden? Here are some gardening tips from Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Check soil pH. Dahlias like a slightly acidic soil, 6.5 to 7.0. Testing for pH will be available at the March and April Meetings. If you have not done this before, you can obtain instructions for taking a soil sample by e-mail from lidsboard@gmail.com

- When soil is dry enough to work, incorporate lime into the soil, only if needed.
- Work compost and well-rotted manure into dahlia beds in March.
- Apply fertilizer (5/10/5) to spring flowering bulbs as soon as shoots start poking through the soil
- This is a good time to prune summer flowering shrubs whose buds develop in the spring
- New trees and shrubs can be planted in March to take advantage of early spring rains.
- Do a thorough garden cleanup at the end of March; be on the lookout for swarming termites and carpenter ants.
- Do not fertilize lawns now, wait until Memorial Day.

Maureen Burford

Judging Dahlias

Interested in being a judge at dahlia shows? Bill Bushman will be leading a judging workshop this summer and will reference the ADS Judging Manual, look for more information in the April newsletter. You can contact Bill to advise him of your interest by email at wjbphd6593@msn.com

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

Helpful Links

Long Island Dahlia Society
www.longislanddahlia.com/

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.rhodeislanddaliasociety.org/



Dahlia Photo Sampler by Pat Murphy



Long Island Dahlia Society Executive Board

President - Joe Laundrie	Vice-President - Maureen Burford	Treasurer - Joe Lysik
Garden Director - Jim Micheels	Website Director Lee Eymold	Recording Secretary - Dee Cunningham
Hospitality - Patrick Schildt	Membership Suzann Hirschmann	Fundraising Chair - Lynn Schiller
Fundraising Co-Chair - Kelly Abercrombie	Corresponding Secretary/Newsletter - Carol Jansch	
Associate Garden Directors - Jim Novellano, John Canzoneri, Gene Murtha, and Ted Gollatz,		
NADC Representative - Erina Aaron	ADS Representative - William Bushman	Evaluation - Dennis Kirchner
Wolkoff Dahlia Garden Design - William Wolkoff		