



NEWSLETTER

March 2014

# Long Island Dahlia Society

## It's Spring Time!



*Above: Bill Wolkoff's design and construction of the new trellis and benches have just been assembled in the garden along with the green house in the back left of the photo. You will also notice that the stakes are set for the new beds that will be put in place in the coming weeks. What a great job and thank you to all who helped!*

## President's Message

While it does not feel like spring, spring will nonetheless arrive with the vernal equinox on Thursday, March 20 at 12:57 P.M. EDT. Just the same date as our next LIDS membership meeting. It is time for us to begin planning our own home dahlia gardens as well as joining the current group of volunteers at the Wolkoff garden on Saturday mornings. It has been a busy winter. Bill Wolkoff has designed new beds for our expanding garden, and his newly designed trellis with benches is already up! Joe Lysik has been leading the work for the garden, tubers are being potted, and plans for the expanded beds are in the works. If you have been to the garden this week you will have noticed that the green hoop house is also up, so we are moving right along.

The meeting Thursdy will include an education segment on progating cuttings from tubers. Hope to see you there. - *Joe Laundrie, President*

## Best of Luck to LIDS Member Elizabeth Kirkland

LIDS bid a very fond farewell to member Elizabeth Kirkland who has moved to Syracuse, New York to work as a NYS Health Inspector. We all will miss Elizabeth; she contributed not only in the garden but also behind the scenes as well.

Elizabeth not only volunteered at LIDS, but is a past President of the Lyon's Club, very active in the Guide Dog Foundation, her guide puppy dog in training Clancy was familiar to all of us at meetings and events, and she is an active in parades playing the bagpipes.

Good luck to you Elizabeth, we will miss you!!



## Introducing Orchette a New Dahlia Form in 2014



Combining the charming aspect of the Collarette with its delicate petaloids and the involute ray florets of the Orchid Form the new Orchette Form (9401 – 9415) makes its debut this year. The Orchette has eight ray florets uniformly surrounding the disc flowers in the typical Orchid manner. Florets must be straight and involute, becoming fully involute for at least one quarter of the floret and each with a petaloid at each base as in all white prize winner, Verrone's Morning Star or ray floret and contrasting colored petaloid like Christmas Star. A full description as well as the listing of the newly classified Orchettes may be found in the 2014 ADS Classification and Handbook. – *By Maureen Burford*

## “My Bad” by Joe Lysik

What a strange expression, but it does get the message across and in not too many words. “My” denoting that you are owning up to the deed and “bad” telling everyone that it was a mistake. Even I find myself using it now and then, especially when I want to accept blame right away without the drama sometimes attached. Mistakes though are not always bad; in fact they are necessary in any endeavor if serious progress is to be made. If we perform a task without trying any shortcuts or different methods we are not learning anything. Yes, it is true that if something is not broke, why fix it, but sometimes a little tweaking leads us to new discoveries. Not only can we learn from new procedures that work, we can also learn from mistakes that don't work.

For example, a few years ago I had some extra dahlias after my garden had already been filled. Not wanting to discard them I decided to plant two dahlias to a stake to increase my number of blooms. What I had done was to make these two dahlias compete not only for nutrients in the soil but also the sunshine needed for photosynthesis. The soil nutrients I could easily correct with some added liquid fertilizer, but the plants overshadowed each other and never really bloomed to their peak.

The big problem was that the sunshine where I tried this double planting was minimal (4 to 5 hours) and I made matters worse by crowding the plants out of sunshine. What I had learned was to increase the plant spacing in those areas where sun is minimal. Why am I telling you all about mistakes? Because I am sure that I will be making many of them as I learn to grow the Wolkoff Dahlia Garden with the guidance and help of all the Saturday volunteers. So if you see me muttering to myself down at the garden, I'll probably be saying, “My Bad”

## Upcoming Events and Meetings

### Next General Meeting

**Thursday, March 20, 2014**

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

*“Dahlia 101 will be a talk about  
propagating cuttings from tubers*

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.

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### LIDS Newsletter Help Wanted

Interested in supporting LIDS by helping with the newsletter? Training available, just a few hours per month. You would help gather the latest LIDS information about events, members, the garden, etc.... It is a great way to learn about dahlias, make new friends, and learn the inner workings of how a large club is run. You will help provide information to a terrific group of gardeners who maintain the largest public dahlia display garden on the east coast.

\*If I have not sold you yet, I can only add, that while there is not any pay, the benefits do include cake at all of our meetings, or any event we hold, coffee as well, hmmm, there are more perks, way too many to list! Please consider!

Contact Carol Jansch at  
[keyrol@verizon.net](mailto:keyrol@verizon.net) You can find back issues of our newsletter on our website at [www.longislanddahlia.org](http://www.longislanddahlia.org)

### Upcoming Events

**General Meeting**

**Thursday, April 17, 2014**

Carriage Upper Level

**LIDS Spring Luncheon**

**Sunday, April 6**

Irish Coffee Pub

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### Fundraising News

Our upcoming fundraisers include Earth Day on April 26, in Sayville, the BCAHS sale on May 3 and 4, and on the Saturday before Mother’s Day, May 10, a sale will be held under the gazebo in the Arboretum.

If anyone has any available time or even a half a day to help out with sales, it is most welcome. We have a great time at these events and your help is always appreciated. Please email me or let me know at the meeting.

We also would appreciate a bottle of wine or liquor to donate for the Irish Coffee Pub luncheon on April 6, 2014.

Thank you!

[Kabercrombie@optimum.net](mailto:Kabercrombie@optimum.net)

*Kelly Abercrombie, Fundraising  
Chairperson*

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**LIDS Spring Luncheon is  
coming!**

**Sunday, April 6, 2014**

### LIDS 2014 Calendar!

The 2014 LIDS Calendar of Events has been published and available on-line at

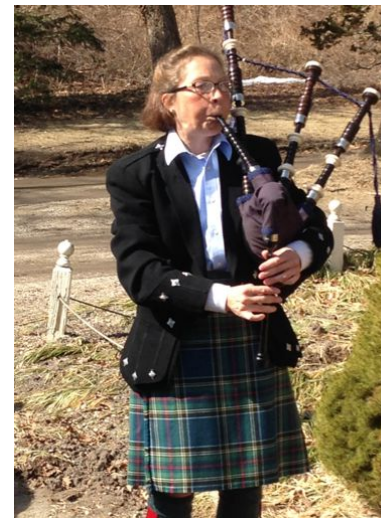
[www.longislanddahlia.org](http://www.longislanddahlia.org)

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### MIDS News

**The Mid Island Dahlia Society will hold their Spring Luncheon on Sunday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

Please join MIDS as we support both dahlia societies on Long Island. For more information, and to send your reservations, contact: Maureen O’Hara at 516 791-6894



**Elizabeth on the bagpipes!**

*You are invited!*  
*Long Island Dahlia Society*  
*Spring Luncheon*

*Date: Sunday, April 6, 2014 ~ Time: 12:30 PM. to 4:30 PM*

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

*Cost is \$38 per person*

*Full-course Menu with Cash Bar*



We will have a sit-down full menu dinner, along with our “cup auction” and door prize raffle. 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 March general meeting; Patrick Schlidt is our Hospitality Chair and manages this event.

Place your reservation with Patrick or call him during the day at  
631-563-8787

[www.irishcoffeepub.com/irishCoffee/](http://www.irishcoffeepub.com/irishCoffee/)

# Long Island Dahlia Society

[www.longislanddahlia.org](http://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](http://www.dahlia.org)  
 Mid-Island Dahlia Society [www.midislanddahlia.com](http://www.midislanddahlia.com)  
 Greenwich Dahlia Society  
[www.gecgreenwich.org/dahlia-society.html](http://www.gecgreenwich.org/dahlia-society.html)  
 Rhode Island Dahlia Society  
[www.rhodeislanddahliasociety.org](http://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 Joe Lysik, 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](http://www.bayardcuttingarboretum.com)