

DAHLIA DIGEST

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF OHIO

Since 1930

VOL. 2007 ISSUE 8

OCTOBER, 2007



NOVEMBER 2 MEETING

7:30 p.m.

LOCATION CHANGE

PARMATOWN MALL

Parma Parks and Recreation Room



PROGRAM

Annual Photography Contest

**Demo on Dividing and
Storing Tubers—Bring a clump!**

President's Notes

Hi Folks,

Well, another season is coming to an end. I hope you had a great one, whether at shows, or sharing your blooms with friends and shut-ins, or simply enjoying the beauty dahlias bring to your garden.

Bring your favorite photos to our annual photo contest at the November meeting at Parma Town Mall. Rules are in this Digest. Also, bring a clump and learn from the experts how to divide them for storage. We'll discuss different methods of storing as well..

I'm looking forward to seeing you there. Please let me know if you have any interest in being an officer, or ideas for programs. The Society needs you!

Enjoy your blooms until frost! Mike



**VISIT OUR DSO WEBSITE
SHARON SWANEY, WEBMASTER
WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFOHIO.ORG**

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PROGRAMS/SALES/SHOWS FOR 2007

Feb 2	DVD's on New Introductions and more
March 2	A program on Seedlings and Cuttings
March 3	Sunnybrook Nursery...Dahlia Information Table
April 6	Neil Evans on photography and more
April 21	Tuber Sale at Pettiti's Oakwood
April 22	Tuber Sale at Pettiti's Strongsville
April 28-29	Plant Sale at Holden Arboretum
May 4	DSO Annual Tuber Auction
May 18-20	Plant Sale Rockefeller Greenhouse
June 1	DSO Annual Tuber and Plant Auction
July 15	Picnic...Schoepfle Gardens
August 11,12	Cuyahoga County Fair Dahlia Show
August 18	Bus Trip to Local Dahlia Gardens and the MVDS Trial Garden, Fellows Riverside Garden
August 24-26	Mahoning Valley Dahlia Show
Sept 1	Geauga County Fair Dahlia Show
Sept 6-9	National and Midwest Show St. Charles Illinois
Sept 14-16	77th DSO Show Parmatown; Pittsburgh DS Show
Sept 21-23	East Liverpool Dahlia Show
November 2	Photo Contest; Speaker tba
December 7	Holiday Dinner Meeting



WHAT PART DOES DSO PLAY
IN YOUR LIFE?

If you love the dahlia, and
if you value DSO's help, friendship,
and expertise,
please give DSO a little of your time
as an officer.

DSO NEEDS YOU!

Current terms for these positions
(and others) are expiring:

President

Program Chair

Corresponding Secretary

Recording Secretary

**Websites from the Colorado
Dahlia Society**

**Have lots of time on your hands?
Check out the Colorado Dahlia So-
ciety's website at**

coloradodahliasociety.com

- **Dahlia Variety Locator** -
Gives a list of over 10,000 varie-
ties and what suppliers offer them
for 2008. The list may not be
100% accurate but it's pretty
good. Suppliers are listed also.
www.dahlias.net/dbiglist.htm
- **The 'Dahlia Mall'** at
[www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/
DahliaMall/DahliaMall.htm](http://www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/DahliaMall/DahliaMall.htm)
links to current information about
lots of dahlia items including
where to obtain 2008 Dahlia Wall
Calendars.

**THIS MEETING —
Friday, November 2, 7:30 pm**

*****NOTE DIFFERENT LOCATION*****

We will meet in the Parma Parks and Recreation Room in the Parmatown Mall.

Parmatown Mall is where we have our annual show. It is located about a mile north of the Busch Community Room on Ridge Road.

Take Ridge Road to Day Drive, turn west onto Day Drive. At the first traffic light, turn right into the mall and then turn left, travel just beyond JC Penneys. The entrance is titled "City of Parma PARKS AND RECREATION."

PROGRAM:

I. PHOTO CONTEST

II. STORAGE - bring a dahlia clump to get expert advice on dividing it for winter storage.



**PHOTO CONTEST RULES
NOVEMBER 2 MEETING**

Maximum size — 8x10

Unframed photos are preferred.

Three Categories:

**SINGLE DAHLIA—
includes close-up**


**MULTIPLE DAHLIAS—
includes gardens, baskets, vases**

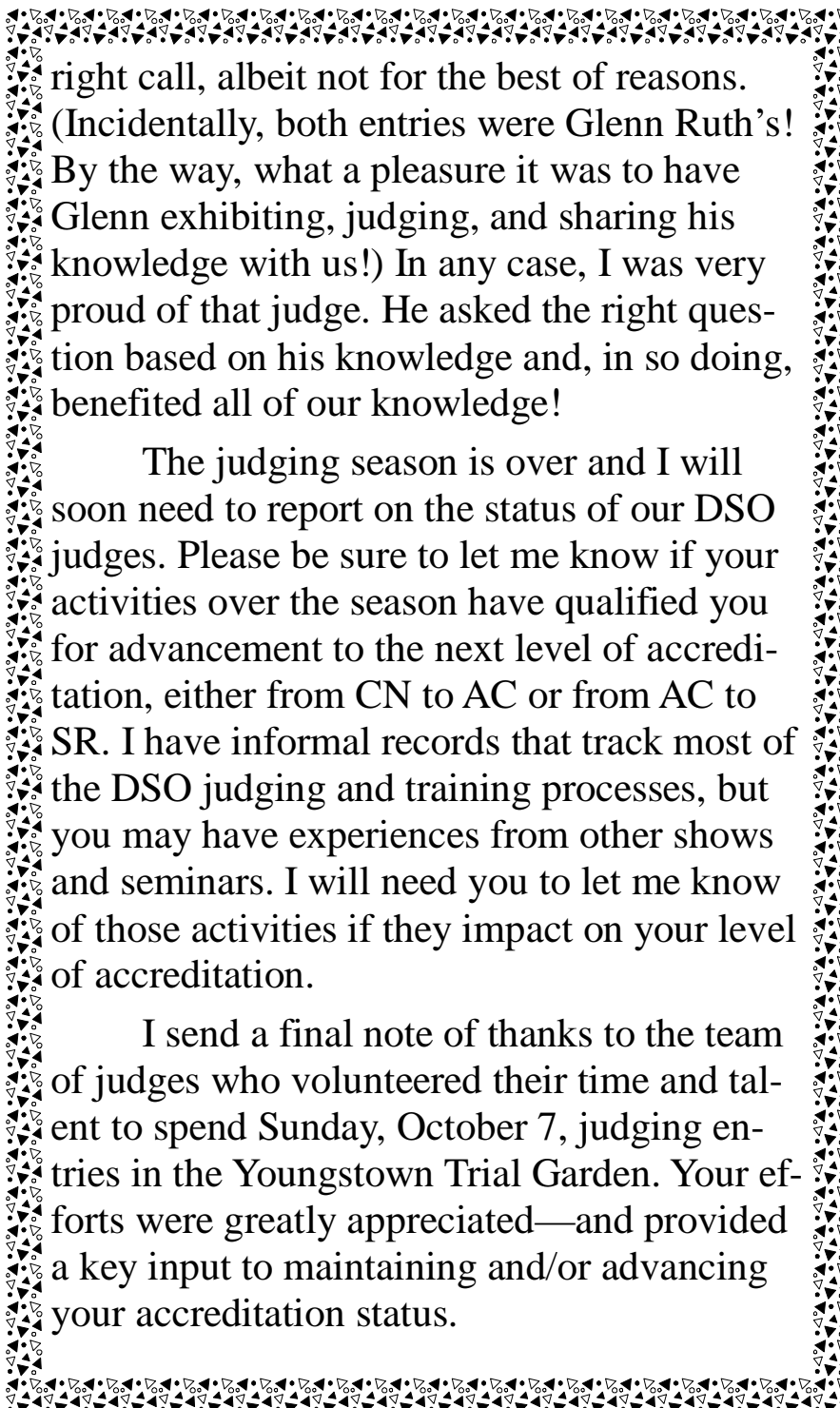
**PEOPLE and DAHLIAS—
At least one person and at least
one dahlia**

**Let's have lots and lots of
pictures to choose from!
All photos are returned
to the owner.**

The JUDGE's Corner

Ron Miner baronminer@aol.com

Wow, what a season! I sure hate to see it ending. I hope you had as much fun growing, showing, and judging dahlias as I did. One key to that enjoyment—as well as to increasing our knowledge of growing and judging—is the interaction among us that occurs at the dahlias shows. I can't resist telling a story about one such encounter that occurred at the Petitti's Show. Our judging team was agonizing over a choice between Barry Red Dwarf (M FD DR) and SB's Sunny (MBa Y) for the best triple in the show. Both entries were very good and we were pretty evenly divided on the choice. After we finally chose the SB's Sunny, one of the other judges said to me something to the following effect: "Hey, Ron, I have a judging question for you.  Isn't that Red Dwarf a pretty poor FD? It looks like a ball to me." Boy, had he been listening at the seminars! Too bad I hadn't been paying as much attention! The point is, of course, that here was a clear criterion for making the choice between the two entries—one that we had not consciously considered. Fortunately, we had made the



right call, albeit not for the best of reasons. (Incidentally, both entries were Glenn Ruth's! By the way, what a pleasure it was to have Glenn exhibiting, judging, and sharing his knowledge with us!) In any case, I was very proud of that judge. He asked the right question based on his knowledge and, in so doing, benefited all of our knowledge!

The judging season is over and I will soon need to report on the status of our DSO judges. Please be sure to let me know if your activities over the season have qualified you for advancement to the next level of accreditation, either from CN to AC or from AC to SR. I have informal records that track most of the DSO judging and training processes, but you may have experiences from other shows and seminars. I will need you to let me know of those activities if they impact on your level of accreditation.

I send a final note of thanks to the team of judges who volunteered their time and talent to spend Sunday, October 7, judging entries in the Youngstown Trial Garden. Your efforts were greatly appreciated—and provided a key input to maintaining and/or advancing your accreditation status.

Our Annual Holiday Dinner Meeting

**DSO HOLIDAY GATHERING
DECEMBER 7, 2007**

And now for something completely different!

This year we will gather at

**Harry's Steak House 216-524-5300
5664 Brecksville Road
Independence OH 44131**

for our annual Holiday Party. We will be ordering individually from their menu.

The menu features Harry's steaks from corn fed cattle along with chicken, pork and seafood; appetizers; soup and sandwiches; salads; and dinners that include salad, rolls, choice of potato, vegetable or rice.

Prices range from \$7.00 - \$19.00. All major credit cards are accepted.

Please RSVP to Barbara Hosta at
bxh5@cwru.edu, 216-524-2635
or 216-795-3132



Directions

The restaurant is on Rt 21 - aka Brecksville Road and it is a four lane highway. Take I-480 to I- 77 S and exit at Rockside Road - go east on Rockside Road to Rt 21/ Brecksville turn left (North) on to Rt 21/Brecksville. Travel about 1 mile.

From the East, mapquest says to get off 480W at Exit 21, Transportation Blvd. Turn right onto Transportation Blvd. Turn left onto Granger Road/OH 17. Take the OH 21 S ramp and make a slight right onto Brecksville Road/OH 21. Harry's is at 5664 Brecksville.

HARRY'S





DIVIDING and STORING

A couple issues ago, I talked about digging and washing tuber clumps. Do you recall the key words—DIG and WASH GENTLY! Tuber necks can be quite fragile; say goodbye to a tuber with a broken neck.

An **excellent** visual for “how they do it in Colorado” may be found at the website of the Colorado Dahlia Society. Be sure to visit it; it is really good.

www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/TuberStor/TuberStor1.htm

Until you get a chance to look at the Colorado website, here’s some bedtime reading. You have a washed clump in front of you ready to be “dissected.” Keep in mind that as you divide the clump, a tuber must contain part of the crown because eyes are in the crown. Here’s a picture stolen from the Colorado website mentioned above. Do you see a neck and crown vertically at the bottom of the picture and another horizontally on the right? See the eyes—at least 8. Beautiful, aren’t they?!



Sure wish all my clumps looked like that, but they don't. On most, I can't find an eye even with a magnifying glass! But divide nonetheless and cross your fingers that next spring, an eye will appear. Use a sharp tool and cut the crown with tuber from the clump. The result should look like this. Eyes are circled.



If this is very mysterious to you, try to make it to our November meeting and bring a clump along so we can show you exactly what to do. If you can't make it to the meeting, give me a call and I'll try to stop by your house and show you. (Day: 216-397-4681)

Some growers wash the divided tubers in a (chemical) bath, label them with an "ink pencil" while damp, and let dry for a day for small roots; up to 36 hours for larger ones. Keep the tubers off concrete as concrete tends to make them shrivel. To reduce the presence of fungi, prepare a bag of powdered sulfur and vermiculite and gently roll the tubers in the sulfur ala "Shake and Bake."

At this point, if you ask 10 growers what they do next, you will probably get 20 different answers! Here's one—plastic wrap. Tear off a couple feet of plastic wrap; place a tuber at one end and roll over a time or two; place another tuber and roll, etc., for four or five tubers. Tape the entire enclosed package and label. Store the bundles at 40-45 degrees F in corrugated boxes.

Best of luck! I hope you find a foolproof method that works for you. When you do, let me know! I need help!

Jerry Moreno



**SPECIAL NOTICE FOR
MEMBERSHIPS
From John Bendokaitis**

**Please check the mailing label on this digest
for one of these statements:**

DUES ARE DUE or DUES ARE PAID

Please let me know if there is an error in my records.

**MAIL FORM on NEXT PAGE and PAYMENT TO:
DSO MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
JOHN R. BENDOKAITIS
17182 EASTVIEW DR
CHAGRIN FALLS, OHIO 44023**

NOTE!!

**If you are not a member of the American Dahlia Society,
consider joining NOW. It is truly worth it!
Why? What are the benefits?**

- **You will get the CLASSIFICATION HANDBOOK**
- **You will get the colorful and informative ADS BULLETIN**
- **You will also receive the AMERICAN DAHLIA GUIDE TO GROWING AND CARING FOR DAHLIAS.**
- **You will be entitled to vote in election of ADS officers,
and all other privileges of membership.**



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THIS PAGE, INITIAL AND MAIL WITH YOUR
CHECK TO JOHN BENDOKAITIS**

**PLEASE MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO
DAHLIA SOCIETY OF OHIO**

DATE _____

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**PLEASE CHOOSE ONLY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING
MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS. Place an X in [].**

[] DSO Membership (includes husband and wife)\$10.00

[] DSO with ADS MEMBERSHIP (for one person only)..\$30.00

[] DSO with ADS FAMILY Membership.....\$33.00

[] DSO with ADS STUDENT Membership.....\$15.00
(18 YRS OLD OR YOUNGER)

ADDITIONAL OPTIONS:

[] ADS First Class Mailing for December ADD \$ 3.00 TO ABOVE

[] DSO with ADS SNOWBIRD OPTION—INDIVIDUAL \$38.00##

[] DSO with ADS SNOWBIRD OPTION—FAMILY..... \$41.00##

**## INCLUDE WINTER ADDRESS FOR SNOW BIRD
MAILING _____**

DAHLIA SOCIETY of OHIO
BILL SCHOLES
9080 Richards Drive
Mentor, OH 44060

