

**DAHLIA DIGEST**  
***DAHLIA SOCIETY OF OHIO***

Since 1930

**VOL. 2007 ISSUE 7**

**SEPTEMBER, 2007**



**LAST SHOW**  
**PETTITI's OAKWOOD**  
**OCTOBER 6-7**  
**Setup by 11:30 Saturday**

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**NOVEMBER 2 MEETING**  
**LOCATION CHANGE**  
**PARMATOWN MALL**  
**Parma Parks and Recreation Room**



# President's Notes

Hi Folks,

*Just a couple of notes: First, thanks to all who helped make both the Cuyahoga County Fair and our annual DSO Show at Parmatown first class events! To all those that "set-up," participated and helped "tear-down" the shows--a job well done! Also, congratulations to all the winners. The "Courts of Honor" were a great advertisement for our DSO!*

*It just seemed like the growing season started but already some of the dahlias are starting to shut down. How quickly the season goes.*

*That's about it for now. Enjoy those last blooms! See you at Pettiti's and at the November meeting.*

*Continued best wishes to John Bendokaitis, our Membership Chairman and Glenn Ruth, one of our senior judges, as they continue to recuperate at home.*

*Mike*



**VISIT OUR DSO WEBSITE  
SHARON SWANEY, WEBMASTER  
[WWW.DAHLIASOCIETYOFOHIO.ORG](http://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

Recording Secretary

# LAST SHOW for 2007

The DSo members' show  
At Pettiti's Oakwood

Saturday October 6

setup 9:00—11:30

Judging 11:30—1:00

Dismantle show Sunday 5:00

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## **DSO BUS TRIP**

A HUGE thank you to Brant Giere and Carol Sahley, Randy and Kathy Foith, Jim Chuey, Harriet Chandler, and the Mahoning Valley Dahlia Society. Every dahlia garden was amazing and filled with gorgeous dahlias. We could not have had a better day. Each garden offered inspiration and new ideas for every type of dahlia grower. THANKS!

**NEXT MEETING —**  
**Friday, November 2, 7:30 pm**  
(no meeting in October)

**\*\*\*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**

Wow, I barely blinked and the season is almost over! I hope you've all had as much fun as I've had this year. What a wonderful hobby we have. Growing dahlias is a great place to start, but I've found that showing and judging and traveling to nearby, regional, or National shows adds tremendously to the enjoyment! We do have one more chance to show and to judge at the quickly approaching Petitti show. Come and enjoy the company of your like-minded hobbyists.

Many of the DSO judges have met and exceeded the ADS requirements for being an Accredited and/or a Senior Judge by bringing entries to the shows, judging the shows, judging seedlings, and attending several of the judging seminars over the last couple years. Fortunately, we also have a number of new, Candidate Judges who have begun the



process of qualifying as Accredited Judges. I've enjoyed having them in the loop; I think they've had a good time, too. If you are interested and have not yet gotten involved, please do so – you will enjoy it! Read the judging manual and come on out to the show; you can help judge and you will learn a great deal about our favorite flower.

**The new “official” ADS requirements for maintaining your accreditation as a judge have been published in the ADS Bulletin. I’ve summarized the requirements in handouts available at the DSO meetings, shows, and the judging seminars. Let me know if you would like a copy.** I'll bring them to the Petitti show, too. If you have not yet met the requirements and would like to do so before the season is over, I will be available at the Petitti show for discussion on how best to do that.

Come on out to the last dahlia “hurrah” for the season! See you at Petitti's.

**77th DSO SHOW at Parmatown  
COURT of HONOR 2007**

Best Novice

**Linda Vuletich, *Poppet***

Best Single AA Small Grower

**Jerry Moreno, *Zorro***

Best Single A Small Grower

**Stan Vuletich, *Vassio Meggos***

Best Single B Small Grower

**Rodney Toth, *Edna C***

Best Single BB Small Grower

**Rodney Toth, *Hy Clown***

Best Single AA Open to All

**Randy and Kathy Foith, *Inland Dynasty***

Best Single A Open to All

**Rudy Bredenbeck, *Kenora Wildfire***

Best Single B Open to All

**Randy and Kathy Foith, *Magic Moment***

Best Single BB Open to All

**Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, *Embrace***

Best Single Miniature

**Mike Weber, *Brookside J Cooley***

Best Single Ball

**Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, *Cornel***

Best Single Minirature Ball

**Tony Evangelista, *Downham Royal***

Best Single Pom

**Rudy Bredenbeck, *Czar Willo***

Best Single Waterlily

**Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, *Cameo***

Best Single Other Type

**Ron and Barbara Miner, *5.8***

Best Triple AA/A

**Rudy Bredenbeck, *Inland Dynasty***

Best Triple B	<b>Mike Weber, <i>Narrows Tricia</i></b>
Best Triple BB	<b>Mike Weber, <i>Taratahi Lilac</i></b>
Best Triple Miniature	<b>Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, <i>Brookside J Cooley</i></b>
Best Triple Ball	<b>Linda Vuletich, <i>Cornel</i></b>
Best Triple Miniature Ball	<b>Tony Evangelista, <i>Downham Royal</i></b>
Best Triple Pom	<b>Rudy Bredenbeck, <i>Czar Willo</i></b>
Best Triple Other Type	<b>Randy and Kathy Foith, <i>Honka</i></b>
Best Vase	<b>Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, <i>Embrace</i></b>
Best Basket	<b>Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, <i>Badger Twinkle</i></b>
ADS Seedling Achievement Award	<b>Ron and Barbara Miner, <i>Baron Drew</i></b>
Best Dinner Plate	<b>Linda Vuletich, <i>Kelvin Floodlight</i></b>
Best Artistic Design	<b>John Learner</b>
Flower of the Year Mary's Jomanda	<b>Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey</b>
Largest Blue Ribbon Winner	<b>Randy and Kathy Foith, <i>Penhill Watermelon</i></b>
GRAND CHAMPION	<b>Randy and Kathy Foith, <i>Magic Moment</i></b>
RESERVE CHAMPION	<b>Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey, <i>Embrace</i></b>
Sweepstakes Novice...Linda Vuletich	
Sweepstakes Small Grower...Stan Vuletich	
Sweepstakes Open to All...Harriet Chandler/Jim Chuey	

## **TIME TO DIG — DO IT GENTLY**

Some snippets from

[www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/TuberStor/TuberStor2.htm](http://www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/TuberStor/TuberStor2.htm)

### **Cut Down the Plants**

At the end of the season, marked by a killing frost or determined by your fall plans and when you plan to dig the tubers, cut the dahlia plants down a week before leaving a four to six inch stem stub.

### **Remove Mulch?**

If the surface mulch is to be mixed into the soil, it should be left. Otherwise, remove it to avoid mixing it into the soil during the digging process or later tilling.

### **Digging With a Fork Spade**

Place the fork about one foot from the stem stub and insert it at least 8 inches into the soil. Then gently move the fork in and then out to loosen the soil. Repeat this action to totally encircle the stem stub and loosen the soil. At the last insertion, gently prying back on the fork should lift the stem stub and the clump of soil. Carefully lift the clump while removing the soil from the tuber clump. This must be done gently as many tubers have rather small, thin necks and they can be broken or cracked while loosening the soil or carrying the clump to another location. A tuber with a cracked or broken neck will not grow.

### **Digging With a Shovel or Spade**

If a shovel or regular spade is used instead of a fork spade, it should be placed about four inches farther from the stem stub than the foot using the fork spade. Otherwise, proceed using the same guidelines as for the fork spade.

If a shovel is inserted too close to the stem stub, it is very likely to cut off the tubers. Of course, the advantage of a shovel is that it may cut the strong hair roots that emerge from the end of each tuber. The fork spade leaves these roots intact and when the fork is bent backwards to pry up on the clump those roots put strain on the tuber and in some instances break it away from the clump, rendering it useless. Moving the fork spade initially forward rather than prying backwards helps in lessening the damage.

### **Washing the Tuber Clumps**

Washing the tuber clumps is another delicate procedure. Whether you spray them with a hose while in the garden or on a rack (of green plastic coated fencing material, say), **do not use a solid high pressure stream!** Tubers are easily damaged with high pressure as the stream can break thin necks or strip the skin off the tuber.

### **Dividing and Storing**

**Bring one of your washed clumps to the November meeting to see how to divide it and then listen to members describe how they store their divided tubers over the winter.**



**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**

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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  
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\_\_\_\_\_

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