



News from ADS!

December 2019

Frost came to Northern Virginia on November 8. When I first began to grow dahlias, the old-timers worried about frost in early October. Climate change? I began digging, dividing, and bagging the tubers the following week. It was a good year: a long blooming season and a large stock of healthy tubers for the spring. Whether you grew ten or a hundred dahlia plants, I hope you enjoyed our flower.



Santa Claus
Photo by Claudia Biggs

The upcoming holiday season will bring the welcome distractions of family, friends and food. Christmas cookies are a special treat. One of these days we will find a dahlia cookie cutter! I am still looking for a dahlia emoji.



Verrone's Morning Star

Europe.

Our mailbox has begun to include general gardening catalogs. I cannot resist looking at the 2020 introductions. I even purchased some tomato seeds of a new cultivar. I always look at the pages of dahlia offerings. In the past five years the number has expanded and some of the cultivars are relatively new. There is a great overlap among the catalogs; I suspect they are mostly sourced in

The ADS website, www.dahlia.org, has links to a number of domestic commercial suppliers that feature newer as well as established types. A DVD of the 2020 introductions will be available in the ADS Store soon. If you are looking for a company that sells a special cultivar, www.dahliaaddict.com provides links. To browse photos by size, color, or form use the ADS website's [Online Classification Guide](#).

If you are related to a dahlia-nut, the Internet has a wide selection of dahlia paraphernalia for seasonal gift giving. For example, see all the [dahlia shirts](#) on Etsy.



Christmas Star

When I was young, I used to dream about Italian cookies and ravioli. This year it will be about beautiful blooms in the garden or on the head table.

Happy Holidays,
Harry Risetto

American Dahlia Society | www.dahlia.org

