

# **The American Dahlia Society**

**A Guide for the  
Representatives of  
Participating Societies**

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Our Mission Statement: *The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test our new varieties and to give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the diseases and insects of the dahlia and find remedies for same; to disseminate information relating to the Dahlia; to secure uniform standards for judging Dahlia shows and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable.*

# **The Mandate for ADS Representatives**

The Executive Board of The American Dahlia Society affirms the role of the Participating Society Representatives to be vital to the success of the organization. The Representative's primary function is to appropriately represent the ADS in the business matters of their Participating Society. In so doing, the ADS Representative shall bear the greatest responsibility for maintaining the channel of communications between the ADS Executive Board and the local society. The ADS Representative is encouraged to request of his or her local society sufficient time,

during its regular business meetings, to report ADS news and information. Ideally, the local society's normal "Order of Business" should provide time dedicated to the matters of the American Dahlia Society and reports should be presented by the ADS Representative or another qualified person in the absence of the ADS Representative.

Note: Because the majority of ADS members join through Participating Societies, the ADS Executive Board believes the function of the ADS Representative to be critical to the present and future health of the society. Dedicated ADS Representatives are (and will be in the future) the persons who are in contact with the greatest number of ADS members.

# **The ADS Regional Vice President**

The Regional Vice President of the American Dahlia Society is elected by the Participating Societies located within defined geographical regions.

The regions are:

Eastern States Dahlia Federation

North Atlantic Dahlia Conference

Southern States Dahlia Conference

Midwest Dahlia Conference

Pacific Southwest Dahlia Conference

Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference

Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

The ADS Executive Board encourages the Regional Vice

Presidents to report, on a quarterly basis, the activities of societies within his or her region. The Executive Board recommends that all ADS Representatives communicate local society news and important matters involving the ADS to their Regional Vice Presidents.



# **The ADS *Bulletin***

The *Bulletin* of the American Dahlia Society is published four times annually. The March, June and September issues contain a section for news reports from Participating Societies. The December issue contains a section for the Participating Society's dahlia show report. The critical deadlines for submitting these reports are as follows:

March Bulletin, January 15th

June Bulletin, April 15th

September Bulletin, July 15th

December Bulletin (show report)

Oct. 15th

The ADS Representative may be called upon by the *Bulletin* Editor to assist in obtaining these reports.

Additionally, there is a continual need to obtain articles for future publications or the *Bulletin*. The ADS Representatives, through their contacts, can assist the Editor by providing appropriate material for publication.

# **Membership**

The Membership Chair of the American Dahlia Society is empowered by the Executive Board to collect membership fees and to maintain a record of members of the society.

Generally, the Membership Chair communicates directly with the person in the Participating Society who assumes the responsibility for maintaining membership records.

The ADS Representative shall be willing to present to members of Participating Societies, the benefits of American Dahlia Society membership and do all possible to increase awareness and membership in the ADS.

The Membership Chair of the ADS may request assistance from the ADS Representative of Participating Societies to insure that membership records are updated and payments of fees are received in a timely manner.

# **Judge Accreditation**

The American Dahlia Society sponsors the dahlia judge accreditation program.

The ADS Judge Accreditation Chair must update records annually which are then published in the Roster of Judges. To accomplish this, each year a request for information is sent to all Participating Society Judging Chairs. Changes in judging status and other information listed on the current roster must be completed by the local judging chair and returned to the ADS Judge Accreditation Chair so that an accurate listing of judges may be maintained.

The ADS Judge Accreditation  
Chair may call upon the ADS  
Participating Society  
Representative for assistance in  
maintaining judge accreditation  
records.

Other information concerning  
judge accreditation requirements  
can be found in the *Bulletin* and  
by consulting the ADS web site.

# Classification

The Classification Committee of the American Dahlia Society is headed by the Classification Chair. The Chairperson, with help from the Committee and members of Participating Societies, annually produce an updated version of the *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*. To accomplish this task, the Classification Chair is reliant on information derived from Participating Society dahlia show reports. Following an exhibition, show secretaries (or their equivalent) are requested to file a report in the approved format to the Classification Chair. The information derived from each report is then compiled and when in print form, becomes the

*Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* for the following year. As the timely receipt of show information is necessary to meet the publishing deadline of the *Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*, the Classification Chair may request the assistance of the ADS Representative to achieve this objective.

Please note: Show reports must be submitted using the standard ADS classification. Do not use any classification from a supplemental list in making show reports to the ADS.



# **Seedling Bench Evaluation Program**

The American Dahlia Society annually conducts the dahlia Seedling Bench Evaluation program, with the purpose being to give proper recognition to new seedlings being introduced into commerce. The seedling dahlias which receive the highest scores in this program are eligible for the important Lynn B. Dudley Award. Each year, the Seedling Bench Evaluation Chair sends the most current score sheets and instructions to all ADS Participating Societies which conduct a bench scoring program. It is imperative that all forms are completed properly and returned to the Chairperson within the time frame specified, in

order for the program to function properly. The Seedling Bench Evaluation Chair may require the assistance of the Participating Society Representative to achieve the objectives of the Seedling Bench Evaluation program.

# Liability Insurance Program

Liability insurance coverage for Participating Societies is available through the ADS. This insurance program has been in effect for many years and the level of coverage offered has traditionally been available at lower rates than when purchased independently. Annual premiums for these policies are due by March 15th. More information concerning this program is available by contacting the ADS Liability Insurance Chair. The Liability Insurance Chair may enlist help from the ADS Representative to determine to whom in the society information concerning this

program should be addressed.  
The Chairperson may also  
request assistance in securing  
the prompt remittance of the  
premium payment.

# **Research and Education**

10.1

# Trial Gardens

11.1

# Garden Dahlias

12.1

# Slide Library

13.1



# **Publicity and Public Relations**

14.1

# **Publications and Materials Available from the American Dahlia Society**

## **American Dahlia Society *Bulletin* back issues**

Please contact the ADS Treasurer for  
availability and cost.

## ***Classification and Handbook of Dahlias***

Available from the ADS Treasurer and  
currently priced at \$5.00 ppd. Contact the  
ADS Treasurer to order and for a price  
quote on volume orders.

## ***Composite Listing of Dahlias 1976 - 2002***

Available from the ADS Treasurer and  
currently priced at \$6.50 ppd. Contact the  
ADS Treasurer to order.

### ***A Guide to Growing and Caring for Dahlias***

Available from the ADS Treasurer and currently priced at \$3.00 ppd. Contact the ADS Treasurer for a price quote on volume orders.

### ***Guide to Judging Dahlias***

Available from the ADS Treasurer and currently priced at \$4.00 ppd. Contact the ADS Treasurer for a price quote on volume orders.

### ***Color Guide for Classifying Dahlias***

Available from the ADS Treasurer and currently priced at \$60.00 ppd.

### ***Discover Dahlias Brochure***

A colorful pamphlet, ideal as a handout at shows and sales. Available from:

Steve Nowotarski

200 Violet St.

Massapequa, NY 11762

(516)541-6452

Contact Steve for quantity pricing and details.

### **ADS Plastic Vase Set**

Available from the ADS Treasurer. Minimum order of 50 sets requested. Contact the ADS Treasurer for a price quote.

### **Show Tag Rings**

Handy reusable metal clips for attaching show tags to floral exhibits. Available in quantities of 1000. Available from:

John Thiermann

7728 West Plainfield Ave.

Greenfield, WI 53220

(414)327-1759

Contact John for current pricing and details.

### **Dahlia Post Cards**

Four different and colorful post cards are available in quantities of 100 (25 each of high quality images of "Magic Moment," "Jessica," "Islander" and "Jennie"). Available from:

Lois Ann Helgeson

530 12th Avenue NW

New Brighton, MN 55112

(651)636-1298

Contact Lois Ann for current pricing and details.