



PAM HOWDEN
Form: Waterlily



NEXT MEETING: Jan. 13, 2009 at 7:30 PM on 9th Ave and Lincoln Ave.



Devon Mystique



Ma Julia

PROGRAM: 2009 New Introduction slides. Bring your notebook and start the craving for new and cool dahlias for the coming season. Who will bring a delicious start to our new year?



High Bid

DUES DUE: Please remit your DSC and ADS dues now. \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families get you admission to 12 great programs in the 12 months of 2009 including mini shows. You also get 12 informative newsletters telling you about upcoming meetings, shows, judging schools, other public displays of dahlias. You must have local society affiliation before you can join the American Dahlia Association. ADS dues are \$ 20 for individuals and \$23 for families. ADS dues get you the ADS Classification Book, which is the box scores for all the competitive dahlias of 2007, 4 ADS Bulletins, and the opportunity to compete at the National Show with flowers and/or photographs. Please send your check soon. [Application Form](#)



Tinnee



Franck & Barbara



Pat & Debo



Peggy & Mary Ann



HOLIDAY HUBUB DAHLIA STYLE: Thank you so much to Joann, Ron, Scotty, and Elsie for arriving early and decorating up a storm; they made our meeting room so inviting. Thanks to Frank for bringing half a case of various wines and to Jim for the soft drinks; holiday imbibing levitates the festivities, indeed. As always, Joann's deviled eggs disappeared before the official dinner invitation sounded; but two other people whipped up deviled eggs, so there were plenty even for less aggressive noshes. Both Pat and Deborah served up sublime sweet potato variations. Who made the great meat balls and pomegranate salad? The most gorgeous presentation hands down, Jytte's corn salad came in a custom designed and hand-constructed presentation pedestal. We surely missed the Cornishes, frolicking in England and the Juuls, languishing under nasty colds. But we welcomed newcomers Lee and Lee and Dick's daughter, Mary Ann.



Peggy & Joanna



Elsie



Craig



Diana



Jimmy



Orlando, Tinnee & DJ

SUDDENLY THERE ROSE SUCH A CLATTER:

We rushed to the window to see what was the matter.....Big St. Nick and Little Nick entered a twinkling to initiate yet another year's present predation. So many clever selections fanned our thievery. Great caddy bags abounded including one with a snazzy collapsible clipper. Naturally the basket of narcissi and the orchids got "frozen" quickly. Young Nick loved tearing open a box, but then wanted to go marauding, too. (Rip or steal not AND, dear boy.) Barbara and Franck employed partnership tactics to secure Jytte's hand-crafted vase. Deborah characterized peppermint bark as "mulch" thus assuring her self of blissful chocolate overdose later. Much coveted were the rake which changed width and the tin seed box with 40 glass covered vials. The Harts fashioned a "Curtis-y," a 3 part carrying stick. Clever. Next year we must enforce a new rule: all opened presents must sit on TOP of the table IN CLEAR VIEW. Scheming and stealing make for great amusement; we need to facilitate speculating eyes.



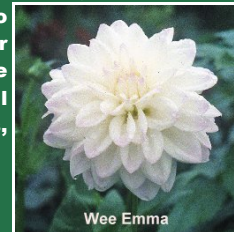
ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

A wonderful article from Keith Hammet of New Zealand on plant breeding. Hammet is one of the foremost Dahlia growers of New Zealand, but also stretches into many other plant species. [Article](#)



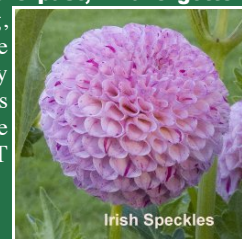
DIG OUT 2009: GREAT FILTHY FUN!

Please mark your calendars for Jan. 24 and Jan. 25 RAIN OR SHINE at the Dahlia Dell in Golden Gate Park. Take this great opportunity to learn all the refinements of digging, transporting, dividing, detoxifying, and labeling dahlias. In two days, we'll process over 300 clumps for the tuber sale in April. Learn from the best; apprentice yourself to mentors in every aspect of dahlias, or become a teacher yourself. Bring friends and relatives with legible handwriting (and good stories) to the label table. Consider bringing: ADS Classification Book, Bottle of Ink in a Pencil, rubber boots, warm multi-layered apparel, gloves, hat, dividing tools, bun warmers, and a change of clothes—especially sox. Wayward water dampens enthusiasm. Your benevolent DSC will provide pizza on Saturday and Chinese on Sunday, but any appetizers, noshes, cookies, soup, or goodies would be most appreciated. Get entrenched in the dahlia world!



JANUARY JAZZ:

Cover any dahlias left in the ground with big 1-10 gallon pots. Employ dahlia condoms or shower caps over the exposed stalk ends to prevent crown rot. Check any dahlias already in storage. Try milk cartooning a few tubers. I stack over 300 in my loft at @63 degrees. Tantalize yourself with dahlia catalogs or The Big List on line. A couple never-been-seen-before new varieties really perk up your garden. In the past, I have gotten dahlias from [Corralitos](#), [Aztec](#), [Ferncliff](#), [Mingus](#), [Dan's Dahlias](#) and [Hiltop Gardens](#). Before planting, just till it all back into your plot. I like to sow poppies and other spring wild flowers just to assuage the relentless brown of my dedicated dahlia beds. Time to work in all that compost you've been saving. Every time I dig out a clump, I dig my hole down to 3' and fill it with aged compost. By April, my soil wriggles with vitality. Make your New Year's Resolutions: renew your DSC and ADS memberships; contribute



skills and yummys to Dig Out 2009; order a new dahlia; make plans for your best dahlia garden ever! Let's make 2009 the BEST dahlia season ever.

Yours in Dirt

Deborah

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Acknowledgement: Photos in this issue by Franck, Deborah, and ADS