



From the PNDC President

by Mike Riordan

Spring has sprung and yet another dahlia growing season is upon us. Cutting sprouts and seedlings are beginning to emerge along with our hopes and anticipation of another successful and exciting 2017 dahlia year.

Here's a cordial invitation for members, their guests and dahlia friends to the Spring PNDC Meeting and Luncheon to be held at Parker's Restaurant in Castle Rock, WA on Saturday, April 22nd. Parker's address is 1300 Mt. St. Helens Way, Castle Rock, WA 98611. The general meeting will begin at noon, with the delegates convening at 11:00AM. We will be able to order off the menu, so we can have what we each most prefer. There will also be beverage and dessert choices. Everyone will pay individually at the restaurant.

This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and network with the top originators, growers and exhibitors in the PNW and British Columbia. The most exciting part is the tuber and plant auction which begins after lunch. Many growers bring their newest and best introductions and/or imports. The bidding is spirited and entertaining. Membership in the PNDC is not required to attend any portion of this event but if you attend, please plan to have lunch with us so we can meet our required food service minimum.

Now is a fine time to consider general recruitment opportunities. We may recall a friend, co-worker, neighbor or other individual who really admired our dahlias last year. Why not reach out this spring with a tuber or two to help kindle that initial spark of 'dahlia addiction'. Looking back on our own beginnings in the dahlia world, that story strikes a familiar chord.

Here's wishing you all cooperative weather for a bountiful growing season. May all our friendships flourish along with our blooms.

A Fond Farewell from Wayne Shantz

It is with regret that I write this letter. It has been an honor to serve as PNDC's ADS Representative. Due to health, I find it more and more difficult to attend meetings and keep abreast of this responsibility. Please accept my resignation immediately. Hopefully, you will have enough time to find a replacement. Thanks again for allowing me to serve. I have profited greatly.

Seeking Gold Medal Nominees

Each year the PNDC Executive Board recognizes an individual or couple with the Gold Medal for Lifetime Achievement. By way of example, this could be someone who has mentored newcomers to the world of dahlia exhibition and/or developed new dahlias and introduced them commercially. An individual that has been instrumental in recruiting a number of new members for a society and tirelessly promotes the idea of sharing their own knowledge and experience with others would be very worthy.

So who will be our recipient for 2017? Any PNDC member or PNDC dahlia society are invited to nominate someone who is not from their own society. A nomination should include a description of the candidate's achievements and contributions to the dahlia society, to the PNDC, or to dahlias as a whole. Nominations will be considered at our April 22nd spring meeting.

Contact your PNDC delegates with your suggestions or submit your nomination by e-mail to the PNDC Secretary, Larry Smith, at thebodysmith@hotmail.com To view a list of past award recipients, visit the PNDC website.

PNDC Spring Meeting April 22

Castle Rock, WA



We have booked Saturday, April 22nd for our 2017 Annual Meeting and Tuber/Plant Auction. Our meeting place will be at Parker's Restaurant in Castle Rock, Washington. From I-5 going north, take exit 49, head east past the Shell Station and strip mall (about a quarter mile). Parker's Restaurant is on the right. Their phone number is 360-967-2333. Thanks to Teresa Bergman for making these arrangements!



PNDC Show Comes to Portland! August 26-27 Portland, Oregon

Portland Dahlia Society is excited to host this year's PNDC Show, August 26 and 27. This event will be held in the Historic Dance Pavilion at Oaks Park in Portland, next to the Willamette river in the fashionable Sellwood district. Flower of the year will be Parkland Rave. The show will offer one of the best payouts around, each Head Table winner will win \$20 and be in the running for a \$50 Best In Show award. Our Design, Basket, and Specials classes also offer nice financial incentives and we have created a new multi-vase "Portlandia" award to challenge the more serious exhibitors.

Oaks Park hosts a large number of weekend events, including picnics, the ever popular midway, and many river activities. This translates to a large number of people to draw in to the Pavilion to visit the show. Many eyes will feast upon your blooms, so bring them all.

The PNDC Show Special Events Committee, consisting of Mike Riordan, Shirley Bankston, and Larry Smith, are pleased to inform that we have secured The Old Spaghetti Factory from 5-7 p.m. on Saturday night for the PNDC Banquet. OSF is well known for providing excellent meals at an affordable price. Our banquet space offers spectacular views of the Willamette, Portland's bridges, and Mt. Hood. There is a river walk just outside of the restaurant if you would like to take a stroll before or after dinner. The natural lighting is wonderful at that time of day in late August, so we encourage shutterbugs to bring your cameras. The OSF parking lot is spacious and the building is handicap accessible. We will be having our summer PNDC meeting and show awards ceremony at this event, so you won't want to miss it.

We learned from our first show at Oaks Park last year that parking spaces fill up fast and if you leave the park for lunch, you will likely have trouble finding a space if you return. That being the case, we are



Parkland Rave is 2017 Show Flower

planning to host a luncheon in the park for judges and clerks. We have just learned that there is a picnic space available immediately outside the show venue which we will be securing for the luncheon. Since it will be rented for the day, it can also be used as a staging area on Saturday morning.

Members Bob and Cynthia Patterson have researched available lodging and have found a number of options available within a few miles of Oaks Park for our out of town guests. We will distribute this information closer to the event. If you are interested in making early reservations, contact me, Larry Smith, and I can let you know what is available. We hope you will join us last weekend in August for a special PNDC Show. Your participation will be the key ingredient to make this event successful.

by Larry Smith

Judging School July 8th in Portland

Portland Dahlia Society will host a day of learning on July 8 starting at 9 am at the Georgetown Realty offices, 1000 NE 122nd Avenue in Portland. We will be offering the basic judging course for those who are interested in becoming judges and for people interested in learning more about what standards judges use when evaluating blooms.

For experienced judges who are looking to fulfill their continuing education requirements, we are working on providing a breakout session in order to go more in depth into burnishing our judging knowledge. For those interested in participating, contact Larry Smith (thebodysmith@hotmail.com) or Mark Oldenkamp (dahlafan57@gmail.com)



Lane County Dahlia Society

Michael Canning, Eugene, Oregon

The Lane County Dahlia Society waits patiently for warmer temperatures and drier air to signify the change in seasons. It's been a long stormy winter, and there are a thousand things to get started in our gardens.

LCDS Officers for 2017 were elected at our February meeting. They are:

Cheryle Hawkins: Co-President, Camille Noel: Co-President, Michael Canning: Vice President & Corresponding Secretary, Deb Gilmer: 2nd Vice President, Phyllis Shafer: Treasurer, Carol Prud'Homme: Co-Recording Secretary, Pat Chasse: Co-Recording Secretary

The annual LCDS Dahlia Auction and Tuber Sale kicks off our fund raising season on April 6th at 7:30. Members Lexa Cookson and Eugene Kenyon will lead the evening festivities into a frenzy of tuber buying and laughs. There's no better way to erase the winter blues than to hold the potential beauty of summer's bloom in your hand at the end of the night!

We follow the auction and sale with two sale events in May. The Garden Extravaganza is May 13 held in collaboration with the Eugene Garden Club, and the following Saturday, May 20th. We are grateful for the tuber contributions from our friends in Douglas County and Southern Oregon.

LCDS is committed to participate in the continuing virus research project in 2017. We are pleased with support coming from the national level to follow up on first year samples. This is a great first step to understanding more about the challenges we face.



River's Purple Pinwheel

We're looking forward to a great growing year in 2017, and a busy show season at the end of it. The Lane County Dahlia Society show will be held September 16th & 17th, in the Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center in Eugene. 2017 Show flower is "River's Pinwheel", an opulent purple stellar originated by LCDS member, Eugene Kenyon. Our show theme is "A Carnival of Dahlias", and we are excited by the colorful possibilities. We hope you will join us for a celebration of our flower at seasons end.

Check us out on our Lane County Dahlia Society facebook page, and "like" us to keep up with our group. We are also on the web. Visit our blog: www.lanecountydahliasociety.blogspot.com



A Resignation We Sadly Accept

by Mike Riordan

On March 18, Wayne Shantz informed me that due to health reasons he is forced to resign as representative to the ADS for the PNDC. The PNDC is extremely grateful for the years of service and dedication both he and Eleanor have given to our dahlia organizations. Although saddened by their decision, we all understand how our own life situations change over time. We do look forward to seeing Wayne and Eleanor at the shows they choose to attend and continue to welcome their input and thoughtful guidance.

Mark Oldenkamp who is currently ADS representatives' coordinator for US based societies and ADS Second Vice President, has agreed to serve additionally as representative to the ADS for the PNDC. The membership is very grateful for all who have and do serve in these volunteer positions. To them we owe a huge vote of thanks.



Nanaimo Gladiolus and Dahlia Society...by Judy Stephens

Our club has a new president: Anne Kenny, she has been part of our club for the past couple of years and is an avid grower of DAHLIAS and is trying glads this year for the first time. Last year for a novice, she got several FIRSTS and SECTION CHAMPS for her dahlia entries. Anne has just returned from Australia and New Zealand where she attended and judged at their annual shows. Talk about commitment!

Her history is one of great expertise in dealing with groups and delegating duties. I will shadow her for the first year to make sure she is more than successful as there is a fair amount of information to learn. We hope to have a new Treasurer very soon also as Denise Russell has a very busy job and is unable to carry on with doing the job for the club.

Our tuber sale is on April 29, 2017 open mall hours and our show is on August 26 - 27, 2017 also at Country Club Centre, 3200 Island Hwy. Nanaimo BC.

The flowers of the year are a single of Megan Willow, an introduction of Jim Gilchrist, one of our most experienced members. The triple flower of the show will be Lyn's Louise, an introduction of Bob and Linda Sampson, past members of our club. The glad of the show will be, Raymond C, introduced by the late Raymond Charlebois of the Canadian Glad Society.



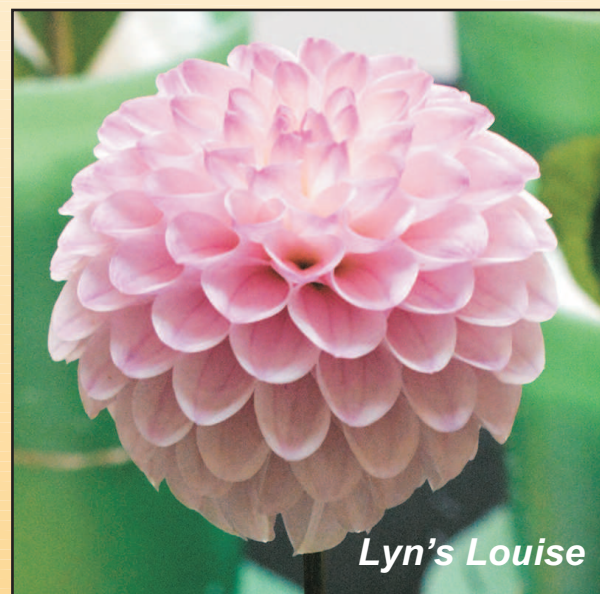
We would love to see visitors from the US come to our beautiful island where we grow the best DAHLIAS AND GLADS. See you here!

Victoria Dahlia Society by Ryan Barry

The Victoria Dahlia Society will hold a tuber sale which is fast approaching: Saturday April 8, 2017 at the Knox Presbyterian Church Hall, 2964 Richmond Road, Victoria. The doors open to the public at 9:30am.

The 71st Annual Show will be held August 18 & 19, 2017 at the Prospect Lake Community Hall, 5358 Sparton Road. Staging of entries will begin Friday evening, August 17, as well as Saturday morning. The show is open to the public Saturday afternoon, and on Sunday in conjunction with the Prospect Lake District Community Association's annual BBQ (you can join the association for a small fee and enjoy the BBQ that day).

The Flowers of the Year are a single entry of Megan Willow (BB LC FL) and a triple entry of Lyn's Louise (MIN FD LB). Details for entries will be published in the late Spring in our show catalogue, on our website, or available by mail by request.





Wild Rivers Dahlia Society Gold Beach, Oregon by Bob Chibante

Wild Rivers Dahlia Society is looking forward to some of that forecasted sunshine! Things are way behind on the coast. My rain gauge has gone over the 150-inch mark for Gold Beach. Guess it beats snow!

Things in Ferndale, Ca are moving along. There seems to be a lot of interest there. Every time we meet there are new faces in attendance. Meetings are being increased to every other month. The current goal is to move ahead with a demonstration show. This will be in the same format as we started with the Wild Rivers Dahlia Society. We shall have horticulture, design, and baskets. This will give the novices the opportunity to practice showmanship skills. No judging at this point.

We would like to announce that John Wrightson has become a candidate judge. Hopefully our show schedule will be ready soon. We are in the process of making changes. This year we will have a separate arrangement book. Additionally, the design entry forms will be different. It will have an artist conception remark section. It will also, be divided into arrangements and displays. While blooms are awesome, arrangements and baskets really step up the show for the public. There will be a public display section for the same. This will be other garden clubs and professional invites. The hope is to give them insight to the dahlia culture.

As for our 2017 show, here are the details. It will be at the Event Center on the Beach during the Labor Day weekend, Sept 2nd and 3rd. The Bloom of the Year this season will be Fancy Pants. This is to honor its selection as the winner of the Stanley Johnson award and it's hybridizer our own Kathy Iler. Since this has been at many of our PNDC shows, there should be plenty out there. We look forward to seeing you there. For lodging info contact Pacific Vacation Rentals or the Gold Beach Visitors center.

2017 PNDC Dahlia Show Dates

Including Show Flowers

Nanaimo Dahlia Society

August 26-27

Country Club Mall, Nanaimo, CN

Megan Willow (BB LC FL)

Lyn's Louise (M FD LB)

Portland Dahlia Society

August 26-27 (PNDC SHOW)

Dance Pavilion at Oaks Amusement Park,
Portland

Parkland Rave (BB SC PR)

Wild River Dahlia Society

September 2-3

Event Center on the Beach, Gold Beach
Fancy Pants (OT LV)

Victoria Dahlia Society

September 9-10

Prospect Lake Community Hall, Victoria, CN

Megan Willow (BB LC FL)

Lyn's Louise (M FD LB)

Lane County Dahlia Society

September 16-17,

Wheeler Pavilion, Lane Events Center, Eugene
River's Purple Pinwheel ST PR

Douglas County Dahlia Society

September 23-24,

Douglas County Fairgrounds, Roseburg

Toy Boy M FD Rd

ADS National Show

2017 Sept. 7th - 11th

Host: Central States Dahlia Society
Chicago Botanic Garden & Renaissance
North Shore Hotel
Northbrook, IL



Scope of ADS involves everyone, including you!

By Mark Oldenkamp, ADS 2nd Vice President

As an officer of ADS, I participate in regular communication with other ADS leadership. The various committee chairs report on the activities of their area of responsibility as they conduct the work they have volunteered to handle. The key is we have lots of volunteers that help all the various work areas get done. Take a look in the front of the Bulletin and they are all listed with contact information.

As members affiliated through the PNDC or a member club we are the benefactors of this work. The membership processing results in mailing labels that are provided so we can receive our quarterly Bulletin. The classification team compiles the many show reports and provides us the annual Classification Handbook with winning varieties. This includes many new entries from the Trial Gardens and Seedling Bench competitions. The image library is put together so we can see visual images of the new dahlias that many clubs use for program material. Judges training and certification is no small task. We have very affordable insurance available through ADS that most clubs need to have.

We have a volunteer that helps to make sure we have host societies for the annual National Shows. Publicity, research, garden dahlias and photography are others areas and there are more.

Each leader, each club and each member has their place in ADS. While we celebrate the diversity of the dahlias that bring us together, whether for show or just for the garden, the people of our dahlia world are what it is about. I encourage us to cherish the relationships with the people as we share the flower. I believe there are many in our dahlia circles that are willing to take on some of the work. I hope that each club, whether long standing or rather new,

will look for ways that each member can participate or contribute. This is more than just attending, but how they can get involved. Recognizing that our society is changing very quickly with increasing choices to invest our limited time, we must also be mindful that being able to adapt to new ways of doing things is necessary for survival. I encourage the leadership of all ADS clubs and especially those in the PNDC to self-evaluate what we are doing and how this strengthens the potential bonds with new members that are critical for future success. Be open to new thoughts and please share your successes with our other affiliated clubs.

For many years, the ADS leadership has met annually to discuss future direction for ADS. This meeting is generally held in the spring and has been hosted in different areas of the country so more of our members can have the opportunity to participate.

This year the meeting is the end of March in Leesburg, VA. Maybe we will be able to host this meeting in our area in the near future so it will be easier for PNDC members to participate.

One of the significant topics being discussed at this planning meeting is the organizational structure of ADS which, if affirmed, will require some updates to the bylaws. Additionally, all the committee work areas contribute ideas, suggestions and updates at these meetings. I have been able to attend several of these and find the time together valuable in building relationships and furthering the important work of the ADS. If you have the interest in participating in any of the work areas of the ADS and would like to discuss how you could volunteer, please let me know so we can discuss this further.

All thoughts and comments are welcome at any time.

2017 Testing cost of G-1 Tubers lowered by Ron Miner

Dear 2016 Virus Testing Participants,

As a consequence of another donation by Jim Chuey and the Scheetz-Chuey Foundation and the cooperation and support of Professor Hanu Pappu at WSU, we are delighted to announce that your 2017 plants that are grown from tubers that were free of virus in 2016 ("G1 Tubers") can be tested for virus in 2017 at **no charge** to you! We are still in the process of working out the details of the project and you will get additional information in the near future. You will need to provide the 2016 sample number and the name of the cultivar tested in order to qualify for free testing.

The reason for this message is to make sure that you **retain the identity of those G1 tubers** as you get them out of storage and that you keep careful track of the plants from the "G1" tubers as you prepare them for planting. If you submitted tubers from a group of growers, please make sure that each of those other growers know about this plan. Thanks!

ADS Virus Team: Ron Miner, Brad Freeman, Nick Weber, Jerry Moreno, and Linda Taylor



A Glance at 2017 Portland Meeting Topics by Ted J. Kennedy

The Portland Dahlia Society believes that each meeting is an opportunity to discuss all things dahlias related. We place these topics on our meeting agenda before any "boring business topics". Here is a list of what we are doing in 2017. More details on our website: Portlanddahlia.com

A Annual Spring Garden Fair in Canby May 6th & 7th
Arranging Prize-Winning Baskets
Adjust for results of soil test, cover crop
Arranging Demonstration by Gordon Jackman

B Beginners' Class – How to Stage, Choosing Containers
BYO clumps for experts to divide

C Cuttings Demo & Hands-On
Conditioning Cut Dahlias
Container exchange – Bring your extras

D Discussion of tubers difficult to store/start
Dahlias as Cut Flowers (Good Varieties for Cutting)
Dahlia Shows & Staging
Digging, Dividing & Storing
Demonstration & Hands-On - How to Divide Tubers
Discussion of Tubers Difficult to Store

E Elect Flower of the Year for 2019

F Free mixed dahlia seed – bring blooms to October Meeting
Fertilizer Discussion
Floral foam available

H How to Enter a Photo Competition
Holiday Potluck Dinner

J Judges' Training -
Judging in the Trial Garden – class before potluck

M Mini-Show, open to all, cash prizes

O Other shows in the PNW to be publicized

P Pest, Weed & Disease Control Panel
Plant Sale Silent Auction
Planting, Staking & Tying
Portland Dahlia Society Annual Show
Potluck at Swan Island Dahlias
Presentation & Q&A by Nick Gitts Jr.

S Soil testing
Slug control
Slideshow of New Introductions for 2017
Suggestions for bulk purchases through club.
Starting Tubers & Seeds, Taking Cuttings

Saving Seeds & Breeding Dahlias
Slug control now to reduce numbers
Special Seedling Competition – cash prizes

T Tuber Silent Auction
Tuber Sale & Tuber Auction April 11th
Tuber & Plant Silent Auction
Transporting Show Blooms, How to Enter a Show
Tuber Clump Silent Auction

W Watering Dahlias, Mulching & Shading

ADS Image Library

by Claudia Biggs

The ADS Image Library has been busy this past couple of months with requests for the 2017 ADS New Introductions. You can order this program on the ADS web site. There are two versions: an automated program only for \$13 or a deluxe version that includes a second DVD of low resolution photos only for \$20. View this DVD with your dahlia group and enjoy the oohs and ahhs of seeing the latest ADS dahlia introductions in living color!

In Memory of Terry Woodward

April 14, 1943 - March 15, 2017

A celebration of life for Terry Leon Woodward, 73, of Coos Bay, OR, was held at 11 am, March 25. Terry was born April 14, 1943, in Vancouver WA to Glen and Laurel Woodward. He died March 15, 2017 in Reedsport. He moved to Coquille in 1950 and married Marie Paulette Swenson Dec. 23, 1966. Terry worked for 27 years as a mechanic for the City of Coos Bay. He was active in the AFSCME Union and served as a representative on the union's state board. Terry was very active with the Southern Oregon Dahlia Society, along with his wife, Paulette and was involved with setting up the annual dahlia show. He helped organize and set-up their annual tuber sale. He enjoyed helping in the garden, tilling and planting the 300 plus dahlias, and digging their tuber clumps in the fall.

Terry is survived by his wife Marie (Paulette) of Coos Bay, son Terance Woodward of Coos Bay, daughter Teresa Woodward of Portland, sister Becky Gasner of Roseburg, one nephew, 2 nieces, and extended family.

Fertilizing Dahliasby Ted J. Kennedy

There is a very common question that we hear from novice gardeners: "What is the best fertilizer for dahlias?"

Nearly all fertilizers that are balanced will work to fertilize dahlias, if added to the soil at the right time and in the correct amounts. But there is a mystique about fertilizer that there are some that are better than others and some that may actually hurt your plants. And there is that mystical product that is better than all others, that contains secret ingredients gathered from exotic sources and is guaranteed to grow plants bigger, taller and better than all others. Very doubtful.

Fertilizer use is now divided into two philosophies and when you talk of fertilizer you need to address the organic gardener and the gardener who is not so organic. I hope that everyone recognizes that good gardening practices are no longer confined to one camp or the other. Nearly everyone appreciates and believes in many of the tenets of organic gardening. However, many people still believe that judicious use of chemical fertilizer is acceptable. All gardeners have to make sure that there is enough of the big three nutrients (NPK, Nitrogen, Phosphorous and Potassium) available to our dahlias.

Getting back the original question from that novice gardener, what is the best fertilizer? People like simple answers. When you put the word "best" in there, that implies that cost is not an issue. For the not so organic gardener, Osmocote 14-14-14 time release is the Cadillac of fertilizer for dahlias. It is available in very many places and is expensive. The patent on it ran out and there are other versions of it out there including Apex Nursery Supreme 14-14-14 and Haifa Multi Cote that use the same process to encapsulate fertilizer. These products are available only in 50 pound bags at a cost of about \$70.00. Why is Osmocote the best? Because it releases all the fertilizer components (and minors) evenly over a 60-90 day time frame. You

pay a lot of money for the convenience of fertilizing only once or twice over the season. At the Canby Trial garden we use Haifa Multicote time release as our fertilizer. We use one tablespoon per plant upon planting and another tablespoon 30 days later and final dose of ½ tablespoon around August 1st.

It is not so simple for the organic gardener. They almost never use one thing on their garden and to limit them to one product would not be realistic. Having said that, I believe that nearly everyone would agree that chicken manure that comes dried in a powder type form in 25 pound plastic bags is one of the best for adding fertilizer to the garden. The brand available in the Portland area is Stutzman Farms. Over the years, I have heard more recommendations for chicken manure for dahlias than any other organic product. It is a fairly balanced fertilizer and the NPK is 3-2-2. If this is the only source of fertilizer for your dahlias, the dosage would be as much as 10 tablespoons per plant and most people would recommend adding half of the fertilizer at least a week or two before planting the dahlias and using the rest as side dressing throughout the season and quitting about August 1st. The product has sawdust mixed with it and it is naturally a somewhat slow release product and not nearly as concentrated as chicken manure from your barnyard. One caveat about chicken manure: It smells bad, after all it is manure. The smell is temporary but during application, the smell is definitely an issue.

I remember attending a lecture about fertilizing show dahlias and they had five people describe how they fertilized their dahlias. They were all very different but one theme in common for the majority of them was that they used Osmocote pellets along with their organic and inorganic fertilizers.

Now you have my opinion on the "best" fertilizer but if you are an experienced gardener you know that this is a very simple answer to a very complicated question.

Discover a unique flower farm ... by Ted Kennedy

It is one thing to have a successful cut flower farm (featuring dahlias), to have a website where you sell dahlia tubers among many other things but writing a book and having successful seminars and then to be recognized in the New York Times also!!!!

"One of the superstars of this movement, the Skagit Valley-based flower farmer Erin Benzakein, of — whose upcoming classes sold out just minutes after she posted them and whose book, "The Flower Farm," out this month, had the highest presale numbers her publisher has ever seen — is responsible for inspiring a burgeoning generation to change their lives and take up farming. "Women fall to their knees crying in her workshops," says the Brooklyn-based florist-turned-farmer Sarah Ryhanen of , another leader in the movement. Benzakein's popularity, and the growing obsession with picking up the spade or the secateurs, taps into what Ryhanen sees as a deep

longing for a connection to the natural world. As she explains it, Homo sapiens have only been living apart from the earth for less than five generations, and the detachment from it is becoming stressful. "For 500 generations, we farmed the land," Ryhanen says, "and for thousands of generations before that, we were hunter-gatherers. Imprinted in our brains is a real desire for nature, and it's causing anxiety."

Link to the entire article:

https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/20/t-magazine/traditional-floral-bouquets.html?_r=0

There is no doubt that there is a vast increase in people who are growing dahlias for cut flowers. As I have said many times, the American Dahlia Society needs to recognize this fact and support them.