



SHOWTIME

OHA JUDGING COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER VOLUME 6 - Sept 22

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JUDGES' REMINDER

From the OHA Judges' Registrar

Fall has arrived with its lovely colour and cooler weather for gardening. As we think about wrapping up another gardening season here are a few things to keep in mind.

If you have changed your email or phone number it is very important that you please send an email to ohajudges@gmail.com so that our Registrar Sharon Nivins can keep the Judges list up to date on the web site.

New dates for Judges Virtual Updates are September 27 for a Horticulture focused session on Dahlias and October 25 a Design session on working with Agri-wool and a demo on Transparency Designs. An email was sent out earlier this month with the Zoom link to register for the first session. Sign up soon as we are limited to 100 spots and already have 72 registered. Watch for the email to register for the October update, coming soon.

OHA JUDGING COMMITTEE JUDGES' QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question: Where do you find the forms for keeping track of updates, seminars, demonstrations, etc.?

Answer: *A. You can keep track on the OHA Judges Recertification Form that's available on the web. Go to the Show Page, scroll down to Judging Forms and applications and click on the blue link. Or start a document that you track the dates and topic sessions covered. You can then cut and paste the information onto the form later. If you are up for renewal, a renewal form will get sent to you by the Registrar in Feb or March 2023 with the renewal deadline date of April 30. If you are not renewing and retiring from Judging, please send an email to Sharon so that she can take you off the list. We strive to keep the list as up to date as possible.*

Question: **Our Flower Show committee has a question regarding payment to our judge and are wondering if you could offer any suggestions. We live in a rural area and many of the OHA judges are also OAAS judges. The OAAS district we are in is paying their judges a flat fee plus mileage. Being in a rural area, judges do have to travel a distance sometimes. This is not something our society has ever done; we pay our judges a flat fee of \$100.00. Our question is, are there any guidelines from the OHA regarding this matter. We know that it is not covered in OJES, only that a fee is to be agreed upon when hiring the judge.**

Answer: *OHA does not have guidelines for fees. It is left up to individual Societies to determine what they want or can afford to spend. Key is that it be agreed upon at the time of the invitation (see OJES page 10). Consideration should be given to including travel costs in addition to a judging fee. Cost of travel is significant and often a judge is coming from a distance of a one to two hour drive. In saying this a fee of \$100 would not be out of line.*

Exploring New Designs in OJES 2019

Article and photos credit: Kathryn Lindsay, OHA Judging Committee/OHA District 2
From the OHA District 2 Judges Update on May 14, 2022

Convenors: Madeline Archer (Perth HS) and Anne Harbord (D2 District Director/
Manotick HS)

The Judges Update was attended by 18 OHA certified judges and then five others
joined in for the design demonstration.

Trudy Grantham (GCO accredited Judge in Design & RBG accredited Judge in
Horticulture) demonstrated five new floral designs from the Ontario Judging and
Exhibiting Standards for Floral Design and Horticulture (Second Edition 2019):

1. Mono-botanic (p. 145): A design using multiple
parts of a plant(s) of one botanical family, genus
or species. Plant parts may be stems, bloom(s),
foliage, roots, fruits, etc.



2. Op Art (p. 146): An
abstract design having
implied visual motion
therefore considered
a Kinetic design. Plant material combines with objects,
graphic art, posters, etc., that create optical illusions. The
illusory material must be integrated into the design or
must relate to the floral design in colour, texture, degree
of abstraction, etc., so the overall composition is unified.



3. Stretch (p. 153): A
design in two units,
one smaller than the

other, having a prominent component connecting
the two units which is referred as the “stretch
component.” The stretch component must imply
a stretching force. The overall appearance should
be of two parts of a whole being forcefully pulled
apart.



4. Tapestry (p. 153): A solid mass design with geometric closed silhouette(s). Plant material must predominate. Imaginative design technique(s) and applications must be used e.g., pillowing, pavé, colour blocking, bunching, weaving, etc. Inner space is achieved by overlapping planes and/or other components, by grouping of like colours, texture, and forms, and/or by juxtaposing contrasting groupings or other components.



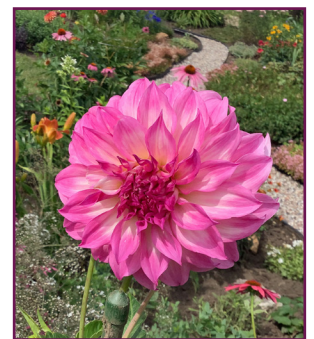
5. Transparency (p. 154): A design including see-through material(s) that permits some components to be viewed through others. The see-through material(s) may be transparent, translucent, diaphanous, open grid or mesh and may be plant, plant-based or man-made materials. Depth is emphasized by positioning some solid materials in front of and some behind the see-through materials(s).



Growing Beautiful Dahlias Year After Year

Credit to Helen Halpenny (edited and photos by Linda Bartlett)

Dahlias, those diverse brightly coloured blooms grown from tubers, are making a huge comeback in the plant world. There are varieties barely 30 cm (12”) tall and others that tower to two meters (7 feet). The blossom colours range from white to yellow, orange, red, pink to purple and all sorts of combinations. The foliage, too, may be green, bronze or almost chocolate brown. Some dahlias have blooms the size of dinner plates, and some are round as baseballs. Well-grown plants will reward the grower with blooms from mid-summer until frost. Full sun and soil that is well-draining and rich are necessary.



Dahlia Colorado Classic is a floriferous variety



Dahlia Linda's Baby has stunning ball-shaped blooms

Dahlias are considered tender perennials which means that they can return each year as long as they aren't exposed to frost. Therefore, we grow new plants from tubers that have been stored in a frost-free area over winter. Chunks of stored tubers are planted in spring when the soil temperature gets above 13°C (55°F). The tubers must contain an “eye” to produce a plant, and they are planted in a hole about 15 cm (6”) deep. Taller growing plants will need to be staked, which is easiest to do at planting time. Low bushy varieties will benefit from pinching out the growing tips of

the stems when they are about 45 cm (18") tall to make the plant grow stout and floriferous. A continuous supply of water is a must. Some dahlias can be grown from seed, and most can be grown from cuttings.



Dahlia Daisy Duke is a decorative dahlia which blooms early and keeps going late into the Fall.

Dahlias will reward you with continuous colour in the garden, and they are also prized as cut flowers. It is best to cut dahlias when in full bloom. When picked, prick a hole using a straight pin into the neck of the stem to prevent air blockage. Place stems in three or four inches of hot water and let water cool for a couple of hours before arranging them in a vase. The blooms should last for a week. To get larger blooms, disbud the side buds on a stem leaving just one bud. This will receive all the nutrients and result in a larger blossom.



A cluster of tubers dug up from one plant after a killing frost.

After a killing frost has blackened the foliage in fall, cut the stalks to about four inches and carefully dig the tuber for minimum damage. The original tuber you planted in the spring will have grown into a cluster of tubers. Let the bunches dry for a day or two (soil can be washed off gently before drying). Check the tubers for insect or disease damage and rot. Discard any that are damaged. To label each tuber, use a black marker and write on the tuber. Then store the tubers in peat moss, dry leaves or vermiculite in a box or bag in a cool basement over winter. The medium should be barely damp. If the tubers get too moist, they will rot. If they are too dry, they will shrivel and die.



Dahlia tubers on the ground, sprouting. Eye of a dahlia tuber with a shoot - ready for spring planting.

In spring, the tubers can be divided by carefully cutting apart the cluster, making sure that every section includes at least one "eye." These are buds from which new growth will sprout. They look like little pink points. Expect to have five or more plants for every tuber started the previous spring.

Dahlia fanciers, namely the American Dahlia Society, have named each form of flower. These include Anemone, Ball, Collarette, Formal Decorative, Incurved Cactus, Informal Decorative, Laciniated, Miniature Ball, Mignon Single, Novelty Open,

Novelty Fully Double, Orchid, Peony, Pompon, Semi Cactus, Single, Stellar, Straight Cactus, and Waterlily. As an added note, there is a new form being evaluated called "Micro" which will be up to 2" in diameter, and will more than likely be added to the list within the next year or so. All gardeners can enjoy growing these easy and rewarding flowers. The hardest decision is which kind and colour to choose.

EDITOR'S MESSAGE

I hope you have enjoyed the sixth edition of the SHOWTIME newsletter. Each newsletter edition will include a horticulture article and a design article as well as Judges Q&A.

We will aim to issue four newsletters per year, so if you have any suggestions for articles for our newsletters, please send them by email to: ohajudges@gmail.com.