

Celebrating 74 Years

of Growing and Showing Dahlias



1952-2026

Show Booklet

September 5 & 6, 2026

Orchard Mall
6445 Orchard Lake Rd.
West Bloomfield, MI

Revised 20260728

2026 OFFICERS & SHOW COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT:	Lucy Propst
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Sherree Kneller
SECRETARY:	Elyse Swenson
NEWSLETTER:	Sherree Kneller
TREASURER:	Pam Lewis
MEMBERSHIP:	Renee Lower
SHOW CHAIRMAN:	Keith Berven
ADS REPRESENTATIVE:	Keith Berven
TRUSTEES:	Gary Polenychko, Russell Propst, Keith Berven, Sandy Nolan, Roger Slykehouse

FLOWER OF THE YEAR – Bloomquist Jean

SHOW SCHEDULE

Friday, September 4	
3:00 pm	Set-Up
5:00 pm–11:00 pm	Staging
Saturday, September 5	
6:00 am – 9:30 am	Staging
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Judge/Clerk Orientation
10:00 am – 1:00 pm	Judging
1:00 pm – 9:30 pm	Open to the Public
Sunday, September 6	
9:00 am – 3:00 pm	Open to the Public
3:00 pm –	Clean-Up

SHOW RULES

1. To compete for a trophy or medal a person must be a member of the Southeastern Michigan Dahlia Society prior to the judging. An exhibitor who is not a member of SEMDS but is a member of a recognized Dahlia Society or an affiliated group may receive a nominal cash prize in lieu of any trophy or medal which might be won. An exhibitor may complete SEMDS membership registration (\$10) upon check in at show.
2. Each exhibitor must first register with the clerk and receive an exhibitor's number to be used on all their entry tags.
 - a. Entry tags (standard Midwest Dahlia Conference Show tags only)
 - b. Must be completely filled out by the exhibitor
 - i. using black or blue ink or adhesive labels
 - ii. no pencil
 - iii. placed when exhibits are staged

- c. The exhibitor's name, number or any means of identification must be sealed until after the judging.
 - d. Include the correct "Section" on all entry tags
- 3. Unclassified dahlias must be on the classification table by 9:00 am. The show committee will make a decision and write upon the entry tag the proper class for that entry. The judges will abide by those decisions. The classifier will initial the entry tag: the exhibitor will then be responsible for placing their entry on the proper table. (ADS Classified cultivars preferred. Save those unclassified beauties your bouquets and arrangements.)
- 4. All entries must be made and placed by 9:30 am on the first day of the show, after which time they shall be under the exclusive charge of the Show Committee. No exhibit shall be removed before 3 pm on the final day of the show. The building will be open to exhibitors at 6:00 am. All blooms shall be the property of the committee, to be disposed of at their discretion after the show.
- 5. Each exhibitor shall select the classification:
 - a. **Novice**
 - i. Anyone exhibiting dahlias for the first time
 - ii. Novices must show all of their single blooms in the Novice Section.
 - iii. New exhibitors can exhibit in this category for three consecutive years
 - b. **Small Grower:**
 - i. Exhibitors growing 1 – 150 dahlias
 - c. **Large Grower:**
 - i. Exhibitors growing 151 or more dahlias
 - ii. Commercial growers growing any number of dahlias
 - iii. Exhibitors growing all or some under cloth or lath
- 6. A Commercial Exhibitor or Large Grower may enter only in the Open Sections (Sections D, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, R, S, Y)
- 7. An exhibitor having a cloth or lath enclosure must exhibit all of their blooms in the Open Section even though some of their blooms were grown in a non-shaded area.
- 8. An exhibitor may make as many entries as he/she desires in any class in which he/she is entitled to exhibit, provided all the blooms have been grown by him/her in their own garden. Blooms in the Arrangement Division are exempt from this ruling and may not necessarily have been grown by the exhibitor.
- 9. Standard containers shall be furnished for specimen blooms. Exhibitors must furnish containers for entries in those classes requiring vases, bowls, and baskets and for classes to be judged for artistic effect.
- 10. Wiring of stems, or artificial support of stems or blooms above the container is prohibited. Wedges are permitted but cannot exceed ½" above the container.

11. Meritorious exhibits, not otherwise provided for, will be appropriately recognized.
12. All blooms must be disbudded.
13. Stems on specimen blooms should be in proportion to the size of the bloom and must show at least one pair of leaves above the container. The top of the bloom must not exceed 36" above the tabletop.
14. Buds showing color shall be counted as blooms when the number of blooms is specified.
15. The latest ADS Classification Listing shall be used in judging and by exhibitors.
16. ADS ruling (1971): Every bloom must be entered on the show table as officially classified, including under and over-sized blooms. This applies to all classes. To illustrate: A "BB" size variety that is grown under 4" or over 6 "must be entered in the "BB" class. Regardless of size, a bloom must be entered as officially classified.
17. The proper section and class of each entry shall be recorded by number and letter on its entry tag. With the exceptions of arrangements and bouquets, the variety, name and/or number of an un-disseminated flower must be recorded on the entry tag. An entry shall not be judged where this rule is violated.
18. The Show Committee shall attempt to catch misplaced entries (color or type) and will reclassify them, if possible, before judging. If possible, the Show Committee will notify the exhibitor to correct the error before the judging begins.
19. The Show Committee will make arrangements to relocate exhibits for a more even distribution before judging. No class numbers will be removed from the tables where there are no apparent entries, but will be arranged to consolidate space.
20. The Show Committee reserves the right to remove from display any unworthy or improperly displayed exhibit.
21. The Show Committee will not be responsible for loss or damage to exhibits or personal property of exhibitors but will exercise utmost care for protection of all exhibits.
22. During judging, no person shall be on the floor except judges and necessary clerks. All others will be asked to leave the floor.
23. The decisions of judges shall be final unless the Show Committee requests a re-judging.
24. Blooms competing for Special Awards shall be Blue Ribbon winners.
25. The awards schedule will show the sections where sweepstakes will be awarded.

26. In counting points for Sweepstakes, the scoring shall be as follows:

	One Bloom	Three Blooms	Five Blooms	Seven Blooms
1 ST	3 points	5 points	7 points	10 points
2 ND	2 points	4 points	6 points	8 points
3 RD	1 point	3 points	5 points	6 points

	Arrangements / Bouquets	Specials	Largest Bloom in Show
1 ST	7 points	3 points	3 points
2 ND	6 points		
3 RD	5 points		

27. In case of a tie for the sweepstakes, the exhibitor with the larger number of Special Awards in that section will be declared the Sweepstakes winner.

28. All blooms become the property of the Society and no blooms may be sold or given away during the show. No blooms may be removed from the show except with the consent of the Show Committee.

29. The Show Committee reserves the right to change or modify any of the rules if deemed expedient.

30. Class numbers in all sections shall consist of four digits (see chart below). The first digit indicates the size (0-5) or type (60-97), the second form (0-5), and the third two-digit number (01-15) color.

KEY TO CLASS NUMBERS

TABLE 1 – Sized Dahlias

SIZE	1 ST #	FORM	2 ND #
AA	0	FD	0
A	1	ID	1
B	2	SC	2
BB	3	C	3
M	4	IC	4
MC	5	LC	5

Table 2 – Other Forms		
FORM		1 st & 2 nd
BA	Ball	60
MB	Miniature Ball	61
P	Pompon	62
ST	Stellar	70
MST	Micro Stellar	71
WL	Waterlily	73
MWL	Micro Waterlily	74
NX	Novelty Fully Double	76
MX	Micro Novelty Fully Double	77
PE	Peony	80
MPE	Micro Peony	81
AN	Anemone	82
MAN	Micro Anemone	83
NO	Novelty Open	86
MNO	Micro Novelty Open	87
CO	Collarette	90
MCO	Micro Collarette	91
O	Orchid	92
MO	Micro Orchid	93
OT	Orchette	94
MOT	Micro Orchette	95
S	Single	96
MS	Mignon Single	97

Table 3 – Color	
COLOR	Last 2 #'s
White	01
Yellow	02
Orange	03
Pink	04
Dark Pink	05
Red	06
Dark Red	07
Lavender	08
Purple	09
Light Blend	10
Bronze	11
Flame	12
Dark Blend	13
Variegated	14
Bi-Color	15

EXHIBITION SECTIONS

Section

		Section Class (Flower Identification number from the ADS Classification Guide) Name of the Flower Name of exhibitor on the entry card											
A	Novice Grower One Bloom	AA	A	B	BB	M							
B	Small Grower One Bloom	AA	A	B	BB	M							
D	Large Grower One Bloom	AA	A	B	BB	M							
F	Open to Small / Large Grower One Bloom	BA MB	P	ST	WL	NX	PE	AN	NO	CO	O	OT	S
F-N	Novice Grower One Bloom	BA MB	P	ST	WL	NX	PE	AN	NO	CO	O	OT	S
G	Open to All Three Blooms One Variety	AA	A	B	BB								
H	Open to All Three Blooms One Variety					M	BA MB	P	ST WL	NX PE	AN NO	CO O	OT S
J	Open to All Five Blooms One Variety	AA	A										
K	Open to All Five Blooms One Variety			B	BB	M							
L	Open to All Five Blooms One Variety						BA MB	P	ST WL	NX PE	AN NO	CO O	OT S
	Micros and Mignons (M)												
M- Novice	Novice Micros and Mignons One Bloom	MC		MST	MWL	MNX	MPE	MAN	MNO	MCO	MO	MOT	MS
M- Open	Open to All Micros and Mignons One Bloom	MC		MST	MWL	MNX	MPE	MAN	MNO	MCO	MO	MOT	MS
M-3	Open to All Micros and Mignons Three Blooms One Variety	MC		MST	MWL	MNX	MPE	MAN	MNO	MCO	MO	MOT	MS

M-5	Open to All Micros and Mignons Five Blooms One Variety	MC		MST	MWL	MNX	MPE	MAN	MNO	MCO	MO	MOT	MS
O	Arrangements	Dahlias must be the main flower. Exhibitor can use their own container/vase. Filler material is allowed. Arrangement must be visually pleasing from the front and both sides. Flowers do not have to be grown by the exhibitor. ADS classified and non-classified blooms allowed.											
O-1		O-1 America's 250 – a red, white and blue dominate the arrangement. Perhaps include American symbolism/motifs.											
O-2		O-2 Ombre – An arrangement that creates a smooth gradient of color that moves from light to dark, adding drama, depth, and a sense of movement to any space.											
O-3		O-3 Basket – A decorative display of flowers and greenery arranged in a basket.											
P	Dinner Plate One Bloom	AA	A	A dahlia that has a broken stem, missing two-pair of leaves or has a blown center that is shown in a pie plate (only the bloom)									
R	Bouquet	All blooms and foliage must be from the Dahlia. No filler allowed. Vase must be provided by the exhibitor. Bouquet must be visually pleasing from all sides (360 degree) and include good quality blooms (example: blown center will NOT disqualify, wilted bloom will result in a lower score)											
S	Open to All Seven Blooms All Different Varieties One Container			B									
Y	Flower of the Year Bloomquist Jean			B									
	Open to All Seedlings (N)												
N1	First year Seedling	First year seedling displayed as a single bloom. The dahlia is grown from seed this current year only. Blue ribbons are awarded to worthy entry.											
N2	Second Year Seedling	Dahlias grown from seed last year only may be entered in this section. Second year seedling is displayed with two blooms. Any exhibitor entering a bloom originated by another grower must list the name of the originator on the entry tag and his own name as grower. Blue ribbons will be awarded only to those entries considered worthy!											

ADS	Third Year Seedling	Dahlias grown from seed two or more years ago may be entered in this section. Three blooms of a given variety must be entered. Official ADS tags must be used. American Dahlia Society Seedling Bench Evaluation, 1992. Offered in cooperation with the American Dahlia Society. Open to all exhibitors: Show officials and exhibitors must adhere to the rules for entries and judging as printed in the ADS Classification and Handbook of Dahlias. ADS Seedling Award Ribbon and ADS Achievement Ribbon will be awarded to worthy entries.
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SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

COURT OF HONOR *****MOST OUTSTANDING*****

Single Blooms:

Section A Largest Single Bloom
Section B Largest Single Bloom
Section D Largest Single Bloom

Section A AA
Section A A
Section A B
Section A BB
Section A Miniature

Section B AA
Section B A
Section B B
Section B BB
Section B Miniature

Section D AA
Section D A
Section D B
Section D BB
Section D Miniature

Section F Ball
Section F Miniature Ball
Section F Pompon
Section F Stellar
Section F Waterlily
Section F Novelty Fully Double
Section F Peony
Section F Anemone
Section F Novelty Open
Section F Collarette
Section F Orchid
Section F Orchette

Section F Stellar
Section F Single

Section F-N Ball
Section F-N Miniature Ball
Section F-N Pompon
Section F-N Stellar
Section F-N Waterlily
Section F-N Novelty Fully Double
Section F-N Peony
Section F-N Anemone
Section F-N Novelty Open
Section F-N Collarette
Section F-N Orchid
Section F-N Orchette
Section F-N Stellar
Section F-N Single

Section M Micro
Section M Micro Stellar
Section M Micro Waterlily
Section M Micro Novelty Fully Double
Section M Micro Peony
Section M Micro Anemone
Section M Micro Novelty Open
Section M Micro Collarette
Section M Micro Orchid
Section M Micro Orchette
Section M Micro Stellar
Section M Mignon Single

Three Blooms Alike:

Section G	AA – Three Blooms Alike
Section G	A – Three Blooms Alike
Section G	B – Three Blooms Alike
Section G	BB – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Miniature – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Ball – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Miniature Ball – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Pompon – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Stellar – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Waterlily – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Novelty Fully Double – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Peony – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Anemone – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Novelty Open – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Collarette – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Orchid – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Orchette – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Stellar – Three Blooms Alike
Section H	Single – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Stellar – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Waterlily – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Novelty Fully Double – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Peony – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Anemone – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Novelty Open – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Collarette – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Orchid – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Orchette – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Stellar – Three Blooms Alike
Section M	Mignon Single – Three Blooms Alike

Five Blooms Alike:

Section J	AA – Five Blooms Alike
Section J	A – Five Blooms Alike
Section K	B – Five Blooms Alike
Section K	BB – Five Blooms Alike
Section K	Miniature – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Ball – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Miniature Ball – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Pompon – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Stellar – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Waterlily – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Novelty Fully Double – Five Blooms Alike

Section L	Peony – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Anemone – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Novelty Open – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Collarette – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Orchid – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Orchette – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Stellar – Five Blooms Alike
Section L	Single – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Stellar – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Waterlily – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Novelty Fully Double – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Peony – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Anemone – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Novelty Open – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Collarette – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Orchid – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Orchette – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Micro Stellar – Five Blooms Alike
Section M	Mignon Single – Five Blooms Alike

Other Categories:

Section N	ADS – Third Year Seedling
Section O-1	America's 250 Arrangement
Section O-2	Ombre Arrangement
Section O-3	Basket Arrangement
Section P	Largest Dinnerplate
Section R	Bouquet
Section S	7 B Blooms – All Different
Section Y	Flower of the Year

Court of Honor winners will be selected as follows:

Single Blooms

Size AA-M – 0001-0515

In judging AA through Miniature sections, judges are to judge each color class, and from all the blue ribbon entries in the section (i.e. 0001-0015) pick the best of the section.

This winner is then given a Special Award.

Judges then select the section winners of the five other sections of that size group (i.e. 0101-0115, 0201-0215, 0301-0315, 0401-0415, and 0501-0515).

Finally, up to six section winners may be available for selecting the best bloom of the size category (i.e. AAs). This winner gets a second Special Award and goes to the Court of Honor.

Forms Ball – Mignon Single – 6000-9715

In all other sections judges will judge to color class and then select the best entry of the blue ribbon winners in that section.

This entry is given a Special Award and sent to the Court of Honor. If there is only one blue ribbon entry in a Section, that entry will be given a Special Award and will be sent to the Court of Honor.

Multiple Blooms

Judges will judge the 3-Bloom and 5-Bloom entries from Sections G-L in an identical fashion to the single entries.

Exceptional blooms, at the discretion of the Show Committee, may be placed on the Honor Table.

SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

SECTION AWARDS

Section A – Novice

- Largest Bloom
- Sweepstakes

Section B – Small Grower

- Largest Bloom
- Sweepstakes

Section D – Large Grower

- Largest Bloom
- Sweepstakes

SHOW

- Sweepstakes Winner
- Largest Bloom in Show
- Flower of the Year

Orchard Mall: NE Intersection of Orchard Lake Rd & Maple Rd. (15 Mile Rd.)

