

THE MUM CHRONICLE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OLD DOMINION CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY

Rosemary Smith, Camilla Ng, Co-Presidents
Dorothy Pines, Editor

ODCS website: www.odcsmums.club

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Events Box:

Due to the current Pandemic situation, the Old Dominion Chrysanthemum Society is canceling the monthly meeting until further notice.

In this newsletter is instructional information “First Potting to Final Potting” by Ed Mascali. File attachments include Mums Feeding Schedule and a Membership Directory.

PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE

We hope everyone is staying well and safe, especially during this time.

We are so happy that we could bring you the King’s mums straight to your door this year! We believe this was the best we could do given the stay-at-home order for public health. We would like to give a special thanks to Brian Kanotz of Kings’ Mums. Brian has been extremely helpful in making this a success! One thing you might not know is Brian worked hard to make sure our mum cuttings arrived to us safely. All through the process, including packaging your order, he wore gloves as a precaution to minimize the spread of the coronavirus. Every little part help and we appreciate his thoughtful efforts.

Many of you have informed us that you have already received your mums and that they arrived in great condition. We love hearing that! If you have not received your mums yet, they should be coming the first week of May. So be on the look-out for them.

Once all the plants have been delivered to our members, we will process the refund for the plants that were canceled. We ask for everyone’s patience while we work through this detailed process.

JUST ANNOUNCED BY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Dan Schadler, President of the National Chrysanthemum Society (NCS), announced on April 27th that the 2020 National Convention and Show are cancelled. His message to the Board of Directors reads as follows:

“After extensive consultation, the officers of NCS have decided that, because of the situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, it is in the best interests of the National Chrysanthemum Society and its members that the National Convention and Show not be held this year. Reaching this decision was difficult. There is no assurance that the pandemic will have run its course by the fall. Members traveling long distances and spending many hours on airplanes, in airports or in close quarters in vehicles would be understandably concerned about attending. Prohibitions limiting the size of gatherings of people may still be in place. Holding the convention and staging, judging and welcoming the public to the show under such circumstances would be difficult, assuming that the public would visit at all. The Central Carolina Chrysanthemum Society has invested a large amount of time and effort in preparing for the show; they have agreed to host the show and convention in 2021 so in a way this is a postponement and not a full cancellation. The Durham Millennium Hotel has agreed to offer NCS the comparable weekend with no financial penalty. The Annual Membership Meeting and meetings of the Board of Directors will be in a virtual format. Details about the meetings will be in the September issue of *The Chrysanthemum*.”

While we are saddened by this announcement, it makes good sense for the health and safety of our members and the public. Start saving now so that you can attend in 2021. Durham, NC is just a drive away.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please save the dates for the following events, subject to later update.

July picnic

September 13th Meeting

October 11th Meeting

October 24th-25th ODCS Show at Merrifield Garden Center, Fairfax, VA

November 15th Annual Brunch

FROM FIRST POTTING TO FINAL POTTING

Ed Mascali is available to answer questions you may have on growing mums. You may email your questions to Ed Mascali at emascali1@yahoo.com. Please include your phone numbers in your email to Ed, so he could answer your questions over the phone.

Potting from Ed Mascali

First pot:

When the cutting's roots reach the sides of the Styrofoam cup, repot into a 6" x 6" pot with Promix. Water the pot thoroughly with 20-20-20 at one teaspoon/gallon of water.

Final pot:

When the roots reach the sides of the 6" pot, repot into a 2-gallon pot (9" diameter x 8 ½" deep). Use the following mix of soil:

3 parts Promix

2 parts Leafgro

1 part Pine Bark Mulch (fine)

Add 1 Tablespoon Dolomitic Limestone

Add 1 Tablespoon 5-10-5 granulated fertilizer (Osmocote)

Optional additive:

Dried cow manure ½ cup

Play sand ½ cup

Bio-Tone starter with mycorrhizae per the label.

The following instructional video demonstrate the potting up to 4 or 6-inch pots.
From Chrysanthemums in Aberdeen:

<http://www.chrysanthemums.info/year-in-pics/pot-on-from-container.htm>

Second potting from container

<https://www.espoma.com/espoma-videos/get-plants-off-to-a-good-start-with-bio-tone-starter-plus/>

<http://www.mums.org/video-gallery/>

<http://www.chrysanthemums.info/newhome/>

<http://www.ivormace.com/Chrysanthemums/Cultivation>

<https://www.soiltest.vt.edu/>

FERTILIZER

Since our Supply Order was canceled, an alternate fertilizer that we have good success with is Jack's Classic All Purpose 20-20-20, Jack's Fertilizer 9-45-15 Plant Starter, and Jack's Fertilizer 10-30-20 Blossom Booster. They are available at Target, garden centers or from Amazon.

GROWER'S HANDBOOK

New members who joined ODCS in 2020 should have received a package from the National Chrysanthemum Society (NCS) which includes a *Beginner's Handbook for New Growers of Chrysanthemum* (red cover, free with new membership) and the March 2020 NCS magazine *Chrysanthemum*. If you have not received the handbook and/or the magazine, please email Galen Goss at goss@verizon.net.

Galen also have copies of the *Beginner's Handbook* (\$10), the *Advanced Handbook* (\$10) and *Mums the Word* book by Pat Stockett Johnston (\$15) for sale. Please contact Galen.

CHRYSANTHEMUM AS FOODS

With stay-at-home order and food supply anxiety rising due to the pandemic, there is a revival of the Victory Gardens for home-grown vegetables. **Garland Chrysanthemum** greens (*Chrysanthemum Coronarium*), is known as Crown Daisy in England, Shingiku in Japan or Tong Ho in China, can be blanched in hotpot or broth, used in salad or in stir-fries like spinach. Garland Chrysanthemum greens is rich in chlorogenic acid, carotene, flavonoids, vitamins and potassium. This vegetable grows well in mild and cool weather in spring or fall in our area. To read more about the health benefits of Garland Chrysanthemum, click on this link below.

<https://www.healwithfood.org/health-benefits/garland-chrysanthemum-leaves.php#ixzz5yKanph5S>

You can purchase Garland Chrysanthemum seeds from nurseries online, such as the Wild Garden Seed <http://www.wildgardenseed.com/> and Underwood Gardens <https://underwoodgardens.com/>.

Chrysanthemum infused tea (Ju Hua cha) is made with dried yellow or white flowers or buds of *Chrysanthemum Morifolium*, *c. sinense*. Chrysanthemum Morifolium as potted plants are available online at several specialty nurseries, such as Strictly Medicinal Seeds <https://strictlymedicalseeds.com/> and Companion Plants <http://companionplants.com/>.



Cloisonné enamel ware in the Forbidden City painted with chrysanthemums.

EDITOR'S MUSING



I am working hard to keep the few mums I have alive. My hope is two or three of them will be Golden Rains. I have some promix, but will keep the plants indoors until after the last forecasted frost, around May 10th. I have had time to observe where the greatest amount of Sun falls throughout the day. It will be a challenging year for my garden, as I have spent very little time addressing the empty spaces as I try to follow the “stay inside” guidelines. Stay well.