



Bulletin

of the American Dahlia Society, Inc.

SECOND QUARTER

JUNE 2020

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"Caleb with Orange Crush" - by Calvin Cook



"Raleigh and Stryker at Grays Harbor" - by Eric Anderson

BULLETIN

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The Society is formed for the purpose of stimulating interest in and promoting the culture and development of the dahlia; to establish a standard nomenclature; to test our new varieties and to give them such recognition as they deserve; to study the disease and insects of the dahlia and to find remedies for same; to disseminate information relating to the Dahlia; to secure uniform standards for judging Dahlia shows and to give exhibitions when deemed advisable.

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Deadline for advertising copy is also as above.

The Editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement.

The Editor reserves the right of placement of all advertisements.

Membership

Membership includes the quarterly Bulletin and Annual Classification and Handbook of Dahlias. Dues for Members at Large for the U.S., are \$27 per year (individual) and \$30 family (2 members of a household at 1 address). Family memberships receive 2 Classification Handbooks each year. Memberships to Canada and Mexico are \$33 single and \$36 family. This includes all mailing First Class. Also all first class mailings in U.S. are \$33 Single and \$36 Family. Overseas dues are \$48 for air mail for all publications. All membership dues are payable in U.S. currency, and all memberships run on a calendar year basis.

Members who regularly commute between winter and summer addresses must select the "Snow Bird" option of first class for all issues. This service costs \$10 added to the basic membership rates. Send addresses, phone numbers, and dates at each address for both winter and summer addresses.

ADS offers special reduced membership rates to anyone joining or renewing through one of our approximately 75 Participating Societies (dahlia societies in local areas throughout North America). Contact your local dahlia society for further information. For a referral to a local dahlia society near you, contact the ADS Membership Office.

ADS also welcomes contributing members who voluntarily donate additional amounts when paying their ADS dues. Benefactor Memberships are \$100 per year. Patron Memberships of \$50 per year. Both Benefactor and Patron Memberships are automatically family members (2 Classification Handbooks per year), and both receive December mailing by first class (air mail outside the United States).

All memberships inquiries and address changes should be sent to Elva Sellens, ADS Membership, 2651 NW Loma Vista Drive, Roseburg, OR 97371; phone 541-672-7352; Email: elvasellens@charter.net. Since the Post Office does not forward Second Class mail, notify ADS Membership of all address changes. Contact ADS Membership for a complimentary replacement copy if you do not receive your Bulletin within 10 weeks of the beginning of the month of the issue.

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Cover Photo:

"Aitara Caress" by Trevor Hoff or
"Caleb with Orange Crush" by Calvin Cook

Join The American Dahlia Society Today

Gardeners from many countries have chosen to grace their homes, landscapes, and garden plots with dahlias, one of the longest blooming flowers in cultivation. While many grow dahlias solely as a decorative planting, others are more interested in artistic arrangements, cut flowers and even exhibition. Whatever your reason, you'll have more success when you become a member.

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EDITOR'S NOTES

CLOSEOUT FOR THE SEPTEMBER BULLETIN IS JULY 15TH, 2020

PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES AND SHOW REPORTS TO

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Password & Website:

The American Dahlia Society website is <https://dahlia.org>

Effective May 1, 2020, the password for the "Members Only" portion of the ADS Website is CVD@n2018. The username will remain member.

CORRECTIONS TO THE MARCH 2020 BULLETIN

p. 37, Winning Photos, Class 1 - Third Place. Should be "RH Red Hot Rose" Harvey Tatel, not "Red Hot Rosie"

p. 37, Class 3 First Place winner should be "Diane" Teahan, not "Debbie" Teahan.

p. 93, Under Portland DS Report: Larry Smith should be listed as PDS "Publicity Coordinator," not ADS Representative.

We apologize for any errors.

CREATE A DAHLIA LEGACY

The future of the American Dahlia Society depends of the generosity of our members today

- Make a bequest to the ADS in your will.
- Send a gift in memory of a departed dahlia-friend.
- Give a gift of stock or appreciated property and avoid capital gains taxes.
- Gifts from mandatory IRA distribution may be tax-advantaged.

The ADS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization. Gifts to the ADS are tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are in the middle of a historic global event that none of us could have imagined at the beginning of the year. The health and financial crisis brought on by the Coronavirus pandemic is affecting everyone. It will take some time for this event to unfold and for us to feel the full impacts of the crisis.

This spring the local dahlia societies have been scrambling to find alternatives for their tuber sales, events that are traditionally held at public or private venues. Some have had success with on-line sales using Facebook or other digital platforms to market their tubers. We needed to be creative to meet these challenges, which is resulting in new models for future tuber sales.

Many meetings and workshops have been cancelled this spring so we are finding we can communicate effectively through video conferencing. As we grow more comfortable with the use of the technology we can explore ways to utilize its potential. In the future the ADS could have judging seminars and workshops that reach across the whole ADS world. This allows the ADS to better serve the smaller and/or remote dahlia societies that do not have access to judging seminars and workshop that some of the larger or regional dahlia societies have.

The 2020 ADS National Show in Wenatchee, Washington has been cancelled due to the crisis. So, again we have the challenge of how to conduct our Annual Membership Meeting. The Executive Board will be working on this and more information will be available this summer. This is an election year for ADS Officers. Your ballot in this issue of *The Bulletin* - I encourage you to complete and submit yours to the ADS Treasurer.

I know that everyone is planning to have a beautiful dahlia garden this year. Our gardens bring so much joy and beauty to the world. If your local dahlia shows are cancelled this year, then please share your dahlias with others. Your neighbors, retirement communities, and care facilities all could use some flowers to brighten their days. It is something that can be done while maintaining social distancing.

Brad Freeman
President

FROM THE EDITOR

As I write this, people are having their lives altered by COVID-19. Shelter-in-place orders have been instituted in an attempt to slow the spread of this novel virus. Often, sick people exhibit no symptoms, making the virus even more deadly. Those of “a certain age” have seen their ranks thinned by this very painful and frightening plague. There has been much loss and grief. Our hearts goes out to those who have lost loved ones. We all owe a great debt to these and others who have sacrificed so much - local heroes on the frontlines who have worked tirelessly to keep things running during this pandemic or have sat at bedsides while patients have died alone, with families being prevented from being with loved ones. On the positive side, many more lives have been saved than lost, due to their toil, commitment, and the grace of God. Saying “Thank You” seems to be a very small way to express our gratitude to these selfless servants.

When I was reading your club reports for this issue, I was moved over and over again by your poignant accounts of cancellation of club activities: meetings, auctions, tuber and plant sales, shows, classes – these are indeed losses for our societies. However, our sadness is tempered by the promise of summer ahead. As we emerge from our isolation, we can look forward to a wealth found only in our dahlia patches. These gardens don't exist in a vacuum – those who pass by, visitors and workers at dahlia growing sites experience joy every time they see these generous blooms. In addition, we gain the capacity to give back to others in the community: first responders, medical professionals, maintenance and grocery workers, delivery drivers, educators, farmers, and countless others – we can say “Thank You” with a bouquet, or a promise of dahlia tubers, plants or support in other ways. I know that the current state of affairs can be frustrating - I will admit that as the Local Arrangements Chair for our now-postponed ADS 2020 National Show in Wenatchee, I was pretty heartbroken at first. Our four years of planning seemed to end, not with a bang, but with a whimper. The 2020 National Show sponsor group, the Federation of NW Dahlia Growers is now challenged to “keep on keepin’ on” for four MORE years. As disappointed as we are, the 2024 show promises to be even better, since we have TWICE as long to prepare!

Poet John Donne tells us that no man is an island - no man stands alone. This is truer now than ever. The wearing of masks, social distancing, limiting large group gatherings are small acts that help reduce risk to ourselves and others in our communities. People who refuse to cooperate are in the minority and their rebellions benefit nobody. By failing to take an opportunity to promote the greater good, they lose the chance to be heroic. We don't know what lies ahead, but we know that dahlias help a lot. Be well, stay safe and give thanks. Be heroic.

Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook
Editor, The Bulletin

AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY

Minutes – Board Meeting

February 23, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm EST by President Brad Freeman.

Present

Board members present were: Brad Freeman, Mark Oldenkamp, Ken Jensen, Tony Evangelista, Terry Schroeder, Charles Miehme, Harry Rissetto, Ron Miner, Jerry Landerholm, Drew Brant, Lou Paradise, Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook, Claudia Biggs, Bob Schroeder, Elva Sellens, Art Haskins, Rosemary Freeman, Nick Weber, Sharon Swaney, Kristine Albrecht, Anna Kandra.

Remembrances

Brad Freeman asked for a moment of remembrances. Dick and Danielle Parshall are facing some significant health struggles. Richard Tailleux, a long-time member of Kitsap County Dahlia Society and the ADS suddenly passed away recently. Katie Bannister and Dean Barnes, Monterey Bay Dahlia Society recently passed. A moment of silence was offered in remembrance of these individuals.

Minutes

Bob Schroeder moved, and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to approve the minutes from the November 11, 2019 Board Meeting, as corrected. There were some changes made to the structure but no content changes.

OFFICERS REPORTS

President

Brad Freeman states he enjoyed reading the reports from various members of Executive Board that have arrived over the last couple of weeks. There are a lot of activities going on with social media, research projects – both virus and genome, website, etc.

In January Brad added a Social Media Committee to the Executive Board, which is being Chaired by Anna Kandra. Social media is about creating an on-line presence or awareness of the ADS as an organization. Anna is already posting colorful pictures and short informative messages on both Facebook and Instagram. The Social Media Committee will be working hand in hand with the Publicity/ Marketing Committee which is currently focused on print media. The foundation of the ADS social media program will be the website, so we all have a responsibility to keep the information on it current. If you have something that you feel is important to share on Facebook and Instagram please contact Anna.

This week the Executive Committee was informed by Claudia Biggs that the computer used for the Image Library had expired. The Executive Committee authorized Claudia to purchase a new computer dedicated to the Image Library for approximately \$900.00.

Dr. Alex Harkess has agreed to give an update on the dahlia genome project at the 2020 National Dahlia Show in Wenatchee, Washington. The Executive Committee allocated \$500.00 from the dahlia genome funds to cover Dr. Harkess travel expenses. In 2019 \$500.00 was allocated for same purpose but those funds were not used. A total of \$1000.00 has been extended to Dr. Harkess to cover his travel expenses this year.

The Spring Executive Board Meeting is set for the weekend on April 17 – 19 in Denver, Colorado. A draft agenda for the meeting has been emailed to the Executive Board. There are many agenda items to cover over what will be a busy weekend. This is the most important meeting of the year for the Executive Board which really sets the tone for ADS for the upcoming year(s). He hopes that all members of the Executive Board will find the time to attend the meeting.

Treasurer

Charles Miehm submitted the following report. As of February 9, 2020, the Ameriprise Account has \$75,240.00 that is restricted and \$17,564.80 that is unrestricted. In the Vanguard account there is \$87,442.27. The Lake City account is closed, and the Wells Fargo account has \$63,178.76. Of the amounts in the Wells Fargo account, there is \$2,589.83 in the Virus Fund, \$36,777.06 for the Genome Project. There is \$100.00 for the 2020 National Show, \$50.00 for the 2021 National Show, \$2,775.00 for the 2022 National Show and \$50.00 for the 2023 National Show. The total restricted amount in Wells Fargo account is \$42,341.89. There is a total of \$243,425.83 in all accounts. Charles reports the ADS has a net income for 2020 to date, of \$27,230.83. Charles also noted he received some checks from Elva since this report and the new PayPal account is up and running. There were significant contributions from the Boyers, both cash and foregoing some reimbursements. A letter was sent acknowledging those contributions. Rosemary Freeman moved and Mark Oldenkamp seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. The motion passed.

First Vice-President

Mark Oldenkamp reports other than sending a few emails; requesting Bulletin reports, requesting tuber sale dates and locations, informing about the 2020 virus testing, the ADS work had been quiet, apart from receiving several notifications of changes in either ADS Reps new ADS Society Presidents. These have been updated on Groupvine and shared with others that keep this information. While Groupvine works for our email needs, it is not a good report tool for making publishable lists of the group

members. I would like to explore further to see if this is my learning curve of just something this software is not intended to be used for.

Mark is pleased we have a Social Media person in place. The organizational chart has been updated to reflect any recent changes. Anna has begun to post on Facebook and Instagram and is developing a list of topics to post on. She will be coordinating with Larry, our PR person, to leverage the content that he produces. Everyone on the board can assist the spread of these messages by liking and sharing them. If you are not getting the messages yet, this is an opportunity to help broaden the circle of those who will see these communications.

Second Vice-President

Tony Evangelista states the ADS asks member societies to submit their show results for publication in the Bulletin. It also requests the results of the shows be submitted to Lou Paradise so the ADS can accurately tabulate the blues and higher awards for cultivars in the Classification & Handbook of Dahlias published annually. He was tasked with examining the problem of non-compliance with both requests and to hopefully improve response.

In 2019 there were 20 societies that did not submit show results for publication in the ADS Bulletin. Seven of those societies did not have shows. Lou Paradise reported that there were four societies that had not reported any blues or higher information for the past two years. Only two societies failed to report both. Two different lists were used to compile the results; unfortunately, neither list was complete. There were different omissions on each list. Tony recommends we devise a comprehensive and complete master list of societies with updated contact information so we can accurately track submissions or lack thereof.

Tony will bring copies of both lists and the deficiencies of each to the spring meeting in Denver in order to reconcile them. We can then easily personally contact non-compliant societies with gentle reminders to increase response. There was some discussion about court of honor reports for the Bulletin and show reports to report blues and higher awards to Lou. We need to make sure the two reports are named correctly. This will be discussed further at the spring planning meeting.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Mid Atlantic Conference

Dana Miller reports a remarkably warm January and early February has blessed the mid-Atlantic region this year. It is possible that the mid-Atlantic will still experience some cold temperatures or even snow into late March.

Gettysburg Dahlia Society will host the Mid-Atlantic Conference Show on September 4 & 5 in Biglerville, Pennsylvania, the site of their annual show.

According to John Rost, society president, the Gettysburg club is growing and there is an increased interest from the Harrisburg PA area. Vice President Steve Trumpower, Secretary Anne Rost, and Treasurer Dona Maguire round out the current slate of the society's officers. Tuber sales are scheduled on April 28 & 29 in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and May 16 in Hanover, Pennsylvania; a plant sale will take place on June 14 in East Berlin, Pennsylvania.

The National Capital Dahlia Society continues to be an active, vibrant group. Many functions and tuber sales make for a busy schedule. Their sales are scheduled for March 11 and April 7 in Bethesda, Maryland; April 18 and 19 at the Leesburg, Virginia Garden Festival; and May 19 at the Silver Springs Maryland Garden Club sale at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton, Maryland. Their annual show on September 25-27 is held at Brookside Gardens. NCDS also provides an early show opportunity on August 23 in Derwood, Maryland. Rich Gibson continues as President, with Dave Smith, Vice President; Ellen Ash, Secretary; and Cliff Johnson, Treasurer. Director John Spangenberg oversees, and many volunteers maintain, an impressive Dahlia Trial & Exhibition Garden in Derwood, Maryland.

The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society plans to hold two tuber sales, one in downtown Kennett Square, Pennsylvania on April 25, and the big sale at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square on May 9. In the interest of spreading the Gospel of Dahlias in a new way, they voted in November to make donations to the Chester County Master Gardeners and the Williamson College of the Trades, with the qualifier that these groups would use the funds to generate interest in growing dahlias with their members and students. They expect a report next fall from the groups outlining how they accomplished this. Beth MacMillan takes over as their new president, Rich Bucko moves up to first vice president, and Wayne Geller is the new second vice president. Rick Lazarick continues as treasurer and Deane Armstrong is taking on secretarial duties. Finally, their annual Dahlia Show will be held in beautiful Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, on Sept 18-20.

Pacific Northwest Conference

Mark Oldenkamp reports their annual meeting will be held at the end of March and they plan to have an expanded educational program, with Brad and Rosemary Freeman attending. They look forward to the ADS perspective being added to the gathering. They will present ADS seedling medals to the winning hybridizers connected to our conference at this meeting.

The Canby Trial Garden was fully reserved by mid-January; Linda Taylor is the new director. Teresa Bergman deserves much thanks for her many years of service in compiling results and getting them submitted. Entries

are to arrive in early April to be potted up and pre-started for planting in mid-May. There is an effort to involve club volunteers in the care of the garden. Judging will probably begin in early August; judging supplies are on site for any who wish to participate.

The combined show rules and show schedule publication is nearing completion. There have been good discussions and some interesting changes in the spirit of making things similar from show to show, while keeping simplicity in the judging and clerking process and leaving room for each society to have their unique elements. One significant change is dropping sweepstakes tallying. Having the sections more consistent from show to show will be helpful to exhibitors.

Many are looking forward to the National Show in Wenatchee, where they expect a significant attendance from PNDC members. The Portland group will be keeping close watch and detailed notes as the planning for 2023 will ramp up soon.

Pacific Southwest Conference

John Morton reports much of California is in a drought situation now, while the rest of the country seems to be having floods. They are hoping for some rain.

The Monterey Bay Dahlia Society, with much help from the John E. Stowell Dahlia Society, will be holding the PSWD Conference meeting February 22-23rd. They had a good meeting, with 66 people in attendance. This is good news as the last few conference meetings have had twenty to thirty in attendance. More news will follow after the Conference meeting.

Southern States Conference

Ray Phillips reports he will not be on this conference call, as he is resigning his position as Southern States Vice president. The Southern States is busy planning a spring that has great promise; tuber sales, Southern States meeting in March, a new season of growing dahlias. Due to health limitations many will be scaling back on their gardens this year, but energetic newer members will soon be taking up any slack this causes. The Southern States has four great clubs, and each is willing to help the others meet their goals. There will be three shows in Southern States this year: Carolinas, Georgia, and Tennessee. Alabama will not host a show this season as this is their rotation out.

Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

Drew Brant reports all is well here in the great Pacific Northwest. Everyone is gearing up for our upcoming dahlia season. Local Societies are preparing for their spring tuber sales and summer dahlia shows.

The Federation will be hosting the following events in 2020: Spring workshop on March 21, summer workshop on July 18, judging classes on

July 25, trial garden judging class on August 2 and the ADS National Show in Wenatchee, WA on September 11-13. Their annual meeting will be in October. They are making final preparations for the 2020 ADS National Show. Information will be online and in the March Bulletin.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Advertising

Linda Holmes-Cook asked Teresa Bergman if she were planning to contact garden suppliers and Teresa said she would, once tuber-ordering season was complete.

Classification

Lou reports the Cream of the Crop and Fab 50 reports were tabulated and sent to both Sharon (web) and Linda (Bulletin).

Unfortunately, there were many errors in the 2020 CHD. Corrections will be published in the June Bulletin.

There have been requests for 15 cultivars for reclassification for the 2020 growing season. Likely a few more will filter in before the list is sent to the Classification Committee members in July.

Editor

The March 2020 Bulletin is currently in the process of printing, sorting, labeling and mailing. Keeping with ADS tradition, the March cover features the ADS Photography Contest grand prize winner "Pinky" by Nancy Riopelle. Several other photo contest winners were included on inside covers.

Turn-around time from date of submission to Dave returning the proofs was much improved over previous years. It looks like The Bulletin might be arriving in mailboxes by the beginning of March.

The password for the "Members Only" portion of the ADS Website was published in this issue. It will change on or about May 1, 2020. The new password will be CVD@n2018. The username will remain member. Until May 1, 2020, please continue to use the password ACB3n2017.

There were 35 club reports received, out of a total of 65 societies. The reports received will be published in the March 2020 Bulletin. This is better than some months, but Linda would still like to see more.

Finance

Harry Risetto reports the ADS's finances are in good order and sufficient to meet current obligations. Gifts to the genome and virus projects will be helpful. The ADS is looking forward to progress in understanding the family tree of the current cultivars. The virus project is beginning to reach practical recommendations. Increased funding will permit expanding the availability of virus-free stock.

Garden Dahlias

Alan Fisher states he has nothing new to report. Dahlia season for his region starts March 1.

Historian

Brad Freeman reports that we are doing well with the historical data for the ADS and need to continue to work with the Cherokee Library.

Image Library

Claudia Biggs reports since mid-December, she's had 27 requests for New Introductions, almost one a day. She is currently working on the 2019 ADS Fabulous Fifty Dahlias and hopes to have that program done by the end of February.

Insurance

Cheryl Shores reports she is in the process of renewing ADS insurance. She is waiting for the final paperwork, which is expected any day now. She has received several clubs' renewals and have sent their checks on to Charles. Once we have a contract, she will let the board know.

Judging Accreditation

Bob Schroeder reports his requests for updates for the 2020 Judging Roster have been emailed to all judging chairs. There has been a good response with many new judges entering the program. The deadline for sending in information is April 1st (no joke).

Membership

Elva Sellens reports all but 2 dahlia societies have submitted their 2020 membership lists. The two remaining dahlia societies have been called and should get their membership lists in shortly. There are two societies that have less than ten members to be a Participating Society: one in Canada and one in the U.S. She is trying to work with them to get their ADS memberships up to the 10-member quota; otherwise, they would need to join as an Affiliated Society.

US Memberships

We have 56 Participating Dahlia Societies and 2 Affiliated Societies. For 2020, we have 1,282 paid memberships, 848 individual members and 434 family members ($x2=868$), for a total membership of 1,716. There are 421 memberships that have not yet been renewed, 318 individual members and 103 family memberships (614 members). A breakdown of these members show 127 memberships (101 individual/ 26 family membership ($x2=52$)) for a total of 153 members that joined in 2019, and 294 memberships, 217 individual/77 family ($x2=154$) for a total of 371 members that joined prior to 2019. It seems that some members tend to join ADS around their society's tuber sales, so Elva expects a portion of these members rejoining ADS. So far in 2020, we have 166 new memberships which breaks down to 132

individual members and 34 family membership ($x2=68$) for a total of 200 new members.

Canadian Memberships

We have nine Participating Dahlia Societies and one Affiliated Dahlia Society. We have 124 paid memberships, 80 individual and 44 family memberships ($x2=88$) for a total of 168 members. There were 19 memberships which were not renewed, 16 individual memberships and 3 family memberships. Of these 19 memberships, there were six 2019 memberships that did not renew, five individual and one family membership. For memberships prior to 2019, there were eleven individual and two family memberships that did not renew. We had 7 new Canadian memberships, six individual and one family membership

Other Foreign Membership

We have 14 paid individual memberships for other foreign countries.

There was discussion about a trend Elva is seeing. Some families are joining as a family in one year and then one will join as an individual the next and then the following year as a family. This means that every other year she is having to send an additional CHD separately. This will be discussed further at the spring planning. In 2020 so far, we have 1,898 paid ADS members.

National Exhibition

Art Haskins reports he has nothing new to report, other than the National Show booklet revision is still ongoing. He anticipates having a draft ready for the spring planning.

New Society Coordinator

Rosemary Freeman reports communications with interested parties wanting to start new dahlia societies has been hampered by her ill health and pain but is doing well now. The communications will soon be open again. She has received interest from someone in Haines, Alaska and from someone in Columbia, New Jersey.

One of the topics that usually comes up is where to get tubers to start a society. She assumed while finding individuals interested in joining a new dahlia society, there would be a few with experience growing dahlias and storing tubers during the winter to start the new year off with plenty of tubers to share with new members and with the public. This is not always the case.

How can we, as a group, support these newer societies with our leftover tubers. Most sales are from March to Mid-May; planting time can be from mid-April to mid to late May, and there are always leftover tubers that didn't sell. What do we do with them; just throw them away? Also, there are pot tubers and cuttings; what do we do with those? Again, how do we

disburse our leftovers to these new societies? Most won't have the funds to buy tubers, so we would be donating them to a good cause.

Can we have a place on the ADS Website where newer clubs could ask for tuber donations so they can start and maintain a new society. Rosemary stated they always have leftover tubers that don't make it into the ground or a pot for our use. It would be a much better use for us to mail them to others to use. The newer clubs would have later planting times and perhaps not get many blooms that year, but they would be building their own tuber stock for their next year's sales. Would you and/or your society be willing to be a part of this outreach to help struggling societies? Let Rosemary know and let's see what we can accomplish for these new societies.

Photography

Debbie Pavich reports forty-six individuals submitted over 220 photos, mostly online rather than mail. Winners and photos are posted on the ADS website and Instagram. The grand prize winner will be revealed in the March ADS Bulletin. Thank you, Sharon, Linda and Anna for your assistance with this. Winners have been sent their prize money. I still need to put together a slide show of all photos for the ADS website.

There are several items to consider and discuss at the Spring Planning Meeting. Her recommendations are below.

Contest deadline - Move it two weeks earlier to Nov 15th. Winners to be chosen by Dec 31st, posted to ADS website and Instagram in early January. Instagram users will have an opportunity to vote for a People's Choice winner, by clicking "like". The People's Choice winner could be the Grand Prize winner. I recommend the Grand Prize winner be announced in the March ADS bulletin as it is currently.

Categories - Add a cell phone photo category which might be a good way to have photos submitted to Instagram. For example, a Dahlia selfie contest could be in this category.

Process - Provide more structure in terms of labeling /identifying entries, formatting online entries, and limiting mail-in media to USB devices.

Publicity and PR

Larry Smith reported considerable time was spent writing press releases and attempting to arrange publicity for Hart, Johnson, Gullikson, and Dudley Award winners for 2019. Information for the winners has been included on the ADS website.

Contact was made with all the hybridizers for the award winners to obtain the sources of their local newspapers and gardening magazines. Some of the hybridizers chose not to reply, so Larry concentrated on those

who did. Much time was spent contacting the various print, sending specific press releases with attached photos of the winning cultivars and forwarding the package to them. To date, since he doesn't have access to the publications out of his local area, he has no idea if they included articles. He does know that there was one article written about Portland area winners in their local paper. If anyone knows of other articles written, let it be known; it would be good to post them on the website. Larry also sent information to The American Gardener publication, which we did an ad exchange with recently, and a few other national publications as suggested by ADS Board members but did not receive any response.

The challenge Larry anticipated and found to be true is that no one in media outside of his local area knows him and, therefore, contacting them is a "cold call." Response has been minimal. He has had great success locally getting free publicity for Portland area events, as he has the benefit of having had a few years to develop a presence with the media contact people. He does not have that advantage on a national level and am not sure, at this point, of a better approach to use. Social media is a more effective way to reach a larger audience and feel it is essential for the Publicity Chair to work very closely with our new Social Media Chair.

In January, Larry reached out to Linda Holmes-Cook to offer assistance in promoting the 2020 ADS National Show. Response will likely be best if local people reach out to their media sources, but he can coach them on approaches to take. It would also be beneficial to take an aggressive approach of promoting the show on social media.

Much can be gained by producing short informational videos about dahlia culture as well as happenings in the dahlia world. They could be posted on the ADS website and on social media platforms. Members and casual growers would benefit, which would in turn promote the ADS. He has many years of production skills and own rights to professional editing software as well as years of experience as a TV show host and "spokesperson" experience for events. If ADS would be interested in purchasing some type of camera or recording device, it would be simple to produce some short videos to put on the website and distribute through social media. Some could be done locally, for example, from the Canby Trial Garden. Cell phone cameras may be acceptable for our purposes.

Research and Education

Nick Weber reports Ron Miner and the ADS virus team along with Dr. Pappu and his team at WSU are ready to begin another virus testing season. Ron has prepared update reports for the March Bulletin that outlines the activities by the Virus Team. Ron has also updated the procedures for testing by various groups on the web site. Ron's article in the Bulletin notes the efforts by local dahlia societies this past season to participate in the virus testing program. This should help them bring virus-tested stock

to their tuber and plant sales as well as to help emphasize the efforts needed to maintain and improve the quality of their member stock. Nick noted that all work on virus testing is supported by the ADS, Washington State University (WSU) and the Sheetz-Chuey Foundation. Likewise, an update on the efforts to support vendors to improve the quality of their stock and their reaction to this effort through free virus testing is an important subject of the report. It appears that this effort is paying off by evidence that vendors are mentioning in their advertisements that they are employing virus testing of their stock. Final mention in the report is made of the meristem and tissue culture efforts being undertaken at WSU to help provide virus-free stock methods for future use by the society and the industry. One of the virus team members is developing a pictorial review of all our virus types. Undoubtedly, an excellent number of useful images will become available with time. Linda Taylor has compiled an extensive collection of pictures of viruses. They can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/141837887@N08/albums>,

Kristine Albrecht has also prepared a report on the developments in the Genome Project which indicate that efforts have begun to gather material for sequencing at HudsonAlpha Genomic Sequencing Center in Auburn, Alabama later this Spring. *D.coccinia*, *D. rudis*, *D. sorensenii* and *D. brevis* are the species being used at this point. See Kristine's report for additional aspects of the work.

Nick has begun to gather information on making fall cuttings that would be useful in three ways. First, to preserve good or important cultivars that are poor root makers. Second, to preserve stock of first year seedlings that are promising, but whose tuber making potential is unknown. Finally, to multiply plants that have been virus tested and found clean. He is working with a cut flower friend who grows 5000 dahlias but does not harvest tubers. He propagates 12,000 cuttings each year by taking a 72-tray of cuttings from each variety in mid-September into October. He takes further cuttings at the beginning of the year and once more after that. He is currently working on a project with Nick, using plant material from a single (perhaps last) plant of Taratahi Lilac, which is a terrible tuber maker. Starting in mid-October, he used a mixture of tip and stem cuttings, obtained a 72 tray of cuttings from the plant and recently reported there are at least 180 rooted cuttings from the plant. He hopes to write a short article for the June Bulletin about the process.

Seedling Bench Evaluation

Roger Walker reports paperwork to request permission to hold a seedling bench evaluation class at local dahlia shows will be mailed to ADS reps in June. It would be most helpful if each club could ensure that there is good contact information.

Social Media

Anna Kandra reports an ADS Instagram account was established at the end of January, and the first post was made on February 1. Instagram Statistics are as follows: 9 posts have been made so far - roughly 2 per week. For the week of Feb 15-21 Instagram states estimated discovery of 414 accounts (414 Accounts that have seen posts and 892 Impressions which is the total number of times posts have been seen) and 182 interactions (including 162 Profile Visits and 20 Website Clicks). We have 351 followers as of Saturday, Feb 22 with 37% of followers falling in the 35-44 age range, 20% in the 25-34 age range and 20% in the 45-54 age range.

Posts to the ADS Facebook Page are duplicates from Instagram, so the content on both platforms has been the same this past month as things get going. Ideally, we'll be able to post additional information on Facebook via shares from ADS member clubs and other resources.

Facebook Insights are given for the past month, so these are for Jan 25-Feb 21. Currently there are 2,447 total page likes. Post reach 3,345, Post engagements (likes, comments, shares) 1,361, and 59 new page likes. The page has been viewed 229 times in the past 28 days, with 59 new likes, 60 new followers and 1 click through to the website.

The goal for posts through March and April is to continue to highlight news, information and articles from the ADS website, and to encourage membership in local societies and ADS. If anyone has any favorite articles or resources from the website that you think would be helpful to highlight and share on social media, please feel welcome to pass those along to Anna and she will use them to create social media posts. Feedback is also welcomed on what's been posted so far from those of you on social media. It will help to ensure that the tone and the information being shared is what the board expects to see representing ADS as an organization.

Special Awards

Jerry Landerholm reports the Johnson, Hart, Dudley and Gullikson medals have been engraved and sent to the various helpers for presentation. Thanks so much to those people who personalize these presentations. We replenished our supply of some medals in 2019 and should be in good shape for at least 3 years. At that time, we will need to replenish the inventory of Hart, Dudley and Gullikson medals. The difficulty is to get our supplier to agree to minting quantities less than 100 each.

Virus Update

Ron Miner reports the basic requirements to grow a dahlia garden with decreasing amounts of virus have been established. They include 1) starting with virus-free stock, 2) removing plants with strong signs of virus from the garden, and 3) avoiding contaminating clean stock by disinfecting garden tools after working on each plant. The second and third steps

above require self-discipline and a little extra effort. The first step can be the most difficult and is the focus of our 2020 field research activities. With the ongoing financial support of the Scheetz-Chuey Foundation and the commitment of Professor Hanu Pappu at WSU, the ADS will be able to provide three areas of offense in making more clean stock available to our members.

The first approach is the local club project that was recently announced through the ADS Reps. Professor Pappu will test sets of 30 samples for each participating ADS club at half cost (\$150). The plan is that the clean plants that are identified will serve as the starting point for the propagation of clean stock for the clubs' 2021 spring plant sales. The details for that project are available on the ADS website, dahlia.org. The second approach will be a continuation of the process of testing a limited number of vendor plants at no cost to the vendors. Vendors who have participated in the project over the last two years have achieved improved results as well as increasing adherence to virus reduction practices. Finally, clubs and individuals will be able to submit samples to Professor Pappu for virus testing at the subsidized rate of \$10 per sample for between 30 and 60 samples.

Virus Team members will continue to study the garden behavior of the various dahlia viruses. Linda Taylor has compiled an extensive collection of pictures of viruses. They can be found at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/141837887@N08/albums>.

Professor Pappu and Dr. Prabu Gnanasekaran, the Director of the Dahlia Resource Center, continue to do basic research on dahlia viruses. They are making good progress on meristem tip culture and tissue culture projects. Those techniques will, in the future, provide laboratory approaches to the production of large volumes of clean stock. They are also beginning to develop a proposal for work on a project with Professors Walbot at Stanford and Harkess at Auburn that would study the possibility of using gene editing techniques to reduce viruses in dahlias

Genome Sequencing

Kristine Albrecht reports dahlia species seeds have been germinated to produce plants that will be used to take DNA for the sequencing of the dahlia for the ADS Genome Project. The seeds being used are: *D.coccinia*, *D. rudis*, *D. sorensenii* and *D. brevis*. The plants are about one foot tall; Dr. Walbot placed foil over a portion of small leaves for 14 days to get a palm full of pale leaves for the sequencing process. She used liquid nitrogen to flash freeze the leaves. Dr. Harkess will be traveling to California to take more leaf samples in late March or early April. The samples will be processed at HudsonAlpha Genomic Sequencing Center in Auburn, Alabama. Next, the plants used for sequencing will be grown out to check that the plants are the specified variety. The seeds being

grown out were collected in Mexico by Dr. Walbot through funds raised by ADS for the purpose of supporting the ADS Genome Project. Kristine is collecting tubers from some of the older varieties as Alex would like to do some research on that in the future.

Website

Sharon Swaney reports website activity this time of year is all about information – posting information to close out the 2019 dahlia season and posting information to kick off the 2020 season.

Information has been posted for the following areas:

- Awards to Blooms (Stanley, Hart, Dudley, Gullikson). I received nice pictures of these winners.
- Fab 50 and Cream of Crop
- Classification changes
- Trial Gardens
- Seedling Bench
- Virus
- Photo Contest winners
- Updates and additions to the Online Classification Guide (this is the first batch of changes since moving to the new OCG, so I am still figuring out the most efficient way to update the OCG)
- And more...

A highlight of the postings is the beautiful Photo Contest winning photos. A disappointment has been that only one 2019 trial garden has supplied pictures to the website.

Don is in the process of preparing the New Introduction pictures (provided by Claudia, thanks) for the site.

When newsworthy information is posted to the site Sharon is notifying the new Social Media chair, Anna, so she can decide what is appropriate for Social Media. Anna and Sharon expect to work closely together.

New products have been added to the ADS Store and the Store receipts and PayPal “buttons” have been moved to the new PayPal account. Sharon thanked Charles and Mac for their help. Claudia and Sharon are still working on a reasonable way to deliver the New Introductions “DVD” electronically.

Local society tuber/plant sale information has been solicited. Once the information is received, Sharon will post this information until March 15. Previously it was mentioned there is one issue left from our moving to the higher-level hosting environment. Though the problem remains (and maybe always will) Sharon has found an acceptable workaround so that the issue won't impact what is wanted/needed to be done on the site.

Per a request from Harry, Sharon has investigated being able to search the Bulletins stored on the site. There are still a few unknowns, but she can likely make this available for about \$100 per year and at the cost of having to remove the passwords from the Bulletins. She will need some guidance as to whether this is worth it, a priority, and if the board is ok with removing the passwords.

Brad reported we would move old and new business to the spring planning meeting as there is nothing pressing for right now.

Bob Schroeder states Colorado Dahlia Society has requested any judging information. Bob felt that providing information about micro dahlias would be useful and Calvin Cook agreed. He asked if anyone who plans to attend would be willing to be the lead speaker or to be on a panel provide a program on micros. It is felt we should also be talking with the societies about the importance of having a national show, if they have a larger membership.

The next meeting will be on April 17-19 in Denver.

Lou Paradise moved, and Tony Evangelista seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:09m EST. The motion passed.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder
ADS Secretary

Overseas Supporters

Plans are going forward to give overseas dahlia growers and opportunity to receive digital copies of the ADS Bulletin and the Classification and Handbook of Dahlia for an annual cost of \$15.00. We will use PayPal to identify subscribers, collect the subscription and send the 4 Bulletins and CHD. The first issue will be in December 20. The icon to subscribe will appear on ADS PayPal Store shortly. www.ADS.org.

2020 ADS DAHLIA PHOTO CONTEST

It's all about the Dahlia...

It is time to share your dahlias in the 2020 American Dahlia Society Photo Contest. As your garden flourishes, keep your camera near while you wander amongst the beautiful blooms. Share a "bouquet" of dahlia photos. Blooms may fade but dahlia photos last forever.

The rules are few. Anyone can submit a photo. The photos should have been taken in 2019 and 2020. It's all about the dahlia, so the bloom should predominate the image. Photos can be taken using a regular camera or a cell phone camera. Three entries per class.

The photo should represent one of the following classes:

1. **Undisseminated /Introductions-** Only one variety in the photo. Petals should not extend beyond the picture edge.
2. **Dahlia portrait-** A single dahlia. Please name the cultivar.
3. **Two or more blooms.** The same or different cultivar. Please identify.
4. **Dahlia gardens-** Please identify the location of the garden.
5. **Dahlia Shows/Clubs/Personalities-** These are archival photos. They document folks and dahlia gatherings. Please name the club, event, and individuals. Photos of winning flower(s) are exhibited in class 1.2. or 3.
6. **Macro view-** Close up of a dahlia bloom. The photo can include other elements such as insects or water droplets.
7. **Kids-** The photos of children are full of emotion and deserve their own class. Please identify the children and dahlia.
8. **Critters-** Try and keep the flower the dominant aspect of the photo
9. **Digital Darkroom-** Creative use of software applications (Photoshop, Lightroom, et al) to enhance the dahlia image or add special effects. Please state what program was used. Changing the background of a photo to black enhances the image and the photo should be entered in class 9.
10. **Dahlia Selfie-** Let us know what cell phone camera you used.

PRIZES - Each class 1st Place- \$20.00
 2nd Place-\$10.00
 3rd Place-\$5.00

DEADLINE- NOVEMBER 15, 2020

Photos can be submitted online or through the mail. If submitting by mail, a USB device is preferred over a CD. Please include a list of images, entry class for each image, and image information (cultivar name, program used to digitally enhance picture, etc.) and your contact information. Mail to: Debbie Pavich, 200 East Nikki Lane, Belfair, WA 98528

Online – Please send images as an attachment to an email. More than one email may be needed. The body of your email should contain the entry class, image information, and your contact information. Label the jpeg photo file attachment with the entry class and image identification or title. For example, 6a Hollyhill Jitterbug with tree frog. If more than one photo per class use 6a, 6b, or 6c to identify. For some reason, photos submitted from the “cloud” are not “delivered.” Please send the photo as an attachment to an email. Submit by November 15th, 2020 to photocontest@dahlia.org. The photographer grants the ADS a royalty-free, non-exclusive license to reproduce the submitted photo for use in ADS publications, the ADS image library, and the ADS website. If the ADS uses the photo for other purposes such as news releases, credit will be given to the photographer. The photographer retains the copyright to the photo image.

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2020 ADS Photography Contest Entry Form

Please print or type legibly

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Mailing Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone (optional) _____

Enclosed are my entries for the 2020 ADS Photography Contest. The images submitted are my own work. I have read the contest rules and hereby give permission to the American Dahlia Society to reproduce my images.

Signature

Date

Submit entries by November 15, 2020 to

Debbie Pavich,
200 E. Nikki Lane
Belfair, WA 98528

Photocontest@dahlia.org

TUBER TALK

April 12 . . . It has been a strange winter season in Northern Virginia. There has been virtually no snow, roller-coaster temperatures, and the Corona Virus. We spend most of our time in the condo, with regular trips our son's small greenhouse down the street. Some of the 2019 tubers are beginning to sprout. My long-time compadre is under the weather this spring, and my knees get stiffer with each year. By the time you read this, they will be in the ground one way or the other.

During this time of pandemic, it is possible that many shows will be cancelled, and we will grow dahlias simply for the love of our flower and to preserve the stock. I have noticed from Facebook that the ADS Trial Garden in the Northwest is tilled and probably planted by now. In the East, the restrictions at public facilities are rather harsh.

This is a good time to ask: Why do we grow dahlias? I started planting more than forty years ago because I liked the blooms and was encouraged by some local growers. I never was a terribly successful exhibitor, but that did not discourage me because I enjoyed the dahlia and liked the people

The ADS monthly newsletter has more than 2100 subscribers, most of whom are probably not active ADS members or exhibitors. Like folks who attend our tuber sales, they like a few dahlias in their garden.

As we hunker down, and mourn the cancellation of the Spring Planning Meeting, we all should think about how we expand the scope of the ADS and the local societies.

Harry Risetto

IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS PLEASE NOTIFY

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Email: elvasellens@charter.net

THE PRESCRIPTION FOR DAHLIA GARDENS FREE FROM VIRUS

While we are still a long way away from thoroughly understanding virus in dahlias, there is enough knowledge in place for us to be able to largely eliminate virus in our dahlia gardens. The research and the analytical work at Washington State University have provided the foundation for the prescription for that success.

The first key step in the process is to start with clean stock. Ideally, that stock would have been taken from plants tested in the previous season and found to be virus free. The availability of known, clean stock is very limited but is growing. See the programs below on how you can help in that regard. The second-best stock would be the tubers from the very best-looking plants in your garden last year. Do not use (or save!) tubers from weak plants or plants with suspicious foliage. (See the ADS and WSU websites for examples of foliage indicative of virus.)

The critical next step in managing and protecting your garden is to prevent the transfer of virus from an infected plant to clean plants. The only way to do that is to disinfect your working tools between plants. Details are available on the ADS website, but the 10% bleach solution followed by the Dawn dish soap solution works well for me. That approach provides a double hit on the virus and avoids potential corrosion problems on the tools. An important corollary here is that you should pull out and discard plants with suspicious foliage. (If in doubt, throw it out!)

At the end of the season, select only the very best plants for harvesting tubers. Rigorously adhere to the disinfecting process for digging and, in particular, for dividing the tubers. If you process the clumps relatively soon after digging, it is probably not essential to disinfect the shovels used in digging. However, if the ends of tubers are cut in the process, they should be recut with disinfected tools as soon as possible. It is essential, of course, to disinfect the tools used to divide the clumps.

There is ample evidence that adhering to the foregoing practices will go a long way to achieving a dahlia garden with little or no virus.

You Can Help to Generate Clean Stock!

Dahlia Clubs: The ADS will cover half the cost of testing a basic set of 30 samples provided from each of our associated societies. The objective of the project is to increase the availability of clean stock in 2021. Take the following steps to participate:

- Identify a manager of the project for the club.
- Review the details of the project on the ADS website.
- Confirm participation at baronminer@aol.com.
- Propagate the tubers from the clean plants for 2021.

Vendors: The ADS will continue to provide the free and confidential testing of a limited number of leaf samples for our dahlia suppliers. The objectives of the program are to improve the availability of clean stock and instill the practices required to keep it clean.

- Review the details of the project on the website.
- Confirm participation at baronminer@aol.com

The authors, Ron Miner and Professor Hanu Pappu, would like to acknowledge the critically important financial support of the Scheetz-Chuey Foundation for this work.

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or

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CLASSIFICATION COMMITTEE NEWS

By Lou Paradise

I wish to thank all those people who have clarified inaccuracies and made suggestions for improvement. With all of your help, we can make the Classification and Handbook of Dahlias as accurate as possible.

Sometimes, properly named seedlings with a numeric prefix find their way into the Classification Book because the numeric prefix was inadvertently omitted. For those who are showing named seedlings with a numeric prefix and do not want the seedling to be added accidentally to the CHD, send me an email by October 20th, with the cultivar's name stating that it is not to be added this year (sortino@pacbell.net).

2020 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias Changes:

Please make the following changes:

On the Inside front cover, please change the spelling of Jo Jepson to Jo Jepsen.

On inside front cover, please change the Stanley Johnson winner to Clearview Edie. Clearview Daniel was last year's winner.

Please remove Sungate's Avery from the book. This was not to be released (page 43).

Please change the spelling of RaeAnn's Alexandria to RaeAnn's Alyxandria (page 40).

Please change the spelling of Bloomquist Daunty to Bloomquist Dainty (page 21).

Please change the color of Carmen Mimi to Dark Blend 3313, BB-C-DB (DP17/DP10/Y18) (page 23).

Please change the introducer initial of Steve Lamb for AF Bobby and AF Fiesta from LBS- to L/P- (page 18).

Please change the spelling of Willofield Matthew and Willofield Mick to Willowfield Matthew and Willowfield Mick (composite book page 165)

2020 → 2021 Change Request List. See Cultivar Classification and Change Request Rules and Procedures on page 2 of the *2020 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias*. The list for the *2020 → 2021 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias* includes the following cultivars, recommended by regional vice presidents, conferences, societies, and American Dahlias Society members. This notice is the final call for additions to this change list. Customarily, the classification committee waits one year before again reviewing changes for any given cultivar.

0102	Wyn's Neon Dream	AA	ID	Y	Romer	0202	AA-SC-Y
1207	Lakeview Tony	A	SC	DR	Helgersen	1206	A-SC-R (RD24)
1303	Wyn's Desert Glow	A	C	OR	Landerholm	1403	A-IC-OR
2204	Purplexus Jewel	B	SC	PK	Bentley/Plowman	1204	A-SC-PK
3003	Betty O'Brien	BB	FD	OR	Mooney	4003	M-FD-OR
3110	Bloomquist Sun Rays	BB	ID	LB	Taylor	2110	B-ID-LB
3406	Bloomquist Carol Ann	BB	IC	R	Oldenkamp	4406	M-IC-R
3501	Woodland's Sarafina	BB	LC	W	Craig/Maloney	3201	BB-SC-W
4201	Scott's Snocap	M	SC	W	Riordan	4301	M-C-W
4201	Scott's Snocap	M	SC	W	Riordan	4401	M-IC-W
4310	RH Hot Rose	M	C	LB	Federation	4312	M-C-FL (YL18/RD10)
6002	Clearview Daniel		BA	Y	Hamilton DS/Canadian	6102	MB-Y
6212	Little Beeswings		P	FL	Lamb	5012	MFD-FL
8004	Powder Gull		PE	PK		8104	MPE-PK
9614	Lo - Splash		S	V	Oldenkamp	9714	MS-V

ADS INSURANCE REQUESTS

To All Participating Societies:

The ADS will continue the General Liability Insurance Program.

Your cost is determined by society membership with no additional charge for Certificates of Insurance as may be required to cover show sites (malls, shopping centers, etc.).

Cost will be as follows:

Class 1 - From 10 to 50 members \$40.00

Class 2 - From 51 to 75 Members \$80.00

Class 3 - From 76 to 100 or more \$100.00

For NEW or SOCIETIES with 9 members or LESS the cost would be \$25.00.

Please list how many of your members are paid ADS members and how many are paid local society members each not by couples so we can better track our insurance cost.

ADS Members _____ Total including ADS members _____

Coverage will be as follows:

GENERAL LIABILITY Limits:

\$1,000,000 Per Occurrence

\$1,000,000 Fire Legal

\$2,000,000 General Aggregate

\$ 10,000 Medical Payments

\$1,000,000 Products/Completed Operations

The coverage is for any and all activities of the society for twelve months of the year, FOR ALL EVENTS FOR THE YEAR. Effective March 15, 2019 to March 15, 2020.

Send a check payable to the ADS for the applicable amount and return it with a completed application form. FOR ALL EVENTS FOR THE YEAR. **This application must be on file before coverage can be effective.** To assure a prompt and timely response, we must have receipt of the completed form at least 30 days prior to your event and **NO LATER** than June 15, 2019 for any form to be processed in a timely manner. Will NOT accept any later the July 1st, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS. **YOU WILL NOT BE SENT ANY FORMS IN THE MAIL. PLEASE USE OR COPY THE ONE IN DECEMBER, MARCH OR JUNE BULLETIN FOR YOUR CERTIFICATE REQUEST.**

Cheryl Shores

310/368-3316

baydreamin01@verizon.net

Return To:

Cheryl Shores

23721 Rolling Fork Way
Gaithersburg, MD 20882



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Certificate of Insurance Request Form

Are you a current, active member of your organization?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
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This Certificate request form is for professional individuals, clubs, and chapters.

Name of Organization / Association:

Name / Chapter Name

Name, Title, & Address of insured/Member Requesting Certificate:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

How would you like the Certificate of Insurance sent to you?

Fax to: ☐ Insured: ☐ Certificate Holder:

Email to: ☐ Insured: ☐ Certificate Holder:

Mail to: ☐ Insured: ☐ Certificate Holder:

1. Name of event:

2. Location of the event (Name and Address):

3. Date of the event/function:

4. Name of entity (including mailing address) requesting proof of liability coverage:

5. Is the entity requesting to be named as an Additional Insured? Yes No

Does the additional insured own the event location? Yes No

If no, please provide explanation of relationship between your club and the entity requesting the Additional Insured status:

6. With regards to this event is your club/group:

Sponsoring Yes No

Volunteering Yes No

Participating Yes No

7. Please list your/your club's function and/or activities for the event

(Explain exactly what your role is with respect to the event.

More information is needed other than simply " sponsoring/volunteering):

Please explain the Additional Insured's role/actions in the event:

Is alcohol being served? Yes No

Is food being served? Yes No

Is this an athletic event? Yes No

Are you using trailers / mobile equipment? Yes No

*****Important-Mercer Consumer Is unable to process incomplete and/or unsigned Certificate requests.*****

Signature:

Date:

Please fax or email your request to: Fax-515-365-3005

or Email: PLSDSTEAM.service@mercer.com

SPECIAL PROPAGATION AND A HOPEFUL NEW BEGINNING FOR TARATAHI LILAC

This is a story that is important to dahlia culture in several ways. First, it addresses the very real problem of propagation of excellent varieties that are not good tuber makers yet are worthy of being enjoyed. Second, it deals with the issue of retaining what appears to be an excellent first year seedling and sparing the heartbreak of losing a good one. And third, it helps immensely in capturing the efforts to test and retain stock that has found to be free of virus.

Taratahi Lilac is a beautiful BB-IC LB that has been in commerce since at least 1996 and originated in New Zealand by E. and J. Frater according to the Classification Handbook. This is a dahlia I was smitten with when I returned to the dahlia patch in 2005. It has been on many Courts of Honor since its introduction but has always been a challenge to grow because it is a poor tuber maker. It has been difficult to find a source for tubers for some time, and when a friend had what I thought was the last plant of it last year, I asked if I could have the above ground portion last October. Two of its blooms got to two Courts in our area last fall.

I knew exactly what I would do, and I proceeded to take the entire five feet of multiple canes to Leon Carrier, owner of Plant Masters here in Maryland. Leon has quite an affection for dahlias, as evidenced by his 40,000 plants used to populate his 7 Farmers Markets in the Washington Metro area. I had learned a couple years earlier that Leon did not dig his 40,000 dahlias but instead, took fall cuttings in September into October. He then rooted and propagated plants throughout the fall and into the following spring. Leon says that when Nick called, he knew he had to help. "Nick has always been generous and has let me take cuttings from his garden." I took the entire plant to Leon that mid-October day and watched as he carefully took cuttings of many types from that mature plant. He had several typical primary axial growth cuttings perhaps 2 to 4 inches in length, but because it was a mature plant there were many other cuttings that were what are called single node cuttings. These varied from smaller ones that included both leaves as well as larger single node cuttings comprised of half stems with only a single leaf. In most cases where the single node was involved, part of the leaf was cut off. Leon filled a 72-plant tray of seedling mix with cuttings from the plant and then took it to his greenhouse and watered it well. He then covered the tray with one sheet of newspaper to cut down on light and increase humidity during the first 3 critical days. Inside under lights they do not need covering but he does shallow watering every day for 3 days and then gradually withholds water until they start to wilt.



The rooting then begins in his greenhouse with about 75 trays of different varieties. He makes a tray of cuttings for each variety that he grows. He also has installed a string of LED lights at intervals of about 3 feet above the cuttings that are turned on at 3am through 7:30am to assist with light requirements (long day response) and to prevent the cuttings from making tubers during the waning fall daylight. In early January, the trays of cuttings are moved inside to his basement where light is furnished artificially 24 hours a day. When the New Year arrives, the rooted cuttings are large enough to yield cuttings themselves. Additional subsequent cuttings can be made by late March, if needed. An initial 75-plant tray can become 300 to 400 plants by May. Leon is careful to monitor and treat the cuttings primarily for powdery mildew, fungus gnats and aphids. He treats weekly for powdery mildew (1 tbsp. horticultural oil, 1 tbsp. baking soda, 1 tsp. liquid hand soap per 1 gal water) and when needed, with orthene for fungus gnats and aphids (3/4 tsp./gallon of water). He also regularly feeds the cuttings with ¼ strength 20-20-20. The critical aspect of the water, insecticide, and feeding treatments is that they are done from below with the trays partially submerged in the required solution to keep the foliage dry. By May he usually has about 15,000 rooted cuttings, and 200 more new cuttings of Taratahi Lilac.

This article was prepared by Nick Weber with the expert help of Leon Carrier whose important method of dahlia culture sustains the large clientele of Plantmasters in their enjoyment of the dahlia. You can learn more about Plantmasters on Facebook @plantmasters and on Instagram @plantmasters1

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GARDEN

By Ramona Kuiper

Greetings to everyone! As I write this today, it is a very beautiful and sunny day. Last evening's storm seemed to have awakened nature, telling us to get on with 2020, enjoying the outdoors and all of Mother Nature's gifts. There is so much to enjoy and be thankful for, even if we might need to look around to find the hidden ones.

In February, my Mr. underwent a very major surgery - he had to have his spleen removed and the tail end of his pancreas that had lesions in it. As he was coming out of surgery, we were told it was cancerous looking. I refused to believe this and kept telling my Mr. "Let's just wait until the report comes back." When they did, one of the tests looked "iffy." The doctor decided to send another sample to another place, and this time, the results came back asNO CANCER. As it was explained to us, it's like splitting a hair, and the side his fell on was the "no cancer" side. Had he waited a couple more months, we might have seen a different outcome, so we just praise God for looking out for my Mr. He feels he has been left on this earth to complete his purpose and meanwhile, his eyes have been opened to the fact that one should never take life for granted.

The whole time he was in the hospital he talked dahlias this and dahlias that. Soon he had his check up and asked about two things - gardening and fishing. At first he was given a weight lifting restriction of 10 pounds or less. Thankfully, that has finally been lifted - he is still working on getting his stamina back. The doctor warned him that he is a very high risk now and has to be careful with things. But my Mr. always has to prove himself that he still can do the gardening and pull in the big fish. I must say that his dahlias have helped him avoid boredom while he has been cooped up.

While he was recovering, I felt pretty good and decided to go outside. There I was, just walking along, going to the mailbox, minding my own business when I looked down and - lo and behold - there were snakes of all sizes and colors. Oh my goodness! They were all heading to my Mr.'s and my kid's garden. Oh dear! And to think they asked me to help them in there this year. I'm starting to have second thoughts about the snakes and big huge spiders. I just may be allergic to the garden duties. Not all creatures are so worrisome - This year we have a bird. It is a very confused lost little sweet bird. It's a tufted titmouse, the cutest thing ever. It pecks on my windows several times a day and just sings its heart out. I have never had this happen! Soon the wrens will come and join in the singing, and hummers will join the chorus. This is nature at its best - it's such a sweet gift to have enjoyed. I wished I knew what this bird was trying to say - I have a feeling it is seeing its reflection and thinking that it has a mate.

I hope you are all well, and that you survived the spring and the Corona virus. It sure was an eye-opening adventure, stopping us in our tracks.

We quickly learned that we are not in control, finding our lives have been turned around real fast. There have been many lessons to be learned from this – such as being homebound. It really hasn't been that bad, even if some were bored and ready to pull their hair out. Sometimes we find ourselves going too fast in life and need to just take time to smell the roses along the way. Too fast a pace can cause us to miss out on a lot of God's gifts and miracles, simply because we don't take time to look and enjoy. COVID-19 virus has everyone in an uproar, it seems - hoarding of toilet paper and sanitizing products – all we can find are empty shelves. It makes me stop and think that we should leave a diary for the generations to come. I can picture my family from years before, living on the prairie, preparing for winter time. They knew that when the harsh winters came, they would be cabin bound for months. They knew to always be prepared the best they could. It's hard to imagine how they survived, with very small homes, cooking and heating by woodstoves and fireplaces. Attempts by wild animals to rob them of their meat stored in the sheds or trips out to the outdoor privy presented very real danger, a cold adventure all its own. The paths were icy and paths needed to be shoveled - I think I would have moved my "outdoor privy" very close to the back door and kept it heated. Out on the prairie, they were stuck with each, working together to do what was needed in order to survive the winter. If they had kept journals, it would be neat to read their notes. Nowadays, our diaries would probably say 'We had a bad virus that scared everyone, so we bought all the toilet paper we could find to use in our nice warm bathrooms, we ate TV dinners from our freezer, and Twinkies at night while playing games with the already bored family. Hmmm...maybe we DID make something wonderful happen. We bonded, drawing closer to each other and to God. The world became a better place.

My kid and my Mr. have gone through the dahlias, sorting and bagging up the tubers. They have such a fun time, their very own "together time." They dream of the dahlias they will grow even though the garden looks bare at the moment. Soon they will be planting and gently caring for the budding plants, and along with Mr. Mac, they will plant and tend to the trial garden. Our dahlia club will be planting a quilt garden at Southgate, and we will be looking forward to our August picnic and trial garden judging. We sure hope to have our Midwest Show, but these are all future things which at the moment can be so "iffy." But my Mr. and my kid always seem to have a uplifting and bright attitude about life – even if there are a few exceptions like rabbits, groundhogs and garden-eating bugs that are not so uplifting!

Well folks, I leave you with my grandma's famous saying..."Don't worry about the future, thy present is all thou hast, and thy future will soon be present - and thy present will soon be past." Happy dahlia growing and remember to share your beautiful blooms. May all your blooms be show winners, and the ones that aren't show winners will always be winners in the eyes of another. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, happiness is in the eye of the heart. Blessings, everyone.

WHY NOT BOTH?

A Reflection on the Role of the Dahlia Society

by Dana Miller

After staging and judging at a dahlia show was complete last year, my wife Cindy was in the exhibition area chatting with another grower. As they looked at the seedlings, he stated that our dahlia society had to decide whether we wanted to be a dahlia society or a garden club. He said that we had a hybridizer now and that, as a "dahlia society" we would be able to offer him more support than we would as a "garden club." Cindy was somewhat taken aback by these comments and did not have a quick response.

As we were driving home, she recounted this exchange. Then she said, "Why can't we be both?"

When we first joined the dahlia society, we perceived the focus of the group to be showing (and judging) dahlias. Basically, the idea was that the only motivation for growing the biggest and best dahlias was in order to display them and win in shows. This translated to pretty extreme topping and disbudding, a good deal of fertilization and insect control, and choices of varieties to grow based on their record of wins. While there is nothing at all wrong with this outlook, it didn't match the feelings that Cindy and I share when it comes to growing dahlias. In a nutshell, our intent was (and still is) to produce blooms as early and as often as possible. Enjoying the astounding beauty of seemingly endless varieties and sharing them with friends and family is our prime source of enjoyment.

In all fairness, we joined the dahlia society when we attended our first show in 2006 as preparations and discussions for the 2008 National Dahlia Show were the prominent items on the agenda at our meetings. As any society who has hosted a national show knows, the planning becomes all-consuming. The topics at our meetings included judging, exhibition tables, the Court of Honor, and the logistics involved with all of these. In addition, there were many discussions about accommodations for guests, banquet menus, bus trips and goody bags. All this left little time for topics about growing dahlias.

Once the National Show was over, we noticed that the focus still seemed to be on showing dahlias as the most important reason for growing our favorite flower. Cindy and I were interested in learning more about dahlia culture just so we could grow nicer blooms. We believed that other people in the society were also interested in learning how to include dahlias in their garden – at least as many as were there to learn how to grow the "biggest

and the best.” We encouraged the club officers to include discussions on dahlia-growing culture at our meetings in addition to judging seminars and other show-related topics. In the view of some of the members, moving to include such topics was paramount to turning us into a garden club rather than a dahlia society.

Our encouragement of teaching how to grow dahlias coincided with a renewal of interest in “the dahlia” as a flower. This attracted members who just wanted to have dahlias in their garden and needed to know how to deal with all the idiosyncrasies inherent to their propagation — dividing tubers, storing tubers, specific insect control issues, disbudding and the like. Many of these members had never seen a dahlia show, let alone entered one.

Our personal approach evolved into the encouragement of others to enter the show, and at the same time we emphasized that it is not at all necessary. We also enter varieties of blooms that have little chance of winning with the sole purpose of showing them to others (Cindy’s appraisal when making our show choices: “Take that one; the people will love it!”). We encourage easy access to opportunities for everyone to help out at the show. This often is a new member’s introduction to the show scene and a comfortable way to see what it is all about without any pressure. Frequently, after entering a bloom or two, and even more the subsequent year, the member transforms from a casual grower into an exhibitor. Also, a couple of our members proposed an exhibition opportunity of a simple container with dahlias and complementary plant material, with no restrictions except for size. This was in addition to the formal Artistic Design class, which has more stringent requirements and is judged by accredited flower show judges from The Garden Club Federation of Pennsylvania. Our show organizers graciously agreed to this addition. The first year of the “container” competition, the winner was chosen by lottery. Then we decided to make it a People’s Choice award, inviting the guests at Longwood Gardens to cast their ballots. This has become a very popular part of our show and offering an informal arrangement class seems to have encouraged more participation in the formal Artistic Design class.

Getting more people involved with the show has increased entries and participation, but there is one vitally important need that we are struggling with. At our last meeting, long-time dahlia grower and exhibitor extraordinaire Jim Thomas expressed a valid concern about the diminishing number of our club’s show judges. Where will our future judges come from? Since it would be a rare occurrence that an experienced dahlia show judge would wander in off the street, we have to develop our own judges. They will have to come from our general membership, so it stands to reason

that a larger pool of society members will provide a greater likelihood that some of them will become judges. Our memberships have increased over the last few years, so that is a good start. We continue to get our message out with presentations at garden clubs and by social media. Once new members join our society, we have to keep them interested, and provide the information about growing dahlias that they crave. We should also encourage them to get involved in the show in any way they find interesting. As an example, clerking might lead to an interest in being a candidate judge, and then an accredited judge. We have to provide a clear path to becoming a judge and make sure that everyone understands how to follow that path. We also need to remind members about this essential job for putting on a show and encourage their participation.

Speaking for myself, I joined our dahlia society to spend time with like-minded dahlia enthusiasts and to learn to grow better dahlias. Although showing dahlias was secondary at the time, it has become a very important part of my dahlia-growing life - for Cindy, not so much. I have found that the quality of my dahlia blooms has greatly improved, including those that I'm not growing to show. This is because of what I've learned from The Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society and the American Dahlia Society. I have become an accredited judge, which has further enhanced my enjoyment of growing dahlias. Perhaps new members might come for the reasons I did and learn to appreciate the dahlia judging process. Will they join if we are only concerned about growing dahlias for showing? Will they join if we are just a garden club that specializes in growing dahlias? Why can't we be both?



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360-219-7966

2020
AMERICAN DAHLIA SOCIETY
JUDGING PROGRAM
ADS Accreditation Chair
Bob Schroeder

Once again it is time to close out another year for the judges of the American Dahlia Society. This year we have thirty-eight individuals who entered the judging program as candidates. We also have eighteen members who advanced to the accredited judge's level, twenty-one have achieved the top level of judging, the senior judge and two members have moved to the Honorary Senior Judging status. The Governing Board of the American Dahlia Society congratulates and thanks all who entered as candidates or have advanced in the judging program. For all who have been unable to continue with the active judging program and have chosen to continue as honorary senior judges, we thank you for the time you have given to the judging program. Once again new candidates, advancing accredited and senior judges were awarded judging pins and certificates in recognition of their accomplishments. We hope the pins will be worn with pride for the many hours given to reach these judging levels.

5 Valley Dahlia & Glad Society

Tami Man Oust	Accredited
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Badger State Dahlia Society

Connie Bell	Accredited
Kat Grande	Accredited
Merrilee Blackmer	Accredited
Tom Paul	Senior
Jeff Volden	Candidate

Colorado Dahlia Society

Jennifer Carpenter	Candidate
Connecticut Dahlia Society	
Wendy Parish	Candidate

Dahlia Society of California

Chad Baker	Accredited
Greta Juul	Honorary

Dahlia Society of Wisconsin

Jim Monnahan	Senior
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Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

Aurora Brant	Candidate
Deborah Pavich	Candidate
Sheila Smith	Candidate
Dave Rothrock	Candidate
Steve Lamb	Accredited
Anne Maria Jacobson	Accredited
Doug Symonds	Accredited
Annie Walker	Accredited
Harvey Tatel	Accredited
Walt Jacenko	Senior
Peter Krueger	Senior

Gettysburg Dahlia Society

Steve Trumpower	Accredited
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Greater Columbus Dahlia Society

Jamie Baldwin	Candidate
Jason Fairchild	Candidate
Don Grube	Candidate
Jeff Laine	Candidate
Linda Laine	Candidate
Melody Linscott	Candidate
Bill Paloney	Candidate
David Plummer	Candidate
James Rengert	Candidate
Jeannette Westfall	Honorary

**Greater Cincinnati Dahlia Society
Dahlia Association**

Brett Stephenson	Candidate
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Greater Kansas City Dahlia Society

Larry Boucher	Senior
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Greenwich Dahlia Society

Kenneth Pojman	Candidate
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HAMILTON & District**Chrysanthemum & Dahlia Society**

Linda Lynott	Accredited
Lori Peplinskie	Candidate

Inland Empire Dahlia Society

Heidi Byrum	Accredited
Sally Colwell	Senior

Lane County Dahlia Society

Deborah Gilmer	Senior
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Mahoning Valley Dahlia Society

Dave Habeger	Senior
Joyce Habeger	Senior
Mary Lou Jessop	Senior
Alice Lang	Senior
David Jester	Senior

Mid Island Dahlia Society

Robert Fackovec	Candidate
Kathleen Burke	Senior
Lorraine Loughlin	Senior
Richard Loughlin	Senior
Jim Teeple	Senior
Richard Teeper	Senior

Minnesota Dahlia Society

Erica Lawrenz	Senior
John Maxwell	Senior

Monterey Bay Dahlia Society

Ed Rosser	Accredited
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Nanaimo Gladiola & Dahlia Society

Julie Mervyn	Candidate
Anne Kenny	Candidate
Candi McNeil	Candidate
Sandra Millen	Candidate
Guy Tohana	Candidate

Portland Dahlia Society

Barbara Caffaratti	Candidate
Julie Huynh	Candidate
Terry Smith	Candidate
Linda Taylor	Senior
Adrienne Hale	Senior

Quebec Dahlia Society

Claudine Labadie	Candidate
Roger Quenville	Candidate
Michel Vanier	Candidate

Rhode Island Dahlia Society

Mel Epstein	Accredited
Betsy Szymczak	Accredited

Rochester Dahlia Society

Jeffrey Davis	Candidate
William Doolittle	Candidate
Patricia Pirz	Candidate
Suzanne Zigrossi	Accredited

San Leandro Dahlia Society

John Shaw	Honorary
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Southeastern Michigan**Dahlia Society**

Sherree Kneller	Candidate
Frank Lopiccolo	Candidate
Gary Polenychko	Candidate
Russell Propst	Accredited

Tennessee Dahlia Society

Molly Adams	Candidate
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BALLOT FOR ADS ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers to serve the American Dahlia Society for 2020 - 2022 or until their successors are elected or appointed

() For President	Brad Freeman
() For First Vice President	Mark Oldenkamp
() For Second Vice President	Tony Evangelista
() For Third Vice President	Ken Jensen
() For General Secretary	Terry Schroeder
() For Treasurer	Charles Miehme
() For Trustee 2024	Ronald Miner

Note: ADS Trustees Harry Rissetto and Jerry Landerholm serve to 2022.

() Vote here for entire slate without change.

Nominating Committee: Charles Miehme, Ron Miner, Mark Oldenkamp, Bob Schroeder, Chair Jerry Landerholm and Elva Sellens, ex officio.

Write in Candidates must file a notarized acceptance with the General Secretary of the American Dahlia Society, Inc., prior to July 15, 2020. It requires twenty-five (25) votes to elect. All members in good standing are entitled to vote. Ballots must be dated on or before August 15, 2020. They may be sent by mail or email to Charles Miehme, 38430 Piggott Bottom Road, Hamilton, VA 20158 Email: miemoss@rstarmail.com

Signature_____ Date_____

ADS VICE PRESIDENTS AT LARGE

As excerpted from the By Laws of the ADS, Vice Presidents at Large are defined as “emissaries of the American Dahlia Society to Participating and Affiliated Societies and other horticultural groups.” “They shall be selected in recognition of their sustained contributions to the ADS and the promotion of the dahlia and shall be selected on the basis of their capacity to serve as ambassadors of the ADS and not on the basis of membership in a particular Participating or Affiliated Society.”

ADS Vice Presidents at Large for Years 2020 - 2022

Aaron, Erina Ann, Jackson Heights, NY
Ambrose, Richard & Susan, Camano Island, WA
Badger, Megan, Salt Lake City, UT
Bates, David, United Kingdom
Benson, Jeanette, Aloha, OR
Bergman, Teresa, Castle Rock, WA
Blackmer, Dave & Diana, Kenmore, WA
Bloomquist, Paul & Barbara, Bellingham, WA
Boley, Sandra & Steve, Sumas, WA
Brown, David, United Kingdom
Burfeind, Randall, Overland Park, KS
Bushman, William, Medford, NY
Cap, Dave, Parma, OH
Carey, Graham, United Kingdom
Chandler, Harriet, Youngstown, OH
Chibante, Robert, Gold Beach, OR
Chmura, Art & Julie, Renton, WA
Chuey, Jim, North Lima, OH
Cleere, Thomas, The Villages, FL
Collier, Barbara, Greenwich, CT
Connell, Lester & Vivian, Puyallup, WA
Cook, Dennis & Janet, Fort Lupton, CO
Cookson, Lexa, Eugene, OR
Cox, Stephen, Australia
Craig, Charles, Oregon, WI
Dandurand, Nina, Aylesford, NS
Dexter, Carol & Cecil, Great Village, NS
Dietz, Deborah, San Francisco, CA
Duxbury, Ron, York, ON
Edwards, Jeanne, Warrenton, VA
Eldridge, David, Stanwood, WA
Elkner, Tim, Marietta, PA
Evans, Terry, Cincinnati, OH
Fitzgerald, Sue, Alsip, IL
Foith, Kathy, Deerfield, OH

Garner, Wilson, Auburn Hills, MI
Grant, Eileen, Lacombe, AB
Greenway, Ken, Snohomish, WA
Gustafson, Swede, Missoula, MT
Hammett, Keith, New Zealand
Hartman, Carol, Moscow, OH
Hatt, Debbie, Delburne, AB
Hawkins, Cheryle, Eugene, OR
Helgersen, Danny, New Berlin, WI
Hexham, Doris & Jay, Hicksville, NY
Hoxie, Kathleen, Herndon, VA
Humeniuk, Jerry, Waterloo, ON
Hurst, Mark, West Valley City, UT
Jack, Kit & Walter, New Zealand
Jackman, Gordon, Portland, OR
Jepsen, Joanne, Ada, MI
Kaas, Allan & Michelle, Woodinville, WA
Kassner, James, Elk Grove Village, IL
Kavanagh, Dan, Huguenot, NY
Kennedy, Margaret & Ted, Oregon City, OR
Kenyon, Eugene, Veneta, OR
Killingsworth, Brian, Henderson, NC
Kirchner, Dennis, Lawrence, NY
Kreiner, John & Regina, Norcross, GA
Kuiper, Steve, Goshen, IN
Kurth, Wally, Surrey, BC
Landerholm, Marian, Lombard, IL
Lobaugh, Wayne Jr, Chehalis, WA
Lohkamp, James, Albuquerque, NM
Magura, Rosemarie, Glenview, IL
Maloney, Kevin, Palatine, IL
McArthur, Lorne, Red Deer, AB
McKittrick, Paul, Cobble Hill, BC
Menzel, John, Australia
Meggos, Steve, Carpentersville, IL
Miller, Cynthia Sellersville, PA
Miller, Ed, Owego, NY
Mooney, John, Hamilton, ON
Moreno, Jerry, Chagrin Falls, OH
Morgan, Corny, Palos Heights, IL
Mortensen, Spencer, Sandy, UT
Moynahan, Anna, Cincinnati, OH
Noel, Camille, Eugene, OR
Oldenkamp, Laura, Canby, OR
Parshall, Danielle & Richard, Snohomish, WA
Partin, Jeff, Dallas, GA
Pearson, Dan, Oakville, WA
Peters, Richard, Muskegon, MI
Phillips, Ray, Hixon, TN

Phillips, Ray, Hixon, TN
Pinholster, Dan & Paula, Cartersville, GA
Plowman, Gary, Spokane Valley, WA
Powys-Lybbe, Reg, High River, AB
Qualizza, Clara, Wildwood, AB
Radcliff, Annie, Waterford, MI
Redd, Kenneth, Pandora, OH
Retzer, Helmut, Loveland, CO
Riordan, Mike, Portland, OR
Ritchie, Anita & Rusty, Elkhart, IN
Romer, Jamie (John), Cary, NC
Rumple, Thomas, Whitmore Lake, MI
Santose, Steve, Marysville, WA
Schnerr, Marjorie, Prospect, CT
Schoenauer, Jerry, Middlebury, IN
Seguin, Claude, Montreal, PQ
Shukofsky, Kitty & Michael, Elmont, NY
Siem, Randy, Richmond, MN
Smith, David & Leone, Chimacum, WA
Soule, Cindy, Fridley, MN
Spangenberg, John, Damascus, MD
Stevens, Mary & Roger, Markesan, WI
Sterling, Joyce, Needham, MA
Suttell, Ralph, Grimsby, ON
Swanstrom, Bill, Spokane, WA
Thomas, Jim, Malvern, PA
Toedtli, Eric, Vancouver, WA
Toot, Gene, East Liverpool, OH
Toth, Rodney, Hubbard, OH
Unger, Gary, St Paul, MN
Verbeek, Bettina, Germany
Verrone, Roland, Indian Trail, SC
Volden, Monique, Mount Horeb, WI
Walker, Colin, Renton, WA
Walton, Ken, Tacoma, WA
Warden, Donald, New Boston, MI
Westfall, Jeanette & Richard, Marysville, OH
Whitfield, Ed & Kathy, Birmingham, AL
Willoughby, Barry & Mary, Victoria, BC
Woodward, Paulette, Coos Bay, OR
Young-Davis, Connie, Victoria, BC
Zierdt, Jerry & Karen, Apple Valley, MN
Zydner, Karen, Corralitos, CA

BROAD MITES AND DAHLIAS

by Tony Evangelista

Possibly the worst dahlia pest I've ever had the misfortune to experience over the decades of dahlia culture was broad mites, which plagued my dahlias two years ago. It started when I noticed one deformed lateral shoot on one plant in July. Foolishly I did not examine the one inch abnormal shoot closely. I wrongly assumed it was probably just damage from a sucking insect when the shoot was smaller and just developing. The next time I observed the shoot it was about five inches long and severely deformed as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

This time I broke the lateral shoot off and examined it closely with a magnifying glass but couldn't see any evidence of insect predation. I then scraped the young leaves front and back and examined the debris under my microscope at 10X magnification. I was then able to see the mite shown in Figure 3.



Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

I remembered a discussion at a Midwest Conference Spring meeting about broad and cyclamen mites and the severity of the problem once they were established. I recalled Dave Knox from the Michigan Dahlia Association remarking that this is something you do not want to have to deal with. Sadly, he was correct in spades.

So what are broad mites? They are much smaller than the spider mites most dahlia growers are familiar with. They are truly microscopic being less than 0,2 mm in length. Broad mites inject a toxin from their saliva as they feed causing the distortion of growing tips and inward curling of the leaves. They also cause a very distinctive and characteristic "bronzing" of the undersides of leaves. They affect many plant species and not just dahlias. These susceptible plants include: New Guinea impatiens, gerbera, ivy, lantana, snapdragon, verbena, zinnia, peppers and other vegetable plants (1). Sadly, then, the mites can be introduced to your dahlias by other plants brought into your yard from outside sources.

When I diagnosed my problem, I discarded the entire plant hoping that I had interceded quickly enough to end the problem. Unfortunately, I had not. I started to see damaged foliage on new laterals of adjacent plants. Broad mites are believed to be dispersed to new plants through plant-to-plant contact or moved by larger insects like white-flies and aphids (1) So imagine a pest so small that it "hitchhikes" on the legs of insects as small as white-flies and aphids. Obviously, we can also disperse them when disbudding.

It is important to act quickly at the very first signs of broad mite damage. That's because they complete a life cycle in about one week with a range of 5-13 days according to the Tennessee State Extension Service (2). So I immediately began spraying with JMS Stylet Oil (a highly refined mineral oil) every 3-4 days in an attempt to break the life cycle paying particular attention to the underside of the leaves and new growth. I also continued to discard deformed foliage. Broad mites are destroyed at temperatures greater than 110 F. I would go through my garden and cull infected new growth and put it in a black garbage bag with a tie. After going through my entire garden and handling and discarding all deformed foliage, I would then wash my hands thoroughly before returning to work in my garden. This bag would then be left in direct sun all day to raise the temperature inside the bag to well over 110 F. This would kill all the mites. I then threw the bag in the trash. No composting! For small potted plants affected, the entire plant and pot could be submerged in 110 F water. I felt that I controlled the problem but did not eradicate it.

In summary, I would be especially cautious when bringing in stock of any new plant material to your yard. Remember the signs of broad mites are stunted terminal growth, curling inward of leaves and bronzing of the underside of leaves. This bronzing was the change in color of the underside of leaves from the usual light green color to a bronze shade. This symptom was marked in my garden. At the first signs, begin spraying with a horticultural oil or insecticidal soap. I don't advocate use of miticides although there are some labeled for this use. Remember to spray every 3-4 days to break the five day life cycle.

You could also consider biological control. As Rick Yates has stated about that approach, "There's conflicting information about the effectiveness of using predator mites to control broad mites so I reached out to Ronald Valentin, lead entomologist and biocontrol expert at Bioline Agrosciences, Inc. Ronald stressed that curative treatments aren't going to be successful although all of the *Amblyseius* mites will feed on broad mites. Best success will be achieved when high numbers of predator mites are present. An example would be the hundreds of predator mites released over four to six weeks when utilizing mini-sachets of *A. cucumeris* to control thrips on

hanging baskets. During warm summertime conditions, *A. swirskii* can be expected to outperform *A. cucumeris*. *A. andersoni* is the best choice in cooler conditions since it's active down to 43 F (6C). Last, but not least, *A. californicus* shines under the lower relative humidity conditions that hinder the other *Amblyseius* mites" (3). Arbico Organics and A.M. Leonard are sources for all of the above mentioned predatory mite species.

I did not have a mite problem the following year in Ohio! We had a fairly cold winter—dahlias left in the ground did not over winter. Temperatures below 32 F dramatically decrease survival and reproduction of adult female broad mites. Median lethal times average 61.2 hours at 26 F and averaged 9.3 days at 35.6 F (4). So pray for cold weather after a daunting season with broad mites. Greenhouse users might consider allowing the greenhouse to get as cold as possible in the winter to kill the mites.

I would really like to hear from other dahlia growers regarding your experience with broad mites. I would love to report more personal experiences that other growers have had. I would also like to express my appreciation to the folks at the Ohio State University Extension Office for confirming my diagnosis from the photos and description I gave them (5).

Tony can be reached at tony.evangelista@icloud.com.

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LET'S TALK ABOUT DAHLIA BREEDING

By Keith Hammett

National Dahlia Society of New Zealand

(Editor's Note: This article first appeared on Facebook. Keith generously agreed to allow us to reproduce it in this issue of the ADS Bulletin. Thank you, Keith!)

The common garden dahlia is a hybrid between just two species, and its extreme variability is the result of the hybrid being octoploid - it has four sets of each chromosome pair. This, in addition to transposon activity, gives an almost infinite range of gene permutations. There are about 40 species of Dahlia, only a few of which have been introduced to cultivation. Three or more decades ago I visited Mexico to see some species growing in the wild. A modest collection was established here in Auckland which supported several MSc and PhD research projects and several interspecific hybrids were created.

Now that we are well into March and we have finally had some rain here in Auckland, the dahlias are rallying and we are able to assess whether any progress has been made towards our breeding goals. Thirty or more years ago, Bill McClaren, the breeder of the 'Alpen' Dahlias in Montana, visited New Zealand. I distinctly recall our discussions regarding possible breeding directions when Bill was experimenting with the production of genuine miniature sized cactus types. We wanted to take a closer look at collarettes. We observed that ever since their introduction in France during the second half of the nineteenth century, the collar which surrounds the central disc was either the same colour as the ray florets (petals) or if the collar was a contrasting colour, it was invariably paler than the ray florets. I was already working on reverse bi-colour sweet peas, so it was not a big leap to ponder whether it might be possible to produce a reverse collarette, where the collar is darker than the ray florets. As no such beast yet existed, in the world of sweet peas, one had to look for the slightest suggestion of this characteristic and work incrementally to intensify this propensity.



Collarette 'Thumbprint'



Note the dark foliage

'Thumbprint' is a self-colored collarette where the collar is the same colour as the ray florets. Note the dark disc florets against which the emerging stigmas covered in pollen contrast. The anthers that produce the pollen remain in the tubes. Dahlias are unable to fertilize themselves and seed is only produced when bees and other insects remove the self-pollen and bring in pollen from elsewhere. Why the name Thumbprint ? Well I was sufficiently confident of the selection that I thought it might be the one with which I left my thumbprint on history. Maybe I should name something 'Hubris'?



A standard bi-colour where the collar is paler than the ray florets.



Dark Tiger - 2001



Pale Tiger - 2005

Two of my collarettes named after two of my tabby cats.



Coded selection with contrasting collar



Coded selection where contrast is more intense. Are white ray florets next?

The collarettes above exhibit a variety of features. The bi-color collarette typically has a collar paler than the ray florets. The center disc florets are dark yellow. The two 'Tigers' both feature collars that are darker than the ray florets, and they both feature yellow center disc florets. The two selections are some results of the work being done. The coded selection on the left has a contrasting collar, and you will note that the one on the right is even more so, where the contrast is more intense. Both examples have dark disc florets.

Work continues here in New Zealand. I have been able to incorporate a dark disc as well as dark leaves into collarettes as well as increasing the range of colour combinations and intensifying the intensity of contrast between the collar and rays. It is rewarding to observe that Colin Walker in the USA introduced 'Kelsey Annie Joy' in 2013, a very nice reverse collarette, which continues to do well at dahlia shows in the USA.



Kelsey Annie Joy

DAHLIA HISTORY

(Editor's Note: The June issue of *The Bulletin* is usually filled with information about the upcoming ADS National Show, usually held in September. Due to the COVID-19 situation, this year's ADS National Show had to be cancelled. This leaves us with some open space in this month's issue, so we thought we would share some interesting bits of dahlia exhibition and history from past *Bulletins*. The following article was first published in the June 1969 issue of the *ADS Bulletin*.)

In an issue of a newspaper called *The Courier* dated Saturday, August 20, 1842, and published in St. John, New Brunswick, Canada, a story appeared describing the events and displays of flower exhibits staged in the buildings of the local exhibition. It read in part as follows:

"The amply-filled tables were ornamented with a profusion of Flowers, and near the throne of the Lady Patroness was a magnificent show of Dahlias, from the garden of L.A. Wilmot, Esquire, of Fredericton, NB."

The excerpt was from a story describing the opening of an annual exhibition. This event has taken place each fall in St. John for almost 150 years. Throughout its history the show has featured staged competitive dahlia shows.

The exhibitor and grower noted in 1842 was the late Hon. Lemuel Allan Wilmot (1809-1878), lawyer, orator, legislator, judge, attorney-general and the first native-born Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. He made at least two trips to London in the interests of his province before the year 1842 and it is reasonable to surmise he picked up either dahlia roots or seeds and brought them home and planted them in his extensive gardens. It is also assumed that dahlia seeds at that time were not readily available in either Canada or the United States.

Wilmot transported his dahlias from Fredericton, NB, to St. John, NB, a distance of 85 miles, by traveling on a riverboat that plied between those two cities on the St. John River. It would have taken him all day to reach his destination.

He, no doubt, had the same transport problems we have today when moving our exhibits over long distances. Nevertheless his dahlias created considerable attention when they were displayed in the exhibition building.

We must remember that in 1842 the dahlia as a garden flower had been introduced into Europe successfully only about fifty years before. It was brought from Mexico in the form of seeds to the Royal Botanical Gardens

in Madrid, Spain, and then made its way to England via France. Early records are scanty, and much of the pertinent matter has been copied, so that errors have been perpetuated. For example, probably the first of what we might call small formal decoratives were growing in the gardens of Count Lelieur on the outskirts of Paris in 1812-14.

We must assume Wilmot's dahlias were restricted to small flowers of various colors; the forerunners of the Double Show and Fancy. There were no decoratives or cactuses as we know them today. We might venture to say his dahlias were somewhat larger than our ball dahlias today and like them were globular and symmetrical. When breeders at that time produced a dahlia somewhat like our present cactus, it was discarded because it did not resemble the neat and compact types popular at the time.

Governor Wilmot's home and gardens covered eight acres at the outskirts of the city of Fredericton, NB and included his home, greenhouse, barns, coachhouse, sheds for coal and wood, grapery, potting and forcing houses and other miscellaneous structures.

Besides flowers, he hybridized plants of various kinds. One of his crosses produced two grotesque cucumbers. They were twice the circumference of ordinary cucumbers. One was 7 1/2 feet long and the other 4 1/2 feet. A publication of the day called *The Farmer* printed an account of these curiosities and it was copied by the *New York Herald*, which referred to the story as "bosh."

It is interesting to note that well-known seedsman W. Atlee Burpee's forebears lived for many years in the village of Sheffield, New Brunswick not far down the river below Fredericton. They moved to Philadelphia where Atlee was born in 1858.

Governor Wilmot was probably a pioneer grower of dahlias in Canada and perhaps in North America. If any reader has a story of an earlier grower, please let us hear about it.

RUSSELL COWAN, St. John, New Brunswick, Canada

GETTING A CULTIVAR ADDED TO THE ADS CLASSIFICATION BOOK

I put a new seedling in a show, and it went to the Court of Honor, but it isn't in the book – why is that? I have a cultivar that I bought from a commercial grower and I would like to show it, but it doesn't appear in the CHD (Classification and Handbook of Dahlias). Can I still bring it to a show? In my tenure as Classification Chairman, these are some of the most frequently asked questions. Let's see what is going on.

There are literally tens of thousands of dahlia cultivars in existence. The American Dahlia Society (ADS) has an ever-increasing database of cultivars. New cultivars are added to the database yearly. The database is kept by the Classification Chairman. In the past dozen years, this database, which we call the "Composite" has increased by over 2,500 cultivars. Our Composite now stands at 10,589 cultivars. As you can see, the Composite does not have every dahlia in existence. Ok, so how do "new" cultivars get listed in the Classification guide?

There are three avenues a "new" cultivar can take to get added to the CHD:

1. **Trial Garden (TG)**. There are several Trial Gardens throughout the United States and Canada. These Trial Gardens offer hybridizers a place to test their new seedlings. Three plants of the same seedling are grown and then evaluated by a minimum of three judges of which a majority must be senior judges. The evaluations are sent to the Trial Garden chairman who separates those varieties that pass (score 85 or higher) from those that don't. In a perfect world, the same cultivar that was entered in different Trial Gardens would have the same classification...but we don't live in a perfect world, so a decision is made on the classification of the cultivar based on the majority decision. Those passing cultivars are sent to the Classification Chairman who then adds them in the next published CHD. (For a more thorough explanation of Trial Garden rules, see page 92 of the 2020 CHD).

2. **Seedling Bench Evaluation (SBE)**. At any sanctioned ADS show, there is a section available to evaluate new seedlings. Three blooms of the same seedling are placed in the SBE section to be evaluated by Senior and Accredited judges. There will be a minimum of three judges, of which a majority must be senior judges. Seedlings receiving a passing score (85 or higher) will have the evaluations sent to the SBE chairman. Again, in a perfect world, the same seedling entered in different shows would have the same classification - but we don't live in a perfect world. Again, classification will be determined by a majority decision. Those cultivars that pass are then sent to the Classification Chairman who puts them in the next published CHD. (For more information on SBE rules, see page

97 of the 2020 CHD). Seedling score cards can be found on pages 102 and 104 of the 2020 CHD.

Sometimes, a cultivar entered in both the Trial Garden and the Seedling Bench Evaluation may not be classified the same. Discussions take place between the Trial Garden Chairman and the Seedling Bench Evaluation Chairman on what the classification should be. It may be necessary to call the originator for advice. When a consensus is reached, the Trial Garden and Seedling Bench reports are sent to the Classification chairman for inclusion into the next published CHD.

3. On the Show Table. At each dahlia show, there are reporters who record the number of blue and higher awards of all cultivars in the show. There will undoubtedly be winning cultivars that are not listed in the current CHD. These may include brand new cultivars, cultivars arriving from a foreign country, an "old" cultivar that has dropped out of the CHD, etc. Show reporters list these cultivars on a separate form with the number of wins and as much information about the cultivar that can be collected. These reports are sent to the Classification Chairman. Any of these unlisted cultivars winning at least two blue ribbons in the current growing season will be added to the next published CHD. These must be blue awards - higher awards do not count for inclusion into the CHD.

How does one get two blue ribbons (awards)? There are several ways to do this. Enter the same cultivar at different shows and win blues in at least two shows. If you can only attend one show, enter the same cultivar in different divisions. For example, enter one in the amateur division and one in the open-to-all division. If both entries get a blue, then you have two blue awards. You can also enter in the same division - place an entry in the specimen bloom class and one in the triple bloom class. If both entries garner a blue, then you have two blue awards.

A quick recap of how to get into the CHD. Receive a score of 85 or higher at a Trial Garden (TG), receive a score of 85 or higher at a Seedling Bench Evaluation (SBE) or get at least two blue awards at a show(s) in one growing season.

Once a cultivar is added to the CHD, it is also added to the Composite. The cultivar will always stay in the Composite; however, it may not stay in the CHD. As discussed earlier, there are new cultivars added yearly and there needs to be a way of culling out "old" cultivars or the CHD would become too large and cumbersome. Therefore, any existing cultivar in the CHD that does not receive three blue awards over the span of the most current two consecutive growing seasons will be removed from the CHD. (See page 2 of the 2020 CHD for details).

Lou Paradise

JOE AND GRACE MILAZZO; SOME EARLY MEMORIES

by Robert F. Fackovec, Mid Island Dahlia Society

One of my earliest recollections of dahlia growing came during a visit to a meeting of the Mid- Island Dahlia Society in Nassau County, Long Island, New York. I don't remember why I ventured into a club meeting or initially became interested in these amazing flowers. I sat in the back of the room, and just observed the club officers and members go about their welcoming, talking about dahlias and conducting the club's business.

A husband and wife realized that I was new, and they introduced themselves to me. As they spoke, I knew they had to be from Brooklyn, NYC. Sure enough, Joe and Grace Milazzo were from the Canarsie section of the borough, a predominantly Italian-American neighborhood. It was at least an hour's drive from their home to our meeting place on Long Island. Joe was a no-nonsense and animated guy. Grace was quieter and more subdued. I knew instantly that they were people I could relate to. Joe had been a dahlia grower for some time and he knew the ins and outs of dahlia-growing, including care and storage. He was always more than happy to share this knowledge with me. He also shared some great stories with me (some about dahlias and some not) at every MIDS meeting.

As I came to know them better, I learned that Joe and Grace were also square dancers. It was hard for me to even imagine that not only were they dahlia enthusiasts, but avid square dancers too! This taught me two things: 1) don't judge people by appearances, and 2) you can grow beautiful dahlias anywhere, in a huge garden or very small one. The total size of their small urban plot was probably only 40' x 60', and their dahlia garden was very tiny. Joe and Grace Milazzo were very devoted to each other, and to their enjoyment of growing dahlias. They taught me a lesson that I have learned and tried to emulate. They both passed away some years ago, and they are sorely missed by me.

Editor's Note: Thank you, Robert, for sharing your thoughts and memories with us. Readers, do you have stories about the people who influenced you in your dahlia hobby (obsession)? Drop me a note and let me know. We would love to hear from you!

THE GENOME PROJECT

By Kristine Albrecht

The ADS Genome Project is progressing despite the COVID-19 outbreak. The species seeds were grown out in December 2019. In Early March 2020, prior to the "shelter in place orders", Dr. Walbot took tissue samples and has them on ice at Stanford University. Dr. Harkess was planning on coming to California in March to take additional samples and bring them back to his lab in Georgia. Unfortunately, due to the virus, his trip west was canceled. I took samples for him and have them frozen until Dr. Walbot can travel to Santa Cruz with dry ice to retrieve them. She is unable to travel at this time due to the state shelter-in-place orders. Dr. Harkess' lab is currently shut down due to the virus. The species plants are growing now in my garden. Later this summer, Dr. Harkess will need to identify the plants once they bloom. Lastly, I will need to collect blooms from each of the species plants when they bloom so they can be frozen.

CLOSEOUT FOR THE SEPTEMBER BULLETIN IS JULY 15TH, 2020

PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES AND SHOW REPORTS TO

Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook

1640 Huntwood Lane

East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Email: lholmescoo@aol.com

SOCIETY REPORTS

ALBERTA DAHLIA & GLADIOLUS SOCIETY

The Alberta Dahlia & Gladiolus Society has had to cancel our tuber sales at our two venues – Red Deer and LaCombe. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we did online sales and they worked out very well. All tubers are now sold.

Debbie Hatt
ADS Representative

CENTRAL STATES DAHLIA SOCIETY

This certainly is a hard message to write with everything that is going on in the world right now. Our thoughts and prayers are with each and every one of you as you experience this social distancing order. Every activity that happens at this time of year is on hold with no end in sight, but we still have our dahlias. What a blessing!

Here in the Midwest most of the plant sales and related activities have been cancelled. Central States is in the process of rescheduling our Chicago Botanic Garden plant sale until the middle of June. If that happens, our gardens will get planted a little later than we would like, but still in time for great blooms for the fall shows. One of our great mentors, the late Bud Moore, claimed that in our area we can plant up until the Fourth of July and still get good blooms for the shows. We just have to alter the way we disbud and take out laterals to allow for the later planting.

Summer garden walks are still being planned with the hopes that the social distancing orders will be rescinded by the time they are set to take place. The garden walks are one of the wonderful joys of summer. Let's hope they don't have to be cancelled.

On a more cheerful note, the daffodils and other spring flowers are in bloom. The leaves on the trees are a little late but they are budding out and we will soon have small leaves on the trees. Club members are working on their propagation activities at home and at a green house. The propagation teams are allowed in the green house to take cuttings and water the plants, one or two people at a time, as long as they keep their distance from one another.

The members of Central States are looking forward to the Midwest Conference Show to be held in Elkhart, Indiana over Labor Day Weekend. Members are also being encouraged to register for the National Show to be held in Wenatchee, Washington later in September. Let's hope the virus will have disappeared by then and we will be able to gather in groups for the shows.

In the meantime, be careful and safe. Each of you is important to us. We look forward to seeing you later this summer. Most importantly, stay in touch.

Marian Landerholm
ADS Representative

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

How do you keep a dahlia society together and motivated in COVID-19 times? Our dauntless crew of cutting makers, Lou Paradise, Pat Hunter, Tinnee Lee and Chad Baker had barely gotten started and really appreciated the generous donation of pot roots from Mark Oldenkamp. We looked forward to offering our widest selection of beautiful dahlias ever. Suddenly voluntary lockdown descended upon San Francisco; our scion savers were asked to leave the greenhouse in Golden Gate Park. Although someone promised to water whatever they left behind, they were summarily ordered to simply walk away. Usually our Green Team provides 80% of merchandise for our Tuber and Plant Sale. What a disaster! How could we have an emergency board meeting under ever increasingly severe security conditions? Technology! Our board is grey--even white: we are OLD. Us oldsters are not always hip to the latest in electronic wizardry. However, our dauntless web mistress, Deborah, walked us through Zoom to set up for the first of many on-line conferences. As of mid-April DSC has not decided whether to postpone our Tuber Sale or simply skip it this year.

Our e-newsletter, sfdahlia.org, encouraged all members to reach out sort of like a Secret Santa only at Easter Bunny time and overt. Now is the time to connect with our fellow gardeners and chat about more than dahlias. Now is the time to share photos, Zoom, Face Time and whatsAPP. I personally have

been amazed at the wonderful little gifts that have appeared at my front door: a tomato, an onion, 3 bananas, 2 jars of peanut butter, 3 rolls of toilet paper and a half dozen of delicately green tinged eggs. Even--gasp!--chocolate! Such generosity flows in these tough times.

Nevertheless, Nature continues as is her wont: dahlias continue to push up to the earth's surface. The six dahlianeers who donate their tubers, time and expertise at the Dahlia Dell in Golden Gate Park have been able to tend their beds--all maintaining strict social distancing, wearing masks and gloves. Sue has already sunk almost 100 gopher cages; Erik and Nick have spread several bags of chicken manure; Tinnee, Lou and Pat have eradicated weeds, and Deborah reports 147 clumps poking up green shoots. They consider their actions semi-essential services--to provide something beautiful for the public this summer and fall. Like clandestine drug deals, discreet plant drop-offs have occurred around town. Back yard greenhouses are cossetting more cuttings than usual in the hopes that someone somewhere somehow will benefit. The mail still delivers choice tubers and cuttings from commercial growers. We dahlia gardeners NEED to grow dahlias and will find ways despite the plague that whirls around us.

Deborah Dietz
Dahlia Society of California
dahlia.dietz@gmail.com

DAHIA SOCIETY OF OHIO

Sadly, all of our spring DSO meetings scheduled for March through June including our April tuber and May plant sales had to be cancelled due to the Corona Virus pandemic; however, we were able to publish our March Dahlia Digest and hold online tuber and plant sales. The list of varieties available for both sales was posted on our website, and members submitted their orders via e-mail. Tubers were picked up on April 13-14 at Petitti's Garden Center.

We had already begun taking cuttings for our spring sales before the virus spread. This project has been led for 15 years by Mike Weber and Dave Cap and a group of volunteers at Willoway Nursery in Avon. The owner is a DSO member who graciously provides greenhouse space and materials for the operation, which produced about 500 plants.

If the virus has abated and does not return in the fall, we will hope to enjoy our summer picnic on August 1 at the Mobius Nature Center in Aurora, Ohio. We also hope that we will be able to stage our annual show September 18-20 at Summit Mall in Akron. And if circumstances allow, we plan to hold programs on October 16 and November 20, and on December 5, we hope to celebrate the winter holidays at our annual holiday luncheon. DSO is preparing to host the 2021 ADS National Show in Wooster, Ohio. We look forward to seeing many of you there. We hope that members of DSO and our fellow societies are staying well.

Tony Evangelista
ADS Representative

ELKHART DAHLIA SOCIETY

Greetings from the Elkhart Dahlia Society

It is with sadness that we have had to cancel the Midwest Dahlia Conference's Spring meeting and Plant Auction, which was originally scheduled for June 6, 2020. We want to make sure that all of our members stay healthy in this time of pandemic. The Elkhart Dahlia Society hopes to still hold the Summer Picnic and Judging Seminar scheduled for August 15 and the Midwest Dahlia Conference show on the Labor Day weekend.

While the entire world is shutting down to curb the spread of this virus, the members of the Elkhart Dahlia Society have been busy making plans for a Labor Day weekend of flowers, food and fellowship. Southgate Crossing is doing their utmost to see that the Midwest Conference Dahlia Show has plenty of space and food for the appetites and flowers of the Midwest growers. The show program is available at elkhartdahliasociety.com. Printed programs will be available later in the season.

Registration for the Midwest Show also goes to Anita Ritchie at 27074 C.R. 20, Elkhart, Indiana. If all goes well, it should be in this issue, and it is also available at elkhartdahliasociety.com under exhibitor info. The cost is \$75, payable to EDS. Our society has been blessed with generosity from fellow Midwest Conference societies and local members. Of particular interest is a donation of a beautifully stitched dahlia quilt. Details on how it can become

yours are available at our site under exhibitor info. Many thanks to Marcia Chambers of Topeka, Indiana, for her efforts and generosity.

Dates of Interest:

April 25: Plant and bulb sale at Topeka, Indiana. This sale is at the home of Mary Alice Yoder, and plans are to extend the days of the sale, and have customers schedule their visit to keep distancing reasonable.

May 2: Annual Tuber Exchange, Raffle and Pot Luck Luncheon at High Dive Pavilion, Elkhart, Indiana. This event has been cancelled and surplus dahlia stock will be available at the Ritchie home. A list of available varieties is on the website and if you contact Rusty at ritchie8961@aol.com

June 6: Annual Meeting of Midwest Dahlia Conference Societies at High Dive Pavilion, Elkhart, Indiana Catered Luncheon and Auction of dahlia plants. This event has been cancelled.

June 13: Plant Swap at Fernwood Botanical Gardens

August 15: Judging Seminar at the ADS Trial Garden at Bonneyville Mill Park.

September 4-6: Midwest Dahlia Conference Show at Southgate Crossing, Elkhart, Indiana. Pre-registration is very much appreciated.

Elkhart Dahlia Society is also on Facebook, but you are also welcome to go straight to the source through our site at

elkhartdahliasociety.com. May you all stay healthy and your gardens thrive and may you have a productive dahlia season.

Rick Peters,
Secretary-Treasurer

DAHLIA SOCIETY OF NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

Due to the Corona-19 virus, we have everything on hold. The law states that we cannot even have a meeting or a tuber sale. This means we have nothing to report for this quarter.

Jim Steeves,
President

GREATER CINCINNATI

Unlike state public health departments, the Greater Cincinnati Dahlia Association did not have a backup plan for a pandemic. Both of our spring tuber sales were cancelled due to stay-at-home orders. Such a disappointment! Three years ago, we had changed location of our tuber sale to an Earth Day Celebration event. We were a regular vendor at this event, even scoring the same booth location every year. We had a following. They were coming specifically to buy from us. What could we do to not lose this momentum? What was Plan B?

Using our three forms of communication: E-mail, Facebook

and Instagram, we notified members and followers that we were working on Plan B. We didn't know what it looked like, but we asked them to please have patience with us.

Fortunately there were other societies also trying to figure this out and we just followed their lead. We hit the ground running to create an online pop-up shop, but we didn't even have a website. As I write this, family members who have been laid-off due to COVID-19 are spending hours and hours entering dahlia variety data and proofreading to make sure ADS classifications are correct. We still haven't figured out the payment section, but we will. We made the decision not to ship, so we're trying to figure out the logistics of how to gather all the donated tubers and then in turn get them to the dahlia buyer. Keep your fingers crossed.

We are hoping by September show time we will be able to meet in public again.

Nan Matteson, President

The Hamilton and District Chrysanthemum Dahlia Society

Last year I wrote that the past winter was the worst ever experienced. However, the COVID-19 virus has hit all of us like a shot out of left field. It really makes one think about what is important in this life. A reset of our values comes to mind.

Our first meeting of the year in March saw a lot of our membership

and non-members show up. Our president, Mike Parrish, presented a video of "The Cream of the Crop", with questions along the way. I think this presentation will continue in the future, as it is very popular with the members and new dahlia growers. We also had a presentation by our relatively new member, Ian Raynor, on soils. This was a very informative session with lots of questions.

We went to three "Seedy Saturday" sales before everything was shut down. Our main April tuber auction was also cancelled, but we are in the process of setting up an online sale, as I write. A special thanks to members of our executive board who are preparing this, as it is new and challenging. I hope members appreciate the extra effort of these members who are the backbone of our society.

Everything is on hold at the moment, but let's hope the meetings/shows can go on.

Our first priority is the health of people worldwide. A big "Thank You" to all frontline workers who are under considerable stress trying to contain the virus. A big shoutout to our own president, Dr. Michael Parrish.

Assuming our show is a GO, the Dahlia of the Year is "Colleen Mooney" BB FD PR. New to our schedule this year is a "People's Choice" award. Our show date is September 12 and 13, 2020 at the Royal Botanical Garden's, Burlington, Ontario, Canada.

John M. Mooney
ADS representative

INLAND EMPIRE DAHLIA SOCIETY

We are looking forward to the end of this pandemic. We have started the dahlias for the VA Hospital display garden which we usually plant the end of May. It is exciting to see the tubers sprout and grow.

We have chosen our dahlia of the year, Ketchup & Mustard. Because the National Show is planned for a date when our show is usually scheduled, we have moved our own show to the last weekend of the Interstate Fair instead of the beginning weekend of the fair. The dates are scheduled for September 19-20, 2020.

Our tuber sales were cancelled but we are trying an exchange of tubers between members until we can make a decision about rescheduling tuber sales.

Our annual picnic will be held in August, location not decided. We are receiving entries in our trial garden and we look forward to judging the entries when they are in full bloom.

We wish everyone a happy growing season. We can enjoy planting our own gardens and hoping that the weather will cooperate and we will once again be able to participate in our meetings and other activities.

Claudia Biggs
ADS Representative

LANE COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

This is a sad and challenging time for all of us. However, staying safe and well is of the utmost importance. Toward that end, LCDS members are focusing their energies on what we love to do the best: GROW DAHLIAS!!!!!!

Attendees at our February meeting got their first look at all the new dahlias by watching the 2020 ADS New Introductions DVD. This was followed in March by LCDS members Sonia Hall and Eugene Kenyon giving tips to grow and show dahlias, as well as how to start dahlia seedlings. Cheryle Hawkins also displayed floater bowls and containers for exhibiting our favorite flower. It was great to see everyone and welcome some new members to our society.

Officers for 2020 are:

Co-Presidents: Camille Noel and
Cheryle Hawkins

Vice President, Membership Chair
& ADS Rep: Deb Gilmer

2nd Vice President:

Esther Barton Ralph

Co Secretaries:

Pat Chasse and Allison Allen

Treasurer: Phyllis Shafer

Newsletter Editor & Show Chair:

Cheryle Hawkins

Judges Chair: Lexa Cookson;

Show Ribbons: Camille Noel

Show Medals and Newsletter

Mailer: Dick Bach

PNDC Reps: Deb Gilmer, Cheryle
Hawkins, Camille Noel, Dick Bach

With the cancellation of our April and May meetings, tuber auction, and tuber sales events, the 2020 Lane County Dahlia Society Show on September 19th & 20th will depend heavily on the monies in our savings account and the generosity of our show sponsors. This year's show flower will be Hollyhill Pink Tigress. We hope you will join us for what promises to be a wonderful gathering of spectacular blooms as well as friends new and old.

Deb Gilmer,
ADS Representative

LONG ISLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY

Today is April 13, as I write this Society report from my home in the New York metropolitan epicenter of the COVID-19 outbreak. At this point in time, the curve is just starting to flatten and I'm wondering what it will be like when I read this again in the June Bulletin, which may be in July, the way the post office is working these days. Like other societies, we have not had any meetings since February, but have been active down at the Wolkoff Dahlia Display garden in the Bayard Arboretum on a very limited basis. The arboretum director has advised us that we are not able to inhabit any state structures because some of the state workers are fearful of cross contamination from us. Even the public bathrooms have been locked – it's a good thing there are

a lot of bushes in the arboretum! We were lucky to have put up our 12ft x 36ft poly greenhouse in early March, so we could work in it using a strict 6-foot social distancing rule. We started making cuttings in Feb., but now realize we do not have any venues to sell them at. To prevent our hard work going for naught, I am thinking of donating them to a local cooperative extension office so they can use them in a new parking lot planting. When the weather turns warmer in May we can then go outside, where our garden work has some built in social distancing when everyone can work on their own raised bed. Maybe then we can switch our virus concerns from COVID-19 to Dahlia Mosaic and Ring Spot viruses and Powdery Mildew.

I heard today that the ADS National Show in Wenatchee, Washington has been cancelled and now I'm wondering if we should even plan for our local shows. I know it sounds pessimistic, but I believe things will not get back to normal until a vaccine has been found and used widely. In the meantime we are all "hunkering down" in our homes and catching up on calling family, friends and TV, movies, podcasts, "fake news", etc. Can you imagine what it was like in 1918 with the Spanish flu, without all our present day communications? Back then, there were those things we called "books" to keep us occupied.

We are all indebted to the thousands of first responders whose efforts enabled us to stay

at home and thus flattened the curve of infections. Special thanks go to the frontline workers, who constantly put themselves into the face of the virus and care for those infected as they fight against its ravages. I would like to thank some of our members who are in that special group. Victoria Friday works at a nursing home facility where our most vulnerable are. Eileen LaManna works at St. Charles Hospital. Rosa Petrozella works face to face with the virus handling the test swabs and conducts the actual COVID-19 determination. Hopefully we will follow the science, defeat this pandemic and learn lessons from it, because I believe there will be more. Thank goodness for Dr. Anthony Fauci.

Be safe, stay well and we will meet again at our next ADS National Show at Wooster, Ohio in 2021.

Joe Lysik,
ADS Representative

MAHONING VALLEY DAHLIA SOCIETY

In the weeks following the Mahoning Valley Dahlia Society March meeting, a very dark cloud descended over Ohio, and the rest of country. The COVID-19 pandemic caused the cancellation of the society tuber/plant sale. But the sighting of several robins, the brilliant color of daffodils, and the abundant forsythia made it apparent that our dahlias would soon be awake and ready for

planting in our gardens. MVDS members will still be growing, showing (we hope), and enjoying their dahlias this year.

At the March meeting, MVDS member Tom Liggitt was our guide during a PowerPoint tour of the 2019 Ohio Gourd Show and Festival in Delaware, Ohio. Everyone enjoyed seeing the color, variety, and competitive entries exhibited by gourd growers, who are as passionate as dahlia growers. It seems that society members are keenly interested in any programs with a horticultural aspect. And just a side note, the same letters appear in both Earth and in Heart!

The Mahoning Valley Dahlia Show will be held August 28 – 30 at the Holiday Inn in Boardman, Ohio this year. Plan to allow time to browse in the nearby store Fin, Feather, and Fur, for the outdoorsman. Also around the corner, you can check out the Marshall's, TJ Maxx, and Hobby Lobby. But best of all, just across the street is the state's best ice cream shop, Handel's Ice Cream. Our out-of-town exhibitors can enjoy the convenience of staying at the Holiday Inn and relaxing in T.J.'s restaurant during the show. The Holiday Inn is located at 7410 South Avenue. Check our website www.mahoningvalleyds.org. for additional details and updates.

Joyce Habeger
ADS Representative

MID-ISLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY

Due to the Corona virus, MIDS (as well as other societies I'm sure) has cancelled our monthly meetings. We had to cancel our Annual Installation Luncheon also. MIDS was so looking forward to gathering for the luncheon, checking out the country auction items, seeing our members and other society members and having a good time together, etc. We wanted to protect our membership and other society members, so we have put the luncheon on hold for now.

We are not sure if we can hold our annual tuber sales in May or June but are thinking we can hold them outdoors. However, the question of social distancing has to be considered and getting an area that we are permitted to use is also questionable.

My husband, Mike Shukofsky, Eastern Trial Garden Director, has received tuber entries and hopes to plant them at Eisenhower Park sometime in May. Our tubers from the Planting Fields Arboretum Garden in Oyster Bay have been stored there as well as the display tubers from Eisenhower Park. Our Planting Field volunteers have the permission from Planting Fields to let two to three volunteers be at the greenhouse where we usually pot the tubers. They will also be allowed into the area where we store the tubers over the winter to check on them and bring them to the greenhouse for potting and tagging.

with this, as we hope to have them ready for our show in September, if indeed we can have our show. We hope that by then all the societies will be able to have their shows.

We hope all of you are staying well and staying safe and practicing social distancing as well as wearing masks and/or face coverings and staying home. If we all do this, we hope that the virus will be stopped from spreading and we will all recover from this pandemic.

We send many prayers for all the doctors, nurses, emergency service personnel, grocery store workers, postal worker and mail package deliverers, COVID-19 sufferers and their families, and to those who have been lost due to the virus. May we all be in this together. God bless America and God bless us all.

With much care and concern for all of you.

Kitty Shukofsky,
ADS Representative

MINNESOTA DAHLIA SOCIETY REPORT

As I write this it's mid-April and we are in the middle of a global pandemic. There are so many unknowns. When will the quarantine end? Will our economy recover? What will our new normal look like on the other side of this?

with our own quandary. The tubers for our tuber sale had all been ordered and many had arrived before the quarantine went into effect. Now what? The board arranged an emergency Zoom meeting and decided to hold an online tuber sale in April.

We pulled together as a team like never before. Our webmaster, Eric Thomson (and he truly is a master) got busy building the online site for the tuber sale. That was a feat in itself. The time-consuming process involved locating bloom images of every tuber and uploading it to the online store. Creating links, filters and search bars and writing code. There was even a chatline available to assist customers on the sale site. He thought of everything and we could never have accomplished this without him.

But this was hardly a one-man show. Kyle Cassidy (Creekside Dahlias) and Del Hampton (Dahlia Del) are both commercial growers and MDS members. Their expertise with online sales and shipping was vital to the success of our sale. Kyle was our Committee Chair and John Kooiman & Kyle handled the procurement of tubers. Kyle coordinated the packaging for mailing and bagging for local pickup. Amy Simonson, Del, Kyle, Jordon Goodwater, and Kelly Thommes worked feverishly all day Saturday to get this done. (OK not really, no one had a fever and they all practiced social distancing.) Kathy Thomson made and printed

flyers, invoices and grow guides. Our treasurer, Arnie Sachs, wrote the checks and purchased plastic & brown bags. Yep, Arnie Sachs bought the sacks. Jodi Gaiser started an Instagram account for us (minnesotadahliasociety) and pushed the sale on that platform while I managed advertising and marketing on Facebook. Psst, follow us on FB & Insta.

Long story short, the sale was a success. Orders poured in fast and furious when the sale went live at 9 am on April 4th. We crashed our store with high traffic volume but Eric eventually got it working. It was really exciting, but credit card processing could not keep up with inventory so we had to halt the sale early. Customers kept checking back and we reopened on April 10th and hope to sell out soon.

I'm not sure what the future will hold this year for meetings, tours, picnics, and shows but what I do know for sure is that we're all in this together. I would like to wish everyone a spectacular growing season, beautiful blooms, and great health.

Sandra Ward
ADS Representative

THE MONTANA DAHLIA SOCIETY

Greetings from the Montana Dahlia Society. On behalf of our club, I would like to extend our prayers and hope that all who read this are safe and Healthy.

We as a society are looking forward to 2020 and raising our dahlias. Working in our gardens is a great way to relax, unwind and set aside the worries we face. In 2019 we had a Production Garden and raised tubers for our Annual Tuber Sale. As I write this report, we are planning on having our Annual Tuber Sale on May 2nd. In true Montana style, we plan on holding the sale out in the parking lot of the local mall.

We are looking forward to our two dahlia shows. The first will be held August 20th to 23rd during the county fair. Our society has its own building on the fairgrounds, and the shows draws a lot of viewers and new members. Our second show is scheduled for September 5th and 6th at the Kalispell Center Mall. This show also draws a lot of foot traffic. None of these events would be possible without our members and our 2020 officer team: President Kathy David, Vice- President Betty Jo Malone, Secretary Sharon Askelson, Treasurer Paula Kestell and ADS Representative Dan Halverson.

Dan Halverson,
ADS Representative

NANAIMO GLADIOLUS AND DAHLIA SOCIETY

To be honest, I really don't know how to start this. Our world has been turned upside down. It sure makes you grateful for the simple things, like family and friends. Our thoughts and prayers go out to all being affected by COVID-19.

My garden has kept me busy and has given me peace of mind. I am so grateful for the spectacular spring weather we have been blessed with here on Vancouver Island! I talked to Judy Stephens today (April 14) and Judy said Vern was getting ready to plant. I am going to do the same. It is earlier than we usually plant but the long-term forecast looks promising. Fingers crossed!

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel all club activities, including our tuber sale. We planned to have our show August 29 & 30, 2020, at Country club mall in Nanaimo. We will have to wait and see if it is a possibility or not.

I look forward to the days of meeting up with my fellow dahlia lovers. To quote our wonderful Deputy Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, "Be kind, be calm, be safe."

Julie Mervyn, President

NATIONAL CAPITAL DAHLIA SOCIETY

It would not surprise me if our Society reports for this edition of the Bulletin were a bit shorter than normal. We've all been deeply impacted by the COVID-19 and have had to re-evaluate how we will go through the season. We can only keep our fingers crossed that summer will bring some sort of relief, and that we'll be able to hold our shows.

We did manage to plan for the year in January, and in February, we heard an inspiring talk from Heather Zindash, aka The Soulful Gardener. Her topic was integrated pest management, focusing on solutions that are gentle to the insect world as well as to our warming planet. We squeaked in the March meeting with a small tuber sale and a look at the new introductions CD. Then the library in which we hold our meetings shut down, as well as other venues we'd planned on.

The board held a couple of conference calls to invent Plan B. We're going to try an online tuber sale from member's stock, as well as seedlings nurtured by some of our members. Nick Weber will have a huge supply of potted plants for a sale in June. We just hope online publicity will bring shoppers. Our Challenge Flower for the (maybe) fall show is Nick's Sunrise Surprise. We'll go ahead and plan as though it will happen, and look forward to the time when social distancing is a distant memory.

Fortunately, we have our gardens to prepare, tubers to propagate,

seedlings to encourage and the opportunity to enjoy God's world around us as we look to spring and a new growing season.

We only hope all societies can find similar ways to enjoy what we can, and look to a brighter future. Good luck to all.

ADDENDUM TO THIS REPORT FROM CHARLES MIEHM: NCDS is working on a plan for our tuber sales. We will most likely limit our selling to club members, as stay at home orders in the DC area make it hard to do any outreach. Nancy Mossburg is compiling a spreadsheet listing the tubers that the Society members have available. Following the completion of that step, we'll finalize the logistics of the process.

Jeanne Edwards
ADS Representative

NORTH CENTRAL WASHINGTON DAHLIA SOCIETY

I just read Harry Risetto's ADS Report sent out to clubs. He states our predicament perfectly...we are so glad to have dahlias to focus on during this pandemic.

The 2020 ADS National Show that was to be held here in Wenatchee, Washington has been cancelled. Wouldn't it be something if this year everyone has a most gorgeous crop—especially in September? Fate likes to goad us now and then, you know.

We here in North Central Washington are very disappointed that the show had to be cancelled - yes, it HAD to be! It was the right decision. All the effort by some, Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook in particular, and our President Keith Rupprecht, who have been working with the Federation of NW Dahlia Growers Show Committee, are dealing with the feeling of being deflated. Understandable, since a lot of time, money, and effort has already been spent. What to do with the pieces left on the table? We will all recover.

Like all other clubs, our meetings are cancelled, as are our spring tuber sales. Instead, since we had already gathered some tubers together, a list was made and sent out to Club members who could then go through boxes and purchase some of their favorites. It was a fitting way to end a digging

season that had meager results for all of us.

And now, we will start planting. I'd like to issue a challenge to all clubs: do something extreme, but still fun around sharing our dahlias in a distant manner - maybe have a club show via your Facebook page, and then share your story in the next Bulletin.

May all stay well in this crazy world-wide event.

LaVern Strawn,
ADS Representative

NEW ENGLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY

The New England Dahlia Society is preparing to do an online sale to members. The list of tubers is being compiled and will be sent to members this weekend. We are hoping, at minimum, to recoup the money spent on purchasing tubers to supplement those we grow for the sale. We plan to mail all tubers ordered.

Donna Lane
ADS Representative

PORTLAND DAHLIA SOCIETY

Before the Corona virus lockdown order occurred, we were able to proceed with our monthly meeting in early March. Members, led by Mark Oldenkamp, donated a large amount of pot tubers for a silent auction. Some of our more experienced members gave a demonstration on taking cuttings. Senior judge certificates and pins from ADS were awarded to Linda Taylor and Adrienne Hale. Our newly qualified Candidate Judges receiving recognition were Terry Smith, Julie Huynh, and Barbara Caffaratti-Klubert.

The April auction and sale was postponed to our May meeting in hopes that we could proceed. We normally have been able to package tubers for sale at the Swan Island Dahlia facility, but they have had to close their buildings to visitors. Alternate plans have been in the works, but nothing has been solidified as of this writing since we are still in a state mandated "stay at home" order. The large Master Gardener sale, at which we have a booth, was postponed from early May to late May.

The Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference annual meeting, scheduled for March 28, was postponed until June. This has been the first year where we planned for a judges refresher course at the PNDC meeting.

Assuming that we will be able to proceed with our show on the last

weekend in August, our flower of the year will be Kelsey Annie Joy, Co-OR.

Some of us have commented how lucky we were when our main concern was virus in dahlias. We have been wishing and praying for the good health of all within the dahlia world.

Added note from Teresa Bergman: The Portland Dahlia Society is doing some online sales. We have just started working on these, but as many of you know, Mark Oldenkamp is the "Cutting King." He takes many, many cuttings and then donates those plants, as well as pot tubers the following year, to several different local dahlia societies for their sales. This year, due to cancellation of both our Portland sales as well as the PNDC meeting, he had lots of pot tubers with a great deal of foliage on them. As a result, we are trying an UN-rooted cutting sale. There has been a lot of interest, and I've already shipped out a couple of orders. The biggest problem is finding the right size of small boxes to ship them in. We want to send small orders first class, in order to keep the cost of postage down. When we get larger orders, it will be no problem because they can go priority. We are crossing our fingers, hoping this works out.

Larry Smith,
Public Relations Coordinator

ROCHESTER DAHLIA SOCIETY

We usually pot about 700 tubers every single April at our meeting, and aside from the fact that we have fine-tuned it over the years, we have it pretty-well down pat. Many members potted their own tubers for us to sell. We even have someone in our Facebook group who offered to give us 100 potted rooted cuttings, all named, labeled varieties. So, here we are, with lots of tubers and plants and no venues. This is our main source of revenue for meeting room in a church and for our show. How are we going to sell these?

Right now, we have made some decisions about our May dahlia plant and tuber sales. We will not attempt to sell in our usual public venues, but plan to sell from 2-3 members' front yards. At each place, the tables will be lined up in a long row, with a few RDS members behind the tables and customers in front. Photos of each variety will be taped to a row of each type of dahlia. We have an extensive following, gained over years of collecting names and emails at shows and sales. We will depend on this list plus Facebook for publicity.

Also upcoming on our to-do list is preparing and planting our display garden at the Webster Arboretum. We have to keep that going this year. The display garden is in the very front of the arboretum, and right next to the main lodge. If anyone is able to be married this

summer, they need pictures in front of our garden. People come year after year just to take pictures of the well-tended gardens. Problem: how are we going to plant it, put in our drip watering system, mulch? This year, we will either each go individually and plant the dahlias we potted, or divide the job into sections, and keep our distance from each other.

Looking forward to reading other clubs' plans for this spring's activities.

Stay safe. Pull Weeds.

Mary Feasel,
ADS Representative

**PLEASE SEND YOUR
ARTICLES
AND
SOCIETY REPORTS TO:**

Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook
1640 Huntwood Lane East
Wenatchee, Wa 98802

lhomescoo@aol.com

TENNESSEE DAHLIA SOCIETY CLUB REPORT

As I take on this new position as the ADS rep for Tennessee, I must sadly report that our societies meetings and activities have been suspended indefinitely due to the novel Corona Virus. Marcie Holt, our newly elected president, and her co-vice presidents, Verana Barron and Molly Adams had an exciting agenda planned for the upcoming year. The mayor of Chattanooga shut down the city early in March, cancelling our annual tuber sale on the opening day of the Chattanooga farmers market.

However, our treasurer Robin Holt reports that the society does have sustainable funds to carry us through until we can reopen. Hopefully we will be able to develop social distancing methods to assist our members throughout the growing season ahead. We are all thankful that we have the gift off dahlias to carry us through.

Anyone wishing to contact our society can do so through me

Jay Borton,
ADS Representative
jayborton@epbfri.com

Password & Website:

The American Dahlia Society website is <https://dahlia.org>

Effective May 1, 2020, the password for the "Members Only" portion of the ADS Website is CVD@n2018. The username will remain member.

IN MEMORIAM
ROSEMARY ELLEN ZATKOVICH
1925 – 2019



We've learned that a former ADS General Secretary, Rosemary Zatkovich passed in 2019. She started serving as Assistant Secretary in 1985 and, with great dedication, served as General Secretary until 1996. She was escorted to ADS meetings by her husband John. He was a well-known dahlia man who introduced many popular dahlias with names highlighted by the suffix "Z."

At the time of Rosemary's service to the ADS, the Executive Board met three to five times a year for business meetings. This was a time pre-dating teleconferencing. Meetings were held all over North America to provide balance and to make the ADS truly a North American society. Rosemary and John traveled widely to participate, logging thousands of miles a year. They traveled to China, Russia, Africa and were part of the ADS's 1988 trip to New Zealand to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the NZ Dahlia Society. Fiji, Australia and Tahiti were other stops along the way. It seemed the Zatkovichs would go anywhere to enjoy the camaraderie of their dahlia friends.

As a young woman, Rosemary served her country working as a "Rosie the Riveter" in the Willow Run Bomber plant near Detroit. She was a true product of a Mid-West industrial upbringing. She was fine lady and a confident woman who could stand her ground when need be. Those who remember Rosemary cherish the fond memories we have of being with her.

**IN MEMORIAM
WARREN GRAMMAN**



January 20, 1952 – February 18, 2020

It is with a profound sense of sadness that the Long Island Dahlia Society announces the passing of one of their longest tenured active members, Mr. Warren Gramman. Warren was an ADS Senior Judge, award winning exhibitor and an accomplished photographer. He also was a past President of the Long Island Dahlia Society and a longtime member of the Mid Island Dahlia Society. In 2001, Warren was awarded the honor of being designated as a Lifetime Member of the Long Island Dahlia Society, in recognition of his many years of dedicated service. At the time of his passing he was the third most senior active member of this society. Over the last 35 years, he has been a staple at dahlia shows held within the North Atlantic Dahlia Conference. Warren was also a prize-winning exhibitor at the National Show level during his exhibiting career. During the late 1980s and early 1990s Warren had a remarkable string of victories with his blooms of Edna C. He won multiple Tri Color and Higher Awards at Local, Regional and National level shows with this variety.

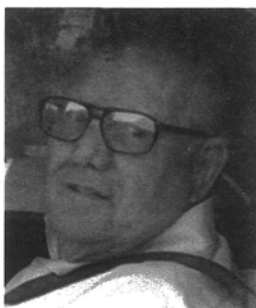
Warren was a humble and soft-spoken man who truly dedicated his time to advancing knowledge about and enjoyment of the Dahlia. He never married. He considered his fellow "Dahlia Folks" as his family and treated his Dahlias as if they were his children. For many years, Warren lived with his parents in a modest home on Long Island. As his success with growing and exhibiting Dahlias took hold, Warren soon used up all the available growing space in his parents' yard. Not to be deterred, Warren soon began to plant his dahlias in the yards of other neighbors, who were thrilled with the opportunity to have Warren's beautiful variety of dahlia colors and forms grace their gardens. After Warren's mother passed away, the family home was sold, and Warren moved into an apartment. While this limited his ability to continue to grow dahlias, Warren continued to exhibit and judge on a smaller scale.

Early in Warren's exhibiting career, he was a frequent traveling companion with Al Grimm, who was the originator of Lady Darlene. Their "adventures" during their joint trips to numerous shows, and their friendly rivalries made for many amusing stories which were often shared and repeated among

the Dahlia Society. After Al's passing in 2003, Warren continued to drive to shows on his own. A few years ago, while driving home from a Dahlia show, Warren fell asleep behind the wheel of his car and sustained some serious physical injuries. In December of 2019, the Long Island Dahlia Society celebrated its' 75th Anniversary with a Gala Dinner. At this dinner, special commemorative plaques were presented to each of the five Lifetime Members of the Society. While Dennis Kirchner, Erina Aaron, Bill Wolkoff and Bill Bushman were able to attend, sadly Warren was ill and could not accept his plaque in person. Warren is survived by his siblings, multiple nieces and nephews and MANY Dahlia friends. We will truly miss him.

Dr. William Bushman

IN MEMORIAM JON SOULE

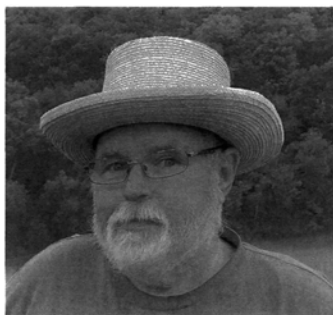


On March 21, 2020, Chuck Spragg of Richfield, Minnesota passed away peacefully at his home. Chuck was beloved lifetime member of the Minnesota Dahlia Society and an avid grower and exhibitor of dahlias. He will be greatly missed by all of us. Chuck was always ready to lend a helping hand. He was the first to respond and help with all club events when the call went out. Chuck annually lead a work team at the North Central Trial Garden located at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. He eagerly shared his vast knowledge and enthusiasm for growing dahlias with everyone. Chuck also helped construct the permanent fence around our trial garden at the Arb. It still stands today and successfully keeps the deer, turkeys, groundhogs, and rabbits from eating the newly planted entries. This gift alone will keep on giving for many years to come. We thank you for that, Chuck!

Chuck was a respected ADS Senior Judge, who judged blooms at too many State Fairs to count. I always loved it when I was placed with Chuck to judge at shows. He was patient, kind, fair and knowledgeable, and I always learned so much from him. Chuck was also a member of our club's accreditation committee. He always said he loved people and greeted everyone as if they were his best friend. In his cheerful and welcoming manner, he helped me early on, when I had just started growing dahlias. I was having problems with slugs, so he invited me over to his garden. He gave me a glass jar full of slug-bait granules and showed me how to sprinkle them around my plants to keep the slugs at bay. He always gave more than he received. Our condolences go out to Chuck's wife Sylvia and their family, as well as to all the people whose lives he touched.

By Sandra Ward

IN MEMORIAM JON SOULE



The Minnesota Dahlia Society lost a dedicated member and a great friend on April 16, 2020. Jon was an ADS Senior Judge, an active exhibitor and a frequent winner at shows. Jon and his wife Cindy enjoyed traveling and participating in local, regional and national dahlia shows. Along the way, they met many people that shared their passion. Jon also served as Director of Membership for the Minnesota Dahlia Society from 2002-2004. With his mild manner and soft-spoken ways, Jon was the yin to Cindy's yang. They complemented each other perfectly. Together they enjoyed going to Twins, Vikings and Wild games. They also loved to don their ear protection and take in a good ol' NHRA drag race, often traveling far and wide to find one. Politics was another passion of Jon's, and he was a true union champion. Jon loved his music, especially the blues. Rain or shine, nothing stopped him from enjoying a live soulful blues concert.

Jon retired after a long career as a prison guard at Minnesota's Correctional Facility in Stillwater. His co-workers remember him as a kind and gentle man who was passionate about the things he loved and believed in. He was affectionately known to them as 'Soule Man'. Jon's health had been failing him. Most recently he suffered a fall at the Minnesota Dahlia Society's 2nd Dahlia show in September 2019 that landed him in the hospital. His health continued to decline from there until his passing on April 16th. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Cindy, his wife of 35 years. Our society has lost a dear friend and valued member. His passing is a loss for all who knew him. Rest in peace, Jon.

IN MEMORIAM DAWN RAE ANSELMO



Dawn Rae Anselmo was born on July 24, 1939, in Girard Ville, PA and passed at home in Spokane, WA, on April 10, 2020. She graduated from Renton (WA) High School in 1957 worked as a dental assistant. She was married to Donald R. Heston from 1965-1973. IN 1976, she married Norm Anselmo, sharing their love of dahlias for the remainder of their lives together. The year after they married, they were growing 100 dahlias and 50 seedlings, starting the "Inland" Line of dahlias. In 1980, Inland Empire Dahlia Society was selected as the site for the ADS National Show, and Dawn and Norm were privilege to work together as chairs of this important event. Their dahlia named "Inland National" was introduced at that show, which was held at the historic Davenport Hotel. Dawn went on to serve in many capacities in the dahlia society, as Vice- President and eventually President. In 1992, the ADS National Show was held in Kalispell, Montana, where Norm and Dawn gained additional recognition for Inland Dynasty as the Best Seedling in England. This giant yellow semi-cactus is still grown, continuing to garner awards all over the US, Canada and other international venues. In 1993, it won the Stanley Johnson award when it won the most blue and higher awards in North American shows. She was a member of the Inland Empire Dahlia Society, charter member of the North Idaho Dahlia Society, and a member of the Pacific NW Dahlia Conference and the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers. She and Norm also joined the KOI Society in Spokane, having a pond wherever they lived until they moved to an apartment in 2015. Norm passed in 2017.

Dawn worked at JoAnn's Fabrics for ten years. She loved to decorate for every holiday, sharing that love with her apartment neighbors and many friends over the years. She has just finished writing the "History of the Inland Empire Dahlia Society." She is survived by Don's children, Colleen Heston and Barbara Heston-Moore of Seattle; Jim Heston of Valdez, Alaska; Norm's daughter Glee Rogers of Harrison, Idaho; grandchildren Ashton (Jill) Hicks of Coeur d' Alene, Idaho; Matthew Rogers of Harrison, Idaho; three cousins Fran Horsewood (FL), Mark Sharp (PA), and Sandra Brown (WA); and many dear friends. Her parents and brother, Allen, predeceased her.

Dawn has requested that loved ones plant a dahlia in her memory. Many members in the Inland Empire Dahlia Society will honor Dawn by growing Inland Dynasty in their gardens this year.



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