



# Vancouver Dahlia Society

*Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955*

August 2015

Bulletin No. 5

## **IT'S SHOWTIME!**

### **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2015**

Staging and entries may be made 6 p.m.-8 p.m.  
If you need to stage later than 8 p.m., contact the show chairpersons.

### **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2015**

Staging and entries may be made	6:30 am-9:00 am
Placement	9:15-9:45 am
Judges' & Clerks' Meeting	9:45-10:00 am
Judging begins	10:00 am
Doors open to the public	1:00 pm
Show closes	5:00 pm

A show luncheon will be served following the judging for the Show Committee, Judges and Clerks.

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2015**

Doors open to the public	12 pm
Show closes to the public	3:30 pm

**AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED AFTER THE DOORS CLOSE**

#### **Next Meetings: August 19 and September 16**

The VDS meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except November, December and January in the Floral Hall at VanDusen Botanical Gardens at 7:30 pm.

**Reminder: The September Meeting is our Potluck Dinner and Parlour Show and will be an early start at 6:00 pm**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**September 5 & 6  
Vancouver Dahlia Society  
Annual Dahlia Show**

**September 12 & 13  
Whatcom County Dahlia Society  
Annual Dahlia Show**

**September 19 & 20  
Fraser Valley Dahlia Society  
Annual Show**

**August Meeting**

Show preparation. Tips on how to go about showing your blooms. Betty Girard will moderate an expert panel. There will be a dahlia grower who grows for home display only, a grower who grows to supply farmer's markets and a keen competitor who always has her eye on 'up and coming' dahlias. Come and learn the secrets of some of the best growers we know. Bring your questions.

**September Meeting**

Potluck & Parlour Show. Remember meeting will start at 6:00 pm. Details will be published in the next bulletin.

**REMOVAL OF ENTRIES**

**Exhibitors are requested to leave entries on the tables until after the Awards Presentation. Those entrants who cannot remove their entries are expected to make arrangements for someone to do so for them.**

**Welcome New Members:  
Ula and Martin Galka  
Margaret Chin Pang  
Lawrence Chin  
Sophia Chin**

**CUT FLOWER SALES**

We will be in need of donations of blooms for our Cut Flower Sales. The money raised here helps to offset some of the costs of putting on our show. If you have any left over after you are done staging they can be left in buckets that will be up at the front entrance doors. If you have extra blooms in your garden bring them along. We need blooms for both Saturday and especially Sunday when the doors open to the public. Note: Please ensure they have long stems.

**NOTE:  
If you require cans in order to display your entries please call Jack Duncan at 604-420-9301 or [jack.duncan@shaw.ca](mailto:jack.duncan@shaw.ca)**

Bowls will be available for pickup at the next meeting. They belong to the club and must be returned on or before the October meeting.

Oasis will also be available at the next meeting. It can be purchased for a nominal fee. You will need this for your bowl or basket entries.

**2015 SHOW DEDICATION**

The Show Committee has dedicated the 2015 Vancouver Dahlia Society Annual Show to the memory of Vera Williamson. Vera was a VDS Honorary Lifetime Member who was an enthusiastic supporter of our annual shows. She was a Senior Judge and won many show awards over the years, especially with her favourite 'Other' types.

There were several mistakes made in the Federation Show Schedule book.  
**Note: THIS THE CORRECTED SHOW SCHEDULE.**

**VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY  
 Special Entries**

Novice – Pink Tags, Amateur – Yellow Tags, Open – White Tags

**DAHLIA OF THE YEAR “Maks Royal Ruby”  
 Single Entry**

Novice..... Class 261 A  
 Amateur.....Class 261 B  
 Open.....Class 261 C

**JACKPOT CHALLENGE FLOWERS:  
 “Pam Howden” WL LB or “Lakeview Glow” BB IC -Y  
 Pre-registration is required by Monday, August 31, 2015  
 Please call Richard Zuk at 604-294-0237**

Entry fee is \$5.00. Those eligible are encouraged to make as many entries as possible. All entry fees will be returned as prize money. All exhibitors will receive a ticket for each entry made, of which one will be drawn for a \$50.00 Cash Prize.

Single entry

Novice..... Class 262 A  
 Amateur.....Class 262 B  
 Open.....Class 262 C

**BOWL OF DAHLIAS - NOVICE ONLY** Class 263  
 Use Pink Tags

Judged for color and effect – All around arrangement.

**BOWL OF DAHLIAS - AMATEUR & OPEN ONLY** Class 264  
 Use White Tags

Judged for color and effect – All around arrangement.

Bowls provided by Vancouver Dahlia Society,  
 Contact **Jennifer Zuk (604) 294-0237 email: rtzjg@telus.net**

**OPEN TO ALL - USE WHITE TAGS ONLY**

**VASE OF DAHLIAS** Class 265

Vase of exhibitor’s choice, containing 12 dahlias, with or without greenery, color variation allowed, type of dahlias may vary. Will be judged as a vase suitable for informal all-around home display.

**Note: Definition of a Vase:** A container taller than its width.

**VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY**  
**Special Entries**

**OPEN TO ALL - USE WHITE TAGS ONLY**

**PEOPLE'S CHOICE** Class 266

Each Exhibitor may enter only one entry. Winner will be selected by popular vote of the public. Ballots close at 3:00 pm on Sunday.

**VDS CHALLENGE FLOWER**

**Pooh - CO BI**, Single Entry Class 267

**3 BLOOMS - 1 EACH OF CACTUS, SEMI-CACTUS AND INCURVE CACTUS** Class 268

Any size, in a single container

**3 BLOOMS - 1 EACH OF BALL, MINIATURE BALL AND POM** Class 269

In a single container

**5 BLOOM OTHER TYPES** Class 270

5 Blooms in a Single Container of NX, PE, AN, NO, CO, O, S, MS, or OT, One variety

**FLOATING WATERLILY** Class 271

A single water lily, floating in a bowl that is wider than it is tall, in clear water, no greenery or pin frogs allowed

**FIRST TIME EXHIBITOR** Class 272

Single entry, Any size

**Volunteers Needed!**

Set-up starts on Friday, September 4th at 4:30 pm. and takes about two hours. Show clean-up starts immediately after the awards on Sunday, September 6th.

Volunteers are also needed for clerking, ribbons, door, information and membership table, cut flower sales, set up and clean up for the lunch.

There will be sign-up sheets at the August meeting. If there is something you would like to do in particular, please contact Betty at 604-431- 8611 or Richard and Jennifer at 604- 294 -0237. All assistance is appreciated, whether it be for an hour or two or the entire show!

## Vancouver Dahlia Society FLORAL ART

Novice – Pink Tags, Amateur – Yellow Tags, Open – White Tags

All entries in this section must be made by the exhibitor in his/her own container. Some dahlias must be used in all classes. Dahlias need not be grown by the exhibitor. Only one entry per person per class is allowed.

A width of 24 inches is allotted for each exhibit except in class 308.

An exhibit is composed of natural plant material, with or without accessories. Fresh-cut, dried, weathered or treated plant material, or any combination may be used.

### **THEME: BEST IN SHOW, A TRIBUTE TO MAN'S BEST FRIEND**

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>BEST IN SHOW</b>   | Class 301 |
| An artistic arrangement using one dahlia, AA, A or B size.                    |           |
| <b>GO FETCH!</b>  | Class 302 |
| A design using decorative wood.   |           |
| <b>HEINZ 57</b>   | Class 303 |
| A traditional design.   |           |
| <b>GOLDEN RETRIEVER</b>   | Class 304 |
| A design showing water.   |           |
| <b>PYRENEES</b>   | Class 305 |
| A Vertical Design using yellow, bronze and/or orange dahlias.                 |           |
| <b>MAN'S BEST FRIEND (<u>Men Only, Use White Tags</u>)</b>                    | Class 306 |
| Your own interpretation   |           |
| <b>TOY POODLE (<u>Children Only, Use White Tags</u>)</b>                      | Class 307 |
| Your own interpretation.  |           |
| <b>CHIHUAHUA</b>  | Class 308 |
| Your own interpretation. An exhibit not to exceed 12 inches in any direction. |           |

Reserve space for floral exhibits by the Thursday preceding the show by contacting **Jennifer Zuk (604) 294-0237** or E-Mail [rtzjg@telus.net](mailto:rtzjg@telus.net)

### **Calling All First Time Exhibitors**

Have you ever wanted to show flowers but felt too intimidated to put your blooms on the bench with all those other competitors? Did you bring flowers to the parlour show last year and enjoyed a little friendly competition? This year again there is a special category at the show for first time competitors! If you have never entered a dahlia show before, this is a great place to start. It is OK if you have entered our parlour show or a general garden show before. But, if you have never entered a dahlia show before, consider bringing a bloom or two and entering First Time Exhibitor, Class 272. If you don't have cans and Wob - don't worry about it. Just bring your flower in some water on Friday, September 4th from 6-8 PM or Saturday, September 5th from 6:30 - 9:00 AM and someone will help you stage your flower and write out a tag. There is going to be a special prize for the winner!

... Betty Girard, Show Committee

### **WHAT MAKES A GOOD DAHLIA EXHIBIT - Jennifer Zuk**

A quality dahlia exhibit is fresh looking, with clear, clean, bright, even colour, is at the peak of its development and true to type. The centre should be symmetrical, circular, centered over the stem and tight, with more to come. The bloom should have good depth and be circular, symmetrical and with no gaps. The back should be full with no evidence of withered or soft petals. Petals should be crisp, firm and thick and the bloom should be of adequate size and depth for its classification. The stem should be strong, straight and in proportion to the size of the bloom. There should be foliage, preferably a pair of identical, crisp, fresh leaves. The bloom should be at an angle of 45 degrees to the stem, facing squarely between the first pair of leaves. In multiple entries, all blooms should be uniform in colour, size and form.

**We want to see all our members attend the show even if you're not exhibiting. It gives you a chance to see hundreds of varieties and to make that "Wish List" for next year's tuber sale!**



### **The 50/50 DRAW**

**Tickets are still 1 for a Looney - 3 for a Tooney and 10 for \$5.00**

**REMINDER - Tickets will be on sale at each meeting only until 7:25 PM. Meeting starts at 7:30 PM. Please come early enough to purchase your tickets before the start of the meeting.**

## **Single or Triple Entries? – That is the question!**

Every year I look around the show and wish I had entered more triple entries. The tables of singles are full, with lots of competition, but many of the triple sections have some or even no entries. Statistically, you have a much better chance of winning a section or getting to head table with a triple entry over a single entry.

So why do I not have any triple entries? My first problem is that I just can't commit to growing more than one or two plants of each variety. I have so many favourites and limited space and I end up being unable to dedicate a large area to a single variety. I just can't make my mind up at planting time. Frank Snell once postulated that if you took the 10 top winning dahlias and grew 10 plants of each for a total of 100 plants you would be unbeatable. Steve Santose from Snohomish has been known to grow 100 plants of Edna C, his most reliable winner. Another point made by Margaret Snell is that these plants should be planted in the same general area, so that they are in similar growing and light conditions.

This year I have committed to a couple with 7 plants of Glenplace and 4 plants of Blyton Softer Gleam. We will see if I can cobble together a couple of triple entries with these.

When it comes to staging, Jennifer Zuk is the master of putting the triple together. I think her talent around floral art helps with the staging. She believes that you should have at least 5 blooms to choose from to make your triple. They should be cut with good long stems so that you have the maximum flexibility with staging. She starts by putting 3 jam or spaghetti sauce jars together with a couple of inches of water in them, and visualizes the triple by using the 3 jars to hold individual blooms. Once she has decided on the right combination, she then transfers them to the can with wab.

And as often happens to me, if you just can't get a triple to work, make sure that the best one goes in a can and comes to the show to compete with all the other lovely single entries!

Betty Girard

### **VERY SAD NEWS**

A few weeks ago Arlene Brodie lost her husband John. He had been very ill for sometime. And on August 1st we were informed that Arlene had passed away suddenly in hospital. She was a big part of this club. She served on the Executive for many years, did countless demos on growing seeds, was an Accredited Judge and an extremely dedicated member.

Arlene and John annually took a cruise down to New Zealand where they had family and somehow brought back seeds or tubers to make cuttings that she would generously share with the club. She had hybridized a dahlia named after her husband named "Johnny Be Good". And I understand she has an entry in several of the trial gardens this year. I will keep track of it and report on how it does. Most of you may not know but before dahlias Arlene and John were involved in a local motorcycle club where she was on their executive. She will be sadly missed by all.

Tina McNabb

**VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY CONTACTS**

President	Peter Krueger	604-241-4995	peterkrueger53@hotmail.com
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If there's anything you would like see at a meeting, any ideas or comments you would like to put forth or something you would like to put in the bulletin, please don't hesitate to contact any one of the above listed people here. We are here to listen.

**REFRESHMENT REMINDER**

**We do like to have 2 members volunteer per item if possible.**

**August Meeting**

Sandwiches:

Sweets:

Fruit/Veggies:

IF YOU  
SIGNED UP  
THIS IS YOUR  
REMINDER

**September Meeting**

**POT LUCK**

**Please bring your own mug to cut cost of purchasing foam cups and to be environmentally friendly.**