



Vancouver Dahlia Society

Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955

May 2015

Bulletin No. 3

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By the time you read this, I will be back from my honeymoon. I will not longer be just Mr. but Mr. and Mrs.

Now to dahlias...most of you will have planted you tubers by now. If not, they need to go into the ground now. If you still have questions about how to plant, talk to any executive member or google it on the internet.

A great big thank you to all those who participated in the tuber sale. By all accounts, it was a great success. Thanks to all the sellers who helped boost the coffers of the club. Carole, Tina and Norm spearheaded a new system with electronic cash registers that made everything much more efficient.

We are coming to the part of the dahlia season where we can begin to enjoy our plants; to nurture them as they grow to maturity and present us with gorgeous blooms. To help us with this, we will have Egan Davis talk to us about plant pests and diseases at the May general meeting. He is a professor of horticulture at UBC and spoke to us last year on the subject of soil.

Enhjoy Your Dahlias
Peter Krueger



The Best Dahlia of the Past 50 Years!

The American Dahlia Society this March announced that the dahlia "Edna C" has been selected as the "Best Dahlia of the Past 50 Years." The designation is part of the ADS Centennial Celebration. Originated in 1968 by hybridizer Paul Comstock and in 1997, it was awarded the coveted Stanley Johnson Medal for overall exhibition success. The criteria used included popularity, dahlia show success and longevity. The runner up was Hamari Accord and in third place Inland Dynasty. In 1964, the dahlia "Jersey Beauty" was acclaimed the best dahlia for the prior 50 years. Do you think some of this popularity was due to Steve Santose and his outstanding head table wins?

Next Meetings: May 20th & June 17th, 2015

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.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 18
Federation Summer Workshop
Mt. Vernon , WA

July 25
Judges Training
Mt. Vernon Washington

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

Welcome New Members

Zygmunt Lerner

Celeste Pelc

Sara Mc Kim and Gordon Klammer

Susie Sziklai and Allison Brown

Joe and Arlene Hanley



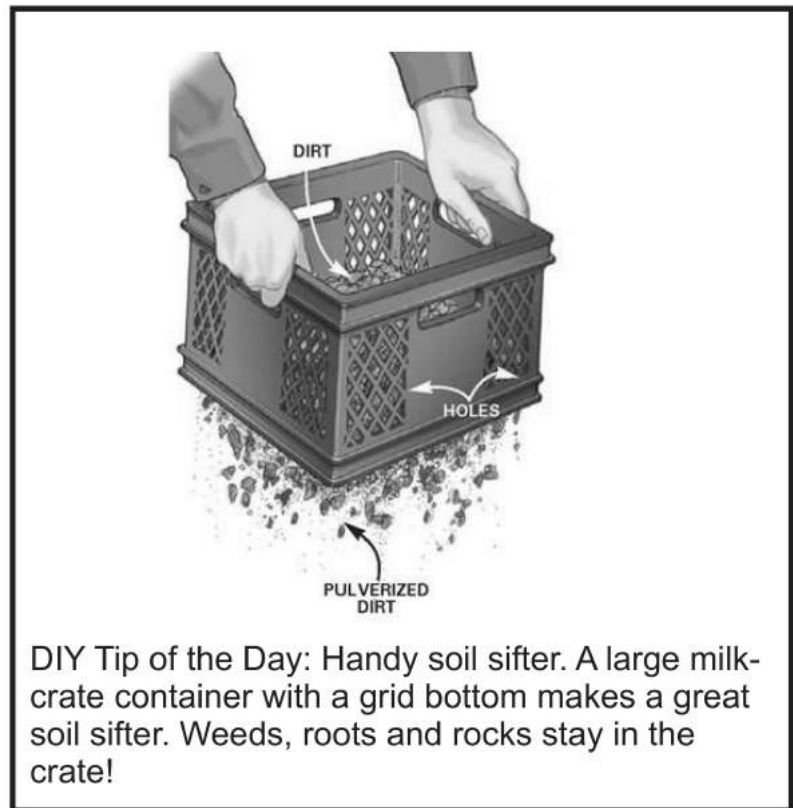
MEETING AGENDAS

May 20
Dahlia Questions and Answers
Egan Davis: Plant Pests and Diseases

June 17
Stopping and Disbudding for Show Quality Blooms
All About Bees

APRIL'S TUBER AUCTION

This year's tuber auction brought in a total of \$210.00. Thank you Carole for finding us some new varieties. Can't wait to see them on the show bench.



DIY Tip of the Day: Handy soil sifter. A large milk-crate container with a grid bottom makes a great soil sifter. Weeds, roots and rocks stay in the crate!

DOOR PRIZES FOR 2015

Everyone looks forward to the door prizes that we award each month at the end of the general meeting. Door prizes do not have to be new, they can be just about anything - cuttings from your garden, extra produce, a "re-gift" or homemade treasures. Each month names are randomly picked from those who have signed in at the beginning of the meeting, and each person chooses their door prize in order of winning. Everyone appreciates contributions to the door prizes. Please bring in anything that you would like to share with the club.

TUBER SALE RESULTS WITH FIGURES FOR 2015

Year	Saturday	Sunday	Total	Club Portion	Rent Savings	Profit
2015	11805.00		11,085.00	5,678.50	+ 470.00	6148.50
2014	9819.00	1886.00	11,705.00	5,947.00		
2013	9266.00	2267.00	11,533.00	5,964.00		

Other Information

Total Credit Card Transactions
 There was 25 Transaction - \$1143.00
 Total Charged = 1177.29
 Less 2.75% 32.38
 Net 1144.91

Total Memberships at sale - 9

We would like to thank everyone involved in the Tuber Sale, especially the sellers because without you there would be no tuber sale.

The new system with bar codes and cash registers went of without a hitch and made checking out a lot faster and more accurate. Thank you Carole Rollie for bringing us into the age of technology And also a big thank you to Ed Thompson from Whatcom County Dahlia Society who initiated the new system and spent the day with us to make sure everything went accordingly This was a big change for us but we think it was a good one. Next years hall set up should go a lot smoother next year

We would also like to report that we made **\$552.00** at the Burnaby Rhododendron Festival. Thank to the members who were kind enough to donate their spare tubers. The donations were down this year. If we would have had more tubers we would have sold them all.

Your Tuber Sale Chairpersons
 Carole Rollie, Norm Sharp & Tina McNabb



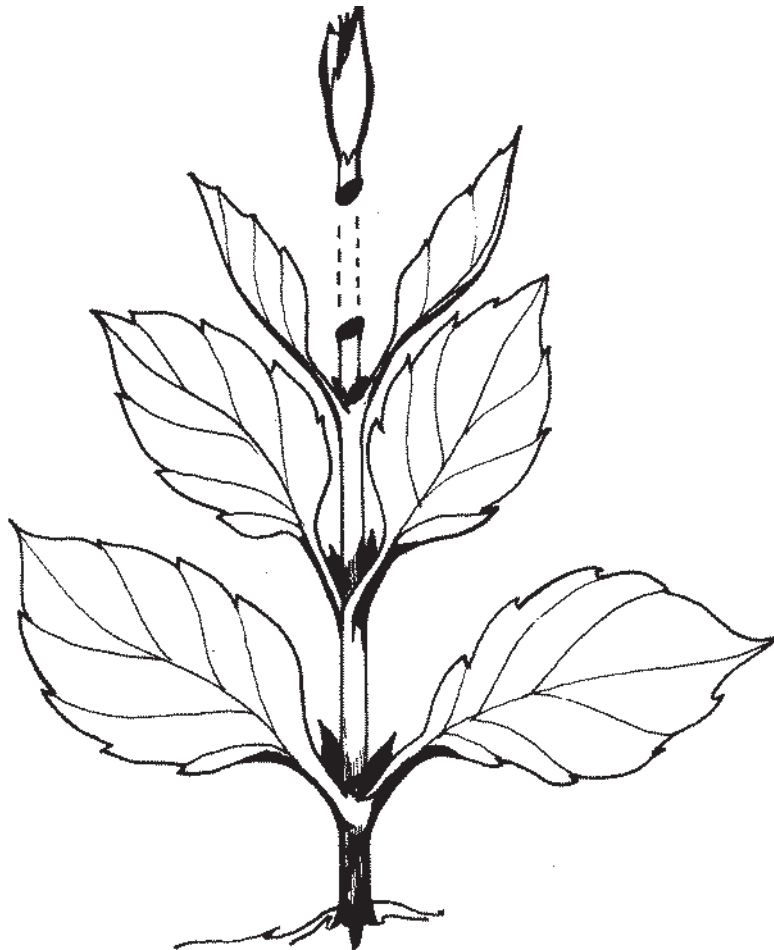
The 50/50 DRAW

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.

JUNE IS THE TIME FOR TOPPING OR PINCHING

With this warm spring most of you will have planted your dahlias. They should grow fast. To promote sturdier, bushier plants with better blooms it is recommended to pinch out the center growth of the plant. This topping will force the plant to send out branches from the axil of the first sets of leaves. If you do not top your plant you could end up with only one bloom and a long wait for a second flush of flowers. Dwarf dahlias do not require topping.



WHEN TO TOP?

For giant and large varieties pinch out at 2 or 3 sets of leaves.

For medium size blooms pinch out at 3 to 4 sets of leaves.

Small size blooms and most other types at 5 or 6 sets of leaves.

If by the time 5 or 6 sets of leaves occur and you find a flower bud there, pinch it out, this bloom will be very inferior.

When you are out topping your dahlias examine the health of the plant. If you notice anything unusual it may be a virus. If the plant is stunted and the leaves are gnarled pull it up and discard it in the garbage, not in your compost. Other viruses can be detected by marks or patterns which show up on the leaves which are often off green or yellow. If it's questionable get rid of it.

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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 hear to listen.

REFRESHMENT REMINDER

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

May Meeting

Sandwiches: Carole Rollie

Sweets: Elizabeth Lee

Fruit/Veggies: Volunteer

June Meeting

Sandwiches: Vittorio Fontana

Sweets: Jack Duncan

Fruit/Veggies: Volunteer

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