



Vancouver Dahlia Society

Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955

September - October 2015

Bulletin No. 5

President's Message

This is my last message as your president. I have served for four wonderful years and it is time to step aside to let someone else come in with fresh ideas.

The show this year was a success! Even though the forces of nature were stacked against us (read: windstorm of the decade), the show was rescued by a large contingent of exhibitors from the Island and the US. Special thanks go to the show committee who worked diligently and hard to make it happen and to all the volunteers who helped it run smoothly.

In an earlier message, I wrote on the subject of topping dahlias. I was going to experiment with leaving the center stem on the plant after taking off only the flower. This was to keep water from entering the hollow stem and thus causing the plant to rot from the inside. This was not successful. Because the stem had been disbudded and disbranched, it simply atrophied and attracted disease. This became as much of a problem as a hollow stem.

How did the seedlings grow for you? This spring I distributed seed from Lorona Dawn and seeds from dark leaved plants donated by Wayne Holland. I would love to see what the results were.

Remember to come to the October general meeting to elect a new executive. We will also have our usual presentation on digging, dividing and storing tubers.

Peter Krueger

OCTOBER ELECTIONS

As Peter said October is election month. There will be a few vacancies to fill. Have you thought about joining the executive? Now's the time. We are always looking for fresh ideas. Why not throw your hat into the ring?

Next Meetings: September 16 & October 21, 2014

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.

Welcome New Members:

Daniel Ng
Anne Field
Gurhar Garden
Leslie and Wayne Klein
Monique Choptuik

SEPTEMBER MEETING

This will be our annual Potluck Dinner. Details on page 5.

OCTOBER MEETING

Digging, cutting and storing your tubers.

If you attend only one meeting a year this should be the one! Hands on demonstration of cutting up your tuber clumps and various methods of storing them.

Also it is election night.

Fraser Valley Dahlia Society Annual Show

September 19th & 20th at George Preston Rec. Centre in Langley

If you would like more information you can contact Tina McNabb or Wally Kurth.

OCTOBER REFRESHMENTS

We need some volunteers for refreshments in October. We have only one person bring some sweets. If you haven't brought anything this year it is a good time to do so. We need someone for sandwiches and someone for fruits and/or veggies.

ANOTHER SAD LOSS

We would like to share this sad news about RAY LAUZIER who was a member of the Vancouver Dahlia Society for a number of years. He moved to Vancouver Island with his job and became a member of the Nanaimo Glad & Dahlia Society and a very informative teacher of dahlias. He was on a business trip as union rep for the Fisheries when he had a heart attack. His wife and family were able to arrive to say their goodbyes before another major heart attack took him. He will always be fondly remembered in our hearts with a smile on his face regardless of his physical condition.

Thank you
Judy Stephens
President, Nanaimo Glad & Dahlia Society

TUBER SALES PRICE LISTS

Will you be selling tubers next spring? Did you acquire any new originations or varieties that should be added to the list? As you are digging your tubers, make a list of what varieties you have and submit it to Norm Sharp. Norm would like to update the tuber sale price list over the winter so he can have it ready for printing by February.

2015 VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY SHOW AWARDS

	AWARD	EX. #	WINNER	VARIETY
1	Best Dahlia in Show (Trophy)	3318	Connie Young Davis	Edna C
2	Best Single Giant	3318	Connie Young Davis	Kenora Clyde
3	Best Triple Giant	3318	Connie Young Davis	Wyn's King Salmon
4	Best Single Large	3318	Connie Young Davis	Edna C
5	Best Triple Large	3318	Connie Young Davis	Spartacus
6	Best Single Medium	3318	Connie Young Davis	Hamari Accord
7	Best Triple Medium	3318	Connie Young Davis	Skipley Mello Yellow
8	Best Single Small	3318	Connie Young Davis	Embrace
9	Best Triple Small	3318	Connie Young Davis	Embrace
10	Best Single Miniature	3318	Connie Young Davis	Badger Twinkle
11	Best Triple Miniature	3342	Paul McKittrick	Rycroft Jan
12	Best Single Ball	3318	Connie Young Davis	Clearview Daniel
13	Best Triple Ball	3318	Connie Young Davis	Snoho Doris
14	Best Single Miniature Ball	2279	P.Hetherington & Ryan Barry	Odyssey
15	Best Triple Miniature Ball	2279	P.Hetherington & Ryan Barry	Odyssey
16	Best Single Pompon	2220	Doug Youngson	Rhonda
17	Best Triple Pompon	2279	P.Hetherington & Ryan Barry	Glenplace
18	Best Single Waterlily	3318	Connie Young Davis	Kelgai Ann
19	Best Triple Waterlily	3318	Connie Young Davis	Mak's Royal Ruby
20	Best Single Stellar	3318	Connie Young Davis	Camano Pet
21	Best Triple Stellar	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Irish Pinwheel
22	Best Single Peony	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Jacs Tamara
23	Best Triple Peony	2214	Carole & Gary Rollie	Jacs Kyle
24	Best Single Anemone	2256	Vittorio Fontana	Comet
25	Best Triple Anemone		NO ENTRY	
26	Best Single Collarette	2279	P.Hetherington & Ryan Barry	Bloomquist Sweet
27	Best Triple Collarette	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Alpen Cherub
28	Best Single Single	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Lulu Island Mom
29	Best Triple Single		NO ENTRY	
30	Best Single Mignon Single	1103	Robin Anderson	Lo-Blush
31	Best Triple Mignon Single	2208	Wally Kurth	Lo-Blush
32	Best Single Orchid	3318	Connie Young Davis	Midnight Star
33	Best Triple Orchid	3318	Connie Young Davis	Midnight Star
34	Best Single Orchette	2279	P.Hetherington & Ryan Barry	Verrone's Morning Star
35	Best Triple Orchette		NO ENTRY	
36	Best Single Novelty/open centered	2208	Wally Kurth	Lorona Dawn
37	Best Triple Novelty/open centered		NO ENTRY	
38	Best Single Novelty - double	2223	Norm Sharp	Vista Minnie
39	Best Triple Novelty - double	2256	Vittorio Fontana	Valley Porcupine
40	Best Single Undiss. Seedling	2211	Glenn Gitts	13-0-OR
41	Best Triple Seedling (Sec.2) ADS		NO ENTRY	
42	Best Triple in Show	3318	Connie Young Davis	Embrace
43	Best Five Bloom Entry	3318	Connie Young Davis	Embrace
44	Best Novice Basket		NO ENTRY	
45	Best Amateur Basket	3383	Bob & Terry Schroeder	Lakeview Glow/Baron Katie
46	Best Open Basket		NO ENTRY	
47	Best Basket in Show	3383	Bob & Terry Schroeder	Lakeview Glow/Baron Katie
48	Best Novice Arrangement	1107	Dorothy Pitre	Fernclyff Tango/Trenby Dainty
49	Best Amateur Arrangement	1121	Jack Duncan	B.Q. Stirling/Midnight Moon
50	Best Open Arrangement	2298	Maggie Cajar	Bloomquist Flare
51	Best Men's Arrangement	2209	Mas Tanizawa	Wyn's EEK
52	Best Junior Arrangement	JR2	Erica Pedersen	Lo-Blush/Jacs Kyle
53	Best Miniature Arrangement	1107	Dorothy Pitre	Varied blooms
54	Best Arrangement in Show	1121	Jack Duncan	B.Q. Stirling/Midnight Moon
55	Best Dahlia of the Year (Overall)	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Mak's Royal Ruby
56	Best Dahlia of the Year (Novice)	1214	Sue Croft	Mak's Royal Ruby

57	Best Dahlia of the Year (Amateur)	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Mak's Royal Ruby
58	Best Dahlia of the Year (Open)	3318	Connie Young Davis	Mak's Royal Ruby
59	Best Bowl of Dahlias Novice	844	Maria McKenzie	Crazy 4 Jessie
60	Best Bowl of Dahlias Amateur/Open	2259	Ken Birchmore	Crazy 4 Jessie/Embrace
61	Best Vase of Dahlias	415	Marcelina Lim	Varied blooms
62	Best People's Choice			
63	VDS Challenge Flower - Pooh	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Pooh
64	VDS Jackpot Challenge Flowers - Lakeview			
	Glow & Pam Howden	2238	Tina & Doug McNabb	Lakeview Glow
	Novice	1107	Dorothy Pitre	Lakeview Glow
	Amateur	2238	Tina & Doug McNabb	Lakeview Glow
	Open	3318	Connie Young Davis	Pam Howden
	VDS Jackpot Challenge Flowers Prize Draw			
65	Best Junior Entry (Trophy)	JR2	Erica Pedersen	Weston Spanish Dancer
66	Best Class G/L		NO ENTRY	
67	Best Class Medium	JR2	Erica Pedersen	April Dawn
68	Best Class Small		NO ENTRY	
69	Best Class Miniature		NO ENTRY	
70	Best Class Ball/MB		NO ENTRY	
71	Best Class Pom		NO ENTRY	
72	Best Class Waterlily		NO ENTRY	
73	Best Class Other Type	JR3	Daniel Schindeler	Kelsey Buglet/Lo-Blush
74	Best Class Triple	JR2	Erica Pedersen	Weston Spanish Dancer
75	Best Class Basket		NO ENTRY	
76	Largest Dahlia in Show	3318	Connie Young Davis	Kenora Clyde
77	Special Award - 3 Blooms Cactus/Semi			
	Cactus/Incurve Cactus	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Varied blooms
78	Special Award - 3 Blooms Ball/Miniature			
	Ball and Pom	3318	Connie Young Davis	Varied blooms
79	Special Award - 5 Bloom Other Type NX, PE, AN, NO, CO, O, S, MS or OT	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Bloomquist Sweet
80	Special Award - Floating Waterlily	2214	Carole & Gary Rollie	Kelgai Ann
81	Special Award - First Time Exhibitor		NO ENTRY	
	ADS Medal		NOT GIVEN, 2015	

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR SHOW AWARDS.

Robin Anderson
Evelyn Crawford
Sue Croft
Connie Young Davis **Sponsored Best BB or B**
Jack Duncan
Vittorio Fontana
Betty Girard
Pat Ianson
Wally Kurth
Lana Lee
David and Jean McIntosh **Sponsored Best Dahlia in Show**
Maria MacKenzie
Tina and Doug McNabb
Barbara Ann Martindale **Sponsored Best Single AA**
Dorothy Pitre
Carole and Gary Rollie
Carrie Sleep
Jennifer and Richard Zuk

POTLUCK NIGHT- SEPTEMBER 16th

Remember, the meeting starts at 6:00 pm

We are anticipating a great opportunity to come and socialize, have a great dinner and enjoy displays of our favourite flowers. Due to limited judge availability this year, the parlour show will be decided by popular vote. Please come with your ideas about what makes a perfect dahlia in your mind and you will be able to decide which blooms come the closest.

Pot Luck Dinner Sue Croft

Bring your food at 6 pm. There will be a short meeting prior to dinner. Dinner will start at 6:45. Please bring an appetizer, salad or dessert, enough to feed 5. Two or three people may wish to bring one larger dish. The club will provide sliced turkey and beverages.

Parlour Show Betty Girard

There is no limit to the number of blooms you may bring to the parlour show.

Named Varieties

Please identify your entries with a white tag, they will be available at the meeting. If you know the name of your bloom, please identify it. If not, that is OK. Club members will be available to assist with staging from 5:45 pm. There will be a prize for the bloom voted the best as well as a random draw with a ticket for each entry you bring.

Seedlings

More and more people are trying their hand at growing dahlias from seed. Please bring your good, your bad and your ugly! There will be a prize for the blooms voted the best.

Centrepieces

Let your imagination go wild on this one. Dahlias must predominate but other flowers and fillers can be used as well. Again, there will be a prize for the entry that receives the most votes.

If you have any questions about the parlour show, please contact Betty at 604 431 8611. If you have any questions about the pot luck dinner, please contact Sue at 604 879 0135.

See you there!

GET YOUR CAMERAS OUT!

Here I am again asking for members to take photo of their dahlias. There are two reasons for doing so.

#1: If you plan on selling your tubers at our annual sale in the spring a photo can be invaluable. Tubers that have photos to go with them sell far faster than ones without. We need photos for our picture boards and you may want a photo to go on your label.

#2: Taking photos of your dahlias is a good way of keeping records. When you check your inventory in the spring it helps you remember whether a variety is worth keeping, do you want to grow more of this variety and so on.

Just remember to take the photos when the bloom is at its peak of maturity and not blown. Get the entire bloom in the photo. Take the photo head on, not from the top looking down. With today's technology it is easy to check out your photo before keeping it.

Tina McNabb

At our show a lady from the Van. club was asking if anyone knew the name of a formal dec dahlia that was sort of ivory/pale yellow with a blush of pink or light orange on it. She had been told that it might be Lady Darlene or Hy Clown but it wasn't. When I got to Margaret Snell's after the show she had that dahlia in her garden. It is Ferncliff Bliss.

Cory Wynne

QUILT FOR SALE



Here is the quilt I have for sale at present. I call it "Shea's Rainbow". It's an art piece rather than a bed quilt, and finished for hanging. It's about 55" square. I'm asking \$700 for it.

The photo doesn't show the beautiful quilting by Carol Chernov. It is truly gorgeous.

For information please call
Ellen Domm
778-881-3979



ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS

Turn over a brick or a board that has been lying in the yard for a while and underneath you may find a collection of pill bugs scurrying about. Also known as "rollie pollies" or woodlice, these grey-colored creatures can be found in many dark, moist environments feeding on decaying matter. What's interesting about these critters is that they are not bugs at all. They are crustaceans and more closely resemble crabs and shrimp, not insects. They are characterized by their ability to roll up into a ball when they feel threatened. Another unique feature is that they have seven pairs of legs. They also act like kangaroos, toting their eggs around with them in a special pouch called a marsupium, located on the pillbug's underside. Even stranger, they don't urinate. Instead, they exchange gases through gill-like structures.

Pill bugs great for gardening and composting.

Breeding or collecting pill bugs may be an important practice for homesteading and gardening. The guts of these pill bugs contain a number of microbes that help the critter feed on dead, organic matter. By releasing mass quantities of pill bugs into a mature garden, one can be assured that dead plant matter is being properly broken down and returned to healthy soil. Pill bugs literally speed up the process of decomposition. They circulate the soil. This can be very useful in composting. Treats for pill bugs include fungus and monocotyledonous leaves.

Pillbugs play an important role in the cycle of healthy plant life. They return organic matter to the soil so it can be digested further by fungi, protozoans and bacteria. This process produces a natural supply of nitrates, phosphates and other vital nutrients that plants need to thrive now and in future growing seasons. It is important not to introduce pill bugs into the garden too early, as they tend to munch on emerging plants. The grey soil workers often live up to three years.

Pill bugs clean up soil and protect ground water from heavy metal contamination

One very unique quality that these crustaceans possess is their ability to safely remove heavy metals from soil. For this reason, they are an important tool for cleaning up soil contaminated with pollutants like lead, cadmium and arsenic. In coal spoils and slag heaps, pill bugs come in handy. They take in heavy metals like lead and cadmium and crystallize these ions in their guts. The heavy metal toxins are then made into spherical deposits in the mid gut. With this special cleanup property, pill bugs survive where most creatures can't, in the most contaminated sites.

The magic of the pill bugs helps reestablish healthy soil and prevents toxic metal ions from leaching into the groundwater. This means pill bugs are also protecting well water from becoming contaminated while stabilizing soils.

Copied from Natural News

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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

September Meeting

POTLUCK

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

October Meeting

Sandwiches: Volunteer

Sweets: Jack Duncan

Fruit/Veggies: Volunteer