



# *Vancouver Dahlia Society*

*Promoting Dahlia Growing Since 1955*

September - October 2016

Bulletin No. 5

## **President's Message**

Wow! What a show. In spite of the rain the week before, we had more blooms than we have had in years and each category was well represented, especially in the giants which often suffer the most during a rain. I was especially pleased with the number of blooms entered in the memorial categories for Vera Williamson and Arlene Brodie. A great big thank you to the show committee: Betty Girard and Richard and Jennifer Zuk. Thank you to all the volunteers. Without you we could not have put on the show. We were so efficient that the work was done in record time.

By now the shows are behind us and it is time to prepare your tubers for storage. If you fertilize regularly, the beginning of September is the time to stop. Cut back on watering as well. You want the tubers to think they are heading into a drought so they will begin to store more water. This will help them get through the winter more easily. Of course, when the rains come, that plan could be shot to bits.

When should you dig your tubers? It is a commonly held belief that you should wait until after the first frost before digging. That does not always work. One year I waited until the middle of November. The ground was so wet by then and the frost hit so hard and lasted so long that I lost a lot of tubers. Now I make sure they are all dug by the end of October. If you have a lot to dig, you may begin digging around the middle of October. Begin by digging the early blooming varieties and end with the late blooming plants.

When digging your tubers, first break the roots around the clump with a spade, being careful not to cut into the tubers. Some tubers are very long so it is a good idea to learn how long the tubers are from each variety so you can adjust the distance accordingly. Some tubers have very thin necks and so need to be handled more delicately. Wash the tubers with a light jet of water from the hose and allow them to dry for a day. At this point you may want to start dividing. I won't go into detail here about how to divide; we will do a demonstration at the October general meeting. There is also lots of information on the Internet.

There are many ways to store your tubers. Most people put them in plastic bags and fill them with wood shavings, vermiculite or sterilized potting soil. They should be kept at a consistent temperature of about 4-10 degrees Celsius. Do not store them in newspaper because it does not give the tubers enough protection and they will dry out. Peat moss will suck all the moisture out of them. Be sure to check them about once a month to remove any rotting tubers.

There are other ways to store your tubers, depending on what kind of storage space you have available. For many years I buried them in the ground in my greenhouse and they came through the winter quite well. Others dip them in wax. Always be sure to label the tubers. An unlabeled tuber is a lost tuber.

At the September general meeting we are having our annual potluck and parlour show. It is always lots of fun, socializing around good food and showing off some of the last blooms of the season. Be sure to come to the October general meeting. It is the last meeting of the year and we will be talking about digging, dividing and storing tubers. We will also elect the executive for the coming year.

One change we have made for the coming year is that we will not start our general meetings until March. This is a change from the usual start up month of February.

Peter Krueger

**Next Meetings: September 21 Early start at 6:30 for Potluck) & October 19, 2016**

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

## **Attention: A CHANGE MEETING DATES**

It was decided by the executive that we will **not be meeting in February**. This is due to low turn out for that month and also to help with finances.

### **Welcome New Member:**

Rajni Monga

### **2017 DAHLIA CALENDARS**

I will have 2017 Dahlia Calendars available at the next two meetings. If you would like one and are not attending these meetings please contact me at 604-572-8981 or email: themcnabbs@telus.net  
They sell for \$12.00 each Tina McNabb

### **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.**

### **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

### **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?

### **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 March.

**2016 VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY SHOW AWARDS**

	AWARD	EX. #	WINNER	VARIETY
1	Best Dahlia in Show (Trophy)	3318	Connie Young Davis	Hamari Accord
2	Best Single Giant	3318	Connie Young Davis	Inland Dynasty
3	Best Triple Giant	3318	Connie Young Davis	Zorro
4	Best Single Large	3318	Connie Young Davis	Vassio Meggos
5	Best Triple Large	3318	Connie Young Davis	Kenora Julilee
6	Best Single Medium	3318	Connie Young Davis	Hamari Accord
7	Best Triple Medium	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Narrows Tricia
8	Best Single Small	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Barbarry Melody
9	Best Triple Small	3318	Connie Young Davis	Connie Harry
10	Best Single Miniature	3318	Connie Young Davis	Hollyhill Regal
11	Best Triple Miniature	2222	Betty Girard	Camano Buzz
12	Best Single Ball	2279	Ryan Barry & Paton Hetherington	Clearview Daniel
13	Best Triple Ball	2279	Ryan Barry & Paton Hetherington	Clearview Daniel
14	Best Single Miniature Ball	3318	Connie Young Davis	Sir Richard
15	Best Triple Miniature Ball	3318	Connie Young Davis	Sir Richard
16	Best Single Pompon	3318	Connie Young Davis	Glenplace
17	Best Triple Pompon	3318	Connie Young Davis	Glenplace
18	Best Single Waterlily	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Pam Howden
19	Best Triple Waterlily	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Pam Howden
20	Best Single Stellar	3318	Connie Young Davis	Clearview Erin
21	Best Triple Stellar	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Irish Pinwheel
22	Best Single Peony	2214	Carole & Gary Rollie	Jacs Kyle
23	Best Triple Peony	2208	Wally Kurth	Elvira
24	Best Single Anemone	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Comet
25	Best Triple Anemone	2225	Peter Krueger	Seedling
26	Best Single Collarette	3367	Paul & Barbara Bloomquist	Bloomquist Sweet
27	Best Triple Collarette	2220	Doug & Diana Youngson	Bloomquist Sweet
28	Best Single Single	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Lulu Island Mom
29	Best Triple Single	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Lulu Island Mom
30	Best Single Mignon Single	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Kelsey Dwarf
31	Best Triple Mignon Single	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Kelsey Dwarf
32	Best Single Orchid	2220	Doug & Diana Youngson	Midnight Star
33	Best Triple Orchid	3367	Paul & Barbara Bloomquist	Seedling 161-14
34	Best Single Orchette	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Fancy Pants
35	Best Triple Orchette	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Fancy Pants
36	Best Single Novelty/open centered	2208	Wally Kurth	Lorona Dawn
37	Best Triple Novelty/open centered	3383	Bob & Terry Schroeder	Lorona Dawn
38	Best Single Novelty - double	2279	Ryan Barry & Paton Hetherington	Valley Porcupine
39	Best Triple Novelty - double	2214	Carole & Gary Rollie	Valley Porcupine
40	Best Single Undiss. Seedling	2225	Peter Krueger	
41	Best Triple Seedling (Sec.2) ADS	3307	Les & Vivian Connell	
42	Best Triple in Show	3318	Connie Young Davis	Kenora Julilee
43	Best Five Bloom Entry	3318	Connie Young Davis	Embrace
44	Best Novice Basket		<b>No Entries</b>	
45	Best Amateur Basket	2266	Jennifer Zuk	C.V. Daniel, Rycroft Laura
46	Best Open Basket	2225	Peter Krueger	Mary's Jomanda, Seedling
47	Best Basket in Show	2225	Peter Krueger	Mary's Jomanda, Seedling
48	Best Novice Arrangement	1107	Dorothy Pitre	Nuit D'ete, L.V. Glow
49	Best Amateur Arrangement	2230	Jack Duncan	Lutt Witchen
50	Best Open Arrangement	7701	Mas Tanizawa	Mixed
51	Best Men's Arrangement	2230	Jack Duncan	Cheyenne
52	Best Junior Arrangement	JR02	Erica Pedersen	Mixed

53	Best Miniature Arrangement	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Jacs Kyle, Brenda Sue
54	Best Arrangement in Show	2230	Jack Duncan	Cheyenne
55	Best Dahlia of the Year (Overall)	3318	Connie Young Davis	A C Abby
56	Best Dahlia of the Year (Novice)	1103	Robin Anderson	A C Abby
57	Best Dahlia of the Year (Amateur)	2211	Glenn Gitts	A C Abby
58	Best Dahlia of the Year (Open)	3318	Connie Young Davis	A C Abby
59	Best Bowl of Dahlias	2225	Peter Krueger	Mixed
60	Best Vase of Dahlias	2225	Peter Krueger	Mixed Seedlings
61	Best People's Choice	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Heather
62	VDS Challenge Flower - Any Collarette in Memory of Vera Williamson	3342	Paul McKittrick	NTAC Eileen
63	VDS Challenge Flower - Any Pompon in Memory of Arlene Brodie	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Glenplace
64	VDS Jackpot Challenge Flowers - Any Lulu Island Origination	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Lulu Island Mom
	Novice	1103	Robin Anderson	Lulu Island Jennifer
	Amateur	2266	Jennifer Zuk	Lulu Island Art
	Open	3375	Paul & Cheryl Howard	Lulu Island Jennifer
	VDS Jackpot Challenge Flowers Prize Draw		Maggie Cajar	
65	Best Junior Entry (Trophy)	JR02	Erica Pedersen	Barbarry Red Dwarf
66	Best Class G/L		<b>No Entries</b>	
67	Best Class Medium		<b>No Entries</b>	
68	Best Class Small		<b>No Entries</b>	
69	Best Class Miniature	JR02	Erica Pedersen	Barbarry Red Dwarf
70	Best Class Ball/MB		<b>No Entries</b>	
71	Best Class Pom		<b>No Entries</b>	
72	Best Class Waterlily		<b>No Entries</b>	
73	Best Class Other Type		<b>No Entries</b>	
74	Best Class Triple		<b>No Entries</b>	
75	Best Class Basket		<b>No Entries</b>	
76	Largest Dahlia in Show	2220	Doug & Diana Youngson	Belle of Barmera
77	Special Award - Floating Waterlily	2214	Carole & Gary Rollie	Kelgai Ann
78	Special Award - First Time Exhibitor	9002	Eric Young	Angela Dodi
	ADS Medal	3307	Les & Vivian Connell	

Congratulations to all our winners!

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

**Anonymous Donor**

**Robin Anderson**

**Evelyn Crawford**

**Sue Croff**

**Connie Young Davis**

**Sponsored Best in Show & Best Triple AA**

**Jack Duncan**

**Betty Girard**

**Jim Gordon**

**Paul and Cheryl Howard**

**Pat Ianson**

**Wally Kurth**

**Lana Lee**

**Marcelina Lim**

**Nora McDowall**

**David and Jean McIntosh**

**Tina and Doug McNabb**

**Barbara Ann Martindale**

**Sponsored Best AA**

**Daniel Ng**

**Dorothy Pitre**

**Bill Quinn**

**Carole and Gary Rollie**

**Margaret Snell**

**Jennifer and Richard Zuk**

## **POTLUCK NIGHT- SEPTEMBER 21st**

**Remember, the meeting starts at 6:30 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 bloom comes 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 roast beef 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 6:00 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 Jennifer at 604-294-0237. If you questions about the pot luck dinner, please contact Sue at 604-879-0135.

**See you there!**

**VANCOUVER DAHLIA SOCIETY CONTACTS**

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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: Robin Anderson & Natalie

Sweets: Susie Sziklai

Fruit/Veggies: Sue Croft