

THE DAHLIA DIRT



The Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society

January 2012

Next Meeting:

Friday, January 13 at Simpkins Swim Center, Santa Cruz

7:00 Pot Luck Dinner

7:30 Meeting

Program:

Our guest speaker will be Karen Zydner of Corralitos Gardens. She will be sharing her expertise in propagating dahlias from cuttings.

From the Prez

Happy 2012 !!!

We should start the year out right by giving a big THANK YOU to Sharon Lucchesi for her awesome job as president for the past few years. I'm sure I will be asking for her advice in the future... Thanks again, Sharon.

I'm looking forward to a great dahlia year. I had a lot of fun with my garden this last year and am excited about trying new tubers this season. A lot of new tubers!!! I'm out of control! Aren't we all?

Thanks to Tom Karwin for all his work as editor for the past newsletters!

And thanks, Jan Palia for taking on the newsletter this year!

Thanks to all who helped with the club tuber divide!



Keep on growing,
Kristine Albrecht

In Memory of Jack



We were saddened to hear of the passing of our friend Jack Nellany. Jack had been a member of MBDS for the past 15 years and he and his wife, Pat had hosted the annual Mini Show at their house since 2002.

Jack's first passion for growing flowering plants began with orchids when he assisted his aunt in Santa Barbara. Being a member of the Orchid Society led to making friends with dahlia growers and then on to the passion of dahlias. His favorite dahlias included Kenora Jubilee and Amy K.

There will be a celebration of his life on Saturday, January 14 from 11 to 3 at their house.

We will all miss him. We love you Jack!

Looking Ahead

Guest Speakers

We're planning on having some guest speakers to provide new ideas and inspiration.

Garden Tours

Last year we enjoyed great field trips and want to schedule more.

Question Box

We are resurrecting the question box. Bring your questions to the meetings and we'll get the answers from our expert growers.

Judging Seminar

We're working on hosting a judging seminar this summer.

Labeling Pencils

Here is the web site for the pencils to use for labeling tubers: PencilThings.com

Look for Indelible Ink Copying Pencil \$1.50.

Choose graphite/blue.

A Word from Dean Barnes.....

Our upcoming Root Sale will be on Saturday, April 7 at Deerpark Shopping Center. As soon as possible, I need to get a list of the tubers you will be bringing so we can provide a photo of the tuber for our customers.

We know that root sale customers like to see a picture of the dahlia bloom before they purchase a tuber.

Now that everyone has a list of the varieties they have dug, it will be easy to give old Dean a list of varieties that might be brought to the root sort. I will expend the effort needed to check lists against our variety name card and picture files and try to find the missing pictures.

Hopefully this appeal will result in a better response than we had in previous years. It is much easier to find and prepare pictures ahead of time instead of during the root sort.

Please bring your list to a meeting or email to kristinexxoo@gmail.com

Digging up the Tubers!



It was a beautiful weekend in December when we met at Kristine's Farm to work on digging and dividing tubers.





Tips for Digging Tuber Clumps

Tip #1: Always pierce a circle @12" from the center of the clump with your shovel to break any long running roots; then prize up the clump with a double shovel pincer movement.

Tip #2: Always process one clump at a time so you don't lose the label.

Tip #3: If desired, paste Captan and/or sulphur on the exposed edges of each tuber to guard against fungus.

Tip #4: Let tubers dry 2-3 days before bagging in vermiculite, peat, sand, or guinea pig shavings.

Tip #5: Store in a cool (@40-42 degrees) but not cold (below 32 degrees) dry spot.



Iris Wallace shows how to have fun washing, dividing and labeling tubers!

Minutes from the December 9, 2011 Meeting

The meeting was promptly called to order by Kevin.

December Minutes: Jean made a motion to approve November minutes and they were approved.

Treasury Report: Katy announced that we were in still good standing. Just need to still pay for the awards. Kevin mentioned that the National Show was a success and we may get some money back from that.

Membership: Jean was pleased to announce that we have 42 members that have submitted their dues. His includes renewals and new memberships.

Newsletter: Thank you, Tom! Still looking for someone to take this on next year. Jan or Sharon are possibilities.

Officers and Board Members: Joe motioned that we have a paperless ballot. Motion was approved and then all members that were present voted and approved the new officers and board members. Officer's for 2012 are as follows: Kristine Albrecht, President; Kevin Larkin, Vice President; Katy Bannister, Treasurer; Iris Wallace, Secretary; and Dean Barnes, Sergeant of Arms . Board Member's for 2012 include: Jean Biberdorf, Susan Dee Cummins, Joe Ghio, Jan Palia and Karen Zydner.

Flower of the year: Flowers of the year were voted on. The winners are Mexico and MAB. Kristine Albrecht has Mexico to donate and will also make cuttings have MAB. If interested in growing either one of these please let Kristine know.

Tuber Digs: Kristine had a successful turnout last weekend and Doris is hoping for the same tomorrow.

Meeting was adjourned and holiday festivities proceeded with Joe Ghio as "Master of Ceremonies".

Minutes respectfully submitted, Iris Wallace



Future Dates

February Meeting:	Friday, February 10
Tuber Sale:	Saturday, April 7
San Leandro Show:	August 3-5
San Francisco Show:	August 17-19
MBDS Show:	August 24-26
National Dahlia Show:	August 31 - September 2
San Jose Show:	September 7-9
Santa Cruz County Fair:	Staging on September 9-10

The Crew

President: Kristine Albrecht

Vice President: Kevin Larkin

Treasurer: Katy Bannister

Secretary: Iris Wallace

Newsletter: Jan Palia

Website: Brion Sprinsock



Want to see past issues of the newsletter?

Check out our website mbdahlias.org