

THE DAHLIA DIRT



The Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society

November 2015

Next Meeting: Friday, November 13 at Simpkins Center

7:00 Annual Pizza Dinner and Membership

Renewal Meeting

7:30 Meeting Begins



From the Vice Prez

November is a transitional month in the dahlia patch. There can still be a lot of color from late blooms, but usually on close inspection they have lots of problems like bug damage and popped centers. Even so, if it has a stem and can survive the trip into the house, November blooms are a real pleasure. You need to forget all of your judges training and look past the streaky colors and usually horrible form and you will find some of fall's natural beauty.

Many cut down their plants by now or will soon. If the plants have been growing since before June they have probably produced all the roots they are going to for the season. If the tops are dried up they certainly will not be adding to the root system. Plants that are still green will be bulking up their roots now, but can be safely cut down and even dug.

We tend to leave ours in until the first or second week of December. As long as the ground is not too wet and there is adequate drainage, leaving them in is a convenient way to delay the need to find suitable above ground storage needed once they are dug. We start cutting the tops back sooner, though. Early planted ones are starting to die back, and we like to cut the tops before that stage so that they are more palatable for the cows, who get all our tops and excess roots.

See you all Friday - remember it's Pizza night.
Kevin



Dahlia Dine Around







Membership Renewal

The November meeting dinner is free, but of course there's a catch! November is the month to renew your MBDS and ADS memberships. The membership dues have not changed:

There are 2 different types of MBDS memberships:

- 1) single/family with email newsletter----- \$10/year
-OR-
- 2) single/family with mailed hardcopy newsletter----- \$16/year

Optional, join the National Society ADS as well: There are 2 types of ADS memberships:

- 1) single with 1 classification book + quarterly publications -- \$24/year
-OR-
- 2) family with 2 classification books + quarterly publications- \$27/year

Family memberships must have 1 mailing address

If you're renewing, there's no need to fill out a new form unless your information has been changed. Checks for MBDS and ADS can be combined, and made out to "MBDS".

If you cannot make the November meeting, please don't hesitate to send a check to:

Membership

Monterey Bay Dahlia Society

2038 Ellen Avenue

San Jose, CA 95125



Tuber Purchase Program

November Tuber Raffle

This is our last month of the Tuber Purchase Program Raffle. The last 3 cultivars to be raffled off are Tahoma Big M , miniature formal decorative dark pink and white, Willie Willie an orchid, and Woodland's Naomi a miniature lavender formal decorative.



Tahoma Big M photo used with permission from

Dahlias by Les and Viv



Willie Willie photo credit to Franck Avril



Woodland's Naomi

Dahlia Tuber Dig and Divide Two Weekends

November 28 and 29
from 10 am to 3 pm
Kristine's Farm in Live Oak

Directions:

In Live Oak, from Soquel Ave. turn onto 7th Ave. Turn left on Rodriguez and then right on Dustin Way. The farm is behind the tall wooden gate at the end of the street next to 2141 Dustin Way. Please be respectful of the neighborhood by not blocking any driveways.

December 5 and 6
from 10 am to 3pm
Kevin and Karen's Ranch in Corralitos

Directions:

296 Browns Valley Road
Corralitos, CA 95076

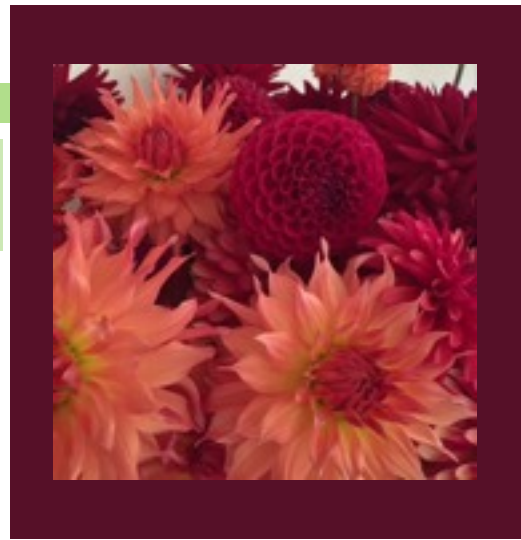
We are the first driveway past Meadowridge Road

We will be digging, dividing, marking and storing the tubers that will be set aside for our Annual Tuber Sale in April. The funds from our tuber sale keep our society running and pays for our Annual Dahlia Show.

Please bring a knife, a cutting board, and a tuber-marking pencil.

If you are planning to help wash the tubers bring some waterproof clothing. If people want to bring their tuber clumps for the club to divide at the farm the tubers need to be washed and ready to divide.

Minutes



Minutes from MBDS Meeting on October 9, 2015

Meeting called to order by Kevin at 7:35. Welcome new member Alya. She is a dahlia grower who came to the MBDS show at the Santa Cruz County Fair.

Minutes: All in favor approved

Treasurer: No significant activity, we remain in good standing

Membership: Membership is based on the calendar year and needs to be paid in advance. Please make the effort to pay your dues before the end of the year

Santa Cruz County Fair Report: Thanks to everyone that participated, it was a great show and well received by the public. We are looking to increase interest in showing at the fair next year, as well as add new categories, suggestions are welcome.

Dahlia Door Prize- Growers Report: No issues so far other than a few did not grow. Bring well marked tubers to one of the scheduled digs if you want help dividing or storing.

Dahlia Door Prize: Motion was made to increase the 2016 purchase budget to up to \$1000. Motion seconded and all in favor approved.

Club Dig Dates: Kristine's garden is the weekend following Thanksgiving, November 28 & 29. Kevin's garden December 5 & 6. Come prepared with your own shovel, clippers, knife, cutting board, etc.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Maia

The Crew

President: Kristine Albrecht

Vice President: Kevin Larkin

Treasurer: Katy Bannister

Secretary: Maia Morris

Membership: Jean Biberdorf

Newsletter: Jan Palia

Photos: Debbie Russell

Website: Brion Sprinsock



Please send all your fascinating photos and interesting tidbits for the newsletter to bgawlik@cruzio.com

Want to see past issues of the newsletter?

Check out our website mbdahlias.org