

# MBDS NEWSLETTER

November 2016



## The Dahlia Dirt

### **Next Meeting:**

**Friday, November 11  
at Simpkins Swim Center  
Santa Cruz**

**7:00 Annual Pizza Fest  
7:30 Membership Meeting**

# Vice President's Message



## **December**

### **Vice President's Message**

#### **November Meeting**

This month's meeting will be our annual Pizza Fest. We will be meeting at Simpkin's at our regular time and the club will provide pizza and salads. We will be asking you to pay 2017 dues at this meeting so that Jean can get a head start on collecting all the club's dues in time to submit to the American Dahlia Society membership folks. **So please**

**plan to pay your 2017 dues at this meeting.**

### **Annual Dues Schedule**

Local dues w/email newsletter - \$10

Local dues w/hardcopy newsletter - \$16

Benefits:

Monthly meetings and newsletter

Great camaraderie and food

Fun special events –Annual Show, Tuber Sale, Mini-Show, .....etc

Opportunity to win and trade for dahlias at meetings

Much more.....

American Dahlia Society Dues – Single - \$24

American Dahlia Society Dues – Family - \$27

Benefits:

Quarterly National Bulletin with informative and entertaining articles

Annual Handbook of Dahlias listing all the current top show dahlias

Access to educational materials via Members Only ADS web pages

Much more.....

## Fall/Winter Dahlia Activities

Coming off the wettest October in many years be watchful that your dahlias don't rot. The ground is saturated now so it is easy for rainfall to result in standing water on the surface. You want to prevent this around your dahlias or they may begin to rot.

It is ***not*** too early to dig – it just means you have to store the roots longer. If your plants are still very green and bushy you may still get some late blooms, so enjoy. But if they have turned the corner and are just green or brown sticks start by cutting them back to a few inches above the soil level. If you have good drainage they can stay that way for several weeks – if you have very



wet soil and/or standing water you want to get them out. FYI – it is much easier to clean up dahlia clumps that are dry....soil falls free easier. Wait several days after a rain if you can before digging. Once they are dug you pretty much need to go the distance and divide them and store them away. You can store them whole, though it takes more space.

The question of outdoor storage came up and here is a suggestion. Roots can be stored outside after dividing (or whole clumps) but they need to be in water tight containers that can be ventilated if necessary. We used Rubbermaid tubs filled with peat moss and roots stored on the north side of our house where it stayed cooler. We monitored the tubs for condensation and cracked open the lids any time we observed it and sealed them back up if it was going to rain. These worked well and offer flexibility.



### **2016 Flower of the Year**

Along with nominating officers for 2017 at this meeting we need to make a much more important decision and that is to nominate candidates for Flower of the Year. Think about which varieties did well for you and others this season and come to Friday's meeting with some choices.....We want a Fully Double and a Disc-Centered variety. They can be any variety that is widely disseminated. Local is nice but not required.

See you Friday!

# Tuber Talk at San Lorenzo



In spite of an early torrential rain, 10 + die hard dahlia enthusiasts from as far away as Carmel, braved the weather and donned their umbrellas in order to share the knowledge and mythology of dahlia culture and propagation from our own wizards and witches, Kristine, Iris, & Mary.

San Lorenzo garden Center hosted members of the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society for a dahlia demo and discussion about our favorite flower Sunday, October 30. In a period spanning over 2 hours all aspects of culture, propagation, pest and varmint management, dahlia color, size and form preference, pests, and personal trials and tragedies were shared.

We found more friends enthusiastic about our favorite flower and hopefully a few new members to our club!

Mary Bannister

# Minutes

## Monterey Bay Dahlia Society Minutes September 9, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Kristine Albrecht. 21 members present.

Minutes: All in favor approved

Treasurer's Report: Expenses for show are all paid out-rent, awards, lunch, tables, mailings, and we remain in good standing

Membership: Approximately five new members from the annual show

Dahlia Dine Around: Locations chosen- Kristine, Iris and Tom's gardens



Genome Sequencing: American Dahlia Society is fundraising to get dahlia's genome sequencing. Kevin proposes the club donates a substantial amount to make a statement and encourage other clubs to do the same. Motion was made to donate \$3,000 to the American Dahlia Society for genome sequencing; an all in favor vote approved the motion.

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Maia Pedemonte

## Monterey Bay Dahlia Society Minutes October 14, 2016

Meeting called to order at 7:35 by Kevin. Welcome guests Susan and Deborah.

Minutes: Postponed until next meeting

Membership: No report, 2017 renewals will begin in November.

Treasurer's Report: Donation to the American Dahlia Society for the genome project has cleared the bank, we remain in good standing

Nominating Committee Chair: Kevin appointed Joe Ghio as the nominating committee chair

Solicit Volunteers: Mary volunteered to present a talk at San Lorenzo Garden Center October 30, and promote the club

Minutes respectfully submitted,  
Maia Pedemonte

# THE CREW



President: Kristine Albrecht  
Vice President: Kevin Larkin  
Treasurer: Katy Bannister  
Secretary: Maia Pedemonte  
Membership: Jean Biberdorf  
Newsletter: Jan Palia  
Website: Brion Sprinsock

Please send all your fascinating photos and  
interesting tidbits for the newsletter to [bgawlik@cruzio.com](mailto:bgawlik@cruzio.com)

Want to see past issues of the newsletter?  
Check out our website [mbdahlias.org](http://mbdahlias.org)