

THE DAHLIA DIRT



The Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society

December 2015

Next Meeting: Friday, December 11 at Simpkins Center

6:00 Annual Holiday Party

Pot Luck Dinner and Gift Exchange

Election of 2016 Officers

Selection of Flowers of the Year



From the Vice Prez

December Holiday Meeting

Happy Holidays to everyone! This month's meeting will be our always fun gift exchange/theft/re-exchange party. Because of the added activities we will start earlier than usual - the potluck will begin at 6:00 PM followed by a brief business meeting where we will elect 2016 officers and chose our Flowers of the Year.

Flower of the Year Selection

At our last meeting we nominated KA's Cloud, Harvey Koop, Embrace, and Hollyhill Margarita as Fully Double Flower of the Year and Cobequid Celestial Star and Lulu Island Mom as Disc-Centered Flower of the Year. Flower of the Year is a special class at our annual show where winning entries can earn big prize money and much fame for the exhibitors.

Shopping for New Dahlias

Now is the time to shop for and order if you want to add new dahlias to your collection. A great new web site at <http://www.dahliaaddict.com/> cross references suppliers with varieties so that you can search for specific varieties and shop all the suppliers that have it. Great tool!!

The American Dahlia Society has posted results from the 2015 Trial Garden and Seedling Evaluation campaigns. The results are available at the following sites:

<http://www.dahlia.org/uploads/members/2015SBFINALREPORT.pdf>

<http://www.dahlia.org/index.php?page=trial-garden-results-2015>

Winter Storing

Because none of us have a perfectly controlled constant temperature and humidity storage environment the best thing we can



do is try to keep our roots cold and moist during their time in storage and check on them occasionally to adjust conditions as needed. If you're storing in plastic bags or tubs look for condensation in the bags or on the inside surfaces of the tubs. If you see any, open the containers slightly to allow moisture escape. In contrast, if there is no condensation check to see if the roots are shriveling, in which case you may need to add some moisture, or at least insure the containers or bags are well sealed to prevent further moisture loss. Dahlias store best at 80-90% relative humidity at 40-45 degrees. Our best suggestion is to check them regularly while in storage and if they appear to be either rotting or drying out move quickly to fix the problem and if you have any questions contact other members who may have experience and may be able to help.

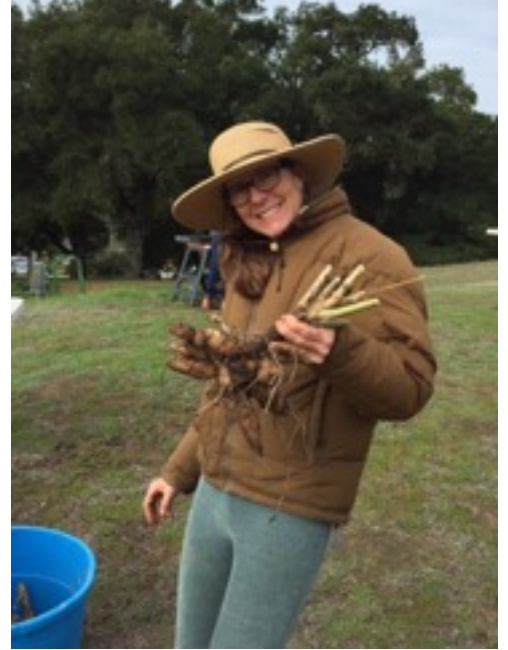
See you at the Christmas Party!

Tuber Dig and Divide at Kevin and Karen's





HAVING WAY TOO MUCH FUN !!!



Minutes

MBDS Meeting on November 13, 2015

Kevin Larkin called the meeting to order at 7:45, with 26 members present.

Minutes: Motion to approve, all in favor approved

Membership: National membership fees are due now, Local dues can still be paid next month

Treasurers Report: We are in good standing, no significant new activity

2016 Ballot: Lena will head AD Hoc committee to create a Ballot for 2016 elections of officers and directors.

Nominations for 2016 Dahlia of the Year:

Fully double nominations are KA's Cloud, Harvey Koop, Embrace, and Hollyhill Margarita. Disc-Centered nominations are Cobequid Celestial Star and Lulu Island Mom.



December Meeting: Potluck will begin at 6pm, holiday gift exchange at 7pm.

Tuber Purchase Program: Committee will discuss simplifying the raffle winning and tracking process to simplify for 2016.

Tuber Raffle Winners: Sandia Sunbonnet- Maia & Linda; Sandia Suncatcher- John & Kristine; Tahoma Lilac- Jean & Jan; Tahoma Big M- Katie; Willie Willie- Dave & Chris; Woodlands Naomi- Randy & Marlana

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Maia Pedemonte

The Crew

President: Kristine Albrecht

Vice President: Kevin Larkin

Treasurer: Katy Bannister

Secretary: Maia Morris

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

Want to see past issues of the newsletter?

Check out our website mbdahlias.org