

San Leandro

DAHLIA TIMES

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May 2015

Next Meeting: May 19, 7:00 PM

Karp Room, San Leandro Library

Dahlia folks,

What a fun day we had sharing our dahlias with our friends from surrounding areas. We had a lot of help and really appreciated the assistance from our newer members. Thanks to Don, George, Kimberly and Jerry for coming in early from the valley to deliver their dahlia plants. I have no idea what time they got up. We don't get to see these four folks often enough.

I am looking forward to picking up some of DJ's seedlings. This will be an unusual test as the mother plant more often than not has different colored petals in the bloom. It should be fun seeing the results of these seedlings. Thanks for doing this for us DJ!

If anyone is interested in sponsoring their favorite dahlia in our dahlia show, please let me know. Wouldn't it be fun to see a bunch of your favorite blooms on the show table!

I will try to have a copy of our show schedule at our meeting so you can find all my mistypings before we send it out to the exhibitors.

Curtis and I made a trip to pick up some fertilizer and mildew fighter. We will have it for sale at our meeting. Thanks to Curtis for footing the bill for this.

I am really excited with our garden. I am already bringing blooms in to the house. They are hard to find as they are Mignon Singles, less than two inches across but they are a hint to what we will see in the months to come.

Hope you can join us at our meeting. This time of year, dahlia growing gets exciting!!

John

**Refreshments will be provided by:
Leslie Servin and Amelia**

San Leandro Dahlia Society

Minutes: April 21, 2015

San Leandro Library - Karp Room

John called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM with 16 present. He showed us these nifty little plastic trays we can place tubers in with a photograph in the back for our sale. With our state's water situation we will have to wait until Saturday to tell if the sale will be a success. For the sale, dahlias are drought resistant to a degree.

Paige & D J are cutting back by 25% of what they plant at Beresford Park in San Mateo.

There are ways to conserve water: mulch, drip systems, & plant in pots. This might be a big item at the sale. It is better to water in the mornings if you can. Use a timer so you don't over water.

Mildew will also be a question. Stylet Oil is supposed to really do the trick. Remember you want to start applying something before you see powered mildew.

We welcomed a new members Ellen Corbet and Dawn Watts. Dawn has re-located from the Seattle-Tacoma area. She's had problems keeping tubers over in the past.

Roy is fine and he will be at the sale.

SALE ITEMS FOR SATURDAY:

Set-up the tables - at 7:30 AM. Organize plants and tubers once JoAnna arrives with them. Don't let anyone start to shop before 9:00 AM

Sales were down at DSC considerably thus everybody is a sales person Saturday.

Take down at 1 PM and will need help to return the tables to Casa Peralta. Cuttings = \$5.00 / Tubers = \$3.00

The chap Curtis contacted about a video of the dahlias in San Leandro has several nice photographs from various members: Beverly, Barry and Marcia, Chris, Paige & D J and some from Curtis.

Back to the basics:

Ellen - questions...you must bait when you plant for snails & slugs. How much sun? If you could plant a tomato in that spot a dahlia will thrive. You will need to stake your plants.

There were many little conversations going on with the new members asking lots of questions.

We accepted the minutes from March 2015.

We need a \$50.00 check to hold the sale at Root Park. The treasurer's report shows that we are solvent.

Beverly will be walking for FESCO to end family homelessness in Alameda County May 2nd. Donations will be appreciated.

April Birthday's: Barry has entered a new decade. Hip - hip - hooray!

We have the seedling starts at the May meeting for our annual seedling contest. They are \$ 1.00 each with prizes awarded for the Best (and Worst) in Show at our September meeting. One of the seedling parents is: Lawton Dolly 4015 M FD BI-DR/W

Meeting dismissed at 8:36 PM

Respectfully submitted,

DJ

Program:

We'll be talking about the sale, our dahlias and, of course, what we should be doing now to get the most out of our gardens for the shows!

Speaking about the sale... here are a few photos from our successful sale:



We quickly got the dahlias arranged

The beautiful placards really helped



The sale began and everyone gave advice to the customers

There was some excitement on the street as there was a funeral procession for a San Leandro policeman who recently passed away...



I didn't know that the police department had its own hearse...



The sale went on after the procession passed...



The customers paid at the "cash" table...



Every tuber got its moment.... "Hey... there's the eye!"



Our salesmen kept consulting their dahlia books to answer questions

John sent me down the street to get photos of something that the city had done.

They had put pictures of dahlias on the housing of some transformers at the corner.

They appreciate the dahlia dells and we're glad that they do.

The sale was a great success despite the threat of rain (which never actually happened).

