

Dahlia Times

San Leandro
Dahlia Society
JUNE, 2023



Gitts Perfection

Letter from the President

Dahlia folk,

We are looking forward to the June Meeting with a live garden tour and instructions of Curtis and Chris' gardens in Lakeside Park. See further details in the newsletter. It is fun to see other people's gardens and see what they do that I don't do.

What were the consequences of all the rain we got this last winter? One was the that the snail population in our area grew. The field behind us has been plowed and there is no longer a place for snails, slugs and earwigs to hide so they came to our garden. I had put out Sluggo Plus but they still got to the garden. I went out one night and stepped on 200 snails. I counted them. Slugs hid under every pot and earwigs hide in leaves they wrap themselves in. I have them under control now but having that many critters attacking the garden was a surprise. I suggest that you go out late after dark and take your flashlight and just see what is going on in the garden while you are sleeping.

Those that want to go to the American Dahlia Society National Show in Portland, check out the Portland Dahlia Society website for what you need to do to attend. I hear from Mark Oldenkamp that the hotel rooms that are reserved for the conference and show are going fast. The tours should be informative, and I am looking forward to seeing the Hollyhill garden. I have seen it in the past but looking at his seedlings is always fun.



Letter from the President

There is a celebration of Ken Masarat's life on the afternoon of June 17th. It will be held in the East San Jose hills at either Alum Rock Park or Grant Ranch depending on weather related closures. The exact location will be announced closer to the date. The time will be 3PM to 7PM. There will be a casual picnic, lawn games music etc. From 5-5:30 there will be a get together to share stories/reflections. There will be a display of photos and objects celebrating Ken's life. Please bring any you would like to share but please remember to take them home. As I hear more information I will pass it on.



Looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting at the Lakeside Park gardens.

John



MAY MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY MAY 15, 2023

BARRY HART

SUE GREGORI

SABRINA ALMAZAN

EVELYN ROSA

MARILYN FONG

CURTIS MAXWELL

KRISTI WHITFIELD

BEVERLY DAHLSTED

NANCY CLANCY

QUARUM ELDRIDGE

PEGGY MURPHY

DEVA LOWENTHAL

GINGER PORRILL

JOHN KAWAAGUCHI

FRANCES KAWAGUCHI

LESLIE SEVERN

JOHN MORTON

MEETINGS MINUTES/TREASURES REPORT

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED

CONCERNS FOR TUBER SALES - SUE IS GOING TO DO A SPREAD SHEET ABOUT ALL THE CLUBS THINGS FOR SHOW AND SALES, IE SIGNS AND SUCH

JUDGING CLASS 7/22 IN SF - PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH LET JOHN KNOW IF YOU ARE GOING TO ATTEND SO HE CAN GIVE A HEAD COUNT TO THEM - WE WILL ALSO BE LOOKING AT CARPOOLING

KRISTINE ALBRECHT HAS A NEW BOOK OUT - DAHLIAS SEED TO BLOOM - AMAZON \$25

- **MAY MEETING MINUTES (CONTINUED)**

- KRISTI & CURTIS ARE THINKING OF HOSTING "WORKDAYS" AT CASA PERALTA & LAKE MERRITT - SHE WILL POST AND SEND E-MAIL - POSSIBLE DATE 6/17

- CURTIS GAVE A DEMO ON CLASSIFYING DAHLIAS

- OPEN DISCUSSION ABOUT GROWING -

- MEMBER ISSUES

- ORGANICS & VERSUS CHEMICALS

- RICE STRAW, ALFALFA STRAW AND ALFALFA PELLETS

- MEETING ENDED AT 8:45PM



Gitts Crazy

June 2023 Meeting

NEW TIME AND LOCATION!!

Since this is a garden club, we have decided to have the June meeting in the garden!

Date: Saturday June 17th

Time: 10 am

Location: 666 Bellevue Ave, Oakland, CA

Enter via Gate 1 (main gate closest to Fairyland). Turn right at the first path and follow a few hundred feet to shaded circular outdoor meeting area to the left of a small wooden storage shed.

Bring a chair and a snack to share. After our short agenda, Curtis and Chris will answer questions and demonstrate dahlia care in the garden.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Demonstrations to include:

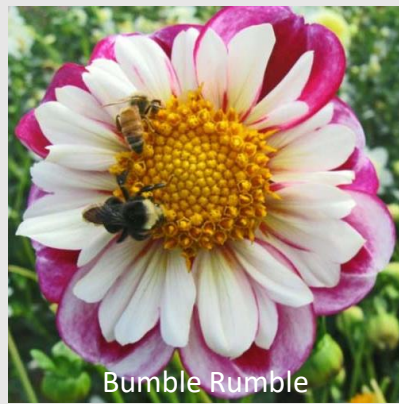
1. Plant grooming: disbudding, dis-branching, leaf removal around base
2. Tying
3. Irrigation technique in use
4. Plant spacing

There is a \$5 fee to park (they will usually waive the fee if you tell them you are volunteering at the garden).



2023 Local Shows

Society	Date	Flower of the Year Fully Double	Flower of the Year Single
Monterey Bay Dahlia Society	September 2,3	Ruthli (Iris Wallace intro.)	Bumble Rumble
Dahlia Society of California (SF)	August 19, 29	Clearview Cameron	Eden White Knight (Lou Paradise intro.)
Central Coast Dahlia Society	TBD	TBD	TBD
San Leandro Dahlia Society	August 5,6	Maya Zoe (Curtis Maxwell intro.)	-



In the Garden with Andrew

Andrew Baxter planted 8 dahlias donated by the SLDS members in early June with a little assistance and support from Ellen Muir and Cris Whyte.



Andrew will be 92 in the fall and still has a spark and excitement for growing dahlias. However, like many of us, getting up and down from the ground to plant, is a challenge for him. He set up a makeshift raised platform that worked great to support several pots at the right level.

Andrew was a prolific dahlia grower who lost over 220 tubers to a deep ground freeze in Moraga the first year that he decided not to dig. He promised to share the results of his "raised garden" with the club.



The San Leandro Dahlia Society-Where Do We Go from Here?

Ellen Muir & Quamrun Eldridge

- At the Pacific Southwest Dahlia Society 2023 Conference in San Leandro **21st Century's Dahlia Societies: What is next?** was the topic of facilitated conversation with the members in attendance. The link to the discussion summary can be found here <https://tinyurl.com/PSW21stCentDahliaSoc>
- At the SLDS March 21st Zoom meeting we reviewed the highlights of the conference discussion and brainstormed specific ideas and action items that our society could implement moving forward. The following table contains the recommended actions generated and the progress on them to date. We will revisit the table several times a year as a group to identify the barriers, our progress and add new recommendations.

The San Leandro Dahlia Society- Where Do We Go from Here? (1)



SLDS Ideas	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Partner with/combine with other garden organization meetings with each having a section on their societies.• Think of novel/different ideas for meetings• Expand ways to connect with youth• Reach out to wider demographic• Partner with local garden centers and nurseries to offer speaking engagements, etc.• Sell tubers and plants at local flea markets	<p>Chris and Beverly spoke to a garden club Spring 2023 and generated interest and sales in dahlias</p>

The San Leandro Dahlia Society- Where Do We Go from Here? (2)

SLDS Recommendations	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop Mentorship Programs• Offer garden tours for the public• Increase social media activities• Connect with Merritt College to offer classes or speakers or maybe use as a show venue.• Promote society with giveaways.• Restart public floral displays at the City Hall for example (with post cards telling how to connect with the SLDS)• Table at the local festivals (Cherry Festival & Beer & Brats, CV street fair), events and Farmer's Markets• Install large signage at Casa Peralta, LM Gardens & Mortuary with our website, FB, Insta links & QR code	<p>Kristi held dig and divide session at Casa Peralta in April 2023</p> <p>Louise created an Instagram page for the club and posts regularly.</p>

The San Leandro Dahlia Society- Where Do We Go from Here? (3)



SLDS Proposed Action Items	Progress
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Schedule a Saturday meeting for youth• Offer monthly hybrid meetings.• Provide informal mentoring sessions at Lake Merritt• Offer hands on “Ask the Expert” meetings on weekends.• Schedule Zoom meetings during the off season and winter months• Work on succession planning for officers	<p>Sabrina and Craig learned how to host Zoom meetings in April and May, expanding our tech capacity</p> <p>June 16th meeting will be at Lake Merritt Garden to demonstrate dahlia care</p>



Want Ads and Notices

- Wanted: Cris Whyte wants 4 AA or A plants of any cultivar to complete his garden. Please contact him at cwpromotethearts@gmail.com if you can help.

Send a note to :

- bonddiane9@gmail.com if you want to put something in the want ads.