



Editor: Sue Gregori

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February 2021

Next Meeting: March 15th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Zoom Meeting hosted by Ellen Muir, San Leandro

Dahlia folk,

It is already the middle of March and in another month it will be dahlia planting time. Time flies slowly when you are at home and can't go out without a mask and there really aren't a lot of places to go even with a mask. Better days are coming.

Some things to think about... While we can't do anything, it would be a good idea to check your tubers and make sure they are in good shape. Inventory the extra ones you have and get a count of them so you can donate to them to the club and still have enough for you to plant. If they are not eyeing up, showing growth, you might spritz them with water and put them in a warm spot. That usually will get the ones going that are going to grow. (Do not water but just give the medium you have your tubers in a spray of water.) Make sure your tubers are labeled. A felt pen on a dry tuber works well. To save time and tuber writing space, you might abbreviate Hollyhill with HH and Bloomquist with BQ. Some people will circle the eye or eyes with the felt pen to help new growers see what direction to set the tuber in the ground.

We will be given the complete rundown on our tuber/plant sale at our meeting. Last year was the first time we did a virtual sale and it went very smoothly from my point of view. Please jot down the "do by" dates as those that are keeping inventory and pictures will really need this information in a timely manner. Please volunteer as needed. This is your club so help out as you can.

I am looking forward to the March 16th Zoom meeting. Aren't you?

John the Pres.

Tragedy on Bay Farm
A parody by Rob Schmidt

Took out my dug up treasures from last Summer to take advantage of the nice weather to further sort and divide in preparation for planting. Then..."mon dieu! What is this?" Bag after bag...rotted to point of appearing to have no solid contents in the paper bag amidst the wood shavings.

Alas, and alack, I am undone.

Now am I dead,

Now am I fled;

My soul is in the sky:

Tongue, lose thy light;

Moon take thy flight:

Now die, die, die, die, die. (apologies to Wm. Shakespeare)

I followed the same precautions that have been so successful in the past three years. Carefully dug up the tuberous clusters and sprayed them with a hose to remove all trace of soil. Let them sit for days to insure that all trace of moisture was gone. Inspected, then packed each in it's own large paper grocery bag with ventilation holes, then filled each bag with fresh wood shavings in order to avoid cross-contamination over the long...well, not SO long, cruel Winter. Bags placed in a dark , cool,, but ventilated garage storage closet.

Only a few specimens survived the rotten plague.

O grim-look'd night! O night with hue so black!

O night, which ever art when day is not!

O night, O night! alack, alack, alack,

I fear my Dahlia's promise is forgot...and rot...and rot...and rot.

"Tis a dark day in Alameda. I am accursed. In the words of Christopher Marlowe: "waah!"

Rob's Epilogue:

Both passages I used are from Midsummer Night's Dream, Act 5 Sc 1, the hysterical play-within-a-play that is Pyramus & Thisbe. When Shakespeare places that many "alas" and "alack" in a single scene you know his tongue was firmly in his cheek as he wrote. This is not to say my injuries upon the discovery were not crushing and heartfelt. But surely a stream of time-honed profanity delivered in a roaring bellow cannot delight and beguile like a few chosen words of "tragically" comedic whimsy.

San Leandro Dahlia Society Minutes

February 16th 2021 at 7pm on Zoom Hosted by Ellen Muir

Presiding --- John Morton, President

Present 22 members

MEETING NOTES

ATTENDANCE

ELLEN MUIR	CURTIS MAXWELL	PURNIMA S.
BARRY	CHRIS DIX	EVELYN ROSA
GINGER PORRILL	MAREN GIANNINI	DIANE BOND
KRISTI WHITFIELD	MARILYN FONG	DEVA
LESLIE SERVIN	DJ ECKLEBARGER	MARGARET
ROY	SUE GREGORI	ROB
SUSAN	JOHN	DENNIS STONE
MAX CRITCHFIELD		

MEETING STARTED 7:08PM

JOHN STARTED THE MEETING BY WELCOMING BACK MEMBERS WE HAVE NOT SEEN IN AWHILE AND TUBER SALE PLANNING.

CHRIS DIX ADVISED THAT HE HAS ORDERED SOME TUBERS BUT IS HAVING DIFFICULTY IN SECURING MANY OF THE REQUESTED. ONLY \$250 OF THE \$400

ALTERNATIVES WERE DISCUSSED AS THIS SEEMS TO BE AN ISSUE OTHER MEMBERS WERE AWARE OF.

LAST MONTHS MINUTES WERE APPROVED

TREASURY REPORT WAS GIVEN BY DENNIS AND APPROVED.

San Leandro Dahlia Society Minutes (con't)

DIANE DISCUSSED THE UPCOMING TUBER SALE. NO DATE HAS BEEN SET YET BUT POSSIBLE DATES HAVE PROPOSED

4/15 – MEMBERS ONLY

4/22 – OPEN TO PUBLIC – 1 WEEKS

4/28 – SALES CLOSED

4/30 – TUBERS DROPPED OFF IN AM – SORTING FOR PICK-UP PM

5/1 – ORDER PICK-UP

MEMBER'S TASKS –

FEBRUARY

START LOOKING AT YOUR TUBERS – THEY MUST HAVE EYES WITH NO WEAK NECKS OR ROT

YOU CAN START SPROUTING PLANTS. PEOPLE CAN ALSO DEVELOP CUTTING

MARCH

START COLLECTING INFO ON PLANTS AND TUBERS.

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PROPERLY COMMIT ON YOUR NUMBER OF DONATIONS. DO NOT PROMISE TUBERS TO ANYONE ELSE THAT YOU COMMITTED FOR THE SALE.

MAKE SURE TO HAVE CULTIVAR, ADS CLASS#, PHOTO AND NUMBER OF TUBERS

APRIL

APRIL 1-14 – PROVIDE **FINAL** COUNT ON DONATIONS

APRIL 30 – ALL TUBERS AND PLANTS TO SALE SITE – VOLUNTEERS TO RECEIVE, SORT & PLANT

MAY 1 – VOLUNTEERS TO HAND OUT ORDERS

TUBERS ARE \$4 AND PLANTS \$6. MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE 25% OFF. NEW MEMBERS TO RECEIVE A \$25 COUPON.

ELLEN AND ROB WILL BE CO-WRANGLERS.

CURTIS GAVE ANOTHER DISCUSSION FOR DAHLIA FORMS AND SHAPES.

KRISTI DID 5 QUESTIONS ON GUESSING FLOWERS USING THE CLASSIFICATION BOOK.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS – CHRIS DIX, EVELYN ROSA

MEETING ENDED AT 8:55PM

Secretary ---- Ginger Porrill