



San Leandro

DAHLIA TIMES

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May 2020

Next Meeting: April 19th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM

Zoom Meeting, San Leandro

Dahlia Folk,

Next meeting, May 19th from 7:00 until 9:00ish. We will Zoom and discuss what is going on and bring your dahlia questions. Planting time is now so if you need instructions, call in. It is fun to see our club members on line. (I haven't been to the beauty parlor in so long that my beard is white. Need a dye job.) If you are not on Zoom, you can call in and hear the meeting.

What a crazy time we are in. Dahlia tuber sales on-line. Wear Masks. Don't get out of your car when you pick up your purchase. As my dad would have said, "Who would have thunk it." A lot of work has gone into setting our on-line tuber sale up and we truly appreciate the effort. JoAnna got a call tonight from a previous member that saw the site and wanted to know if she could order and have them mailed to her. She checked out many of the other on line sales and said ours was the best hands down. Thank you Sue for all the work and making it look so good and so easy for the public. Thanks to Diane for getting an inventory of all tubers and cuttings and for volunteering her house for the sales pickup place. Wow, so many others to thank as well. You know who you are and heartfelt thanks!

For those that haven't heard, Kristi is growing dahlias at Greer Mortuary in Alameda. Charles Russell grew them there several years ago. The growing at Lakeside Park in Oakland is pretty iffy right now although it looks as though they will be letting some people in soon. Kristi and Chris were unable to dig their plants up so they are just growing on their own. They should be putting out flowers a month before the rest of us.

I checked in with the National Show people in Wenatchee, WA. and the National Show there is postponed until 2024. Those of you that had planned to go to Washington in September, go to Hawaii instead. I feel badly for the Wenatchee group as they worked for four years getting ready for this show and now the rug has been pulled from underneath them.

This newsletter is late as we were unsure what we would be able to do with tubers, cuttings etc. We didn't want to put too much pressure on a few people that were already working hard on the sale.

Thanks to all for the great effort,

John

April's Meeting Program

The discussion will be about what is typically happens this time of year in everyone's dahlia garden, digging, soil, staking, slugs, bugs, etc. This will be followed by Questions & Answers.

Tuber Sales

Here's some pictures of our 2020 Covid-19 Dahlia Sale set up on Friday. They are mostly set-up, just a few more growers are still alphabetizing the plants and tubers so order pickers collect the items ordered. Lots of great looking inventory and happy workers.



San Leandro Dahlia Society Minutes

April 15th 2020 at 2 pm on Zoom Hosted by Ellen Muir

Presiding --- John Morton, President

Present –16 members

The first virtual Dahlia meeting on Zoom began successfully with 16 members present, which allowed for a casual and informative meeting

- Members individually gave an update on their gardens and some of the highlights were as follows:

- Kristine is continuing to plant dahlias at the Merritt Gardens. Currently closed to the public due to Covid 19, she is working with the gate keepers to gain access
- Curtis is planning with Chris at Root Park on E 14th St in San Leandro. This has been a traditional garden of dahlias grown by the Society members. In the past few years, it is more difficult to grow dahlias due the limited sunshine, shadowed by a large oak tree owned by the City of San Leandro
- Curtis has also planted 80 seedlings with hopes of a new winning dahlia (like his Verda continues to be)
- John Morton spoke of his travels north to Washington state to visit Dan from Dan's Dahlias. It will be a challenging growing season for John due to continued discomfort from his knee, which John is expecting to be corrected with a knee replacement

- All other members gave short updates, sparking much conversation about the upcoming season of growing

- The Annual Dahlia tuber sale cannot be held due the current SIP order. A discussion on how to gather tubers and start to sell to members and the public followed. Diane Bond will be organizing this sale

- Our Society relies heavily, like other Societies, to sell tubers at this time of year to boost their Club's treasury. Dennis Stone, our Treasurer, confirmed that our Society does have a sound amount of money in the Bank and this year's profits from a tuber sale are not as critical, especially since costs are limited currently

- Overall, there are many unknowns due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The Society doesn't know if a flower show will be held this year, so we will have to wait and see how the government guidelines unfold in the weeks ahead

- Many other Societies are in the same situation as San Leandro. The National Dahlia Show that was to be held in Washington state this September has already been cancelled

- In conclusion, our Society's Flowers this year are Clearview Daniel and Alpen Diamond – members are encouraged to grow these varieties

Meeting Adjourned

Secretary ----Peggy Murphy

April Meeting Pictures -

♪ Here's a story, Of a lovely dahlia who was

The Dahlia Bunch, The Dahlia Bunch, That's the way we became the Dahlia Bunch! ♪

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting with 15 participants. The main window displays a grid of 15 video thumbnails. The participants are: Ellen Muir, Sue Gregori, Margaret's iPad, Kristi Whitfield, Roy, Marilyn Fong, Craig Callihan, curtismaxwell, Deva Lowenthal, Beverly Dahlstedt, John, Chris Dix, Max (showing a garden), Dennis, and Diane Bond. On the right, the 'Participants (15)' list includes: Sue Gregori (Me), Ellen Muir (Host), Kristi Whitfield (Co-host), Deva Lowenthal, John, Margaret's iPad, Roy, Beverly Dahlstedt, Chris Dix, and Max. The 'Zoom Group Chat' window shows two messages: one from Dennis to everyone about the camera/mic, and one from Ellen Muir to everyone about speaking up.

Max brought us out to his garden and showed us what's growing in his yard



Kristi shared how her cuttings were doing; look good for growing under a regular lamp

