

KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

AUGUST 2005

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AUGUST'S MEETING ISN'T, BUT.... OUR 81st KCDS DAHLIA SHOW IS!

Start grooming your best blooms for our **81st KCDS Dahlia Show** on **August 6th & 7th**. Set-up for the show will begin at **4 PM on Friday, August 5th**. Volunteer opportunities also exist for **clerking** the show, **greeting** visitors at the **information booth**, helping Madeline West with the **food**, or with **clean-up** on **Sunday, August 7th** beginning at **5 PM**.

Joan Hagerman has organized our **members garden tours** for **August and September** from **5 PM until dusk**. The following members have opened their gardens for our viewing pleasure: **Thursday, August 18th** at **Dave and Leone Smith's** Valley Flower Farm in **Chimacum**. Besides a garden tour this will also be a **pot luck**, so please bring an epicurean delight to share. **Tuesday August 30th** **Eric Anderson** in **Bremerton** will open his garden. **September 8th** in **Poulsbo** we'll be able to see what **Beth Taylor** has been up to when she is not working on the club gardens! **Friday, September 9th**, the indomitable duo of **Michelle Randall** and her father **Joe Retting**, both of **Suquamish** will not only show off her garden, but with the help of Michelle's husband Ty, offer a **Bar-B-Que**-a full fledged party ("as usual for this

group"—Wanda Novak). **Tuesday, September 13th** our own **Joan "Agility" Hagerman** in **Port Orchard** will show off her horticultural finesse. A word to the wise, be sure to compliment her on her well-behaved and talented dog!!!!!! Rounding off our garden tours, **Thursday, September 22nd**, **Kim Schleis** of **Silverdale** will demonstrate with her garden all the knowledge she has tried to impart to us. Check your membership list for the exact locations of the above hosts and hostesses or call Joan.

DON'T FORGET
to sign up for one week periods to maintain the **Post Office Garden** for our public's enjoyment. Sign-up sheets will be available at our show. Remember, it's **YOUR** club garden. Please volunteer for a week of stewardship. Meet the public who are always so impressed with our blooms.

A TREMONDOUS KCDS
THANK YOU GOES OUT TO
KENT AND DORI SOULE
FOR HOSTING OUR ANNUAL
PICNIC AT THEIR LOVELY
HOME.

IT'S AUGUST
it must be time to:

SHOW

- July 30&31**
**Washington State
Dahlia Society**
- August 6&7**
**Kitsap County
Dahlia Society**
- August 13&14**
**Grays Harbor
Dahlia Society**
- August 13&14**
**Skagit Valley
Dahlia Society**
- August 20&21**
**Snohomish
County Dahlia
Society**
- August 27&28**
**Puget Sound
Dahlia Society**
- August 27&28**
**Vancouver
Dahlia Society**
- September 3&4**
**Pacific Rim
Dahlia Society**
- September 10&11**
**South Sound
Dahlia Society**
- September 10&11**
**Whatcom County
Dahlia Society**
- September 17&18**
**Fraiser Valley
Dahlia Society**

For details see the 2005
Federation of NW Dahlia
Growers Show Book.

The Regular **Board Meetings** are held on the **first Thursday of the month.** The **General KCDS Meetings** are at **7 PM** on the **third Thursday of the month** at the Crystal Grange (with the exception of July, August and January). **BOTH meetings are open to all.**

Useful web sites with links:

www.Dahlias.net ,
www.Dahlias.org and
www.KitsapDahlias.org
 (our own web site).

Was the only thing missing at Our annual KCDS Picnic YOU?

Glorious weather, lovely setting, and a vast selection of yummy food were enjoyed by one and all of our members in attendance at our KCDS annual picnic held at Kent and Dori Soule's home on Sunday July 17th. A few of the edible offerings were salads galore (too numerous to enumerate), hamburgers grilled to perfection and Hot, hot dogs and Polish sausages with Beth Taylor and Dori Soule manning the grill, Pat Sibon brought her Chocolate Kailua Fantasy Dessert, Dutch Boerger made a rhubarb cake. No one left our picnic hungry and even Peta's precious puppies got a doggy bag!

Wanda tried to bring order to a short meeting in spite of many mentions of Madeline West's Master Gardeners Au Natural Calendar. It was suggested by an unnamed member that KCDS should create a like calendar (although one doubts that much attention would be paid to the dahlias) to generate funds. Members who pose would get a price break in the cost of said calendar. Again, member (who shall remain nameless) suggested David Smith as a likely au natural model. Before you get your hopes up and your money ready, he declined.

The drawing was eagerly anticipated by our members. The first name drawn was Paula Strid who took home a set of nozzles and a hand held weeder. Pat Paulson was the next name drawn. She won a ratchet pruner. Dutch Boeringer stepped in to claim his set of nozzles and another hand held weeder. Don Serry's prize was an ergonomic hand held weeder and a pair of small Fiskars all-purpose scissors. Madeline West drew numerous oohs and ahs with her prize of a Hula hoe. One can't but wonder if it was really a coincidence that ALL the winning ladies were seated at the same table.

**A garden is a grand teacher.
 It teaches patience
 and careful watchfulness;
 it teaches industry and
 thrift;
 above all it teaches
 entire trust.
 -Gertrude Jekyll-**

-Garden-
 one of a vast number of free outdoor
 restaurants operated by charity-minded
 amateurs in an effort to provide health-
 ful, balanced meals for insects, birds
 and animals.

-Arranging Flowers-

By Henry Beard & Roy McKie

Thanks to the tireless work of many talented ladies and dedicated garden clubs, flower arranging has been transformed from a hobby into an art. Nevertheless, the novice should not be daunted by the apparent complexity of it all. Success is guaranteed if one always keeps in mind that if the arrangement is to be presented in a formal show, the goals one should be aiming to achieve are: envy, grudging praise and imitation by rivals. Always strive to avoid giggles, whispers and catty remarks. This basic principle applies regardless of which of the four contemporary flower arranging styles one chooses to specialize in: Traditional Vulgar Bulk Display Supported by Wire and Space Age Glues; Casual Country Massing in Conversational Piece Procured During Travel in Fancy Places; Aggressive Oriental Understatement with Big Rocks, a Single Branch and Well-memorized Chinese Double-talk; or Abstract Presentation of Something Odd and Costly from Hawaii in a Container Designed for the Transport of Radioactive Substances.

My garden will never make me famous.
I'm a horticultural ignoramus.
—Ogden Nash (1902-1971)—

I live in the garden.
I just sleep in the house.

—Jim Long—

Test for the Early Onset of Dahlia Dementia...

Exercise of the brain is as important as exercise of the muscles. The saying, "if you don't use it, you will lose it", also applies to the brain, so.... Below is a very private way to gauge your loss or impending onset of Dahlia Dementia. Relax; clear your mind and...Begin.

1. What do you put in a toaster?

Answer: "bread." If you said "toast," then give up now and go do something else. Try not to hurt yourself. If you said, "bread," go to Question 2.

2. Say "silk" five times. Now spell "silk". What do cows drink?

Answer: Cows drink water. If you said "milk," please do not attempt the next question. Your brain is obviously over stressed and may even overheat. It may be that you need to content yourself with reading something more appropriate, such as Children's World. If you said "water," proceed to Question 3.

3. If a red house is made from red bricks, and a blue house is made from blue bricks, and a pink house is made from pink bricks and a black house is made from black bricks, what is a green house made from?

Answer: Greenhouses are made from glass. If you said "green bricks," what are you still doing reading these questions??? If you said "glass," then go on to Question 4.

4. You are exhibiting at the KCDS Show, August 6th. Staging is not going very well. If the hour hand on a clock moves 1/60 of a degree every minute, how many degrees will the hour hand move in one hour?

Answer: One degree. If you said, "360 degrees" or anything other than "one degree," you are to be congratulated on getting this far, but turn in your pencil, and exit the room. Everyone else proceed to the final question. No matter the answer, you better hurry up and finish staging, judging begins in 5 minutes!

5. Without using a calculator --- You are driving a bus from the south end of Kitsap Peninsula to the Vancouver Dahlia Society show in Canada. You are heading north as the Tacoma Narrows Bridge is bumper-to-bumper. In Port Orchard, 17 eager and excited people get on the bus with all their best blooms. In Bremerton, six people get off the bus (frightened of the driver's ability no doubt and left holding only staged stems), and nine people get on. In Silverdale, 11 people get off (need we wonder why?) and four get on. In Poulsbo, three people get off and five unsuspecting people get on. At the Bainbridge Ferry, six people get off (after picking up their blooms from the floor of the bus) and three latecomers get on at the last possible minute. You finally arrive shaken, but glad to be alive, at the Vancouver Show. What was the name of the driver?

Answer: Don't you remember?
It was YOU!!

The next regular meeting will be September 15th at the Crystal Grange. Please come and share memoirs of your prize winnings at our 81st KCDS Dahlia Show and other club dahlia shows.

Looking for:

People to help classify dahlias at the Kitsap County Fair- August 22 from noon-8 PM.

Dahlia Judges to judge the dahlias at the Kitsap County Fair- August 23 from 11:30-? (lunch is provided!!!!)

KCDS members to exhibit their best blooms at the fair this year. Please bring your blooms to the fairgrounds August 22 from noon-8 PM

and remember
after the judging feel free to replace spent blooms throughout the duration of the fair as the public may wonder why a stem surrounded by dropped petals won first prize!

**Kitsap County Dahlia Society
P. O. Box 502
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