

KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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Special points of interest:

- January meeting is January 18
- 2007 Dahlia Calendars are available.

Come See Slides
of the
New Originations
For 2007
At our
January Meeting
Thursday
January 18
7:00 PM

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to all! I am really enjoying a break from my garden this winter. But my mailbox last week was filled with flyers from our dahlia growers signifying that the 2007 season is not far off.

I especially get excited when winter is officially here because now the days will start to get longer. If you hadn't heard on the news, the East coast has experienced 70

degree weather. The crocus are blooming and the frogs are already croaking. Our wonderful winter weather of wind, rain, snow and cold is giving everyone plenty of time to look at all of the new spring catalogs, place tuber orders, and plan next season's garden.

Janet and I had a very successful show year and tuber harvest. We almost doubled tuber production from previous years and will have plenty of stock to sell and trade. Speaking of selling tubers, our sale is not far off. Pat Paulsen, who has chaired the tuber sale for the last nine years is stepping down this year. The KCDS Board is looking for a new chair. Pat has put together all the information (Tuber Sale Manual) the new chair would need to run a successful sale. There is also plenty of KCDS membership eager and ready to help to pack up

(Continued on page 4)

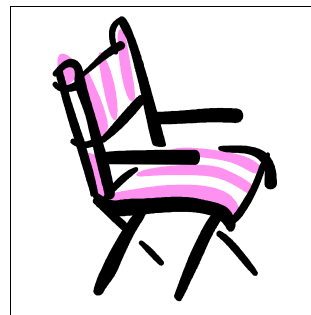
DECEMBER'S MEETING

The Holiday party was great fun with delicious food, especially the salmon brought by Tom and prepared by Tom and Fuzzy. After everyone had their fill of food (not a hard task to accomplish), we started the Gift Exchange.

This is where the REAL fun started, at least for most of us. The first gift to be opened was a bird

house, stolen twice and frozen before we even got to the 10th person! David Smith got a lovely pair of pink socks and collection of romance novels. Unfortunately, at the end of the evening it was stolen from him (I'm not sure he was all that disappointed, however). Betty Germano's spouse and Bill Jones both had the most items stolen,

with 3 items taken. Fortunately for them, both got an opportunity to take back one of their



Bill Jones won back the chair that was stolen from him.

JANUARY MEETING

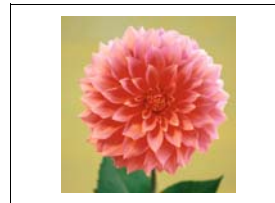
Dessert
Social

Slides of
2007
New Originations

January's meeting will get us all ready for spring and dahlia planting season. David and Leone will show us the ADS slides of the new originations for 2007. It is always fun to see these dahlias in the dead of winter and find that perfect new origination for our garden! We typically have a good discussion, pointing

out some of the reasons that it isn't a "perfect" dahlia (which definitely does not mean it's not pretty!)

As well as seeing beautiful dahlias, we will have a dessert



social. Everyone is asked to bring a dessert to share. Next to looking at dahlias in winter, having a bunch of different desserts to eat can hardly be beat!

Hope to see everyone at our meeting: Thursday, January 18th at 7 pm.

2007-2008 OFFICERS

President: **Eric Anderson, 360-698-1330**

Vice President: **Beth Taylor, 360-620-3808**

Corresponding Secretary: **Terry Schroeder, 360-479-6362**
(newsletter)

Recording Secretary: **Zorina Bleau, 360-871-4135**
(meeting minutes)

Treasurer: **Bob Schroeder, 360-479-6362**
(membership, financial, publications)

Trustees: **Tom Kramer, 360-621-9480**

Joan Hagerman, 360-876-0518

Pat Paulsen, 360-698-0123

Federation Representative: **Howard (Dutch) Boerger,**
253-857-8222

ADS Representative: **Chet Haus, 360-698-4874**

Contact any of these people regarding club events or for answers to dahlia gardening questions. The Board Meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 6 PM, at varying locations; check with any officer for the current location of the meeting. The General KCDS Meetings are at 7PM 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.



TUBER PACK & SALE

Tuber packing will be done on Saturday, March 31st at 9:00 am at the Central Valley Garden Club. Many people are needed to help unpack the tubers, put them into individual bags so that they are ready for the sale.

There will be a sale for members only on Wednesday, April 4th. (Remember, if you aren't a paid member, you won't be able to attend). Our tuber sale will be held on a Friday and Saturday this year, instead of Saturday/Sunday. The tuber sale will be Friday, April 6

and Saturday, April 7.

Details on a Port Orchard sale are not confirmed yet, but it looks like there will be one held on Saturday, April 14. More news to come.

Be sure to save the dates and come help the club with our largest fund raiser. It's our tuber sale that allows us to put on a well put-together show that attracts growers from across the state and British Columbia.

IT'S JANUARY; IT MUST BE TIME FOR...

Taken from *Dahlias: A Monthly Guide*

Planning

For the serious dahlia grower, this is the time of the year for planning your activities for the upcoming growing season. Decisions will need to be made on which of the many dahlia varieties and what quantities of each variety to obtain. Serious exhibitors will also be checking the results of the previous year's dahlia shows to see which varieties did best. This information is available in Puget Sound Dahlia Association's annual *Dahlias of Today* and the December edition of the *Bulletin of the American Dahlia Society*.

KCDS will obtain copies of *Dahlias of Today* that members can purchase, typically in February.

The next step is to develop a plan for your dahlia garden. This plan can be as elaborate or as simple as you wish. Your plan will help you decide what quantity of dahlias you can raise in the garden area you have, while allowing for proper spacing of the plants. You should also consider where the pathways would be located for access to the garden, the slope of the garden, and the location of water.

Finally, if you are going to be

taking cuttings in February, you need to decide which varieties you will be using. Some varieties do best when started from cuttings. There are also varieties that will start faster and produce cuttings sooner than others. This information is important as you plan your cutting activities and will come with experience. Members of your local dahlia club can help with this. If you order any tubers that you want to use for cuttings, remember to order early and request delivery for late January or early February.



Dahlia Cutting

choosing which dahlias to grow and a comprehensive list of commercial dahlia growers. Good luck in your dahlia buying ventures!

FROM YOUR EDITOR

I can't believe it is already January and time to order those new tubers for the upcoming year (in fact, sometimes January is too late for popular new varieties). I start getting so excited about this time of year and want to start planting. I start missing the hustle and

bustle of the show season! I NEVER thought I would actually enjoy waking up early on a Saturday for ANYTHING, let alone to show dahlias.

One good link that I have found is the Colorado Dahlia Society, www.dahlias.net. They have lots of information about

DECEMBER'S MEETING (CONTINUED)

stolen items that they wanted—Bill ended up with a folding chair and Mr. Germano with a gift certificate from Mingus Dahlias. The Tailleur's were the most tricky. Monica got a "Chimacum Luke" (a new dahlia originated by David and Leone Smith). It was stolen, shortly thereafter, by

Janet Anderson. (I can't believe our President's wife would do such a thing!) Then, right after that, it was Richard's turn. He stole the dahlia tuber from Janet. Since it was the second steal, it was then frozen! In addition to those items, a sharpener tool and a rain gauge were also hot items that were stolen and became frozen fairly quickly.

At the very end, Pat Paulsen (who was #1) got one last opportunity to steal a gift. She stole the singing/dancing snowmen trio that Bob had stolen from Wanda when Bill stole the chair back from Bob. It was a fun and exciting gift exchange, with stealing starting early and continuing through the night! Great fun was had by all!

**Kitsap County
Dahlia Society**

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FROM YOUR PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

(Continued from page 1)

the tubers, label, set up, and staff the two day sale. We just need someone to oversee all of the tuber sale committees. The KCDS Board also has some other committee openings we would like to fill at our January meeting.

I look forward to kicking off the new year with David and Leone Smith's presentation of the new 2007 introductions. If this doesn't get you excited to ordered your tubers, nothing will. See you at the meeting!

Eric Anderson

NEEDED

Volunteers are still needed for the Club Garden Management and the Tuber Sale Chairperson. Both of the people currently doing these duties have done them for many years and need a break. Both are also Officers in KCDS (and have done that for years, as well). This is a great way to get involved.

For additional information, contact Beth Taylor for Club Garden Management, at 360-620-3808, bloomingbetsy@hotmail.com and Pat Paulsen for Tuber Sale Chair, at 698-0123, bppaulsen@msn.com.



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