

# KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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### Special points of interest:

- November meeting is November 15
- New Officers will be elected in November

### DUES ARE DUE!

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Forms were sent with your Oct newsletter, are online and will be at the Nov meeting.  
ADS - end of Dec  
Federation - end of Jan

## FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Last year at this time, I was writing to inform you that I would be doing the newsletter for the coming year.

This November I am informing you that this will be my last newsletter. I have decided not to run for Corresponding Secretary this year. I understand that Peta-Maree Lamb has decided to run. Peta-Maree had done the

newsletter for many years and I know that she can and will do a wonderful job.

I was glad to do the newsletter, but with my involvement in the Federation and other community activities, I found that I did not have as much time to give to the newsletter as I would have liked. In August, once I retired from my job at DSHS, I had a little more time. Although I

did retire from one job, I did take another part-time job with a local non-profit (still working 30 hours/week).

I know that whether Peta-Maree or someone else takes over the job, it will be well done. I've appreciated the opportunity to bring news of KCDS happenings to you for the past year.

## OCTOBER'S MEETING

October's meeting was pre-empted due to a wind storm that knocked out the power to the Grange. I am sure that many members also lost power (although Bob and I were among the lucky few who did not lose power - except for about 3 minutes). Our program was supposed to be on digging, dividing and

storing tubers. If you would still like information about this, I am putting the link for the Colorado Dahlia Society here. They have excellent pictures and a write-up about digging, dividing and storing tubers.

<http://www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/TuberStor/TuberStor1.htm>

And, for a local society, here is the Snohomish County DS web page with info on digging, dividing, etc.

<http://www.scdahlias.org/howto/digdivide.html>



This shows a tuber with "eyes"

## NOVEMBER MEETING

Elections will be held in November

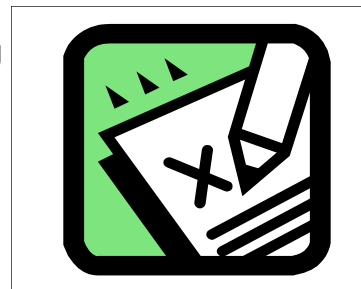
Meeting is November 15th

At the November meeting, elections for new officers will be held. Several officers are not running again.

Eric is not running for President, but Beth is. Since Beth is running for President, Tom is running for Vice President. Bob is not running for Treasurer, but Bill Jones is. Terry is not running for

Corresponding Secretary, but Peta-Maree Lamb is. Joan's term of office as trustee is up and she is not running again. Pat has one more year in office. Since Tom is running for Vice Chair a new trustee will be needed. Zorina plans to continue as Recording Secretary. Be sure to attend in November to cast

your vote. The program will be about dividing and storing of tubers. There will be an opportunity to go downstairs and see



Marking a Ballot

## 2006-2007 OFFICERS

- President: **Eric Anderson, 698-1330**
- Vice President: **Beth Taylor, 620-3808**
- Corresponding Secretary: **Terry Schroeder, 479-6362**  
(newsletter)
- Recording Secretary: **Zorina Bleau, 871-4135**  
(meeting minutes)
- Treasurer:
- Trustees: **Tom Kramer, 621-9480**  
**Joan Hagerman, 876-0518**  
**Pat Paulsen, 698-0123**
- Federation Representative: **Howard (Dutch) Boerger, 253-857-8222**
- ADS Representative: **Chet Haus, 698-4874**



Contact any of these people regarding club events or for answers to dahlia gardening questions. {Note, all the Officer's phone numbers begin with the prefix (360)}. The Regular Board Meetings are held just prior to the general meeting at 5 PM. 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.

## JANUARY MEETING

In January, we typically have a dinner meeting. Several years ago we went to a restaurant to be served. The last few years, we have done a potluck.

This year the board is considering going out somewhere as opposed to having another potluck in January. They are looking for somewhere that has a space where we could still view the new originations.

In the past, we have dined at the Olympic College Dining Library, Olive Garden and The Elks. The

board is considering an oriental buffet. Let the board know what your thoughts are. If you have an idea about somewhere to eat, please let one of the existing board members know.

## DUES

Remember to pay your dues in a timely manner. If you plan to join the ADS, they ask to have dues in by the end of December. The Federation needs dues by the end of January in order for you to be listed in the Show Annual.

## IT'S NOVEMBER; IT MUST BE TIME TO...

Taken from Dahlias: A Monthly Guide

### *Divide and store your tubers.*

Some guides advise you to divide tuber clumps in the spring when the growth eyes start enlarging. This approach means you have to store the clumps over the winter, which could take a large storage area. The stalks also become hard and woody over the winter and are very difficult to divide in the spring. These are the reasons that most growers in the Northwest divide their clumps in the fall. Make sure the clump is clean and trimmed. The "eyes" can usually be seen and are enlargements, located where tubers are attached to the stalk or crown of the clump. Many

tools can be used, including sharp garden scissors, sharp knife, and/or bypass pruning shears. To start dividing, first locate a tuber with a visible "eye". Take your cutting tool and make a pie-shaped cut on each side of the tuber into the crown. The cut should meet past the visible eye and include a portion of the stalk. Continue until all tubers with eyes are removed, making sure to cut away any excess stalk. Use an indelible pencil to write the variety name on the tubers while they are damp. Most growers will treat the tubers with a fungicide to prevent rot. A common one is a diluted bleach solution.

After treating the tubers, let them dry for 12-24 hours. It is then time to put them away until spring, keeping them from being too wet while not letting them dry out. They should be kept at a cool temp, from 35 to 40° F. Many growers store them in a storage medium - cedar shavings, vermiculite or sand.

Check your dahlias periodically during winter to determine if any have gone bad and should be removed. Remove rotted tubers and open bags for a couple of days, if there is too much moisture. If tubers appear to be dry, add a bit of water to the bag.

## DECEMBER MEETING

In December we will be having our Holiday Potluck dinner. It will be held on December 20th. Thomas Kramer will be cooking his wonderful salmon.

Please bring a main dish or dessert to share. Also, bring a gift if you want to participate in the Gift Exchange.

Additional details will be provided in our

December newsletter. If you are interested in hosting/organizing the Christmas party, please let Beth know.

*"Thomas Kramer will be cooking his wonderful salmon."*

## THANK YOU'S

Thanks to all of the members who helped with cutting of tubers on October 13, with digging on October 27th and the dividing on November 3rd. There were many hands and many happy worker bees!

We do appreciate everyone who takes time out of their busy schedules to assist the Dahlia Society in getting their work done. With many people helping, it makes all of the work go quicker.

Remember, those who help at any work party receive a certificate for a free tuber at our Tuber Sale in the spring.



*"With many people helping, it makes all of the work go quicker."*

**Kitsap County  
Dahlia Society**

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## NOVEMBER MEETING

*(Continued from page 2)*

how the KCCDS tubers are stored.

## HOST FOR NOVEMBER

Zorina Bleau has agreed to be the Host for the November meeting.



**KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY**  
**P.O. BOX 502**  
**SILVERDALE, WA 98383-0502**