

KITSAP COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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Special points of interest:

- February meeting is February 15
- Tuber Sale

Come hear
Ken & Marilyn
Walton
Speak about
cuttings
At our
February Meeting
Thursday
January 15
7:00 PM

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

This past week was an exciting week for the future of KCDS. Beth, Bob and I attended the Crystal Grange Board meeting and we presented a proposal to make the Grange our future home for KCDS. We shared our requirements we need to utilize the Grange over the next calendar year that could happen as early as this fall for our tuber harvest, dividing and storage. The

Grange has a root cellar-type environment in their basement just perfect for wintering over our crop! We also discussed the possibility of having our tuber sale in 2008 in conjunction with their pancake breakfast! The Grange board was also very interested with the idea of developing a club garden on the property to help spruce up their facility while serving as an education garden for teaching new members how to care for dahlias as part of our monthly meetings. The garden would also provide additional tubers for our dahlia sales. We will present the costs to everyone as soon as the Grange Board gives us their bid.

Another exciting event occurred this week for KCDS. Beth Taylor was contacted by the 4-H club to see if we might be interested in providing

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JANUARY'S MEETING

At January's meeting, we started off picking our favorite desserts from a wonderful variety that was brought by members! I didn't taste all of them (although I did consider it), but those that I did were delicious.

Once everyone got our desserts, we took our chairs into the big room

and David and Leone presented slides of the new introductions of dahlias for 2007. All were gorgeous (I haven't seen a dahlia I don't like) and everyone had their favorites. There were slides of 86 dahlias, which were fun to look at in the middle of winter.



*New Origination
Tahoma Powder Puff*

The raffle was

held after looking at the new dahlias. The business meeting was held next. The Tuber Sale will have a new Chairperson, Zorina Bleau. Pat Paulsen has agreed to co-chair with Zorina this year for continuity. The Andy Babb Challenge Flower for 2007 will be Ruskin Diane and in 2008, it will be Wildwood Marie.

FEBRUARY MEETING

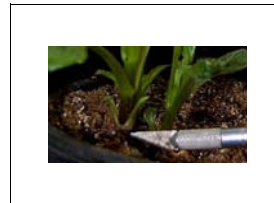
Taking Cuttings
Presented by:
Ken & Marilyn
Walton

March Meeting
Will be Seedlings
Presented by:
David & Leone
Smith

February's meeting will give us some information on a great way to get more dahlia plants out of one tuber. Ken and Marilyn Walton will be giving a presentation about taking cuttings. Ken and Marilyn Walton have been growing dahlias for many years and have consistently done well in dahlia shows.

Several years ago, Marilyn became the Director of the local Trial Garden (for new originations) at Point Defiance Park in Tacoma.

Ken and Marilyn take a lot of cuttings and,



Taking a cutting

grow many of their plants from cuttings. I am sure their presentation will be well done and very informative.

The Waltons are members of the Washington State Dahlia Society and KCDS. Our February meeting will be held Thursday, February 15th 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 and 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). Those members who have helped out at a work party over the past year and have "Worker Bee" coupons will be

able to purchase from 5 pm to 6 pm. Other members will be able to purchase from 6 pm to 8 pm. Our first tuber sale will be held on Friday, April 6, 9 am to 7 pm and Saturday, April 7, 9 am to 6 pm. .

There will be a Tuber Sale in Port Orchard on Saturday, April 14th from 9 am to 4 pm. The sale will be held at the Kitsap Saddle Club.

Be sure to save the dates and come help the club with our largest fund raiser. It's

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

Taken from Dahlias: A Monthly Guide

Winter Activities

Cuttings are taken by growers for a variety of reasons, but the most common are to increase the quantity of stock (especially with the new, expensive varieties) and to be able to start the season with growing plants. The first reason is important because it can save substantial amounts of money, and the second is important because it eliminates that waiting period to determine if you really have a viable, growing tuber. Taking cuttings requires a commitment of time and money. Generally it is not something that the novice growers attempt in

their first year or two, unless they have experience with taking horticultural cuttings. Information on taking cuttings can be found in "Dahlias: A Monthly Guide", "Raising Beautiful Dahlias the Easy Way", <http://www.dahlias.net/dahwebpg/Propagation/Propagation.htm> and other dahlia society members.

Despite the inclement weather conditions, February can give us a day or two to do some garden work. If you know where your garden will be for the upcoming season, there may be some maintenance chores that can be done. Winter is a good time to

weed along retaining walls, fences and in the aisles of your garden. It is also a good time to make repairs to gardening tools, sharpen pruning shears and generally make sure everything is in order for the upcoming spring and summer gardening activities.



FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

instruction to their membership on how to grow dahlias as a club project. The more Beth and I discussed this idea, the more we realized we may be able to create a venue to develop Junior dahlia exhibitors each

year as the 4-H membership learns how much fun they can have growing and showing dahlia for fun and prizes.

Eric Anderson



TUBER PACK & SALE

(Continued from page 2)

our tuber sale that allows us to put on a well put-together show that attracts growers from across the state and British Columbia. People are needed to help with packaging as well as to help the days of the sale.

Zorina and Pat will have sign-up sheets at both the February and March meetings. You don't need to commit to a full day, if that doesn't work with your schedule, but if you can even give a few hours of your time to help, it will be greatly appreciated.



"if you can even give a few hours of your time to help, it will be greatly appreciated."

**Kitsap County
Dahlia Society**

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KCDS Web
www.kitsapdahlias.org



DAHLIA SIGHTINGS

Taken from "The Bulletin", ADS, December 2006

Here are media where dahlia pictures were seen:

Women's Day, November 2006. The cover features three unimpressive dahlias in a vase. One is shedding. The world sees dahlia beauty differently from us. *Thank you, Harry Risetto*

From The Oregonian, under "Pick of The Week" talks about the Dahlia Festival at Swan Island Dahlias in Canby, OR. Gives demos and culture talks along with the hours. Also a great dahlia picture. *Thank you, Martin Walsh, Silverton, OR*

The cover of Lowe's Garden Club Magazine has several large containers with dahlias, A-Red, A-White and A-Pink, along with foliage. *Thank you, Annie Radcliff, Gettyburg, PA*

From Martha Stewart Living, October 2006 titled, "Dark Moments in the Fall Garden," showing beautiful full-page pictures of gardens in full colors, and an arrangement with a hollowed out eggplant as a vase with a black cat and arabian night dahlias. *Thank you, Annie Radcliff, Gettyburg, PA*



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

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Stamp
Here