



# THE PNDC DAHLIA TIMES

WINTER 2019

Newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference

[www.pnecdahlia.com](http://www.pnecdahlia.com)

## PNDC President Message .... by Larry Smith

Your president is finally recovering from an exhausting fair and dahlia show season that lasted for several months. For the first time, I was able to participate in all four Oregon ADS shows and also squeezed in the show of our newest Associate Member club, South Sound DS in Olympia.

The highlight had to be leaving at midnight and driving all night to get to the Wild Rivers show on the Southern Oregon coast by daylight. Five shows in five consecutive weekends, including four in a row on the road. That added up to almost as much driving as I normally do the entire rest of the year! Oh my gosh, though, it was fun! Every show was organized differently and each was rewarding in its own way. We were so worried at the end of the season when cold rains set in that some of the shows would be washouts, but our members came through.

I even rounded up 109 entries (the most ever) for the last show, in Douglas County, and I think Elva Sellens had that many or more. Despite the bad growing conditions, the show went on and it was spectacular. Now, if we could just get the

PNDC helicopter up and running, I could attend the Canadian PNDC shows, too. For those of you who haven't ventured out to shows other than your own, I would highly recommend it. It is so much fun hobnobbing with the other growers and being able to work with other judges and clerks. If you are a Senior or Accredited judge, it is a requirement to judge at more than your local show to retain your current judging level.

Now that the PNDC Bylaw revision has been completed, we will be working on a policy manual for our organization. Next up will be formatting our Annual Meeting, so mark your calendars for Saturday, March 28th, location "To Be Arranged." Since our bylaws no longer require a fall meeting, we will be doing the bulk of our business and planning at this meeting.

Some have suggested that in order to make our meeting more of a draw that we will need to beef it up and include more opportunities for informational workshops and training. Ideas are welcome and encouraged from all members, please send your preferences to me ASAP.

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Spring PNDC meeting:  
Saturday, March 28, 2020

The PNDC Spring meeting will be held Saturday, March 28. At this time the location hasn't been determined. It will be announced at a later time.

Minutes of PNDC 2019 Fall meeting

The Minutes of the 2019 PNDC Fall Meeting, held at the Lane County Dahlia Show in Eugene, were taken by Adrienne Hale and are included on page 5. Thank you Adrienne for volunteering to be the Secretary - Recorder for this annual meeting!

Last Chance to Renew

The deadline to renew your PNDC membership is approaching. If you haven't renewed and you want to be listed in the 2020 PNDC Roster, send your payment ASAP to Elva Sellens, 2651 Loma Vista, Roseburg, OR 97471. PNDC dues are \$10 per person or \$15 per family. Include your contact information: current mailing address, phone number, e-mail, and how you want the newsletter delivered to you: by e-mail or postal service.

**Mark your Calendar !**

PNDC Spring Meeting  
MARCH 28, 2020  
Location: To Be Arranged



## Victoria Dahlia Society by Phil Newton

We had our show again at the Prospect Lake Community Hall, just fifteen minutes from Victoria and Sidney. The hall is a perfect size for our show and the Prospect Lake members put on a BBQ so we end up with a lot of interested people. We signed up a half dozen new members and had a lot of interest in the presentation of a Dahlia show. The club has grown to over 90 members, maybe we can break 100. We were worried about not getting enough judges, so we shortened some of the special classes but then our sister club Nanaimo came through with enough judges. A lot of us still didn't finish till 130 but the club supplied lunch was tremendous with lots of local goodies. Liz Hoar with the help of Pat Garrard did a wonderful job.

Barry and Mary with their 80 years of Dahlia experience ran the show flawlessly. Mary's head table was magnificent, and Barry had the judging teams arranged in such a way that we were not called away too often to help other teams as judges stepped back. Cathy Featherby with her keen eye to details kept the worker bees well organized. Marca Rutherford and Teresa Thom did a great job at the flower sale/information / membership sign up desk. We were especially pleased to see Joan Marsh and Jean Vantreight at the show (both in their 90s). Jean still entered flowers and did well and Joan was quick to tell us she was still miserable as -ell but very happy to see the group. Just Wonderful people.

Connie Young Davis again showed the way with most on the head table and with Best Triple in show. Trever Huff from the Nanaimo club won best single in show with a Sir Alf Ramsey which was just stunning. Paul McKittrick had a lot of head table wins as well as his Chi prefix Dahlias won many blue ribbons. Chi stands for Cobble Hill just outside of Victoria where he lives but it works well with Chi neese Red, Chi kee Madie one of his grandkids, Chi ez wiz and other.

We had yeoman service from many volunteers many whom didn't even enter but just wanted to help. Thanks to David Greig, Lyn V, Joan Fleming, Wayne Reid, and so many more that I apologize for not naming. Congratulations to Norm and Gwen Redcliffe for winning the clubs seedling contest. Also, congratulations to John Wrinch for winning the Hank Iverson club challenge as well as Best in Show at the Saanich fair. A notice to Judges we will be holding a Judging forum on July 25 followed by a BBQ. Please get in touch with me, for more details. A great time to visit Victoria. If we have enough interest, we could plan garden visits for Sunday.

Next year's show is booked at the Prospect Lake Hall for August 22. We elected a new executive with a full compliment of 12 Directors. That's the good news, the bad news is that I will be President again. This will be my 14<sup>th</sup> year on the executive with more than half of that as president. My better half Teresa Thom has been on the executive for 15 years, mainly as the membership person, this year she gets a bit of a break as she moves to Social. Thanks to Lyn Vantreight and Teresa Zwicky for their years on the executive.

## Portland Dahlia Society

By Larry Smith

Our members have been enjoying our new meeting location at Oaks Park Dance Pavilion and our meeting attendance is steadily growing. It isn't unusual to have 50 or more dahliaphiles at a meeting.

If you are ever in Portland on the second Tuesday of the month, come join us. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. and start with a timely educational topic.

This year's annual show went smoothly. Our local ABC news affiliate send their entertainment reporter to the Larry Smith "Urban Farm" for three live newsfeeds to publicize the show. We had record attendance and a fair amount of exhibitors from beyond our local area. Best yet, members donated many buckets of blooms and we sold them as a fundraiser to support the upcoming 2023 National Show, to be held at the Red Lion on the River in Portland.

Mark Oldenkamp arranged for a van to take people to the Swan Island Dahlia Festival and to judge in the Canby Trial Garden on the Sunday morning of the show. Special guest was Claudia Biggs, from the Spokane area, who is responsible for creating the new introduction DVDs for the ADS that we enjoy every spring and gets us in the mood for the season ahead.

Most of our members have finished digging and putting tubers into storage, giving the promise of next year's spectacular blooms. Wishing all a good holiday season!



# Wild Rivers Dahlia Society

by Bob Chibante, Gold Beach, Oregon

It is with great sadness to report the loss of a friend - Bob Hemus who passed on October 16th after years of battling cancer. His passion for dahlias and life was amazing. I will miss the conversations and his spirit. He never once spoke about giving up and always said this was beatable. Knowing what he was up against with this positive attitude made my everyday worries seem small.

Bob was a novice dahlia exhibitor with great potential and improving very quickly. While he grew dahlias for pleasure for some time, he joined WRDS a few years ago and was eager to learn. Going over to his garden to give tips on growing and evaluating quality blooms was time I enjoyed. This year we spoke of starting seedlings and all that involved. Optimism was not wasted on him and he absorbed the information and put it to practice. We spoke about upgrading some varieties to better cultivars. While he wanted to do even better at the show, it wasn't his primary mission. He took joy in giving bouquets to friends and various locations in town. There were never concerns about form or color faults - just happiness in a vase.



Bob shared his dahlias mostly at the local hospital. He told me that since he spent a lot of time in there, he wanted to do something to help others at least have something nice to enjoy while they had to be at the hospital. Mission accomplished. While I tend to focus on quality cultivars, his way of thinking reminded me of why I got into dahlias. This format is way too small for me to do Bob justice and write enough about him. Anytime I speak to groups about dahlias, I usually start off with dahlias that come with a story. While his story was way too short it will be remembered well. The people he touched with his blooms and laughter will continue with their story. So, when someone mentions dahlias, and the challenges, I imagine the next line may be as follows: Dahlias - they are amazing! I had a friend, or I knew this man who...

Thanks for the stories Bob Hemus. Never forget and they will live on within us. You will be missed.

## Nanaimo Dahlia & Gladiolus Society

by Julie Mervyn, President

It's that time of year that many dahlia growers dread. The dig up! This year I had a hard time cutting my blooms. They looked beautiful even though it was the end of October. It is November and I still have blooms on some of the plants I didn't get to. You have to love love our mild temperatures here on Vancouver Island!

Our Society has had a busy year. We had a successful Tuber sale in April. Club members well their tubers and we also sell tubers from our club display garden. Our show in August was impressive thanks to our show Chair, Judy Stephens. The entries were spectacular. The cooler weather at the end of August produced beautiful blooms for our show.

Our society has come up with some creative ways to fundraise. Candi McNeil and Sandra Millen worked diligently on creating a beautiful dahlia calendar. I am happy to say "We are sold out!"

Trevor Hoff has been instrumental in our clubs success this year. Not only was he our society's secretary, he gave many informative and interesting programs at our meetings. Trevor has also donated over one hundred plants of tubers. Club members gathered and we went to work to prep them for storage. The process went fast thanks to all of the volunteers. These tubers will be sold at our tuber sale in April. All profits go directly to our club.

Our society had our wind-up dinner November 5<sup>th</sup>. Our members wanted to express their thanks to Trevor Huff for his hard work and generosity to our society. We also expressed thanks to the heart and soul of our club, Vern and Judy Stephens. We would be sunk without these two!

Wishing all of the dahlia societies the best over the winter season!

# A Short History of the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference

## From the recollections of Tony DeRooy

Beginning in September 1953...

At the completion of judging of the annual dahlia show of the Snohomish County Rose and Dahlia Society Show while enjoying a well prepared lunch with several judges from the Portland, Kitsap County and Washington State Dahlia Societies a suggestion was made by Tony DeRooy that an Association of Dahlia Societies in the Northwest should be started which would operate on a similar format to that of the Central States Dahlia Association which had been formed many years previously.

The primary purpose of the organization at that time was to promote the dahlia, and arrange an annual show sponsored each year by a member society. Several of the judges liked the idea and suggested that Peter Kershisnik from Portland and Tony DeRooy would set up some basic suggestions and bring this information to a meeting of delegates from each Society in early Spring. Accordingly, we met at the Kershisnik home in November and with Madge Kershisnik taking notes we set down a number of suggestions to get the organization started. The name would be the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference. We would need a "Basic Show Schedule" in order that each hosting society would offer the same awards and exhibits in the same sections and classes. We would ask each participating society to secure some trophies for major show champions and suggested that the Labor Day weekend be reserved by for our Big Annual Conference Show.

With these suggestions in hand, we arranged for a meeting at the Charles Ayler residence in Tacoma on January 13, 1954. There were approximately fourteen delegates representing four Northwest Dahlia Societies. Portland, Snohomish County, Washington State (Tacoma) and Kitsap County. Elections were held:

President - Tony DeRooy of Snohomish County D.S.,  
Vice President - Peter Kershisnik of Portland D.S.,  
Secretary Treasurer - Mae Evans of Snohomish County D.S.

At this meeting a committee was appointed to write a constitution and by-laws for approval by the delegates at the Fall Show of the Snohomish County Rose and Dahlia Society in August of 1954. We made no effort to plan for a Conference Show that first year, but established a rotation system for annual shows. Snohomish County would be host for the first Conference Show on Labor Day 1955 and Portland, Washington State and Kitsap County would follow in succeeding years. It was also established that following the Annual Show there would be a banquet and Conference Meeting with business discussed, elections held and reports given by various committees.

The Seattle Dahlia Society was organized in October 1956 and Southern Oregon was also chartered the same year at Coos Bay. Through the efforts of John

McEvoy, Daryl Crose, Emaline Cole and others both of the new societies joined the PNDC making the Conference a strong organization. Other Societies were organized and also became part of the PNDC.

In 1963 the PNDC consisted of Lane County D.S., Portland D.S., Olympic D.S., Inland Empire D.S., Wenatchee Valley D.S., Grays Harbor D.S., Victoria D.S., Spokane D.S., and Nanaimo D.S.

From the beginning, one of the primary objectives of the PNDC has been to publish a bulletin (The Pacific Dahlia) which would inform the members of Conference activities and provide cultural information. Tony DeRooy was named editor for the first year of publication. Later editors included Francis McDuffee, Peter Kershisnik, Phil Traff, Willis Collins and others. The Conference also appointed a classification Committee and provided a classification listing of all varieties which grow in different form, size, and color in the Pacific Northwest - other than that listed in the American Dahlia Society Classification Book. (This with the blessing of the American Dahlia Society.)

The first PNDC show was presented at the Floral Hall, Forest Park in Everett, Washington on September 3rd and 4th, 1955. The show was hosted by the Snohomish County Rose and Dahlia Society in conjunction with its 46th annual show. Saturday evening a no-host banquet was held in the ball room of the Monte Cristo Hotel, with the annual conference meeting following. The Portland Dahlia Society was selected to host the 1956 Conference show. The Show was a great success with many entries in all classes.



### ADS Digital Librarian open for business!

by Deb Gilmer

Claudia Biggs is a long-time dahlia lover and ADS Senior Judge who travels nationally to judge dahlias at a variety of regional and national events. Besides her garden at home in Spokane, Washington, she helped start the dahlia garden planted every year at the local VA Medical Center and helps with the Dahlia Trial Garden at Manito Park. In September 2018 the Inland Empire Gardeners awarded her the September Garden of the Month.

Claudia is a photographer as well and maintains the ADS Digital Library of photos of newly introduced varieties and winners of major judged shows. Copies of the New Introduction Program for 2020 can be ordered through the ADS store on the ADS web site, or directly from her via email at [dbiggs@mindspring.com](mailto:dbiggs@mindspring.com) or (509) 326-1953.

The Lane County Dahlia Society enjoyed a wonderful 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Show on September 14-15, 2019. "Enchantment of Dahlias" brought many growers from around Oregon and Washington to the Wheeler Pavilion, at the Lane County Fairgrounds. Volunteers from LCDS and other societies all pitched in to help with: set-up, tear down, judging, clerking, registration, staffing the information table, data entry and tabulation.

Gorgeous donations of a table runner by Pat Chasse and placemats and napkins by Carol Prud'Homme were auctioned off and won by none other than LCDS member, Eleanor Shantz. The Auction brought in \$335 for Lane County Dahlia Society. Members from many societies also attended the PNDC Banquet at the Eugene Hotel, Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, and were treated to a delicious banquet buffet.

In August we welcomed dahlia hybridizer

Wayne Lobaugh, who gave us a fascinating presentation about how to hybridize open-centered dahlias. Fall Programs at LCDS included How to Exhibit Dahlias at a Show in September; a wondrous Show and Tell by members of their amazing blooms in October as well as Eugene Kenyon discussed wrapping up the end of dahlia season and the process for collecting seed; a Dahlia Garden Hayride on October 5<sup>th</sup> at the Colonial Harvest Days at Lazy Day Dahlias in Pleasant Hill; and Tips for digging, dividing and storing dahlias in November by Eugene Kenyon, Sonia Hall, Art Redfern, Lexa Cookson, and Tina Davidson.

The annual Executive Board meeting to plan and discuss 2020's Dahlia Show was held on Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at the home of Wayne and Eleanor Shantz. All of us at LCDS wish you a safe and healthy Holiday Season.

## Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference - Fall Meeting Minutes

Lane County Event Center, Eugene Oregon  
September 15, 2019

### Treasurers Report-

After Tuber Sales, Auction, Interest Dues, New Judges fees, Expenses, video conference software, mailing, bulletin and rosters, balance is \$14,924.65. Mark Oldenkamp moved to accept report as read, Deb Gilmer seconded, vote by membership to accept, motion passed.

### By-Laws-

By-Laws are being amended by the Executive Committee, in order to make changes easier. Suggestion to investigate the possibility of making a Procedural Manual to facilitate making changes easier. Task Force was requested to work on this and Cora Vander Velden, Mark Oldenkamp, Bob Chibante, and Larry Smith volunteered to do the work much of which would be by email etc.

### Spring Meeting -

By-Laws amendment- PNDC Executive Committee is requesting a committee to make over the Spring meeting, with an eye on improving attendance. Suggestions to be solicited from the individual clubs by the PNDC representatives at their individual club meetings.

Conference Show- A point was raised that the next Conference Show will be close to the next ADS National Show in Wenatchee Washington. Suggestion to postpone the Conference Show by

one year as it is scheduled next to be in Gold Beach which is a long drive.

Amendments have been made to the By-Laws that individual Societies can choose whether or not to have a banquet, larger awards, or even just a regular show as usual when it is their turn to host a Conference Show.

Delegates are to take a vote by membership regarding the above possibility of allowing the Conference Show to be postponed, with the voting results to be reported by November.

Common Schedule- another suggested change to simplify organization **of Horticultural exhibits only** from show to show, to make them all alike. Signage, filling out of exhibit cards and schedule would be the same. Eric Toedtli is willing to do the Common Schedule if done early in the year. Differences in Shows can still remain for Baskets, Special Entries, and Awards.

Exhibit Tags- A suggestion that the PNDC can make a single order for all the clubs, to buy in bulk and get a cost discount. Eric Toedtli to get a card inventory. Future order to include check-boxes to include Best of Form/Type and Section Champ.

Respectfully submitted,  
Adrienne Hale  
Portland Dahlia Society





## Looking Forward - Planning Ahead: December 2019 PNDC Report by Mark Oldenkamp, ADS Regional VP - PNDC

The show season ended in late September and the rush was on to get show reports submitted. PNDC made its first attempt to provide a consolidated blue ribbon and higher awards report to Lou Paradise, ADS Classification Chair, who has indicated this is a big help to the Classification year end work. Personally, I was happy to send the show reports to our volunteer who is doing the combined report. I hope we can get 100% participation for the 2020 shows.

The Canby Trial Garden reports were also submitted in early October. Teresa Bergman compiles all the judges reports and summarized that about 75% of the entries had passing scores. Reservations for the 2020 season are coming in fast. We are grateful to Swan Island for the significant investment in the relocation of the trial garden at their Canby farm.

Planning for a spring meeting has begun. The next big project to be worked is the development of a policy manual. This will cover many areas that were removed from Bylaws with the intent to allow for more flexibility. We also are moving forward with a combined show schedule format for 2020. We know this will be a help to the societies and will require a fair bit of work to see how we can get consensus for one way to present our classes and rules. Each society can still have their own special classes and design classes.

The Portland Society 2023 National Show leadership is talking about some potential fundraising opportunities. Many are looking forward to the Wenatchee show and discussions are underway about our normal show dates and the possibility of trying to adjust show dates to avoid a conflict with the 2020 National Show.

I believe that societies will once again be offered the opportunity to send in virus testing samples in 2020. This is done with generous financial support from the virus research project with the goal to encourage societies to work toward being able to offer test clean stock, hopefully with a premium price. This offer was extended to societies for the 2019 growing season but participation across the country was very poor. Maybe this year more societies will take advantage of this offer. Details will be forthcoming.

Hopefully many of our growers gave a try to disinfecting the tools they used for clump dividing. I personally tried the Virkon tablets and a spray bottle. It was simple and the tools seemed to handle the spray reasonably well. I suggest that clubs buy the 50 tablet bottle from eBay or Amazon and make them available to club members. I plan to use this for the cuttings this next year instead of the bleach solution I used last year.

ADS has a request for its members and constituents to consider. ADS is registered as a non-profit and as such is eligible as a charity that Amazon users can designate for a small donation to the non-profit for any purchases being made under the Amazon Smile program. Please check out this program and consider designating American Dahlia Society Inc as the benefactor of this Amazon program. Your cost is exactly the same so please, if you use Amazon, sign up today.

Happy holidays to all, I am sure many are ordering some of the new introductions and arranging trades for stock. I am looking forward to the new season and the National show being in the West.

Sandia Candycorn  
Garden of Cheryl Hawkins



**2020 ADS  
National Show Date**  
*Hosted by:*  
**Federation of Northwest Growers**  
**September 10th -14th**  
**Wenatchee Convention Center**  
**Wenatchee, Washington**

## 2019 Virus Team Status by Ron Miner

The virus test results for the 2019 season are nearly complete.  
Several important results (below) were observed.

**ADS Club Project:** Only eight clubs participated in the “half-price” project. We will repeat the program in 2020 and will get it organized earlier this time. The results for the DSO were excellent with no virus detected in the 36 samples submitted. Tony Evangelista has done a great job organizing and running the project for the last 5 years. The great results reflect the facts that he started with clean stock and rigorously adhered to disinfecting his working tools. The results provide confidence that significant reductions in virus are possible. The results from the other clubs, almost all in their first year, were not as good – but they provide a great start for those clubs to develop clean stock for 2020 plant sales and auctions.

**WSU Activities:** Dr. Lindani Moyo left WSU at the end of October and has been replaced by Dr. Prabu Gnanasekaran. Prabu is an expert on plant viruses and had the month of October over which to pick up Lindani’s projects. The transition seems to have gone smoothly. Perhaps the most important result at WSU is success in the first phase of dahlia tissue culture. The medium and the growing conditions for green dahlia tissue have been successfully developed. They are now in the process of developing the conditions for root growth on that green tissue.

**Vendor Project:** More vendors participated in

the free test program in 2019. The results varied greatly among the vendors. Virtually all of them expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to participate and most indicated that they are prepared to follow the ADS guidance on reducing virus infections. The most common concern among them was where to find clean stock!

**Team Activities:** Inasmuch as the results are not yet complete, the analyses of the results are also incomplete. There are a couple preliminary observations that are important. First, the plants in gardens with clean preceding generation(s), Gx, and where disinfecting of tools is rigorously followed produce a very high percentage of clean results. Second, the tendencies for our two most common viruses, TSV and INSV, to persist from one generation to the next are different. Tobacco Streak Virus tends to persist into the next generation. Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus frequently does not persist into the next generation.

We will be summarizing the results of the various analyses for publication in the March Bulletin.

**Trial Gardens:** I want to extend my appreciation to Marilyn Walton and Jerry Zierdt for so ably taking over the leadership of the Trial Garden analysis and reporting! Thanks!

## Proposed PNDC Combined Show Schedule by Eric Toedtli

Throughout our lifetimes we have all heard the phrase “Wouldn’t be nice if...”. I suspect that most of you have used that phrase. At Dahlia shows sponsored by PNDC clubs it is common to hear “Wouldn’t it be nice if all the PNDC clubs were setup similar?” And that discussion often mentions common exhibitor classifications, common general rules, common sections and classes, etc. The PNDC has launched an effort to make this come true in the upcoming 2020 show season.

A committee has been formed with representatives from all of the PNDC societies to attempt to put together a common combined show schedule. And while we are at it we include the PNDC members roster in the SAME publication. This committee is being chaired by Eric Toedtli of the Portland Dahlia Society. I will also be writing the actual publication. Many of you know me but some don’t. What are my qualifications to lead this important and challenging effort? I have been a member of the Portland Society for at least 30 years and showing dahlias throughout the Northwest all that time. I have been responsible for writing the Portland show schedule for at least 20 years. I am a member of the ADS Classification committee. In my professional career I have been a project manager on many IT projects with some having over 1000 tasks. Also in my professional career I have been responsible for writing many technical documents.

This effort is a huge undertaking that requires acceptance from all PNDC member societies. Most

likely every society is going to have to make some changes in the first year. But after the first year the number of changes will be minimal. We will be looking at various ways to minimize the impacts on each society in the first year. Some good ideas have already been suggested.

The goal is to make it as easy as possible for exhibitors to attend multiple PNDC shows and have them all organized in a similar way. A benefit to each society is that they will no longer have someone write and publish a show scheduled each year. Each Society will still have to provide information for the combined schedule but overall it should be much less work.

The goal of the new combined schedule is to have the following in common: Exhibitor Division Definition, Section Names, Classes, and General Rules. Each society will have a section in the publication the some society specifics. There will be a standard format for this section. Each society will space for the following but may choose not to include all of this. Show dates and times, Officers, Special Entries, Design, Baskets, Photo, Awards, and any special rules.

At this point we are still at the concept stage. The final design may vary a bit from what is mentioned above. I could easily write two or three pages with more details but it is too soon for that right now. The committee reps should be keeping their societies informed.

# I Love Cinnamon on My Dahlias

By Ted J. Kennedy

It is digging and dividing time and we get questions about what can be done to improve the odds that a tuber will store without rotting. Over the years, we have heard of many different potions powders and dips. Years ago some people proposed that you could dust your tubers with powerful fungicide powders such as Captan. Most of us prefer to avoid using possibly dangerous and expensive chemicals. For awhile the use of sulfur dust was touted as being effective for dahlia tubers. I have seen no study that supports this and sulfur while reasonably safe for most people can cause anaphylactic shock and death in some susceptible people. I would not like to risk such an outcome and since it is not proven to work, why use it?

A few years ago, some avid dahlia growers found out that cinnamon powder has fungicidal properties and was being used by the orchid growers. Here is a paragraph in from an orchid publication: "A trip to your kitchen spice cabinet yields a surprising organic fungicide that you can use on your orchids -- cinnamon. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency categorizes minimum-risk pesticides as those that meet certain conditions of safety to people, animals and the environment. The EPA approves cinnamon as an effectively demonstrated minimum-risk fungicide. Although you may purchase commercial products that

contain cinnamon oil, ground cinnamon powder straight from the spice jar works just as well on orchids."

Of course, several people tried the cinnamon powder on their dahlia tubers and the consensus is that it seems to work as well or better as anything else. It certainly, will not kill someone and the smell of cinnamon is very exotic and invigorating. I cannot resist calling the resulting tubers "Cinnabons" but of course that name is trademarked. So perhaps "Cinnabers" or "Tubecinns" might have to do. Or not.

Right now people are recommending using the powder as a dip where you dip the cut end of the tuber in a small amount of the powder. And if you remove a rotten area, dust the wound with the cinnamon.

What kind of cinnamon powder works the best? In cooking there are several cinnamon powders that come from different species of bark. The original cinnamon is called Ceylon cinnamon and one source says it is the best for our purposes: "All forms of cinnamon seem to suppress a wide range of fungal species including those that cause damping off. The true cinnamon is more effective than the fake cinnamons."

So although I used "fake cinnamon" last year, I am switching to Ceylon cinnamon this year and have ordered 8 ounces for cost of about \$11.00 with free shipping. I bet my tubers will smell better than yours!

## Dividing Tuber Clumps in 2019

By Ted J. Kennedy

Here we are in the time of the year when we are dividing our tuber clumps. Of course, that assumes that you do dig them in the Fall as do most of us.

Well, anyway for those of you who sit in front of an old television set, with a space heater pointed at your legs, dividing tuber clump after tuber clump, I will relate some of the changes made in the dividing process. First, we used to think that you had to divide tubers within a couple of days of digging them. I believe that was because we washed the tubers immediately after digging and if you do not divide tubers quickly after washing mold and fungus and rot will occur in many of the clumps. Nowadays, we know that we can leave the dirt on the clumps and store them temporarily until we are ready to divide them and then wash them and there will almost no losses.

Old timers used hooked flooring knives to divide tubers. Most if you do not even know what one looks like, so here is a picture of one. (See attachment) Some old timers and many people now use hand held loppers or shears such as Felco or the more finely pointed versions from Corona and others, to divide tubers. Bill Mishler was a knife person who liked short, sharp knives. He found out that these knives frequently punctured his left hand and he went to the Marine Fishing supply store and bought a stainless steel mesh glove for his left hand.

I do not know who first used bonsai scissors to divide tubers but do know that the first affordable brand was a made-in-Japan version, the Kengju Gardenman scissors. It is unfortunate that you cannot get Kenju Bonsai scissors as the Japanese (Kenju) company that made them was destroyed by the tsunami and never started up again.

We are lucky that a Taiwan company created a look alike and the Zenport ZS 104 is an exact replica including the red and white handles. Our club buys them in bulk and we pass on the savings to the club members, charging only \$10.00 for these scissors worth over \$15.00. The bonsai scissors have very sharp, slender tips and removing eyes from a clump is made easy. They are also tough enough to split clumps and sharp enough (at least in the beginning) to remove all the hair roots. I have employed a good pair of kitchen shears to remove the hair roots.





## Judges Advancement - by Larry Smith

The following members have taken a judging course and passed the ADS Candidate Judge test over the past year: Portland DS-Terry Smith, Julie Hyunh, Barbara Caffaratti. Nanaimo DS-Trevor Hoff, Candi McNeil, Julie Mervyn, Anne Kenny, Sandra Millen.

The following are being promoted to Senior Judge: Lane County DS-Deborah Gilmer. Portland DS-Adrienne Hale, Linda Taylor.

As of this writing, there are two pending promotions of Canadian judges who await their passing of the required test.

To date, all but five PNDC judges have turned in their required annual judging report form. Without this report, you won't get the credit you deserve for your judging work.

I have received questions from several judges who have expressed concern that they have not yet been promoted to the next level. Information regarding the requirements for promotion are contained on the ADS website within the Members Only section. All of the listed

requirements must be met before advancement can be attained.

Also on the website are the requirements expected of Senior and Accredited judges in order to retain their current status. It takes judging at more than your local show each year to retain Senior or Accredited status, or to earn a promotion. Judges not keeping up with the ADS requirements will be subject to eventual demotion, so please familiarize yourself with the necessary steps we judges must complete. If you have questions, please ask me for clarification. I can be reached by email at [thebodysmith@hotmail.com](mailto:thebodysmith@hotmail.com). Your work is important, we need all of the judges we have now and more to make our shows successful.

Thanks to Phyllis Shafer, Lane County DS, for again doing all of the data entry for our Accreditation program, preparing the required reports to ADS, and for the many other valuable support that she has provided for many years.

## Sweepstakes Questions by Larry Smith

The Oregon PNDC clubs have traditionally offered Sweepstakes awards for high point totals among Open, Amateur, Novice, and Junior exhibitors. Because the PNDC Leadership Team has pledged to look at all areas of our operation in order to improve our processes, I ask each of the Societies that offer Sweepstakes to take the following into consideration: Should PNDC shows continue to offer Sweepstakes?

The Federation decided some years back to forgo Sweepstakes and instead put their energies into other areas of recognition to a wider pool of exhibitors. I have learned that at least one of our two Canadian PNDC societies (Victoria DS) has taken a similar course.

I offer the following considerations:  
Only a small percentage of exhibitors who have a large enough garden and the ambition benefit from Sweepstakes competition. Would our resources be better allocated to reward the majority of people who show quality blooms in smaller quantities?

### Chapter 1

A great deal of resources is put in to the tabulation of points, which is often done last minute on tired brains.

As we have seen, unfortunate mistakes in the tally have ensued. I am aware of six occasions within the last five years at PNDC shows where mistakes were made that changed the result, including two this past show season. Would it be better to use our human volunteers in ways other than dealing with Sweepstakes tally?

### Chapter 2

Of late, the Sweepstakes races have appeared to have

fostered a hyper-competitiveness in the shows instead of the friendly competition aspect that I hope we are shooting for.

### Chapter 3

If we do find it best to continue to offer Sweepstakes, could the PNDC invest in some type of computer program that will make the tally of points more failsafe?

Should there be a limit to how long after the show a challenge can be lodged and a recount requested? Some societies have already been mulling this over and have provided feedback. I ask the remainder of the clubs give this consideration and let me know your thoughts. Reach me at [thebodysmith@hotmail.com](mailto:thebodysmith@hotmail.com)



# 2019 DOUGLAS SHOW REPORT

By Elva Sellens



Since I emailed our ADS show report to the wrong email, our show report will not be in the December ADS publication so I am enclosing the major awards below. We would like to thank everyone who attended and we hoped you enjoyed our show. I would like to thank our crew - Ron, Ginger, Ember, Mark, Pat & Ethan and all of our relatives who helped out set up/tear down. Special thanks to Mark and Lyndall who stepped up to handle our luncheon.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| Best 1 bloom in show/MIN - Hollyhill Regal - Julie Huynh   | Best MB - Crazy Cleeres - Mark Oldenkamp      |
| Best 3 blooms in show/3A - Clearview Cameron - Larry Smith | Best PP - Mi Wong - Mark Oldenkamp            |
| Best 1 Disc in show - Verrone's Dick Baxter - Elva Sellens | Best ST/3ST Alloway Candy - Ray Sturman       |
| Best 3 Discs in show - FV's Dainty - Larry Smith           | Best WL - Blue Bell - Ember Nay               |
| Best ARR Theme 6 -Margaret Kennedy                         | Best NX - Valley Porcupine - Larry Smith      |
| Best Basket - Elva's Little Sweetie - Ginger Clack         | Best PE - Jacs Tamera - Larry Smith           |
| Best AA - Zorro - Deb Kilmer                               | Best AN - Sandia Brocade - Deb Gilmer         |
| Best A - Clearview Edie - Ray Sturman                      | Best NO- Tyr Best - Elva Sellens              |
| Best BB - Sandia Comanche - Linda Taylor                   | Best CO - Kelsey Annie Joy - Deb Gilmer       |
| Best BA- Greendor - Ron Clack                              | Best OT - Fancy Pants - Larry Smith           |
|  | Best S - Verrone's Lance Brown - Elva Sellens |
|  | Best MS - Inflammation - Deb Gilmer           |

## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DAHLIA CONFERENCE TREASURER REPORT

9/15/2019

Submitted by Treasurer, Elva Sellens

Beginning Balance as of 3/23/19		\$14,911.53
Income:		
Spring tuber auction	\$636.00	
Interest Income 4/2019-8/2009	\$ .64	
Dues – Individual	<u>\$ 70.00</u>	
Total Income		<u>+ \$ 706.64</u>
		\$15,618.17
Expenses:		
1326 3/23 Lane Co. DS - show expenses	\$400.00	
1327 4/1 Mark Oldenkamp-video conf. software	\$ 75.00	
1328 4/1 Richard Bach-bulletin copies/mailling	\$ 11.60	
1329 4/5 USPS-roster mailing	\$ 6.50	
1330 4/10 Judy Stephens-gold medal plaque	\$ 22.62	
1331 4/16 Teresa Thom-ferry reimbursement	\$100.00	
1332 5/1 Teresa Thom-ferry reimbursement	\$ 50.00	
1333 7/12 USPS-roster mailing/postage stamps	\$ 7.90	
1334 8/12 Theresa Thom-postage exp-gold medal	<u>\$ 19.90</u>	
Total expenses		<u>- \$ 693.52</u>
Ending balance as of 9/15/19		\$14,924.65