



Nanaimo Glad & Dahlia Society Welcomes you to the 2016 PNDC Show

The Nanaimo Glad and Dahlia Society are very excited about hosting the Western International Gladioli show and the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference this year of 2016.

Our banquet is being held at the ABC Restaurant at 7731 Mary Ellen way in North Nanaimo. Travelling through to North Nanaimo, the set of traffic lights just past Walmart on the left is where you turn left onto Mary Ellen Way and then the first turn right into the plaza and an immediate left turn to the restaurant. We can possibly have a convoy of vehicles to ensure everyone arrives at the right spot.

I hope everyone has their accommodation secured by now as the hotels/motels get booked up quickly! We look forward to seeing everyone and your blooms for the show. Safe driving and good growing!

Judy Stephens, President

JUDGES REPORTS DUE OCTOBER 10

We have extended the deadline for judge's reports a week later than recent years to ensure that those who enter the later shows have a bit more time to comply. As you know, it is very important to meet this requirement so we can turn in accurate records of your judging activities to the ADS. A few late reports came in last year, in some cases resulting in not being able to advance judges that would have otherwise qualified. Remember, if you don't let me know of your judging related activities, I can't give you the proper credit for it.

Larry Smith,
PNDC Accreditation Chair

From the PNDC President by Mike Riordan

Spring has passed and as I write we are in mid-summer and the show season is fast approaching. Many of our members will be exhibiting at county fairs during July and early August. Our weather has been fairly cooperative, save some blistering hot weather in early June that sent some of my tubers into heat shock. Thank goodness cuttings don't seem to be susceptible to the heat stall. Nick Gitts told our trial garden volunteers that frequent watering during high temperature days cools the soil and prevents this heat stall problem.

Speaking of the Canby Trial Garden, the plants are growing very well and will be ready for judging sooner than normal. Special thanks to all the volunteers and Linda Taylor, Gary Murphy, Nick Gitts, Mark Oldenkamp and Ted Kennedy for their work with the Canby Trial Garden.

Our PNDC show and Banquet this year is sponsored by the Nanaimo Club. The dates are Saturday, August 27 and Sunday, August 28. Our venue is the Country Club Shopping Center. In addition to sponsoring our Conference Show, the Nanaimo Club is also concurrently sponsoring the Western International Gladioli Conference. Please mark your calendars for this show and plan to avail yourselves of gracious Canadian hospitality.

A big "Thank You" to Larry Smith who volunteered to take minutes at the PNDC Spring meeting, in absence of a Secretary. The minutes of the Executive Board and the General meetings are included with this newsletter.

Here's wishing you all cooperative weather for a bountiful growing season. May all our friendships flourish along with our blooms.

Fall PNDC Meeting is Aug. 28, 2016

At the Fall PNDC meeting in Nanaimo, Saturday, August 28th, a slate of PNDC officers will be voted on. At the meeting there will be the opportunity to nominate others (from the floor) as well. Here is the current list of officers: President – Mike Riordan, Vice President –

Ted Kennedy, Treasurer – Elva Sellens. The position of Secretary has been vacant and the board is seeking a person who is willing to serve in this role. Contact Mike Riordan if you would like more information: riordanmd1@gmail.com



Nanaimo Dahlia Society - by Judy Stephens

Nanaimo, B.C.

The Dahlias are in and the Glads followed by a staggering of planting dates to ensure that there will be some blooms for the show on August 27/28 2016.

Colour has already begun in the rows! Each time a bloom comes into colour, it still excites us again and again. The rains have certainly helped with the watering of our many plants which in turn saves on our well and pump from working overtime as it did during the droughts that we experienced the last 2-3 years.

With sadness we share the loss of a Vancouver Society member, Gordon Stach, in December 2015. Gordon was a major supporter of our society at our tuber sales for the last 5 years. He gave half of his proceeds to our society which helped with our struggling financial situation at that time. He always welcomed visitors into his garden of dahlias, a lot of which were his seedlings and some 20 originations which qualified on the ADS bench. Mostly recognized

are Amethyst Glow, Rusty Rooster, Lil robin, and Sour Grapes. He was greatly missed at our tuber sale this past May. He was a great friend and a passionate dahlia grower.



Victoria Dahlia Society - by Phil Newton & Teresa Thom, Victoria, BC.

The Victoria Dahlia Society starts off another exciting year with a new President **Ryan Barry**. Ryan and his partner **Paton Hetherington** won best in show at our show last year. He was Vice President for the last number of year and after six great years I (Phil Newton) am happy to move to past president. Ryan has been quite busy signing autographs on all the ADS Handbooks as his photo made the front cover. (kind of like getting your picture on the cover of the Rolling Stone)

We had a very successful tuber sale with a complete sell out. We went from a two day sale to a one day only and were sold out by 2 pm. So after ten years of hard work on labels, packaging, and advertising we have become and over night success. Many thanks to all the volunteers, especially **Cathy Featherby** and **Gillian Brownlee**.

The club is moving the show this year to the Prospect Lake Hall (Sept 10th). The hall is mid way between Victoria and Sidney, a ten to fifteen minute drive for us on the peninsula. We will have a little less space than our days in the malls but more control over everything. **Jackie Wrinch** has booked the hall for us for the next few years and though it will not happen this year in the future we are going

to coincide with the Prospect Lake Community Society's annual BBQ on the Sunday so everyone can enjoy the blooms. A win win for both clubs.

Also with the great help of **John Wrinch** we have fenced off the adjoining grounds for deer protection and have planted a 50 Dahlia display garden. The PLCS hosts wedding on the grounds and the VDS can use the gardens as a demonstration garden for our club members. Another win win.

If you were ever thinking of coming to Victoria and the Island now would be a great time with the Canadian dollar 25% off the USD. If you let **Teresa Thom** now at Teresa and I can organize some great Dahlia Garden viewings.

We have a number of members hybridizing dahlias with **Paul McKittrick** and **Connie Young Davis** leading the way. Paul has a number of Dahlias in the book under Chi monicker. And lookout for Connie as if her winning way at the shows through attention to detail is any indication of what she can do, her seedling are sure to do well. Many thanks to our mentors **Barry Willoughby** (Keating dahlias) and **Ralph Helens** (R dahlias).

The club is growing and maybe this year we will break the 100 member barrier (about 75 today).

Portland Dahlia Society

Larry Smith, Portland, OR

Same Great Show, New & Better Location, New Date!

The members of Portland Dahlia Society are excited to announce that our annual show is moving to a new location. The show will be held in the Historic Dance Pavilion at Oaks Amusement Park. The address will be:

7805 SE Oaks Park Way
Portland OR 97202

The date has been changed to the weekend BEFORE Labor Day, August 27-28.

The biggest reason for the change is that we were putting on a great show in our former location, yet few people were attending. The advantage we will have at Oaks Park is that each weekend, there are already thousands of people attending the park to visit the midway, have picnics, and other activities, so we expect a large public turnout.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION: Since cars are not allowed in the park during public hours, we are still working on logistics of getting blooms in and out of the Dance Pavilion. We will have parking monitors helping get exhibitors situated on Saturday morning, but make sure to allow plenty of time. A limited amount of cars will be able to drive up to the building and unload blooms, then will be asked to move their vehicles to the public parking area adjoining the park.

Picking up blooms after the show ends will be more challenging as no cars will be allowed in the park at that time, so make sure to bring a wagon or cart to assist you with moving your items out to the parking area. **Additional information will be**

provided when Judging invitations are sent and will also be available on the Portland Dahlia Society website: www.portlanddahlia.com

Maps to Oaks Park are currently on our website and driving instructions are included on the back of our show schedule. We have reserved a picnic area near the Dance Pavilion so judges, clerks, and families can enjoy lunch together. There are a number of food options available at the Oaks Park carnival and we will be providing \$10 for judges and clerks lunches. We feel this will provide a nice opportunity for camaraderie within the judges and clerks as we all sit down to share a meal after the judging is complete. Those with specific dietary restrictions should plan accordingly. The picnic area will be available all day Saturday for use by our families and friends. For dinner and breakfast, there are multiple attractive restaurant options available as the park is within a mile of the historic Sellwood-Moreland district.

In honor of our 100 year old member, Myrtle Bloomfield, our 2016 Flower of the Year is Myrtle's Folly a showy lacinated bloom originated by the late Bob Bloomfield. There will be a \$10 award offered to winners in each exhibitor division for one and three bloom entries and a \$25 grand prizes for the best overall exhibits of one and three blooms. There will be plenty of money and other prizes up for grabs, so don't miss out on our first show in our new Oaks Park venue!

Time to Judge at Canby TG!

by Linda Taylor

Blooms are coming on faster than ever and about half of the 30 entries are already blooming enough to judge. If you have not judged at Canby before, you may not know that here, we keep a box with judging sheets, clipboards, pencils, tape measure, a color chip book, and folders to collect the filled-out sheets. Judges may visit the garden whenever it is convenient, solo, or in groups, and the materials are there ready for you to use. Bring along your classification books and Guide to Judging Dahlias. I have uploaded Trial Garden Photos at [Linda Taylor's albums/Flickr](#)

Meet Maddy!

Meet Maddy Green, a third grader and the youngest member of the Portland Dahlia Society! Her enthusiasm and interest in dahlias is contagious and she has demonstrated to her school friends how fun they are to grow. She won the show ribbons that are in this photo at the Roseburg show last year. Maddy has given presentations at the Powell Valley School fair on how to plant dahlias. She gave away 50 potted dahlias in order to spread the interest in Dahlias. Maddy's grandmother is Teresa Meisner, a member of the Portland Dahlia Society.





Lane County Dahlia Society

Hello from the Southern Willamette Valley. We're looking straight at another show season. As a beginning to our year, The Lane County Dahlia Society is presenting a seedling judging school with LCDS member, and longtime grower Wayne Shantz on Saturday August 13th. After that, we have a full plate of shows starting in Portland this year on August 27 and 28 at a brand new venue. See you down the road!

As mentioned above, Wayne Shantz will provide an opportunity to acquaint or reacquaint you with the finer points of seedling judging. These schools, and especially with Wayne leading the group, do not come around very often. It's a great chance to open the show season with a learning experience, and get your head into the rigors of judging before the shows begin. If you'd like to join us please contact Michael Canning for all the details at icehawk@q.com or 541-954-9191, within the next few days. Our registration deadline is Sunday August 7th.

Also please come down our way for the 53rd Lane County Dahlia Show on the weekend of September 17-18. This year's theme is "A Galaxy of Dahlias" and our show flower is the Orchette, Fancy Pants, originated by Kathy Iler. You design specialists should have a great time with some of the fun section themes we have for you.

Registration begins the night before the show on

Michael Canning, Eugene, Oregon

Friday, Sept. 16th from 6 to 8 pm. Our venue is the Wheeler Pavilion at the Lane Events Center (Fair Grounds) in Eugene again this year. The University of Oregon football Ducks are on the road playing in Lincoln, Nebraska that weekend. That means overnight

accommodations and dinner opportunities should be easier to come by in Eugene this year.

We hope to see as many of you as possible. Your entries are the heart and soul of our show. Bring as many flowers as you can. With your help we'll give our home town a wonderful show of blooms!

Our upcoming monthly meetings include a program in August by Lexa Cookson and Cheryle Hawkins on preparing entries for exhibition at a dahlia show, and at our September meeting, a special treat with Eleanor Shantz demonstrating the art and geometry of making dahlia basket entries for a dahlia show. Can't wait for that one!

Have a great time at your shows this year. See you all of a sudden!



Fancy Pants OT LV

Wild Rivers Dahlia Society - by Bob Chibante Gold Beach, Oregon

Our show is planned for Labor Day weekend, September 3-4 and our theme has been set. The choice is "Tribute to the Arts". We are in the finishing stages of getting our design classes worded. We will have our show book ready by August. Also, we will have a separate booklet for design entries which will include entry scorecards. If, you are interested, please contact Bob at or 541-373-0461.

Our show has a standing invitation to any dahlia society member to come to our show. We try our best to be gracious hosts. Once again we will have a door prize for those who remain thru the end of the show. We truly appreciate the effort it takes to attend any show. I understand what it is to travel to visit as many shows as possible. Not to mention working all year to get a show bloom or exhibit, staying up late or driving early, only to have someone pick apart your bloom. Wow what fun, lol.

We are also looking for sponsors for show awards. For commercial growers we will have a page put together for public distribution. I am hoping to have our learning garden ready for a chance to do simulated trial garden judging. Currently, I am putting together a judging school for our society. More info on that to come. Best luck on bugs and growing conditions!

Newsletter needs your updates!

As I send this issue of the PNDC Dahlia Times, I hope that my address book is current. If your email address or mailing address has changed since the most recent PNDC roster, please let me know right away. Send corrections to me at icehawk@q.com or call me at 541-954-9694.

- Cheryle Hawkins, PNDC newsletter editor

I have several things that I use in my garden to help my plants stay strong and to combat the bugs and fungus that attack them and they are all organic. Here are a few strategies that have worked for me.

Evict pests for the winter. Clean up your garden in the fall to eliminate problems next spring and summer. Most insects winter-over among dead plant material and weeds. They're not active or laying eggs and just need a sheltered place to hide out until it gets warm. Molds, diseases, and harmful bacteria will stay dormant in the old diseased growth of last year and pop up again in the spring.

So get rid of all the debris and dead stuff so they won't have a cozy place for the winter.

Stop insects with seaweed. Keep pests away from your plants with seaweed. A healthy garden is the best defense against insects and disease. Seaweed contains iron, zinc, barium, calcium, sulfur, and magnesium. These trace elements make it wonderful for promoting growth and giving plants the strength to fight off enemy attacks. Apply seaweed fertilizer either as a mulch or a spray and watch your garden grow strong.

'Slug' slugs with a cup of coffee. When your morning coffee gets cold, throw it on your garden. Caffeine deters slugs and snails, killing the small ones and scaring off the larger ones. It attacks the central nervous system of all kinds of insects, but works really well with slugs and snails because it is water-soluble and seeps in through the mucus membranes of these slimy creatures.

Soapy solution gets rid of bugs. Dump your old dishwasher into a watering can and pour it on your plants for a cheap cure for slugs and soft-bodied insects, like aphids, mealy bugs, thrips, and red spider mites in your garden. Some bugs just don't like the taste of the sudsy solution, and it's actually toxic to others. Mix a tablespoon or two of liquid soap or mild dishwashing soap with a quart of water for the same result. Other sprays become more potent when you add a few drops of soap. It helps them stick to plants and pests better.

"Clean up" bugs with insecticidal soap. Plain old dishwashing soap will do a job on many bugs, but insecticidal soaps are even better at killing aphids, thrips, mites, and other soft-bodied insects. It washes away their protective coating, but the soap must come in full contact with the pest to work. As with other soaps and most no chemical sprays, insecticidal soap doesn't work after it dries. So soak your bugs good and be ready to spray again if you don't get them all the first time.

Chase away pests with garlic. Try a garlic spray to get rid of aphids, slugs, cutworms, caterpillars, cabbage worms, wireworms, ants, and whiteflies -- chopped garlic soaked in warm water for about 30 minutes. There are lots of recipes for the smelly concoction, but most of them involve adding soap to garlic that has been chopped

or crushed and then steeped in water for a period of time. For a more potent brew, add onion and cayenne pepper. Be sure and strain out the particles before putting it into your sprayer.

Apply pressure for best results. When spraying plants for pests, use a pressurized tank sprayer that has a wand with a bend on the end. That will help you get the underside of plant leaves, where most little bugs like to live and eat. Some never show up on the top of leaves, and squirt bottles and pump sprayers don't do a good job of getting underneath. This is especially important when you're using insecticidal soaps and other contact sprays that only work when they're applied directly on the insect.

chemicals. Here's an amazing trick to banish pests from your garden forever -- grow companion plants to keep unwanted insects away. Some plants have natural chemical defense systems that certain bugs can't stand. Garlic, mint, marigolds, and a wide range of herbs repel the little critters using their natural oils. It's a healthier, and less-expensive, alternative to harmful chemicals.

Cut the odds on powdery mildew.

This fungal disease can make a mess of your roses, ornamentals, strawberries, fruit trees and their relatives, so take steps to stop it before it starts. Space and prune your plants carefully. This will allow plenty of air movement to carry away the humidity that makes powdery mildew thrive. Destroy completely any dead or infected stalks and leaves, especially when cleaning out your beds for the winter. Otherwise, the spores will stay dormant and spread to new growth in the spring. One of the best things you can do to avoid this fungus is to plant mildew-resistant varieties.

Stop powdery mildew with baking soda. You can easily prevent this white, powdery-looking growth on ornamental and vine plants with baking soda. About once a week, mist both sides of the leaves with this solution -- a tablespoon of baking soda for every gallon of water. Several drops of mild dishwashing soap or baby shampoo will help it stick best.

For earwigs: roll up old newspaper, dampen it and use rubber bands on each end. Then throw them into your garden and the earwigs will go into the rolled up paper instead into your new growth, then, just pick up the paper about every 3rd day and throw it into a plastic bag, tie off the bag and throw it into the trash. The earwigs will suffocate in the bag.

The photo above shows just how healthy these remedies make your plants.





By Ted Kennedy & Gary Murphy

The American Dahlia Society sponsors Trial Gardens across North America to provide a place for hybridizers to have their new dahlia cultivars evaluated. The ADS currently recognizes 8 Trial Gardens throughout the US and Canada. Trial garden locations and contact information can be found on the ADS website under Dahlia Resources.

In order for Senior and Accredited judges to maintain their judging status both the ADS and its member conferences set minimum judging requirements for trial gardens and bench seedling evaluation(s). The ADS currently recommends the judging of at least two entries per year but not less than 10 in five years. By taking advantage of judging at a trial garden we feel that you will find this experience much more enjoyable than perhaps judging on the bench at shows. What better place is there to see new dahlia varieties than at a trial garden? Here are some reasons for judging at a trial garden:

1.) Most trial gardens are located in public areas and have many visitors. When you are judging flowers (or perhaps helping to maintain the garden) the visitors will notice you and see you as someone who is knowledgeable and will ask questions about dahlias and their cultivation. As we are always looking for new dahlia enthusiasts to join our clubs/societies, the trial garden thus becomes an excellent place to recruit new members or impart welcome knowledge to the average gardener.

2.) Judging trial gardens is not tedious work but rather fun and rewarding. The paper work that you fill out to record your evaluations is relatively easy to complete. You'll need a tape measure and an ADS color chart, however, these items are usually provided at the trial garden. Most of us view this activity as an opportunity to offer your opinion on newly created cultivars be they potential show quality dahlias or simply garden varieties.

3.) You can be one of the first people to see potential

new varieties, therefore, getting a sneak peek at a dahlia(s) that you yourself might want to grow.

4.) You will have the satisfaction of supporting a system that allows new dahlias to be seen in various parts of North America. Can you imagine how difficult it would be to be aware of new varieties without our trial gardens?

In the trial garden you can judge a dahlia under real life conditions and in a climate area similar to yours.

Therefore, we encourage each and every qualified judge to take advantage of trial garden judging. Each trial garden is maintained by local dahlia club volunteers who devote countless hours to ensuring that each originator's entry(s) are presented in the best condition possible and are ready for evaluation. So, plan now to participate in judging at a trial garden(s) this season...it will not only be a personally rewarding experience but also will validate the efforts put forth by those volunteers who diligently maintain the garden(s).

Originators, judges, and dahlia enthusiasts in the Pacific NW are fortunate to have 3 trial gardens to avail themselves of and these are: Point Defiance Park, Tacoma, WA.; Inland Empire, Spokane WA.; and the Canby Trial Garden located at Swan Island Dahlias in Canby, OR. One major drawing point for the Canby Trial Garden is that it is located at Swan Island Dahlias which is the largest commercial dahlia grower/supplier in the United States. What a unique opportunity this venue offers the visiting dahlia judge..evaluate 30+ newly minted cultivars; peruse 40 acres of blooming dahlias and then finish your visit with perhaps a picnic amongst thousands of dahlias.

Ted Kennedy is co-owner of Hollyhill Dahlias, an originator and exhibitor, Senior judge and President of the Portland Dahlia Society. Gary Murphy is an exhibitor, Senior judge and Life Member of the Portland Dahlia Society.



Southern Oregon Dahlia Society

North Bend, Oregon

An Alternative Method for Growing Dahlias?

by Cora Vandervelden

How many times have you asked yourself if there was a better or easier way to plant and grow dahlias in confined spaces? I am about to answer this question for you.

Over the past 8 years I have grown many of my dahlia tubers in 6 to 8 inch or one gallon pots that are sunk in the ground or in soil placed in raised planter boxes. I have to give Max Ollieu of Battleground, Washington credit for giving me the idea. Max wrote an article a few years back for the Bulletin outlining how he planted his tubers in pots and dispersed them throughout his garden. He said he plants in the pots and then sinks them into the ground.

I knew that this would work very well for my peony and mignon dahlias which are grown in raised planter boxes about 3 ½ feet wide by at least 6 feet long and about 14 inches tall. I kept telling myself there had to be a way to solve the problem of having these small varieties try to intertwine their tubers in the confined space of the planter box.

This method has worked extremely well and is easy on my back as it puts these small varieties up so that I can easily de-bud and dead head the miniature bushes. I can sit on a stool and work away to my heart's content and it is easier on my back and on my knees than getting down on the ground. Oh to admit I am getting older is just not part of my agenda!

When I am potting everything up, I reuse my soil from the previous year, which I have stored in a big bin in the garage. I fill the pot about ½ full of the used soil, put in a sprinkling of 16-16-16 fertilizer and then the tubers, usually 2 of the small variety, and cover with new Miracle Grow potting soil. I then cover the pot with a clear plastic baggie to give it a greenhouse effect and put it out in the raised planter box in the yard. I usually leave the plastic on for a couple of weeks. Some years there is an exception; I leave it on for about 3 weeks and then cover the entire planter boxes with a tented heavier clear plastic to ward off the horrible late season rains that we have. After the plants are established and have a good amount of green showing above the pot, we add the drip water system so that watering is

automatic. This has been a god send for making sure that the plants are watered adequately. I can't over emphasize that this method works so well!

I have had excellent results growing in containers. At the ADS National Show in Portland, OR in 2012, my Miss Muffet took the best peony in the show. It was grown in a 6 inch pot. At the Douglas County Show in Roseburg, I took best peony in the show with Jac's Tamara, also grown in a 6 inch pot. These awards do not include any of the other blue ribbons that I have been awarded.

Last year I decided to try my luck with potting up some of the bigger varieties that I grow in a plot at my next door neighbor's. I have an arrangement with the owner of the house and the renter that I plant the front yard area with dahlias and take care of them for all to enjoy. The results were very good, but I will warn everyone, only plant one tuber per pot or else you will end up with a horrible mess of the tubers growing together in a worse shape than a pot tuber.

I spent hours dividing these tubers and vowed never to make that mistake again. The method is the same as for the small varieties. I use the previous year's soil in the bottom and then the fertilizer and Miracle Grow potting soil on top. I also tent these pots with the clear baggies to give them some extra warmth. Once the plants have sprouted and have green above the rim of the pot, we add the timed black soaker hoses to adequately water this area of the neighbor's yard since I can't access our automatic underground system from our house.

Unfortunately we did not have the nice warm weather last year to make everything bloom by show times, but the fall bloom was spectacular none the less. This just goes to show that dahlias can be grown in pots, sunk in the ground and they are show quality and win awards.

Please do not hesitate to try this easy method. It also makes digging and dividing easier as well. I pull the pot out of the ground, bring it into the garage and let it sit a few days and then tackle the unearthing, cleaning and then storing of the tubers. This way I can work at my own speed, stay dry and am not tied to working with Mother Nature and the nasty weather.

Good Luck and Happy growing!



Using Hoes to Weed Dahlias

by Ted J. Kennedy

Weeding dahlias is a chore. Many of you have one of those mini roto tillers like a Mantis and they can do a good job but you always have "close work" that requires a hoe. I have a tiller that is one size larger than a mini and find that it is almost as easy to use the correct hoe to remove those pesky weeds.

I have three hoes that I use a lot:

The Warren Hoe (the one with the triangular blade) You can do everything with a Warren Hoe.

It weeds in tight places. For example I plant the first year seedlings about 6 inches apart in double row that has a six inch space between the rows. The Warren Hoe easily fits the narrow space between the rows and you can kill all the weeds without

damaging the seedlings. No other hoe that I have can do that. They are all too wide.

You can use it to create furrows to plant seeds. I plant pole beans and use the Warren Hoe to make the furrow and place the seeds in the furrow. And the shape of the hoe allows you to fill in the furrow easily too.

I sharpen the sides of the hoe to make weeding easier. The "ears" are used for precise weeding too and I keep them sharp also.

As with any tool, the more you use it the better you get with it. I started using my first Warren Hoe in about 1974. I still have the same one although I had to replace the handle after I broke it throwing it at a rabbit (and can you believe I killed the rabbit from about 20 feet away).

If you told me that I could have only one hoe to weed the garden, I would choose the Warren Hoe. I have always wondered who was the inventor of the Warren Hoe and did some research on the internet to no avail. One person said it first being sold in the 1870s.

Stirrup Hoe (Ames Action Hoe, Ace® Scuffle Stirrup Hoe, True Temper 48-in Wood-Handle Action Hoe are all about the same)

I also love my stirrup hoe, also called an "Action Hoe". I used my first one so much that the slicing blade became very thin (and worked really well) and finally broke (15 years is a long time). The new one that replaced it needs a few years to get to the blade broken in. The stirrup hoe is unique

in that you use it to pull and push and as you do that "two way" motion, you cut off the weeds twice. It is a lot like using a sponge mop on the kitchen floor where you push the mop forward and pull backwards covering the same spot twice.

And whatever hoe you use, you will learn to skim over the soil and cut off the weeds by skimming the blade at a very shallow depth. The idea is to kill weeds, not to move a lot of garden



Warren Hoe

soil. And weeds are easily killed when they are less than 1/4 inch tall. If you let weeds grow to a few inches or taller, hoeing is very hard.

Heavy Duty Hoe Brand unknown but it is heavy and slices through large weeds.

The Warren Hoe can still handle tall weeds but I have a heavier hoe that I use for tall weeds. It is a local product that is not available anywhere but here in Oregon. It is reasonably heavy and has been designed to cut through the heavy weeds easily. The difference between it and normal heavy hoes is that it has been designed to be used without bending over. If you have used a hoe for several hours, you will appreciate a hoe that does not require that you bend over as you work. My neighbor has a really heavy Japanese hoe that works well on tall weeds and swears by it. Too expensive for me.



Stirrup Hoe,
also called
Action Hoe

2016 SPRING ADS REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Last year, I reported that much of ADS business goes on beyond behind the scene. It gives me pleasure to report that Second Vice President, Mark Oldenkamp, has established a list of society contact individuals including both society Presidents and correspondence secretaries and desires to establish a direct conduit between each ADS society and ADS. Mark is the contact person. I would suggest that PNDC communicate with Mark and tell him what you like what you suggest ADS should do.

ADS Activity:

- The West Michigan Dahlia Society will host the 2019 ADS National Show and Convention.
- Refer to the ADS members' only section of the ADS website for up-to-date information, such as the latest Bulletin, 2015 Fabulous Fifty and Cream of the Crop, etc.
- Cheryl Shores assumes the position of ADS insurance coordinator.
- Order copies of the ADS Centennial Book. You will gain many insights about the history of ADS...well worth the \$20.00 price tag. It contains a wealth of information containing advice, winners of awards and medals, date of certain important decisions, such as the last change of determining average scores of trial gardens and seedling bench, even poetry and anecdotal information.
- I suspect that the Executive Board will have some recommendations to establish a more uniform approach to reporting information for the Bulletin and possibly the classification book.
- The ADS now has **1976-2016 Composite Listing of Dahlias**. Ordering in bulk will reduce the cost of this important resource. Commercial growers, Accredited and Senior Judges should own their own copy.
- The virus project continues. I have heard that dahlia growers may be able to employ the services of Washington State U. for a slight fee and determine if some of their plants have a virus. Possibly, the Spring Meeting in Chicago will clarify this part. Unfortunately, Eleanor and I will not be able to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Shantz
PNDC ADS Representative



2016 Shows & Flower of the Year



Portland Dahlia Society

August 27- August 28, Portland
Dance Pavilion at Oaks Amusement Park

Show Flower: Myrtle's Folly

Wild River Dahlia Society

September 3-4, Gold Beach
Event Center on the Beach

Show Flower: Thanks Mom

Southern Oregon Dahlia Society

September 10-11, North Bend
Pony Village Mall

**Show Flower: Any Tioga dahlia originated
by Madelyn Geisert**

Lane County Dahlia Society

September 17-18, Eugene
Wheeler Pavilion @ Lane Events Center

Show Flower: Fancy Pants

Douglas County Dahlia Society

September 24-25, Roseburg
Douglas County Fairgrounds Floral Building

Show Flower: Kelsey Annie Joy

David Eugene Parmeter
Feb. 9, 1952 - March 21, 2016

David Eugene Parmeter of North Bend passed away at home, surrounded by the love and care of his family, after a two-year battle with cancer. Dave was born in Pasco, Wash., to parents Silas and Wilma Parmeter then raised in Medical Lake, Wash., and Beaverton, as one of five brothers.

After graduating from Oregon State University with a degree in construction engineering, Dave moved to Coos Bay to work as an estimator for Baughman and Son. Dave and his wife, Connie Parmeter, later became the owners of Baughman and Son and spent the remainder of Dave's life living in North Bend and enjoying the Oregon coast.

Dave will be remembered for his kind and hardworking nature, dedication to his family, loyalty to the Oregon State Beavers, and his joy of growing vegetables and dahlias. Dave lived an honest life, always considered the needs of others before his own. He will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his wife of 34 years, Connie Parmeter's son and daughter-in-law, Ryan and Brittney Parmeter's daughter and son-in-law, Carla and Alex Baumler's two grandsons, Gavin and Raif Parmeter's four brothers, Doug Parmeter, Stan Parmeter, Jim Parmeter, and Rick Parmeter.

A celebration of life was held at 2 p.m. on April 16.



Gardening Community Loses Friend, Mentor

By Wayne Shantz

On March 1, Bill Kempster passed away at Ayre Manor at the age of 98. While his death was not remarkable, his contributions to the South Island gardening community were.

Bill immigrated to Victoria shortly after WWII, bringing with him a love of outdoor activity – hunting, fishing, exploring and gardening – and an unstoppable drive to be busy and productive. He pursued all of these hobbies for decades, but it was through his passion for growing plants that most people came to know him.

Long-time dahlia growers all over the Island knew Bill well. In the early 1950s, he began hybridizing and exhibiting dahlias throughout the Pacific Northwest and, in the late 60s, was instrumental in convincing the Victoria Gladiolus and Dahlia Society to join the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference. To this day the (renamed) Victoria Dahlia Society remains an active member of the PNDC Conference, which oversees the training and certification of judges and the classification of blooms that present differently (e.g., in form, size or colour) in our climate. Some years later, Bill installed a dahlia garden at the Horticulture Center of the Pacific. That garden subsequently became the Victoria Dahlia Trial Garden, a sanctioned seedling garden of the American Dahlia Society.

Envisioning a local world-class botanical garden and site for hands-on horticultural training, Bill co-founded the Horticulture Centre of the Pacific in 1979, now home to numerous gardens as well as the accredited Pacific Horticulture College. The Kempster Building acknowledges his enormous contributions as board member and president, labourer and builder,

student educator, and volunteer mentor.

Bill's lengthy involvement with the Saanich Fall Fair is equally estimable. He served as board member and president; he judged fruit, vegetable and/or flower entries; and he put in untold hours as a general labourer and go-getter. He also played a major role in the fair's 1992 move to its current site on Stelly's Cross Road.

The Peninsula Garden Club, the Sooke Garden Club, and the Sooke Fall Fair were also long-term beneficiaries of Bill's desire to encourage local gardeners and gardening. He enthusiastically imparted encyclopedic knowledge of and techniques for growing fruits, vegetables and flowers. He loved demonstrating "how easy it is" to prune a fruit tree or propagate a shrub. Gardening, he insisted, isn't hard or complicated; it's trial and error, and it's fun.

For 60+ years, Bill found pleasure in gardening. He became a recognized gladiolus hybridizer, a sought-after judge for flower exhibitions and fall fairs, a frequent presenter at garden club meetings, and a teacher/mentor for show judges in training. He even hosted a local Sunday morning radio call-in show about gardening.

Following the 2006 death of Bea, his wife of 62 years, Bill continued living proudly and independently on his own until last summer. His friends are richer for his good humour, generosity, and abiding friendship. The South Island is richer for his legacy of gardening know-how, his remarkable achievements, and his outstanding volunteerism. Thank you, Bill, for everything.

VALE RON WILKES

In a year of too many such notices, it is with regret that I advise the passing of former QDS member Ron Wilkes of Goulburn at the age of 84. He served as Distributor of the ADC, the forerunner to the current DSA, for a number of years. As such he was a staunch supporter of national conferences and was a regular attendee though maintaining a low profile. The current 1998 dahlia standards were produced under his patient leadership. He was an avid grower, exhibitor, judge, and breeder of dahlias. His raisings were released, or I should say freely given, under the prefix of Araluen. My personal favourite was the lolly pink medium cactus Araluen Joy.

He was a trail blazer as far as travelling long distances to exhibit was concerned. He frequently exhibited in Melbourne and Adelaide and on one

By Col McLaughlin

occasion in our state Queensland at Caboolture. His trusty Falcon would be packed with quality competitive blooms grown under shade cloth in Goulburn. He grew all types but took it upon himself to promote the lesser types. He had a fascination with the USA and made multiple trips over in dahlia season of course. He was the conduit through which many Aussie bred varieties reached the states, for example Peach Delight.

By occupation he was a train driver, firstly on the NSW north coast then latterly based in Goulburn. His wife Elizabeth predeceased him a number of years ago. He was community minded and until ill health forced him to retire, voluntarily transported local residents to Canberra and back for medical treatment. RIP Ron Wilkes.

ADS Spring Planning Meeting creates Honory Senior Judge criteria

The American Dahlia Society held its annual Spring Planning meeting this past weekend, April 1st to 3rd. A motion was presented to establish requirements for moving to the Honorary Senior Judge position. The motion was passed with a majority vote.

It was also decided to move the printing and mailing of the Judging Roster to coincide with the June Bulletin. This would help with the collection of information from clubs who do not have scheduled meetings during the winter months and would eliminate competing with the holiday season. Starting with the 2017 roster, collecting judging information will commence the last week in February this will provide enough time for collecting information, printing and mailing of the Judging Roster with the June Bulletin. Listed below is the approved requirements for moving to the Honorary Senior Judge position.

Requirements for Honorary Senior Judge

1. The title of Honorary Judge be changed to Honorary Senior Judge
2. Who may be moved to the Honorary status?
To be considered for Honorary Senior Judge the individual must maintain continuous membership in a local dahlia society and the American Dahlia Society. This position should be used only for a Senior Judge who has served many years but, for reasons as determined by the Club/Conference Evaluation Chair, is no longer fully able to fulfill the requirements for maintaining their judging status.
3. What may the Honorary Senior Judge participate in?
They may continue to serve by judging occasionally at local dahlia shows or contributing other valuable assistance, but may not participate in the judging of seedlings at a trial garden or the seedling bench. They should not be used as team leaders except when a Senior or Accredited Judge is not available. Judges for the Head table or Court of Honor should be the most knowledgeable and up to date on current information released through annual judges training and judging at local shows.
4. How can an Honorary Senior Judge return to a fully recognized Senior Judge status?
For an individual to return to Senior Judging status within three years after becoming an Honorary Senior Judge;
 - a. Be listed as an Accredited judge in the club's judging record for the first year after the request (transitional year).
 - b. During the year they are listed as an accredited judge, they must fulfill all requirements listed to maintain status for a Senior Judge.
 - c. Attend a judging class which is being presented by a local club/conference.
 - d. Show and Judge in two (2) ADS sanctioned shows.
 - e. Judge four (4) Seedlings at an ADS trial garden or on the seedling bench supervised by a Senior Judge. If a trial garden or a seedling bench is not within a reasonable distance, the applicant may perform the seedling judging at a local garden, where seedlings are grown as described in the policy manual.
5. When all above items are completed, the applicant may retake the senior test. The manner the test is given will be determined by the local club/conference Judging Chair.
If the individual has completed all requirements during the transitional year, the Accreditation chair for the club/conference may then list the individual as returning to Senior status.
 - If the individual does not complete the requirements during the transitional year, the Accreditation chair will notify the individual in writing their request for returning to Senior status is not approved.
 - If the individual was listed as an Honorary Judge for longer than three years, they must re-enter the judging program as an Accredited Judge and complete all required training the same as a new Accredited Judge to advance to Senior Judge.

ADS Judges Accreditation Chair,

Bob Schroeder

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