

American Dahlia Society
Annual Meeting
August 31, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am EDT by First Vice-President Brad Freeman, taking over the duties as President, per Article V, Section 7 in the bylaws.

Present

Board members present were: Brad Freeman, Don Dramstad, Ken Jensen, Terry Schroeder, Rosemary Freeman, Bob Schroeder, Wayne Shantz, Eleanor Shantz, Alan Fisher, Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook, Ron Miner, Ed Bonci, Roger Walker, Mark Oldenkamp, Marilyn Walton, Jerry Landerholm, Martin Kral, Claudia Biggs and Lou Paradise. Special Guests present were: Hans Auinger from Austria, representing the German DDFGG society, Mrs. Guadalupe Trevino Castro and Mr. Jose M. Mejia Munoz from Mexico, David Brown from United Kingdom and Steve Cox from Australia. Also in attendance were many members from local and distant dahlia societies.

Minutes

Ken Walton moved and Linda DeRooy Holmes-Cook seconded to approve the minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting, September 1, 2013 as written. The motion passed.

OFFICERS REPORTS

President

Brad thanked the Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers for stepping up to take on the 2014 show, filling a gap in the schedule. This year has been a challenge for the Executive Board when the President became absent. Brad stated that with guidance, he was able to step into the position and is excited about the leadership for the future. The two Mexican emissaries came up and thanked the ADS for welcoming them to the National Show. Mrs. Guadalupe Trevino Castro, President of the Mexican Dahlia Society said "Muchas Gracias". Mr. Jose M. Mejia Munoz, Vice President of the Mexican Dahlia Society said he greatly appreciated the opportunity to attend this show and hopes the relationships we have started will be fruitful. They presented gifts to the ADS President, a poster and gift bag. Brad stated that he too is excited to have started the relationship with some foreign countries and hopes to continue and expand that.

Treasurer

Mac Boyer was not present, but submitted the following report. As of 8/23/2014, in the Lake City Account, there is \$30,442.86 in checking, \$27,354.64 in CDs, for a total of \$57,797.50; \$22,920.09 of that is in a designated account. There is \$77,117.68 in the Ameriprise account that is all restricted and \$49,560.81 in Vanguard for a total of all funds in all accounts of \$184,475.99. The CD will come due on September 14. All invoices received have been paid. Colin Walker moved and Alan Fisher seconded to approve the Treasurer Report subject to audit.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

North Atlantic Conference

Ed Bonci reported they are halfway through their show season in the Northeast. Last weekend, the Connecticut Dahlia Society put on a great show with the largest turnout in 20 years. Ed thanked the Federation for a wonderful show this year and invited all to attend the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the ADS in New York, hosted by the Mid Island Dahlia Society, at the National Show in 2015.

Pacific Northwest Conference

Wayne Shantz reported the Wild River Dahlia Society held their second dahlia show last weekend. Bob Chibante deserves great applause. They had a nice PNDC show and banquet in Victoria last weekend as well. Their flowers were about three weeks early, so made them well-timed for the earlier show date. Victoria member, Paul McKittrick, was awarded the PNDC Gold Medal for lifetime achievement.

Pacific Southwest

John Morton reported the Pacific Southwest Conference has held all but one of their 2014 shows. The number of blooms has been down a bit, due to the west coast drought. The quality of blooms seen in the northern shows has been very good, however. There were about 50 attendees at their judging seminar, sponsored by the Monterey Bay Dahlia Society, which focused on the new orchette class.

Southern States Conference

Dan Pinholster reported for Ray Phillips they will be hosting the National Show in 2016 in Asheville, North Carolina. They invite all to attend! .

Federation of Northwest Dahlia Growers

Brad Freeman reported they are glad the show is over and hopes everyone enjoyed it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADS Reps Coordinators

The ADS has two ADS Representative Coordinators, Ken Jensen for the Canadian societies and Don Dramstad for the US societies. They send out information to the ADS Representatives for the societies they are responsible for. It was stressed that the ADS Representative position is an important position within the local society and it needs someone who is will and able to get information out to the society. They are also trying to get a list of Club Presidents from the local societies. Currently, 16 out of 64 ADS affiliated societies have provided that information. A job description is available for the ADS Representative position. Brad asked both Rep Coordinators to send a copy to each ADS Representative.

Finance

Harry Risetto reported in writing the ADS is on solid financial footing. There will be an ongoing need for funding, as it is expected there will be outlays for the Symposium and Publication in connection with the Centennial Show. The judges' development initiative and website will require additional expenses. Dahlia research may present

opportunities that we want to fund. We need to preserve a surplus over normal operating expenses to allow us to support unanticipated special projects. ADS will continue the September envelope program and solicitation of special gifts.

Image Library

Claudia Biggs reported there are a total of four DVD programs available for sale: Delightful Dahlias – 20 Forms, Fabulous 50 (various years), New Introductions (various years), and Photo Contest (various years). All are available on the website and Claudia has several copies available for purchase after the meeting.

Insurance

The insurance program is a great benefit available to any society that is a member of the ADS. Applications are due by June 15. All are encouraged to check it out; it is typically less expensive than a society can get on their own with the same coverage.

Judging Accreditation

Bob Schroeder reported he is gathering information for the 2015 Judging Roster. Please send information to Bob as soon as you receive it for any new or advancing judge.

Membership

Alan Fisher reported the number of Bulletins that are being mailed is down about 70. He is almost caught up with everything that has been submitted to date and materials have been sent to those who need it. We have 227 new memberships for 2014, 341 unpaid from 2013, and several dozen from previous years who rejoined in 2014 after a lapse in membership. There was a question regarding the raise in dues and still not receiving the Bulletin until January. Brad responded that a priority for the board in the coming year is to straighten out the issues with the Bulletin.

National Exhibition

Art Haskins reported by email. He thanks the Federation for hosting this year's National Show and he knows from past experiences that it will be spectacular. National Shows are booked up through 2018 with Philadelphia hosting the National Show that year. He would love to hear from societies interested in doing a show in 2019, 2020, etc.

New Society Coordinator

Rosemary Freeman reported there is nothing new to report at this time.

Policy Manual

Ron Miner reported an updated version of the Policy Manual was completed in June and should be posted on the website soon.

Photography

Martin Kral reported the same rules are in effect for the 2014 Photography Contest as last year. The form and instructions are in the June Bulletin.

Public Relations

Lois Ann Helgeson reported by email that she is continuing with current Publicity/Public Relations projects and looking for new ideas.

Seedling Bench Evaluation

There seems to be more entries this year than there has been previously. Some of the reports are coming in.

Special Awards

Jerry Landerholm reported he was honored to have foreign dignitaries present at the National Show. Each dignitary received a silver medal. Last night at the Awards Banquet, Lois Ann Helgeson, Martin Kral and Marilyn Walton received the Gold Medal. David and Leone Smith were awarded the President's Award for their many years of service to the ADS and the dahlia. The President's Cup was awarded to Les and Vivian Connell for their single BB entry of Ryecroft Brenda T.

Trial Garden

Ron Miner congratulated Marilyn on receiving the Gold Medal and that it was very well deserved. He thanked each of the Trial Garden Directors for all of their efforts on behalf of the ADS. They invest a lot of time and effort and get relatively little recognition for all their work. Ron stated he was able to combine their trip to the National Show with a visit to the new Piper Creek Trial Garden in Red Deer, Alberta. He happily reported that all is well there and he looks forward to a successful completion of their second year as a Probationary Garden

Website

.Linda Holmes-Cook reported Sharon Swaney has taken over the regular maintenance of the website, which has reduced the cost for the ADS. She and Sharon are working on redesigning the home page to make it more compact and pleasing to the eye. The Facebook group is active; if you haven't already joined, please do so. This is a closed group so everyone must be accepted before they can join. The Classification Handbook of Dahlias is on the website. There are still many entries that don't have pictures and they would like to have a picture for each entry. If you have a picture, please send it to Ron Miner, who will continue to work on this portion of the website. Linda wanted to remind all that she is a content manager, not a content generator. Members who have a responsibility for something on the website are responsible to get the information to Linda. Once she receives the content, she passes it on to Sharon who can usually get it put up there quickly.

OLD BUSINESS

Colin Walker moved and Steve Boley seconded to accept the actions of the board over the past year. The motion passed.

Loney Kennedy moved and John Ensminger seconded to approve the honoraria for the Secretary and Treasurer of the ADS. The motion passed.

Trustees: Ron Miner, on behalf of the trustees, endorsed the financial stability of the organization. ADS is a robust organization. Ron Miner thanked Brad Freeman, Mark Oldenkamp and Don Dramstad for being willing to step into new positions in the coming year.

NEW BUSINESS

Classification Committee

Lou Paradise reported he has not received any show reports from societies. The deadline for reports to be received by him is October 10. There were two items in the Classification Committee meeting this morning. The first was an amendment to the definition of blends. **Lou Paradise moved and Alan Fisher seconded to change the definition of blend to: “Two or more merging colors on either the face or reverse of the ray floret OR two or more contrasting colors on either the face or reverse of the ray floret.” The motion passed with one opposed.** The second item concerned the color of white in the Official Color Guide. **Lou Paradise moved and Ken Walton seconded to add WH-0 as a new color for white, with WH-0 being the color on the background of the page. The motion passed.** These changes will be included in the 2015 Classification and Handbook of Dahlias.

Future Show Sites

See information under the report for National Exhibition. Sites are secured through 2018. Art Haskins will accept requests for 2019 and forward for National Shows.

Election of American Dahlia Society Officers

It was reported that 51 ballots were received with all 51 voting for the slate of Officers, as nominated:

- President – Don Dramstad
- First Vice President: Brad Freeman
- Second Vice President: Mark Oldenkamp
- Third Vice President: Ken Jensen
- Secretary: Terry Schroeder
- Treasurer: Mac Boyer
- Trustees: Harry Risetto, term expires in 2018 and Wayne Shantz, term expires in 2018

2015 ADS Centennial National Show

Harry Risetto is working on the Publication for the celebration of the Centennial. This publication will complement the one done for the 50th Anniversary of the ADS in 1965. This publication will focus on the second 50 years of the Centennial. There will be a Symposium held on Saturday. It hasn't been totally put together, but will focus on the past, present and future of the dahlia. Harry will be soliciting pictures.

Virus Research

Dr. Hanu Pappu came to give us an update on the virus research. Dr. Pappu loves dahlias and viruses, so this is a perfect project for him. As most are aware, the dahlia virus research is supported by the American Dahlia Society; he thanks ADS whenever he makes a presentation about dahlia virus. A few things Dr. Pappu stated:

- You can usually plant in the same soil where you had pulled out a diseased plant as many viruses do not survive in soil.

- Plants look diseased, but flowers look ok; should I keep them. He does not recommend keeping them as they are likely to get more disease. Since some virus can be spread by insects, get rid of diseased leaves as soon as you see them.
- Reduce virused plants by disinfecting knives/tools with a 10% bleach solution for a few seconds, and rinse with water. Bleach is better than peroxide, based on research.
- A resource of images and descriptions of viruses can be found on Dr. Pappu's website: <http://dahlia.wsu.edu/index.htm> You can reach Dr. Pappu at hrp@wsu.edu Put Dahlia Question in subject line so that

Dr. Pappu has a good group of students working with him; many are PhD students. The students are doing a lot of clues about how viruses infect and how viruses are spread. The Tacoma Trial Garden has been a great place for his research. Is it ok to use seeds from a virused plant? Most dahlia viruses are not spread by seed, so it is okay. It is important to know what type of virus it is. It is not true that all dahlias have virus. In the past five or six years, have a better idea about viruses in dahlias. There is one virus-like DNA element but is present in almost all dahlias tested. The best way to eliminate a virus is to start with clean materials; there is no chemical that can kill a virus. Plants will often look distressed, but will tend to grow out of it. He does not recommend using tubers from those plants, however. Temperature has an effect on viruses; high temperatures will cause the virus to progress more slowly. Some viruses can take years to show up. Some varieties tend to be more resistant to virus; typically those with dark foliage tend to be more virus resistant and/or virus tolerant. If plants are stressed, they do tend to be more diseased. If you keep your plants growing with great vigor, they tend to resist feeding by bugs and virus infection. Most viruses are not lethal; they tend to cause benign infections. Viruses always need a living host. Aphids will be attracted to plants that are already infected with virus and then the aphids will spread the virus. There was a question regarding the survivability outside of plants. Most dahlia viruses are not stable in high temperatures, such as composting, so it is ok to compost virused dahlias in compost. It is also not necessary to remove the soil that a virused dahlia has been grown in.

Thanks to Dr. Pappu for coming to talk to us again about the virus research being done at WSU. You can view the video of his presentation on the ADS website at: <http://www.dahlia.org/index.php?page=virus-video>

Brad encouraged all members to get hold of someone on the Executive Board to provide suggestions, ideas, concerns, etc. It was also suggested that when society reports are sent in to the bulletin that they are identified with the society name, city, and state.

Lou Paradise moved and Steve Boley seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 10:58 am PDT.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder

ADS Secretary