

American Dahlia Society

Conference Call Minutes

October 6, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 pm EDT by President Kevin Larkin.

Present

Those on the call were: Kevin Larkin, Ken Jensen, Don Dramstad, Terry Schroeder, Mac Boyer, Harry Risetto, Wayne Shantz, Eleanor Shantz, Brent Grant, Lou Paradise, Bob Schroeder, Alan Fisher, Jerry Landerholm, Don McAllister, and Ron Miner.

Remembrance

Kevin Larkin asked for a moment to remember people that we have lost since the last meeting. None were noted.

Minutes

Mac Boyer moved and Bob Schroeder seconded to approve the minutes from the June, 2013 Conference Call, as prepared. Motion carried.

OFFICERS REPORTS

Treasurer

Mac Boyer reported that he wrote an article for the September Bulletin stating that checks will be voided after not being cashed for 6 months and those funds moved to the general fund. There was discussion and a suggestion to check with the bank as to what their policy is and if they do check on the dates. He sent a written report indicating as of 10/04/13, there was \$169,524.00 in all accounts, with a starting balance as of 8/29/13 of

\$177,076.72. The major expenditure in this period was \$6,719.00 to Parrot Press. Alan Fisher moved and Lou Paradise seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report, subject to audit. The motion carried.

ADS REPRESENTATIVES

Don Dramstad reported he had sent a request for show reports to get completed and sent to Lou Paradise. He also sent requests for societies to get their memberships started and stressing the January 1 due date. It was requested by Lou Paradise that the reports for the Bulletin be called Court of Honor Reports so as not to be confused with his show reports for the CHD. Don also stated there is a new ADS Representative from the Greater Pittsburgh Dahlia Society, Harry Nordstrom.

REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS

Pacific Northwest

Wayne Shantz reported that the Pacific Northwest Dahlia Conference had some really good shows this season, with a number of new novice growers showing.

Pacific Southwest

Kevin Larkin reported for John Morton that they had four successful shows, which wrapped up the week after Labor Day.

Federation

Bob Schroeder reported for Brad that planning for the ADS Show for 2014 is progressing well.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bulletin

Kevin Larkin reported that they are still searching for a new Bulletin Editor. Ron Miner, Harry Risetto, and Kevin Larkin are on the Search Team and had one prospective candidate that just was not able to put in the time that would be required. They do not currently have any additional candidates, so if anyone knows of someone, please let one of the Search Team members know. Kevin asked Ken Jensen and Don Dramstad to send a list of societies to David Hines so he could check off societies that have sent in reports. Both indicated they would send it. Judy Hines has indicated that she will stay on the board as long as necessary. The deadline for the December Bulletin is about 9 days out; Kevin encouraged the Board to submit any information they wanted in the December Bulletin as soon as possible.

Classification

Lou Paradise reported he still has not received one-third of the show reports; he has received 40 of 63 reports, with only 5 days before the deadline. It is the busiest time of the year. Once the show reports are in, they work on the Trial Garden and Seedling Bench reports and then select the Stanley Johnson photo that will go on the cover of the CHD. The committee will also be voting for changes in classification and are still waiting for results from 6 committee members. Kevin told him that if he needed any help in getting reports to contact any Executive Board member.

Finance

Harry Risetto reported via written report the committee is awaiting the results of the solicitation in the September Bulletin.

Garden/Container Dahlias

Steve Nowotarski reported via written report that reports are due for this year's evaluation and results will be included in the December Bulletin.

Image Library

Claudia Biggs reported via written report that it is new introduction time so she hopes to get a lot of photos and will work on the program as she has time.

Judging Accreditation

Bob Schroeder reported he would like to make the terminology standard and to have it on the Judging Info page on the website. He provided his proposed terminology. He also wanted to add the requirement to become a candidate to the judging program to the website, with the distinction that a Candidate is not a recognized judge, but is in training to become a judge. After much discussion, Kevin asked Bob to put it into writing to ADS-Exec for the Executive Committee to review. Bob stated he has also received complaints about judges not following the standards for judges as set forth in the Judging Manual. There is nothing in writing as to how to correct these issues. He has suggested some steps to be followed as outlined here:

1. The judge in question should be approached by the Judging Chair and the complaint be discussed. The named judge must have an opportunity to explain their actions. A record of the incident and how the issues will be corrected should be retained by the Judging Chair.
2. If the Individual continues their previous actions, the Judging Chair should contact the ADS Accreditation Judging Chair with the information concerning the complaint and the actions taken to date. The ADS Accreditation Judging Chair will contact the individual and discuss the questionable action with them.
3. If the individual still continues with the action as described in the complaint, the Judging Chair may contact the ADS Accreditation Judging Chair with a recommendation for demotion to the next lower level of judging for that individual.

He also reported he made a video recording of the Candidate Judging class taught by senior judges, Dave and Betty Burton. The tapes have been edited and three DVDs of approximately an hour long each are in a set. Copies were sent to Kevin for review and comment; Bob would like to send it out to a few other Executive board members. Alan Fisher and Harry Rissetto offered to review it together and Jerry Landerholm and Ron Miner were suggested. For clubs who do not have access to judging instructors, it could assist in training. He will be collecting information for the 2014 Judging Roster.

Marketing

Steve Nowotarski reported via written report that the first issue of the E-Newsletter was emailed Aug 20. There is now just over 1300 on list; he is hoping to reach 2000 for the November issue. Very few societies have submitted sign up list. Our goal in the first year is 5 thousand subscribers. Start-up costs were a bit higher than expected but with a good start now should level off and sponsor fees should help. The November sponsor fee is \$200. So Far comments have been very positive.

Membership

Alan Fisher reported he has been receiving some 2014 memberships from shows and the website. Information will be sent to ADS Reps to forward to the Membership person of the local societies in order to receive society renewals by mid-January.

Photography Contest

The rules for the photo contest were in the September Bulletin and are on the website. There was a suggestion to link the rules at the top of the page and a suggestion of the possibility of entering the contest electronically. It was suggested to send the electronic entry suggestion to ADS Exec for discussion.

Publications

Kevin Larkin reported the trifold has been sent to about 50% of the local societies. Kevin asked the ADS Reps to put information about the trifold in the next email they send out. It is felt that the Puget Sound Dahlia Association Monthly Guide is a good publication at a reasonable cost. Brent Grant stated his society put together a quadrifold guide, appropriate for new growers. His suggestion was to use the quadrifold as a first level publication, the PSDA Monthly Guide as the second level and a revised ADS Grow Guide for more sophisticated growers. Kevin said that he would like to have the quadrifold artwork changed to an ADS publication. He requested Brent to send it to the ADS Executive Committee for discussion at our next meeting. Kevin would like to put the work on the Grow Guide on hold until it is determined how it should be used.

Research and Education

Brent Grant reported it looks like fertilization seems to be in good shape, as it appeared that most areas had a good growing season.

Special Awards

Jerry Landerholm reported the supply of ADS Bronze Medals that are given annually to each participating society is running low. There may not be sufficient number to cover next year (2014). He will request a quote on a quantity order from our supplier and report on this at a later date. The special awards department is awaiting the 2013 results from the TG and SBE committees.

Technology Resource

Don McAllister requested to have the membership list sent to him. He has had inquiries from several people regarding whether local societies should become a 501 C 3. Harry Risetto stated the best way to get information is from the website for 501 C 3. Harry Risetto stated it depends on a number of factors including the size of the organization and annual revenue.

Trial Garden

Ron Miner reported that October 10 is the deadline for trial garden reports due to the Trial Garden Chair. They will then begin working together to finalize the classification with the Seedling Bench Evaluation Chair.

Website

Ron Miner reported they have pretty much made the transition to Linda Holmes-Cook being the Chair for the Website. Ron stated he would continue to take the lead with getting a current Classification Guide on the web and that the current approach they are taking looks promising. There were some issues with the previous effort and due to those issues causing a significant time delay, there will not be a charge to the ADS from Servlet for the online guide project. Kevin has seen what they are doing and he stated it looks promising, but some fixes are still needed. The hope is to have the composite updated annually, but we will start with the 2013 data.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ADS 2015 Centennial Planning

Harry Risetto reported there is basic information on the website, including the date, site and an email link, www.adsshow100.org. The Mid-Island Dahlia Society is doing a logo for the Centennial Show. Harry will begin to develop an approach to getting the Centennial Publication ready. He will also talk to Steve Nowotarski on the fundraising issue.

Publications – Membership Tri-Fold Update

There was discussion regarding getting information to dahlia growers on the tri-fold and letting them order some to put in their tuber orders. **International Affiliated Society Membership**

This subject was tabled.

NEW BUSINESS

Artistic Design at National Shows

Kevin Larkin reported he had received a letter requesting standardization of the Artistic Design at National Shows. The letter writer felt there was not much in the way of artistic design at the 2013 National Show. The current provisions state that a society is required to have a class for a single bloom in each category and to have an Arrangement (Artistic Design) section. It was not felt necessary to require any more than having the Artistic Design section.

Establishment of New Committee

Kevin Larkin stated he was looking at the possibility of adding a committee to have ongoing contact with international dahlia societies. The purpose of this committee would be to keep current with International Dahlia activities and interact with other National Dahlia Societies. It was suggested that Martin Kral would be a suggestion as a Chair for this committee, since he already has contact with many international societies. Harry Rissetto moved and Bob Schroeder seconded to establish an International Liaison Committee. The motion passed. Kevin Larkin said he would contact Martin.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Terry Schroeder
ADS Secretary